FROM THE CHAIR

A lot happened in the department last year. All faculty members attended and presented at conferences on literature, languages and linguistics. We published several book reviews, articles and books. A section below will highlight our main publications and presentations. Pilar Pérez Serrano was granted a sabbatical for the fall semester and Moisés Park will be on sabbatical in the spring. Moisés Park and I were promoted to the rank of associate professor. I was also granted tenure. Denise Campoli (Spanish) joined our adjunct faculty, comprised of Lei Carter (Mandarin), Ian Drummond (Latin) and Pamela Thuswaldner (German).

With the Department of Education, our department created a speech pathology minor, which is already popular as the demand in the field is high. In addition, several professors created new courses. Graeme Bird developed and taught a course titled “Indo-European Linguistics.” Moisés Park created a new course studying the Chilean 1973 coup through cinema and narrative. Pilar Pérez Serrano created “Literatura y marginación: representaciones del ‘desecho humano’ en la narrativa hispana” and “XX Century Spanish Theater: Pedrero, Hernández Garrido, Mayorga, Heras, Luque and Bezerra.” I developed and taught two summer courses for the graduate school of education: “Advanced French Writing” and “Francophone Civilization.”

Gregor Thuswaldner received several awards, including grants from the Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies and the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York for his translation of Felix Mitterer’s Jägerstätter, a travel grant from the Stefan Zweig Center in Salzburg and a sabbatical semester from Gordon College last fall.

Last semester, I received an initiative grant from Gordon College to publish a book I edited on the shape, role and power of writing after the earthquake in Haiti. Together with Janel Curry and Andrew Logemann, I also received a grant from the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) to create online advanced courses in the humanities.

Grace Wood and Franklin Brown presented their honors theses respectively titled “Speaking in Key: Studying the Correlation between Music and Language” and “Awfully Terrific: A Study of Semantic Shift.” In the summer of 2013, Kristen Gandek presented her thesis “Language Games in Selected Works of Thomas Bernhard, Ingeborg Bachmann, and Gertrude Stein” for the Salzburg Institute of Gordon College (which is now the Salzburg Institute of Religion, Culture and the Arts, an independent non-profit organization).

Every year, the Department of Languages and Linguistics and the Department of English co-sponsor the Languages and Linguistics Undergraduate Colloquium (LLUC). This year, Dr. Moisés Park and Dr. Chad Stutz co-organized the colloquium, which was held on March 29.

We organized several cultural events with students. Below you will find highlights of the Francophone week activities and the German Oktoberfest celebration.

Thank you for your interest in our newsletter,

Emmanuelle Vanborre, Department Chair, Language and Linguistics
HONORS AND AWARDS
This year’s recipient of the Royce Miller Language Achievement Award was Lydia Good (Linguistics major). McKenzie Watson (French major) and David Dagley (Spanish major) received the Marion Jackson Carter Endowment Awards. Grace Wood and Franklin Brown presented their honors theses in linguistics and graduated with departmental honors.

Alpha Mu Gamma, the National Foreign Language Honors Society, inducted six new members into its Gordon chapter (Kappa Epsilon). We recognize all these students for the distinction they have attained in the study of languages. The following students were inducted in the language honor society: Becca Berman (Mandarin), Lindsey Van Doren (Spanish), Yearim Oh (French), Stephen Guertler (German and Spanish), Nate DiMauro (French), Suzanne Hammer (German).

Congratulations to these students!

ALUMNI NEWS
Adrienne Eldredge graduated from Gordon in 2010 with a bachelor’s in French. Here is what she says about her time at Gordon:

“My years at Gordon were incredibly blessed and enriched by wonderful professors, interesting classes and time spent abroad in Aix-en-Provence, and my faith grew as I was encouraged and challenged as a Christian. I was therefore well-prepared for ‘life after Gordon.’”

Adrienne received her master’s in French language and literature from Boston College in 2013, with the intention of eventually becoming a professor of French at the college level. After one year of teaching as an adjunct professor of French at Fisher College in Boston, Adrienne began her doctoral studies this past August at the University of Connecticut, planning to focus on 17th century literature.

ALUMNI UPDATES
We would like to invite our alumni to keep us informed about their lives after Gordon. Please send your updates to Emmanuelle.Vanborre@gordon.edu.
FRANCOPHONE WEEK AT GORDON

Every March, all over the world, French speaking people celebrate “Francophonie.” The term “Francophonie” was coined at the end of the 19th century by a French geographer named Onésime Reclus to refer to the community of people and countries using the French language. Less than a hundred years later in 1970, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) was founded with the goals of promoting French language, education, equality, peace and development among its members.

At Gordon, we participate in celebrating Francophonie as it helps us reinforce the power of cultural diversity. This year, in March, the Cercle français and our department organized several events: Uchenna Anyanwu gave a talk on his time as a missionary in Francophone North Africa; Junior Mathieu, a professional dance instructor from Haiti, gave a dance workshop; and a North African lunch was served in Gillies for all to enjoy. Several students, faculty and staff members joined us for the French conversation table that day.

OKTOBERFEST

Oktoberfest is a German celebration dating back to October 12, 1810, when Crown Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese of Sachsen-Hildburghausen were married. The Crown Prince invited citizens of Munich to be part of the wedding festivities, which were held on the Theresienwiese (Therese’s meadow—named after the Princess), which is now located directly in the city of Munich.

Today, Oktoberfest is celebrated in Munich from the first Saturday after September 15 through the first Sunday in October. The mayor of the city begins the ceremony by opening the first beer barrel and calling out: “O’zapft ist!” (Bier is flowing!). Over time, the occasion has become a festival for which more than six million visitors, some from all over the world, gather in Munich. The Bavarian festival brings the city and the surrounding area around 800 million euro in profits, serving as the largest beer festival in Germany.

Students in Beginning German 101 joined in to celebrate Oktoberfest at Gordon College in September. Music, lots of pretzels and listening to the well-known Bavarian song “In München steht ein Hofbräuhaus” were all part of the fun.
Graeme Bird attended a Workshop/Conference at Oxford University, discussing papyrology and the editing of ancient manuscripts, and he continued work with students on the preparation for publication of a Homeric papyrus. He wrote several book reviews for *Choice*, including *The History of English Spelling*, by Christopher Upward and George Davidson. Professor Bird was invited to contribute several brief articles to a new Homer encyclopedia and to give a presentation at Oxford on performance aspects of Homer and jazz.

Damon DiMauro published several articles including “Sur le vers 21 de la Ballade des pendus de Villon,” in *Romania*, and “A Tribute to Winthrop H. Rice,” in *Romanic Review*.

Moisés Park’s book *Figuraciones del deseo y coyunturas generacionales en literatura y cine postdictatorial* will be published this year by Peter Lang Publishers. He published several articles including “Metáforas del trauma: La bola de disco en *Tony Manero* (2008) de Pablo Larrain,” and “Post mortem (2010): San Salvador Allende y la autopsia histórica.” Professor Park also presented at several conferences, including the Northeast Modern Language Association Conference.

Pilar Pérez Serrano’s book titled *La rebelión de Los esclavos: tragedia y posibilidad en el teatro de Raúl Hernández Garrido* was published by Fundamentos in the spring. Her article “El canto de las sirenas: concienciación y supervivencia en la era del capital” was published in the *Journal of Contemporary Spanish Theatre*. Professor Pérez Serrano attended several conferences in Spain, and presented and co-chaired a panel with Professor Park at the Northeast Modern Language Association Conference. She wrote several book reviews on theater.

Gregor Thuswaldner published several articles including “A Conversation with Peter L. Berger: ‘How My Views Have Changed.’” He presented at several conferences, including the German Studies Association Conference, and co-organized two panels on Stefan Zweig and religion. Professor Thuswaldner also organized and hosted the series “Religion and Other Curiosities: Conversations with Peter L. Berger” at Gordon College.

Emmanuelle Vanborre edited a book titled *Haïti après le tremblement de terre: la forme, le rôle et le pouvoir de l’écriture*. She published several book reviews on Camus and Le Clézio for *French Review* and *Choice*. She presented at several conferences on the use of technology as a cultural and linguistic development at the French Consulate in Boston and at the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.