Fall 2007

The Clemson Polyglot, Issue One - Fall 2007

Department of Languages, Clemson University

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Dear Friends of the Department of Languages,

We are aware that knowledge of other cultures and languages can bolster our national security and international economic competitiveness. You, as our supporter, and we, as foreign language educators, bear the responsibility of offering opportunities to our youth to acquire cultural awareness and understanding and higher proficiency in another language. That is our challenge as a team.

We invite you to reflect on this matter as you read the first issue of *The Clemson Polyglot*, which is dedicated to the theme of study abroad. We want to hear from you, so please share your views with us through the Viewpoint feature of our website at [http://www.clemson.edu/caah/languages](http://www.clemson.edu/caah/languages).

The Department of Languages now requires that every foreign language major at Clemson University have a semester- or year-long study abroad experience in the native environment of their target language. This decision is a trendsetter in college-level language education in this country. The study abroad requirement constitutes our students' passport to a broader worldview that will foster a better appreciation of different perspectives on life, including their own. It also contextualizes the language education experience, making it more responsive to our national security and economic development needs. Please join us in celebrating this milestone.

Enjoy your reading.

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**Study Abroad: Learning About Another Culture and About Oneself**

"The amount I have learned and my ability to use Japanese has dramatically increased. This program has been a very positive experience. I learned a lot of Japanese and a lot about myself," noted Shannon Callihan, a student in the Clemson University Study Abroad in Kyoto Program.

Clemson's Department of Languages offers a wide variety of study abroad programs. While language majors are required to study abroad for at least one semester, most study for one year. Here is a summary of current offerings.

**Spanish Classes and Homestays in Argentina and Spain**

Clemson University offers semester-long programs in Córdoba, Argentina, at the Universidad Blas Pascal and in Granada, Spain, at the Universidad de Granada. Students take classes taught by native speakers and stay with host families. Extracurricular activities in the Córdoba Program include tango lessons, horseback riding, and study tours to Buenos Aires and Argentina's nature sites. The Granada Program offers internships for Language and International Health students at the Granada Cancer Hospital and at Red Cross International.

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**A Foundation Established for Study Abroad**

Constancio K. Nakuma, Chair

On March 12, 2007, Clemson University and the Department of Languages celebrated the establishment of the Jordan A. Dean Foundation for Study Abroad at a reception in the Clemson University Alumni Center. The goal of this Foundation is to make study abroad more affordable for language students by awarding scholarships to offset the cost associated with traveling abroad. The creation of this Foundation in the fall of 2006 was timely because study abroad for at least a full semester became mandatory for all Clemson language majors at that time.

Mr. Jordan A. Dean, Sr., who is now in his late 90s, was one of the pioneer language educators at Clemson University in the 1930s. At that time, Clemson University awarded only B.S. degrees, and the language program in French and German was administered by Mr. Dean and another professor. Spanish, which is the most popular language now, was added years later. For comparison, the Department of Languages currently employs 45 full-time faculty members who teach eight languages to more than 2,000 students per semester.

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- A Moment in History
- Faculty News
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**LANGUAGES OFFERED**

- American Sign Language
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Language and International Health
- Language and International Trade
- Russian
- Spanish
CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE AWARD RECIPIENTS!

LAURA J. BEATTIE—Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence

JACLYN D. BRAUN—Pacific Gateway Award for Excellence in Chinese; Inergy Automotive Annual Language and International Trade Award

JESSICA K. CHEEK—American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese Award

BRETT ELLIS—Draexlmaier Language Award for Excellence in German

PAIGE L. GIBSON—Achim von Arnim Award for Excellence in German Literature

LESSIE B. GOODMAN—Faculty Award for Excellence in American Sign Language

MATTHEW HEDLUND—Carlton Moore Award for Excellence in German and International Trade

ALLISON M. KAPLAN—inergy Automotive Annual Language and International Trade Award

GREGORY W. KHEZRENJAT—JAASC Award for Excellence in Japanese

JACOB M. LAPP—Draexlmaier Automotive German Studies Award

CHARLES M. MYER—Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence

JESSICA F. O’ROURKE—Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence

TALON R. SMITH—FIA Award for Excellence in Language and International Trade in Japanese

JORDAN R. SUPPER—Clemson University German Club Award; BMW German Studies Award

VA THAO—Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence

CATHERINE E. TUTEN—Patricia W. Wannamaker Language and International Trade Award of Excellence

ADAM B. WALL—American Association of Teachers of French Award

A Moment in History: 1986

In 1986, students in Professor Ed Arnold’s German Study Abroad Program stayed in this 600-year-old home near Ramsau with a spectacular view of the Bavarian Alps. This stop was one of many during the six-week study experience. Home base for the program was Nabburg, Bavaria. Families opened up their homes to students for the 19 days intermittently spent there during the trip. The most important aspect of this study abroad trip, and the other eleven trips (1980-2000), was the time spent in the former East Germany, where almost all students met their pen pals. Pictured, from left, are students Steve Lucey, Laurie Jennings, Shane Eisminger, Sharon Hughes, and lodging hostess Frau Graessl.

National/International Student Awards and Grants and Other Recognitions for 2007-2008

MATTHEW ALLEN, a physics major and German minor, received an all-expenses-paid Fulbright Research/Study Grant for a year at the Technical University of Augsburg in Germany. Matthew is Clemson’s 30th Fulbright recipient for Germany.

MATT BURKHARD, a computer science major and Japanese minor, won first place at the 16th Annual Japanese Speech Contest at Georgia Tech. He was awarded two weeks of summer study (all expenses paid) in Japan with the International Educators to Japan.

ALEX DOUPNIK, a mechanical engineering major, received a three-month paid internship at Siemens AG Power Generation near Cologne, Germany, through the Transatlantic Program. The program also includes a one-week all-expenses-paid immersion seminar in Berlin.

BRANDON ESSARY, a history major and Italian minor, was accepted into the Italian Master’s Program at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Brandon was last year’s recipient of the Programma Ponte Scholarship.

LAURA LEDGERWOOD, a marketing major, won Honorable Mention at the 16th Annual Japanese Speech Contest at Georgia Tech.

SAM SCURRY, a double major in German and history, received an all-expenses-paid German Academic Exchange Services (DAAD) Undergraduate Grant for one year of study in German film at the University of Mainz in Germany.

JORDAN SUPPER, a civil engineering major, received a German Academic Exchange Services (DAAD) Undergraduate Grant for an all-expenses-paid year of study/research at the Technical University of Dresden in Germany.

BRADY ZUPAN, a double major in Language and International Trade—French and accounting, received a national Programma Ponte Scholarship for five weeks of summer study (all expenses paid) at St. Thomas Aquinas University in Rome. Brady is Clemson’s eighth recipient of this scholarship.
Visit to Chinese Families and Hometown of Confucius

Study abroad in China includes a six-week program for undergraduates and a two-week program for faculty and graduate students. After touring the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, and other cultural sites in Beijing, the students in the six-week program start their intensive study in Chinese language and culture at Dalian University of Science and Technology. Students stay in a guest house run by the University. This summer, students visited Chinese families, schools, and businesses and toured Qingdao, Laoshan (a Daoist sacred mountain), and Qufu (Confucius’ hometown).

Study at the Sorbonne in Paris

Students study French language and culture at the Sorbonne, Paris’ renowned university, during Clemson’s two summer sessions. This program is ideal for students of all levels of French, from beginners to advanced writers and speakers. The program director, who also once studied in Paris, offers a course on the cultural history of Paris and leads academically intensive guided visits to cultural venues. Students experience life in Paris firsthand through homestays with French families.

Opportunities for Study, Scholarships, and Internships in Germany and Austria

Many Clemson students attend German or Austrian universities in the ISEP consortium (International Student Exchange Program). Clemson also has linkage agreements with several German universities such as the University of Bamberg and the Technical University of Jena. For summer study, students generally elect programs at a German Goethe Institute or those offered through the German Academic Exchange (DAAD). Students also earn scholarships and intern at companies such as BMW in Leipzig and Munich.

Experiences in the Rich Traditions of Ghana

Clemson students have the opportunity to experience Ghanaian culture firsthand through visits to national parks and wildlife sanctuaries and by learning about the history and horrors of the slave trade. In this spring’s Maymester program, students participated in a volunteer project to help the youth of Pantang village. In their free time, students talk with the locals (mostly in English, but sometimes in bits of Twi, Ewe or Ga), barter in markets, and take in the Ghanaian mix of rich traditions and pop culture.

Study in Kyoto, the Ancient Capital of Japan

Students immerse themselves in Japanese culture through the Kyoto summer program. Each student enrolls in an intensive conversation and composition course offered by the host institution, the Kyoto Institute of Culture and Japanese Language at the Kyoto University of Art and Design. Students live with Japanese host families in this millenium-old city rich with traditions. In addition, each student takes a course in Japanese cultural studies involving field trips and group reporting sessions.

Appreciation of Mexican Culture

Students in Clemson’s four-week summer program in Xalapa study Mexican culture and civilization with the program director and take classes in Spanish conversation with native speakers through the Escuela para Estudiantes Extranjeros, a division of the University of Veracruz. Through their host families, students have the opportunity to meet and interact with many Mexicans. In this summer’s program, group excursions took students to archaeological and historical sites, beaches, and traditional villages.

Students in Clemson’s study abroad programs return with a higher proficiency in a foreign language, an increased understanding of other cultures, and a deeper sense of who they are.
A Foundation Established
(continued from page 1)

Dr. James H. Monroe, a retired language teacher, and his wife, Anita, established the Jordan A. Dean Foundation in honor of Dr. Monroe's language professor, Mr. Dean. Dr. Monroe recounts that studying in France was such a life-transforming experience for him that he wants to honor the man who advised him to do it, and to encourage and support Clemson language students to experience the same type of transformation. Every study abroad participant gets to experience otherness in a way that enriches the self by forcing us all to confront the most fundamental question of who we are. Appropriating another culture in order to carve out space for oneself within it only happens when one is immersed in that culture, and that is why the study abroad experience is so life-transforming.

Preparing a world-wise workforce is a global mandate in which America's system of higher education must assume leadership. The Lincoln Commission Report (published in November 2005) identified study abroad as one of the most efficient ways of developing world consciousness, setting a national goal of one million Americans studying abroad every year by 2016. At Clemson University, the goal of the Department of Languages is to send 100% of all language majors studying abroad prior to graduation. Dr. James Monroe has helped establish a foundation to achieve that goal, and we invite you to join us in building it up. Study abroad is familiar territory for the Department of Languages ... we have an established foundation for it.

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. If you would like to make a donation, it is possible to do so online at: www.clemson.edu/giving/aah. Please scroll down and click on the "Register/Log On to Our Secure Online Giving Form" box to log on (if you are already registered) or to register (if you are a new user). After you have logged on, enter the amount you want to donate and select from the "Designation" pull-down menu one of the Department of Languages' projects/causes listed below.

- Languages: Jordan Dean Student Travel Account
- Languages: American Sign Language
- Languages: The Language & International Trade (L&IT) Annual Conference Fund

- Languages: Declamation Contest
- Languages: Program Development Fund

Mr. Robert Hitt, Manager for Media and Public Affairs at BMW, commenting on their support of the German Program at Clemson University.
W. ALTON BRANT, Ed.D., associate professor of American Sign Language, published “Counseling Accessibility for Deaf Children in Public and Residential Schools” in the Journal of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association. The study identified issues related to student behaviors and counseling support children were receiving in South Carolina public schools and residential programs in the southeastern U.S.

NATHAN GUSS, Ph.D., assistant professor of French, published an article on Georges Perec in Dalhousie French Studies this spring and another on Marcel Proust in the French Literature Series. At the Modern Language Association Convention in December, he presented “Reading Albertine a Century Later.” He also developed Clemson’s first two distance-learning French classes.

PAULA HEUSINKVELD, Ph.D., professor of Spanish and director of the Language and International Trade Program, was installed as president of the South Eastern Council on Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) at the annual meeting in San José, Costa Rica, on April 20, 2007. SECOLAS is the largest of five regional organizations within the Latin American Studies Association and the only one to publish a refereed journal.

JULIE HUNTINGTON, Ph.D., assistant professor of French, published articles on literature and pedagogy in the Modern Language Journal and The French Review. She contributed a chapter to the French cinema textbook Le Septième Art and directed a Creative Inquiry project in African Cinema. She also served as the program director for Clemson’s Maymester in Ghana Program.

JEFF LOVE, Ph.D., associate professor of German and Russian, in collaboration with Johannes Schmidt, Ph.D., associate professor of German, published a translation of F.W.J. Schelling’s Philosophical Investigations into the Essence of Human Freedom (1809), State University of New York Press, 2006. In the spring of 2006, Jeff received Clemson University’s National Scholars Award of Distinction.


CONSTANCIO NAKUMA, Ph.D., professor of French and department chair, is serving his third year of elected office on the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages (ADFL) national executive board. He was an external reviewer of language departments at two universities. He also conducted a workshop for new department chairs at the ADFL Seminar West in Hawaii in June 2007 and published two articles in 2006.

KELLY PEEBLES, ABD and lecturer of French, is currently researching a collection of short stories from the mid-sixteenth century entitled Les Comptes amoureux par Madame Jeanne Flore. She presented “An Erasmian Intertext for Les Comptes amoureux” at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference in October 2005 and will present “Lyonnais Literary Games and Les Comptes amoureux” at the Society’s conference in October 2007.

KEVIN R. POOLE, Ph.D., assistant professor of Spanish, has contributed numerous entries to the new 2007 edition of the Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages and has had his article “In Search of Paradise: Time and Eternity in Alfonso X’s Cantiga 103” accepted for publication in this year’s edition of the Medieval studies journal eHumanista.

JOHANNES SCHMIDT, Ph.D., associate professor of German, in collaboration with Jeff Love, Ph.D., associate professor of German and Russian, published a translation of F.W.J. Schelling’s Philosophical Investigations into the Essence of Human Freedom (1809), State University of New York Press, 2006.

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Daniel Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor of Spanish, published “Thresholds Leading to Shift: Spanish/English Code-switching and Convergence in Georgia, USA” in the International Journal of Bilingualism (2006) and a related article in the Southern Journal of Linguistics (2006). He was awarded a College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities grant for 2007 to extend this study to an additional Hispanic population.


Graciela Tissera, Ph.D., associate professor of Spanish, serves as Senator and College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities Representative to the Executive/Advisory Committee of the Faculty Senate. Her course, Introduction to Hispanic Literary Forms, was nominated for Best Practices Study in Spanish Literature. She published two articles in spring 2007: “Borges y El hacedor” and “The Archetypical Labyrinths of the Detective Fiction.”


Reflections from Abroad

Here are some reflections from students about their study abroad experience.

“After looking back on my awesome experience, I know that Córdoba really gave me a lot of insight about myself, other people, and the world.” —John Hinson, Córdoba Program

“Studying in Germany for a year... I challenged myself to change and to grow as often as I could. When I returned to Clemson, I did come back as a different person but one convinced more than ever that familiarity rarely opens minds and rarely leads to new ideas.” —Ryan Carroll, studied at the University of Applied Sciences and at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany

“I’m leaving Mexico with better pronunciation (I can almost roll my R’s now), more vocabulary, and improved grammar, but I am also leaving with a greater sense of who I am and as an overall happier person.” —Farren Ingwanti, Xalapa Program

“Between informative lectures and traveling to the castles, villages, markets, museums and parks, I learned more about Ghana than any classroom instructor could have taught me.” —Lori Pindar, Ghana Program

In Memoriam

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of David M. Hamilton, who died on June 26, 2007. David earned degrees (B.S. ’85; B.A. ’86) from Clemson University in microbiology and languages. He taught German in the Department of Languages from 1999-2001 and was a tutor with the Student-Athlete Enrichment Center at Clemson.

During her semester at the University of Dortmund in Germany, Genevieve Mendes (on far right) taught English on a voluntary basis to this group of students. She also received a grant through Projekt Weltoffenheit to promote cross-cultural understanding and tolerance among East German youth.
Language Club and Honor Society Highlights from 2006-2007

The American Sign Language Club's Deaf Awareness Week included the following activities: the signing of the National Anthem at the Clemson Tiger Football Kickoff game, an information booth, a Silent Day, a movie night, and the Deaf Awareness Night Extravaganza!, where guests presented entertainment and information. The club also sponsored the presentation “Mental Health Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals of South Carolina.”

The French Club visited the exhibits NAPOLEON: An Intimate Portrait at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia and Louvre Atlanta: Kings as Collectors at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. Other activities included a crepe party and French movie night. The club also raised money for Doctors Without Borders / Médecins Sans Frontières by selling French food at Clemson's International Festival.

The German Club met twice a month for Stammtisch (the German conversation table) in downtown Clemson. The club also sponsored Wanderverein (the German hiking club) and hosted a Halloween party and a Mardi Gras-Fasching-Carnaval party with other language and international student clubs.

The Clemson University Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish National Honorary Society, held its annual initiation ceremony on April 5, 2007. President Andrew Hand and Vice-President Travis Jones conducted the ceremony. This year's inductees included Julia Aue, Barbara Dyar, Lydia Robins, Priscilla Tahara, and Sarah Turner.

The Italian Program received a donation of $3500 from Cavaliere Joseph Coccia to provide scholarships for students studying in Italy and to purchase teaching materials. The program also sponsored the Italian Film Festival and a lecture entitled “Italian American Women Poets” by renowned poet Dr. Rosetta D'Angelo.

In April, the Pi Delta Phi French Honor Society welcomed Dr. Alain Dubos (on right), former Vice President of Doctors Without Borders / Médecins Sans Frontières. Students of French, on left, had the opportunity to have lunch with Dr. Dubos. He also presented a lecture to the Clemson community.

Students in German 299 Foreign Language Drama Laboratory held their annual play on April 3, 2007. The play, "Grimms Intervention," was an original work written and performed by the students themselves. Pictured, from left, are students Henry McGill, Erika Stromberg and Matt Hedlund.

Pictured, in center, is Russian Professor Joan Bridgwood wearing a satan sarafan, a traditional Russian costume dating to the 14th century. With her are guests from Belorussia, Tatyana and Alena Kulakov, visiting the Slavic Food Stall at Clemson's International Festival. Other Russian Club activities included a visit to a Russian Orthodox church in Greenville, the weekly conversation table, and a film festival.

Students enjoy one of the Spanish Club's fiestas featuring Latin American food and salsa dancing. Other activities included writing workshops for students and the sale of T-shirts and Hispanic food specialties. Future club activities include assisting with the Latin American and Spanish Film Festival and sponsoring dance classes.

SEPTEMBER 23 - 30, 2007: DEAF AWARENESS WEEK.
Contact: Alton Brant (alton@clemson.edu).

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 2007: 4TH LATIN AMERICAN / SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL.
Contact: Liliana Hernández (liliana@clemson.edu); ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL. Contact: Luca Barattoni (lbaratt@clemson.edu).

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15, 2007: HISPANIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH.
Contact: Dr. Clementina Adams (adamsc@clemson.edu).

OCTOBER 27, 2007: 35TH ANNUAL DECLAMATION CONTEST.
Contact: Helen Newton, Director (hnewton@clemson.edu).

MARCH 2008 (DATE TBA): AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB SPRING SEMINAR.
Contact: Alton Brant (alton@clemson.edu).

MARCH 29 - APRIL 6, 2008: INTERNATIONAL WEEK. Sponsored by the Gantt Intercultural Center.
CHINESE FILM FESTIVAL. Contact: Dr. Yanhua Zhang (yhzhang@clemson.edu); AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL.
Contact: Dr. Julie Huntington (jhuntin@clemson.edu).

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1, 2008: 1ST ANNUAL LANGUAGE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE, MADREN CENTER.
Contact: Dr. Constancio Nakuma (cnakuma@clemson.edu).
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Emeriti Update: Sandy King Enjoys Second Career as Photographer

Sandy King on one of the Gulf Islands near Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Retirement has allowed Sandy King, Professor Emeritus of Spanish, time for a second career—taking photographs, writing about photography, teaching workshops, and exhibiting and selling his work. He wrote an article on carbon printing which appeared in MagnaChrom and a three-part series on carbon printing in the UK-based magazine Silvershotz. He also taught workshops on printing in Canada, Montana, and Turkey and had exhibitions in Istanbul and Toronto. His work can be seen in several on-line galleries, including the Contact Printers Guild.

Sandy is also traveling. Last June, he spent a week on Gabriola Island near Vancouver, and in January, he spent three weeks in Morelia, Mexico. This summer he traveled to Spain, where he photographed sites and visited friends.

In spite of these adventures, Sandy misses his friends and the intellectual stimulation of students. However, he enjoys the freedom to travel and photograph and to promote his personal work and writings.