General News and Announcements

• Continental Coffee Hour this Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 3:30 in the Departmental Lounge.

• You might like to check out The University News of Thursday, Sept. 18 and the front-page article by Cassie Herrington on “ESL classes aim to increase understanding.”

Meetings

• The Departmental Meeting scheduled for Nov. 13 has been changed to Nov. 6, same time, but in BSC 253 B/C (cf. below).

Deadlines

• Mellon Grant applications are due to the Chair on Monday, Oct. 13.

LLC

• Many of you are aware of region codes associated with DVDs purchased abroad that prevent standard North American DVD players from playing them. Although these discs are playable in the LLC’s multi-standard DVD players, many of you would prefer to watch them at home. This is possible using your home computer and the freely available VLC program that is installed on all SLU computers. When you place one of these DVDs in your computer, you may be prompted to change your computer’s default region setting. DO NOT DO THIS! Your computer’s default region code setting can only be changed a set number of times before it locks you out from further changes. Rather, click cancel and open the DVD from the VLC program, which is free and can be downloaded for both Mac and PC users at: http://www.videolan.org/vlc/.

Kudos

• Dr. Kathleen Llewellyn has received a very favorable vote from the Department for tenure and promotion from assistant to associate professor. Her case now moves forward to the college, Dean, university and Provost levels of approval.

• Dr. Kathleen Llewellyn recently gave a presentation at a well-attended workshop meeting of the MO-AATF on “Molière sur la scène et dans la salle de classe.”

• Dr. Anna Amelung (Adjunct in French and Italian) gave a talk at the same MO-AATF meeting on “Teaching Molière and His Time.” Earlier in September, Dr. Amelung presented a talk to the Saint Louis University Library Associates on “Madame Chouteau: A Remarkable Woman.” At the AATF Annual Convention in Liège in July, she conducted a session on “Napoleon: Past, Present, and Future.”

• Congratulations to Dr. Kara McBride (Assistant Professor of Spanish) for the standing-room-only crowd she had for her recent presentation at SLU on “Fascinated by Language? How Languages Work and How We Learn Them. Opportunities in Language Study – Graduate School and Beyond.” The presentation was sponsored by The Language Villa.

• Dr. Reinhard Andress (Professor of German) has published a translation from Spanish into German of Benno Weiser Varon’s 1943 novel of exile, Yo era europeo, as Ich war Europäer (together with Dr. Egon Schwarz, Professor Emeritus at Washington University). The novel was published by the Picus Verlag in Vienna, Austria and includes an essayistic afterword by Dr. Andress entitled “Benno Weiser Varon: ein „Luftmensch“ auf vier Kontinenten.”

From the Chair

• It’s hard to believe that this is the 100th MCLanguage Matters I’ve sent out. In any case, I have no plans to send out the 200th!

• Through the Dean’s office, I have taken on a new responsibility as CAS Faculty Liaison to the Learning Communities. Although my tasks will not kick in fully until the spring semester, I am attending an important learning communities conference Nov. 13–15. Hence the date change of the final Departmental Meeting for the semester (cf. above). I hope this doesn’t cause too much inconvenience.