This past July 13th through the 17th of August, Rutgers students participated in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese’s Summer Study Abroad Program in Peru. The students stayed in el Albergue San Juan de Dios Luxemburgo in Cusco, Peru for four weeks and travelled about southern Peru for the last week, visiting the cities of Puno, Arequipa, Nazca and Lima. Among the sites seen during the five week program were Sacsayhuaman, Ollantaytambo, Tipon, Pikillaqta, and Machu Picchu. However, the program was not just sightseeing as the students engaged in classes at the Academia Latinoamericana de Español and Centro Tinku. They also fulfilled social work requirements at the Orfanato Juan Pablo II and the Hogar Clínica San Juan de Dios.

To say the least, the trip was challenging, testing all involved as students and professors alike learned to navigate a place very much unlike their familiar New Jersey. Thus, an enormous amount of personal growth and strengthening of character was evident throughout the course of the trip. Those who entered hardly able to speak Spanish, at the end of trip were able to string together sentences with improved fluency. Those who volunteered at the Orfanato bought toys and books for the children there and volunteered their professional services by helping the in house teacher teach approximately 100 children, many being second language speakers of Spanish.

All things considered, the trip was a definite “tinku”, a Quechua word that, among its many meanings, means “encounter”. Please promote the trip to your students whenever possible. The trip will be offered between July 11th through August 16th, this coming Summer of 2008.
Faculty-Recent Publications

José Camacho, Nydia Flores, Liliana Sánchez, Viviane Deprez (Linguistics) and María José Cabrera’s edited volume Romance Linguistics 2006 Selected papers from the 36th Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL), New Brunswick, March-April 2006 http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_bookview.cgi?bookid=CILT%20287 just appeared.

Liliana Sánchez


Nydia Flores


Papers presented


March 2007, XXI Conference on Spanish in the USA & VI Conference Spanish in Contact with Other Languages. George Mason University, Virginia: on “Mexicanos in New Jersey: The State of Spanish in New Brunswick”.

Graduate Student-Awards and Accomplishments

Claudia Cabello Hutt has won the fellowship from the Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica, from the government of Chile. The fellowship provides her with two years of funding for her project “Gabriela Mistral: su prosa en su construcción de sujeto nacional”.

Molly Palmer has won a fellowship from the Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores y de Cooperación- Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional. She will be in Spain in the Spring of 2008, researching her project, “Barrio: Madrid y Barcelona en novela y cine desde 1975”.

La Jornada Literaria was held on October 27th this year. This year’s topic was “Canon and Performance: the Accepted, the Rejected, and their Role on the Cultural Stage” and the keynote speaker was Diana Taylor from New York University.

Danielle McClean, Andrea Olsen, Aleksandra Carbajal, and Jan Reinhart presented the first ever table on translation issues at this year’s Jornada.
Viviana Pinochet Cobos, Juan José Adriasola Velasco, Carolina Díaz Zapata, Pilar Martínez Quiroga, and Sandra Díez all passed their MA exams this past August.

Cristóbal Cardemil-Krause won the Presidente de la República Fellowship, sponsored by the government of Chile, for graduate students.

Candace Plunkett and Selma Cohen have passed parts one and two of the PhD exams.

Five students participated in the LASA conference this past September in Montréal: Valeria Garrote, Macarena Urzúa, Claudia Cabello Hutt, and José Felipe Troncoso.

Graduate Student Publications

Claudia Cabello Hutt
“Gabriela Mistral artesana de sí misma: multifuncionalidad de la prosa Mistraliana en su construcción como sujeto intelectual” Taller de Letras (41) 2007.


Undergraduate Student Accomplishments

Congratulations to Katrina Elder-Bush, one of our undergraduate majors on her initiation as a member of the Rutgers New Jersey Delta Chapter of the National College Athlete Honor Society, Chi Alpha Sigma. Her selection was based on “outstanding scholarship, earned athletic letter, and excellent character and citizenship.”

A Place for News

The Adolfo Snaidas Memorial Prize has been set up. If you would like to make a donation (to the Rutgers University Foundation), please send it to:

Jennifer Flaherty
Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese
Rutgers University
105 George St.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1414

Have a story or something you just want to mention? To have any news or pictures included in the next departmental newsletter, please send an email to Mary Barnard at melizab@rci.rutgers.edu