Three years and counting
REEES program looks to continue after U.S. Department of Education grant ends.

It's been almost three years since the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REEES) Distance Learning Consortium was established in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Iowa State and the two other Regents universities.

And at least at Iowa State, it has been one success story after another. But it wasn't always that way. “The first semester was tough,” said Dawn Bratsch-Prince, professor and chair of the department.

The initial difficulties at Iowa State came through the “distance” learning portion of the consortium. REEES received a $320,000, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education (DoE) and its Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language (UISFL) Program Grant in the fall of 2002.

The partnership between Iowa State, the University of Iowa and Northern Iowa University jointly teaches Eastern European languages and culture via an Internet-based video conferencing system.

The consortium offers language courses in Czech, Polish and Serbo-Croatian-Bosnian as well as courses that are interdisciplinary in nature discussing the many political, historical and cultural transformations that these countries have experienced in the past decade.

Difficulties initially arose because professors on the partner campuses taught all the language courses. Iowa State students attend their classes in the Cargill Digitally Enhanced Classroom in Pearson Hall.

“We found out quickly that while the technology is state-of-the-art, the instruction isn't as effective unless we have a teaching assistant (in the room) with our students,” Bratsch-Prince said.

The department has succeeded in finding native-speaking teaching assistants to cover Czech, Polish and Serbo-Croatian-Bosnian. The result has been continual increased attendance in these courses.

Each of the past four semesters, more Iowa State students have enrolled in REEES courses than at either Iowa or Northern Iowa. In fact, Iowa State students account for half of the program's enrollment.

“Face-to-face instruction is the ideal way to learn a language,” Bratsch-Prince said. “We were able to respond quickly to get native speaking student assistants into those classrooms. I think that has helped not only student learning, but the program's overall coordination.”

While the original UISFL grant ends at the conclusion of the spring semester, the REEES consortium is anticipating being awarded an extension year by the DoE prior to applying for another grant.

In addition, Iowa State has submitted an application for a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to train faculty in instructional technology.

Iowa State faculty may not teach REEES language courses through the consortium, but faculty members such as Olga Mesropova, assistant professor of Russian and coordinator of Iowa State's REEES program, are teaching English language cultural courses to Northern Iowa and Iowa students.

Strong enrollment in the courses isn't the only success for the REEES Program. Take for example, Andrea Savage, a senior biochemistry major, who was enrolled last fall in a Croatian language course.

Savage was so intrigued by the language and the country that she applied and was awarded a scholarship from the Croatian Ministry of Science and Technology. She will spend the 2005 spring semester (March 1 to Aug. 18) at Zagreb University.

“I'm obsessed with traveling,” Savage said. “I began reading books about Croatia and wanted to travel there. But I feel an obligation to learn the language before I actually travel there. I will be studying the language while I'm in Croatia. I'm supposed to graduate this May but I'm putting it off because I think this is important.”
Students, Alumni, and Friends:

Did you know that 2005 has been declared The Year of Languages in the United States? We are pleased to announce that the State of Iowa has joined in the celebration! Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack has issued a public proclamation of Iowa’s observance of the Year of Languages. The proclamation, together with other Year of Languages information and events, is available for viewing on the Year of Languages website at http://www.educ.iastate.edu/nflr/yol.

In recognition of this year’s celebration, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the National K-12 Foreign Language Resource Center are offering several events of interest to students, alumni, and K-12 foreign language teachers in Iowa and beyond:

• “Making it Meaningful: A Thematic Approach to Supporting Student Learning in the K-16 FL Classroom,” a workshop led by Cherice Montgomery (Michigan State University), on Saturday, April 9, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., in Ames IA. See enclosed flier for more information and registration details or go to: http://www.educ.iastate.edu/nflr/yol.

• Spring Meeting of the American Associate of Teachers of German, to be held on Saturday, April 16, 2005, on the Iowa State University campus (300 Pearson Hall). Questions should be directed to Beth Martin (bxmartin@iastate.edu).

• Web-based summer course for teachers on Spanish culture, Span 590A “Convivencia: Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Culture in Early Modern Spain,” (3 cr.), June 20-July 29, (WWW). For more information, consult the ISU Continuing Education Website at www.lifelearner.iastate.edu or contact the instructor, Dawn Bratsch-Prince, at deprince@iastate.edu.

• K-8 Arabic, Hebrew, Japanese, and Russian Teacher Preparation Institute (July 24 - August 3) sponsored by ISU’s federally-funded National K-12 Foreign Language Resource Center. This national institute is designed to provide professional development in effective teaching strategies for experienced and practicing Pre-K through 12th grade foreign language teachers. More information on this institute is available at www.educ.iastate.edu/nflrc/inst/2005/homepage.html.

• The Foreign Languages and Cultures for Professions program at ISU is planning a late September workshop on designing a foreign language curriculum with emphasis on professional/business uses of language and culture in a globalized society. The workshop will be held on a Friday and Saturday (dates TBA) and ten spots will be reserved for K-12 foreign language teachers, who may choose to attend either or both days. Continuing Education credit will be available, as will a small stipend for each teacher participant. More details should be available later this spring at www.language.iastate.edu/lcp or contact Cindy James at 515-294-4046 or csjames@iastate.edu.

Please check out our recently redesigned website (www.language.iastate.edu) for updates on activities in the department, faculty scholarship and recognitions, and student success! As always, the department welcomes support from alumni and friends seeking to make a difference in the educational experiences of foreign language majors. This past semester, we received generous support for our student scholarships from alumni. We seek to expand the range of scholarships to support students pursuing double majors in foreign languages and a professional field (business and engineering), as well as students from underrepresented segments of the U.S. population. I am always happy to speak with anyone who has an interest in supporting our students or faculty! Dawn Bratsch-Prince

FLL Newsletter

Dawn Bratsch-Prince, chair
Editor: Kathy Leonard
Design: Dave Gieseke

The FLL Newsletter is published twice a year for the alumni, friends, and faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Iowa State University; a department in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Please address all correspondence to the editor; fllnews@iastate.edu

FAX: 515-294-9914
Mailing Address:
FLL Newsletter
Iowa State University
Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures
300 Pearson Hall
Ames, IA 50011-2205

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Award-winning author speaks

Giovanna Rivero, an award-winning fiction writer from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, was on campus Nov. 2, 2004, to speak about her work in two Spanish classes (Spanish-English Translation and Introduction to Spanish Phonology).

In the afternoon she presented a talk on her creative process.

She was accompanied by Domingo Martínez from the University of Missouri, Columbia, who commented on Rivero’s writing style. Professor Kathy Leonard also participated in the program by reading her translation of one of Rivero’s short stories titled “Lava.”

Leonard is currently completing the translation of Rivero’s short story anthology titled Sentir lo oscuro. The book will be published in summer 2005 by Editorial Hoguera in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Rivero teaches semiotics and scriptwriting at the Private University of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, her alma mater. She has published four short story collections: Naming the Echo (1994), The Beasts (1997), The Owner of our Dreams (2002) and Sentir lo oscuro (2002), which includes stories written to respond to photographs by Kathy Leonard.

The Beasts won the 1997 Santa Cruz Municipal Prize for Literature. Her short fiction has been anthologized in Antología del cuento feminino boliviano (1997), Antología del cuento erótico boliviano (2000), Voces de la otra orilla (2000), and The Fat Man from La Paz: Contemporary Fiction from Bolivia (2000). Her most recent work is Las camaleonas (2002), an erotic novel. During the fall, 2004, she participated in the International Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa.

Barr-Melej gives Latin American Studies inaugural address

The Latin American Studies Program kicked off its Speaker and Colloquium Series on Feb. 3 with a presentation by Patrick Barr-Melej, an assistant professor of history at Iowa State.

His talk was titled “Mind, Body and Socialism in Allende’s Chile: Counterculture, ‘Total Revolution,’ and the Chilean Roots of the International Humanist Movement.”

A native South America, Barr-Melej’s publications include the book Reforming Chile: Cultural Politics, Nationalism, and the Rise of the Middle Class, published in 2001 by the University of North Carolina Press.

His articles on the cultural and political history of Chile have appeared in the Journal of Latin American Studies, The Americas, and in Chilean historical journals.

Most recently, Barr-Melej gave an invited lecture at the National Library of Chile in Santiago and also won the Raquel Kersten Professional Research Award from the North Central Council of Latin Americanists for his current work on the history of youth in Chile.
Faculty updates

Rachel Haywood-Ferreira was a Panel Organizer and Presenter of “Cinco consejos de Josefina Ludmer y cómo se aplican al estudio de la ciencia ficción latinoamericana,” at the Retirement symposium for Josefina Ludmer, Yale University, December 2004.

Kathy Leonard received an LAS Small Grant for spring, 2005, to complete work on a book titled Bibliographic Guide to Narrative by Latin American Women Authors in English Translation.

Jean-Pierre Taoutel’s article “Folklore in Lebanon” will be published in the Greenwood Encyclopedia of World Folklore in 2005.

Tom Waldemer’s article “Brazilian Oresteia: Geraldo Ferraz’s Doramundo” was published in Romance Notes 45.1(2004): 35-44. His article “Hijacking Authority: Writing and Forgery in Viva o povo brasileiro” was accepted for publication by Hispanófila. He will also present a paper on the theme of forgery in João Ubaldo Ribeiro’s historical fiction at the University of California, Los Angeles Symposium on Portuguese Traditions, April 14-16, 2005.

Dow receives Guggenheim

James Dow, recently retired professor of German, has been awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship.

Dow will use the $40,000 award to prepare the most extensive grammar of the Cymbrian language ever published. Cymbrian is a minority language still spoken primarily by about 300 inhabitants of Lusern in the Alps of northern Italy and a few other small Italian villages.

People from German descent have inhabited this section of Italy for centuries. Dow says Cymbrian is Germanic in form and at its height was spoken by thousands of individuals in a large remote area of the Italian Alps.

“Over time, dominant languages (German and Italian) started to take over,” Dow said. “In post-World War II, market factors made the language ever more rare.”

“The language will not likely survive the 21st century,” Dow continued, “and may disappear within the next generation. It is urgent to complete basic work on the language while some of those who can best answer significant questions are still alive.”

In his yearlong Guggenheim fellowship, Dow will prepare a text of the Cymbrian grammar, edit taped recordings made in 1941 under the auspices of the Nazi regime, and write an introduction in English and German and commission an Italian translation of the tapes.

“No one has approached such detail in studying the Cymbrian language,” Dow said.

Dow has long researched the use of folklore by the Nazis prior to and during World War II. He recently uncovered a study of the Cymbrian language made by a German, Bruno Schweizer, during the early days of the war.

Schweizer was a civilian employee of the National Socialist Cultural Commission with responsibilities in linguistics.

Dow has accessed Schweizer’s private papers detailing the Cymbrian language study and the tapes the German made of the villagers. He will use those papers, the tapes and personal interviews with residents of Lusern to create a complete Cymbrian grammar.

Only the eighth Iowa State faculty member to receive the Guggenheim fellowship, Dow is the first Iowa State recipient in 34 years. The Guggenheim Memorial Foundation provides fellowships for advanced professionals in all fields (natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, creative arts) except the performing arts.

Fellowships are awarded to individuals who have already demonstrated exceptional capacity for productive scholarship or creative ability in the arts.

Dow is a Fellow of the American Folklore Society. He is the author of The Nazification of an Academic Discipline, Folklore and Fascism, and the German volume Volkische Wissenschaft.
Chilean novelist visits FLL

Roberto Ampuero, a Chilean writer and columnist, participated in a panel presentation sponsored by the Latin American Studies Program on March 31, along with professors Patrick Barr of History and Omar Sánchez of Political Science. The talk titled “Political Culture in Latin America: Authoritarianism or Democracy?” was attended by over 80 students, faculty and staff.

The following day, Ampuero spoke to a group of some 50 students in FLL who gathered to hear the novelist talk about his detective fiction. Ampuero explained how the detective novel gained interest among readers in Chile and other South American countries and how his protagonist, Cayetano Brulé, who appears in five of his novels, is a unique character since he views the world from a South American perspective, but works primarily in northern countries (United States and Europe).

Ampuero has written eight novels and one book of short stories. His work has been published in Latin America as well as in Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Italy, Greece, and China and his work has been translated into German, Italian, French, Greek, Chinese and Portuguese.

For the past five years he has written a Sunday column for La Tercera, the second most important newspaper in Chile and has previously worked as a correspondent for the Italian IPS News Agency in Bonn, Germany.

A native of Chile, Ampuero currently teaches in the newly created Creative Writing Workshop (in Spanish) at the University of Iowa, where he is also an ABD. He received his MA from the University of Iowa in 2002 and was a Fellow at the International Writers Workshop at Iowa in 1996. He holds a BA in Latin American Literature from the University of Havana.

After the presentation, students gathered to examine Ampuero’s novels and to chat with the very personable author while he signed the books they had purchased.

Roberto Ampuero spoke twice while he was on campus in late March, early April. Ampuero also signed copies of his books (above).
Professor Robert Bernard retires in May

Forty Years - à peu près

It is with both happiness and a sense of melancholy that I leave teaching and take up the next phase of my life. I will be happy to cultivate some of the activities people associate with retirement: read the items on the book lists created years ago which are now thumb worn for having been gone over so many times, filled with scratch outs and questions i.e. “Shall I forego the long read of Thackeray’s Vanity Fair or settle for Reese Witherspoon’s film version? Shall I stop at four volumes of Proust or tough it out to the end?” I remembered the dire words I had heard as a graduate student from the twentieth-century specialist at the University of Kansas: “In order to appreciate Proust you need to have been ill for quite some time. It is during your lengthy recovery that you read him.” Somehow his admonition did not encourage me.

I will certainly go to Greece with my wife, Julie Minkler-Tsivakou, who has inherited an apartment from her late Aunt Despo. Located in suburban Athens, it is only a subway ride away from the city center and bustling activity of the metropolis. We would also like to take a “literary tour” of England, visiting the Lake Region, the Brontë country of Yorkshire and Mary Webb’s world around the Shropshire border. We will not forget about Elder Hostel, an excellent organization offering many travel choices, both domestic and abroad. But egads that name Elder, reeking of Geritol and glucosamine! We are not there yet!

And just for fun I have my video and DVD collection. Come to our place and I’ll let you see Bette Davis slap Errol Flynn’s face in The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex (and boy did his face need slapping!), all in glorious technicolor, or if you like, Emily Brontë reciting some of the poetry she and her brother Branwell had written in Devotion, Warner Bros. 1946 paean to the fabulous Brontë sisters. No, students, they were not a proto-rock or heavy metal group. On the serious side, there will be many things to do including volunteer work for church and community.

But what about Forty Years - à peu près? I never would have believed when I came to ISU in the summer of 1965 that I would remain here. My first wife and I thought it a beginning but eventually we contemplated teaching at another university. Those were the halcyon days when a young pair of academics could find jobs at the same university. However for many reasons (two of which are Christopher, b. 1969 and Peter b. 1973) we stayed in Ames and had no regrets.

The many changes which have taken place since 1965 are too numerous to recount but a few words will capture the trajectory of those years. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures (formerly Department of Modern Languages) as well as the other humanities departments were transformed in the early 70s. Within the space of a decade they were no longer referred to as service departments but took their proper and well-deserved place as full-fledged departments. Foreign Languages offered four major programs in French, German, Russian, and Spanish. The concept of DEO changed radically from a lifetime sentence to one of three to five years for the most part.

The years which followed were better in almost every respect although we lost for a couple of years the LAS requirement of one year of a foreign language. Unfortunately, we never managed to get an MA program started, losing out to UNI which managed to get an MA in teaching and foreign languages. More recently it has become apparent the students too have changed, strongly influenced by the high-tech world in which we live where the visual rules rather than the printed page. Those of us who have been around for a while have managed to adapt to this cultural change. Our young colleagues have been of great help in sharing their technical expertise with us. A lot of knowledge can be transmitted in cultural studies programs. Film studies can be as rigorous as textual explication. The use of theory and the analysis of editing techniques and mise-en-scène speak volumes about meaning, directorial intent, and the finished product we see on the screen.

When I look at the photos of our all-star cast of academic players to the right of the entry way to 300 Pearson, I am often reminded of what a fine repertory of scholars they are. I am also mindful of Shakespeare’s metaphor for the world and those who live in it - actors in a play on the stage of life:

All the world’s a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances.

I have long ago made my entrance and it is with a sense of adventure and anticipation that I will make my exit in May. Au revoir and arrivederci!
A journey from St. Petersburg to Ames

By Olga Mesropova

During the Spring semester of 2005, FLL is hosting Dr. Natalia Kabanova through the Visiting Teachers and Faculty Program of the American Councils for International Education. Dr. Kabanova comes from the Nevsky Institute of Language and Culture in St. Petersburg, Russia where she is a Professor of Russian as a Foreign Language and Dean of the Russian Studies Program.

While at ISU, Dr. Kabanova is teaching RUS 101 (Elementary Russian) and RUS 314 (Reading Russian Literary and Cultural Texts). Natalia says: “Two things that surprised me most since my first days in Ames were the huge language classes and the very motivated students.” The 25 students in her Elementary Russian class is what Natalia calls “an unusual size class.” Nevsky Institute, Natalia’s home institution, prides itself on small, almost tutorial size classes of 5 – 6 students. As challenging as it is to teach a group almost five times larger than what Natalia is used to, the quality of the students, their genuine interest in the Russian language and culture, and their motivation to study have impressed her. Natalia is particularly pleased with the students in her literature class (mostly Russian majors), all of whom are very hard-working, dedicated, and “clearly inspired to study the language.”

This summer Dr. Kabanova will teach an Intensive First-Year Russian Summer Course. After teaching three weeks of intensive Russian in Ames she will take the students to Nevsky Institute, her home university, where they will continue their Russian studies for another three weeks. While a trip to St.Petersburg, Russia is an outstanding study-abroad destination in and of itself, the opportunity to collaborate with Nevsky is particularly promising. For the past several years Nevsky has become one of Russia’s leaders in teaching Russian to foreigners and has hosted students from Princeton, Harvard, Edinburgh, Cambridge, Brown College, Bowdoin College, and Colorado College. Nevsky is currently developing various platforms for teaching Russian via distance learning equipment, some of which FLL has already been able to incorporate into existing Russian classes.

Apart from teaching the two classes at ISU, Dr. Kabanova says she has a lot of free time to devote to her research. A specialist in Slavic Phraseology and modern change in the Russian language, Natalia has over 15 published articles as well as multiple encyclopedia entries. She is also an author of a textbook entitled Business Trip to Russia. Currently, Natalia is collecting data for a project on Russian colloquialisms and set-expressions that pose most difficulties to foreigners learning Russian. Ultimately, she hopes to turn this project into a multi-language endeavor including other Slavic languages such as Serbo-Croatian and Bulgarian.

Dr. Kabanova sees her experience at ISU as very educational. Most of her students at Nevsky come from various American Universities, and she is very interested to see how the American educational system works to understand the background of her clientele. For ISU, Natalia has been a tremendous addition to the Russian program. We are hoping to host her again in the future and we are also looking forward to further collaboration with Nevsky Institute of Language and Culture.
Right after Thanksgiving of 2004, I had the privilege of visiting Cuba in order to attend a National Presbyterian Women’s meeting. The meeting was held in Matanzas, but I also visited Cabaiguán in Sancti Spiritus province.

I was one of just a few invited guests and the only woman from the United States at this annual meeting. Because of the animosity between the U.S. and Cuban governments, I needed to obtain a license from the U.S. Department of Treasury in order to visit. It is a strange situation to approach the department that runs economic affairs about an immigration issue, but points out one of the biggest barriers that the U.S. government uses in order to prevent or limit contact between the citizens of both of our countries. There are very limited categories permitted this privilege and the religious visas are more readily attained than some others.

The trade embargo was initiated over 40 years ago in order to bring down Castro’s government, and further restrictions were added last June. Now the only items that can be purchased while U.S. citizens are in Cuba are things such as books, movies and other literature. In past years $100 worth of souvenirs could be imported, but that is no longer permitted. The futility of this being an appropriate means of changing the government in Cuba has yet to be noticed by the U.S. government and its stance to be changed.

On the other side of the Gulf, when I have had the privilege of getting to know the Cuban citizens who are still living in their homeland, I marvel at their ingenuity, intelligence and ability to survive in a harsh situation. As is well known, many Cubans fled their current country’s regime and are now living in Miami, Spain and other countries. Those who have chosen to stay feel a very strong sense of abandonment and say very openly how important their families are to them and how difficult it is to be separated. Almost everyone has a son, daughter, brother or sister living elsewhere. One of the seminary students that I met is doing her thesis on the topic of the results of the emotional feelings related to this situation.

One of the positive things about their government is that there is an extremely high literacy rate and most people have professional studies in some field. The frustration is that once a person has become a doctor, psychologist, economist or biologist, the pay that one earns is so low that many of these professionals end up working in tourism where foreign money is available. There are more doctors per capita in Cuba than any other Latin American country. Many of them have been sent to other countries in order to assist with shortages of medical care abroad. In addition, during my visit, I watched one of the daily television programs called “Round Tables” that dealt with Cuba’s medical services being provided to outlying villages. The medical students with highest grades are those sent to the most difficult regions of the country. Cubans commented that this was almost like punishing them for doing well.

The word for the circumstances in Cuba is often illogical!

The economic situation is “pan de todos los días” (every day life) and something they live with as well as possible. Coming from this country where we are so wealthy materially, I admire Cubans for their many talents that are unrelated to things. Cubans love to dance and have fun. I have seen a liturgical dance and the women put on a variety show with fun skits at our meeting. They are able to analyze and converse at a highly intellectual level and we shared many stimulating and interesting conversations. I found many proud, independent people who did not ask for charity because they were able to live with whatever their circumstances were. There still remain some who know that they could live financially better in another country, but those who have lived through the current regime value family above wealth.

Knowing that there were many scarcities of products, I filled my suitcase as full as possible with clothing, shoes, medications, soap, toothbrushes, paper products and even a music stand for the church.

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On my recent research trip to China, I found my way to the Fall 2004 Writers’ Forum for Short-short Stories in late September. Although the host (Baihuayuan Magazine Office) introduced me as “a distinguished guest from a most distant place,” many of the writers spent more time traveling than I did to get to Zhengzhou, the site of the forum in the middle of China. Twenty-four hours is more than enough time to get to Zhengzhou from Ames when the connection is good. It took Chen Lijiao, a writer from a province in China’s northeast, 28 hours! Some writers from a remote mountainous area in Sichuan spent two days on the road in almost every means of transportation other than an airplane. I later regretted having asked them, “Why don’t you fly?” The answer was obvious—it was much too expensive.

Writing short-short stories is not a paying profession in China. None of the writers I met at the forum write for a living. They were teachers, police officers, bankers, journalists, doctors, miners, correctional officers, journal editors, etc. by profession. Yet, they took leave from their regular jobs, some without pay, to attend the forum. The youngest among the 70 writers was 19 and the oldest 73. It cost the 20-year-old Rui You, who had just started to work for the Cultural Center of Kai County in Sichuan, three months salary to make the trip. At a time when in China and elsewhere, the humanities are in crisis because of “the pursuit of scientific research and money” (Lindsay Waters, executive editor of the humanities at Harvard University Press), I, at the forum, sensed a different interest and orientation.

These writers were in Zhengzhou, not because they had money to travel or because the forum would help them to make more money (the pay for the publication of one short-short story is less than $10), but because writing short-short stories is a part of living life, as it is for Qian Wan. It is an indispensable art form to reflect on and to give expression to his innermost thoughts and experiences. Xiaofeng Wang’s interest is in the art form itself. He believes that the short-short story has become a new type of writing in contemporary China, independent of the short story, with its own formal and narrative specifications. He presented his preliminary theoretical contemplations to the writers at the forum for feedback. Critic Di Xue called attention to the deficiency of short-short story criticism. He pointed out that the dynamic interaction between short-short story creation and literary criticism about them was necessary for their sustained healthy growth. Established, veteran writers like Jianchao Liu and Hongjie Zheng shared their creative experiences and techniques with others. They were among the most popular at the forum because everyone was eager to make the best of the opportunity to listen, to exchange views, to learn, and to improve the art they practice.

While being impressed by the writers’ enthusiasm, I was stunned to learn that the 500 Yuan registration fee for all participants had been waived. I could not believe the host, general editor at Baihuayuan Magazine Office, when he made the announcement in his closing speech, especially because I knew that his magazine had stopped receiving budgetary allocations from the government in 2000 and now must assume total responsibility for its profits and losses. I also knew that 500 Yuan from each participant was hardly enough to cover all the lodging and other conference expenses that Baihuayuan Magazine Office had paid. How could a small magazine afford this kind of expense? Why do they do this? To answer these simple questions requires me to look into the details of the magazine’s success story - a task I will try to accomplish in the introduction to my next year’s project - An Anthology to Contemporary Chinese Short-short Stories.
Junior Faculty Development Program

By Olga Mesropova

This year the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is hosting four participants of the Junior Faculty Development Program (JFDP). JFDP is a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State and is administered by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS.

This is a non-degree, professional development program that provides the most accomplished young faculty from countries of the former Soviet Union and South-East Europe region the opportunity to develop new courses and implement curriculum reform at their home institutions in conjunction with U.S. university faculty mentors. At ISU, Olga Mesropova is the Director of the JFDP Program.

Each year, American Councils holds an open competition for universities interested in hosting JFDP scholars. The competition has been particularly rigorous this year. About 60 institutions submitted over 260 requests for just 86 finalists. We are very proud to be hosting four scholars from Russia, Uzbekistan, Serbia, and Azerbaijan. Our welcome to the 2004 – 05 JFDP scholars:

Alexey Konobeev comes from the city of Tambov in the center of the European part of Russia. Alexey graduated from Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin (http://tsu.tmb.ru). He also studied at the University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics and is an Associate Professor of the ELT department in Tambov. His main research interests include teaching writing as discourse, language acquisition, contrastive rhetoric, cross-cultural communication and translation studies.

He has published a number of papers, including a chapter in “Identity, Culture, and Language Teaching” (volume published by UI Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies). Alexey has also edited a textbook for school writing, as well as contributed to two English language textbooks published in Tambov. Alexey is the associate director of the Institute of Supplementary Education in his university, and as such, is the head of the international students service. Alexey’s advisor at ISU is Professor Mary Barratt from IEOP.

Zorana Misic grew up in Belgrade, Serbia. She graduated from the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. She holds a Master's degree in Parasitology and Parasitic diseases. Her Master thesis deals with Cryptosporidiosis in domestic animals in Serbia.

Currently, she is a Ph.D. student at the University of Belgrade, and as a part of her Ph.D. research she spent 3 weeks at Osaka City Institute of Public Health and Environmental Sciences, Japan. She is engaged as a research assistant on several projects for the Republic of Serbia including, “Epidemiological characteristics of the most important infectious diseases of animals and zoonoses.”

She has published 47 papers in the field of Parasitology. Currently she teaches courses on Parasitology in the Department of Parasitology (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine) at the University of Belgrade. In 2003, she was a Fellow of the Young Scientist Exchange Program sponsored by USDA, and she spent one month at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University.

As a Fellow of the Junior Faculty Development Program she would like to develop courses on Epidemiology of Parasitic Diseases, Environmental Risk Assessment and Management, Global Environmental Preservation and Animal ecology. Zorana’s advisors at ISU are professors Gene Tackle in Meteorology and Doug Jones from Veterinary Medicine.

Svetlana Dubrovina is from Tashkent City, Uzbekistan. She holds a degree in English Philology from Uzbek State World Languages University. Currently, Svetlana works in the Department of English Philology at her alma mater where she teaches the following subjects: Stylistics, Theory of Translation, English Language, and American and English Literature. During her stay at ISU Svetlana would like to develop new teaching skills to deepen her knowledge of the subjects she teaches at her home University. Upon her return home, she hopes to launch curriculum

Continued on page 19
By Georgette Jover  
Freshman  
English Major

FLL Courses: Portuguese 111x-112x

I am a native speaker of Spanish, and I also speak English and some Italian, but I still chose to take a foreign language course as an elective during my freshman year in college: Portuguese. I believe languages are one of the most important subjects you can learn because they open up new doors for people not only on a personal level but in the business world as well.

I have particularly enjoyed my accelerated elementary Portuguese for Spanish speakers courses (Port 111x and 112x) because, unlike other language courses I have taken before, this course is not just about the language itself but about the cultural aspects that come with it. I have found myself learning about new cultures, since there is more than one country that speaks Portuguese, and I think this is important in order to fully understand and learn the language. Some of the ways I have learned about culture have been outside of the classroom, thanks to the cultural activities we are required to do each semester. I have come in contact with Portuguese speakers, I have tried typical Brazilian and Portuguese food, and I’ve seen performances of several Brazilian dances.

Since my goal in life is to become a writer, I believe that knowing different languages will help me because it will allow me to travel and learn form other cultures on a more personal level. Later I can incorporate these things that I have already learned and the ones I look forward to learning into my writing. Languages for me are my key to expanding my personal goals. The more languages I know, the more opportunities I see myself having in the future.

The Portuguese Language

By Rachel Haywood Ferreira


Portuguese is the official language of Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, São Tomé e Príncipe, and East Timor, and it is still spoken in Macau and Goa.

Portuguese, like Spanish, French, and Italian, is a Latin-based language. To better meet the needs of students who already have upper-intermediate knowledge of another Romance language, we are now offering an alternative version of first year Portuguese in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at ISU: Portuguese 111x-112x, Elementary Portuguese, Accelerated I & II. The prerequisite for this course is the equivalent of four semesters of college Spanish (students with the equivalent of four semesters of another Romance language may be admitted by permission of the instructor).

The course covers the same material as Portuguese 101-102, but it meets only two days a week (3 credits), rather than the standard four days (4 credits), and it is tailored to the special needs of these students.

For more information about Portuguese at ISU: please see our new Portuguese website (http://www.language.iastate.edu/home/portuguese/main.htm#“ http://www.language.iastate.edu/home/portuguese/main.html), see the Portuguese bulletin board on the 3rd floor of Pearson Hall, or contact Professor Rachel Haywood Ferreira, coordinator of the Portuguese program.
On April 18, 2004, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures held its annual Awards Ceremony to recognize outstanding students with scholarships and other awards for excellence in the study of languages, literature, and linguistics.

Michael Whiteford, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, gave the keynote address and was subsequently inducted into the Orden de los Descubridores, which is an honor the Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honorary Society) bestows upon a faculty member dedicated to Hispanic Studies.

Students inducted into Honorary Societies:

*Eta Sigma Phi, National Latin and Greek Honor Society, with Professor John Thomas presiding:*
  - Autumn Hare, John R. Ewing, Brittany Graber, Anne Marie Zeller, Ryan Thomas Seaberg, and Christopher T. Fitch.

*Sigma Delta Pi, National Hispanic Honor Society, with Professors Eugenio Matibag and Chad Gasta presiding:*
  - Selma Ballew, Kate Barnhouse, Joshua Bethards, Aaron Bullington, Patricia Coleman, Zuleima González, Rachel Gannon, Laura Kaniewski, Lori Lynch, Tommy Lage, Amanda McCullough, Johnathan Morse, Ashley Pierson, Jordan Sertich, and Jennifer Titus.

Awards for outstanding students in foreign languages:

**Outstanding Students in Chinese:**
  - Ryan Fortney and Soon-Chang Yoon

**Recognition of prospective French Teachers:**
  - Faye Banowetz

**Honors for Graduating Seniors in French:**
  - Erin Parker, Andreana Holland, and Courtney Martin.

**Outstanding Graduating Senior in French:**
  - Courtney Martin

**Outstanding Achievement in German:**
  - 1st year students: Nathan Basler, and Daniel Dvorak
  - 2nd year students: Anita Conley, John Messerly, Nettie Spitz, and Daniel Hyndman
  - 3rd year students: Shannon Jurca, Carrie Carlson, and Jared Kline
  - 4th year students: Andrew Schumacher

**Outstanding students in Linguistics:**
  - Bethany Ekle

**Outstanding participation in Portuguese:**
  - Gregory Bodenstein, Laura Clements, Aubrey de Cunha, Travis Djuren, Michael Freiburg, Zuleima González, and Maite Lizaso.

**Excellence in Russian Studies:**
  - Rita Tisinger, William Tinder, phil Monnig, Lena Bolotina, and Petra Plaminkova.

**Outstanding Graduating Senior in Spanish:**
  - Stacy Sass

**Outstanding Majors in Spanish:**
  - Selma Ballew, Zuleima González, Ashley Pierson, Joshua Bethards.

**Department Scholarships:**

**Alfred P. Kehlenbeck Scholarship of $1,650.00:**
  - This scholarship is given in honor of Dr. Alfred P. Kehlenbeck, Chair of the FLL Department from 1950 to 1969. Dr Kehlenbeck was a Professor of German who had a great interest in all students in the department. The scholarship may be awarded to any major in Foreign Languages and Literatures who is preparing to teach and planning to study and travel abroad within the next academic year. Up to three awards may be given annually.

  - Tina Walston, Nicole Johnson, and Zuleima González.

**Ronald A. Schubert Scholarship of $1000.00:**
  - This award is given annually from a fund established by Ronald A. Schubert, an alumnus of Iowa State's Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. The scholarship is awarded to a student from a rural Iowa background who is studying German or Spanish.

  - Stacy Peiffer

**Louise Semmons Scholarship of $1000.00:**
  - This scholarship is given in the name of Louise Semmons, who was an Iowa State graduate. Ms. Semmons left money for this purpose in her will. The scholarship is awarded to students who must be junior or senior language students who have above-average grades and have participated in foreign language activities on campus. Up to six awards may given annually.

  - Andrea Rheinhart, Amanda McKeon, Lori Lynch, Laura Gerdes, and Joshua Bethards.

**Van Iten Study Abroad Scholarship of $1000.00:**
  - This award is given from a bequest by Helga and Richard Van Iten, longtime Iowa State faculty members. Helga Van Iten was an Assistant Professor of German, and Richard Van Iten was a Professor of Philosophy. The award is open to full-time undergraduate students in German who are participating in a study abroad experience.

  - Nick Zeigler

**Sarah Dahlke Memorial Scholarship (amounts vary by year):**
  - The scholarship is awarded by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures in memory of Sarah Dahlke, a Spanish major who graduated in December, 2003, and who was tragically killed shortly thereafter. This scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate who plans to study in a Spanish-speaking country in the summer or academic year following the presentation of the award.

  - Nick Zeigler
Initiation of new members into Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish honorary society

Thirteen new students (Rachel Bartels, Levi Byers, Katharine Carlson, Victoria Castro, Anne W. Edwards, Faith Hall, Veronica Hillock, Sherry Ann Johnson, Laura Messer, Isi Oamen, Lan Phung, Alanna Shay, and Crystal Gloria Torres), were initiated into Sigma Delta Pi, the Hispanic Honorary Society, in a candle-light ceremony on December 7, 2004. Professor Eugenio Matibag provided the background music as the students were inducted into the society by Jon Morse, the current president of Sigma Delta Pi.

Each spring, Sigma Psi, the Iowa State University chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, invites applications for membership from interested students. Sigma Delta Pi is a national academic honor society for outstanding students of the Spanish language whose goal is to encourage the study, teaching, and scholarly research of Spanish at Iowa State University. It also seeks to educate and inform its members and others about the social and cultural importance of the Spanish-speaking groups of the world.

Eligibility requirements are:

* Complete 18 semester credits of Spanish, including at least 3 semester hours of Hispanic literature, culture, or civilization at the 300 or 400 level (by end of spring of the academic year)
* A minimum GPA of 3.0 in Spanish.
* An overall minimum GPA of 2.75.

Students interested in more information about Sigma Delta Pi are encouraged to speak with Professor Chad Gasta or Professor Eugenio Matibag.
On April 10, 2005, the Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures will hold its 13th annual Awards Ceremony to recognize outstanding students with scholarships and other awards for excellence in the study of languages, literature, and linguistics.

The keynote speaker this year will be Professor Kathy Leon, who graduated from ISU with a major in Spanish in 1995.

With the advice and encouragement from her professors in FLL, Professor Leon continued her studies at the graduate level, completing her MA in Spanish at the University of Florida (1997) and the PhD at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2003).

Her areas of interest/specialization are Latin American (especially the Hispanic Caribbean) and U.S. Latino/a Literatures and Cultures.

Since the fall of 2003, Professor Leon has been an assistant professor of Spanish at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, where she is a generalist (Latin America and Spain) - teaching language, literature and culture, courses similar to those she took as a Spanish major at ISU.

Professor Leon will also give a talk for students and faculty on Monday, April 11 at 12:10, in Pearson 205 titled “Puerto Rican Love Stories: Rethinking María.”

Viewing the economic situation in Cuba

Continued from page 8

Because there are so many Cubans in exile, wanting to help and stay connected with their family members still in the country, many send money back home. In a direct reaction to the U.S. tightening up its restrictions for visitors and trade in June, Cuba changed their former marketing system and now dollars are no longer used as a means of currency. Castro is very aware that Cuba is partially supported by family members living abroad and stated openly that relatives should now send Canadian dollars or Euros. There is a 10% fee for exchanging dollars to Cuban convertible pesos while there is no fee for exchanging other currencies. Formerly, there were fairly well stocked stores in Cuba in which one could purchase goods in dollars. Now those same items and stores manage convertible pesos. Other stores run with another Cuban monetary system also called pesos, but those stores have very little to sell in them. Many basic food items such as bread, beans and rice are gotten with ration books. Milk is only available to children up to the age of 7 years old and retired people. The items available through the ration book are not enough for families to live on, so they end up having to buy things in the dollar/convertible peso stores, which most people cannot afford. Most professionals earn about $30 to $40 a month. During the women's meeting I attended, the treasurer's report was very confusing to me because two sets of figures were displayed. I then realized that because things are managed in different currency systems, then there was a budget in pesos and another one in Cuban pesos. For example, the lock smith was paid in pesos, but the lock he installed was in convertible pesos.

I do not believe that the U.S. holds sole responsibility for the poor economic situation in Cuba, but with our country being geographically the closest and most capable of trading with Cuba, I believe that the situation would improve with more availability of resources. If in 40 years, the Cuban government has not changed because of the U.S. trade embargo, it is highly unlikely that further restrictions would accomplish this goal. It is also very sad to me that more people are unable to get to know these people that I admire greatly.
After a short stint at the University of Iowa, the “Lyon program” is back at ISU. The new directors, Professors Dan Sipe and Jean-Pierre Taoutel, have made exciting changes to program while retaining its traditional character established by Professor Nelle Kottmann, who ran the program for many years.

The Regents’ Summer Study Abroad Program in France is a seven week experience tailored to students at the three Iowa Regents’ institutions (UNI, ISU and UoFI). Its major features include family home stays in Lyon, coursework at the Institute des études urbaines in Lyon (a private professional school), weekend excursions and – new this year – a week-long intensive theater seminar at the Université d'Avignon which will coincide with the world-famous theater festival, Le Festival d'Avignon.

**New Features**

**Avignon Festival / Theater Seminar**

Beginning this summer, the seventh week of the program will take place in the southern city of Avignon. Students will attend a theater seminar in French taught by a faculty member at the Université d'Avignon. The seminar will provide students with the historical perspectives and analytical tools they need to think and speak critically about contemporary dramaturgy. In addition to this general introduction to theater, students will prepare to see nightly plays at the festival.

**Web Site**

The Regents’ Program in France now has a central source of information that students, parents and faculty can consult while making decisions about the program. Go to the new web site to access information and download program materials:

http://www.iastate.edu/~study-abroad/LYON/lyon.htm

**Future initiatives**

In addition to the cultural and pedagogic improvements Dan and Jean-Pierre have already made to the current summer program, they have also started to plan for a significant curricular addition. Working in tandem with Howard Van Auken, Professor of Finance in the College of Business, and within the context of the FLL Languages and Cultures for the Professions (LCP) initiative, they are developing business related courses. This program will be open to students without a background in French but will have an important language component as one of its central features. Avenues of development underway include:

* Professional Certificates
* Internships
* Site Visits (financial, entertainment, travel, manufacturing and hi-tech fields)
* Beginning French and LCP courses
STUDENTS

We are pleased to announce that Interdisciplinary Studies majors in Classical Studies Benjamin Bragg and Ryan Seaberg, and Classical Studies Minor Peter Chidister are this year's recipients of the Marcus Aurelius Fellowship. Each year one to three scholarships are available in the amount of at least $1000 for tuition and fees, and other educational expenses including study abroad to students who are enrolled in the Classical Studies Program and who will have completed at least three semesters of Greek or Latin. Preference is given to students with a GPA of 3.0 and demonstrated financial need. Application deadlines are typically in November.

Feb. 10, 2005, the Greek 102 class visited Special Collections at Parks Library where Prof. Tanya Zanish-Belcher showed the class ISU’s fourteen incunabula. These “cradle books” from the first fifty years of the age of printing are on a wide variety of topics, including Islamic medicine, western medicine, Christian theology, dietetics, and Latin literature. Some students, who are also studying German and/or Latin were pleased to be able to read some of the texts in those languages. None of the students had ever touched or held an incunabulum, and all were fascinated by the presentation on printing, paper, and binding technologies, as well as by information on the exponential expansion of print books in the sixteenth century.

Six Iowa State students in LAS will participate in the Azoria Projects excavations on Crete this summer, through the Classical Studies Program’s study abroad course, Cl St 395: The Archaeology of Greece, led by Prof. Peggy Mook. Students will have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the recovery of the remains of this Archaic Greek city and in many aspects of processing and data analysis. Students live in small Cretan villages and have ample opportunity to travel around Crete and other nearby islands, rich in archaeological and historical sites.

PUBLIC LECTURES

Margo Kitts, Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, presented a public lecture entitled “The Sacrifice of Lykaon in Iliad 21,” on March 2. This presentation was drawn from her book, Sanctified Violence in Homeric Society, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

Judith Hallett, Professor and Chair of Classics at the University of Maryland, offered a public lecture on “Ancient Roman Women: Their Images, Realities and Influence on Western Culture,” Wednesday, March 23.

FACULTY

Brian Cherer presented a paper entitled, “Narrated Perception and Vergil’s ‘Subjective Style’,” in January 2005, at the 136th Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association, in Boston, MA.

Madeleine Henry was a panelist and discussant, presenting “The Hiring Year: Start to Finish,” in the session “A Workshop for Job Seekers,” in January 2005, at the 136th Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association, in Boston, MA.

My Study Abroad Experience in Spain
by Makalla Jensen

I recently had the opportunity to study abroad in Spain and it was the best experience of my life. I participated in both the Cáceres Spring 2004 and Alicante Summer 2004 study abroad programs.

Cáceres, Spain is the perfect place to spend a semester abroad. It is such a beautiful city with so much history and culture. One can get the authentic Spanish experience in Cáceres because there are not many Americans in the city, which is also perfect for learning the language. The professors and our director from the University of Extremadura were absolutely amazing. They were all such great teachers who knew how to teach foreigners, they really made our time there a blast!

The best part about studying abroad for me was being completely immersed in another culture. I believe that one cannot truly understand their own culture, let alone another, until actually living in another country. Living with a host family in both Cáceres and Alicante really enhanced the cultural experience as well. I am more culturally aware, diverse, and open-minded now that I have studied abroad.

Europe is such a great place to study because there are so many different countries and cultures at your fingertips. During my time abroad, I traveled all around Spain and Europe. I went to ten different countries, including Italy, Germany, France and Portugal. This was the most incredible thing that I have ever experienced. I saw so many great pieces of art, stepped foot in some of the most famous pieces of architecture and met so many great people while doing it!

After a month of backpacking around Europe, I was definitely ready for some beach time in Alicante, Spain. Alicante was a big change from Cáceres, as it is a much more liberal and modern city with a lot more students from all around the world. There is a great night life in Alicante and the Spaniards are very accommodating to all of the study-abroaders. Studying in both Alicante and Cáceres was perfect because it gave me a really well-rounded view of Spain. I had a blast in Alicante, it was a perfect ending to a great experience abroad.

As you can see, I had a very positive experience abroad. I am so thankful that I was able to participate in these programs. It was so difficult for me to leave Europe and all of the people that I had met there but I hope to return one day soon. I am studying to be a high school Spanish teacher and nothing could have prepared me better than studying abroad. I have so much more knowledge and experience to offer to my classroom now that I have lived, traveled and studied abroad.
Hidden treasures
By Alaina Meyer

How does one find a hidden treasure??

In the summer of 2004, I had the opportunity to study in Sucre, Bolivia as part of the Iowa State University program: In the Footsteps of the Inca. For me, Sucre definitely qualified as out-of-the-way and unordinary. Although this was not the first place I would think of visiting on a trip to South America, I quickly discovered that Sucre had a lot to offer - including a mild climate, a strong vibrant culture, nice people, lots to do, and beautiful textiles. These textiles lead to another treasure of Sucre, the Museo Asur (Museum of Indigenous Art). This museum was founded in 1992 by the ASUR Foundation (anthropologists of the Southern Andes), and allows visitors to explore and experience the history and culture behind the textiles of the Jalq’a and Tarabuco communities (Indigenous communities in the department/state of Chuquisaca, where Sucre is located). I had the opportunity to spend the second half of my stay in Sucre as a volunteer at the museum for the service-learning portion of the program. This assignment began as a way to learn more about Spanish-speaking cultures and to practice my language skills, and it resulted in all that - plus, it lead to the development of an independent project in FLL for spring, 2005, under the guidance of Professor Kathy Leonard.

The curiosity and desire to know more about these interesting Bolivian weavings is the springboard for my project. I will explore, in greater depth, the history and development of the textiles from their Pre-Colombian period to the present, as well as the significance of the woven images and their importance in society today. My project will focus on the textiles from the Jalq’a and Tarabuco communities.

Identifying a Textile:
The origin of a textile made in Bolivia is relatively easy to determine. Each region develops textiles distinct in color, texture, and images. A typical Tarabuco weaving contains many different colors - and two distinct types can be seen. The first type contains a light background with a different texture of yarn used for the images woven into columns, giving them a three-dimensional effect. The images may be woven in pinks, purples, reds, or greens and blues. Common images found in this type of weaving are of everyday life, people, animals, and festival scenes. The weaving often tells a story, representing a calendar of seasons and life experiences.

In stark contrast, the Jalq’a weaving is a completely different textile. Their weaving represents chaos, and may contain bright and eye-catching colors such as bright red, pink, orange or black as the main colors. The textile usually contains animals - but animals that are not from this world. These creatures are mythical animals, coming from the dreams and fears of the weaver. An example is a camel with three humps or a jungle lion with wings. In a Jalq’a weaving the background becomes the image and the image becomes the background for another image. Interestingly enough, the weavers do not use any form of pattern, the image is created as they weave, from their imagination.

The weavings mentioned above are all made by the women in the communities. When these women became successful as a result of the...
Hidden treasures  
Continued from page 18  
revitalization program started by ASUR, the men of the communities decided they also wanted a part of the new economic opportunities. As a result, in 1996, men started making their own unique style of textiles. Completely different from the women's weavings, the men use many bright colors and clear images and most of the weavings contain a border which is used for hanging the textile. Unlike the women who use a Pre-Colombian loom, the men chose to use a pedal loom, which uses a unique process that automatically moves the yarn with the pedals to form the images. The pedal loom creates a tighter weave which in return creates a visual difference in the textile.

The weavings of the indigenous peoples of Bolivia are not only a visual treasure, but societal and economic treasures as well, that record and shape their history. For me, the time spent in Bolivia was truly like finding a hidden treasure. I am excited to be able to use the experience I gained in Sucre to develop this project, and hopefully will be able to use it as a springboard for future study and research in museum work.

TOP: Jalq’a weaving with mythical animals. RIGHT: Jalq’a tejido made by a male weaver showing scenes from everyday life.

Junior Faculty Development Program  
Continued from page 10  
reform. Svetlana firmly believes that any experience is a positive experience.

With this in mind, she chose a variety of subjects to study at ISU:

1. Teaching English as a Second Language (Svetlana hopes that this course will help her to find new methods and techniques for teaching English).

2. Teaching of Literature and Literature Curriculum

3. Women’s Literature (courses on women’s studies and female writers are not taught at Svetlana’s home university; she is hoping to apply knowledge gained at ISU to create a new course on literature in Tashkent).

Svetlana is also taking two courses in foreign languages (French and German). She is very excited about the opportunity to see the methods and teaching techniques that American language instructors use. She is looking forward to the opportunity to understand American life, people, their customs and traditions and hopes to bring a small piece of Uzbek culture to ISU.

Svetlana’s advisor is Prof. Kathy Hickok from the English Department.

Ilham Huseynov is an assistant professor in the Department of Economy and Management at Azerbaijan Technological University. He is from Azerbaijan. He graduated from the Business Administration Department at Azerbaijan Institute of National Economic Management. Currently, Ilham is finishing a Ph.D. program. His research interests include Increasing Effects of Investments to the Light Industry Enterprises in Azerbaijan. He has published six articles on this area. Ilham speaks regularly at national and international conferences in Azerbaijan. He is also a manager and a trainer of Management and Marketing for the Association of Young Leaders of Azerbaijan (AYLA) - NGO. Ilham hopes to improve professional training programs for employees, particularly in the area of organization and management of business in Azerbaijan, his main professional goal. Upon completion of the JFDP program, he plans to disseminate the knowledge he gains at ISU at training seminars for the faculty of Azerbaijan Technological University. While at ISU, he would also like to engage in dialogue about problems of transitional economies and to share his views with his classmates and professors. At ISU Ilham works with Professor Max Wortman (management and agribusiness).
From the ISU Foundation

Every story you’ll read in this issue of the “FLL Newsletter” reflects the vitality and hard work that are part of the day-to-day educational experience in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Iowa State University. Alumni and friends play an important role in enriching that experience for students and faculty by providing gift support.

As Senior Director of Development for all departments in the College of Liberal Arts, I have gained a new perspective on the College’s need for resources (resources that can be directed to Foreign Languages and Literatures) and the departmental initiatives that need funding beyond what the state provides.

I would encourage you to consider a gift to the Department each year. Annual support at every level is crucial to maintaining the quality of our programs. If you wish, the ISU Foundation will send you a yearly reminder in whatever month you specify.

Long-range estate and financial planning allow you to make a substantial contribution to the FLL Department while benefiting your personal financial plans. Bequests and trusts are among the deferred giving options that I would be happy to discuss with you.

As I’ve worked to help the College and its departments raise private funds to augment state allocations, I’ve realized that every gift is important. Each gift, no matter what the amount, adds strength to our programs at Iowa State and has a lasting impact on the quality of education, research, and service we provide. Your gift counts and we are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

If you would like to learn more about how you can make a difference in the FLL Department, please contact me at Iowa State University, The College of Liberal Arts, 239 Catt Hall, Ames, Iowa 50014. 1-866-419-6768 or email me at amellecker@iastate.edu.

Alsatia Mellecker
Senior Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Yes, I would like to help the Department of Foreign Language and Literature at Iowa State University.

I would like to pledge __________________________ to be used for __________________________

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Enclosed is my check payable to: Iowa State University Foundation

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Please send me more information on estate planning
FLL Alumni and Friends Update

Where are you?
What are you doing?
Do you have any news to share?

Please help us to keep our database of alumni and friends current.

The information that you provide to us will be used to change the addresses on our departmental mailing list. We will include any other information in our newsletter's alumni and friends columns. Thank you for taking the time to keep in touch!

Name:________________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Phone:__________________ E-mail address: ______________________________

May we include your e-mail address in our newsletter with your other update news? ______

Are you an Iowa State alum? ______ FLL Friend? ________ Other? ___________

Year(s) of graduation (please indicate the university, if other than Iowa State): __________
____________________________________________________________________________

Degree(s) received (please indicate your major/language studied): _________________

Current employment (please indicate your current employer and position): _______________
____________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any other information or news that you would like to share? ________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Favorite memory of Pearson Hall, FLL, classes in the department, friends, language club, etc.
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Please complete and return to us by mail (fold this page in half, tape and mail), FAX the completed form to (515) 294-9914, or e-mail us at fllnews@iastate.edu.