



UNT
UNIVERSITY
OF NORTH TEXAS
EST. 1890

The Polyglot Newsletter

Department of World Languages, Literatures, & Cultures

Marie-Christine Koop, Editor

VOLUME 9, 2015-2016

IN THIS ISSUE:

- The Chair's Column
- Department Sponsored Scholarships
- Study Abroad
- New Programs, Courses, and Master's Theses
- New Faculty and Retirees
- Faculty and Staff Achievements
- Awards, Grants, Appointments
- Books and Book-Length Publications
- News from Distinguished Alumni
- Department Events
- Partea

The Chair's Column

Dear Colleagues and Friends of WLLC,

It has been four years now since the *Polyglot*—the newsletter of the Department of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures at the University of North Texas—last appeared. As the Department's new chair, I would like to bring you up to date on some of the recent developments that have taken place. As of September 1, 2015, our department has been reconfigured to where it no longer includes Spanish: Dr. Samuel Manickam now leads our former colleagues in Spanish. Although we still share office space and some staff for now, we are planning to become two entirely independent departments in the near future.

For those of you who do not know me, I have been at UNT since 2002, starting as an adjunct instructor of French, then an Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Full Professor, and now Chair. Born and raised in the Netherlands, I received my PhD in French from the University of New Mexico and specialize in 17th- and 18th-century French literature. My publications are in the fields of 18th-century French women writers, epistolary fiction, correspondence, cultural studies, and gender studies. As a Dutch native, I learned many languages and truly enjoy the wonderful linguistic and cultural diversity of our department. Indeed, my leadership motto has become "Fostering Unity while Promoting Diversity."

On that note of diversity, we currently teach Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin and Russian. Latin had fallen victim to budget cuts a couple of years ago, but has come back with a vengeance, filling two sections of Beginning Latin in no time in Fall 2016. We offer majors in French and German, and minors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian. An exciting update: Japanese is awaiting approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to launch its brand new major, hopefully in Fall 2017! For all

our languages we offer free tutoring to enrolled students and numerous extra-curricular activities such as study abroad programs, conversation tables, cultural activities, an international film festival etc.

Full-time faculty members have changed substantially since the publication of the last *Polyglot*: new faces include Dr. Caroline Najour in Arabic, Ms. Nanxi Meng in Chinese, Dr. Carol Anne Costabile-Heming and Dr. Cindy Renker in German, Dr. Silvio DeSantis and Dr. Andrea Polegato in Italian, Dr. Kaori Furuya and Ms. Naoki Iwamoto in Japanese, and Dr. Tatiana Filosofova in Russian. Long-term French Professor Dr. Michel Sirvent retired after the Spring 2016 semester and a search is under way for his replacement. Our office staff has also changed: Ms. Amaya Spencer is our Administrative Coordinator and Ms. Mary Sutton our Administrative Assistant.



Our department is going through a transition towards independence and we would like to include you in the process. If you are an alumnus/alumna of one of our programs, please reconnect with us. Let us know how you are using the degree you earned with us. If you benefited from one of the scholarships our department has given out over the years and feel inclined to pass it forward, by all means contact us so we may help you to establish your own scholarship. Donations are welcome at all times so we may help our current students achieve their own career goals and dreams. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions. My email address is marijn.kaplan@unt.edu and I look forward to hearing from you!

With international wishes,

Marijn S. Kaplan

Professor of French and Department Chair

مرحبا * 您好 * *Bonjour* * *Hallo* * *Ciao* * こんにちは * *Salve* * *Здравствуй*



العربية

中文 العربية Deutsch 日本語



Français



中文

Hello

مرحبا

您好

Bonjour

Hallo

Ciao

こんにちは

Salve

Здравствуйте

русский



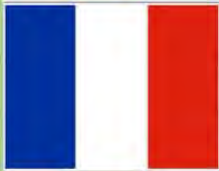
Italiano

Italiano



русский

中文



Français

العربية



日本語

Deutsch



Deutsch

日本語



العربية

中文

Italiano

русский

Français



Department of World Languages

Literatures & Cultures

940-565-2404

worldlanguages@unt.edu

Department Sponsored Scholarships

Martha and Voncile Liddell Scholarship for undergraduate declared major or minor in any language (preferably French, Spanish, or German).

Robert Hardin Endowed Scholarship

Edist/Solveig Olsen Scholarship in support of French, German, and Spanish majors enrolled in the WLLC department.

Martha A. Olsen Memorial Scholarship in support of German majors enrolled in the WLLC department.

Donald Vidrine French Study Abroad Expendable Scholarship for undergraduate or graduate students majoring in French and participating in a study-abroad program

The Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is proud to announce that the following UNT students were awarded scholarships in 2015 and 2016:

- Martha and Voncile Liddell Scholarship: **Tara DeWeese** (German), **Susanna Strange** (French)
- Donald Vidrine French Study Abroad Scholarship: **Colin Aslay**, **Donald Joseph, Ra'Heem Senegal**
- Olsen Expendable French Scholarship: **Ashlee Solice**
- Martha Olsen Memorial Scholarship (German): **Chelsea Beeson** (German), **Jan Bouhs**
- Edist/Solveig Olsen Scholarship: **Ra'Heem Senegal** (French)
- Robert Hardin Endowed Scholarship: **Jan Bouhs** (German)

We, and more importantly, the students are deeply appreciative of the generous contributions that have been made to language and cultural education at UNT. Our scholarship pool can grow and be sustained only through the financial support of our donors, the Friends of the Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures, to whom we send this newsletter. We hope you will consider sending us a gift today.

If you would like to contribute to our gift account or establish a scholarship fund for either undergraduate or graduate language students, please use the enclosed envelope or contact **Dr. Marijn Kaplan**. You may reach her at **(940) 565-2404** or e-mail her at **Marijn.Kaplan@unt.edu**. All contributions are tax deductible.



Study Abroad

FRENCH



Dr. Marie-Christine Koop organized and directed a faculty-led semester program in France in Spring 2016. It enlisted the participation of 30 UNT students and one graduate assistant. The program began in Paris where the group spent four days visiting several locations such as the Louvre museum, the Conciergerie, and the Sainte-Chapelle, followed by an excursion to the Palace of Versailles. The students then travelled to Cannes, on the French Riviera where they were hosted and enrolled at Collège International. They attended classes in French language and culture and participated in various visits and excursions, including Monaco and Monte Carlo. They were even able to view the movies presented during the International Film festival. They earned 15 credits in French and some participated in internships during their stay.

GERMAN



In Summer 2016, Ms. Carmen Terry organized and directed a program at the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (founded in 1457), and had the opportunity to meet German students of their own age and interests. This was a very enjoyable and educational experience for them, and the majority of the students from this group, declared German as a major or a minor upon their return. Among other attractions, the group visited Heidelberg, where the oldest German university is located. They also traveled to Strasbourg in Alsace-Lorraine in France, and to Lucerne in Switzerland. Strasbourg still preserves a strong German presence, and students could learn more about the history and culture of this place. This program will be offered again in the summer of 2018.

ITALIAN



In July 2016 Dr. Andrea Polegato organized and directed an accelerated intermediate course in the coastal city of Salerno near Naples. Hosted by Italian families, students spent five weeks immersed in the authentic Italian culture and lifestyle of one of the most beautiful areas of Italy! The program included: excursions to Pompeii, Naples, and the Amalfi coast (by boat!), many cultural activities such as cooking workshops (they made Pizza) and seminars on Italian cheese (la mozzarella!) and olive oil.

JAPANESE



Organized by Ms. Yayoi Takeuchi, the Summer 2015 Step Forward program in Japan was memorable with 13 students who tried many activities beyond learning Japanese. They met other students from Rikkyo University in Tokyo and again in Rikuzentakata up north where the Great Earthquake and Tsunami hit in 2011. The group visited a little library and an elementary school together trying to read aloud books both in Japanese and English. Students learned the spirit of the Miracle Pine Tree which survived the Tsunami as the symbol of the recovery.

RUSSIAN



In June 2016, for the very first time for the Russian program at UNT, nine students of Russian, led by the Russian Program coordinator, Dr. Tatiana Filosofova, travelled to St. Petersburg, Russia. They were engaged in a five-week Study Abroad program that included an intensive, full immersion Russian language course and a broad range of cultural activities. The program proved to be a great success. All students have said that they have had a lifetime experience on their trip. Therefore, everyone would very much like to go back to Russia in the near future to see more of the country.

New Programs

Japanese: a new bachelor's degree in Japanese has been proposed to begin in Fall 2017.

Latin: the Latin program, which had been eliminated in 2013, has been reinstated and has met with success.

New Courses

Arabic: "Immigration and Travel" and "Holidays and Cultural Traditions," new topic courses in advanced Arabic by Dr. Caroline Najour.

French:

- "French Media and Current Events," new advanced course by Ms. Sophie Morton.
- "Language and Culture in the Maghreb," new graduate course by Dr. Lawrence Williams.

Japanese: "Japanese Geography and Cuisine," advanced course by Dr. Kaori Furuya.

Russian: "Advanced Russian for Professional Communication" and "Russian Folklore and Magic" (in English as elective), advanced courses by Dr. Tatiana Filosofova.

"To have another language is to possess a second soul." -Charlemagne

Master's Theses

Dr. Marijn S. Kaplan directed Monica Daucourt's master's thesis in French entitled *Comment peut-on être Persane ou Péruvienne? On le devient*; it was defended in December 2015.

New Faculty



Naoki Iwamoto, Continuing Lecturer in Japanese

Ms. Naoki Iwamoto joined our department in Fall 2016, as Continuing Lecturer in Japanese. She holds a Master's degree in Japanese Language Education from J.F. Oberlin University in Tokyo, Japan. Her teaching/research interest lies in regards to Japanese acquisition/learning and she has an especially strong interest in the motivational factors that promote the long-term learning of Japanese language learners. She has previously taught at a university in Thailand, the University of Memphis, and Vassar College, and she is now excited to be involved in the UNT community. She grew up in the countryside in Japan and spent her childhood surrounded by beautiful mountains and beaches, which made her a big fan of nature. She loves traveling and exploring local culture, food, and music.



Nanxi Meng, Continuing Lecturer in Chinese

Ms. Nanxi Meng joined UNT in 2014 and became a Continuing Lecturer in 2016. She is originally from China where she received her Master's Degree in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language from East China Normal University. Before coming to UNT, she finished her internship as a teaching assistant for the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) in Shanghai, and taught courses for standard English Tests (TOEFL, IELTS and SAT) at the New Channel English School, Shanghai for over three years.

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart."

-Nelson Mandela

Retirees

Dr. Michel Sirvent retired in July 2016 after teaching at UNT for twenty-two years. Originally from the south of France, he came to UNT in 1994. Dr. Sirvent specialized in literature, mainly since the nineteenth century. He enjoyed teaching literary theory and analysis and participated for many years in a French research group on "textique" which met at the Centre Culturel International in Cerisy-la-Salle, France. He has authored books on the subject and continues to be active in scholarship. He now lives in California.



Faculty & Staff Achievements

Awards



Dr. Donald R. Vidrine, Emeritus Professor of French, was knighted in the French Order of Academic Palms in October 2015 in the presence of the Consul General and the Cultural Attachée from the Consulate General of France in Houston. UNT administrators, colleagues, and former students attended the event to congratulate Dr. Vidrine. Founded in 1808 by Napoleon I, the Order of Academic Palms is the most prestigious award bestowed upon scholars who have distinguished themselves by their professional activities and have contributed actively to the prestige of French culture. Dr. Vidrine taught at UNT for thirty years (1968-1998) and was a pillar of the French section. His area of specialization was French literature, and he served as Coordinator of the French language program for many years. He organized in-service sessions for area French teachers and directed several study-abroad programs to French-speaking countries as well as grant-funded summer institutes for teachers. He has received several awards and distinctions and established the Donald R. Vidrine French Study Abroad Scholarship.



Dr. Tatiana Filosofova, Lecturer and Coordinator of the Russian Program, participated in the International Competition of Teachers of Russian and received the Best Russian Teacher of the Year Award in 2015 from the International Association of Teachers of Russian (MAPRYAL) in Moscow.



Ms. Carmen Terry, Principal Lecturer in German, was the 2015 recipient of the UNT Citation for Distinguished Service in International Education. Ms. Terry has organized and directed faculty-led programs to Germany for many years. Her passion is teaching and getting students to love the German language and culture. She has received several teaching awards such as the UNT Teaching Award in 2014 and the 2013 National Teaching Award from the American Association of Teachers of German and the Goethe Institute for promoting German in the U.S. She was also the recipient of several external grants that allowed her to attend seminars in the U.S., Germany, and Austria.



Ms. Amaya Spencer, our Administrative Coordinator, received a UNT Star Performer Award because of her extraordinary service to our department in Fall 2015, particularly when we were in transition during our reconfiguration and she worked by herself for both Spanish and our department.

Fellowships and Grants

Dr. Carol Anne Costabile-Heming was the recipient of two fellowships to pursue research in Germany—a one-month fellowship from the Deutsches Literaturarchiv in Marbach, Germany and a two-month research fellowship from the DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst/German Academic Exchange Service).

Dr. Andrea Polegato received a grant from the UNT Charn Uswachoke International Development Fund to establish collaborations and internships with local high schools and businesses in Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy for UNT students and Faculty.

Dr. Christoph Weber received a Suhrkamp Grant in Summer 2016 to cover a one-month research stay at the German national archive for literature in Marbach, Germany.

Dr. Lawrence Williams received a grant from the UNT Charn Uswachoke International Development Fund for curriculum development and the initiation of long-term academic partnerships in Morocco.

Appointments and Promotions

Dr. Carol Anne Costabile-Heming served as President of the Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT) from March 2015 through February 2016 and is now serving on the SCOLT Board as Past-President.

Dr. Tatiana Filosofova was elected to serve as Book Review Editor for *Folklorica*, Journal of the Slavic, East European and Eurasian Folklore Association.

Dr. Marijn S. Kaplan was appointed Department Chair in Fall 2015. She has been serving as Production Editor for the journal *Women in French Studies*.

Ms. Sophie Morton currently serves as President for the North Texas Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF).

Dr. Marie-Christine Koop is now Graduate Advisor in French. She is Assistant Editor for *The French Review* and was recently appointed to the editorial board of *Contemporary French Civilization*.

Dr. Dorian Roehrs was appointed Associate Department Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Fall 2015.

Dr. Christoph Weber was promoted to Associate Professor of German with tenure in 2015. He currently serves as Vice-President for the North Texas Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG). He is also the German Representative to the Executive Committee of the South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) and a Board Member of the Dallas Goethe Center.

Dr. Lawrence Williams serves as program reviewer for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). He was elected to the executive committee on Applied Linguistics of the Modern Language Association and the executive board of CALICO (Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium). He was also appointed to the editorial board of the *NECTFL Review*, journal of the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, and to the scientific committee of the 2017 International Symposium on Bilingualism (University of Limerick, Ireland).

Faculty Books & Book-Length Publications Since 2013



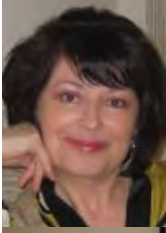
Dr. Christophe Chaguinian authored a critical edition and translation, *Le Jeu d'Adam: une édition bilingue* [The Jeu d'Adam: a bilingual edition] in the series *Medievalia* (#85). Orléans: Paradigme, 2014.



Dr. Carol Anne Costabile-Heming co-edited *Taking Stock of German Studies in the United States: The New Millennium*. Rochester: Camden House, 2015.



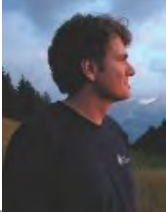
Dr. Marijn S. Kaplan edited *Malvina by Sophie Cottin. Chawton House Library: Women's Novels 21*. London: Pickering & Chatto Publishers, 2015. She also co-edited *Le travail du genre à travers les échanges épistolaires des écrivains: épistolarité et genericité*. Paris: L'Harmattan, 2015.



Dr. Marie-Christine Koop guest-edited "La question de l'immigration aujourd'hui en France" (*The Issue of Immigration in France Today*) as a special issue of *Contemporary French Civilization*, Vol. 40, Nr. 2, 2015.



Dr. Dorian Roehrs co-authored *Quantifying Expressions in the History of German: Syntactic reanalysis and morphological change*. [Linguistik Aktuell/Linguistic Today-Series 230]. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2016. In 2013, he had authored 'The Inner Makeup of Definite Determiners: The Case of Germanic' for the *Journal of Germanic Linguistics* 25 (4): 295-411.



Dr. Christoph Weber authored *Vom Gottesgericht zur verhängnisvollen Natur: Darstellung und Bewältigung von Naturkatastrophen im 18. Jahrhundert (From Divine Punishment to Accidents of Nature: Representing and Coping with Natural Disasters in the 18th Century)* in the series *Studien zum 18. Jahrhundert (Studies on 18th Century)*. Vol. 36. Hamburg: Meiner, 2015.



Dr. Lawrence Williams has co-edited two volumes: *Digital literacies in foreign and second-language education* in the CALICO Monograph Series, Vol. 12, 2014; and *Sociocultural theory and second language pedagogy* as a special issue of *Language Teaching Research*, Vol. 17, Nr. 3, 2013.

News from our Distinguished Alumni



Michael Atkins first completed a bachelor's degree in Music and Linguistics (Summa cum laude), and then a master's degree in French at UNT as a Toulouse Fellow. He then studied as a Fulbright and Rotary Ambassadorial scholar at the Graduate School of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland where he earned two master's degrees in International Economics & Law. He later received a graduate certificate in International Business and Finance from New York University. He is currently President at Cormorant Capital and manages institutional client relationships for Old Republic National Title (NYSE: ORI) in New York. Michael Atkins was formerly Vice President, Europe & Asia Pacific, at Fidelity National Financial (NYSE: FNF), where he was responsible for launching operations in Europe, among other global regions. Prior to FNF, he was employed by the World Economic Forum. He also serves as President of the Graduate School's New York Alumni Chapter, as well as member and supporter of the New York Athletic Club, Urban Land Institute (ULI), numerous art museums, and the Jazz Gallery in New York.



Aimie K. Runyan earned her M.A. in French at UNT in 2010. Her Master's thesis examined the living conditions and motivations of the so-called *filles du roi* (king's daughters) who were sent as brides to marry the settlers in Louis XIV's Quebec colony. She earned a very generous grant from the Association Internationale des Études Québécoises, which allowed her to research the topic on location for several months. She fell in love with these women and their stories, and ferreted away choice bits of research that would allow her to become an author of historical fiction that celebrates history's unsung heroines. Her novels, *Promised to the Crown*, and the continuing story, *Duty to the Crown*, were published by Kensington Books in 2016. Her third book, *Daughters of the Night Sky*, will be published by Lake Union in 2017. Before transitioning to full-time writing, Aimie spent more than a decade teaching French, occasionally moonlighting in English and public speaking. She lives in Colorado with her amazing husband and two adorable children.



Ashley Shams (B.A. and M.A. in French, UNT) went on to complete a Ph.D. in French with a specialization in second language acquisition at Florida State University. She is now associate professor of French at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota where she teaches undergraduate courses in language, poetry, and civilization. She has co-directed numerous interdisciplinary international service-learning projects focused on issues related to food security and women's cooperatives in West Africa and the Caribbean. Her recent research interests also include the study of liminal figures in the Romantic ballet *Giselle* and its modern reworkings in addition to studies of liminality in gothic fiction and literature of the fantastic. She is the current president of the International Conference on Romanticism and has several publications in the field of international service-learning.

Lisa Snyder earned her M.A. in French from UNT and went on to teach French for North Lake College in Texas until 2002. Since then she has directed the foreign language program for Covenant Christian Academy, a classical school in Colleyville, Texas. She says, "The professors in the French Department mentored me in how to analyze literature, how to teach, as well as how to work within a group. Their mutual respect, support, and commitment to their field are what I endeavor to pass down to the next generation of teachers." She also volunteers with World Relief to help refugees from francophone countries.

News from our Distinguished Alumni



Rémi Adam van Compernelle received his M.A in French from UNT, and then a Ph.D. at Penn State University. He is currently an assistant professor of second language acquisition and French at Carnegie Mellon University, where his research, teaching, and graduate advising focuses on the relationship between language and cognition in contexts of second language development, teaching, and assessment. In particular, he and his students have been most active in researching and publishing work in concept-based language instruction, dynamic assessment of second language abilities, and classroom discourse and interaction, with specific emphasis on social meaning and pragmatics. In addition to numerous journal articles, recent major publications include two single-authored books, *Sociocultural Theory and L2 Instructional Pragmatics* (2014, Multilingual Matters) and *Interaction and Second Language Development: A Vygotskian Perspective* (2015, John Benjamins), and a volume co-edited with Janice McGregor, *Authenticity, Language, and Interaction in Second Language Contexts* (2016, Multilingual Matters).



Christy Wampole received her M.A. French at UNT and later her Ph.D in both French and Italian from Stanford University. She then joined the Department of French and Italian at Princeton University as Assistant Professor of French in 2011. She has published two books, *Rootedness: The Ramifications of a Metaphor* (University of Chicago Press, 2016), a study of the literalization of the metaphor of rootedness in 20th-century France and Germany, and *The Other Serious: Essays for the New American Generation* (HarperCollins 2015), a collection of essays on American culture. She has published various articles, translations, and book reviews in *MLN*, *The Modern Language Review*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *L'Esprit créateur*, *Small Axe*, *The French Review*, *Magazine littéraire*, *Quaderni del '900*, and *Yale French Studies*. Her next book project focuses on realism in the contemporary French novel.

Some of our recent graduate alumni are currently pursuing a doctoral degree in French at other universities: **Emmanuelle Ben Hadj Ben M'Barek** (French and Film Studies, University of Pittsburgh) and **Rachel Bundy** (French Literature, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill).

Colin Nickells graduated from the UNT with a B.A. in history and minors in economics and music. He studied Italian to satisfy his language requirement and is currently enrolled in a master's program at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies at their campus in Bologna, Italy, where he studies economics.

Chandler Taylor, who recently graduated from UNT with a triple major in German, History, and Political Science, is currently studying Sociology and History at the University of Siegen, Germany after studying in Berlin for two months and then Aachen for six months. She had previously participated in our summer program in Germany.

Department Events

International Film Festival

The department held its annual International Film Festival March 28-April 8, 2016. Films from various countries were presented by faculty members, and many students attended the event.

Arabic



Dr. Caroline Najour, Coordinator of the Arabic program, enjoys introducing her students not only to the Arabic language but also to the various cultures of the Arab world through food, music, film, dance and even cooking classes.

Dr. Caroline Najour with two of her students and Mrs. Nazha Oukallou, owner of Mama's Kitchen, during a cooking class.



Dinner at Middle Eastern Restaurant

Chinese



The Chinese program offers bi-weekly cultural events to promote familiarity with the enjoyment of Chinese culture (screening of Chinese movies, calligraphy, Chinese tea ceremony, Chinese painting and Chinese music).



French

National French Honor Society

In 2016, the following students were inducted into Pi Delta Phi, the French National Honor Society sponsored by **Ms. Laetitia Knight**: **Janna Griffin** and **Mallory Nischan** (graduate level), **Donald Joseph** and **Justin Marshall Peace** (undergraduate level).

La culture POP

This fall saw the launch of a new group, “la culture POP,” facilitated by adjunct faculty **Ms. Yvonne Newton** and **Ms. Melanie Switlik**. Participants joined weekly meetings with discussions about various cultural topics including art, music, and cultural differences. The group also presented three French films, *Lolo*, *Populaire*, and *Un peu, beaucoup, aveuglement*. In the course of group activities, students expressed interest in transferring the functions of the group to a newly revived Student Org—a new French Club. This effort is spearheaded by students **Donald Joseph** and **Simone Carter**, and will continue to be facilitated by Melanie and Yvonne, in conjunction with faculty sponsor **Ms. Sophie Morton**. If students wish to join the new French Club Org, they should email MelanieSwitlik@my.unt.edu or YvonneNewton@my.unt.edu.



Pi Delta Phi



Melanie Switlik and Yvonne Newton

German

Conversation Group for Beginners

Ms. Carmen Terry organizes and holds biweekly conversation meetings with students of German 1010 and 1020. This conversation group is geared only to beginning speakers of German. During the meetings, activities are conducted to encourage students to interact with each other. This group has proven to help students to lose their inhibition in speaking German.

German Film Series

Ms. Carmen Terry also organizes and holds a biweekly German Film Series to enable students to familiarize themselves with German culture. The event is well attended.

German Club

Sponsored by **Dr. Cindy Renker**, the German Club organizes regular dinners as well as occasional events such as a holiday party in December.



Italian

In Spring 2016, **Dr. Polegato** organized and led a Reading Group on Machiavelli's *The Prince*, opened to undergraduate and graduate students and faculty in collaboration with WLLC and the Department of History.

Il Carnevale di Venezia

The Italian program organizes every year the "Carnevale di Venezia". Students make masks, eat traditional foods and participate in a costume contest. The event is open to all and involves other organizations and students from UNT-International, the College of Visual Arts, and the College of Music.

One night at the opera

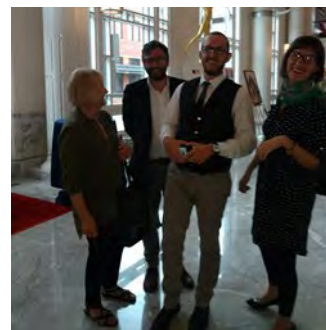
Every semester the Italian program at UNT organizes its very popular field trip to attend Italian language operas in Dallas and Fort Worth. Students and faculty members participation increased 140% in the last two years. Discounted tickets are available for Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* (March) and Bellini's *Norma* (April-May). Contact **Dr. Andrea Polegato** at Andrea.Polegato@unt.edu

Conversation hour

Every Wednesday afternoon the Italian community meets in the Faculty Lounge (LANG 410) for chats, authentic Italian espresso, and desserts. Native speakers participate regularly. This is a great opportunity for language immersion and tastes of Italy.

The Italian Film Festival

The Italian Film Festival USA was held April 22-23 at UNT and attracted viewers from around the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Three feature films, two documentaries, and one animated short were shown, all current releases highlighting different aspects of Italian culture and society.



Japanese

Tea Ceremony

In the spring semester, the Japanese faculty invited a tea master who explained the ritual of the tea ceremony and demonstrated it. She also served real authentic tea with the real Japanese tea sets.



Guitar event

Mr. Fujigaki, a classical guitar player from Japan, was invited to the campus. After he played a couple of songs, the audiences sang Japanese songs together.

Japanese Culture Organization Fall Festival

The JCO, sponsored by **Dr. Kaori Futuya**, led this annual cultural event at UNT with the collaboration of other Japanese related clubs. Several booths introduced each club, provided information, performed demonstrations, and conducted activities.



Japanese Honor Society and Kimono Club

Sponsored by **Ms. Yayoi Takeuchi**, the Japanese Honor Society organized its annual fall induction ceremony. In addition, the Japanese Honor Society held a booth at the annual Japanese Fall Festival in Dallas to do demonstrations of calligraphy and Kimono as well as provide information about our Japanese program. The Kimono Club, also sponsored by Ms. Takeuchi, had its fashion show on the stage.



Annual Onigiri Social

The Japanese faculty and students made rice balls called *onigiri* and ate it together. Onigiri is a Japanese food made from white rice formed into triangular or cylinder shapes and often wrapped in nori. Traditionally, an onigiri is filled with pickled ume (umeboshi), salted salmon, katsuobushi, kombu, tarako, or any other salty or sour ingredient as a natural preservative.

Kanji Club

Sponsored by **Ms. Naoki Iwamoto**, The Kanji Club organizes regular activities throughout the year.

Information sessions on the Japanese program, the Japan Exchange and Teaching (*JET*) Program are also organized on a regular basis, while conversation tables are held on Thursdays and Fridays.



Russian

Russian Film Festival and Russian Documentary Film Festival

In October 2016, our department, with the cooperation of the Department of History, joined a network of leading Texas universities and held the 10th International Showcase of the Russian Documentary Film Festival. The film *Save My Speech for Ever* was presented at UNT by its producer and attracted more than 40 participants.



Awards received by Russian Students

In April 2016, eight students of Russian participated in the National Russian Essay Competition organized by the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), and three received prestigious national awards: **Farida Hasanova** (Bronze Medal), **Maria Kononova** (Laureate Award), and **David Oostenbrug** (Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate Award).

Partea 2016

The department held its annual Partea in December 2016. Faculty and staff members were able to taste teas and desserts from different countries in a congenial atmosphere.



University of North Texas
 Department of World Languages,
 Literatures, & Cultures
 1155 Union Circle #311127
 Denton, TX 76203-5017
 Phone: 940-565-2404
 Fax: 940-565-2581
 Email: worldlanguages@unt.edu



The Polyglot Newsletter is compiled and edited by Dr. Marie-Christine Koop. Please email your news for the next issue to Marie-Christine.Koop@unt.edu.

World Languages

Education

**Government
Civil Service
Law**

Business

**Tourism
Hospitality
Travel**

**Arts
Entertainment
Media**

**Community
Development**

**Science
Health Services
Technology**

Editor / Proofreader

Technical Writer

Attorney

International Trade
Specialist

Language Teacher

Translating
texts, films,
comics, etc.

Interpreter at
Conferences /
Business
Meetings

Law Enforcement

Embassy Personnel

Teach for America

Intelligence Officer

Legal Assistant /
Editor

Testing Coordinator

Foreign Service Officer

Military Personnel

International Student Services

Webisode Localization

Immigration and
Naturalization Officer

College Professor

Librarian

**Translation
Communications**

**Government
Civil Service
Law**

Customs Agent

Student Advisor

International
Stock Exchange

International
Banking

Tour Guide

Insurance Consultant

Airline Services
Flight Attendant

Travel Agent

Business

Customer Service
Representative

**Tourism
Hospitality
Travel**

Hotel Manager
Inn Keeper

Food Critic

Imports /
Exports

Online
Commerce

Travel Writer

Cruise Personnel

**Arts
Entertainment
Media**

Film / Video Editor

**Community
Development**

**Science
Health Services
Technology**

Medical Researcher

Movie Critic

Talent Agent

Journalist

Peace / Ameri Corps
Volunteer

Missionary

Science / Technology
Editor

Pharmaceutical
Lab Technician

Film Director

Performing
Voice Acting

TV-Broadcaster

Social Worker
Counselor

Community
Volunteer

Engineering / Chemistry

Pharmacist

Advertising /
Design Work

Curator
Museum Worker

Health Professional

Emergency Personnel

Listed are careers one may pursue with a foreign language degree.
Jobs may require additional training, education, or certification.

United Nations

Non-Profit
Organizations

Speech
Therapist

Humanitarian Worker

