General News and Announcements

Please plan to attend the final “Continental Coffee Hour” of the semester on Wednesday, April 28. We will have some awards to present and some accomplishments to cheer.

Congratulations to Spanish graduate students Ewa Bachminska, Kacey Booth Eilers, and Laura Hartmann. All three successfully completed their MA requirements and will graduate on May 13, 2010.

Meetings

The remaining department meeting this semester will take place on Thursday, 3:30-5:00 p.m. April 29 and will be held in BSC 352/353.

LLC

LLC Staff: Please join me in extending congratulations and farewell to our graduating LLC student workers. Anton Kuchman, Stacey Hayes, and Colleen Smith have served the LLC well and will be greatly missed. Sophomore Margaret Muir will also be temporarily leaving us to spend next semester in Spain. Their departure leaves four open positions at the LLC. If you know any technologically-inclined students and would like to recommend them, please have them contact Mr. Dan Nickolai.

Kudos

- Dr. Jean-Louis Pautrot delivered the paper “Boutès (2008), et le retour (2e partie),” in the invited 3-hour session “Pascal Quignard ou le secret de l’art”, at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Apr 15-17, 2010.
- Mr. German Lorenzo Ayala presented a paper entitled "Miguel Hernandez: pueblo, poesia, dolor y guerra" at the 63rd Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY, on Friday, April 16.
- Dr. Kara McBride has been awarded both a Mellon Faculty Development Grant and a Summer Research Award for a project entitled "Measuring the Effectiveness of Pronunciation Training and Perceptions of Foreign Accent." For this project, she will have native Spanish speakers rate speech samples of Spanish students at SLU in order to determine what features of a foreign accent in Spanish they respond positively and negatively to, as well as to test the efficacy of pronunciation training workshops at SLU. The funds awarded will pay for equipment (mp3 players), a research assistant's (graduate student Kami Jones) summer stipend and tuition, and travel costs.
- On April 19, Dr. McBride organized an event in which Spanish graduate students Julie Barnes, Emily Horn, Christen Parker, and Amy Wilhelm spoke to a crowd of roughly 80 students on the diversity of accents in the Spanish-speaking world.

From the Chair

Don’t forget the First Annual MCL Hawaiian Shirt Day on Friday, April 30!