

THE AMBASSADOR

The Newsletter of the Department of
Foreign Languages and Literatures

Vol. 10, Summer-Fall 2007

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

The department is pleased to welcome **Marzia Caporale** to the University of Scranton. Caporale received her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2004. She joins the University of Scranton in Fall 2007 as an Assistant Professor of French. Caporale is a native of Italy and will also teach Italian courses.

Jamie Trnka, Assistant Professor of German, completed her first year of service at the University of Scranton. She successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, during the fall semester. In her first year Trnka organized a number of co-curricular activities in support of the German program. These included German guest speaker presentations on holiday traditions and on the German education system; film screenings and discussions; and a talk on the Turkish minority in Germany. In the Spring semester, she organized a series of bi-weekly Kaffeeklatsch meetings which were well attended. She was also awarded a Faculty Development Grant along with Dept. Chairperson Linda Ledford-Miller, to revise the existing German major.

Congratulations to both **Joyce Hanks** and **Tom Kamla**, both of whom are now formally retired from the University of Scranton with emeriti status after completing a terminal sabbatical in 2006-2007.

Marie Karam, Director of the Language Learning Center and the Bridges to El Salvador program, had a very busy and productive year. Among other activities, she secured a University of Scranton Education for Justice Grant which sponsored a two-day event showing the internationally acclaimed Salvadoran film *Innocent Voices* and hosting its screenwriter Oscar Torres. Through the same grant funds, Karam completed a project with the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), the Jesuit University in San Salvador, to provide video streaming chats "UCA UPDATES" on the national AJCU website "jesuit.net" beginning in the Fall 2007. This project gives a voice to the Jesuit University in El Salvador to present their views and research on wide variety of topics. The first four of these updates, Overview of El Salvador, UCA History, Religion in El Salvador, El Salvador-U.S. Immigration, will be available in Fall 2007 on jesuit.net.



In addition, Karam presented a one-day workshop for area foreign language teachers with presentations on teaching and technology, including "Sharing Goals with Students: Enhancing Interpersonal Communication Skills" and "Foreign Language Teaching and Technology: SMART Board in the Foreign Language Class-

room." She also coordinated French and Spanish presentations for this workshop by teaching assistants from Argentina and France, Gisela Tregnaghi and Lyna Kauv, who offered immersion lessons in Spanish and French. In addition, Karam organized and presented a teacher Workshop for Elementary and ESL Teachers in the Scranton School District at the request of the Scranton School District. Finally, Karam has been serving as consultant to design programs, hire teachers and direct teacher training for the Scranton School District, which plans to initiate Spanish in 35 first grade classrooms in Fall 2007.

On the weekend of July 27, 28 and 29, the Spanish House (Fayette House) celebrated its 25th anniversary as a theme house for the University at Chapman Lake. Friday evening **Fr. G. Donald Pantle, S.J.** prepared a Spanish festival. On Saturday, a German Festival ensued which 75 people attended. There was also boating, swimming, fishing and the group enjoyed card games for hours on end each night. Approximately 80 people attended total.



Bob Parsons traveled to Monterrey, Mexico, October 4-7, 2006, to attend the Tenth Annual Conference of the International Society of Luso-Hispanic Humor and to Managua, Nicaragua, November 15-19, 2006, to present a paper on Argentinean author Mempo Giardinelli at the Midwest Association of Latin American Studies. In addition, he traveled independently to Jalapa, Mexico, a city nestled in the mountains of the eastern state of Veracruz, during the week of spring break in March 2007, and to Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, in August 2007.

Parsons also taught SPAN 335, "Service and the Hispanic Community" during the Fall 2006 semester. The course content focused on the immigration experience of Hispanics to the US and the 15 students who enrolled in the course worked as volunteers directly with members of the local and regional Hispanic community. In addition, Parsons was a member of the Organizing Committee for the Second Annual "Fiesta en Scranton: A Regional Celebration of Hispanic Cultures," which took place Saturday, April 28th 2007 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Nay Aug Park in Scranton.

Cont. on page 6

Faculty Editor: Robert A. Parsons

Faculty Secretary: Joyce Knott

FACULTY LED STUDY ABOARD PROGRAMS

Bob Parsons of Foreign Languages and Literatures and **Kevin Nordberg** of the Philosophy Department conducted the Tenth Annual Intersession Study/Travel Tour to Guadalajara, Mexico in January 2007. The highlight of the Guadalajara trip is a weekend tour of Mexico City which includes excursions to the Chapultepec palace, the famous Anthropological Museum, and the pyramids of Teotihuacán. Sixteen students participated in the 2007 trip. One of them, Cassandra Zagorski, did service at two *albergues* or specialized care centers for handicapped children, CIRIAC and Juntos por un Caminar. The Eleventh Annual trip will also be conducted by Parsons and Nordberg and will take place in January 2008.

Fr. Donald Pantle, Associate Campus Minister and Director, CRC led a group of 45 participants to Germany under the auspices of the intersession course GERM 295, German Culture and Language.

OUR STUDENTS ABROAD

Baldini, Alessandra, International Language Business/Spanish, CIEE, Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo, Brazil, Fall 2005 and CIEE, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, Spring and Summer, 2007.

Bernal, Nicolás, Communications/Spanish, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia, Spring 2007.

Canamucio, Natalie, Secondary Ed/Spanish, CEA, University of Seville, Spain, Fall and Spring 2006-2007.

Custer, Julie, Environmental Science/Spanish/Philosophy, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Salvador, Brazil, Fall and Spring 2006-2007.

DiCarlo, Darlene, Secondary Education/Spanish, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile, Spring, 2007.

Dobitsch, Stephanie, International Studies/French, The American University of Cairo, Egypt Fall 2006.

Dragone, Brandon, International Business, Spanish minor, Universidad Espíritu Santo, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Fall and Spring 2006-2007.

Olechna, Robert, History, German minor, Universität Bonn, Germany, Spring 2007.

Prizeman, Katherine, International Language Business/Spanish, Marquette University at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, Spring 2007.

Ramírez, Stephanie, Spanish, CV Starr Middlebury Schools Abroad, Montevideo, Uruguay, Fall 2006.

NEW FACES IN FL & L

The Department is pleased to announce the four new Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (here for one year under the sponsorship of the Institute of International Education, a division of the UN in New York) for 2006-2007. They are, in Spanish, **Ms. Mónica Morales Díaz**, from Argentina; in Arabic, **Mr. Khalid Ait Mansour** from Morocco; in French, **Mr. Mathieu Julian Gilbert Ratjczak** from France; and in Chinese, **Ms. HuiJing Wen** from China. New adjuncts include **Mr. Jaime Meilán del Río**, **Mr. Ignacio Díaz**, and **Ms. Anna Scathill** (Spanish); **Ms. Miho Myojin** (Japanese); and **Ms. Gail O'Rourke** (American Sign Language). New graduate assistants include **Ms. Rebecca Brogardir**, **Ms. Fiorella Duque** and **Ms. Kelly Bucconear**.

Though affiliated primarily with Women's Studies and Political Science, the Department is also pleased to welcome the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence from Mexico, **Isabel Bueno Lázaro**, her son and her husband. In the fall, Bueno Lázaro will teach a special topics course, PS 284: The Feminization of Poverty in Latin America. She will also collaborate with the Leahy Center.

Santosdiaz, Richard, International Language Business/Spanish, CIEE, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, Fall 2006 and CEA, Sorbonne, Paris, France, Spring 2007.

Secola, Sharon, Biology/Spanish, University of Arizona, Nagoya, Japan, Summer 2006.

Shanahan, Amy, Spanish/Communication, Universidad Espíritu Santo, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Fall 2006.

Spain, Connor, International Studies, Spanish minor, Universidad Espíritu Santo, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Spring 2007.

Tello, Megan, Spanish, CEA, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain, Spring 2007.

Topalanchik, Emily, Health Administration/Spanish, CEA, Universidad de Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Fall and Spring, 2006-2007.

Wojtowicz, Catherine, Elementary and Early Childhood Education, Spanish minor, Escola Superior de Comercio, Barcelona, Spain, Summer 2006.

Zocco, Alison, Exercise Science, Spanish minor, St. Louis University, Madrid, Spain, Spring 2006.

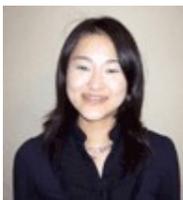
In addition, three students, **Dina Fuschino**, **Caitlin Garvey**, and **Matthew Orzolek**, are completing their Russian minors through the 2007 summer study abroad trip to St. Petersburg, led by Adjunct Prof. **Konstantin Lyavdansky**.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Emily Abrahamsen, GA for 2005-2006 and adjunct faculty this last year, completed her Masters Degree in ESL at the University of Scranton and is now working as an ESL teacher at Scranton High School.



Eglantine Hauser, French TA for 2004-2005, has finished a second year at a community college in Spokane, Washington, and is looking for a new position. She says she really enjoyed the community college experience.



Mariko Kurokawa, our Japanese TA from 2005 through 2007 has returned to a job in Japan. Here's what Mariko has to say about her days in Scranton!

When I think back on the last 2 years, I really enjoyed my life in Scranton, especially in Department of Foreign Languages. I came here to pursue an MBA. However, I honestly enjoyed working in this department much more than being a student of KSOM.

Scranton might not be the most exciting city in the world but I met some of the best people in my life. I will never forget the trip to Tunisia to visit my best friend Zeyneb (Arabic TA), the lunch time I spent in the department's kitchen with Gisela, Germán (Spanish TAs), Lyna (French TA) and Habib (Spanish professor), the coffee time at Panera Bread and the department parties!!

Thank you for having me here and giving me these wonderful opportunities. I wish I could stay here longer but I have to move on. I wish you all best and hope to see you somewhere in the world!

Virginie Le François, French TA for 2003-2004, recently married Jason Ross and lives with her new husband in Los Angeles, California.



Lyna Kauv, French TA for 2006-2007, has returned to France, but she takes many fond memories of Scranton with her:

I very much enjoyed my time in Scranton (yes, even when it was snowing...). Teaching and studying in such a privileged environment was wonderful. I would like to thank all the people I have met at the University of Scranton; they have made this experience worthwhile and unforgettable. I learned a lot from the experience and I am glad I was able to overcome some of the clichés about the US. Thank you all very much for your kindness.

I really hope to be visiting soon!

Abdelilah Mahtat, Arabic TA for 2004-2005, has finished his Master's in the Divinity School of Harvard University and is applying for Ph.D. programs.

Maggie Martínez, who came to us as a TA through the IIE program and stayed on to earn two Master's degrees and to do an OPT year at Bishop Hannan, has returned to her home town of Zapopan, near Guadalajara, Mexico. She was recently hired as a translator and interpreter for a children's organization.

Christine Pednault-Berthelot, our first GA in French, has finished her degree here and moved back to Montreal with her husband Jean-Philippe and their new baby boy, Benjamin.

Gisela Tregnaghi, Spanish TA for 2006-2007, has returned to her home in Santa Fe, Argentina, where she is teaching English as a second language.

Before leaving my home country I knew my experience as a language assistant would be a great experience; and so it was... The University of Scranton is and always will be in my heart since I will always cherish the time spent there.

When I arrived, I found myself surrounded by a great group of people who welcomed me, as well as the other assistants, with open arms. As time went by, I found my way around campus trying to get involved in different activities and I met a wonderful community who became my company for the nine months I stayed at Scranton. Thanks to all these people, I could enjoy the classes I taught, my meals at the cafeteria and so many other activities.

I am very grateful for all the support I received, especially when I was feeling a little homesick. I will never forget my time at the U. I want to thank to all those who, in one way or another shared this wonderful time with me. I do not want to forget anybody's name, so I will just say "Thanks a lot!" to all the people at the Language Department, to University Ministries, to my students and classmates, to my friends.

I thank God for having the opportunity of meeting and working with such a wonderful group of people and making the University of Scranton a place I will always keep in my heart.

Germán Zárate Sánchez, TA for 2005-2006 and GA for 2006-2007, has finished his Masters in ESL at the University of Scranton. He has full funding to pursue his Ph.D. in Linguistics at Georgetown University.



At the University of Scranton I had the enormous privilege of working as a Spanish TA for the Department of Foreign Languages.

cont on page 6

NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

Tziona Ackerman (Secondary Education/Spanish, 2006) is teaching Spanish at Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies in New York. She has three sections of Spanish 1 and one AP class for native speakers.

Katie Ailtmar (Secondary Education/Spanish, 2007) accepted a job in the Central Bucks School District teaching 8th and 9th grade (Spanish 1 and 2) at Unami Middle School in Chalfont, PA.

Brian Alvaro (Spanish, 2005) is working as a Correctional Officer at the Federal Correctional Institution at Otisville, NY

Leslie Angleró (Spanish, 2004) is now working as the Academic Counseling Manager at the University of Phoenix, AZ, where she is also pursuing graduate studies.

Angela Buren (ILB-French, 2007, winner of this year's Award for Excellence in ILB), has been awarded an internship with AXA, a global company in the Financial Protection business, for several months during summer 2007 in Paris, France.

Michael Canaris, who graduated in 2002 with an Italian Studies Concentration, is working on his doctorate in Theology at Fordham University.

Sarah Dillmuth (International Studies/Spanish, 2006) is in the Peace Corps in Mozambique, where she is trying to organize a young business club at the school where she is teaching.

Stephanie Dobitsch (International Studies; Arabic minor, 2007) studied abroad in Egypt Fall 2006. She has been offered a position as a specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs with the US government. She will spend the summer in Lebanon teaching English and then will resume Intensive Arabic Studies in Arabic to prepare her for her work with the US government agency. Her main focus will be Iraq.

Jennifer (Kelly) Dominiquini (International Studies/Spanish, 1993) recently joined the consulting firm Prophet in Chicago as an Associate Partner. Jennifer, who also holds an MBA from the University of Chicago, has 15 years of experience in the field of international strategic consulting. On a more personal level, congratulations to Jennifer and her Brazilian husband on the birth of their daughter Emilia Kelly Dominiquini on February 28, 2007!

Brian Gutiérrez (Marketing/Spanish minor, 2005) is currently living and working in Hollywood, California in film making and editing. He has produced several shorts and is considering graduate work in Spanish and film making.

Kevin Hauck (Biology/Spanish, SJLA, 2006) completed the first year of his dual MD/Masters in Public Health degree at Temple Medical School. Kevin will specialize in internal medicine and infectious disease and hopes to work with HIV/AIDS patients.

Dan Kiers (Communication/Spanish minor, 2006) has completed his one-year volunteer position with Rostro de Cristo in Durán, Ecuador, near Guayaquil.

Lauren Gobbo (Secondary Education/Spanish, 2006) started her master's degree in Costa Rica and Guatemala this past summer. She says "it was quite an amazing experience and adventure." She is currently teaching Spanish at Bronxville MS/HS and taking a graduate course at Iona College, where she hopes to pursue an MA in Spanish.

Lucie Iuzzolino (Spanish/Italian, 2003), who has been teaching Italian and Spanish at the Albertus Magnus High School in Rockland County, NY since September 2003, recently got a new job teaching Italian and Spanish at Suffern High School in Suffern, New York, beginning in September 2007.

Nick Lazar (Spanish, 2001; MA, Syracuse University, 2003) taught Spanish at Jim Thorpe High School until spring 2007. Beginning this fall he is teaching Spanish at the Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. School of the Arts, a prestigious public arts magnet high school located in West Palm Beach, Florida. The Dreyfoos School was named the 19th Best High School in the nation by Newsweek Magazine in May of 2007.

Sarah Martin (Spanish, Portuguese minor, 2003) returned to the Middlebury Summer Immersion Program in Portuguese again, to the largest number of students they've had. She returned to the University of Georgia in the Fall for the second year of her doctoral program.

Elizabeth Monahan (Spanish/Philosophy, LASC and minor in Portuguese, 2005) finished her Masters at Rutgers and will be certified K-12 for Spanish and ESL.

Rosie Moran (Elementary Ed, Spanish minor, 2007) has won a Fulbright to teach English in South Korea.

Liz McDyer (Political Science/Spanish/Philosophy, 2007) began her training in Granada, Spain in October 2007 for her position as a teaching assistant under the program Grants for North American Language and Culture Assistants in Spain, recently expanded by the Spanish government. Liz will be teaching in Valdepeñas de Jaén. Previous to her acceptance of the teaching assistantship, Liz had been working as a Spanish Language specialist for TV Guide.

Gerard Piazza (History, first minor in Arabic, 2007) will be starting a one year long program in Arabic at the American University in Cairo in January 2007.

cont on page 6

DEPARTMENT NEWS, INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The department held its Eleventh Annual Immersion Day for regional High School students on Wednesday, April 18. This activity, organized by **Linda Ledford-Miller** with help from other department members, introduces students to the Foreign Languages and Literatures department and University life by bringing them on campus for a day of language learning related activities. This year more than 50 High School students participated in a variety of activities. Arabic was such a popular offering that **Habib Zanzana** gave two demo classes. In the debriefing session at the end of the day, most of the high school students had visited more than one language class. Comments they made included noting that all the classes are taught in the target language all the time (even Japanese and Arabic) and "German rocks!"



The annual **Alpha Mu Gamma** Foreign Languages Honors Society initiation ceremony was held on Thursday, April 26, 2007 in Room 509 Brennan Hall. **Linda Ledford-Miller**, Department Chairperson, organized the ceremony and luncheon with the assistance of the department secretary **Joyce Knott**. This year's president

was **Angela D. Buren** (French, Spanish, Italian and Rumanian). Serving as Secretary and Vice President was **Sharon A. Secola** (Spanish and Japanese). Inducted as full members were **Michael A. Frechen**, French and German; **Jessica M. Gondela**, Spanish; **Nathan R. Miller**, Spanish and Portuguese; **Kimberly R. Price**, Hebrew; **Bridget A. Rooney**, Spanish and Portuguese; **Tricia M. Ross**, German; **Andrea C. Sidari**, French; **Jennifer M. Stachnik**, Spanish; and **Alexa A. Vacaro**, Spanish. **Esther Wacker**, Italian, was inducted as an Associate member. In addition, two Honorary Members were inducted this year, **Kevin Nordberg**, Professor of Philosophy and long



-time student of foreign languages and proponent of foreign language study, for French and Spanish; and **Germán A. Zárate Sáñez**, outstanding TA and GA whose dedication to and talent for learning and teaching foreign languages is exemplary, for Spanish and Portuguese.



Frank A. Cimini, professor emeritus of Spanish and Italian, may hold an all-time record at the University of Scranton. The graduation ceremony of the weekend of May 26-27, 2007 marked the 66th consecutive graduation that Cimini has attended. That means that he has actually been at sixty seven University of Scranton commencements, counting his own graduation in 1939! In addition, the end of the 2006-2007 academic year marked the 45th year of Cimini's membership in the University's Pro Deo et Universitate Society, which commemorates 20 years of service to the University, making Cimini's 65 years of association with the University the longest of any living member of the University community. Cimini's son, Professor **Joseph F. Cimini** of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, is also a member and the immediate past chairperson of the Pro Deo Society.

Foreign Languages and Literatures enjoys a strong association and supporting relationship with the University of Scranton's Latin American Studies Concentration. In 2006-2007 the department and the concentration co-sponsored the Latin American Studies Educational Film Series, eight films from Latin America or related to Latin American topics. The Fall 2006 series was organized by **Sergio Ramírez-Franco** of Foreign Languages and Literatures around the theme of Hispanic women. The fall films were "Juana la Loca" (9/25/06), "Yo la peor de todas" (10/24/06), "Eva Perón" (11/15/06) and "La vendedora de rosas" (12/7/06). The spring series, also organized by Ramírez-Franco, followed up on the theme of women in Latin American films by featuring Latin American films by women directors. The spring films were "Te doy mis ojos" (directed by Iciar Bollain, 2/15/07), "Doña Bárbara" (directed by Betty Kaplan, 3/20/07), "Danzón" (directed by María Novaro, 4/11/07), "Camila" (directed by María Luisa Bemberg, 5/2/07). Other LASC sponsored events in 2006-2007 included a talk on "Women and Feminism in Mexico" by Profesora Isabel Lázaro Bueno of Mexico (9/26/06), a concert and dance show by the Eduardo Tami Trio, "Tango: Politics, Passion and Culture of Argentina" (9/28/06), a concert by classical and jazz guitarist from Barcelona, Mr. Francesc de Paula Soler (10/7/06) and a concert by the lively trio of female Cuban musicians and singers "Ángeles en la Tierra" (4/26/07). For fall 2007 Ramírez-Franco has organized the Educational Film Series around the theme of "borderlands" in support of the "Borderlands Literature" course offered by **Susan Méndez** of the English department. The fall films are "Sin dejar huella" (9/12/07), "My Family" (10/4/07), "Old Gringo" (10/31/07), and "La frontera" (12/4/07).

Sergio Ramírez-Franco attended the IV Congreso Internacional de Peruanistas in Santiago, Chile in April 2007 where he was invited to present his book *José María Arqueadas: hacia una poética migrante* (Pittsburgh: IILI, 2006).



Ramírez Franco also edited a Special Issue of *Revista Iberoamericana* dedicated to the literatures and cultures of the Andean region and published in June 2007. During the summer 2007 months Ramírez-Franco traveled to Mexico City to interview several important contemporary Mexican writers and later visited his home in Lima, Perú.

Habib Zanzana organized and led a workshop on “Cinema as a Vehicle for Effective Communication in the Foreign Language Classroom” at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Spring Methodology Conference in April 2007. In addition, Zanzana organized a session titled “Arab Women and Feminism” as part of a mini conference on Women’s Issues and Feminism sponsored by the Women’s Studies Concentration in Fall 2006. In Spring 2007 Zanzana took over the teaching of Arabic language for the semester; he really enjoyed it.

CONT. NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

Sharon Secola (Biology/Spanish, minor in Japanese, 2007) will be starting medical school at the University of Connecticut in the Fall of 2007.

Amy L. Shanahan (Spanish/Communications, LASC, 2007) was this year's winner of the second annual Award for Excellence in Latin American Studies.

Mark Tizzoni (Latin, 2007, winner of the Award for Excellence in Classics) was a National Finalist for a Fulbright to the UK at the University of Leeds. He has been accepted into the Medieval Studies program at Leeds and will begin that one year degree program in September.

Christopher Warren (Spanish 1998, Fulbright to Guatemala 1999) continues to teach elementary school in Houston, Texas. After two years in Teach for America, he stayed on with his bilingual fourth graders. In the Fall, Chris begins at a new school with an English-only classroom. In February he and his wife, Colombian born Luisa, an elementary Spanish teacher, welcomed their daughter Alba to the family.

Alumni – If our information about your activities is out of date, or if you know of the activities of other alumni that we haven't included here, please let us know. You can write to Bob Parsons at parsonsr1@scranton.edu, Habib Zanzana at zanzanahl@scranton.edu, Linda Ledford-Miller at ledfordl1@scranton.edu, Marie Karam at karamm1@scranton.edu, Jamie Trnka at trnkaj2@scranton.edu, Joe Wilson at wilsonj1@scranton.edu, Sergio Ramírez-Franco at francos2@scranton.edu, Joyce Knott at knottj1@scranton.edu, or Virginia Picchietti at picchiettv1@scranton.edu.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Everybody treated me so well during my first year with Fulbright that I decided to go back to obtain a Masters' degree in ESL and, of course, to keep teaching in such a friendly and stimulating working environment. Over the course of my two years I developed some very close friendships with faculty, staff, and other TA's. The academic training and the invaluable work experience that I gained at Scranton helped me to be accepted into Georgetown University, where I began doctoral studies in Spanish Applied Linguistics in Fall 2007.

Hailing Zhao, our first instructor of Chinese, has finished her Master's in ESL at the University of Scranton and now teaches Chinese at a school in New Jersey. Hailing is still with us in spirit!

This is Hailing, the Chinese instructor. I finished my work for the foreign language department and left for New Jersey on May 11th. Thanks to the foreign language department and Dr. Linda, I have been given the wonderful opportunity to teach my native language. I have been enjoying it a lot. My program is ESL; however, two years of teaching Chinese here has made me decide to be a Chinese teacher. I will never forget the parties in Dr. Linda's house, and the delicious food prepared by the faculty and TAs from different countries. I will never forget those TA and GA meetings with Marie Karam. I will never forget those candies or cookies on the table in the lounge constantly brought by you... So many beautiful memories here made it hard for me to say goodbye. Anyway life has to go on. Best wishes to all of you my fellows! Keep in touch!