

The Honorable Stephen M. McNamee



STEPHEN M. MCNAMEE

The Honorable Stephen M. McNamee. Not all the people we write about in the Newsletter were majors in one of the Romance Languages. Stephen McNamee took only the required two years of Spanish for his degree in A&S ('64), but he appreciated and regularly uses what he learned in Spanish back then in the course

of his duties as United States District Court Judge in Phoenix, Arizona. Appointed Federal Judge by President Reagan in 1986, McNamee has done more than simply prosecute crime; he has focused on making the justice system work more efficiently and fairly through the creation of a program for assisting victims of federal crimes. For his strong leadership and many accomplishments in this area, Judge McNamee has earned more than a dozen prestigious awards, including the National Crime Victims Award presented by Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and a United States Attorney Award from Attorney General Edwin Meese. In 2008, he was on the UC campus to participate in the Kautz Alumni Masters Form to share with students his many valuable experiences and lessons as judge. Judge McNamee has not only found his Spanish useful in cases involving Hispanics who come before him, but has contributed generously to this department's fund for study abroad.

Study Abroad

The Department's study abroad programs are doing well and serving our students by providing wonderful opportunities to improve their language skills, see the world, and serve other communities. The Madrid program, led by Prof. Gutiérrez, took 38 students to Madrid in 2012. They spent 4 to 6 weeks living with Spanish families and studying at the Don Quijote language school.

The program has a strong cultural component. The Guatemala program, led by Prof. Rodríguez had 10 students, they studied for 4 or 6 weeks at the Centro Lingüístico La Unión, in Antigua Guatemala, and did service learning in a variety of institutions in the area. The Caen program, under the leadership of Prof. Jézéquel spent 3 weeks in France. After three days in Paris, the students attended the Université de Caen. They spent three weeks at the Campus of the University taking languages and civilization classes as well as discovering the historical city and the region of Normandy.



EKATERINA KATZAROVA

Daniel Torres (Ph.D. 1990) Professor of Spanish at Ohio University published, *Dulce canoro cisne mexicano*. La poesía *complete de Carlos de Sigüenza y Góngora*. Barcelona: Paso de la Barca.

Marianella Machado (Ph.D. 1993) Associate Professor of Spanish at Eastern Kentucky University, was named one of the Most Popular Authors of Spanish Literature Commons for her article in *Cuadernos de teoría y crítica musical*.

Arturo Gutiérrez Plaza (PhD 2009) was awarded a prestigious residential fellowship from the Mexican government (CONACULTA) to write a poetry book.

Julio Quintero (Ph.D. 2008) published one article in *Revista Hispánica Moderna* and one book review in *The Latin Americanist* 56.2 (2012): 192-4.

Óscar Bazán Rodríguez (PhD 2010) is Assistant Professor at the U. of West Indies, Trinidad.

Iliana Rosales-Figueroa (Ph.D. 2012) at Denison University, OH.

Leah Hunt (MA 2012) is now teaching French at Madeira High School.

Ekaterina Katzarova (MA 2012) was selected by the Ministry of Education of Spain to work as an English teaching assistant in Almeria, Spain.



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Lingua Franca

April 2013

Welcome Professor Gott

The department welcomes new assistant professor of French, Michael Gott, a specialist in contemporary French and Francophone cinema and cultural studies. Coming to Cincinnati marks a return for Michael, an Ohio native and 2002 graduate of Ohio State University, where he studied French and European Studies. Before starting at UC, Michael earned a MA from UCLA (2006) and his PhD in 2011 from the University of Texas at Austin and held a visiting position at the University of Pennsylvania (2011-12). He also taught English at the University of Paris 13 while completing his dissertation research.

Michael's research focuses on identity issues in a cultural context, notably French and wider European responses to immigration, European unification, and globalization. His current work is on the French-language road movie, a genre that has been increasingly prevalent in recent years. He co-edited the first book on the topic, *Open Roads, Closed Borders: The Contemporary French Language Road Movie*, published in early 2013 by Intellect Books. The collection explores

the positive and negative sides of recent mobility and migration and suggests that the most promising new models for diverse French and European citizenship can be found at the movies. Michael also enjoys working on and teaching the French-language comic book, or *bande dessinée*, an extremely popular art form in France.

During the 2012-13 academic year, Michael is teaching courses on contemporary French literature, culture in the Francophone world, and contemporary French culture. Michael is also helping the department expand its offerings of cinema courses, developing classes on the French and Francophone Road Movie and others that use cinema to introduce students to the geography, culture, society, and economy of France. In spring 2014 Michael will teach a newly developed course called "French Business on the Big Screen: Cinematic Perspectives on Work and the Economy." The class is designed to introduce students to the ways that France, the planet's 5th largest economy, sees the world of business,



MICHAEL GOTT

economics, and work. The course aims to expand the reach of foreign language studies on campus by asking students to critically examine what culture tells us about French business culture and the economy, allowing them to develop an understanding of the broader purposes of cultural and language studies and how they might be applied to careers in business, marketing, economics, and government. The course will also take advantage of the high concentration of corporate headquarters in Cincinnati, using interactions with people doing business in the French-speaking world as an experiential learning opportunity.

The 32nd Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures took place on May 3-5.

The keynote speakers were Madeleine Monette, the Quebecois author, and Fernando Burgos from University of Memphis. Many thanks are in order to all the participants who came from a number of colleges and universities. The conference was a success thanks to the hard work of Nidia Herrera and Leah Hunt, co-chairs of the Conference, as well as to the two Faculty advisors, Carlos Gutierrez

and Anne-Marie Jezequel. At the banquet we had the presence of then Provost Santa Ono, as well as the Taft Visiting Professor Oscar Collazos. In 2013 the CCRL will take place on April 4-6, under the topic "Globalization and Cultural Diversity." Our keynote speakers will be Lydie E. Moudileno from U. of Pennsylvania, and William Eginton, from The Johns Hopkins University. Many thanks to Prof. Maria

Paz Moreno for her leadership, and to David Gómez-Cambronero and Julia Camp, co-chairs.



From the Head



Nicasio Urbina

Dear Friends of Romance Languages and Literatures, It is a pleasure to present you with the 2013 issue of *Lingua Franca*, the Newsletter of our Department. 2012 was a busy and seminal year for our Department and our University. The transition to semester took a lot of our time and effort, but now that we are in our second semester and it is clear that the conversion was the right decision.

We redesigned our undergraduate and graduate programs, making them more modern and up-to-date with the disciplines and the market conditions of the 21st century. By extending our courses from 10 to 15 weeks we were able to cover the periods, genres or topics of our courses in a more in-depth fashion. Students now have more time to assimilate the material, do their own research, and write their papers. Converting to semesters had many challenges but it was well worth it.

We are very happy to welcome Prof. Michael Gott to our faculty. He brings to the French section a dynamic research agenda in French cultural studies and French cinema; we hope that this will help to attract more students to the undergraduate and graduate program in French. We continue our efforts to expand the study abroad opportunities for our students. The Madrid program has reached the 40 student mark and we have more students on the waiting list. We are recruiting students for the Antigua Guatemala and Nicaragua programs. The Caen program was very successful last year, and the recruiting efforts for this year are going very well.

The Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures will convene its 33rd session this coming year. As the longest running graduate student conference on Romance Languages in the United States, we are very proud of our track record, the quality of our keynote speakers, and the vitality of our panels. Please read the summary in the following pages and go online to see more details about the upcoming conference. The Cincinnati Romance Review has also reached its 34th issue with great articles and original research in French and Spanish studies, now under the editorship of Andrés Pérez-Simón and Michèle Vialet.

In the following pages you will find information about the faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as from alumni and friends. Please let us know about any news you would like to share with us. We will be very happy to include your plans and news in our newsletter and on our website, where we keep a section about alumni and friends.

Thank you for your interest and support of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. If you have any ideas, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Nicasio Urbina
nicasio.urbina@uc.edu

Honor Roll of Donors

We thank the following individuals for their generous donations to the department from January to December 2012. These gifts fund scholarships, attract and retain the finest faculty, and enrich the experiences of our undergraduate and graduate students.

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For information on making a gift to the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, please contact Deb Plytynski, deborah.plytynski@uc.edu or 513-556-5806

Undergraduate News

Naomi Fitter (Spanish, Mechanical Engineering) received the university's Presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence.

Kelsey Bladh (French, History) is studying for a year at La Sorbonne in Paris.

Caitlynn Carr (Spanish, Anthropology), Ellen Conroy (Spanish),

Andy Koesterman (Spanish, Marketing) and **Lucy Stephens** (Spanish) received Taft Undergraduate Enrichment Awards for Winter Quarter.

Jonathan Hilton (Spanish) received the university's Just Community Award and was a finalist for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Amy McLean (French) is studying for a year in Bretagne, Concarneau.

Dylan Vincent (French) is studying for a year in Aix en Provence, France.

Faculty News

Carl Bryant presented the paper "Using Local Museums to Enhance Foreign Language Teaching," at the Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures.



Enrique Giordano

Enrique Giordano co-organized a Symposium on Sara Montiel, with the presence of the Spanish diva Sara Montiel in the UC Campus. He organized a panel and presented papers at the Midwest MLA and at our Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures.

Carlos Gutiérrez was promoted to professor last year. He co-authored a 171 pp. study commissioned by the Int. Association of Golden Age Scholars (AISO). It was presented at 2012 AISO held in Poitiers, France, and published in *Etiópicas*. He also gave a talk on Quevedo in Lima, Peru.

Janine Hartman co-Edited and translated *In the Sphere of Humanity: Joseph Dejacque, Slavery and the Struggle for Freedom*. E-Book, UC Digital Resource Commons.

Fenfang Hwu was chosen to be a selected plenary speaker and given the Best Plenary Speaker Award at the International Computer-Assisted-Language-Learning Research Conference. She also published a referred article in *System*.

Anne-Marie Jézéquel presented "Le Quebec, nouvelle inspiration pour de jeunes designers américains," at the Colloque: L'état de la mode contemporaine. Montreal.

Nuria López-Ortega presented three papers at the World Languages Symposium, University of Cincinnati, March 2012; the Cincinnati Romance Languages and Literatures Conference and the Conference on Teaching with Technology (3T Conference) at Clermont College.

Kathryn Lorenz was promoted to Educator professor last year. She published the *Resource Manual I* created for *Points de depart*, and she also directed a CET&L Course "Redesign Seminar in Study Abroad." in July of 2012.

Jeff Loveland published three articles. One in *Information and Culture*, one in *Eighteen-century Ireland* and another one in *Recherche sur Diderot and l'Encyclopedie*.

Thérèse Migraine-George presented two papers one at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, in Lexington, KY, and another one at the 2012 Midwest MLA in Cincinnati.

María Paz Moreno, our new Director of Graduate Studies, published two books. *De la página al plato. El libro de cocina en España. Gijón: Ediciones Trea. And a collection of poems entitled El vientre de las iguanas*. Sevilla: Renacimiento.



Patricia O'Connor

Patricia O'Connor translated Ana Diosdado's play, *Yours for the Asking* (Vd. tambien podra disfrutar de ella), which opened in London at the Orange Tree Theater, she published an article in *Estreno* and gave a paper in June at the Convention of the Asociación Hispánica de Humanidades in Madrid.

Andrés Pérez-Simón attended the The Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research at Harvard this summer. He also presented on Lorca's *The Public* at the American Comparative Literature conference, organized a round table on Hispanic modernism at the MMLA conference, and published an essay on a recent staging of Lorca's *The House of Bernarda Alba* in *Theatralia / Yorick*.

Noris Rodríguez presented a paper at our Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures.

Armando Romero published the book of poems *Amanece Aquella Oscuridad* (Editorial Sibila, España). Two anthologies of his poetry, and two editions of his novel *Cajambre*, Ediciones B, Bogotá, and Editorial Difacil, Valladolid), as well as the Italian translation by Sinopia Libri, Italy.

Siusan Sinclair taught in Spain two courses during the Fall semester under USAC (University Study Abroad Consortium).

Nicasio Urbina published an anthology, *Nicaragua. Narradores siglo XX*. Guatemala: Letra Negra, 2012, one article in *Cuadernos Hispanoamericanos* (Spain), one in *Pleaoari Pentru Tehnica* (Romania), and delivered three lectures.

Patricia Valladares-Ruiz published a book, *Sexualidades disidentes en la narrativa cubana contemporánea* (Tamesis Books), and two articles, one in *Monographic Review* and one in *Modern Language Notes*. She also delivered two lectures.



Michèle Vialet

Michèle Vialet co-edited the volume 34 of the *Cincinnati Romance Review*, presented a paper at the African Literature Association meeting (ALA 2012), and gave a lecture at the international symposium "Genocide in Rwanda: Media, Memory and Denial" (U of Missouri, 04/2012).

Graduate News

Etienne Achille published an article in *French Forum*, presented one paper, and published three book reviews in the *French Review*.

Sergio Aguillón-Mata received the "Jóvenes Creadores Award" by the Mexican Institute FONCA (2011-2012) for a short story and published an essay in *Make Magazine*.

Stephanie Alcantar published a poetry book, *Humedad de la nostalgia*. She received the "Maestra en Humanidades Pilar Alanís Quiñonez" essay award, and a second award for a short story, "Jovenes por la Vida", in Mexico.

Olimpia Arellano gave two conference papers. One at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) 84th Annual Convention, Durham, NC, and another one at UC Clermont.

Paola Cadena published a book of poetry entitled *Cinema* in Venezuela by Bid&Co.

Marina Coma presented one paper at the Graduate Student Conference in St. Louis University, and another one at the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Spain.

Fernanda Diaz Basteris presented a paper on Vicente Huidobro at the MMLA meeting in November in Cincinnati.

Paula Garrido presented two papers, one at the Midwest MLA, and another one at the International Congress on the Fantastic in Barcelona.

David Gomez-Cambronero has distinguished himself working as Editorial Assistant for the *Cincinnati Romance Review*.

Nidia Herrera was co-chair of the Cincinnati Conference in RLL, and presented a paper at Ohio State University.

Manuel Iris edited one book, *En la orilla del silencio, ensayos sobre Alí Chumacero*, in his native Mexico.

Milton Medellín presented three papers. One at Ohio State University, another one at our Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures; and the third one at the Universidad Iberoamericana, in Puebla, México.

Manuel Montes received the "Jóvenes Creadores Award" by the Mexican Institute FONCA (2011-2012). He also published a short story anthology, *Pentimenti. Cuentos en retrospectiva (2011-2004)*, with Taberna Libraria Editores, Mexico.

Aline Skrzyszewski presented three papers: one at the Kentucky Foreign Languages Conference, one at the meeting of the African Literature Association in Dallas, TX, and another one at the Cincinnati Conference in Romance Languages and Literatures.

McMicken
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Thank you!