Swedish Institute Grant Given to UWM for Development of Online Courses

Swedish language programs right here in the Midwest and around the country face severe difficulties in offering third and fourth-year Swedish due to dwindling financing and staff. Because of these program cuts, a national task force was formed in 2010 to develop plans and solutions to ensure that opportunities continue to exist for students and business professionals to learn and master this language spoken by 10 million people worldwide.

As a result of the task force’s work, UWM was asked in the spring of 2011 to serve as the Primary Investigator for a pilot project. Led by Veronica Lundback (Foreign Languages and Literature), the project will result in the development of Intermediate Swedish online courses that will be offered to participating colleges and universities nationwide. The third-year Swedish course is expected to be available in fall 2012.

Veronica notes that, “UWM was chosen primarily because the university already offers a number of Scandinavian culture courses online, and has a reputation for being an institution that is progressive in distance learning.”

It is anticipated that the pilot program will result in a sustainable, scalable model with a national scope. The emerging model will allow institutions that participate to offer courses that they otherwise could not. It may also serve as a model for other less commonly taught languages facing the same difficulties.

International Urban Affairs Association moves to UWM

The Urban Affairs Association (UAA) has moved its home campus to UWM, in part because of our highly regarded Urban Studies Programs, which offer undergraduate, master’s and doctoral degrees. This move was made possible through a partnership involving the College, the Graduate School, and the Center for Economic Development.

The UAA is a 40-year-old, international professional organization for urban scholars, researchers and public-service providers. Since its founding, UAA had been housed at the University of Delaware.

“UAA and UWM share a common, long-standing commitment to scholarship and education that advance the well-being of urban communities,” said UAA Executive Director Margaret Wilder. “Nowhere is this commitment more apparent than the UWM Urban Studies Programs. This talented interdisciplinary faculty has made UWM a nationally recognized center for urban scholarship.”

Though the UAA will enjoy a close relationship with the UWM Urban Studies Programs, it remains a separate, private organization that is hosted by the UWM College of Letters and Science and the UWM Graduate School.

UAA has 611 members from 15 countries, including the U.S., Canada, Japan, Mexico, South Africa and Spain.

“Having the major organization of urban scholars and professionals housed on the UWM campus speaks effectively about UWM’s excellent reputation among urbanists in the United States,” said Amanda Seligman, associate professor of history and director of the UWM Urban Studies Program. “And it offers our students an exciting opportunity to connect with professionals, scholars and future employers while they are still working toward their degrees.”
New Faculty, Lecturers, Scientists and Advisors

Joe Aigner, senior advisor, Student Academic Services, earned an MS in Education/College Student Personnel, from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse (1993). Aigner returns to UWM after having served as an L&S senior academic advisor from 1996-2009. Before working at UWM, he was an academic advisor at the Eastern Illinois University Academic Assistance Center, Charleston. Aigner has over 15 years of professional work in the counseling/advising profession. His experiences include academic, career and personal advising and counseling, recruitment and orientation programming.

Philip Chang, assistant professor, Physics, holds a PhD in Physics from the University of California, Santa Barbara (2005). Before coming to UWM, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the Miller Institute for Basic Research at the University of California-Berkeley, and at the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics, University of Toronto. Chang’s work includes “Diffusive Nuclear Burning in Neutron Star Envelopes,” “Atomic Spectral Features during Thermonuclear Flashes on Neutron Stars,” “Magnetar Spin-Down, Hyperenergetic Supernovae, and Gamma-Ray Bursts” and “Stellar Confinement Mechanisms.”

Sarah Davies Cordova, associate professor, French, holds a PhD in French Literature from the University of California, Los Angeles (1993). Previously, she was an associate professor of French at Marquette University. Her teaching interests are 19th-21st century French and Francophone colonial, post-colonial and Caribbean literatures and cultures; interdisciplinary 17th-21st centuries French culture and dance studies; and French language. Davies Cordova served in Cape Town, South Africa, as the resident director of the Marquette University South Africa Service Learning Program, based at the Desmond Tutu Peace Center, and as a visiting professor at the University of the Western Cape. Her knowledge of languages includes English and French (fluent); Spanish (reading knowledge, spoken, intermediate); German and Old French (reading knowledge); and Haitian Kreyol and IsiXhosa (beginner).

David DiValerio, assistant professor, History/Religious Studies, received his PhD from the University of Virginia (2011). His dissertation was titled “Subversive Sainthood and Tantric Fundamentalism: An Historical Study of Tibet’s ‘Holy Madmen.’” Before coming to UWM, he taught Tibetan Buddhism at the University of Virginia, Department of Religious Studies. DiValerio’s teaching and research interests include Buddhism; Tibetan history, culture, language and literature; tantra; Hinduism; and methodology for the study of religion. He is particularly interested in sainthood and the histories of ascetic traditions. He speaks, reads and translates Tibetan, can read and teach Sanskrit, and also can read French.

Christine Evans, assistant professor, History, received a PhD in History from the University of California, Berkeley (2010). Her current book project, From the Truth to Time: A History of Soviet Television, traces the emergence of play, competition, suspense and open-ended narratives on Soviet Central Television’s most popular shows during the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Before coming to UWM, Evans was a residency research fellow at the University of Michigan’s Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies and a lecturer in the Department of History at Wayne State University, Detroit. Her honors include fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the European University Institute and the U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays program. Evans research interests include the relationship between mass media and political and cultural change, and the place of uncertainty, risk and game-playing in Soviet culture and everyday life.
Clark Evans, assistant professor, Mathematical Sciences, received a PhD in Meteorology from Florida State University (2009). His dissertation was titled “The Thermodynamic Evolution of Recurring Tropical Cyclone Bonnie (1998).” Previously, Evans was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado, where he researched the formation and evolution of tropical cyclone and tropical cyclone-like weather systems using observational, theoretical and numerical modeling approaches. Recent research foci include the rare overland re-intensification of Tropical Storm Erin over Oklahoma in August, 2007; the formation of an intense tropical cyclone-like vortex with a squall line in the central United States in May, 2009; and the influences of lower atmospheric jet structures upon tropical cyclone formation. Evans is interested in improving the understanding and prediction of thunderstorm initiation and tropical cyclone prediction.

Nicholas Fleisher, assistant professor, Linguistics, holds a PhD in Linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley (2008). His dissertation was entitled “Adjectives and Infinitives in Composition.” He was an assistant professor in the Linguistics Program at Wayne State University, Detroit. Fleisher’s research is focused primarily on the syntax and semantics of adjectives and comparative constructions. He also has worked on historical change in English syntax and endangered language documentation in California.


Chuan Goh, assistant professor, Economics, received a PhD in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley (2004). Most recently, he served as an assistant professor of economics at the University of Toronto. He conducts research on econometric methodology, with a special focus on semiparametric methods and quantile regression. Goh has papers published or forthcoming in Economics Bulletin and Econometric Theory. In 2010, he presented his research at the International Symposium on Econometric Theory and Applications at Singapore Management University, the annual meeting of the Midwest Econometrics Group, and the Conference of the Canadian Econometrics Study Group in Vancouver, Canada. This fall he has again been invited to present his research to the annual meeting of the Midwest Econometrics Group, hosted this year by The University of Chicago.

Laura Grant, assistant professor, Economics and the School of Freshwater Science, earned a PhD in Economics and Environmental Science and Management in collaboration with the Department of Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara (2011). Her research fields and teaching interests are environmental, public and resource economics. Most recently, she held a Regents Fellowship at UC-Santa Barbara. Grant’s publications include “Does Daylight Saving Time Save Energy? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Indiana,” working paper; forthcoming in The Review of Economics and Statistics, with M.J. Kotchen; and “Eco-Labeling Strategies: The Eco-Premium Puzzle in the Wine Industry,” forthcoming in Business & Society, with M.A. Delmas. Her projects in progress include “Information about Providers of Public Goods: Effects of Third-party Ratings on Charitable Contributions” and “Strategic Responses to Third-party Ratings: Theory and Evidence from Charities.”

“Moving into my role as a UWM faculty member, I will reflect on the environmental issues of the Great Lakes states and continue projects regarding the economics of public goods more broadly. From that perspective, I look forward to finding creative solutions in collaboration with the numerous experts already here.”
Jennifer Gutzman, assistant professor, Biological Sciences, earned a PhD in Molecular and Environmental Toxicology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison (2004). Most recently, she was a postdoctoral fellow/associate with Dr. Hazel Sive at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her research experience includes molecular and genetic examination of brain morphogenesis in zebrafish development; regulation of ciliogenesis in development; molecular analysis of hormone signaling interactions in breast cancer; and effects of environmental toxins on estrogen receptor expression in mammalian brain. Gutzman has served as a mentor and/or teacher for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Internship for High School Science Teachers Program, and the Whitehead Seminar Series for High School Teachers.

Sarah Halpern-Meekin, assistant professor, Sociology, holds a PhD in Sociology and Social Policy from Harvard University (2009). Before arriving at UWM, she was an assistant professor of Sociology at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and a postdoctoral fellow at the National Center for Family and Marriage Research, Bowling Green State University, Ohio. Halpern-Meekin’s research and teaching interests are family studies, social policy/welfare state and qualitative methods. Courses she taught last year were Sociology of the Family, Social and Welfare Policy, Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of Adolescence. Her publications include “High School Relationship and Marriage Education: A Comparison of Mandated and Self-Selected Treatment,” Journal of Family Issues (forthcoming), and “How Does Premarital Cohabitation Affect Trajectories of Marital Quality?” The Journal of Marriage and Family, with Laura Tach.

Weon Shik Han, assistant professor, Geosciences, earned a PhD in Hydrogeology, Earth and Environmental Science from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro (2008). Before coming to UWM, he was a research assistant professor in the Energy and Geoscience Institute and Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City. His research focuses on environmental, climate change and energy-related research such as geologic CO₂ sequestration, groundwater hydrology and geothermal energy development with an emphasis in multi-phase phenomena, reactive transport modeling, and heat transport in heterogeneous porous media. Other research topics of interest are cold-water geyser eruption dynamics, salt-water intrusion and water-rock interactions.

Benjamin Johnson, associate professor, History and Global Studies, received his PhD in History from Yale University (2000). Previously, he was associate professor of History and Interim Director at the Clements Center for Southwest Studies, Southern Methodist University, Dallas. His books, published by Yale University Press, are Escaping the Dark, Gray City: How Conservation Re-made City, Suburb and Countryside in the Progressive Era (under contract), Bordertown: The Odyssey of an American Place (2008), and Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans into Americans (2003). He also co-edited Bridging National Borders in North America (Duke, 2010) and Major Problems in the History of North American Borderlands (Cengage, 2011). Johnson has taught Civil Rights: Our Unfinished Revolution; North American Borders; Global and Comparative Environmental History; The American Indian; the U.S. West Since 1850; The Problem of Freedom in Modern America; and Texas History.

Itzi Lazkano, assistant professor, Economics/Freshwater Science, earned a PhD in Economics from the University of Calgary, Canada (2011). Her thesis was titled “Intergenerational Externalities, Economic Growth and the Environment.” It deals with externalities that arise when individuals do not take into account the effect of their decisions on future generations. She has written papers on both sustainable development and resource economics. Her main research interests are environmental and resource economics, economic growth and macroeconomics. Lazkano’s teaching experience includes intermediate macroeconomics and environmental economics. Originally from the Basque country in Spain, she is bilingual in Spanish and Basque, and fluent in English.
Leah Leone, lecturer, MALLT (Master’s in Foreign Language, Literature, and Translation Program) holds a PhD in Spanish American Literature from The University of Iowa (2011). Her dissertation was titled “Displacing the Mask: Jorge Luis Borges and the Translation of Narrative.” Leone’s teaching and research interests are transatlantic literatures, exile and nostalgia, gender performance, gender and translation, and narrative in translation. Her varied experience includes teaching, online course design, translation project manager and interpretation intern. Most recently, she was a lecturer in the Department of Classic, Modern Languages and Linguistics at Concordia University, Montreal. At Concordia, she taught Introductory Spanish 1, Introduction to Critical Reading of Hispanic Texts, and Introduction to Translation.

Veronica Lundback, lecturer, Foreign Languages and Literature, earned an MA in Linguistics from UWM (2004). Since 2007, she has been an ad hoc lecturer at UWM, teaching Swedish, and Scandinavian Society and Culture. She has also taught Nordic Literature at Malardalen University, Sweden, and Swedish language courses at North Park University, Chicago. Lundback developed and implemented a Swedish as a Second Language program at Solna Stad, Sweden. She created online courses in Scandinavian Culture, German for Reading Knowledge, and Introduction to Swedish Translation. Last year, she was awarded the Nordic Council of Ministers-Americasatsningen grant to organize the first Nordic Film Festival in Milwaukee. Lundback served as a member on the Standards for Scandinavian Languages Task Force advisory board and on the Distance Education in Swedish and Scandinavian Studies Task Force.

Theodore Martin, assistant professor, English, earned a PhD in English from the University of California, Berkeley (2011). Before arriving at UWM, he was a dissertation fellow at the UC-Berkeley Townsend Center for the Humanities. His research and teaching interests center on 20th and 21st century American and British fiction. He is particularly interested in how narratives enable historical self-consciousness and how genres evolve over time. He taught “The Elements of Surprise: Expectation and Anticlimax in Modern Literature” at Berkeley, where he was selected as Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor. Martin’s publications include “The Privilege of Contemporary Life: Periodization in the Bret Easton Ellis Decades,” in Modern Language Quarterly (2010) and “The Long Wait: Timely Secrets of the Contemporary Detective Novel,” in NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction (forthcoming). Martin has a book-in-progress titled Contemporary Drift: Genre, Periodization, and the Present.

Annie McClanahan, assistant professor, English, holds a PhD in English from the University of California, Berkeley (2010). Her book-in-progress is titled Crisis, Credit, and the Foreclosure of Realism. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Harvard University Humanities Center, and her teaching experience includes courses on 9/11, apocalyptic literature and the manifesto. While studying at UC-Berkeley, she taught a wide range of college courses at the San Quentin Correctional Facility. McClanahan’s most recent publications include “Coming Due: Accounting for Debt, Counting on Crisis,” in South Atlantic Quarterly (March 2011) and “The Living Indebted: Student Militancy and the Financialization of Debt,” in Qui Parle (forthcoming). She served as an organizer for the Marxism and Dialectical Thought Reading Group at the Harvard Humanities Center and for the UC-Berkeley Interdisciplinary Marxism Working Group, and as an editorial intern at New Left Review, London.

Krista Medina, assistant professor, Psychology, received a PhD in Clinical Psychology/Neuropsychology from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio (2005), where she served as a tenure-track assistant professor of Psychology before coming to UWM. Previously, Medina held a postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology and neuroimaging in the Department of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego, and an internship in clinical psychology, neuropsychology specialty at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, Tucson. She is principal investigator of the project, “Effects of Physical Activity & Marijuana Use on Frontolimbic Functioning during Adolescence: An IMRI Study,” National Institute of Health/National Institute on Drug Abuse. Two manuscripts under review are “Greater Body Mass Index Is Associated with Poor Cognitive Inhibition and Sustained Attention in Healthy Young Adults” and “Increased Marijuana Use and Gender Predict Poorer Cognitive Functioning in Health Emerging Adults.”
Marianna Orlova, biotech facilities lab manager, Biological Sciences, earned a PhD in molecular biology from the Institute of Genetics and Selection of Industrial Microorganisms, Moscow, Russia (1995). Her thesis was titled “Transcript Cleavage Activity of E. coli RNA Polymerase,” and she performed her thesis work as an exchange student at the Public Health Research Institute, New York. Before taking her present position, Orlova was an associate research scientist in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Columbia University, a staff scientist at Progenics Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Tarrytown, New York, and an assistant scientist/lecturer at UWM. She was co-PI on the 2008-09 UWM Research Growth Initiative project, “Regulation of the Snf1 Protein Kinase in Yeast.” Her teaching experience includes cell biology laboratory courses and microbiology lecture and lab courses.

Richard Popp, assistant professor, Journalism, Advertising & Media Studies, holds a PhD in Mass Media and Communication from Temple University (2008). His recent research has appeared in the journals, Technology & Culture, Book History, Critical Studies in Media Communication, and Journalism History. In 2012, LSU Press will publish his cultural history of tourism marketing, The Holiday Makers: Magazines, Advertising, and Mass Tourism in Postwar America. Most recently, he was a tenure-track assistant professor of mass communication at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. He is currently completing an article on popular media and data-mining efforts at the turn of the 20th century and beginning work on a new project about airline advertising and the fear of flight. Popp is a member of the International Communication Association and the American Studies Association. His teaching areas of interest are advertising and consumer culture, media studies, cultural history and visual communication.

Paru Shah, assistant professor, Political Science/Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latino Studies Program, earned a PhD in Political Science from Rice University, Houston (2006). She also earned an MA in Political Science, an MPH in Public Health and a BA in Philosophy. Previously, Shah was an assistant professor in the Political Science Department at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Her scholarly work under review is “School Parent Involvement Policy in Established and New Immigrant Destinations” and “Cultural Brokers and the Co-Production of Education in America’s Most Segregated Schools.” Most recently, she received grants for her projects, “Collaborative Research: Local Elections in America Project” (National Science Foundation) and “Local Elections in America Project” (Enriching Rice through Information Technology Innovation Funding Program).

Douglas Stafford, director of the UWM Milwaukee Institute of Drug Discovery (MIDD), has 25 years of experience in commercial biomedical research and development, regulatory and clinical affairs, organizational development, patent licensing and alliances, and finance. Previously, he was executive vice president for International Corporate Development for GenExel-Sein, Inc., a publicly traded diversified medical products company headquartered in South Korea. He managed intellectual property strategy, business development, contracts and licensing, and U.S. commercial operations. Stafford also was president of Ophidian Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a publicly traded bio-pharmaceutical company focused on development of antibody-based therapeutics; was employed at Baxter Healthcare Corp., with senior management assignments in product development and operations; and has held several academic positions, including adjunct faculty duties at Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is inventor on over a dozen biomedical patents, has formed numerous public and private research collaborations, and participated in the development of several entrepreneurial businesses. He earned BS and MS degrees in biology from the University of Detroit, a PhD in immunology from the Tufts University School of Medicine, and an MS in management from Lesley College.
Laura Stark, advisor, Student Academic Services, received a Master of Education in College Student Personnel Administration from Marquette University (2009). Previously, she was an associate advisor at UW-Green Bay. Prior to that, Laura was an intern in a variety of student service areas such as advising, career services, international studies, graduate recruiting and community service programming.

“I hope to help the students of UWM consider wonderful opportunities such as studying abroad and internships to gain practical and life experience to help them succeed after they graduate from UWM.”

Jeffrey Tiger, assistant professor, Psychology, received a PhD in Behavioral Psychology from the University of Kansas, Lawrence (2006). His dissertation was titled “An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of and Preschoolers’ Preferences for Variations of Multiple-Schedule Arrangements.” He is a Licensed and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Before coming to UWM, Tiger was an assistant professor in the Louisiana State University Psychology Department and executive director of the Tiger Center for Applied Behavior Analysis Services. He has taught Introduction to Research Methods with Humans, Psychology of Learning, and advanced seminars in Behavior Analysis. His works under review include “An Approach to Identify the Conditions under Which Response Interruption Will Reduce Automatically Reinforced Problem Behavior.”

Daniel Vyleta, assistant professor, Foreign Languages and Literature (FLL), earned a PhD in History from the University of Cambridge, King’s College, England (2002). His thesis was published as a monograph entitled *Crimes, Jews and News, Vienna 1890-1914* (Berghahn 2007). His most recent position was as a lecturer in the UWM Department of FLL, where he taught courses in German history and literature in both German and English. Vyleta also designs and administers online versions of undergraduate courses. He has taught at Mount Allison University (German literature); the European College of Liberal Arts (great books/intellectual history); the University of Vienna (historiography and philosophy of history); and the University of Cambridge (European history and historical methodology). Vyleta is a bilingual speaker of German and English; he also speaks Czech.

Zengwang Xu, assistant professor, Geography, earned a PhD in Geography from Texas A&M University (2007). Before joining UWM, he was a postdoctoral research associate at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, where his primary projects were “Population Vulnerability and Resilience to Hurricane Wind Damage in the U.S. Gulf Coast 1950-2005” and “Interpolation of 2000 Census Data to the Redistricted 2010 Census Tracts.” Xu also served as an instructor/lecturer at Texas A&M where he taught Principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Thematic Cartography. His research interests include studying structures and dynamics of complex geospatially networked systems by integrating GIS, complex networks/systems theory, and spatial analysis and spatial statistics. Xu’s works in progress include “The Epidemic Diffusion Pathway in the US Intercity Air Transportation Network”; “the Spatial and Temporal Network Analytics to Online Social Networks”; and “Epidemic Diffusion under Changing Human Ecology.”

Hyejin Yoo, assistant professor, Geography, received a PhD in Geography from The Ohio State University, Columbus (2008). Her dissertation was titled “The Animation Industry: Technological Changes, Production Challenges, and Global Shifts.” Her research interests include economic geography, regional innovation system, urban planning, cultural and creative industries, digital economy, theories of global cities, spatial analysis and East Asia. At UWM, she has taught The World: Regions and Peoples and Introductory Economic Geography, and she was a Fellow in the Global Studies Program. Yoon’s peer reviewed articles include “Cartoon Planet: Worlds of Production and Global Production Networks in the Animation Industry” and “The Network Formation of Small Agglomerative Industrial District.”

“I am attracted to the supportive environment and the high quality of research at UWM. It’s great to be part of a growing and vibrant department. I hope I can continue to do my research on creative industries and entrepreneurship, and I can help my students to better understand the world.”
In The Media & Community

Voice of America featured a news story on Stefan Schnitzer's (Biological Sciences) research on lianas. See video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwpWn5gVcM


The College Connections program and L&S advisor Andy Cuneo were featured in the August 6th issue of the Business Journal. College Connection is a collaborative bachelor’s degree program between UW-Milwaukee and participating UW College campuses. The first half (or more) of the degree is completed at the 2-year campus. Students then apply to UWM, and take the upper level courses leading to the bachelor’s degree through UWM, at the UW-College campus. http://bit.ly/pB9IKi

Jeffrey Sommers (Africology) was part of an expert panel on the RT news program CrossTalk. The program was taped while he attended this year’s Global Policy Forum, convened by President Medvedev in Yaroslavl, Russia. The half-hour program aired on September 13th, including on Time Warner and Comcast here in the U.S., and is available on the RT web site. Watch the panelists discuss the status of the Euro as a currency. http://rt.com/programs/crosstalk/euro-eurozone/


Merry Wiesner-Hanks (History and Women’s Studies) is featured on a ThirdCoast Digest podcast titled, “The F-word.” In the interview with host Mark Metcalf, she offers a historical and global perspective on feminism and discusses how the struggle for equality continues today. Podcast: http://bit.ly/nRBT9P

William Wainwright (Philosophy) delivered a paper on “Assessing Ontological Arguments” at The Ontological Argument Today conference held in Bydgoszcz, Poland, September 6-8.

Luca Ferrero (Philosophy) will present “Bratman on Shared Agency” at a workshop of the Shared Agency Symposium, Yale University, Department of Philosophy and Law School, October 14-16 and “Intentions and the First Person” at the New Orleans Workshop on Agency and Responsibility, Tulane University, Department of Philosophy and Murphy Institute, November 3-5.

Jennifer Hawkins (PhD student, Communication) presented “Support for the Culture-Centered Approach to HIV/AIDS Prevention Education in Rural Native American Tribes” in September at the Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference, Kalamazoo.

Dyanna Czeck (Geosciences) presented “Linking Fabric and Texture Development to Three-Dimensional Strain Evolution in Deformed Quartzite and Granitoid Conglomerate Clasts,” and was co-author on two other presentations at the “Deformation Mechanisms, Rheology, and Tectonics” conference in Oviedo, Spain. After the conference, she participated in a geology field trip through Asturias and Galicia, Spain.


Devin Mueller (Psychology) spoke on “Neural mechanisms of extinction and retrieval of cocaine-associated memories” at the Addiction Mini-Symposium held at the Medical College of Wisconsin in August.

With other professional colleagues, Krista Medina (Psychology) presented a paper in June at the meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism in Atlanta on the topic of “Binge drinking is associated with abnormal cortical architecture.” At this same event, she also presented two posters: “Alcohol dependence and gender: An fMRI pilot study examining affective processing” and “Recent binge drinking predicts smaller cerebellar volumes in adolescents.”

Christine Larson (Psychology) co-spoke on “Attention moderates the fearlessness and amygdala activation deficits of psychopathic offenders” at the Society for Research in Psychopathology in Boston in September and co-presented posters on “The impact of rumination on neural functioning in response to emotional information” and “Frontal late positive potential predicts subsequent memory for pleasant pictures.”

Diane Reddy (Psychology) and her fellow researchers spoke at the American Psychological Association meeting in Washington, D.C. in August on several topics: “Critical barriers and solutions to baccalaureate degree attainment: Perspectives of students of color,” “Sleep inadequacy: A predictor of negative physical health among call center shift workers,” and “U-Pace instruction: Facilitating greater academic success among African American students.”
September 28th
6 to 9 pm
Greene Hall
Center for
Celtic Studies
Kick-Off Céilí.
Celtic music and
dance, featuring
a live band and
céilí instruction.
Dublin ballad
singer, Barry
Dodd, is our
special guest.

Geosciences Colloquium: Timing and rates of
deglaciation of the Lake Michigan lobe. B. Brandon
Curry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will
discuss the problems geologists have had in pinning
down the origins of ice-walled lake plains, and reflect on
what the fossils tell us about the climate.

October 3rd – 9 am – RGI proposals due.

October 3rd – 2 pm – Union
Campus Fall Award Ceremony.

October 6th – 3 pm – Library Learning Commons
Honor James Liddy and His Poetry. The Center
for Celtic Studies and the Golda Meir Library archives
honor UWM Professor and poet James Liddy’s life
and work with readings from his writings. The event
celebrates the opening of the James Liddy Papers, a
collection of the Irish author’s correspondence, literary
papers and general files. Speakers include Jim Chapson,
Liddy’s partner for more than 40 years; Liam Callanan,
English chair; John Gleeson, co-director of the Center
for Celtic Studies and Nancy Madden Walczyk, associate
director of the Center for Celtic Studies.

October 6th – 4:30 pm – Zelazo Center 250
L&S Scholarship Reception. All faculty and staff are
invited. RSVP to let-sci@uwm.edu.

October 6th – 5 to 7 pm – Art History Gallery
The Expressionist Portrait, Pathos and Persona
in German Art. This exhibit showcases important
paintings, prints and drawings by some of the premier
German and Austrian artists of the 20th century and
provides an in-depth examination of important social
and psychological themes in expressionist portraiture.
Featured artists include Max Beckmann, Oskar
Kokoschka, Käthe Kollwitz, Emil Nolde, Ernst Ludwig
Kirchner, Ludwig Meidner, and others. Nathan Gramse,
a graduate student in art history and museum studies,
will curate the exhibition. Opening reception is on

October 6th; regular gallery hours are 10 to 4, Mondays
through Thursdays. The show runs through October 27th.

October 7th – 2 pm – Lubar S191
Neuroscience Colloquium: Sensing with the Motor
Cortex. With Dr. Aaron Suminski, University of Chicago.

October 7th – 3:30 pm – Curtin 118
Center for 21st Century Studies Colloquium: Terminal
Species: Narrative, Database, and Biodiversity Loss.
With Ursula Heise, English Department at Stanford
University.

October 7th – 3:30 pm – Curtin 124
Philosophy Colloquium: Moral Vulnerability and the
Task of Reparations. With Margaret Urban Walker,
Marquette University.

October 7th – Last Date to make Spring 2012 Schedule
of Classes changes in PAWS

October 10th – Last Date for entry of Spring 2012
Course Offerings

October 14th – 2 pm – Merrill 131
Rhetorical Leadership Colloquium: Imitation,
Leadership, and Violence: How to Understand Racial
Hostilities After the Civil War. Kirt H. Wilson (The
Pennsylvania State University) analyzes the rhetoric
surrounding the birth and initial growth of the Ku
Klux Klan. He posits that rhetorical leadership, which
is often thought to originate from political and cultural
elites, is sometimes little more than the rearticulation of
widespread social narratives. He speculates on what kind
of rhetorical leadership via narratives might have helped
interrupt this cycle. View the flyer: http://bit.ly/q9Dw1a

October 18th – 11:30 am – Holton 241
L&S AP&CC Meeting

October 20th – 8:30 am – Holton 241
L&S APGC Meeting

October 20th – 4 pm – Lapham N101
Geosciences Colloquium: What Can Streamflow
Generation Processes Tell Us About the Long-Term
Streamflow Response to Climate Change? Marty Frisbee,
project hydrogeologist at AMEC Earth & Environmental,
discusses his research on the role of deep, basin-scale
groundwater on the generation, geochemical evolution,
and structure of apparent ages of streamflow across
multiple scales in a large, alpine watershed.

October 20th - 22nd
26th Linguistics Symposium: Language Death,
Endangerment, Documentation, and Revitalization. See
page 12 for more information or http://www4.uwm.edu/
letsci/conferences/linguistics2011/
October 21st – 12 pm
Curtin 175
L&S Chairs’ & Directors’ Meeting

October 21st – 2 pm
Lubar S191
Neuroscience Colloquium: The Long Reach of the Hippocampus in Memory. With Neil Cohen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

October 22nd – 1 pm to 3 pm – Sabin Hall 2nd Floor
Celebrate National Archaeology Day with the Milwaukee Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. UWM will host a behind-the-scenes look at what goes on in the UWM archaeology labs. http://www4.uwm.edu/archlab/AIA/announcements.cfm

October 24th – 6 pm – North Shore Cinema

October 27th – 3:30 pm – Curtin 175
L&S Faculty Meeting

October 28th – 2 pm – Lubar S191
Neuroscience Colloquium: New Genes to Promote CNS Regeneration. With Murray Blackmore, Marquette University.

October 28th – 3:30 pm – Curtin 124
Philosophy Colloquium: Internalism about Responsibility.
With R. Jay Wallace, University of California-Berkeley.

October 31st – Deadline for nominations for 2012 honorary degrees

Awards & Honors
The English Department’s PhD program in Creative Writing was ranked Number 14 nationally in the 2012 survey just released by Poets & Writers Magazine, the leading journal in the field. Congratulations to the faculty, staff and students who work diligently to make the program a recognized success! Read about how the survey was conducted at the magazine’s web site. http://bit.ly/nffimmg

Tatiana Batova, a PhD candidate in professional writing and technical communication, Department of English, received the Society for Technical Communication’s (STC) Frank R. Smith Award for Outstanding Journal Article. Batova received the award for her article, “Writing for the Participants of International Clinical Trials: Law, Ethics, and Culture,” which appeared in the August 2010 issue of Technical Communication, STC’s journal.”

Diane Reddy (Psychology) received the UWM 2011 Joanne Lazirko Award for Innovative Use of Teaching Technology.

Karyn Frick (Psychology) was named a Fellow of the Association of Psychological Science (APS).

Development News
Through August 31, we have raised $39,241 – an 87% increase over last year at that time.
September major donors include:
Aurora Spectral Technologies in support of Valerica Raicu’s Research Lab, Physics
- $68,970 in-kind gift of equipment, two Andor iXon CCD Cameras
- $17,000 gift to support research and education in biophysics, optical imaging and photonics
Dr. and Mrs. Matthew Bernstein, Philosophy Department
- $10,000 gift in honor of Philosophy professors Bagnoli, Sensat, Westlund, Ferrero and Bristow
Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation, and John and Lynn Schiek, Psychology Department
- $15,000 to support the John and Lynn Schiek Behavioral Psychology Fellowships
- $5,000 to support the John and Lynn Schiek Behavioral Psychology Research Award

Department/Program Newsletters
Department of Chemistry: http://bit.ly/qBCXhL

Published the last Tuesday of each month by L&S Office of College Relations. Send your announcements to: let-sci@uwm.edu. Your events, awards, publications, etc. may also be shared on our Facebook and Twitter feeds, the L&S web page, and with University Relations to maximize our communication efforts.

L&S Dean: Rodney Swain
**Research News**

Imagine sorting through 5,000 vacation pictures to delete the blurry and off-center ones. Now imagine you are performing groundbreaking research, taking millions of images of viruses and protein nanocrystals using the world’s most powerful X-ray laser. **Physics researchers Abbas Ourmazd, Peter Schwander and Chun Hong Yoon** are part of an 80-person, collaborative team that includes SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory scientists from the Linac Coherent Light Source and the PULSE Institute for Ultrafast Energy Science. Applying mathematical algorithms, scattering physics theory and information theory, Dr. Ourmazd and his UWM colleagues found patterns of correlation that can be effectively used to sort the large amount of data being collected with 90 percent agreement as compared to a manual sort by a human. They estimate that a million snapshots can be sorted in less than 10 hours with this technique. The full story is available at [http://bit.ly/mQg6e1](http://bit.ly/mQg6e1).

A transit study by the **Center for Economic Development** quantifies the economic impact to Milwaukee. In a story announced exclusively by the Business Journal, it was reported that the proposed 2012 budget cuts to the Milwaukee County Transit System would result in the loss of bus service to 997 employers, affecting thousands of employees at those companies. The study found that 13,553 jobs in locations currently served by the transit system would become inaccessible by transit if the budget cuts are approved. Center Director **Joel Rast** notes, “Unlike most major urban transit systems, MCTS is funded through local property taxes, which places transit in competition with other county-run services for its share of tax revenues. Without a permanent local revenue source dedicated for transit, it has been all but impossible for MCTS to generate sufficient revenues to keep pace with growing operating costs.” Read the entire study at [http://bit.ly/qTqqeb](http://bit.ly/qTqqeb).

UWM and Division 2 of the American Psychology Association have been given a $250,000 grant from the Next Generation Learning Challenges initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation. The grant will fund dissemination of a teaching model for introductory psychology courses at 23 universities nationwide. Known as U-Pace, the model has been shown to increase student performance compared with traditional in-person lecture classes. U-Pace was developed by **Diane Reddy and Ray Fleming** (Psychology).

**Publications**


Upcoming Multi-Day Conferences

October 20-22 – Linguistics Symposium – Union

In a globalized world where hundreds of languages are expected to become extinct in the 21st century, it is highly relevant to analyze the viability and continuity of threatened languages. The purpose of the 26th Linguistics Symposium is to discuss this impending loss to humankind from a multidisciplinary perspective. The symposium is dedicated in honor and in memory of Mickey Noonan.

Some of the topics include:

- Colonialism, nationalism and language vitality in Azerbaijan
- Avoiding pitfalls in documenting endangered languages
- The role of non-formal language learning in the revitalization process
- Local minority media as a best practice in linguistic revitalization: the case of Arbëresh in Sicily
- Passing on the parcel – a proposal for the revitalization of the Fuzhou dialect of Chinese
- Revitalizing languages through place- and culture-based language curriculum
- Identity as a tool in language maintenance: the case of Veneto in Mexico
- Field research on endangered language: Ingrian
- What do Russian-American parents think about using English to help children learn their heritage language?
- New advances in technology: the utility of online Wix and Vimeo platforms for indigenous language revitalization programs

This conference is sponsored by the Provost Office, College of Letters & Science, the Graduate School, and the following Centers and Departments: Departments: Linguistics; Spanish & Portuguese; and French, Italian & Comparative Literature. Centers: Center for International Education; Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies; Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies; Center for Celtic Studies; and the Center for 21st Century Studies.

http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/conferences/linguistics2011/

November 3-4 – Critical Refugee Studies Conference – Union

Sponsored by the programs in Comparative Ethnic Studies and Hmong Diaspora Studies. Blending academic scholarship with discussion of contemporary human rights issues, this conference focuses on the specific issues relevant to people displaced by war, economic crises, political upheavals, natural disasters and ethnic tensions. International scholars will present research on refugee issues in different historical and geographic contexts. Topics will include the essential, often politically charged, differences between migrants and refugees; how refugees use memory in conjunction with their everyday experiences to construct notions of identity, nation, and home; and how global political, economic, and cultural contexts interact with an increasingly mass-mediated world to influence how refugees are understood by the world at large.

The Conference includes an exhibit, “Here, There, and Elsewhere,” at Plymouth Church. Through documentary photos and the words of the refugees themselves, John Ruebartsch and Sally Kuzma have created intimate family portraits that provide a window into the daily lives of some of the newest – and least familiar – Americans.

Special guest presenters include Ghita Schwartz, on November 3rd; she will read from her book, Displaced Persons, at the Jewish Museum of Milwaukee. The book was a finalist for the Foundation for Jewish Culture's Goldberg Prize for Outstanding Fiction. Schwartz was raised in a family of postwar Jewish refugees, and currently works for New York Legal Aid as a civil rights litigator specializing in immigrants' rights. On November 4, Dr. Matsuo Ikuhara of the International Medical Corps will lecture on how the recent disasters in Haiti and Japan provide lessons for the preparedness of the United States of America. Dr. Ikuhara was part of an emergency response team for both disasters.

More program details can be viewed at:
http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/conferences/norefugee2011/