Letter from the Chair

¡Saludos a todos! It is hard to believe we are already nearly three weeks into another beautiful fall semester. I hope you all have had a wonderful summer, as did we; members of the Department traveled to Colombia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy and Spain, and I enjoyed my first trip to China in the company of our longtime lecturer and Confucius Institute Director, Prof. Jianyun Meng, and a group of representatives from local schools.

The last academic year brought many exciting changes to the Department. As you will see later in this issue, we hired a new assistant professor of Chinese and a new visiting assistant professor of Classics. In addition to these new colleagues, we are pleased to welcome a new lecturer in Spanish, Prof. John Marchese, and a Lilly Fellow who will be teaching courses in Classics, Prof. Nicholas Kauffman. We also bade a fond farewell to Prof. Sarah Degner Riveros, lecturer in Spanish for the past six years.

I hope to catch up with many of you at our annual Homecoming Open House on the morning of September 26. Those of you who have not been back in a few years will be excited to see our state-of-the-art Language Resource Center, located on the main floor of the Arts & Sciences Building and home to an ever-expanding collection of books, films, games and other materials available for use by all students. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this issue’s news from faculty and recent graduates, and as always, I invite you to share your own news with us using the Response Form on the back. Please keep in touch, and we hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,
Stacy Hoult-Saros

Summer in Italy: Classical Monuments in Context

As he did last summer, Professor Mark Farmer taught a course in the summer of 2015 called "Classical Monuments in Context" for which he and his students spent time in Rome, Florence, Fiesole, and the South (with Sorrento as their home base). Ancient and modern places and sites included much of ancient Rome, many museums, Naples, and a day each in Pompeii, Capri, and the Amalfi Coast. Students were as fascinated by modern Italian culture as they were by the ancient Roman sites; they traveled on their one free day per major region to places like Venice, Sienna, Bologna, Castel Gandolfo, and Positano. Daily intakes of delicious pizza, pasta, and especially gelato supplied everyone with enough energy to walk seemingly everywhere--sometimes even twelve miles a day (two students had pedometers)! Student favorites were the Galleria Borghese (all things mythology, with Bernini's sculptures), the Colosseum and Forum, exploring on foot the towns and cities they stayed in and visited, the leather and food market of Florence, sunset at Fiesole, Pompeii, Italian cuisine and cafes, nightlife, and both paddle-boating and swimming in the Mediterranean. At the conclusion of the course students were required to submit visual presentations on their research of two topics of their choice. View a selection of student videos at http://www.valpo.edu/foreignlanguages/classics.

"My summer trip to Italy was truly life changing. I learned about classical sites and the Italian culture, but I also learned about myself and where my family comes from. As a person who loves to travel, this may have been the most enjoyable (and educational) trip I've been on." -- Alexandra Cuzzone

Professor Farmer will offer the same course in the summer of 2016, and plans are in the works to offer a similar summer study-course to Greece.
New Faces in Foreign Languages

Prof. Naomi Kaloudis

Naomi Kaloudis, visiting assistant professor of Classics, received her Ph.D. in Classical Studies, from the University of Missouri. Her research interests include Hellenistic literature and culture, pastoral poetry and its reception, oral tradition and sound studies, as well as classical archaeology. Prof. Kaloudis will be teaching first and second year Greek this fall as well as Greek Civilization, and we are very pleased to welcome her to the department.

Prof. Fontaine Lien

Fontaine Lien, assistant professor of Chinese, earned her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California. Her teaching schedule this fall includes second and third year Chinese as well as Valpo Core, "The Human Experience," the interdisciplinary foundational course for most incoming first year students. We extend a warm welcome to Prof. Lien as she joins the department this year.

Faculty Publications, Projects, & Presentations

Jennifer Bjornstad, associate professor of German, was on sabbatical leave for the 2014-2015 academic year. In March, she presented at the conference of the International Society for the Study of Narrative. She wrote two scholarly articles on the function of ellipsis in post-WWII German literature. The first, "A Postcard Autobiography: Jurek Becker's Unnarrated Response to the Holocaust," has been submitted to the journal Narrative. The second, "Confinement and Relief: The Function of Ellipsis in Heinrich Böll's 'Wanderer, kommst du nach Sp...'," has been submitted to the German Quarterly. She also spent time developing a series of teaching materials for the intermediate level.

Dr. Timothy Malchow, associate professor of German, made two presentations on aspects of Valpo's award-winning German program at major venues this year. He spoke at the annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in San Antonio, Texas in November 2014 and, by invitation of the American Association of Teachers of German, on its sponsored session at the annual Modern Language Association Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia in January 2015.

Carol Goss, director of the Language Resource Center and part-time adjunct instructor of French, made three presentations on flipped learning this year. She spoke at the annual conventions of the Midwest Association for Language Learning and Technology and the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association. She also presented at a teaching fair on campus organized by the Valparaiso Institute of Teaching and Learning.

This past summer she facilitated a linguistic and cultural exchange between two sets of students -- 8th graders from Langres, France and 4th, 5th, and 6th graders from Valparaiso. The French participants were students of Mme. Catherine Bony who teaches English at Collège Diderot (Diderot Middle School) located in the small town of Langres, France. The roughly 40 Valpo students were participants in Summer Smart, Summer Fun, a summer day camp hosted by VU. The interactive session took place in the Language Resource Center and touched on a variety of themes including study abroad, the Enlightenment, and old versus new tools for learning. A hybrid of instructional elements was incorporated into the hands-on session, including an exploration of the town of Langres using Google Earth. The session culminated in the creation of short videos in which the Valpo students introduced themselves in French and asked questions about France. Meanwhile, the French middle school students explored a reading from the Summer Smart, Summer Fun website as a way to prepare themselves for the classroom exchange with the American students, and later watched the videos as a listening comprehension exercise incorporated into Mme. Bony's English class. The exchange came full circle when the French students provided answers to the questions posed by the American students. To learn more about the exchange, visit http://valposummercamp.pbworks.com.
Faculty Profile: Professor Sarah DeMaris

Sarah DeMaris (Professor of German) was delighted to see several former students at Homecoming 2014, including Paul Kapfer, Terry Duchow, Nate Leonard and Kelly Veltema (with their new daughter!), and Lisa Boehm Rice.

Prof. DeMaris’s fall semester was particularly busy because she and Gregg Hertzlieb, Director of the Brauer Museum of Art, together organized an exhibit of the Brauer’s Frank V. Dudley paintings of the Indiana Dunes in Rottenburg am Neckar, Germany. A lively exchange between Valpo and the city of Rottenburg, supported by the Josef Eberle Endowment and the Henry and June Giebel Endowment, has taken place since 2000. The exchange includes students, faculty members, and art exhibits. Prof. DeMaris closed the exhibit in November with a public lecture about the Indiana Dunes State Park and Dudley’s connection to it, entitled “Die Indiana Dunes - gestern und heute.”

Prof. DeMaris attended three conferences during the 2014/15 academic year, including a conference in Cologne in anticipation of the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order (Die deutschen Dominikaner und Dominikanerinnen, 1221-1515). She also attended the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America and presented a paper called “Self-conscious Co-transmission of Texts: Changing the Unterlinden Schwesternbuch.” The third was the annual International Medieval Congress in Leeds, England; there she presented “The Responsibility to Observance: Johannes Meyer’s Epistolary Instruction.”


2015 Graduates in the World

Karl Anliker ’15, Classics, History, Theology
Volunteer with Lutheran Volunteer Corps

Sean Hatfield ’15, Spanish, Art
Art Director Intern at Golin Harris, Inc., Chicago, IL

McKenzie Cobban ’15, French, IECA
Intern, UN World Food Programme, Washington, DC

Hannah Heagy ’15, German, Spanish
Pursuing graduate studies at the Universidad de Alcalá, Spain

Sarah Black ’15, Spanish, Biology
Pursuing graduate studies in Plant Biology at Southern Illinois University

Angela Silski ’15, Spanish, Chemistry
Pursuing a graduate degree in Chemistry at the University of Notre Dame

Amanda Master ’15, Spanish, Digital Media
Pursing a M. Ed. at Creighton University.

Lisa Borosh ’15, French, Public Relations
Development Intern, The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Holly Griskell ’15, Spanish, Psychology
Pursuing graduate studies at Loyola University in Developmental Psychology, specializing in Spanish bilingualism

Students Participate in Midwest Chinese Speech Contest

Yue Zhang, assistant professor in Chinese Studies, is pleased to share that two students from his advanced Chinese class participated in the highest level (4th year) during the 2015 "Chinese Bridge" Midwest Chinese Speech Contest at the University of Notre Dame. They did a great job! Teshurah Lee won a silver medal and John Wendland won a bronze medal. The annual event will take place at IU Bloomington in 2016.
Alumni Response Form

• First name:     • Last name (Maiden name):
• Year of graduation:     • Major(s) at VU:
• Current E-mail address:     • Current mailing address:
• Current position / title / employer:

• Your latest news:

• "I realize the difference my foreign language studies have made whenever . . ."

• In the future I prefer to receive the Lingua Viva newsletter in the following format: Paper E-mail
• May we post information you provide on the department website? Yes / No