General News and Announcements

• Continental Coffee Hour on Wednesday, Feb. 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 in the Departmental Lounge.

• Dr. Mauricio Souza has resigned from his position in our Department in order to accept a job offer as "profesor titular" (tenured professor) in the Literature Department of the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés. In addition, he will have responsibilities as a researcher in the Instituto de Estudios Bolivianos. He sends thanks to all who accompanied him during his ten years at SLU. He can be reached by email at souzamm@slu.edu.

• The Provost has approved a University-wide subscription to the Plagiarism Prevention program component of TurnItIn. This detection service is available for use by SLU faculty. If you are a SLU faculty member who is teaching during the Spring 2009 semester and wish to use TurnItIn in your course(s), please email Miriam Joseph (josephme@slu.edu) with the subject line "TurnItIn Account Request" and note your departmental affiliation in the body of the message. Please allow 24 hours (Monday–Friday) for a response. Miriam Joseph will respond to you with directions on how to create your Instructor User Profile and activate your TurnItIn account. Her message will also include guidelines.

• The 7th Annual French & Spanish Graduate–Undergraduate Student Symposium will be held on Saturday, March 28 from 8:30 to 5:30 on the third floor of RH. Plan to come for a day of exceptional cultural and linguistic presentation, study and refreshment. To give a paper at the Symposium, please submit a 300-word abstract by Feb. 27 to Dr. Annie Smart for French (smart@slu.edu) or Dr. Elsy Cardona for Spanish (cardonae@slu.edu).

Meetings

• Departmental Meeting for all fulltimers on Thursday, Feb. 5 at 3:30 in BSC 352/353. Materials forthcoming.

Deadlines

• Nominations for the various subcommittees of the Faculty Council are due to the Chair by Wednesday, Feb. 4. Slots are still open for the Nominations Committee and as College Representative to the Faculty Senate. You can also run for Vice-President (becomes President in 2010–11) and Secretary.

LLC

• EndNote: A new University-wide license is being acquired to allow all faculty to have access to EndNote on their office computers. Previously, the LLC had only one license for this program and has been limited to a single installation in the drop-in lab. EndNote X2 is a powerful and versatile bibliographic management program that allows you to organize references and search bibliographic databases. The software is available for both PC and Mac and you can request installation by e-mailing helpdesk@slu.edu or calling ITS at ext. 74000.

• Transfers: Recent requests for VHS to DVD transfers are on hold while our dubbing equipment is being repaired. Because the service facility is out of state, it may be a couple weeks before this type of transfers can be processed. This will not affect DVD to DVD copies or DVD to VHS copies. Faculty requesting these transfers will be notified when the unit is repaired.

Kudos

• Dr. (!!!) Karen Secrist has defended her dissertation at Duke University on "Construyendo nuestro pedacito de patria: Space and Dis(place)ment in Puerto Rican Chicago." Congratulations!

• Dr. Evelyn Meyer has published a scholarly article on "Disrupting the Discourse of Perfect Knightliness: Gender Expectations and Constructions of Masculinity in Hartmann von Aue’s Iwein" in Deutsche Vierteljahresschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geisteswissenschaft, 82.4 (2008).

From the Chair

• T... t... p...!