Fall 2013

The Clemson Polyglot, Issue Eight - Fall 2013

Department of Languages, Clemson University

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Department Expands Study Abroad Programs

The Department of Languages has expanded its study abroad offerings to include programs in Germany and Spain. These programs are part of the Department’s Clemson Language Immersion Program (CLIP), offered during five weeks in the summer. The CLIP-Japanese program is conducted on the Clemson campus. A unique feature of the CLIP program is that students pledge to use only the target language in their coursework.

Eight students participated in the CLIP-German program, the second year in a row that it has been based in Germany. Directed by Lecturer of German Lee Ferrell, the students spent five weeks in Aachen, the westernmost city in Germany. The students lived in a private boarding house just minutes from the train station and close to the city center, enabling them to explore Aachen and the region on their own. Organized excursions and tours to Bonn, Cologne and Dusseldorf allowed students to put into practice what they learned in their classwork. In the process, students saw the ancient foundations of these cities side by side with modern businesses and political institutions that have sprung from them. The group also took a trip to Maastricht, Holland, only an hour and a half drive from Aachen. In addition to being able to learn about the history of this famous city, they were able to experience the close proximity of European countries.

Language Majors Participate in Alternative Spring Break

When spring break rolls around, many students head home or to the beaches of Florida and South Carolina for rest and relaxation. Several of our Department of Languages’ majors spent their break helping others less fortunate in the Dominican Republic for a week in March.

Elyse Dengler, a Language and International Health (L&IH)-Spanish major, was a member of the “International Health and Hispanic Culture” Creative Inquiry team directed by Arelis Moore, a professor in Clemson’s Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life, and Graciela Tissera, a professor in the Department of Languages. Dengler was one of four L&IH-Spanish majors that researched the interrelations between health and culture in Santiago, Dominican Republic, and their impact on individuals and communities. She not only observed firsthand how the dental health system in the Dominican Republic functions, but she also participated in health-related service learning activities to help the local communities.

According to Dengler, “(the experience) forced me to become immersed in the culture, including using what I have learned in my Spanish classes. Experiencing the food, the transportation system, the health system, the music, the dancing and many other things made me feel that my classroom experiences have been worthwhile and has increased my desire to delve further into other Hispanic cultures.”
Department Expands Study Abroad Programs  

Seville was the location for the CLIP program's inaugural year in Spain. Fourteen students lived with families, giving them the opportunity to learn more about Spanish language and culture outside the classroom. They attended classes taught by Ricardo Tremolada, lecturer of Spanish at Clemson, and by University of Seville faculty. Students toured historical sites in Seville, such as the Cathedral, the Alcázar or Royal Palace and the Jewish quarter. Students also spent three days in Granada where they visited the Cathedral, the Royal Chapel, and the Alhambra, the most famous Moorish fortress of Spain. Additionally, students travelled to Córdoba, Cádiz and Morocco and took classes in Spanish cooking. The program celebrated its conclusion with a buffet of tapas (appetizers) from Andalusia. Student Joshua Baghdady noted, "I wasn't sure how I felt about leaving the familiar and the accustomed thousands of miles behind to embark on a journey worlds away from family and friends, [but] I would highly, highly recommend [this] program to any looking to expand their horizons and worldviews through study abroad." In addition to these off-campus programs, the Department directs study abroad programs in Argentina, China, Ecuador, France and Japan, thus providing students the opportunity to gain cross cultural experience and to apply their learning beyond the classroom.

Language Majors Participate in Alternative Spring Break  

Maghan Knight and Nicole Cooper, both L&IH-Spanish majors, spent their spring break week in the Dominican Republic as global health volunteers with the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC). Knight was president of Clemson’s FIMRC student chapter last year, and Cooper will be president for the 2013-2014 year. Student members raise funds to travel abroad to improve access to health care in underserved communities. Knight and Cooper had the opportunity to shadow physicians in a rural clinic, conduct a health census in the community and paint a mural on the town library. They found their Spanish skills invaluable. Cooper noted that “most of the locals and children we interact with do not speak English, [and] being able to communicate directly with them without needing translators really adds to the entire experience, as I have been able to make lasting relationships with individuals simply because we’ve been able to bridge the language barrier.”

Both found that the most memorable part of the trip was the opportunity to teach health education lessons in a local school. Their group worked for hours preparing colorful posters, interactive props and games on the topics of nutrition and dental hygiene. Knight stated that the students “listened attentively to the presentations, laughed and smiled during the games and were overjoyed when we gave them stickers and new toothbrushes!” Both students plan careers in the field of international health and development.

Kaela Gardner, a Modern Languages-Spanish major, participated in an alternative spring break program in San Juan, Dominican Republic, called Cambiando Vidas (Changing Lives). The student trip was sponsored by Clemson’s Connections Peer Mentoring Program, and each student raised his or her own funds for the trip. Gardner spent the week helping to build a house for a family. One of her most memorable experiences was getting to know the family on a personal level. Gardner noted, “I developed a great bond with one of the sisters (Gabi). She was around my age and she loved to dance (just like me). Every time there was an opportunity to take a break, we always danced bachata or merengue. She also learned traditional dances that we do in the United States.”

All of the students highly recommend this type of alternative spring break. Gardner sums up the experience this way, “Not only do you get to use your Spanish skills and visit a different country, you get the opportunity to learn about different cultures, people, and more importantly, about yourself.”
Italian Studies Summit Dedicated to Cavaliere Joseph Coccia Jr.

The 6th Annual Italian Studies Summit, held on March 27, was dedicated to the memory of Cavaliere Joseph Coccia Jr., who passed away on January 3, 2013. Coccia was a philanthropist who devoted his time, energy and financial resources to promoting Italian language and culture through his foundation. With the support of the Coccia Foundation, the Italian Program at Clemson was able to initiate the Italian Summit series, provide financial aid to students of Italian studying in Italy, establish the Joseph and Elda Coccia Award for Excellence in Italian and support faculty research. On Coccia’s first visit to Clemson in 2006, he fell in love with the beauty of the campus and was impressed with the vibrant Italian Program, so much so that he called Clemson “Little Italy in the South.”

This year’s summit opened with two lectures on cinema by Professors of Italian Andrea Mirabile (Vanderbilt University) and Roberto Dainotto (Duke University), followed by Sogni Corsari, a short play performed in Italian by Clemson students and directed by Clemson Visiting Assistant Professor Lorenzo Borgotallo. In the afternoon, participants heard presentations by Professors of Italian Barbara Zaczek (Clemson) and Rosetta D’Angelo (Ramapo College), and Clemson Professors Luca Barattoni and Lorenzo Borgotallo. Giorgio Calcagnini, professor of economics at the Università di Urbino, presented the keynote address “Labor Productivity and Competitiveness in Europe and the United States.”

In 2006, Cavaliere Joseph Coccia Jr. (far left) and his associate Phil Sergio (far right) presented a gift from the Coccia Foundation to Clemson University President James Barker and Professor of Italian Barbara Zaczek to help support the Italian Program.

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DEAF AWARENESS WEEK
September 23-29, 2013
Contact: Alton Brant (alton@clemson.edu)

HISPANIC WEEK
October 2013
Contact: Filiberto Mares (fmares@clemson.edu)

DECLAMATION CONTEST
October 26, 2013
Contest in Daniel Hall and Awards Ceremony in Tillman Hall
Contact: Su-I Chen, Director (schen@clemson.edu)

RUSSIAN CONVERSATION COFFEE HOUR
Wednesdays, 3-4 p.m.; 2nd floor Hendrix Center
Contact: Joan Bridgwood (bjoan@clemson.edu)

SPANISH CONVERSATION TABLE
Tuesdays, every two weeks (beginning Aug. 27), 5:30 p.m.; Java City
Contact: Angel Leal (angelil@clemson.edu)

ITALIAN FILM SERIES
September-November 2013; January-April 2014
Contact: Luca Barattoni (lbaratt@clemson.edu)

LATIN AMERICAN AND SPANISH FILM SERIES
September-November 2013; January-April 2014
Contact: Ellory Schmucker (eschmuc@clemson.edu)

7TH ANNUAL LANGUAGE & INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE
March 12, 2014; Hendrix Student Center
Contact: Lee Ferrell (ferrell@clemson.edu)
CLEMENTINA E. ADAMS, professor of Spanish, published “Ivonne América Truque: patriotism, exilio y denuncia en su obra poética. Entrevistas a la autora” in Revista estudios literarios colombianos, University of Antioquia, College of Communications. She also presented a paper at the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies in Panama and a webcast on assessing service learning at Clemson University.

RAQUEL ANIDO, assistant professor of Spanish, reviewed Kathryn Everly's History, Violence, and the Hyperreal: Representing Culture in the Contemporary Spanish Novel in the March issue of MLN. She also presented a paper entitled “Pasado y presente del exilio académico español en Estados Unidos: Misión Olvido” at the 2013 ALDEEU Conference in April.

LUCA BARATTONI, assistant professor of Italian, published the book Italian Post-Neorealist Cinema, Edinburgh University Press. It was nominated by Columbia University Press for the best book in Italian Studies for 2012. He also published a book chapter in Cinema e Risorgimento: Visioni e re-visioni and an article in NeMLA Italian Studies, No. XXXIV, Special Issue on Contemporary Italian Cinema.

LISA DEWAARD, assistant professor of Spanish, presented a paper entitled “Is Rosetta Stone a Viable Option for L2 Learning?” at the Department of Languages’ Research Forum. This paper, which investigates Rosetta Stone from the perspective of language acquisition theory and practice, is published in ADFL Bulletin, Volume 42, Issue 2.

MELVA PERSICO, lecturer of Spanish, published “Voices and Hybridity: The Case of Maria Nsue Angue’s Ekomo” in Afro-Hispanic Review 31.1. This is one of the leading peer-reviewed journals in the area of Afro-Hispanic studies. The article is based on the novel Ekomo, the first novel written by an Equatorial-Guinean woman writer.

JOHANNES SCHMIDT, associate professor of German, was named co-editor of the Yearbook of the International Herder Society, a refereed periodical that publishes scholarly articles in English, German and French about Johann Gottfried von Herder, a German philosopher, theologian, poet and literary critic.


KARYNA SZMURLO, professor of French, is co-editor of Stael’s Philosophy of the Passions: Sensibility, Society, and the Sister Arts published in the new series Transits: Literature, Thought and Culture (Bucknell University Press). The volume has been nominated for the 2013 Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for an outstanding scholarly work in the field of French and francophone studies.

GRACIELA E. TISSELL, associate professor of Spanish, published a book chapter entitled “Julio Cortázar: el otro perseguidor en la torre del observatorio” in Julio Cortázar, Critical Essays (Porrúa & Tecnológico de Monterrey). She also presented three research papers on international media, film and literature at national and international conferences. South Carolina awarded her a Certificate of Service in 2013.

BARBARA ZACZEK, professor of Italian, published (with Rosetta D’Angelo) the first English translation of Umberto Piersanti’s novel Olimpo: Mount Olympus in the series “Scrivitori del mondo” (World Writers), Salvatore Sciascia Editor: Caltanissetta-Roma. She also published an article, “Tempo, Spazio, Identità,” in Leggendaria, Libri, Letture, Linguaggi, a special edition dedicated to Luce d’Eramo.

Faculty News

Clementina E. Adams, professor of Spanish, published "Ivonne América Truque: patriotism, exilio y denuncia en su obra poética. Entrevistas a la autora" in Revista estudios literarios colombianos, University of Antioquia, College of Communications. She also presented a paper at the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies in Panama and a webcast on assessing service learning at Clemson University.

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Johannes Schmidt, associate professor of German, was named co-editor of the Yearbook of the International Herder Society, a refereed periodical that publishes scholarly articles in English, German and French about Johann Gottfried von Herder, a German philosopher, theologian, poet and literary critic.

Daniel J. Smith, associate professor of Spanish, published (with Manuel Morales) "Aplicación de las imágenes mentales en la enseñanza de los tiempos verbales del pretérito perfecto simple y pretérito imperfecto y de las preposiciones 'por' y 'para'" in Vida Hispánica and "Second Language Acquisition of Spanish by Morpheme Type: The 4-M Model" in Southern Journal of Linguistics.

Karyna Szmurlo, professor of French, is co-editor of Stael's Philosophy of the Passions: Sensibility, Society, and the Sister Arts published in the new series Transits: Literature, Thought and Culture (Bucknell University Press). The volume has been nominated for the 2013 Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for an outstanding scholarly work in the field of French and francophone studies.

Alumni Update: Study Abroad Experiences Lead to a Career in Tourism

By Michelle Nance (BA, 2011)

I ventured outside of the United States for the first time after my freshman year with Professor of Spanish Paula Heusinkveld and other Clemson students to Xalapa, Mexico. It was during this trip that I fully began to recognize the value of learning foreign languages and discovering new ways of life.

During my last year of undergraduate study, I spent the fall semester in Alicante, Spain, and had the incredible opportunity to travel and explore many countries and cultures. The people I met along the way and the experiences I had peaked my interest in the tourism industry. Following my semester abroad, I spent the spring in Los Muermos, Chile, working for Vida, Esperanza y Salud. Through working in a rural town with students, I realized the impact that tourism can have on communities and their development.

I returned to Clemson and enrolled in the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management M.S. Program. My main interests focused on sustainable tourism, community development, microfinance and entrepreneurship. During my studies, I traveled to Tamarindo, Costa Rica, to research tourism development and hold a workshop for small businesses. I also visited Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to do thesis research on Investours, a non-profit company that provides tourists the chance to visit microentrepreneurs and support their businesses.

I am now headed to Lobitos, Peru, to work for WAVES for Development as the entrepreneurial technical specialist, and I look forward to the opportunity to empower the people of Lobitos. Before I head off to Peru, I am spending three weeks in July leading a Cultural Exchange and Service Adventure Trip to Costa Rica through Global Works Travel.

I am so very grateful for the Language and International Trade program at Clemson and the many inspiring teachers who challenged me and supported me in the development and pursuit of my interests.

Language and International Trade-Spanish graduate Michelle Nance, pictured here in Patagonia, Chile, spent a semester working with community members in nearby Los Muermos to create wellness and educational programs for children and youth.
Faculty Awards
College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities
Faculty Research Development Awards

Raquel Anido, assistant professor of Spanish, will use the award to support her current book project which engages popular music as an important (while critically neglected) subtext within the literary and the cinematic traditions of Spain from the post-war years until the present.

Kelly Peebles, assistant professor of French, traveled to Lyon, France, in July where she conducted research for a scholarly monograph, *The Business of Books in Renaissance Lyon*. In Lyon, she studied and photographed several rare sixteenth-century books and also participated in a seminar on books printed before 1501 at l’Institut d’histoire du livre.

Daniel J. Smith, associate professor of Spanish, will compare three facets of Spanish and English in contact: Spanish and English bilingual data, student error data from Spanish as a second language and student error data from English as a second language.

Graciela Tissera, associate professor of Spanish, will study the works of Borges, Cortázar, García Márquez and Rulfo. The critical analysis will explore the conscious and subconscious perception of time and space, the use of imagery to portray alternate realities and the concept of revelation with its symbols and representations.

Barbara Zaczek, professor of Italian, will develop a book chapter that will connect her previous research on Italian women partisans in WWII to contemporary Italian novels, such as Bruno Morchio’s *Rossoamaro* and Luce d’Eramo’s *Una strana fortuna*.

Other Awards

Clementina E. Adams, professor of Spanish, was awarded a Clemson University Service Alliance Faculty Fellowship for 2012-2013. She teaches courses that incorporate service learning components and is currently coordinating a Creative Inquiry research project on Service Learning Qualitative Assessment with a team of six students.

Alton Brant, senior lecturer of American Sign Language (ASL), is the 2013 recipient of the Excellence-in-Teaching Award presented by the Clemson University Undergraduate Student Government. Brant teaches several courses in ASL and serves as the section coordinator for the program. The Excellence-in-Teaching Award recognizes a professor for outstanding performance in the undergraduate classroom and carries a monetary prize.

Su-I Chen, lecturer of Chinese, received a Humanities Advancement Board grant to help fund the Department of Languages’ annual Declamation Contest. The contest offers high school students not only the opportunity to compete in foreign language poetry recitation but also to be introduced to Clemson University and the Department of Languages’ focus on language learning and globalization.

Moment in History: 1986

The German Players presented “Fische, Frösche und Esmerelde,” an original play, on March 11, 1986. Set in a mythical kingdom, the king and queen promised the hand of their daughter to a knight, provided that he fulfilled a quest. The cast (from left) included Mac McGill, Beth Lyons, Bart Snyder, Larry Conner, Molly Donaldson, Steve Lucey, Stephanie Wise and David Hamilton.

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Jeff Love, professor of German and Russian, (with Michael Meng, assistant professor of history) received an Arts and Humanities Faculty Grant to bring the distinguished historian Karl Schlägel to campus in the spring of 2014 to discuss his highly praised book *Moscow 1937*, which provides a panoramic history of Moscow in that fateful year of the Great Terror.

Toshiko Kishimoto, associate professor of Japanese (pictured above), received the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities. One nominator noted that Kishimoto “is an outstanding teacher with a keen intellect, endless amounts of energy, a passion for the subjects she teaches and true love for her students.” This award is peer-reviewed and includes a plaque and monetary prize.
Student Activities and Events, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

The Language and International Health (L&IH) Symposia II and III were held at Clemson University in November 2012 and April 2013 and were partially supported by a grant from Clemson University’s Humanities Advancement Board. The symposia focused on the themes of health and safety and international health with the following presentations: “Pesticides and Other Chemicals in the Environment” by Timothy Drake, Department of Pesticide Regulation; “Large Venue Emergency Management” by Captain William Shivar, Fire and Emergency Medical Services; and “Sleep Disorders in Public Health” by John Dengler, a neurologist from Johnson City, Tennessee.

Four L&IH-Spanish majors, Madison Bailey, Erika Burton, Elyse Dengler and Emily Winburn, presented “Healthcare Systems in the Dominican Republic” at the April symposium. Their presentations were based on research they conducted in the Dominican Republic for a Creative Inquiry class mentored by Clemson professors Arelis Moore and Graciela Tissera. Their research explored medical diseases and conditions, people’s traditions and concerns related to health issues, home remedies, behavior change, family and community, doctor-patient relationships and social aspects of public health (ethnicity, gender and poverty). This research was made possible through competitive travel grants awarded by the Creative Inquiry Program.

The Department of Languages hosted approximately 370 high school students from 34 schools from South Carolina and Georgia for the Fortyth Annual Poetry Declamation Contest on October 27, 2012. The contest was founded 40 years ago by Professor Emeritus Harry Stewart, the first head of the Department of Languages. The first contest had 91 participants, and the languages included French, German, Latin and Spanish. Over the years the contest has grown to include Chinese, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and, for the first time this past year, American Sign Language. In the contest, students recited from memory two poems from their language of study or their native language.

The event would not be possible without the support of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, grant monies from the Humanities Advancement Board, the involvement of the entire faculty and staff of the Department, Clemson student volunteers, the generous donation from Ralph Rynes, Clemson alumnus, and Rob Roy McGregor Jr., professor emeritus of French and Latin, and the hard work of the Declamation Committee.

The sixth annual Language and International Trade (L&IT) Conference was held on March 13, at Clemson University’s Hendrix Center Ballroom. The purpose of the conference is to raise awareness of South Carolina’s role in global commerce, to increase student interest in international business, to connect students to international networks and to promote Clemson’s L&IT program. This year’s conference theme was “Doing Well by Doing Good,” highlighting the changing role of corporate stewardship.

Mark Mannella of Disney Parks and Resorts graciously delivered the keynote speech titled “Doing Well by Doing Good.” The video presentation, originally planned by Jean-Noël Thiollier of Disney Parks and Resorts in Paris, was cancelled at the last minute because of severe weather in Northern Europe. Other presentations were given by Clemson alumni Craig Lundgren of Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP and John B. Crowe of Buckeye Technologies, Inc. An afternoon alumni panel was moderated by Daniel E. Wueste, Clemson professor of philosophy and director of the Rutland Institute for Ethics. The panel members were Andrea Belbusti, Bernell King Ingram, Jordan Seignious, Melanie Thompson, Natasha Korba, Jason Weeks, Karen Onate and Mark R. Mannella. The round table discussions on career and job opportunities were held between Clemson students and representatives from 20 international businesses such as Landstar, Michelin, BMW, JTEKT, Draexlmaier, AFCO, Lockheed Martin and more. The conference concluded with an ice cream social.

The conference was supported by the Department of Languages, the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, the College of Business and Behavioral Science, the Humanities Advancement Board at Clemson University, University of Fukui International Program-Japan, Landstar and the Michelín Center Career.

Students Erika Burton, Elyse Dengler and Emily Winburn, presenters at the L&IH Symposium in April, pose with Arelis Moore (second from left), a professor in Clemson’s Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life and mentor for their research.

On March 12, the Department of Languages sponsored speaker Vladimir Alexandrov, the B.E. Bensinger Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Yale University. Alexandrov spoke to an audience in the Strom Thurmond Institute about his book entitled The Black Russian. It presents the fascinating story of Frederick Bruce Thomas, the son of former slaves, who left Mississippi to seek greater freedom and who eventually moved to Moscow. There he renamed himself Fyodor Fyodorovich Tomas and became a Russian citizen.
The Clemson University Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish National Honorary Society, held its annual initiation ceremony on April 25. This year's inductees included (from left) Elyse Dengler, Susanne Sward, Courtney Kelly and Amanda Lillibridge. Professor Dolores Martin (far right) is the chapter's advisor.

The Gennan Section of the Department of Languages sponsored its second annual Conference on Gennan in the Professions on October 10 in the Hendrix Student Center. The event, organized by the German Professional Society with financial support from the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities and Roedl and Partner, provided an opportunity for students of German in engineering and business to come together for networking with German companies and professional organizations in our region.

Hispanic Week, October 15-19, was highlighted by poetry recitations by Nicaraguan poet Conny Palacios (pictured left), a movie presentation, an artifacts exhibit in Cooper Library and a live concert by Jorge Medina and Paula Heusinkveld.

2013 Student Honors and Awards
Congratulations to these award recipients!

Department of Languages Student Honors & Awards

Lauren Brock — The Gallaudet/Clerc Award for Excellence in American Sign Language
Jordan Carroll — The FIA Award for Excellence in Language and International Trade in Japanese
Rebecca Cibulskis — The Pacific Gateway Award for Excellence in Chinese
Elyse Dengler — The American Association of Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese Award
Charles Dubose — The Pacific Gateway Award for Excellence in Chinese
Anthony Fadel — The Coccia Foundation Annual Award (Italian)
Michael A. Harris — The Language and International Health Award of Excellence
Danielle Hein — The JAASC Award for Excellence in Japanese
Hali Brooke Hodgins — The American Association of Teachers of French Award
Ty McCormack — Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence
Katelin Meredith — The William Stokoe Award (American Sign Language)
Hillary Reichert — The John Bednar Award of Excellence in French and International Trade

Lauren Brock, an American Sign Language major, received a Phi Kappa Phi Certificate of Merit in April. Only one student per college receives the award, and the student must be a graduating senior with a GPA of 3.4 or above and have made noteworthy contributions in such areas as leadership, service and creative endeavors to his or her department, college and Clemson University. She is pictured here at the awards ceremony with Dean Richard Goodstein of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities.

Spenser M. Staub — The Language and International Health Award of Excellence in Research

Patrice J. Wagner — The Language and International Health Award of Excellence

This year the Department of Languages offered travel grants to eight students for study abroad programs. These students are: Marissa Henry, Jackeline Galvez, Trevor Schuermen, Miranda Lucich, Zachary Watson, Ian Fleming, Sena Tamaklo and Rebecca Cibulskis.

Donors include LeRoy Adams, C.H. Satterfield, the David Marshall Hamilton Annual Memorial Travel Grant and the Jordan A. Dean, Sr. Annual Travel Grant (established by alumnus Dr. James Monroe in honor of Professor Emeritus Jordan Dean).
Calling All Alumni and Emeriti—Tell Us About Yourself!

We are excited about what you, our alumni and emeriti, are doing, and we want to offer you a way to stay connected. In order to showcase your talents and give you an opportunity to network with other alumni and emeriti, the alumni/emeriti page on the Department of Languages website is being developed. We need information from you in order to complete this resource. Please send anything you'd like to share about your career, achievements, family, or other noteworthy events, by using the online form found under the "Alumni" link on our website. Please include your graduating class and degree, your long-term email address and a photo.

Thank You to Our Friends

The Department of Languages thanks all who have generously supported our efforts either by donating to departmental programs or by attending department-sponsored events. Your contributions support programs such as travel grants for students to study abroad, the Declamation Contest, the Language and International Trade Conference and others. Please contact Rob Porter (rporter@clemson.edu) at the Office for Development, 110 Daniel Dr, Clemson, SC 29631, 864-986-8423, to find out how you can best target your gift.

Emeriti Update: Dividing Time Between France and the United States

By Daniel Calvez

Before coming to Clemson, I had been a lecturer in Auburn, Alabama, from 1965 until 1969. Then I taught one year in France, after which I was hired by the Department of Languages at Clemson in 1970. I was in possession of a French Licence-ès-Lettres, but I soon learned that I would need to work toward a doctorate. So, like others in the department, I began taking courses by commuting to the University of Georgia in 1973, followed by two years in residence on the campus of UGA. In 1980, I received my Ph.D. in Romance Languages after completion of my dissertation, which was published in 1988, on the use of proverbs by Voltaire in his correspondence. Also, in 1989, the National Textbook Company published my French Reference Grammar, written for third-year French students. It went into a second edition a few years later. Meanwhile, I organized and led six study abroad summers in Strasbourg, Versailles and Angers. I retired from teaching in 2004.

Retirement gave me a heart attack in 2006! But I have recovered, and I now enjoy the free time immensely. I spend most summers with my wife in the cool climes of Brittany, where we have a family home. From there, we love to travel all over France and Europe by train in particular with Eurail passes.

Here in Easley, we both participate in Osher Lifelong Learning Institute programs, where I take all the sculpture classes that I can find. We also enjoy biking on the Swamp Rabbit Trail, going to the movies, cruising down Main Street in Greenville, working in our garden and skyping with our three grandchildren. I hope retirement lasts forever!