In March 2012, all eight Greek 102 students took the National College Ancient Greek Exam with outstanding results.

The test was administered at the week before spring break, a particularly stressful time for students academically.

Fifty colleges and universities from across the United States took part in the exam this year with 476 test takers. Of the eight Purdue students, only one had some experience with Greek prior to this year. The rest, including the top three finishers, were new to the language.

Of the eight students who took the exam, the top scorers were:

**First Place:** Emily Villars, a sophomore, who scored in the top 1st-2nd percentile nationally with only 7 out of 476 students outscoring her

**Second Place:** Elise Duncan, a sophomore, who scored in the 7th percentile nationally

**Third Place:** William Kinkley, a senior, who scored in the 16th percentile nationally.

The other participants, who also performed very well on the exam, include: Liesl Victor, Minxing Huang, Tingjiao Li, Eric David and Samantha Alberts. Liz Mercier is their instructor.

The students and their instructor were honored as part of the SLC Classics Open House this semester. The students were presented with commemorative awards and gift cards.

---. “‘Trübe’ as the Source of New Color Formation in Goethe’s Late Works Entoptische Farben (1817-1820) and Chromatik (1822).” Goethe Yearbook GY 19 (2012): 29-47. (Published August 2012, GY is a tier one referred journal).


**Merrell, Floyd** (Emeritus). Becoming Culture: Semiotically Illustrated through Guadalupe-Tonantzín Complementary Coalescence, and Other Latin American Enigmas. (Charleston, SC: CreateSpace, 2012).

---. A semiótica de Charles S. Peirce (Santa María, Brazil: UNIJUI, 2012).


Purdue University School of Languages and Cultures

Graduates

Winter 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish &amp; Portugese</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Robinson, B.A. Spanish</td>
<td>Betania O'Brien, B.A. Spanish, Linguistics, and Human Services</td>
<td>Karina Hanson, M.A. Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeryn Snow, B.A. Spanish and Law and Society</td>
<td>Megan Conaway, B.A. Spanish and Political Science</td>
<td>Jessica Stewart, M.A. Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Rios, B.A. Spanish and Psychology</td>
<td>Francesco Caruso, B.A. Spanish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josiah Binch, B.A. Spanish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interdisciplinary Studies</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yurah Han, B.A. Asian Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Naofumi Tatsumi, Ph.D. FLL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Graduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>German</th>
<th>Japanese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Graduate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katelyn Gehlhausen, B.A. German via Freiburg 2011-12</td>
<td>Anna Pesut, B.A. Japanese and Asian Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitney Kroll, B.A. German and Genetics</td>
<td>Shinji Wai, B.A. Japanese and Asian Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Undergraduate Minors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Chan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MeeHee Kim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ran Cheng</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Honors and Awards

Faculty

**Wei Hong:** “Advisor of the Year” award from Dean of Students in Spring 2012 by advising Purdue University Chinese Students and Scholars Association with 3000+ members on West Lafayette campus, Purdue University; **CLA Engagement Grant** to develop Chinese Service Learning in CHNS 401 in Fall 2012. Service Learning students help local community and schools with after-school Chinese clubs and provide language tutoring using their knowledge acquired from the classroom. This initiative will continue in Fall 2013 with co-sponsorship from the International Programs.

**Nick Rauh:** In July-August 2011, he directed the final season of the Rough Cilicia Archaeological Survey Project in Gazipasha, Turkey, funded by a grant from the National Geographic Society. In May 2012 he presented his report of his findings to the NGS Committee for Research and Exploration at the Pera Palas Hotel in Istanbul Turkey.

**Yonsoo Kim:** Korean Studies Grant from the Center for Korean Studies in Seoul, South Korea. The period of the grant is from June 2012 to May 2012 and will allow her (as principal investigator), her co-investigator Jeong-nam Kim and two graduate research assistants Nusta Carranza Ko (Poli Sci) and Ronald Simones Gobbi (SLC) to continue their research “Korean Cultural Consequence: Building Sustainable Soft Power through Hallyu in Latin America”.

**Iñigo Sanchez-Llama:** granted status of University Faculty Scholar for Spring 2012 by Purdue University in recognition of outstanding academic distinction.

**Marcia Stephenson:** three grants recently, all of which support the last research and final writing of her book project “Natural and Unnatural Histories of Andean Camelids (Llamas, Alpacas, Vicuñas, and Guanacos) in the Transoceanic World, 1568-1970.” She received a grant from the Enhancing Research in the Humanities and Arts Grant Program for 2013. This grant will enable her to travel to Australia, Argentina, and Chile in 2013 to carry out the final portion of her research. She will also participate in a meeting of the Bolivian Studies Association in Sucre, Bolivia in July 2013 as part of a panel she organized on the history of science in nineteenth-century Bolivia. She will teach a graduate-level seminar on Methodologies of Interdisciplinary Research (probably sometime in 2015-16) as well as teach a component on interdisciplinary methods of research in the undergraduate-level course on Latin American culture (Span 483). During the fall semester 2013, she will have a Center for Humanistic Studies grant from Purdue. Finally, she received a year-long National Endowment for the Humanities Research grant for 2014, so she will be able to complete and submit the finished manuscript to the University of Texas Press by the end of the year.
**Honors and Awards**

**Students**

**Rafael Climent-Espino**: College of Liberal Arts 2012 Distinguished Dissertation Award

The **SLC Chinese Program** sent five students to compete at the Midwest Chinese Speech and Performance Contest at Northwestern University on May 5.

**Julia Liston, Niki Ritchey/Philip Ritchey** received the silver medals, and **Lendsey Thicklin** and **Alain El Howayek** received the bronze medals.

---

**In Memoriam:**

**Dimitri Breschinsky**

Dr. Dimitri N. Breschinsky, 73, died suddenly on October 4, 2012. He was born on November 30, 1938, in Beijing China, to Russian émigrés who had fled Russia during the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. His family left China in 1939, fleeing Communism a second time. Eventually they settled in New York City where Dimitri attended Columbia College as an undergraduate. He then received his Ph.D. in Slavic Languages & Literatures from Vanderbilt University. On September 4, 1966, he married Zinaida A. Zukov in Glen Cove, New York. He came to Purdue in the fall of 1972 and taught, until the time of his passing, Russian language, literature, and culture in the School of Languages and Cultures. His primary areas of research were Old Russian literature as well as 19th century Russian authors. All his life he was an avid lover of nature, thus it was natural for him to become interested in the American nature writer and environmentalist Loren Eiseley. He introduced Eiseley to the Russian reader by publishing in Russia two volumes of his Russian translations of the author. He also became an established Eiseley scholar in the U. S., writing scholarly articles on the same author in English. In addition, for many years, Dr. Breschinsky was affiliated with the U.S. State Department, serving as a simultaneous Russian/English/Russian interpreter. He was a true bilingual and felt at home in both languages and cultures. He is survived by his wife Dr. Zinaida Breschinsky, who will retire from SLC in May 2013, as well as his brother- and sister-in-law and his nephew.

Text adapted from text originally published in Lafayette Journal & Courier.
Emerging Voices

Two School of Languages and Cultures graduates were recipients of the 2012 CLA Emerging Voice Award. Each is pictured below receiving her award with Dean Weiser and Missy Lewis, CLA Alumni Board President.

Julie O’Neil (below left) received a B.A. in Russian from Purdue SLC (then FLL) in 1994, and an M.A. in Slavic and Eastern European Studies from Ohio State University in 1995. She has been with the U.S. Olympic Committee for over a decade. She oversees the day-to-day operations for the internal Paralympic sport performance team as well as the sport development projects for Athletics Cycling, Swimming and Alpine & Nordic Skiing.

Koula Sophianu (below right) received a B.A. from the Brian Lamb School of Communications at Purdue University in 1995, and an M.A. in Spanish from Purdue SLC in 1997. She began her career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus in 1998. She first served at the Protocol and Consular Affairs Division, later at the Political Affairs Division. She was eventually named Consul-General of the Republic of Cyprus in New York in 2009.

Alumni News

Ryan J. Goodman, SLC B.A. awarded 2000: awarded Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of New Mexico following completion of his dissertation, How We Fight: Strategies at Emergence among Animal Rights and LGBTQ Rights Organizations.

The School of Languages and Cultures wants to hear from you. If you have professional or academic accomplishments you’d like to share, please contact:

jboys@purdue.edu

Aprendiendo a Leer

Aprendiendo a Leer is a research and community project (funded by Kinley Trust Foundation and Purdue Office of Engagement) geared toward helping children with Spanish language heritage improve their bilingual skills as a step toward future academic success. SLC Assistant Professor Alejandro Cuza-Blanco and SLC graduate student Lauren Miller supervise 14 Purdue students in weekly sessions (designed by the research team) to develop Spanish phonological skills and vocabulary in 55 students at Wea Ridge Elementary in Lafayette and Suncrest Elementary in Frankfort. Changes in the English and Spanish literacy of participants will be compared to those of a control group in Indianapolis. The results could help develop future curriculum or programs. Aprendiendo y Leer is in partnership with researchers from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, who are conducting a similar program focusing on heritage Chinese- and French-speaking students.

Text: based on press release by Amy Patterson Neubert
SLC Website

School of Languages & Cultures website was featured on Online-Education.net's list of 10 Most Creative Foreign Language Department Websites.

Movie Nights

SLC offered movies in Chinese and Portuguese as well as regularly-scheduled screenings of French and German language films throughout the semester.

International & Interdisciplinary Conference of the Association of History, Literature, Science & Technology

SLC Professors Yonsoo Kim and Song No hosted at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid from June 27 to 29, 2012.

Professor Howard Mancing of SLC was one of the plenary speakers of this conference.

It was another successful year.

Life Stories Symposium

On August 30, Thomas Broden organized a symposium held in the Stewart Center on campus. Free and open to the public, “Life Stories” brought together faculty throughout the Purdue University College of Liberal Arts who share research interests in biography or autobiography.

22 colleagues representing nine disciplines, four continents, seven different languages, and at least three distinct media spoke at the event. Nine faculty from SLC participated. Each faculty member gave a presentation on an aspect of researching and communicating a life story.

Several colleagues discussed challenges that one encounters in obtaining personal and official documents that enter into the composition of a narrative, particularly in the cases of groups and individuals who have historically been marginalized, such as minorities, women, and native populations. Papers noted the variety of sources useful for research, including personal papers, official documents, and published scholarship, and discussed the relative trustworthiness of each category. Colleagues showed how life stories are expressed in biographies and autobiographies, in historical accounts, in fictional or fictionalized stories, in films, paintings, and photographs, and are relevant to philosophical reflection.

Presenters and listeners alike enthusiastically endorsed the opportunity to work together, share ideas, hear varied perspectives and challenges, and discuss in an informal and collegial atmosphere.

The event was made possible by a major grant from the College of Liberal Arts’ “Enhancing Research in the Humanities and Arts” initiative as well as by generous support from SLC and the Department of History. SLC faculty included specialists of the Caribbean, Chinese, Classics, French, German, Japanese, and Latin American, while other speakers represented Anthropology, Archives and Special Collections, Art History, English, History, Interior Design, and Philosophy.

World Film Forum

Due to generous co-sponsorship (SLC, Film & Video Studies, and additional help to cover screening rights fees), the World Film Forum took place as a mini-film festival open to the entire community at Lafayette Theater. Three films chosen around a theme of mystery and suspense were presented by SLC faculty including Fritz Cohen, Patty Hart, and Visiting Prof. Clotilde Landais with discussions following the screenings.
IDIS Engagement Fair

We’d like to share some pictures of SLC faculty and students at the CLA IDIS and Engagement Fair.

Top Left: Prof. Cuza-Blanco & Graduate Student Lauren Miller with another student; Below: Prof. Wei Hong with a student.

Top Right: Lecturer Julie Harrell Bottom Left:: Prof. Bob Channon and Prof. Patricia Hart.

Photos by Joyce Detzner

Upcoming Events:
Spring 2013

International & Interdisciplinary Conference of the Association of History, Literature, Science & Technology

Professors Yonsoo Kim and Song No will host the 2013 International and Interdisciplinary Conference of the Association of History, Literature, Science and Technology at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.

Spanish Service-learning Health Fair

The second Spanish Service-learning Informational Health Fair will take place in April 2013. Students enrolled in the Spring 2013 Spanish Service-learning course will begin planning the event in January 2013.

The first fair, which took place April 17, 2012, was organized by three Spanish Service-learning, Ayuda y Aprende students, with the help and support of the College of Liberal Arts Office of Engagement and the School of Languages and Cultures.

Students served as Spanish interpreters and translators. Materials in English and Spanish were also provided.

Collin Hanson and Christine Kane, Pharmacy students enrolled in the Spanish Service-learning course during the Fall 2012 semester, wrote and designed a Spanish/English booklet for pharmacies and and native Spanish-speakers who need help ordering or picking up prescriptions.

Collin and Christine will continue to develop this project as Service-learning students in the Spring 2013 semester.