The College of Arts and Sciences welcomes the following new tenure-track faculty. Please come to meet them at the **CAS Fall reception in the Philips Autograph Library, on Thursday, September 23, at 3:30 P.M.**

**Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry,** received her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Seton Hall University, has taught at William Paterson University and Monmouth University, and has recently held a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Her research focuses on the biology of dying by examining genetic disorders that accelerate features of a natural aging, and she has presented several papers based on this research.

**Joby L. Hilliker, Geology/Astronomy,** received his Ph.D. in Meteorology from Pennsylvania State University and has taught at Penn State. He has also been employed as a weather forecaster, a television meteorologist, and a weather analyst for energy traders. His research interests include statistical forecast products for weather parameters most sensitive to the aviation, energy, and trucking industries. He has several publications and conference presentations related to aviation meteorology.

**Lauri L. Hyers, Psychology,** received her Ph.D. in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University and has taught at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Penn State. Her area of specialization is social psychology, including the psychology of women and girls and multi-/cross-cultural psychology. She has many publications and conference presentations and recently received a grant from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.

**Megan J. McLain, Women’s Studies,** received her M.A. in Women’s Studies from Villanova University. She has been a researcher for the Villanova Women’s Studies program, has been active in the Greater Philadelphia Women’s Studies Consortium, and has published in the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Annual.

**J. Kanan Sawyer, Communication Studies,** received her Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Texas at Austin and has taught at the University of Texas, Austin Community College, and the University of Washington. Her research examines political mobilization messages effects, primarily focusing on emotion effects in mobilization messages on subsequent political mobilization. She has published book chapters, presented many papers, and received the 2002 Lazarsfeld Award for the top political communications paper at the American Political Science Association Conference.

**Gregory Turner, Biology,** received his Ph.D. in Biology from Fordham University and has taught at Virginia Western Community College, Fordham University, and the New York City Public Schools. He has also been a research intern for the E.P.A. and the N.Y. City Department of Environmental Protection. His research interests are plant biology and science education. He has published in the Journal of Applied Ecology and has given several presentations at the annual meetings of the Ecological Society of America.

The American Chemical Society held its Fall 2004 National Meeting in Philadelphia during the week of August 22nd. As in the past, **WCU chemistry faculty** contributed greatly to the success of this important event.
o Melissa Cichowicz, as Chair of the host Philadelphia Section ACS, helped in special publications, planning and fund raising for the event and represented the section at a number of the receptions during the week. Additionally, she wrote the Chair's "Welcome to Philadelphia for the National Meeting" and co-authored with Lissa Hess an article on regional Philadelphia curiosities. They were included in a special August issue of the section newsletter, Catalyst, which was given to all attendees.

o Helen Reid was co-chair of a symposium on Forensic Chemistry Education on August 24-25. At that session:
  - John Fenton (recently retired) presented “Toxicology in the Undergraduate Forensic Chemistry Curriculum.”
  - James Miller (adjunct Professor) from the PA State Police Laboratory presented “Introductory Class Exercises in the Forensic Examination of Hair.”
  - Timothy Starn and Christine Neal (student) presented “Analysis of Accelerants on Carpet: an Undergraduate Laboratory Exercise Concerning Arson.”
  - Ted Schwartz (Westchester County Forensic Laboratory, Valhalla, NY and WCU graduate) and Helen Reid presented “Teaching Impression Evidence to Forensic Science Students.”

o Jim Falcone, chaired the committee (that included John Townsend) that organized the High School Day program and the High School/College Interaction luncheon. The all-day program for High School teachers focused on recent research aimed at chemistry instruction reform. It included speakers from Youngstown State University, Franklin and Marshall College, Temple University, NYU, the University of Pennsylvania, WCU and several local High Schools.
  - Jim Falcone and John Townsend presented “Electricity: Operation Chemistry, CETP-PA, and Constructivism in the K-12 Classroom” where they discussed the development of the chemistry component of the innovative SCI102 Electricity course for elementary education majors.

o Felix Goodson and his students presented two posters at the Undergraduate Research Poster Session: Polymer chemistry. Tony Nicastro (Physics) coauthored one poster:
  - “Alternating rigid-flexible block copolymers: Molecular weight optimization and fluorescent characterization” J.R. Zimbalist (student), T.B. Carter (student), F.E. Goodson.

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Hannah Ashley, English, was asked to join the editorial board of the peer-reviewed Journal of Basic Writing.

Joshua Ball, Geology Astronomy major, was the 2004 Chester County recipient of the “Person of Promise Award” by the Delaware Valley Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. He was presented the award at a dinner held on May 12. Mr. Ball graduated in May 2004 with a BSEd in Earth Space Science.


Giovanni Casotti, Biology, presented the paper, “Protein localization and ion composition of urine spheres in birds” with Professor Eldon Braun (University of Arizona) at the Annual Meeting of the American Physiological Society (FASEB) in April. Professor Casotti also published the paper “Localization and elemental composition of urine spheres in different avian species” in the Journal of Experimental Biology, 2004, 301A: 579-587.

Jonathan Coul, M.A. in Holocaust and Genocide Studies 2004, received the Pennsylvania Association for Graduate Students “Thesis of the Year Award” for his thesis entitled “The Complicity of the German Government in the Armenian Genocide in 1915.” He received a fellowship at the University of Toronto for further study.

Matthew Davis and Meghan Kelley, Mathematics majors, presented the paper, “Loops and Bands” at the Mathematical Association of America’s annual MathFest, in August. Lisa Marano, Mathematics, was the faculty supervisor.


Frank Fish, Biology, co-authored the paper entitled “High performance turning capabilities during foraging by bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus)” with Jennifer Maresh, Biology student, who was lead author. The paper was published in Marine Mammal Science, 20(3): 498-509 (2004). The other co-authors are D. Nowacek, FSU, S. Nowacek, and Randall Wells of the Mote Marine Laboratory.

Dennis Godfrey, English, presented the paper “The ESL Classroom as a Healthy Organization” at the Penn TESOL-East Spring Conference in April.

Frank Hoffman, Philosophy, was awarded a Rotary Grant for University Teachers and taught this past summer at the School of Philosophy, Wuhan University, Peoples Republic of China.


Susan Johnston, Anthropology/Sociology, was awarded a grant from the American Philosophical Society and an FDC award to continue her work with the Blackfeet Nation to develop a culturally competent diet assessment instrument.

Lisa Kirschenbaum, History, presented the paper “National Mythmaking and Forgetting: The Siege of Leningrad” at the Metropolitan Catastrophes conference at the Institute of Historical

V.K. Kumar, Psychology, has co-authored an article entitled “Self-hypnosis Relapse Prevention Training with Chronic Drug/Alcohol Users: Effects on Self-Esteem, Affect, and Relapse” with R.J. Pekala, Coatesville Medical Center, R. Maurer, former WCU student, and others from Coatesville Medical Center. The article was published in the American Journal of Clinical Hypnosis, April, 2004, Vol. 26, 281-297.


Katherine Northrop, English, presented a paper “Finding Your Form” at the 20th Anniversary Wick Poetry Center Celebration at Kent State University. Professor Northrop published six poems: “What Goes Through It” and “Farmhouse in the Landscape” in Louisiana Literature; “The Husband Thief” and “The Striking Blondes” in Ducky4; and “The Geranium” and “Her Body in the Landscape” in The Philadelphia Poets. Professor Northrop received a grant from the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance and PCA Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Program to fund the Creative Writing Reading Series. She was a featured reader at the summer writing program at Bryn Mawr College.


Maria Van Liew, Foreign Languages, presented “It’s Not Enough to Just Be Els Pets: Surviving Success in Contemporary Catalonia” at the Mediterranean Studies Association Conference in Barcelona, Spain, in May.
Matthew Waite, Physics, co-authored “Surface Analysis of the Initial Stages of Si Film Growth” in Materials Science and Engineering, 2004, with K. Xu, and S. Ismat Shah.

CAS Highlights
September/October 2004

The CAS reception for new faculty was held on September 23rd in the Philips Autograph Library. The new faculty are: Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry; Joby Hilliker, Geology/Astronomy; Lauri Hyers, Psychology; Megan McLain, Women’s Studies; Gregory Turner, Biology; and J. Kanan Sawyer, Communication Studies.

The Mathematics Department held its Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, October 23rd, in Traditions, Lawrence Hall. The following awards were presented: The Class of ‘43 Mathematics Award—Matthew Davis; The Mathematics Endowment Awards—Mysha Bender, James Burbano, Tracey Driehaus, Meghan Kelley, Ryan Lubas, Heather Mafodda, Michael Miles, Michael Pragor, Melissa Stoner, and Kendra Wood; Michael Montemuro Award—Joseph Menta; Mark Wiener Award—Beatrice Ginsburg, Ryane Lawson, and Megan Ames; Dr. and Mrs. Albert E. Filano Mathematics Scholarship—Blaise Canfield.

The English Department hosted its first Research Day on October 28. During a full day of presentations, readings, and roundtables, 24 faculty, 12 graduate students, and 20 undergraduates (from the English Department, others on campus, and Cheyney University), shared their current and past research. English graduate students who presented papers included: Kelly Allen, Adrienne Brown, Erin Daly, Theresa Hastings, Tom Magee, Jeffrey Markovitz, Justin McClelland, Jenine Quercetti, and Kellyann Woehr and undergraduate students, John Hart and Dominic Umile.

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Naseer Ahmad, Chemistry, has published “Inhibition of corrosion of mild steel with the exploitation of emeraldine base and some pretreatments,” Journal of Indian Chemical Society, Vol. 81, September 2004, pp. 770-772.


Mary Buckelew, English and Associate Director, Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Program, and Dr. Cecelia Evans received a $10,000 grant from The Ethel Sergeant Clark Smith Memorial Fund for Dr. Evans’ “With Pen in Hand” family literacy program—a popular program which meets every Saturday and serves families in Delaware and Chester County.

Margaret Ervin and Victoria Tishio, English, and Vanessa Cozza, English graduate student, presented papers on a collaborative project among students in a section of WRT120 (Effective Writing) and ENG392 (Teaching Writing in Secondary Schools) at the English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities (EAPSU) meeting held on October 21 at California University of PA.
Frank Fish, Biology, presented an invited seminar, “Hydrodynamic designs for stability and maneuverability in marine mammals,” to the Biology Department at St. Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, in September. In October, Professor Fish presented an invited seminar “Hydrodynamic designed for maneuverability in marine mammals: It’s not rocket science...well yes it is but in a good way,” at Duke University Marine Laboratory.


Charles Hardy, History, was a panelist in the session on digital technologies at the International Oral History Association bi-annual meeting held in Rome this summer. This fall, he presented a paper on interviewing animal rights activists at the Oral History Association 2004 annual meeting. Also, Professor Hardy was a Pennsylvania Historical Association 2004 meeting plenary session commentator on “In the Dead Fire’s Ashes,” a video documentary on the 1903 lynching of George White in Wilmington, Delaware. He was appointed this summer by Governor Rendell to the Pennsylvania Historical Preservation Board. In addition, Professor Hardy served as a radio funding panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and as a historical consultant and script reviewer for Leonard Bernstein: An American Life, the documentary series currently airing on public radio stations nationwide. In September, Exploreahistory.com, for which he is supervising project historian received a $300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. His article, “The Watering of Philadelphia,” appeared in the spring 2004 issue of Pennsylvania Heritage.


Rodney Mader, English, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Friends of Graeme Park. Graeme Park, in Horsham, is the only surviving home of a colonial governor of Pennsylvania, Sir William Keith. It was also the home to Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson, a poet and saloniste known as “the most learned woman in America” during the Revolutionary period.

Garrett Molholt, English and Director, ESL Program and Graduate Coordinator, TESL Program, was a member of the scientific review committee of the International Conference on Spoken Language Processing (ICSLP) for the annual conference in South Korea in October. In addition, he and Hee-Yeoun Yoon, a graduate student, gave a paper at the international Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO) in June.

Kate Northrop, English, and five WCU students from the poetry seminar, "Writing in Traditional and Experimental Forms," were the featured readers on October 22 at the Coatesville Cultural Society.

Merry Perry, English, published a co-edited collection, War and Words: Horror and Heroism in the Literature of Warfare, with Lexington Books/Rowman and Littlefield. Also, she co-authored the Introduction for that collection with Sara Munson Deats and
Lagretta Tallent Lenker. In addition, she presented a paper entitled “Analyzing Media Violence: Using Cultural Studies to Enhance Undergraduate Writing Instruction and Critical Literacies” at the EAPSU (English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities) Conference in October. Two English graduate students presented papers at the same conference: Tom Magee presented, “‘New Ways of Looking and Seeing’: The Importance of the Novel in Today’s Technologically Driven Economy” and Lisa Shafer, presented a paper entitled “Webbing the Disciplines through English—The New Technology” at the EAPSU (English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities) Conference on Oct. 22, 2004 in California, PA.

Paul Stoller, Anthropology/Sociology, was invited to present a lecture entitled “Living Ritual” at the University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany on October 19. He also participated in an Advanced Seminar, “Writing Culture,” at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, October 27-29.


Richard Woodruff, Biology (retired), was an invited speaker at a Gordon Research Conference on Bioelectrochemistry in July. The title of his talk was “Asymmetry in a Syncytial System Imposed by Self-Electrophoresis.”

Joan Woolfrey, Philosophy, presented a paper entitled “Reproductive Technologies Industry and Informed Consent” at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities in October.

Anthony Zumpetta, Anthropology/Sociology, has published The Video Professor: Applying Lessons in Sociology to Classic and Modern Films, 2004, Allyn and Bacon. Also, Professor Zumpetta was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for continued and meritorious service to the Pennsylvania Sociological Society at their 54th Annual Conference. In the past, he has held the positions of President, Program Chair, Vice-President, and Secretary and has served as guest editor of the Society’s refereed journal Sociological Viewpoints and editor of their newsletter Socioline.
November/December 2004

Several CAS Faculty received awards at the December 2004 Commencement Ceremony: Marshall Becker, (retired) Anthropology/Sociology, and Lynette McGrath, (retired) English, received Emeritus status; Helen Berger, Anthropology/Sociology, Faculty Merit for Scholarship; Gail Gallitano, Mathematics, Faculty Merit for Service; and Richard Woodruff, (retired) Biology, received the Distinguished Sponsored Research Award.

The PT3 (Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology) Program has awarded grants to several CAS faculty for the fifth year. Rebecca Pauly and Andrea Varricchio, Foreign Languages, will each receive AWA for the spring semester. Thomas Smith, Mathematics, will receive a $2,000 mini-grant. Recipients will carry out projects to improve technology integration in a course they teach. Ellen Newcombe, Jack Kinslow, and Marlene Goss are PT3 co-directors.

The Department of Communication Studies and the Department of Criminal Justice teamed up to hold a film screening and debate about media and politics. Professor Nestlerode, Criminal Justice, obtained the films, “OutFOXED: An Expose of FOX News” and “Orwell Rolls Over in His Grave.” About seventy-five students attended the screening followed by a debate between Professors David Levasseur and Ed Lordan, Communication Studies, discussing the media’s role in the November 2004 election.

The Department of Foreign Languages held the 2004 World Languages Workshops entitled “In Search of Language” on November 13 in Sykes Student Union. Foreign Language Department faculty participants included: Michel Sage, Alice Speh, and Andrea Varricchio. Professor Charles Grove coordinated the event.

On November 12, thirty WCU students participated in a Philadelphia media tour coordinated by the WCU Chapter of Women and Men in Communications. The students sat in on the daily news meeting at the Philadelphia Inquirer, visited the press and locker rooms of the Philadelphia Eagles, received a private tour of City Hall, and ended the day with an hour-long discussion with the principles of the Red Tettemer Advertising Agency, one of the city’s premier advertising firms. Professor Ed Lordan, Communication Studies, is advisor to the WCU Chapter of Women and Men in Communications.

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Juanita Comfort, English, was elected to the Executive Committee of the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) for a two-year term, 2005-2007.


Stacey Schlau, Foreign Languages, gave the keynote lecture entitled, “Unruly Women: Gendered Religion in Colonial Latin America,” at the 1st Spanish Graduate Symposium/Lecture in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Delaware on December 1.

Alice Speh, Foreign Languages, presented the paper, “Multicultural Competence for the Monolingual” at the national conference of the Association for General and Liberal Studies on October 29. The presentation discussed the role of foreign language and culture education in the liberal arts curriculum.

CAS Highlights
January/February 2005

Many CAS faculty, staff, and students were involved in Civility Day on February 14. Kate Northrop and Hyoejin Yoon, English Department, were the coordinators of the event. The following gave presentations: Andrea Varricchio, Celia Esplugas, Margarete Landwehr, Michel Sage, Alice Speh, Ana Sanchez, and French students from Foreign Languages; Eleanor Shevlin, Jess Carmichael (student) Amanda Larkin, (student), C. James Trotman, Rodney Mader, Jen Bacon, Elizabeth Larsen, Cheryl Wanko, Chairperson, and additional students from English; Tim Brown, Communication Studies; LaTonya Thames-Leonard, History; Meg Panichelli, Women’s Studies major; and Jennie Skerl, CAS Associate Dean.

The WCU Forensics team talked its way to a First Place finish at the Presidential-Love Swing Forensics Tournaments on Saturday and Sunday, February 12-13, at Suffolk University in Boston, MA. The swing featured two tournaments back-to-back in commemoration of Presidents’ Day and Valentine’s Day. The WCU team took First Place at the Presidential Tournament sponsored by the University of Florida; the team earned Second Place at the Love Tournament sponsored by Suffolk University. WCU finished in First Place in the combined tournaments team awards, and Stephanie Hofelich won the Second Place combined tournaments Trithon Award. Teams in attendance included Boston University, Cornell University, Creighton University, James Madison University, Missouri Southern University, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Suffolk University, The United States Military Academy at West Point, and the University of Florida.

On February 15, the English Department held its annual alumni panel, “What Can You Do With an English Degree?” Four WCU English graduates talked to students about their careers: Stacey Smoyer, an editor of a medical journal; Daniel Layden, a lawyer; Victoria Mulhern, an administrator at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and Paul Greeley, Vice President of Marketing and Promotions at Nexstar Broadcasting.

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Frank Fish, Biology, and Anthony Nicastro, Physics, presented the paper “Dynamics of the aerial maneuvers of spinner dolphins,” at annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, which was held in San Diego in January. Also, Professor Fish presented an invited seminar on Biomechanics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine at New Bolton Center.

Constance Garcia-Barrio, Foreign Languages, has published an article, “Bringing the Common Man to Life,” in Pennsylvania Magazine, Vol. 28, No. 1, January/February 2005, p. 50. The article describes the living-history portrayals of Bill Kashatus, who has taught in the History Department.

Susan Johnston, Anthropology/Sociology, co-organized a session at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in December entitled “Food Tourism—identity, social change, and dietary colonialism in the process of ‘doing research’” in which she presented a paper entitled “Eating with the ‘other’ – gazing in two directions.”


Ruth Porritt, Philosophy, and Stacey Schlau, Foreign Languages, served on a panel, “Valuing the Feminine Within: Views on Feminism and Leadership,” as part of WCU’s Spring Leadership Experience on February 18. This event was organized by several students: Lauren Bissinger, English major, Sabrina Rightmer, Sociology major, Tiffany Burton, Women’s Studies minor, and Marlaina Geffers, Political Science major.

John Townsend, Chemistry, has published an interchapter entitled “The Chemistry of Life: Biochemistry” in Chemistry and Chemical Reactivity, by John C. Kotz, Paul M. Treichel, and Gabriella C. Weaver (Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2006), pp. 530-545. Professor Townsend is also a reviewer and member of the Advisory Board for this textbook. James Falcone and Roger Barth, Chemistry, are also cited as reviewers.
Stefani Yorges, Psychology, was a featured researcher interviewed for an article on charismatic leadership in the January 2005 issue of the American Psychological Association Monitor, Vol. 36, p. 28.

Anthony Zumpetta, Anthropology/Sociology, has recently been appointed editor of Sociological Viewpoints, the journal of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society.

CAS Highlights
March/April 2005

CAS Faculty who were honored as “Outstanding Faculty Members” by fraternities and sororities at the annual “Greek Scholarship and Faculty Appreciation Banquet” on April 21 are as follows: Ellen Bluestone, English; Timothy Brown, Communication Studies; Melissa Cichowicz, Chemistry and Pre-Medical Program; Andrea Fishman, English and Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Program; Anita Foeman, Communication Studies; John Kerrigan, Mathematics; Ed Lordan, Communication Studies; Lisa Marano, Mathematics; Martin Remland, Communication Studies; Joel Ressner, Chemistry; and, Eric Wellington, Communication Studies.

The College of Arts and Sciences held its annual Student Recognition Ceremony on April 27, which was very well attended by students, family members, faculty, and the deans. Douglas Reeser, Anthropology major and Spanish minor, received the 2005 CAS Outstanding Student Award. Rebecca Odom, Communication Studies major with Political Science; and Michelle Wentz, Biology, received Honorable Mention. CAS faculty serving on the selection committee were: Professors Steven Broitman, Biology; Anne Marie Moscatelli, Foreign Languages; Viorel Nitica, Mathematics; Katherine Northrop, English; and Stefani Yorges, Psychology. The names of other students who were honored at the event can be found on the program posted in a CAS display case on the first floor of Main Hall. The faculty members who organized the reception are: Professors Karen Fitts, English; Blaise Frost, Chemistry; and Alice Speh, Foreign Languages and Liberal Studies.

The Foreign Languages Department held its Faculty Research Day on April 17, 2005. Presentations were given by Professors Donna Chambers, Celia Esplugas, Margarete Landwehr, Anne-Marie Moscatelli, Rebecca Pauly, Michel Sage, Maria Van Liew, Stacey Schlau, Andrea Varricchio, and Jerry Williams. Associate Dean Jennie Skerl gave the welcome.

The following CAS faculty received CASSDA awards in the Spring 2005 semester: Erminio Braidotti, Foreign Languages; G. Win Fairchild, Biology; Susan Gans, Psychology; Joby Hilliker, Geology/Astronomy; Linda Myrsiades, English; Viorel Nitica, Mathematics; Joel Ressner, Chemistry; and Cheryl Wanko, English.

The following CAS students who have received CAS Undergraduate Research Awards in the Spring 2005 semester are: Mary Black, Psychology; Renee Cavanagh, Psychology; Tristan Colestock, Biology, Dena Kuritz, Psychology; Lisa McCann, English, and Maureen Vita, Psychology.

The WCU Research Consortium held Research Day on March 15, 2005. CAS students who received WCU Student Research and Creative Activities Awards were: Timothy Golden, Philosophy graduate student; Tyler Bradway, English; Matthew Connell, History; Meira Elliot, Geology/Astronomy; and Jennifer Zimbalist, Chemistry. CAS faculty participants were Professors Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry; Roger
Barth, Chemistry; Giovanni Casotti, Biology; Susan Gans, Psychology; Karin Gedge, History; Felix Goodson, Chemistry; Frank Hoffman, Philosophy, Jonathan Friedman, Holocaust & Genocide Studies; Anthony Nicastro, Physics; Gerald Hertel, Biology; Martin Remland, Communication Studies; Eleanor Shevlin, English; and Waclaw Szymanski, Mathematics. CAS faculty who helped organize the event were Roger Barth, Chemistry, and Eleanor Shevlin, English.

The WCU Forensics (speech and debate team) battled its way to a Superior Team Award at the 44th Biennial Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament and Convention held on March 16-19 at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. Superior is the highest honor a team can be awarded at this 92-year-old competition. More than 400 competitors from 72 colleges and universities vied for awards at this speaking contest which featured over two thousand speeches, debates and literary performances. Students who received individual awards include: Shaundi Billet, Art major, Katrina Dix, Philosophy and English major, Nicole Donahue, Communication Studies major, Karen Francica, undeclared major, Stephanie Hofelich, Political Science major, Meredith Madwatkins, Accounting and Finance major, Russell Moll, Music Education and Honors student, Eric Smith, Math Education and Honors student, and Lauren Willey, Psychology major and Honors student. Professor Mark Hickman, Communication Studies is the advisor.

The WCU Chapter of Women and Men in Communications held “Communications Career Night” on March 15. One hundred students attended to hear six speakers give advice on job hunting and interviewing techniques to descriptions of the day-to-day lives of professionals in advertising, PR, events planning, and journalism. Jennifer Wolf, Communication Studies major, hosted the event. Professor Ed Lordan is the group’s advisor.

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Naseer Ahmad, Chemistry, published the articles, “A novel soluble and conducting polyaniline” and “Inhibition of corrosion of mild steel with the exploitation of emeraldine base and some pretreatments” in J. Indian Chemical Society, 2004, July and September issues.


Anne Herzog, English, co-edited The Collected Poems of Muriel Rukeyser with Dr. Janet Kaufman (University of Utah). The collection includes a critical introduction to her life and work and is fully annotated. It was published by the U of Pittsburg Press, May 2005.


Stacey Schlau, Foreign Languages, was an invited speaker at the Women, Religion, and the Atlantic World (1600-1800) conference, sponsored by the UCLA Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies and the William Andrew Clark Memorial Library at UCLA in April. Her lecture was entitled “Maria de Zarate and the Mexican Inquisition: Peculiarities, Posturings, and Problems.”

Eleanor Shevlin, English, has been awarded the Kluge Fellowship by the Library of Congress and an NEH Summer Stipend.

Melissa Stoner, Mathematics Education major, and Josh Holmes, Psychology major, have been selected to represent WCU at the 2005 SSHE International Summer Honors Scholars Project. This year’s event is being hosted by Clarion University and will focus on France.

Victoria Tishio, English, gave an invited keynote lecture entitled "From Critical Reflection to Social Action: Reclaiming a Role for Imagination in Critical English Studies" at the Sixth Annual SCSU Graduate English Conference at Southern Connecticut University in April.

CAS Highlights
June/July/August 2005

The College of Arts and Sciences welcomes the following new tenure-track faculty. Please come to meet them at the CAS Fall reception in the Philips Autograph Library, on Thursday, September 15, at 3:30 P.M.

Kevin B. Aptowicz, Physics, received his Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Yale University and has taught at Yale, University of Colorado, and Columbia University. He has conducted research on developing an aerosol micro-particle classifier based on angularly resolved elastic light scattering over multiple wavelengths from the ultraviolet to the mid-infrared. This research has resulted in publications, papers, and a patent.
Eleanor D. Brown, Psychology, received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Delaware, did a clinical internship at Brown University Medical School, and has experience as a therapist. Her area of specialization is the psychological adjustment of schoolchildren from disadvantaged families. She has published several research papers, book chapters, and abstracts and has also served as a Legislative Fellow in the U.S. Congress.

Cecilia Lee-Fang Chien, History, received her Ph.D. from Harvard and has taught at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Harvard. Her area of specialization is Asian/Chinese History. She has published a book, Salt and State: An Annotated Translation of the Song Salt Monopoly Treatise, and has several publications and presentations.

Martin Frederick Helmke, Geology/Astronomy, received his Ph.D. in Geology and Water Resources from Iowa State University. He has taught at Dickinson College and Iowa State, and has applied experience as a hydrologist and environmental scientist. His area of specialization is hydrology, with many publications, presentations, grants, and awards in his field, including the Horton Award from the Hydrology Section of the American Geophysical Union.

Bin Lu, Computer Science, received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from Texas A & M University, where she has been a teaching assistant and research assistant. Her research interests include network security, quality of services, wireless ad hoc networks, and game theory. Her dissertation proposed a security system to protect quality of service mechanisms in mobile ad hoc networks, and she has given several presentations related to this work.

Graham MacPhee, English, received his Ph.D. from the University of Sussex and has taught at the University of Portsmouth, Queens College CUNY, and the School of Visual Arts (NYC). His research interests include modernist literature and culture, postcolonial writing, film and visual culture, and literature and philosophy. Her has published a book, The Architecture of the Visible: Technology and Urban Visual Culture; and an edited volume, Empire and After: Englishness in Postcolonial Perspective (with Prem Poddar); and several articles and book chapters.

James McLaughlin, Mathematics, received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has taught at Trinity College, University of Illinois, and University College, Dublin. His research interests are in number theory, with many recent publications and presentations on continued fractions.

Oné R. Pagán, Biology, received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology from Cornell University and has taught at the University of Puerto Rico, the Universidad Metropolitana (P.R.), and the Universidad Central de Caribe Medical School (P.R.). He is a pharmacologist with a particular interest in neuro-active natural products. He has published several papers on his research concerning the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor and holds two patents.

Denise M. Polk, Communication Studies, received her Ph.D. in Communication Studies from Kent State University. She has taught at Bridgewater College, Baldwin-Wallace College, and Notre Dame College. She specializes in communication theory that focuses on interpersonal, family, and health issues. She has several publications on these topics, and she also has work experience in applied communications (public relations, marketing, training).
Helen Daley Schroepfer, Philosophy, received her Ph.D. in Religion from Temple University and has taught at Temple, West Chester University, and Lebanon Valley College. Her areas of specialization include philosophy of religion, history of Christian ethics, moral and cognitive development theories, and feminist theory. Her dissertation is entitled “Self and Other: Justice in the Thought of Jacques Derrida and Jean Piaget,” and she has presented several papers drawn from this work.

Karen M. Vanlandingham Schwarz, Geology/Astronomy, received her Ph.D. in Astronomy from Arizona State University and has taught at the University of Arizona and the Columbia University Biosphere 2 Center. Her research interests are novae, and her dissertation was entitled “Analysis of Three Fast Oxygen-Neon-Magnesium Novae.” For several years, she directed public open houses at the ASU observatory.

Geeta Shivde, Psychology, received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Oregon and was recently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research interests include neural substrates of working memory and retrieval from long-term memory, processing and maintenance of semantic information in working memory, and inhibitory processes in semantic and episodic memory. She has several publications and conference presentations drawn from this research.

Karyn M. Usher, Chemistry, received her Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Florida State University. She is an expert on separation science and detection techniques as utilized in forensic science. She has been a research assistant, teaching assistant, and laboratory assistant at Florida State and is the author of several abstracts, posters, and technical presentations.

Heather A. Wholey, Anthropology/Sociology, received her Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America and has taught at Catholic University and West Chester University. Her specialization is the prehistory of the Eastern North American woodlands, and she has conducted fieldwork in the Eastern U.S. and Guatemala. She has given many scholarly presentations, served as a consultant for proposed construction sites, and worked on public archeology projects with students and community volunteers.


Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry, and Erum Azeez presented “Interaction of N-methyl mesoporphyrin IX NMM with quadruplex DNA formed from S.cerevisiae telomeric sequences” at the Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting on May 22.


Giovanni Casotti, Maureen Knabb, Judith Greenamyer, Biology, and Loretta Rieser-Danner, Psychology, were recently awarded an NSF CCLI grant in the amount of $112,049, entitled “Inquiry-based physiology curriculum integration at West Chester University of Pennsylvania.” The grant aims to introduce computer equipment into three physiology courses thus enabling inquiry-based student learning.

Frank Fish, Biology, published the article, “An Egg-ceptionally Egg-celent Egg-periment: Testing the influence of morphological design,” in the SICB Digital Library (http://sicb.org/dl/biomechanicsdetails.php3?id=30). He presented an invited talk, “Swimming kinematics and maneuverability of the Manta ray and other myliobatids,” at the Manta Symposium at Princeton University. Also, he presented the paper, “Dynamics of the aerial maneuvers of spinner dolphins: Association of mechanics with extreme performance,” at the Fourth Triannual Evolution of Aquatic Tetrapods Conference in Akron, Ohio, May 16—20. Professor Anthony Nicastro, Physics, and Dr. Daniel Weihs, Technion, were co-authors. Dr. Fish was a co-organizer of the conference.

Gail Gallitano, Mathematics, received a grant from Texas Instruments for the 2005 summer workshop, West Chester University Teachers Teaching with Technology Inservice/Preservice Training Program. The program, founded by Professor Gallitano in 1995 is in its 12th year of operation and has trained approximately 2,000 mathematics, science, and elementary school teachers on the use of the graphing calculator in the classroom. Also, Professor Gallitano was awarded a special grant to host the TI Navigator Fast Track Workshop held at WCU in August.


Charles Hardy, III, History, had his website, ExplorePAhistory.com, the award-winning state history website, co-produced with WITF and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, launch six new stories supervised and edited by him. He was also co-author of the story, “Agriculture and Rural Life,” with Professor Steven Gimber, History. In addition, he wrote the “Peale Museum Interactive,” designed by James Booth of the Pennsylvania State Museum. In June, Professor Hardy was the Lead Historian for the Brown County Indiana Social Studies Teacher Summer Institute, sponsored by National Council for Public History, and planner of “Generations: A Biographical Approach to American History,” the Millersville University First Annual Institute in American History, at which he gave presentations in July.

Anne Herzog, English, presented the paper, “Mary Oliver and the ‘Theatre of the Spiritual’: Mapping the Lines between Soul and Landscape,” at the NEMLA’s Annual Conference, Boston, MA, March 31—April 3. The Panel was called “The Poetry and Prose of Mary Oliver.”

Josh Holmes, Psychology major, was awarded a six-month Rotary Cultural Scholarship for 2006-07 in Germany. The $20,000 scholarship will allow Josh to live for six months with a host family in Germany or Vienna, and he may take language classes for 4 hours Monday through Friday. He is former President of the Honors Student Association, and was one of two students who represented WCU this past summer in the SSHE Honors International Scholars Program in France.

Kathleen Jackson, Mathematics, was featured in two newspaper articles in the Daily Local News and The Kennett Paper, due to the success of her summer math camp held at Mary D. Lang Elementary School in Kennett Consolidated School District, August 1—5. The camp helps
third and fourth grade students develop their mathematics skills. All of the leaders are WCU elementary education majors with a mathematics minor. Professor Jackson held the first math camp last year with 28 students and six camp leaders. This summer, there were 45 students participating with nine leaders.


Lisa Kirschenbaum, History, presented the paper, “Hero Mothers on the City Front: Blurred Boundaries and the Commemoration of the Siege of Leningrad,” at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women at Scripps College in June. Also, she presented a paper entitled, “Masculinity and the Commemoration of the Siege of Leningrad,” at the VII World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies in Berlin in July.


Garry Molholt, English, is a member of the Scientific Review Committee of the 9th European Conference on Speech Communication and Technology, Interspeech 2005, in Lisbon, Portugal, September 4-9.


Eleanor Shevlin, English, spent June in England researching an 18th-Century publishing network, supported by an NEH Summer Stipend. In July, she presented a paper entitled, “Harrison & Co.’s Print Corpus and the Production of 18th-Century Culture,” at the Material Cultures Conference sponsored by the Centre for the Book at the University of Edinburgh.

Jennie Skerl, Associate Dean, was the respondent on the panel, “Border-crossing Beats: Genre and Gender,” at the American Literature Association annual conference on May 27. She also gave a presentation at the Beat Studies Association meeting which took place at the same conference.

Paul Stoller, Anthropology/Sociology, presented an invited lecture, “Jean Rouch and Memory,” at a conference, “Memory and Migration,” held at the Academie Schloss
Solitude in Stuttgart, Germany, June 9-12. Professor Stoller was a faculty member at the Northwest Writing Institute at Lewis and Clark College, where he taught a writing workshop, “Ethnography and Memoir,” from June 19-26. In June, the University of Chicago Press published his new book, Gallery Bundu, A Story of African Past, a novel.


John R. Townsend, Chemistry, has published the Study Guide for Chemistry and Chemical Reactivity (textbook by Kotz, Treichel, and Weaver), Belmont, CA: Thomson, Brooks/Cole, 2006. This is a widely used textbook and study guide.


CAS Highlights
September/October 2005

The Sally Ride Science Festival took place on the WCU campus on October 9. Over 450 schoolchildren and their parents attended. The Festival was aimed at 5th to 8th grade girls and featured a talk by astronaut Sally Ride; discovery workshops for girls given by local veterinarians, astronomers, microbiologists, and engineers; workshops for parents and teachers on ways to support girls’ interest in science and math; and a street fair with hands-on activities, booths, food, and music. Melissa Cichowicz, Chemistry and Director, Pre-Medical Program, worked with the Sally Ride Foundation to organize this event and gave the welcome speech. Lisa Marano, Mathematics, and Mathematics majors, Megan Doyle, Nicole Kooker, Anna Tareila, and Katie Wesley, participated in the Sally Ride Festival by offering two hands-on workshops on cryptography entitled “Spies Like Math! How to Break Codes Using Mathematics.”

The WCU Poetry Center hosted Rhina P. Espaillat, the second annual Poet-in-Residence, October 25-27. During her visit she taught classes, gave a lecture on craft, and read her poetry (in both English and her native Spanish) to enthusiastic audiences.

The WCU Forensics Team placed Second at their first tournament of the 2005-06 season at the Collegiate Forensics Association Fall Classic held at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV, on October 29. The team advanced 12 of its 15 entries to final rounds and was only topped by Shepherd University.

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Kevin Aptowicz, Physics, presented a paper, “Angularly-Resolved Elastic Light Scattering: Pattern Complexity and Feature Extraction,” at the NATO Advanced Research Workshop: “Optics of Biological Particles” held in Akademgorodok, Novosibirsk, Russia, October 3-6. The paper was co-authored with G. Fernandes and R.K. Chang of Yale University.

Sharon Bartholomew-Began, Biology, and N.L. Jones, Biology graduate student, published the article, “Juvenile gametophyte development in the Blasiales

Frank Fish, Biology, was appointed to the editorial board of the electronic journal Bioinspiration & Biomimetics. He presented an invited talk entitled “Energetics of swimming by the ferret: Consequences of forelimb paddling” at the Memorial Symposium for Russ Baudinette held at the University of Adelaide, Australia. Professor Fish is currently on sabbatical for the fall semester at Harvard University. He is working with Dr. George Lauder on the analysis of swimming by alligators using digital particle image velocimetry.


Seth Kahn, English, has been named Co-Chairperson of the Qualitative Research Network of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. Also, he has been elected to a second term on the Rhetoricians for Peace Steering Committee.


Kate Northrop, English, had her poem, “Inside the Room,” published in Chance of a Ghost: An Anthology of Contemporary Ghost Poems (Helicon Nine Editions). Professor Northrop received a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts/Partners in the Arts Program for The Creative Writing Reading Series.

Eleanor Shevlin, English, has been elected Public Affairs Director for the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP), an international organization devoted to the study of “book history” broadly conceived.


Victoria Tischio, English and Director, Writing Center, and five graduate student writing center tutors, Meg Mikovits, Kelly Allen, Kara Polhemus, Thomas Magee, and Jeffrey Markovitz, presented papers at the International Writing Centers Association convention held in Minneapolis, October 19-22. The panel was entitled “Rough Waters Run Deep: The Influences of History, Politics, and Pedagogy on Writing Centers.”

Greg Turner, Biology, presented a poster entitled “Effects of nitrogen on ectomycorrhizal abundance and diversity from red oak seedlings from contrasting soils” at the
90th Annual Ecological Society of America (ESA)—9th International Congress of Ecology (INTECOL) Meeting in Montreal, Canada, in August.


**Heather Wholey, Anthropology/Sociology,** presented a paper, “Nineteenth Century Taverns and Innkeepers in Northern Delaware’s Socio-Economic Landscape: The Blue Ball Case Study,” in a session on Archaeological Perspectives on Early American Taverns at the annual conference of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology in Trenton, NJ, October 20-23.


**CAS Highlights**
**November/December 2005**

At December 2005 Commencement, **Professor Frank Fish, Biology,** received the Distinguished Sponsored Research Award, and **Professor Frank Hoffman, Philosophy,** received the Collaboration with Students Award. The following retired CAS faculty were awarded emeritus status: **George Claghorn, Philosophy,** and **John Weaver, Computer Science.**

At the recent formal Council of Trustees meeting, the Forensics Team presentation received rave reviews in keeping with the regional and national recognition that they have consistently received. Two representatives from the team, Russell Moll, Prose; and Eric Smith, Impromptu, provided the Council with outstanding samples of their award winning work.

WCU students from **Professor Ed Lordon’s** Communication Studies class competed against advertising students from Villanova University on December 6, at the Pepper Hamilton Law Firm in Berwyn, PA. **Lacy Karosic, Emily MacInnes, Michael Popovich, LuAnn Rittenhouse,** and **Amanda Wilmot, Communication Studies undergraduate students,** won the contest with their advertising plan to attract tourists to this year’s Mardi Gras. The judges voted 4-0 that their work was the best.

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**Mahrukh Azam, Linda Betz, Karyn Usher, Chemistry,** presented workshops at the Sally Ride Science Festival in October. The Festival was aimed at 5th to 8th grade girls and featured a talk by astronaut Sally Ride; discovery workshops for girls given by local veterinarians, astronomers, microbiologists, and engineers; workshops for parents and teachers on ways to support girls’ interest in science and math; and a street fair with hands-on activities, booths, food, and music.

Deanne Bonifazi, Psychology, and Dr. Janell Mensinger, former Psychology undergraduate, presented “Eating Disorders and the superwoman ideal: A deeper look into a fading feminist construct” at a workshop held at the 15th annual Renfrew Center Foundation Conference for Professionals in Philadelphia in November.

Melissa Cichowicz, Chemistry, has been re-elected to a three year term on the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Section of the American Chemical Society.

Amanda Davidson, Shannon Ludascher, and Erum Azeez, Chemistry students (senior Forensic and Toxicological Chemistry majors), presented their senior internship research project at the Northeast Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, held November 12, in Newport, Rhode Island, and won first place in the collegiate research competition. The May-August 2005 internship at the Pennsylvania Equine Toxicology and Research Laboratory in West Chester was coordinated by Jeffrey Rudy, Lab Manager, and by Helen Reid, Chemistry. The PA Equine Lab is a Bureau within the PA Department of Agriculture whose mission is to provide analytical and information services to the racing commissions of Pennsylvania. As a result of the students’ research, another set of drugs that can change the performance of horses at PA race tracks will be recognized. The panel of judges at the Northeast Association of Forensic Scientists commended the students for the thoroughness of the study and the amount of work done in the internship period.

Margaret Ervin, Victoria Tischio, English, Susan White, MA, English Education, and Vanessa Cozza, MA, English (recent graduate), gave presentations on a panel/discussion entitled “Problem Posing Not Problem Solving: Outcomes of a Freirian Writing Pedagogy in a College Learning Community” at the National Council of Teachers of English Convention (NCTE) held in Pittsburgh, PA, on November 19.

Frank Fish, Biology, presented a seminar entitled “Morphological innovation for hydrodynamic flow control in cetaceans” at the Harvard University Concord Field Station. He also made a presentation “Dolphin flukes as passively self-adjusting flexible propulsors for high efficiency transport” at the Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals held in San Diego in December. The presentation was co-authored with Professor John Beneski, Biology, Moira Nusbaum, Biology undergraduate student, Dr. Dalene Ketten, and Dr. Terrie Williams. In addition, Professor Fish presented and invited seminar “Enhanced swimming performance by flow control in marine mammals” to the University of San Diego, Center of Comparative Physiology. In the January 2, 2006, issue of The Philadelphia Inquirer, Professor Fish was featured in the “Educator Spotlight” section. In a question and answer format, Professor Fish answered questions about his research on the swimming mechanics in animals.

Andrea Fishman, Mary Buckelew, English and Pennsylvania Writing and Literacy Program, had their research project on improving the teaching of writing in K-12 schools featured in the American Institutes for Research (AIR) CSRQ Center Report on Elementary School Comprehensive School Reform Models, November 2005. They are one of twenty-two national school reform models highlighted in the report. Their research project entitled, “Local Site Research Initiative: Learning Important Lessons and Setting Future Direction,” appears in the fall issue of the National Writing Project's magazine, The Voice, Vol. 10., No. 3. 2005. Professors Fishman and Buckelew, with Diane Dougherty, presented a two-hour workshop “Using Reading and Writing Tools That Capitalize on Diverse Classroom Communities” at the Delaware Valley
Minority Student Achievement Consortium’s Fall Institute at the University Sheraton Hotel at Penn in Philadelphia on November 30.

Dennis Godfrey, English, co-presented a paper entitled “The Language of Content Area Classrooms” with three MATESL graduate students, Angela DellaValle, Marc Mawson, and Nicole Toland-Chraga, at the Fall Conference of PennTESOL-East at Immaculata University on November 5. At the same conference he organized and moderated a Secondary Education Interest Section on “Using Technology in the Secondary ESL Classroom.” On the panel were MATESL graduate students, Rachel Mackin, Marc Mawson, and Deborah Lamb-Ousey.

Charles Hardy, History, published the article “In the Dead Fire’s Ashes, The Videographer as Historian” in the Summer 2005 issue of Pennsylvania History.


Joshua Holmes, Psychology undergraduate student, has been nominated for the PASSHE Syed R. Ali-Zaidi Award for Academic Excellence. He has been involved in many exceptional leadership and service activities on campus and has received many scholarships and awards. He is an Honors student who was mentioned in President Adler’s Thanksgiving FYI.

Susan L. Johnston, Anthropology/Sociology, presented a paper entitled “Eating with the ‘other’—who’s been eating ‘my’ food?” in a session sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Washington, D.C. on November 30.


Lisa Marano, Mathematics, was invited to be part of a delegation of 15 U.S. mathematicians and math educators whose purpose was to promote women in mathematics and compare and contrast mathematics education in the U.S. versus China. The delegation visited China December 4-16. While there, Professor Marano served as Chair of a meeting between female mathematicians from Peking University and the delegation. In addition, she participated in ambassador programs at the Beijing Normal School, the Department of Mathematics at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Department of Mathematics at Shanghai Normal University and Yan’an Middle School, among others.

Cheri Micheau, English, co-presented two papers with MATESL graduate students at the recent Penn TESOL East Fall Conference on November 5 at Immaculata University. Ana Maria Ferraro and Lynette Cornog, MA TESL students, assisted her in presenting “ESL/EFL Course Design: Just Add Water and Stir.” Professor Micheau and Barbara Johnson, MA TESL student, presented on a panel entitled “Strategies and Activities for Learning Vocabulary Independently” at the same conference. Also, she was a speaker at the ANUPI Conference for Professors of English in Latin America, held in Acapulco, Mexico in September. She also participated in the Pennsylvania Department of Education reviews of ESL and foreign language teacher education programs at Marywood and East Stroudsburg Universities. In December, she presented a videoconference on teaching ESL reading for the PA Department of Education.
Denise Polk, Communication Studies, presented “If AMOS Makes You Think of Cookies, Think Again: Taking Factor Analysis to New Levels” at the WCU Department of Communication Studies Fall Colloquium on November 10.


Alice Speh, Foreign Languages and Director of Liberal Studies Program, presented a paper entitled “Lost in Translation No More: Multicultural Competence for the Monolingual” at the American Association of General and Liberal Studies Conference at George Mason University in October. Also, on December 2, she participated with other members of the WCU Russian Club and Alpha Mu Gamma Foreign Language Honor Society in the annual West Chester Old Fashioned Christmas Parade. The seventeen students and several faculty members marched in the parade costumed as holiday characters from around the globe.


CAS Highlights
January/February 2006

WCU Forensics team won six of the eleven events at the Pennsylvania intercollegiate speech and debate championships held February 25-26, at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. The team turned in a second place finish, winning twenty individual awards at the state championship. In March, WCU Forensics team captured First Place at the Collegiate Forensic Association (CFA) Spring Tournament in Ocean City, Maryland. CFA is a regional forensic organization that draws membership from colleges and universities from New Hampshire to Florida and as far west as Louisiana. West Chester took first place in eight of the eleven events contested at the tournament, including first place in all four prepared speech categories—After Dinner Speaking, Communication Analysis, Informative Speaking, and Persuasive Speaking. The team added first place finishes in both limited preparation speaking events—Extemporaneous and Impromptu Speaking, first place in Prose Interpretation, and first place in Parliamentary Debate.

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Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry, Julia Lee, Veena Abraham, Rebecca Chanoux, Kimberly Schoenly, and F. Brad Johnson, have published “Evidence that the S.cerevisiae Sgs1 Protein


Frank Fish, Biology, and George Lauder, Harvard University, published an invited article “Passive and active flow control by swimming fishes and mammals” in the Annual Review of Fluid Mechanics, 38: 193-224 (2006). Also, he has co-authored the presentation “The beaver tail: function in swimming and connective tissue structure” with Natalia Rybczynski, Ann Pabst, and William McLellan at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Professors Fish and Anthony Nicastro, Physics, co-authored the article “Dynamics of aerial maneuvers of spinner dolphins” in the Journal of Experimental Biology, 209: 590-598 (2006). The article was co-authored with Daniel Weihs of Technion, Israel. Professor Fish also gave invited seminars “Enhanced swimming performance by flow control in marine mammals” to the Biology Department of the University of Rhode Island; and, “Biomechanics of running” at the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School at New Bolton Center. Professor Fish was featured in an article “Faster than they should be” in the February 2006 issue of Discover magazine.

Andrea Fishman, English and Pennsylvania Writing and Literacy Program, had a piece anthologized: “Becoming Literate: A Lesson from the Amish” was reprinted in Considering Literacy: Reading and Writing the Educational Experience, Pearson Longman, 2006.

William Lalicker, English, has been elected Co-Chair of the Philadelphia Area Council of Writing Program Administrators through 2006. Also, he has been elected President of the Board of Directors of the Volunteer English Program, a Chester County-based non-profit organization training tutors as volunteers to teach English as a second language and aid in community integration for immigrants from over 40 countries. Professor Lalicker’s article “A Basic Introduction to Basic Writing Program Structures: A Baseline and Five Alternatives” has been anthologized in Teaching Developmental Writing: Background Readings (3rd edition) by Susan Naomi Bernstein for Bedford St Martin’s Press. The article, originally published in 2000, was also anthologized in two previous editions of the book.

Edward Lordan, Communication Studies, has been a guest commentator on the topic of political cartoons for a variety of media outlets, including a dozen radio stations from Seattle to New Hampshire, WGN in Chicago, KYW Radio in Philadelphia, and CN8’s Newsmakers, on February 15, as a result of the publication of his book, Politics, Ink: How America’s Cartoonists Skewer Politicians, from King George III to George Dubya.

Katherine Northrop, English, received a 2006 Individual Artist Fellowship in Literature from the PA Council on the Arts. She also won the 2005 West Town Press Poetry Award. They will publish her chapbook, Through Which Footsteps.

Obiamaka Obianyo, Biochemistry major, has been selected as a finalist in the 2006 National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) Undergraduate Research Award Competition. She will have her travel expenses paid to Los Angeles, where she will present a paper based on her research with Felix Goodson, Chemistry. In addition, she has been awarded a summer internship at Rohm and Haas.
Michael Peich, English and WCU Poetry Conference, was featured in the Educator Spotlight section of The Philadelphia Inquirer on February 19.


CAS Highlights
March/April 2006

CAS undergraduate students who were presented WCU Awards for Student Research and Creative Activities were: Sung Shim Choi, MATESL; Jennifer Green, History; Obiamaka Obianyo, Bio-Chemistry; Steve Soars, Liberal Studies Program; and, Michele Yang, Chemistry.

The College of Arts and Sciences held its annual Student Recognition Ceremony on April 26, which was very well attended by students, parents, faculty, and the deans. Tyler Bradway, English major and Women’s Studies major, received the 2006 CAS Outstanding Student Award. Melissa Stoner, Mathematics major; and Maureen Vita, Psychology major, received Honorable Mention. CAS faculty serving on the selection committee were: Professors Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry, Steven Broitman, Biology; Margaret Ervin, English, Anne Marie Moscatelli, Foreign Languages; and Stefani Yorges, Psychology. The names of other students who were honored at the event can be found on the program posted in a CAS display case on the first floor of Main Hall. The faculty members who organized the reception are: Professors Blaise Frost, Chemistry; John Hanson, English; Martin Helmke, Geology/Astronomy; Alice Speh, Foreign Languages and Liberal Studies; and LaTonya Thames-Leonard, History.

The following CAS faculty received CASSDA awards in the Spring 2006 semester: Helen Berger, Anthropology/Sociology; Michael Brooks, English; Marc Gagne, Geology/Astronomy; Vanessa Johnson, Psychology; and Matthew Waite, Physics.

The following CAS students who have received CAS Undergraduate Research Awards in the Spring 2006 semester are: Radhika Bhatt, Biology; Obiamaka Obianyo, Chemistry; Evan Davey, Chemistry; Lauren Otto, Lisa Burns, Katie Cassidy, Communication Studies; Mary Forry, Psychology; and Lisa Owsley and Andrea Kliss, Psychology.

The Applied Ethics track of the M.A. degree in Philosophy was approved by CAPC. The new addition to the program will go into effect in Fall 2006, and will include two 15-credit certificate programs: healthcare ethics and business ethics.
Hannah Ashley, English and Director of Basic Writing, published “Between Civility and Conflict: Toward a Community Engaged Procedural Rhetoric” in the Spring 2006 issue of Reflections: Writing, Service-Learning, and Community Literacy. Additionally, Writing Zones 12.5, a university-community writing centers project for which Professor Ashley serves as the Director, opened a new school site at Henderson High School this spring.

Julian Azorlosa, Psychology, presented a poster entitled “The effect of announced quizzes on exam performance II” at the 2006 meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association on March 17.


Deanne Bonifazi, Psychology; Mary Forry, Psychology undergraduate student; and, Renee Cavanagh, Anne Sutkowi, Psychology graduate students, presented a paper entitled “Magazine Readership and Body Dissatisfaction” at the Eastern Psychological Conference in Baltimore, MD, on March 16.

Timothy Brown, Communication Studies, presented “African-American rhetoric as transformative discourse” at the annual Composition and Communication Conference in Chicago, IL, on March 24.


Malathie Dissanayake, MA Psychology student, presented the research project entitled “Ethnic identity and cultural context” at the annual meeting of the Society for Cross-Cultural Research in Savannah, Georgia, in February.

Celia Esplugas, Foreign Languages, presented a study entitled “Alambrista: The Drama of the Women Left Behind” at the North East Modern Language Association in Philadelphia on March 4.

Frank Fish, Biology, presented an invited seminar “Enhanced swimming performance by flow control in marine mammals” at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Newport, Rhode Island on March 13. Professor Fish also presented an invited seminar “Enhanced swimming performance by flow control in marine mammals at the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering of George Washington University on April 12. Professor Fish was selected to serve as a member of the Editorial Board of the journal Bioinspiration & Biomimetics, published by the Institute of Physics.

Anne Herzog and Carla Verderame, English, were jointly honored on March 19, 2006, with the 2006 Library Friend of the Year Award by the Upper Merion Township Library. Professors Herzog and Verderame co-lead a book series with a steady group of readers at the library for 9 years. Professor Herzog was an invited speaker at a conference celebrating the career of poet-critic, Alicia Ostriker, on April 28. Her talk was entitled “Art [In]Divisible from Dirt: Some Words of Celebration and Gratitude.”
Susan Johnston, Anthropology/Sociology, presented a paper entitled “Childhood socioeconomic conditions and adult nutritional and reproductive status in Blackfeet women” at the annual meeting of the Human Biology Association in Anchorage, Alaska, March 6-8. At the same meeting, Professor Johnston chaired the Human Biology Association Publications’ Committee which judged all student presentations for the Edward E. Hunt Student Prize.


Seth Kahn, English, presented “MA Programs for Multiple Student Populations: Making the MA Work for Pre-Doctoral Students and In-Service Teachers” for the Consortium of Doctoral Programs in Rhetoric and Composition, at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Chicago on March 24. At the same conference, Professor Kahn chaired the panel “The Activism(s) of Rhetoric: Rethinking Rhetorical Theory as Activist Practice."

Lisa Kirschenbaum, History, presented the paper entitled “Place, Memory, and the Politics of Identity in Leningrad-St. Petersburg” at the conference Politics, Space, and Power in Modern Russian History at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University on March 24.

William Lalicker, English, gave the talk entitled “Chinese Rhetorical Traditions, Western Academic Discourse, and Transformation for Intercultural Competence” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication annual convention in Chicago, March 22-25. At the same conference, Professor Lalicker served as coordinator for the Basic Writing Special Interest Group and for the Conference on Basic Writing Annual Workshop.

Edward Lordan, Communication Studies, accompanied students from communication studies classes to the Emergency Preparedness Center in Coatesville, PA to learn how a public utility (Excelon Nuclear Energy) deals with communications related to a simulated nuclear accident.

Graham MacPhee, English, published the article “From Reproduction to Reproducibility: Creativity and Technics in Benjamin and Arendt” in the spring issue of the journal Angelaki.


Obiamaka Obiano, Biochemistry major, gave a talk on her research, “A possible role of Kem1p at the telomeres in S.cerevisiae,” at the 70th Annual Intercollegiate Student Chemists (ISC) Convention at Ursinus College on April 22.


Loretta Rieser-Danner, Psychology, presented a paper entitled “Relations among infant Temperament, Infant Play Competence, and Maternal Play Behaviors” at the meeting of the Society for Research in Human Development in Fort Worth, TX, on March 31.

Paul Stoller, Anthropology/Sociology, presented a lecture, “Living Ritual in the Village of the Sick” at the British Museum in London on March 16. Also, Professor Stoller was the keynote speaker at the 10th Annual African Language Teachers Association meeting held at the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University, March 23-25.
Victoria Tischio, English, presented a paper entitled “Dreaming the Dream of Liberation: Critical Creativity and the Challenge of the Bifurcated Curriculum” at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communications meeting in Chicago, IL on Friday March 24.

Thomas Treadwell, Psychology; and WCU students, Chris Pierdomenico, English BSEd, Psychology Minor; Mary Shuttlesworth, MA Psychology; offered workshops on “Designing a Collaborative On-Line Learning Course” at Cheyney University on March 23 and WCU on March 24. Professor Treadwell, D. Ashcraft, T. Teeter, and K. Ritchie, published the article “Peer Mentor Roles in a Collaborative On-Line Research and Learning (CORAL) Course” in Compass, 2006.


Michelle Yang, undergraduate Chemistry student, presented a poster at the 17th Annual St. Joseph’s University Sigma Xi/60th Annual ECSC Student Symposium at SJU campus on April 22.

Hyoejin Yoon, English, presented the paper on technology, research and imagination at the annual Conference for College Composition and Communication in Chicago, March 22-25. Also, Professor Yoon published the article “Affecting the Transformative Intellectual: Questioning 'Noble' Sentiments in Critical Pedagogy and Composition” in the April/May 2006 issue of the Journal of Advanced Composition (JAC), Vol. 25, No. 4. The essay won the 2005 Elizabeth Flynn award for outstanding feminist essay in composition.

**CAS Highlights**
**June/July/August 2006**

The College of Arts and Sciences welcomes the following new tenure-track faculty. Please come to meet them at the CAS Fall reception in the Philips Autograph Library, on Thursday, September 14, at 3:30 P.M.

John A. Leveille, Anthropology/Sociology, received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, San Diego and has taught at Sonoma State University, Gonzaga University, and Idaho State University. His research interests include sociological theory, sociology of the professions (medicine and law), and deviance and social control. He has several publications and papers based on his research, and has also been employed as a social worker.

Xin Fan, Biology, received her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and was a postdoctoral fellow at Penn. She has lectured at Thomas Jefferson University and Jiangxi College of Chinese Medicine. She is a microbiologist who does research on viruses and
vaccines and has several publications on this research. She received both pre-doctoral and post-doctoral grants from NIH.

**Kurt W. Kolasinski, Chemistry**, received his Ph.D. from Stanford University and was a post-doctoral fellow at the Fritz Haber Institut (Germany) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (U.S.). He has been on the faculty of the University of Birmingham and the University of London and has recently been the director of the CAMOS Ultrafast Laser Laboratory at the University of Virginia. His specialty is physical chemistry, with an emphasis on materials chemistry, including surface and nanoscale interfacial science and laser-surface interactions. He is the author of over sixty journal articles and a book on surface science.

**Michael P. Boyle, Communication Studies**, received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and has taught at Wichita State University. His research areas include: mass media and social protest, news coverage of social conflicts and controversies, political participation, and news framing; he has several publications and papers on these topics. In addition to courses on mass media, he has also taught quantitative research methods, television/video production, and web design. He has received several grants, including a Kansas Health Foundation Grant to assess the impact of a media campaign targeting early childhood literacy.

**Afrand Agah, Computer Science**, received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Arlington and has been a teaching assistant. Her research interests include security in sensor and mobile ad-hoc networks, intrusion detection, security and trust in pervasive computing, and economic modeling of security protocols. She has been a research assistant at the Center for Research in Wireless Mobility and Networking at UT Arlington and has several publications and papers on security topics.

**Gabrielle A. Halko, English**, received her Ph.D. from Western Michigan University and has taught at Western Michigan and California State University, San Bernardino. Her areas of specialization are children’s and young adult literature, creative writing, American poetry, and multicultural literature. She is also a poet. She has published several poems and book reviews and is currently working on a book on children’s literature in the 1930’s.

**Daria Nikitina, Geology/Astronomy**, received her Ph.D. from the University of Delaware, has taught at California University, has done research for the Delaware Geological Survey, and was a research fellow at the Institute of Physics and Earth, Russian Academy of Science (Moscow). A geomorphologist, her current research includes watershed evaluation and stratigraphic investigation of Southwestern Pennsylvania. She has many publications and papers on the geology of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Delaware Bay region.

**Tia Elizabeth Malkin-Fontecchio, History**, received her Ph.D. from Brown University and has taught at Lebanon Valley College. Her field is Latin American history with specializations in modern Brazil and colonial Latin America. She has presented several papers on the politics of educational reform in Brazil in the 1960’s, the subject of her dissertation research for which she received a Fulbright grant and a Spencer Foundation fellowship.

**Matthew F. Pierlott, Philosophy**, received his Ph.D. from Marquette University and has taught at Loyola College (Maryland) and West Chester University. His areas of specialization are philosophy of freedom as related to ethical theory, business ethics,
philosophy of science, and history of philosophy. He has published and presented on these topics. He has also been an ESL teacher in Korea and a high school teacher.

Carolyn D. Sealfon, Physics, received her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in Physics and Astronomy and has taught at Penn and in the Penn Access Volunteership, a program for schoolchildren and teachers. Her field is theoretical cosmology, with specific research on determining the relationship between the weak-lensing mass and the Sunyaev-Zel'dovich decrement for low-mass galaxy clusters, the primordial power spectrum, and testing gravitation. She has participated in several research projects in these areas, resulting in several publications.

Jennifer A. Bunk, Psychology, received her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut and has taught at Connecticut. Her field is Industrial/Organizational Psychology with specializations in occupational health and quantitative methods. Her dissertation on workplace incivility has resulted in several papers and forthcoming articles. She has been a consultant or researcher on projects for the Hartford Financial Services Group, the National Society for Black Engineers, and a university.

The WCU Poetry Center, directed by Michael Peich, English, recently celebrated the successful completion of an NEH Challenge Grant. As part of an NEH partnership, the University was required to raise $900,000 in private funding to qualify for a $300,000 grant for the Poetry Center. This milestone was achieved in May with the announcement that more than $900,000 in gifts had been received. Since its inception in 2000, the Poetry Center has provided the nation’s finest instruction in traditional techniques of poetry while offering an international forum for the discussion of this art form. The Center also hosts the largest annual all-poetry writing conference in the country. In addition to the more than a dozen panel discussions, workshops, critical seminars and readings, this year’s gathering of poets, critics, and poetry lovers was highlighted by a delegation of six Russian poets. The Center also features a poet-in-residence program. The year, X.J. Kennedy will be in residence and give two public presentations on October 24 in the Philips Autograph Library: Craft Lecture (4:00 p.m.), Poetry Reading (7:00 p.m.). For more information about the Center, visit its website: [www.wcu.edu/poetry/](http://www.wcu.edu/poetry/).


Roger Barth, Chemistry, had an article entitled, “Precise Freezing-Point Depression Constant Determination in Water,” published on-line in The Chemical Educator, June 30, 2006.

Mary Buckelew, English and PAWLP, and Cecelia Evans were awarded $10,000 from the Ethel Sergeant Clark Smith Memorial Fund to continue work with the family literacy initiative “With Pens in Hands,” 2006-07.


Frank Fish, Biology, published the paper entitled “The myth and reality of Gray’s paradox: implication of dolphin drag reduction for technology” in Bioinspiration and Biomimetics, 2006, 1: R17-R25. Professor Fish published “Limits of nature and advances of technology in marine systems: What does biomimetics have to offer to aquatic robots?” in Applied Bionics and Biomechanics, 2006, 3(1): 49-60. He presented a paper “Dolphin flukes as passively self-adjusting flexible propulsors for high efficiency transport” in the mini-symposium “Biomimetics and Bio-inspiration” at the 15th National Congress of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics held in Boulder, CO, June 25-30. In addition, Professor Fish presented an invited seminar “Hydrodynamic flow control in whales and dolphins: It’s no rocket science...well yes it is but in a good way” at the Shoals Marine Laboratory, Cornell University on July 13.

Andrea Fishman, English and Director, PAWLP, and PAWLP teacher consultants have received an award by the Carnegie Foundation for their successful participation in the three-year National Reading Initiative working with content-area teachers in middle and high schools for a fourth year, 2006-07.


Steven Good, John Stolar, and Christopher Etherington (graduate student), Geology/Astronomy, Joshua Ball, Patricia Monahan, Susan A. Rutland, Daniel P. Stampone, and Deanna B. Wilkinson have published “Middle School Science Olympiad Outreach Mobilizing West Chester University Undergraduate Pre-Teachers” in Best Products for Teacher Preparation in Mathematics and Science, a monograph published by CETP-PA, 2006, pp. 23-36.

Felix Goodson and Mahrukh Azam, Chemistry, were awarded a $217,100 NSF grant for their research project: ”MRI: Acquisition of a 300 MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer for Research in Organic, Organometallic, Biological, and Materials Chemistry.”

Steven Reich, 3 vols., 2006, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. In addition, Professor Hardy led summer workshops on Oral History in K-12 Curriculum for teachers in the Ridley School District.

Frank Hoffman, Philosophy, taught at Peking University in Summer 2006 on a Rotary Grant for university teachers. The courses he taught were “Philosophical Analysis of Religion” and “Philosophy of Early Buddhism.”


Ed Lordan, Communication Studies, and B. Saint John were awarded a two-year grant from the Arthur Page Foundation to conduct a study of television news room policies toward using video news releases.

Graham MacPhee, English, presented a paper on “Humanitarian Law and the Opacity of Violence Beyond the Nation-State” at the North American Society for Social Philosophy conference in August. This summer, he published the article “From Reproduction to Reproducibility: Technics and Creativity in Benjamin and Arendt” in the journal Angelaki.

Garry Molholt, English, and TESL graduate student, Sung Shim Choi, presented the paper “Automatic Evaluation of Fluency in Spoken Korean” at the international Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO), May 17-21.

Anne-Marie Moscatelli, Foreign Languages, was project director for a $9000 award from Global Collaborative Funding to conduct the department’s first French language immersion project in Guadeloupe. She and Professor Michel Sage, Foreign Languages, shared instructional duties for the five weeks.

Kate Northrop, English, had the poems, “Things Are Disappearing Here,” “The Baby,” and “Three Women” appear in Raritan, Vol. 25, No. 4. Her chapbook, Through Which Footsteps, winner of the 2005 West Town Press Award, was published by West Town Press. The Creative Writing Reading Series received a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts to help fund the 2006-07 reading series.

Eleanor Shevlin, English, organized a session entitled “Trading Ideas about Readers and Reading A Roundtable on Recent Research and Innovative Methodologies” at the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing’s annual conference that took place July 11-14th at The Hague. The title of her presentation for the roundtable was “Constructing Audience Histories after The Reading Nation.” Also, Professor Shevlin arranged for Tyler Bradway, WCU graduate, to work with her at the Kluge Center, Library of Congress for a week.


Greg Turner, Biology, has published “Overcoming Resource Constraints for Biological Inquiry: Scenarios and Adaptations” in Best Products for Teacher Preparation in Mathematics and Science, a monograph published by CETP-PA, 2006, pp. 119-122. Also, Professor Turner presented a talk entitled “Species Composition and Structure of the Gordon Natural Area, an
Urban Forest in Southeast PA” at the annual Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences meeting in March. He presented a poster, “Plant Distributions along Disturbance Corridors at a Blue Ridge Mountain Natural Area” at the annual Ecological Society of America conference in Memphis in August.

Heather Wholey, Anthropology/Sociology, was an invited speaker for the “Bear Trap: Then and Now” symposium sponsored by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs and the Village at Bear Trap Dunes Historical Committee. The talk was covered in the Coastal Point newspaper, May 12, 2006. In June, Professor Wholey and her summer field archaeology class conducted a Civil War Graves Documentation Project at Oaklands and St. Agnes Cemeteries in West Chester, PA. The class submitted a data portfolio to the 97th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Living History Group and Oaklands Cemetery, Inc. At an exploratory excavation at Yellow Springs in Chester Springs, PA, the class encountered a Middle Woodland (circa A.D. 500) site, which they then reported to the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey. The field study was reported in the Phoenix newspaper, June 22, 2006. In July, Professor Wholey served as archaeological consultant to the SI Group, Cincinnati, OH, for a Federal Communication Commission undertaking in Berks County, PA, involving Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. An assessment report was submitted to the SI Group, and filed with the Pennsylvania Bureau for Historic Preservation and the Federal Communications Commission.

Jerry Williams, Foreign Languages, received a grant for $67,957 from the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad, awarded under the auspices of the International Education Program Service of the U.S. Department of Education. The award (the first Fulbright-Hays for WCU) funded a summer 2006 language and culture immersion program in Peru entitled “Language and Culture Study in the Peruvian Amazon and Rainforest for K-12 Teachers.” The project teaching staff were Erminio Braidotti, Foreign Languages, and Edmundo Morales, Anthropology/Sociology. Marguerite Gould of the ACEER Foundation was the staff coordinator.