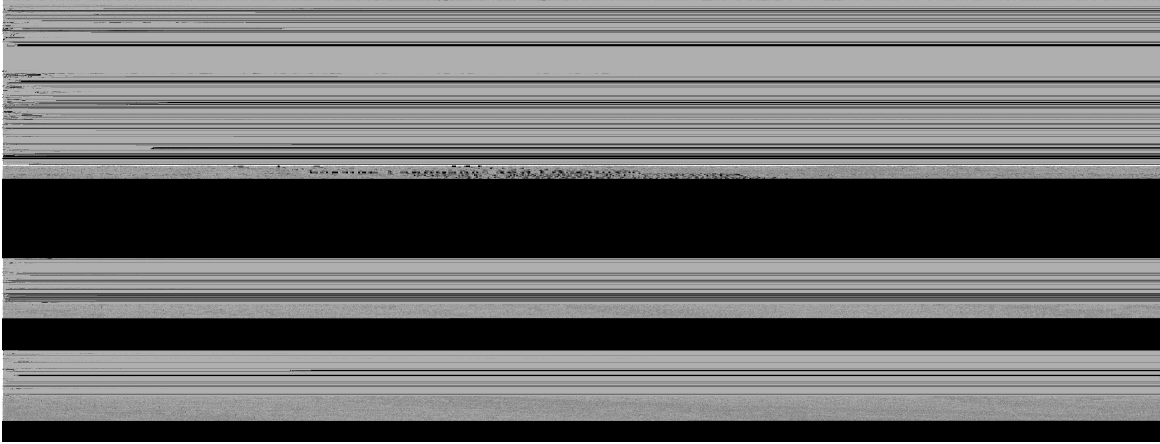


The Ambassador: The Newsletter of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures



**THE AMBASSADOR**  
The University of Scranton  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
301 O'Hara Hall, Scranton, PA 18510

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18 September, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The social was a great success and a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty to get to know each other better. We plan on having one every semester.

**Denis Zuvic**, Adjunct Professor of Spanish, has continued her **AMIGOS** program into its second year. **AMIGOS** links University students with High School students who are recent immigrants to the US for a variety of fun activities. It is an excellent volunteer activity for UofS students, particularly for students of Spanish and Portuguese. The groups meet approximately every other Thursday evening. This semester's meetings are Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Dec. 4 and Dec. 11. All meetings begin in the McGurkin Hall Lobby and move to other locations.

The brand new **Italian Coffee Hour**, organized by **Marella Feltrin-Morris**, is held every Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m. at the Northern Light Café.

The Department held its seventh annual "**Immersion Day**" for regional High School students on Wednesday, March 26, 2003. This activity, organized primarily by **Linda Ledford-Miller**, brings students to campus for a day of language learning related activities and serves also as a recruitment activity for the department and the University. This year 72 High School students participated in a variety of activities, including the performance of a one-act play by students in Bob Parsons' Span 422, Latin American Drama course in the Royal Theater.

### NEW FACES

Welcome aboard!! First to Prof. **Marella Feltrin-Morris** who is replacing **Virginia Picchietti** during her sabbatical year and is now in the final stages of completing her PhD in Comparative Literature at Binghamton University. The new TAs (here for one year under the sponsorship of the Institute of International Education, a division of the UN in New York) are **Sebastien Moulin** and **Aracely Hernández** (Mexican TA). **Rie Kubo** is a new GA (degree seeking graduate students with a teaching assistantship from the University of Scranton who are normally here for 2 to 3 years). **Marta Peinado Martín**, a graduate student from Spain, is a new part-time instructor. Denise Zuvic joined us last year as a part-time Spanish instructor and has returned this fall.

Here is what the new TAs and Gas (and in the case of Marta, part-time teachers) have to say about themselves!

**Rie Kubo** – I'm from Kyoto, an old capital city of Japan (1.5 million population). The culture and the traditions established when it was an ancient city still remain. Many people visit Kyoto to enjoy Japanese culture. Historical sites such as castles, temples, and gardens remain as they used to be and still give the same impression. I hope you would visit the city when you have a chance to come to Japan.

I'm majoring in Reading Education here. I majored in English and communication in undergraduate. I was in the University of Iowa as an exchange student before. Since it was a nice experience for me, I decided to come back to the U.S. for my masters. I'm happy to be teaching and studying here.

**Aracely Hernández** – I am from the city of Oaxaca, Mexico. Oaxaca, the state capital, declared Humanity's Cultural Patrimony by UNESCO, owes its fame to the beauty and harmony of its architecture, the richness of its cultural traditions, the wide variety of its typical foods, and its soft, temperate climate, spring-like throughout the year.

I majored in Education (BA, the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language) at the Language Center of the Universidad "Benito Juárez" of Oaxaca. Two years ago I started my teaching experience as a Spanish and

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affiliated with AmeriCorps, in Long Island, NY. Eric will be working with the Hispanic immigrant community, giving ESL classes on site (he recently earned his CTEFL certificate) and doing translations and informal interpretation.

**Dee-Ann Martell** (Spanish/Communication, 2001, MA Education, 02), is teaching social studies and Spanish full-time to 5th through 8th graders at St. Joseph's Yorkville in Manhattan, NY.

**Deborah Corson** (Physical Therapy/Spanish, 1997) has been traveling to Mexico to do volunteer work in Physical Therapy every year since her participation in the first annual Guadalajara, Mexico trip. This year she decided to change careers and was accepted into Medical School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she began classes this fall.

**Eileen Berkowitz** (ILB/Spanish, 1999) completed her masters in TESOL at Rutgers and spent one year teaching in a high school. Since October 2002 she has been in the Czech Republic teaching conversational English to MBA candidates.

**Adriane Franco** (Communications/Spanish, 2001) is working as a special education classroom teacher for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders diagnosed with severe emotional disturbances in a Bronx public school for children with special needs. She has also been taking graduate level courses while teaching and will be certified as a NYC Jr. High School Spanish teacher at the end of this school year.

**Chris Geraditis** (Classics, 02) successfully completed his first year of PhD work at SUNY Buffalo.

**Nick Lazar** (Spanish, 01) completed his MA in Spanish language and culture at Syracuse University

**John Ottey** (Classics, 00) is continuing his doctoral work in Classics at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Christopher Warren** (Spanish, 99, Fulbright 99-00) completed his first year of a two year assignment with Teach for America in Houston, Texas, where he has also begun work toward a Master's degree in Education.

**Kevin Bisignani** (Biology/German, 97, Fulbright 97-98) completed his Master's degree in Education at the University of Scranton in Spring 2001 and is now teaching German full-time at Emmaus High School in the Allentown area.

**Sarah Martin** (Spanish, 2003) began her graduate studies toward the Ph.D. in Latin American Studies at the University of Kansas in fall 2003 with a Graduate Assistantship to teach Spanish. In summer 2003 she participated in the First Annual Portuguese Immersion Program at Middlebury College in Vermont, along with **Leslie Angleró**, a current senior and Spanish major at the UofS.

**Carlos Garrido** (ILB/Spanish, 2003) has accepted a job working with Whitman Mortgage at a new branch office in the Bronx. Carlos, who is from a Portuguese speaking family and studied both Portuguese and Spanish here at the UofS, was hired specifically because he'll be able to assist Latino clients in their native languages

**Geraldine Mulcahy** (International Studies/Spanish, 2003) was accepted into the International Jesuit Volunteer Corps and is now in Nepal, where she will spend the next two years. Geraldine was also the 2003 winner of the University's Alumni Service Award.

**Carolyn Manley** (Spanish, 1997) finished Law School at Temple University this year. She took the bar exam

this summer and plans to work in her family's law firm here in Scranton.

*Alumni – If our information is out of date, or if you know of the activities of other alumni that we haven't included here, please let us know. You can write to Bob Parsons at [parsonsrj@scranton.edu](mailto:parsonsrj@scranton.edu) or Habib Zanzana at [zanzanahj@scranton.edu](mailto:zanzanahj@scranton.edu).*

## **Language and IL/B Majors Studying Abroad**

### **2002-2003**

**Leandra Barbuti**, Guadalajara, Mexico, Universidad del Valle de Atemajac (UNIVA). Full academic year.

**Lauren E. Brush**, Fundación José Ortega y Gasset, Toledo, Spain. Full academic year.

**Rachel Marascalco**, Universidad Internacional (CBMS), Cuernavaca, Mexico. Intersession only, but Rachel spent the full academic year of 2001-2002 in the Casa de la Solidaridad, in San Salvador, El Salvador (Fall) and at UNIVA in Guadalajara, Mexico (Spring).

**Theresa Martin**, Universidad de Granada, Spain. Spring semester.

**Susan Reeve**, Universidad de Granada, Spain. Spring semester.

**Sara Gausz**, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, CR. Spring semester.

**Lucie M. Iuzzolino**, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina. Full academic year (Spring 2002/Fall 2002).

### **2003-2004**

**George Griffin**, direct enrollment in the Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität in Bonn Germany. Full academic year.

**Maya Fridman**, Universidad de Barcelona, Spain. Full academic year.

**Tracy Granozio**, Universidad de Valencia, Spain. Fall semester.

**Laurie Horne**, Alma College program in Marbella, Spain. Summer 2003.

**Thomas Lavelle**, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain. Full academic year.