



## Connections that Endure

### GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

By Linda B. Bartlett

This spring the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures (MLL) began a new tradition: a drop-in for our seniors on the day before graduation. This memorable occasion, held in the welcoming space of our Modern Language Center, allowed us to greet our students, meet their families and celebrate with pride their many accomplishments at this important moment of their educational and personal journey. It was a typical MLL social event in many ways, filled with laughter, fun, food (naturally) and (rather loud) conversation in a variety of languages. There were also hugs, tears and reminiscing about a host of shared experiences (some spanning four years!), on campus and abroad, in class and out. Notably, the students in this highly

accomplished group had wholeheartedly embraced engaged learning, participating in MLL experiences such as study away, the Language House and community-based learning projects. Their paths were diverse: some anticipated starting graduate school, a new job, a volunteer service assignment in the U.S. or abroad, or a prestigious fellowship, while others were still determining their post-graduation plans. But the senior reflections which decorated the walls universally attested to the positive impact of their time in the department. (Unfortunately, the campus-wide power outage which lasted nearly the entire time of the event prevented us from seeing the student photo slide show, but our enthusiasm was undimmed!)

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Pictured above: The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures 2017-2018.  
Back row from left: Lourdes Manyé, Ron Friis, Cherie Maiden, Bill Allen, David Bost, Jerry Cox, Ilka Rasch, Erik Grell, Adrián Massei, Jeff Michno, Marianne Bessy, Anna Notation-Rhoades, Maria Rippon and Nathalie Lemaire.  
Front row from left: Daniel Worden, Krissie Butler, Angélica Lozano-Alonso, Angeli Leal, Sofia Kearns, Linda Bartlett (chair), Stephanie Knouse and Anne Culberson.  
Photo credit: Jeremy Fleming '08

(cont'd)

This event represents for me the essence of MLL, a department I now have the honor of chairing. As we showcase in this year's Palingual, the ideals of The Furman Advantage—providing a transformative education, building lasting connections and helping communities thrive—are deeply entrenched in our departmental ethos and practices. I hope this year's newsletter will not only inform you about the latest in MLL, but also inspire you to reflect anew on your own journey at Furman and beyond. Above all, let this remind you that we treasure our connections with you, whether they span four years or forty. And please join us at Homecoming—we promise food, fun, laughter and lively conversation!



1 Spanish majors Megan Probst '17, Lizzie Kean '17, and Emily Gale '17 visit with Professor Angélica Lozano-Alonso. 2 Spanish majors Alex Forrest '17 and Warren James '17. 3 Professor Marianne Bessy and Professor Emeritus Harlan Patton celebrate with new French graduates Plicca Watt '17, Haley Hughes '17, Emma Waters '17, and Colleen Cosey '17. 4 Former MLL administrative assistant Linda Ray and Chair Linda Bartlett catch up. 5 Alexandra Harris '17 and Bailey Freeman '17 receive a send-off from Anne Culberson. Photo credit: Bill Allen



Marianne Bessy and the Furman contingent after the SCICU banquet.

## Bessy Wins SCICU Teaching Award

By Bill Allen

Each spring, the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) organization celebrates the best in liberal arts teaching in the state by recognizing outstanding teachers known for their dedication and creativity. For 2017, Furman chose Associate Professor of French Dr. Marianne Bessy as its honoree, citing her passion for mentoring students by engaging them in co-curricular activities, helping them secure internships and advising them on post-graduate plans. "I am deeply honored to be recognized for my dedication to providing our students with meaningful high-impact activities (internships, French House, Study Abroad, etc.) that align with The Furman Advantage vision," says Dr. Bessy.

Dr. Bessy was recognized at the annual SCICU banquet in Columbia April 24, 2017, at a dinner attended by her husband, Associate Registrar James Patton, Dean of the Faculty Ken Peterson and other colleagues and friends. Recipients of the award were presented with a plaque and a \$3000 professional development grant; Dr. Bessy plans to use her award to enroll in an Oral Proficiency Interview tester workshop with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages next summer. Félicitations, Marianne!

## Friis Awarded Prestigious Grant to Research the Poetry of Alberto Blanco

By Stephanie M. Knouse

Ron Friis was one of three Furman faculty members to receive the competitive Furman Standard Faculty Research Grant for 2017-2018. The Furman Standard, established in 2010, is an alumni sponsored funding opportunity that provides awardees with \$3,000 annually for three years to pursue scholarly activity. Below Friis gives us an insider's look at his project "White Light: The Poetic World of Alberto Blanco" and what he will accomplish during the three years.

**KNOUSE:** Tell us what first drew you to the poetry of Alberto Blanco.

**FRIIS:** I first learned about Mexican poet Alberto Blanco (1951-) back in 1998 when I came upon the bilingual edition Dawn of the Senses while browsing the venerable City Lights Bookstore in San Francisco. Reading the book on the flight home from California I was struck by just how much punch these short poems pack into their straight-forward, conversational Spanish. I immediately knew they'd be good to teach and once I spent a little more time with them, I realized they would be great to research as well.

From there, I read more, presented a few conference papers, and then published an article on one of Blanco's anthologies. Then, in 2013, the funniest thing happened... I was walking out of a museum in Madrid when I looked down at my phone to see that I had gotten an email from the poet himself! To make a long story short, that message was



Friis with Blanco in Mexico City in 2014.

the start of a collaboration that led to Blanco commenting on translations of his poems by my Spanish 470 class in 2014 and then an eventual meeting with me, last March, in Mexico City.

**KNOUSE:** What will the Furman Standard Faculty Research Grant enable to you do?

**FRIIS:** I am extremely appreciative to Furman for this amazing opportunity and show of support. My project has five parts. The first was to publish the article on Blanco's essays that I just sent off to *Este país*. Next, I will travel to Mexico City to record a formal interview. The third part of the project involves working with Furman's Spanish majors to translate and publish poems and the interview. Part four is organizing an exhibit of Blanco's collages to be shown in Furman's art gallery during the MIFLC conference in 2020 and, finally, I am writing a book on the poet. In short, the grant will help fund my work with student assistants, enable me to travel to Mexico, and enhance each part of the project.

**KNOUSE:** How do you see your project aligning with the tenets of The Furman Advantage?

**FRIIS:** This grant allows me to transform what would have just been a personal research and translation project into an engaged learning and mentoring opportunity for Spanish majors. The plan is for the students that work on the translations to reflect on and then present papers on the experience at an undergraduate research conference this Spring. Blanco has written that "*La vida es un collage: hay que hacerla con lo que se tiene a mano*" [Life is a collage: You make it with what's on hand] and I am very excited to see how the different parts of this project will come together over the next three years.

*For more information about the Furman Standard, please go to [alumni.furman.edu/give/furman-standard](http://alumni.furman.edu/give/furman-standard).*



United Way research team members **Alex Forrest '17**, **Rachael Holtsclaw '17**, **Miguel Negrete '17**, **Michael Robinson '17** and **Meredith Wettach '18** discuss strategies and progress with Professors Sofia Kearns and Stephanie Knouse. Photo credit: Bill Allen

**“Education that transforms. Connections that endure. Communities that flourish.”**

Launched in October 2016, The Furman Advantage promises a personalized four-year path to all Furman undergraduates using these three guiding principles. Five Spanish majors—**Alex Forrest '17**, **Rachael Holtsclaw '17**, **Miguel Negrete '17**, **Michael Robinson '17**, and **Meredith Wettach '18**—were selected to collaborate on a community-based research endeavor with Furman faculty and staff that embodied the commitment of The Furman Advantage. Principle investigator Professor Matthew Cohen (Sustainability Science), along with MLL Professors Sofia Kearns and Stephanie Knouse, spearheaded a \$50,000 grant project funded by the United Way in which the research team conducted a needs and assets assessment of

## Living The Furman Advantage

By Stephanie M. Knouse

ten neighborhoods along Greenville’s White Horse corridor. The goal of this assessment was to identify through evidence-based research what was working well in these neighborhoods and which aspects residents wanted to develop. This way, the United Way can use these findings to strategically fund project proposals as part of their “Cycle of Success” initiative, whose goal is to remove barriers and improve the quality of life for all community members.

Since a sizeable portion of the population in these neighborhoods were Spanish speakers, the Spanish-speaking research students mentioned above were recruited and trained for this project. Additionally, three Furman alumni—**Sebastián Barbosa '12**, **Sarah Grace Barton '12**, and **Jennifer Osorno-Bejarano '12**—came on board and served as liaisons between community stakeholders and the Furman research team. The Spanish students worked closely

with four students in Sustainability Science in fall 2016 to collect and input data. Over 260 community leaders and members were interviewed or surveyed in fall 2016 and spring 2017 and the final report, written by students in Sustainability Science, was presented to United Way’s Board of Trustees in April 2017.

The Spanish students gained valuable experience throughout this community-based undertaking. They were able to put into practice their ability to speak Spanish and knowledge of Hispanic cultures while learning how to interact with Spanish speakers in the community with greater levels of intercultural competence. They found that simple,

yet crucial, conversational strategies—such as the use of the formal *usted* versus informal *tú*—could make a tremendous difference when asking community members to participate in a short survey. Meredith Wettach '18 affirms, “I have developed the ability to feel more comfortable starting conversations with strangers in English and Spanish. I also developed my Spanish

vocabulary and awareness to resources available in Greenville [by] going to interview after interview and taking the time to listen and put myself out there.” Furthermore, students recognized the importance of effective communication, flexibility, and humility when conducting research in the community and working as a team. These skills strengthened through

the United Way grant project will serve students well as they move on to future professional endeavors.

Through participating in an undergraduate research project, forging connections with alumni and important stakeholders in Greenville, and collaborating with a premier non-profit organization, the United Way Grant Project perfectly

exemplifies the tremendous benefits of a Furman education. These students experienced firsthand The Furman Advantage. More importantly, they rose to the occasion and made the university extremely proud.

## Communities that Flourish

### THE HISPANIC ALLIANCE – FURMAN UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP LAUNCHES IN 2017-2018

By Stephanie M. Knouse

The Modern Languages and Literatures (MLL) Department has partnered with Hispanic Alliance—a leading 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves and collaborates with the Hispanic community in the Upstate—to create a community-based pilot fellowship for exceptional Furman undergraduates majoring in Spanish. Three HA-FU fellows have been selected for the 2017-2018 academic year due to their knowledge of Spanish and Hispanic cultures, their commitment to working with Greenville’s Hispanic community, and their desire to be involved in the variety of groundbreaking projects that Hispanic Alliance is spearheading. The fellows are seniors Susannah Lauber (Wheaton, Ill.), McKenna Luzynski (Roanoke, Va.), and Daniyal Roshan (Braselton, Ga.). These students will receive a stipend of \$1,500 as a reward for their participation in this year-long experience. Fellows will also be enrolled in two, two-credit classes: one in fall 2017 and one in spring 2018.

One of the main impetuses for establishing the fellowship is to formalize the relationship that had been blossoming between Furman and Hispanic Alliance for several years. Adela Mendoza, the executive director of the organization, states, “We are thrilled to strengthen our partnership with Furman University through the establishment of the Hispanic Alliance–Furman Fellowship. This initiative has emerged from our mutual commitment to embrace and leverage the cultural richness and diversity in our community to build a more inclusive and equitable society.”



Pictured above from left: **Susannah Lauber '18**. Photo credit: Dick Stevens. **McKenna Luzynski '18**. Photo credit: Dick Stevens. **Daniyal Roshan '18**. Photo credit: Maggie Turner

Furthermore, the mission of Hispanic Alliance, which is “to enrich the quality of life in the Greenville community by coordinating initiatives and building collaborations among service providers, the Hispanic members of the community, and the community at large,” serendipitously aligns with Furman’s intentions of providing undergraduates with opportunities to collaborate with community stakeholders and “explore and address real-world problems” through The Furman Advantage.

Professors Sofia Kearns and Stephanie Knouse worked closely with Mendoza, as well as with Sara Montero-Buria and Idaly Partridge of Hispanic Alliance, to establish fellowship goals and coordinate programmatic details. Knouse will supervise the fellows in 2017-2018. Fellows began their duties at Hispanic Alliance on August 28, 2017.



# FRENCH

## QUOI DE NEUF? 2016-2017 FRENCH SECTION HIGHLIGHTS

by Marianne Bessy (French Section Coordinator)



2016-2017 French House Participants Darryl Peoples '19, Kenny Nguyen '19, Bryan Johnson '19, Isabella Quiros '19, Fanny Tanguy, Jesse Pilz '19, Amanda Richey '17, and Meredith Stickels '19. Photo credit Marianne Bessy

We are excited to share the wonderful achievements of our students with our readers! In May 2017, our program counted 30 majors, many of whom completed internships in French throughout the year. **Olivia Walters '18** was awarded the seventh annual Elaine Duffy Childers Award which allowed her to travel to Clermont-Ferrand where she interned as a web-editor last summer. **Kristen Rafuse '19** participated in the Canadian Parliamentary Internship Program from mid-May to mid-June in Ottawa where she worked with Member of Parliament Christine Moore. **Emma Waters '17** spent the spring semester interning with World Relief, a non-profit helping refugees resettle to the Upstate. Additionally, several recent alumni were selected to participate in the French Government's Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF) for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The 2017 David Wells Morgan Award in French—presented annually to the French major graduating senior judged to be the most outstanding—was awarded to Jeffrey Tonge. Our French House program continued to foster a lively French-speaking community for students interested in a language immersion experience on campus. Seven students lived with Fanny Tanguy—the 2016-2017 French House Assistant—who conducted *cafés français* and organized many co-curricular activities such as pétanque matches or crêpes parties. To our great pleasure, Emeritus Professor Harlan R. Patton, who is enjoying his second year of retirement, visited with us often at *cafés français*.

*Les profs* have been busy too! In August 2016 Dr. Nathan Brown '06 (PhD University of Virginia, 2014) and Dr. Daniel J. Worden (PhD Princeton University, 2015) joined the French section. They have been a wonderful addition to



Caroline Filston '20 and Nathan Brown '06 at Fondue Night. Photo credit Marianne Bessy

our program inside and outside the classroom. Dr. Worden organized our first French major t-shirt contest in which students submitted designs illustrating the tagline “*Le français à Furman vous va si bien!*” Dr. Brown hosted a fondue night at his home for majors and students interested in our program. Last fall, Dr. Allen and Dr. Maiden co-directed the Versailles program in which 10 students participated. During the spring semester, I enjoyed teaching a course on the French presidential election where students created mock political parties and visited the local polling station on the first round of voting. Our scholarly endeavors were also productive with the publication of several articles or presentation of conference papers by our faculty. Finally, Dr. Maiden was recognized as a “most meaningful professor” for members of the women’s basketball team and I was awarded a South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities (SCICU) Excellence in Teaching Award.

Although this was an exciting year for us all in the French section, we were saddened by the passing of Emeritus Professor Myron L. Kocher on December 31, 2016. Dr. Kocher taught French at Furman from 1959 to 1992 and had remained a regular fixture at our departmental events since his retirement 25 years ago. We will miss his kindness, sense of humor, and faithful presence at our sides.



## Community Interpreting GIVING RESETTLED REFUGEES A VOICE

By Emma Waters '17

During my senior year at Furman, I had the chance to intern with the World Relief Upstate office in Spartanburg, South Carolina. World Relief is an international organization that works to resettle refugees fleeing violence and persecution from all over the world. With previous experience working with refugee communities and a double major in French and political science, I was thrilled by the opportunity to translate and interpret for francophone refugees as part of a senior level independent study class.

My first assignment entailed meeting a Congolese family of five at the Greenville airport with the World Relief team and interpreting for both parties. Over the course of the semester, I met with this same family to interpret for orientation sessions that detailed American customs and laws. We covered everything from how to apply for permanent residency to how to change the batteries in a smoke alarm. Within the 90-day resettlement period, both parents found jobs, began regularly attending English

classes, and enrolled their three children in school. By our last meeting, the father was eager to practice his English with the team, and I was only necessary for more detailed topics such as social security—he understood almost all of what was said and only needed my help to articulate his responses.

Through this internship, I was able to combine my passions for French and refugee advocacy, while being exposed to a career path I had never considered. After graduation, I chose to continue pursue my certificate in interpreting. I embarked on an accelerated summer-long interpreting course that I would not have been remotely prepared for, or even aware of, without my experience at World Relief. I hope to continue my work with refugees in Toronto this coming fall.

Pictured above: **Emma Waters '17**. Photo credit: Bill Allen



FRN-221 students celebrate the end of the semester with French Honorary Consul. Featured: **Virginia Britt '20, Annie Curtiss '20, Kim Debacher '19, Eden Dukes '20, Mary Sinclair Filchak '18, Cate Harmon '19, Theresa Lunsford '19, Cesi Martinez '18, Robert Meyer '19, Kristen Rafuse '19, Meredith Stickels '19, Jeffrey Tonge '17, Olivia Walters '18, Emma Waters '17**, Honorary Consul Nicolas Brindel and Marianne Bessy. Photo credit: Marianne Bessy

## Furman Students Investigate the 2017 French Presidential Election

### FRENCH 221 PROVIDES HANDS-ON POLITICAL EXPERIENCES

By Marianne Bessy

During the spring semester, students enrolled in our “Contemporary French Culture” course (French 221) investigated the ongoing French presidential campaign. With both rounds of voting scheduled for April 23 and May 7 this election cycle made for a perfect opportunity to learn more about French politics and French society thanks to an exploration of current issues of key importance to this presidential election. The fourteen students analyzed the build-up to the election from January to May, becoming experts on the French political system; on current political, economic, and social issues; on France’s presence in European and global contexts; and on the French people’s political behaviors, views, and ideals.

Because the contents of the course were evolving as the campaign and our semester unfolded, students kept a close watch on the news and on the social media used by the eleven candidates. They shared their thoughts on the campaign during group “News Report” presentations throughout the semester, igniting conversation among course participants and framing class discussion with thoughtful comments and questions. Students also conducted interviews with French citizens living in the Upstate to learn more about their political views and ideals. They wrote a research paper on an aspect of French society and political life that interested them the most. The semester culminated with the creation of four mock political parties with a platform, a logo, and a presidential video campaign ad which were presented at “Furman

Engaged!” in April. Students’ enthusiasm, hard work, and creativity did not go unnoticed during the event. The four political parties—“L’Alliance écologique,” “Soyons unis,” “Les Centristes,” and “Les Vrais citoyens”—came up with original solutions for current issues in France (unemployment, security, immigration, etc.), provided a rationale as to why voters should choose their party, and explained how they would run the country if elected.

There is a large French population in the Upstate. French citizens living in the area can vote at the Bilingual French School in Greenville during presidential and legislative elections as well as during referendums. We received special permission from the French Consulate in Atlanta to visit the polling station during the first round of the election in late April. Guided by Nicolas Brindel—who is the school’s principal but also the French Honorary Consul for the area—students got to witness the French voting process, to talk to the poll worker, and to experience a bit of French democracy in action. The semester ended with a heated final debate in class between the four parties in the running—judged by Monsieur Brindel and Dr. Bessy—and a fun mock election. In French 221 as in France, Emmanuel Macron was the clear winner of this presidential campaign!



**Kristen Rafuse '19** visits the polling station during the first round of the French presidential election. Photo credit: Marianne Bessy



**Olivia Walters '18** on the Pont d’Avignon, a popular stop during the Fall-in-Versailles Tour de France. Photo credit: Bill Allen.

## Childers Award Funds Internship at French Media Startup

By Olivia Walters '18

When I was looking for an internship tied to media in France, I found Mybestpro on the website *L’Etudiant*. Imagine a more esteemed version of Craigslist for students. After doing Skype interviews, I found out I got the job in Clermont-Ferrand doing translation and writing articles for MSN Lifestyle.

While I translated daily horoscopes to English, my main priority was being a part of the editorial team responsible for curating digital content tailored to American audiences. I worked closely with a Brit around my age, along with a rainbow of other nationalities. On the astrology team were also a Venezuelan, a German, and an Italian. French allowed us to communicate and understand each other’s targeted audience.

The entire company consists of about 30 people, who are responsible for different parts of the website. I really enjoyed being a part of the open space, and on many days it felt like madness with all the shenanigans the French got into in a professional atmosphere. I have never laughed so much at work before! But sometimes croissants brought in by the bosses were our only saving grace from boredom. Also coffee breaks. Many, many per day. And weekly McDonald’s. That’s the American touch that never gets old. It was linguistically a challenging experience, but I think being thrown to the wolves is the best way to improve your French and make connections.



**Kristen Rafuse '19** poses with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on the grounds of the Parliament of Canada.

## French Major Completes Bilingual Internship in Ottawa

By Kristen Rafuse '19

Each summer, Furman sends two students to study and intern with the Canadian Parliament. The program, which is headed by Dr. James Baker, pairs students from different universities with a Member of Parliament. This summer, I had the opportunity to intern with Member of Parliament Christine Moore in her Ottawa office. I worked on research for legislation and speaking notes, as well as running around the Parliament buildings to attend committee meetings and deliver documents. I also answered phone calls, took messages, and communicated with other offices. Dr. Baker also takes the students on a weekend trip to Quebec where we were able to spend a day in Quebec City and another in Montreal. On the ramparts of the Old City of Quebec City, someone wrote the phrase “Québec libre et français” which captures the sentiment of those who desire an autonomous Quebec. Canada has two official languages so both English and French were used by those in Parliament on a daily basis and the cultural signs in the cities featured both languages. The internship was an incredible experience in which I was able to communicate in both languages around other people as well as observe how a bilingual system works.

# GERMAN STUDIES

## AT HOME ABROAD

By Erik J. Grell

As South Carolina continues its rapid growth as a major hub of commerce and industry in the American Southeast, more and more German companies are settling down in the Palmetto state, making the German language more attractive than ever. Over 100 German businesses with over 19000 employees have made South Carolina their home. Adidas, Bosch, Siemens, BASF, and BMW are among the familiar brand names operating within a few miles of Furman. Indeed, it is hard to walk down Main Street nowadays without overhearing the most widely spoken language in the EU. This increased presence of things German has been felt at Furman University, too, where section enrollments have increased by 33% and the German Studies major has attracted the largest number of learners in decades. Among the 30 majors declared in the spring 2017, seven have graduated: Molly Clark, Alexandra Harris, Bailey Freeman, Kendall Krebs, Emily Matthews, Kristen Murdaugh, and Tommy Whiteside will be greatly missed. Murdaugh, a Vocal Performance and German Studies double major, was this year's Goethe Award recipient. She was a finalist for the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) fellowship in the field of music and will continue her studies in vocal pedagogy at the New England Conservatory in Boston.

The German faculty is very proud to announce that the streak of students receiving major awards and fellowships continues. Bailey Freeman '17, a German Studies and History double major, received the American Congress-German Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals Fellowship, which includes an intensive language course in Radolfzell, a semester of study in Hamburg, where Bailey will study archival science, and finally, an internship. Upon his return, Bailey intends to pursue his MA in Public History, Library Science or Museum Studies, a passion he cultivated during an internship at a local museum in York, South Carolina. Emily Matthews '17, a German Studies and English Education double major received a highly competitive Fulbright award, which will allow her to spend a year in Hessen pursuing her passion to teach young people. Molly Clark '17, a German Studies and Classics double major also received a Fulbright award, but declined it after having found her dream job in Alabama.



German Studies majors graduating in 2017 (from top left) **Kristen Murdaugh, Bailey Freeman, Kendall Krebs, Molly Clark, Alexandra Harris, Emily Matthews.** Photo credit: Erik Grell

In 2018, Drs. Ilka Rasch and Erik Grell will take the largest group of students to Berlin since the program's inception in 2009. In an effort to expand students' travel opportunities in Europe afterwards and potentially complete internships during the summer months, the program has been moved to the spring semester. As part of the Furman Advantage, German faculty are currently working on developing internship opportunities both at home and abroad. And to better prepare our students for this experience, we are offering for the first time an upper-level Professional German class in spring 2018. In addition to learning about German business communication and etiquette, students will analyze case studies of successful German companies in the Upstate and meet with members of the local business community. We are always looking for new opportunities for our students and would be grateful if our alumni would be willing to help us with internship placements or connect students with potential employees.

The record-setting number of Paladins learning *der, die, das* and two-way prepositions brought much fanfare to life outside of this classroom this year as well. Highlights of our extra-curricular activities included the annual Oktoberfest and Christmas Song Contest, each with over 70 students. The German program could not have managed such extraordinary numbers without the assistance of our resident Language House Assistant Finja Tietjen (Cuxhaven, Germany). She will be greatly missed, but we look forward to welcoming Svenja Hartmann (Zotzenbach, Germany) to our ranks this fall.

## The Rhine: Life on the Line

This summer, Anne Culberson traveled to **Strasbourg and surrounding Rhine area** to prepare her upcoming May Experience course, *The Rhine: Life on the Line*. This course will be offered in May 2018, in collaboration with the French section. Anne's own bilingual background makes her the ideal candidate for running this interdisciplinary program. Students will explore the Upper Rhine Plain and its historic interface of peoples, tracing the geographical, commercial, political, and cultural distinctiveness down the Rhine River, along borders where today's France, Germany and Switzerland converge. Activities and coursework in this May Experience aim to apply interdisciplinary knowledge in a European context, to build skills for effective and engaged citizenship.



## Phi Beta Kappa

The German program is especially proud to announce three graduating majors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) this spring, on account of their academic excellence within the liberal arts and sciences. **Molly Clark '17, Alexandra Harris '17, and Kristen Murdaugh '17** were invited to join the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society. Founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary, Furman University first hosted the first PBK chapter in 1973. The motto of the society, derived from the three Greek letters, reads "Love of learning is the guide of life." Congratulations!

# SPANISH

## CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN SPANISH

By Angélica Lozano-Alonso (Spanish Section Coordinator)

The Spanish section continues to exemplify The Furman Advantage through dynamic teaching, service learning, internships, study abroad in Spain and Chile, and unique research and learning opportunities for students. In the spring, there were 96 Spanish majors. This fall we will serve a large number of Furman students as we offer classes for 475 students.

We were thrilled to honor **Emily Gale '17** as the recipient of the Cervantes award. From living in the Spanish House, to volunteering with Spanish speakers in the US and Costa Rica, to studying in Spain and Nicaragua, Emily used the linguistic and cultural proficiency knowledge gained through her Spanish major in the service of others. We love that she will continue to use Spanish in the Peace Corps.

This spring, we experienced the usual changes that follow the natural rhythms of life. Dr. Bill Prince retired. We will miss his sense of humor in the classroom and his national expertise as an Oral Proficiency Interview tester. Dr. Jeremy Cass became the Associate Academic Dean. We know from firsthand experience that the student



Lourdes Manyé and Linda B. Bartlett at the 2017 Faculty Scholarship Reception with their co-authored publication "Television as Textbook: Cuéntame cómo pasó in the Spanish (Literature) Classroom" featured in *Hispania*. Photo credit: Marianne Bessy

body at large will benefit from his leadership and acumen in advising. Spanish faculty were honored with research grants and opportunities to showcase their investigation through numerous conferences attended, scholarly articles and book chapters published during the last academic year. Several of us had publications featured at the first Furman University Faculty Scholarship Reception in the spring of 2017. We also are excited to announce that we have two new professors joining us this fall, Professor Jeff Michno and Dr. Krissie Butler. We look forward to the new energy they will bring into the classroom and our department.

As Dr. Prince has said, in MLL we are all "fortunate to do what we like and like what we do." We wish the same to all of you. Come to visit us soon! We always enjoy hearing about the advantages Spanish has given you in your lives.

language instructors in the art of rating learners' oral and written proficiency.

Born in rural Fannin County, Georgia, Bill remembers his mother speaking French to him as a child and being fascinated with the idea of language as a special code. This interest carried him into the University of Georgia's doctoral program in romance languages. Hired at Furman in 1980 as a professor of Spanish and French, he taught both languages in his early days, even directing the study away program in Versailles on two occasions. His Spanish-language study away experience is also extensive, having directed Madrid six times, a program in Costa Rica three times and Chile once. In addition to his work with ACTFL, Bill regards coming to Furman as

a major turning point in his career, offering him "fantastic opportunities," in professional development, study away, and winning grants to establish a Center for Excellence in Foreign Language Instruction from which scores of South Carolina high school teachers benefitted. But most of all, he emphasizes, Furman gave him the opportunity of working with what he calls "great students and great colleagues."

For many years Bill served as coordinator of Spanish, overseeing that section of the department in a period when the number of instructors doubled from six to twelve or more. He brought a clear vision and a steady hand to the job, always serving as a superb mentor to new faculty and offering wise counsel to all. As former department chair David Bost says, "During his

long and impressive tenure at Furman, Bill was the heart and soul of the Modern Languages and Literatures Department."

But it has always been in the classroom where Bill's talents found their most profound expression and where he found his greatest professional satisfaction. His formula has always been very simple: it's possible to have fun and learn at the same time. Bill says he can't imagine a class in which he and his students don't have a good laugh, and his students have always responded to his efforts to break down barriers with effusive praise, even when they found the subject difficult and the hour beastly (Bill regularly taught in the earliest available time slot). As one recent student opined: "An 8:30 is a terrible, in fact the worst, time slot for a language course. Nevertheless,

Dr. Prince kept people awake, entertained, and engaged. I thought he was an excellent teacher." Another typical comment: "He is the best teacher I've ever had, which is saying a lot because I've had some stellar teachers. He truly makes everyone love and understand Spanish." Bill received the Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching in 2000, and evidently passed his genes on to his son Philip, who won several teaching awards while completing his PhD in geology from Virginia Tech.

In retirement, Bill looks forward to spending more time with family, but without relinquishing his passion for Spanish: he has plans for multiple research projects, because as he says, "one never learns everything, so I want to keep on learning." Spoken like a true professor!

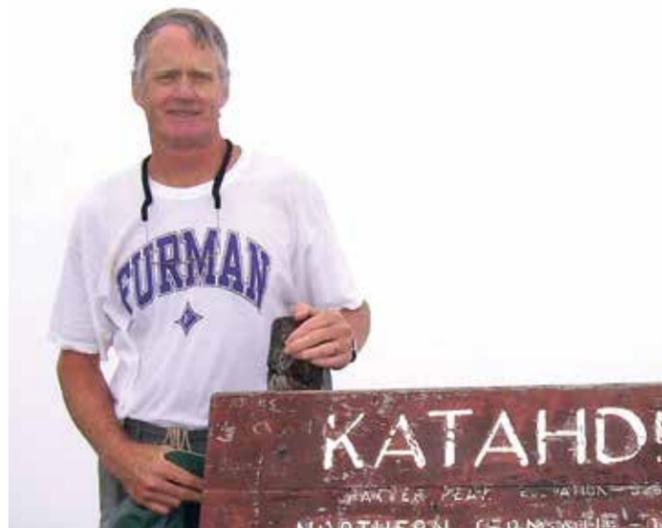
## A Prince of Learning

### BELOVED SPANISH PROFESSOR RETIRES AFTER NEARLY FOUR DECADES AT FURMAN

By Bill Allen

**Dr. Bill Prince** says that every time he drives onto the Furman campus, he literally tells himself how lucky he has been to work here. But after 45 years of teaching in higher education, 37 of them at Furman, Bill is assuming the title of Professor Emeritus of Spanish. Although a specialist in Golden Age literature—and his course on Cervantes was one of the most memorable many Spanish majors took at

Furman—Bill's true passion lay in teaching Spanish language, and literally thousands of students were themselves lucky to study with one of the best. Known nationwide for his work with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL), Bill has led nearly 50 training workshops all over the United States and in several foreign countries, instructing other foreign



Outdoor enthusiast Bill Prince on Mount Katahdin in Maine. Photo credit: Philip Prince '04.

## Jeremy Cass: Furman's Newest Associate Academic Dean

By Ron Friis

If you have been anywhere around MLL in the past decade or so you know **Jeremy Cass '00**. You know his infectious laugh, his dedication to students and his passion for teaching and mentoring. Since returning to campus in 2004 (a mere four years after his own graduation from Furman!), Dr. Cass has taught all levels of courses in Spanish language and Hispanic literatures and cultures. In addition to directing study away and continuing his research on contemporary Latin-

American fiction, he has also taught in Furman's First Year Writing program and worked extensively with our Latin American Studies interdisciplinary minor.

What an alum or current student might not know about Dr. Cass is his dedication to university service and committee work. These duties involve the kind of behind-the-scenes administrative policies that students or faculty usually only come into contact with when things don't go as planned.

As all who have had the pleasure of working with him know, Dr. Cass is a master problem solver, exactly the kind of academic professional a student or parent would want to interact with when facing a difficult

moment. While we will miss his daily presence around the department, we in MLL know that Jeremy's many talents, his strong positive energy, and his gregarious collegial presence will be a huge asset to Furman's administration for a long time to come.



**Jeremy Cass '00** reading a paper at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference in April 2017. Photo credit: Ron Friis



Robinson '17 with Professors Stephanie M. Knouse and Sofia Kearns after their co-delivered presentation at the University of Notre Dame in March 2017.

## World Bound

### MICHAEL ROBINSON '17 WINS FULBRIGHT TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP IN COLOMBIA

By Sofia Kearns

People who know **Michael Robinson '17** (Spanish and Sustainability Science) know of his fascination with cultures and languages. This is evident in his often witty remarks on particular pronunciations or meanings of words, or on cultural differences that sometimes lead to humorous misunderstandings. It is no surprise, then, that after graduation he is exploring the world, starting in Colombia, South America, this fall through a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship. Created in

1946, the prestigious Fulbright Program sponsors U.S. and foreign participants for exchanges with the goal of increasing mutual understanding between the people of the United States and of other countries. Michael is teaching English at the university-level in Girardot, a town located about three hours from the capital of Bogotá, while serving as cultural ambassador for the U.S.

Michael's keen interest in cultures and languages comes from family influences, especially his dad and grandmothers, who were teachers. His study away experiences in the MLL-sponsored Spain and Chile programs kindled these interests further. Through consistent and relentless practice of the Spanish language with both native and non-native speakers alike, Michael has attained advanced oral proficiency, about which we, his instructors, feel very proud. Opportunities to practice the language and to serve others abound at Furman and the surrounding community, and Michael took them as they came. He served as a tutor and mentor in both MLL and History as well as through the YouthBASE after school program. Furthermore, his participation in the United Way research effort last year was invaluable, becoming the de facto link between the sciences and the Spanish language teams, not only because of his deep knowledge of both fields but also because of his seamless transitions from English to Spanish. Michael will represent MLL, Furman University, and the United States superbly. Congratulations, Michael, we are proud of your present achievements and the many more to come!

## Helping Communities Thrive

### SPANISH GRADS ACCEPT CHALLENGE OF PEACE CORPS ASSIGNMENTS

By Linda B. Bartlett

For any new graduate, the transition from Furman to the next stage can be a dramatic one. But for Spanish majors **Emily Gale '17** and **Miguel "Mikey" Negrete '17**, life after graduation means an experience especially far removed from the "Furman bubble." Emily and Mikey are two of the six members of the Furman class of 2017 who have been accepted for a term of service in the Peace Corps. Both will use their language skills in their two-year-plus assignment: Mikey began his term in Ecuador in late May, while Emily arrived in Belize a month later. The desire to use those language skills and the cultural fluency they honed at Furman motivated both Emily and Mikey (who both participated in the Madrid study away program) to serve communities in Latin America. Emily says, "My Spanish experience at Furman greatly prepared me to have a strong foundation to continue learning Spanish skills during my Peace Corps service. Just in my first month in Belize, I have enjoyed using my Spanish background to connect with host family and community members." Those connections involve playing kickball with neighborhood children, helping her host mother make handmade tortillas in the open-air kitchen, and learning traditional dances. Mikey's assignment as a health educator will enable him to promote good health practices in his Ecuadorian community. Both Emily



Emily Gale '17 with her host niece and nephews at her training site in Belize. Photo credit: Patricia Arias (Gale's host niece)

and Mikey acknowledge that the reality of beginning their Peace Corps stint was a bit daunting, but their commitment to their chosen path has been steadfast. As Mikey posted in his blog when he entered the Peace Corps, he found inspiration in the Antonio Machado poem one of his Spanish professors shared with him at Furman: "Caminante/no hay camino/se hace camino al andar..." ("Sojourner/there is no path/the path is made by walking"). *Adelante*, Emily and Mikey, and *buena suerte* as you use your personal gifts and Furman education to help communities thrive.

Visit Emily's blog [emilypcbelize.wordpress.com](http://emilypcbelize.wordpress.com)

Visit Mikey's blog [hmnegrete.blog](http://hmnegrete.blog)

## '17-'18 Language House Assistants Take Students Beyond Stereotypes

*What would you like Furman students to know about your home country?*



**CAROLINE NOIREZ:**  
Lorraine, France

"France has a huge variety of landscapes and its culture is different from region to region. I would like Furman students to know that France is a part of Europe,

and as such it benefits from its neighboring countries and vice versa. My hometown is close to Germany which has defined certain aspects of our culture."

Photo credit: Bill Allen



**SVENJA HARTMANN**  
Zotzenbach, Germany

"My hometown is fairly small and really green, just like Furman. Generally, I want Furman students to know that Germany is more than drinking beer and eating sausage at the Oktoberfest in Munich.

Germany has lovely cities but great nature and landscape as well! I hope to bring our language and culture closer to the students during my time here."



**GEMA HEVIA LÓPEZ**  
León, Spain

"I'd like Furman students to know that Spain is not just flamenco and paella. Spain has a very rich culture that can be conveyed through our

art, music, cooking, architecture and unique traditions. But even more than that, to me, the best thing about Spanish people is that they are caring and affectionate and overall are a very community-oriented people."

# THE MODERN LANGUAGE CENTER IN ACTION



1 Spanish students take advantage of the flexible learning space to collaborate together on an activity. 2 Professor Ilka Rasch and her beginning German class perform a song during the German Weihnachtsfest (Christmas Festival). 3 Dr. Daniel Worden demonstrates 17th century theatre staging to his advanced French students. 4 French Language House Assistant Fanny Tanguy conducts a learning game for the habitués of the Café français. 5 Spanish Language House Assistant Gema Hevia López finds the Modern Language Center a great place to relax between classes and meetings. 6 Dr. Lourdes Manyé leads her SPN-201 class in an interactive grammar lesson. 7 MLL professors regularly hold classes in the MLC. 8 Language Center Associate Olivia Walters conducts a drop-in tutoring session in French. 9 Spanish majors Allie Peipert '17 and Ryan Hall '17 with their family members at the 2017 MLL Graduation Reception.

10 German Studies major Molly Clark '17 enjoying the 2017 MLL Graduation Reception. 11 Dr. William Allen with three sopranos: German Studies major Kristen Murdaugh '17, and frequent French students Sandy Sharis '17 and Ashton Nicewonger '17. 12 German Studies students performing group work during class.

# 2016-2017 MLL FACULTY UPDATES

Linda B. Bartlett's fall 2016 sabbatical gave her the chance to work on two scholarly projects: the problem of work as vocation in the novels of Miguel de Unamuno, and the spatial representation of power in the Spanish TV program *Cuéntame cómo pasó*. Her article, "Cars, Space, and the Dynamics of Power in *Cuéntame cómo pasó*," was published this spring by *Studies in 20th and 21st Century Literature*. The sabbatical also allowed her to rest up a bit before returning in January 2017 to assume her new role as department chair.

Last April, Marianne Bessy received a South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) Excellence in Teaching Award. Her piece "Vassilis Alexakis and *Mother Tongue*," an afterword to Harlan R. Patton's English translation of Alexakis's novel *Mother Tongue*, was published this spring. Bessy delivered a paper titled "Vassilis Alexakis and Metafiction in *La Clarinette: A Literary Treasure Hunt*" during the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky in April. She also presented "Shattering the Myth of Perfection: French Women in the American Classroom" during the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at James Madison University in October 2016.

Nathan Brown '06 had a productive year. In the fall he gave a paper at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at James Madison University on identity issues in the recent Québécois film

*Bon Cop Bad Cop*. In the spring he gave a talk at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference on animal studies, specifically the image of the North American beaver by French writers of the time period. He also had two articles published - one appeared in *Romanic Review* and dealt with "cultural transvestism." The second appeared in the *MIFLC Review* and investigated proto-feminist overtones in Sidonie de la Houssaye's short story "Cinq Sous."

Jeremy Cass '00 continues as editor of the *MIFLC Review*. In 2016-2017 he published an article, "Memory, Displacement, and Reintegration in Alberto Fuguet's 'Santiago,'" in the journal *Hispanófila* and presented papers at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference and at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. Jeremy's tenure as Spanish Coordinator came to a close at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 academic year. He was recently appointed as Furman's Associate Academic Dean.

In addition to his work on Mexican poet Alberto Blanco, Ron Friis delivered a conference paper on teaching literature with the visual arts and published an article that viewed writing one's own teaching materials in the context of the Slow Food movement.

Erik Grell presented a paper on Schiller's nineteenth-century literary reception at the German Studies Association (GSA) annual

conference in San Diego. His talk was part of a book project, which explores nineteenth-century prose fiction as a site for constituting German political formation. He also developed a course titled "The Natural Environment in German Literature and Thought, 1770-present." The course explores how Germans invented nature amidst changing conceptions of the environment, while also investigating the appeal to natural discourse as a means of exploring gender and identity; advancing political ideologies and aesthetic programs; and negotiating the challenges of modernity.

Sofia Kearns presented the paper "Posturas contestatarias de género e identidad cultural en la poesía indígena de Liliana Ancalao y Rosa Chávez" at the XIX Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos in Buenos Aires, Argentina on March 9, 2017. She also co-presented with Stephanie Knouse and Michael Robinson "Building Partnerships in the Community: An Interdisciplinary Research

Project in Greenville, SC" at the Let's Talk Symposium at University of Notre Dame on March 31, 2017. Her paper "La compaginación de identidades étnicas y femeninas en la poesía de Liliana Ancalao y Rosa Chávez" was published in July 2017 in *Ciberletras* ([www.lehman.cuny.edu/ciberletras](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/ciberletras)).

Stephanie M. Knouse and MLL colleague Sofia Kearns collaborated with a team of Furman researchers, students, and alumni on the United Way Grant Project in fall 2016 (see p. 5). Knouse and Kearns, with project team member Michael Robinson '17, delivered a presentation at the Let's Talk 2017 Conference at the University of Notre Dame about the interdisciplinary model utilized to carry out the endeavor. Knouse also presented a paper titled "Linguistics in the K-16 World Languages: Creating a Culture of Inquiry" at the Southern Conference on Language Teaching in March 2017. In June 2017, Knouse attended a four-day training on ACTFL's Oral Proficiency Interview.



For the first time in many years, faculty members were asked to read the names of graduating seniors at Commencement 2017. Professors Angélica Lozano-Alonso, Cherie Maiden and Linda Bartlett did the honors for Furman's 700 graduating seniors. Photo credit: Marianne Bessy

**Angeli Leal** participated in the 2017 Spanish Language and Culture AP Reading. This summer marked her sixth year as an exam reader.

**Angélica Lozano-Alonso** was promoted to the rank of Full Professor on August 1, 2017. In the 2016-2017 year she presented papers at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference and at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. In the summer of 2017 she gave a lecture on Mexican literature to the Center for Life Enrichment and attended a four-day Oral Proficiency Interview workshop. This coming year, she will publish an article on the future of the Spanish profession that will appear in *Hispania's* centenary edition and a chapter revision for the fifth edition of the bestselling *Understanding Contemporary Latin America*.

**Cherie Maiden** attended the talk given by Cameroonian writer Léonora Miano on her new novel *Crépuscule du tourment* at the Violette & Co. bookstore in Paris, September 2016 and presented a paper titled "African Women and Womanhood in Léonora Miano's *Crépuscule du tourment*" at the African Literature Association 43rd Annual Conference held at Yale University in June 2017.

**Lourdes Manyé** published two poems by Catalan poet Miquel Martí i Pol translated into English with Wayne Cox in the spring issue of *Loch Raven Review*, Volume 13, No. 1, which devoted a section to Catalan Poetry Translations.

She also presented papers at the 66th annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference held in James Madison University in October 2016, and at the 16th International Colloquium of the North American Catalan Society (NACS) held at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, on May 18-20, 2017. She finished her four-year term as President of the NACS, and will continue serving ex officio on the board until May 2019.

**Anna J. Notation-Rhoades** contributed to a book authored by Mary Tomlinson titled *Wholehearted Purpose: Women Discovering Their One-Of-A-Kind Design*, published in March 2017, by Write Way Publishing Company, LLC.

**Maria R. Rippon** presented her research on the canon for twentieth-century Spanish Peninsular literature at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference in October 2016. She gave her talk as part of a panel on innovative teaching organized by Dr. Ron Friis. She revised two manuscripts for publication and will complete her translation of Mercedes Salisach's *El declive y la cuesta* this fall. She continues to teach Medical Spanish and has joined the leadership team of the Volunteer Health Interpreters Project, a joint venture of the Hispanic Alliance and HOLA to staff the Free Clinics of Greenville with competent interpreters of Spanish.

**Daniel J. Worden** has completed manuscripts of a critical essay and translation of scenes from a seventeenth-century theatrical performance entitled *Arlequin empereur dans la lune* by Anne Mauduit de Fatouville. This is part of a collaborative

book project with Dr. Judy A. Hayden, who is contributing material on the early modern playwright Aphra Behn and her play *The Emperor of the Moon*. He is now returning to his work on illusion and fiction in the work of Savinien Cyrano de Bergerac.



## Meet Professor Jeff Michno

Jeff Michno recently returned to the Palmetto State after nearly two decades away. He earned a B.A. in Spanish and a B.S. in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston. A study abroad program in Chile led Jeff to live, work and explore in South America for several years. He transitioned to a career in the environmental field in Austin, Texas, before ultimately returning to graduate school to study Iberian and Latin American Linguistics at the University of Texas. Professor Michno's research focuses on language and culture contact, examining both well-established contact settings, such as the Texas-Mexico region, as well as more recent scenarios rooted in migration, globalization and tourism. He is currently investigating a rural Nicaraguan community experiencing linguistic and cultural contact due to tourism. Professor Michno looks forward to exploring Greenville's linguistic landscape with students.

## We congratulate the following MLL students for their accomplishments in 2016-2017:

### 2017 MLL Award Recipients

#### DAVID WELLS MORGAN AWARD IN FRENCH

Jeffrey Tonge '17

#### GOETHE AWARD IN GERMAN

Kristen Murdaugh '17

#### CERVANTES AWARD IN SPANISH

Emily Gale '17

#### ELAINE DUFFY CHILDERS AWARD IN STUDY ABROAD

Olivia Walters '18

#### PHI BETA KAPPA 2017 INDUCTEES

Brock Baker (Spanish), Molly Clark (German), Emily Gale (Spanish), Alexandra Harris (German), Warren James (Spanish), Adam Johnson (Spanish), Sarah Luke (Spanish), Sarah Mixon (Spanish), Kristen Murdaugh (German), Megan Probst (Spanish), John Michael Robinson (Spanish), Sarah Wood (Spanish), Rebecca Lankford (Spanish)

### MLL Student Presentations at National Conferences in 2016-2017

#### Latin American Studies Symposium at Birmingham-Southern College, April 2017

Students' presentations were based on their work in SPN 401, "Caribbean Sugar Plantation," in Fall 2016 with Dr. Jeremy Cass

**Emily Gale '17**, "Self-Identities and Marginalization in *Sab, Vejigantes, Del amor y otros demonios*, and *La última cena*: A Reflection of Caribbean History"

**Megan Probst '17**, "*Vejigantes* and The Sugar King of Havana: Support for José Martí's Argument for Youth Education in Bridging Racial Divides in the Caribbean"

**Abby Turner '17**, "The Juxtaposition of the American Dream with the Reality of the United States: An Analysis of *Vejigantes* by Francisco Arrivi"

#### Let's Talk 2017: Relationship, Research, and Results at the University of Notre Dame, March 2017

**Michael Robinson '17** (with Professors Sofia Kearns and Stephanie M. Knouse), "Building Partnerships in the Community: An Interdisciplinary Research Project in Greenville, SC"

### MLL Student Presentations at Furman Engaged! 2017

#### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

"Internships in Spanish" organized by Angélica Lozano-Alonso and Maria R. Rippon

#### Presenters included:

**Nomonde Gila '19**: "My First Steps in the Real World"

**Lizabeth González '18**: "Medical Interpreting"

**Sunyeop Lee '18**: "Working with Neighbors Down the Road and Across the Sea"

**Sarah Luke '17**: "*Servicio en la Fundación El Arenal*: A Summer in Ecuador"

**Kayla Wiles '17**: "Improving Health Access: An Internship with the Hispanic Alliance"

"The 2017 French Presidential Election: Students' Mock Party Platforms, Logos, and Campaign Ads," organized by Marianne Bessy

#### Presenters included:

**Virginia Britt '20**, **Annie Curtiss '20**, **Kim Debacher '19**, **Eden Dukes '20**, **Mary Sinclair Filchak '18**, **Cate Harmon '19**, **Theresa Lunsford '19**, **Cesi Martinez '18**, **Robert Meyer '19**, **Kristen Rafuse '19**, **Meredith Stickels '19**, **Jeff Tonge '17**, **Olivia Walters '18**, **Emma Waters '17**

"Internships in French" organized by Marianne Bessy

#### Presenters included:

**Emma Waters '17**: "Providing Interpreting and Translation Services for World Relief (Spartanburg, SC)"

**Plicca Watt '17**: "Conducting Art Historical Research at the Musée Mormottan (Paris, France)"

"Hispanic Foods Festival" organized by Maria R. Rippon and the members of Sigma Delta Pi

"The Importance of Bilingualism: Public Service Announcement Movie Premiere" organized by Stephanie M. Knouse (*To view videos, visit [vimeo.com/user65044656](https://vimeo.com/user65044656)*)

#### Presenters included:

**Brennan Barry '19**, **Becca Bosch '19**, **Jennifer Coggins '18**, **Kaeli Czosek '19**, **Alexandra Doxey '19**, **Hannah Dubois '17**, **Alex Forrest '17**, **Susannah Lauber '18**, **Gema López Hevia (Spanish LHA)**, **Haley Lyman '18**, **McKenna Luzynski '18**, **Jena Kate McAvoy '17**, **Alex Murdoch '19**, **Alana Parish '17**, **Taylor Thomas '18**, **Ellie Williams '18**, **Kate Wilson '18**, **Hannah Woodson '17**, **Johnsen Xu Ruan '17**



Alex Forrest '17 discusses the benefits and challenges of her participation in the United Way Grant Project at Furman Engaged! 2017. Photo credit: Stephanie Knouse

"Living The Furman Advantage: The United Way-Furman University Grant Project" organized by Sofia Kearns and Stephanie M. Knouse

#### Presenters included:

**Sebastián Barbosa '12**, **Alex Forrest '17**, **Michael Robinson '17**, **Katy Waters '17**

"Engaging Spanish Culture: Reports from Madrid 2016" organized by Adrián Massee

#### Presenters included:

**Maria Bartlett '18**: "Adoption Trends in Modern Spain"

**Jennifer Coggins '18**: "Eating Disorders in Spain"

**Kathleen Marsh '18**: "The Spanish LGBTQ Community: A Success Story with Room for Improvement"

**Ellie Williams '18**: "Prostitution: An Ongoing Debate in Spanish Society"

"French Architecture in Context" organized by Bill Allen

#### Presenters included:

**Anna Doremus '18**: "The Pont du Gard"

**Alyx Labbe '18**: "The Royal Château at Blois II"

**Claire Pullan '18**: "The Royal Château at Blois I"

**Ansley Rapson '18**: "The Château of Chenonceaux"

**Bailey Verreault '18**: "The Château of Vaux-le-Vicomte"

### Poster Presentations

**Gabrielle Haddad '19**: "YouthBASE"



# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

## SEND US YOUR UPDATES

We are still gathering information on what our alumni are up to professionally and personally. To complete the MLL Alumni Survey, please do so here: [bit.ly/2b3rHqb](https://bit.ly/2b3rHqb). If you've done this survey and would like to update us on a recent accomplishment, please use the following link: [bit.ly/2eeNcEZ](https://bit.ly/2eeNcEZ).

To make a gift to the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures visit [alumni.furman.edu/give](https://alumni.furman.edu/give). Select Academic Excellence then enter Modern Languages and Literatures in the comments.

## MLL ON THE WEB

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(Check out the photos under [#MLLgobeyond](https://twitter.com/MLLgobeyond))

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### GERMAN STUDIES AT FURMAN ON FACEBOOK:

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Thank you to everyone who contributed to the third issue of *The Palingual*. Please feel free to email us at [mll.alum@furman.edu](mailto:mll.alum@furman.edu) or write us at The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, SC 29613.

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