



A word from the Chair...



Every year our department grows richer and more complex. As enrollment at the University grows, we have launched a vigorous new summer program. This year, in addition to a wide set of offerings, we will be proposing two intensive summer language institutes: one in Spanish and one in Portuguese. We are also on the cutting edge of teaching methodologies, as the department develops a new menu of distributed learning courses. The research productivity of the faculty continues to increase as exemplified by the six new books we have published. And this year we have admitted a record number of graduate students in the department. These are exciting times in LLC.

Paul Allen Miller,

Chair and Carolina Distinguished Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature

Congratulations to the following faculty who were awarded tenure and/or promoted this year!

Promoted to Professor in January 2013: **Lara Lomicka-Anderson**, French and Linguistics

Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, effective August 2013:

Hunter Gardner, Classics

Jie Guo, Comparative Literature

Michael Hill, Chinese and Comparative Literature

Nina Moreno, Spanish and Linguistics

Tenured at Associate Professor level: **Alexander Beecroft**, Classics and Comparative Literature

Promoted to Senior Instructor effective August 2013:

Ana Cueto, Spanish

Harriet Nichols, Spanish

Wendy Schneider, Spanish



From the LLC Bookshelf

Paul Malovrh, *The Developmental Dimension in Instructed Second Language Learning: The L2 Acquisition of Object Pronouns in Spanish*. London: Bloomsbury.

Krista Van Fleit Hang, *Literature the People Love: Reading Chinese Texts from the Early Maoist Period (1949-1966)*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Michael Hill, *Lin Shu, Inc.: Translation and the Making of Modern Chinese Culture*. Oxford University Press.

Jorge Camacho, *Etnografía, política y poder a finales del siglo XIX: José Martí y la cuestión indígena*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

Hunter Gardner, *Gendering Time in Augustan Love Elegy*. Oxford University Press.

Allen Miller, *A Tibullus Reader: Seven Selected Elegies*.

Welcome, new faculty!



Mercedes Lopez Rodriguez joined USC as Assistant Professor of Colonial Spanish American Literature. Originally from Colombia, where she studied Anthropology. Mercedes holds a Ph.D. in Spanish Literature and Cultural Studies from Georgetown University. Her research focus stems from a long interest in the representation of difference and the emergence of new cultural practices amidst contexts of conflict in Latin America. Her scholarly research lies at the intersection of literary studies, ethnography, history, and art history, combining textual analysis and anthropological methods and theory. Through research into the interwoven dynamics of social and cultural life expressed in literature and visual arts she hopes to make a contribution to the ongoing study of the politics of race and cultural difference in Latin America.



Gregory Patterson joined USC as an Assistant Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature, and teaches courses in Chinese literature and culture, comparative literature, and Chinese language. Greg earned his Ph.D. in East Asian Studies from Columbia University. His main areas of interest are medieval Chinese poetry (third to tenth centuries), traditional Chinese theories of literature, poetry and imperial institutions in medieval China, and modern interpretations of classical Chinese poetry. He is also interested in issues of cultural memory and media studies as they relate to literature in comparative perspective. Professor Patterson has been the recipient of grants and fellowships from the Fulbright-Hays program, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation.

Graduate Program...

After several years of distinguished service, Professor Maria Mabrey decided not to return as Graduate Director this fall. The department thanks Professor Mabrey for her hard work and leadership, and welcomes Agnes Mueller as the new Graduate Director of LLC. An Associate Professor of German and Comparative Literature, Dr. Mueller is an expert on contemporary German literature. She is core faculty in Comparative Literature and affiliated with Women's and Gender Studies and Jewish Studies.

The Graduate Program in LLC offers MA degrees in Comparative Literature, French, German and Spanish, PhD degrees in Comparative Literature and Spanish, and MAT degrees in Foreign Languages with emphasis in French, German, or Spanish. On our webpage (<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/dllc/programs/GRAD>) you can find information on admissions standards and application procedures, teaching assistant positions, travel policies, requirements for degree completion, as well as an idea of the courses we have offered over the past few years. You can access also the Graduate Student Handbook (in PDF form). The Handbook is updated every year. Please contact Professor Mueller acmuelle@mailbox.sc.edu or Barbara Wachob, the Assistant to the Graduate Director, wachob@sc.edu for more information.

Graduate News...

Congratulations: **David Cross** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation "The Role of the Trickster Figure and the Four Yoruba Meta-Tropes in the Realization of Agency by the Three Salve Protagonists."

Thomas Whidden successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in Comparative Literature, "Using Singular Value Decomposition in Classics: Seeking Correlations in Horace, Juvenal and Persius against the Fragments of Lucilus."

And Christiane Steckenbiller, was one of 13 students honored as a USC Distinguished Graduate Scholar in late spring, 2013. Christiane's work was featured in a publication called "Breakthrough Stars," one of only a few awardees in the Humanities. She successfully defended her doctoral dissertation "Putting Place Back into Displacement: Reevaluating Diaspora in the Contemporary Literature of Migration" and is now a full-time Adjunct Instructor of German at the College of Charleston.

Irina Vasilyeva and **Xianmin Shen** received the Cantey Award for summer research in Comparative Literature.

Jennifer Karash-Eastman received the Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinsky Dissertation Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences. Jennifer is a PhD candidate in Comparative Literature working on her dissertation.

Comparative Literature and Classics graduate student **Casey Moore's** article "We're Not Through Yet: The Patrick Bateman Debate" was accepted for publication in *The Comparatist*. She also is this year's Routledge prize winner for the best graduate student paper given at the Southern Comparative Literature Association conference, with her paper titled: "Cross Dressing: Ancient and Modern Reappropriations of Homosexual Identity."

Classics Day 2013

The Classics Program hosted some of the state's brightest and most talented Latin students on Saturday, October 12, at the *Classics Day at USC*. Over 100 parents, students, and teachers from around the state participated. The event was organized by Professor Hunter Gardner and some of the presentations included Professor Mark Beck on Sport and Combat in the ancient world, Professor Alex Beecroft on Ancient Greece and China, Professor Gardner on Classics and Film. There were presentations from the students of Eta Sigma Pi who did recitations of Latin and Greek poetry. Professor and Department Chair Allen Miller also participated in the day's events, and gave a presentation on Catullus and the traditions of Latin Love Poetry.



The Classics program offers a major in Classics which allows concentration in Greek or Latin languages or Classical Studies. Minors are offered in Greek, Latin, or Classical Studies. The program offers courses in Greek, Latin, and in Classical Culture.

McCausland Fellows Announced by Dean Fitzpatrick

Hunter Gardner, Associate Professor of Classics, was named the recipient of one of the College of Arts and Science's new McCausland Fellowships. McCausland Fellows are competitively selected based on outstanding teaching and research. The department congratulates Professor Gardner on this outstanding accomplishment and thanks Dean Fitzpatrick and the McCauslands for their hard work and generosity.

Alumina News... Dr. Sandra B. Smyser, an Alumni of USC, Columbia, was recognized as the Superintendent of the year for the state of Colorado. She earned her MA, Education and Spanish, from USC in 1988. Dr. Smyser is in the running for the National Superintendent of the Year. For the students, alumni, and prospective students of the University of South Carolina, Smyser's achievement confirms the quality of her own education and demonstrates the regional and national potential for our graduates.

Looking Ahead...

16th Annual Comparative Literature Conference

Translating the Ancient Classics in China and the West: 1950 and Beyond
University of South Carolina
February 26-March 2, 2014

41st French Literature Conference

Odysseys: Travel Narratives in French Odyssées: Récits de voyage en langue française
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC (USA)
March 27 -29, 2014

Send us your ideas! If you have idea for a story, news about alumni's recent accomplishments, or just something to add to the spring 2014 issue, please e-mail pilotc@mailbox.sc.edu.

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