

ENLACES CULTURALES 2018 - 2019

Honoring Retiring Faculty

A treasured member of the Wellesley community since 1996, **Verónica Darer** officially retired in December. A much-loved professor of Spanish language and culture courses, Veronica taught her ground-breaking Spanish for Heritage Speakers in the Fall, as she continued to focus her research on analyzing teaching and learning processes to better understand students' opportunities for learning success. She also remained keenly focused on sharing creative and effective ways to teach and learn languages with other educators. Beyond Wellesley Veronica will continue to be an active member of various professional organizations, including the AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese) and ACTFL (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages). In retirement, she will enjoy spending time with her family (including five grandchildren), traveling, watching independent films, going to the theatre and concerts, and dancing salsa and merengue. She will remain in the Boston area, and hopes to keep in touch with the Wellesley community. She is looking forward to hearing from former students and can be reached at vdarer@wellesley.edu.

Photos: The Department surprising Prof. Darer with flowers on her last day of class.



Faculty/Staff Updates

As he wraps up his first year as Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish, **Antonio José Arraiza Rivera** realizes how exciting and productive these months have been. Whether in the classroom or outside, Antonio has found that Wellesley's intellectually engaged and thriving community offers an exceptional source for personal and academic growth. Aside from planning his language and literature courses, he traveled to Toronto for the Renaissance Society of America's annual convention (March 17-20), where he co-organized a panel, gave a talk on his current research on Góngora and lyric poetry, and moderated a second panel on seventeenth-century colonial poetry. He then joined colleagues from the Art and Spanish Departments in Córdoba, Spain, to get acquainted with the PRESHCO-Córdoba exchange program and its exceptional staff. Last but not least, he co-organized with Prof. Guzauskyte the Transatlantic Visions Lecture Series, which took place from February to April of 2019 at the College.



Antonio copying the Quixote at the UCO's Facultad de Ciencias de la Educación library.

Christopher Eldrett has recently defended his PhD dissertation at Boston University, titled, "Walt Whitman's Prophetic Voice in Hispanic Lyric Poetry: León Felipe, Federico García Lorca, and César Vallejo." Christopher's research focuses on how Whitman unified the public and lyric voice, and opened up possibilities of poetic expression in anticipation of the avant-garde lyric experimentation of the early twentieth century. Whitman's social message took on new urgency for the Hispanic writers of the 1930s, faced with the global threat of fascism, as poets sought to express a shared humanity and new possibilities for the future. Christopher enjoys sharing literature with his students, and exploring the potentials of the poetic voice in our own fraught political climate. In his free time, Christopher enjoys travelling with his wife, Elena, and their always adventurous two-year-old son, Diego. Now that he has finished his PhD, Christopher is looking forward to travelling through Spain this summer, visiting with family and friends, and he will present a paper in June in Valencia at the Congresos internacionales de literatura y estudios hispánicos.



Christopher with his son, Diego

Maria del Mar Bassa Vanrell has taught her first year in the Spanish Department and second year at Wellesley College. Mar has very much loved teaching in the Spanish Department and is looking forward to next academic year with us too. She has taught both sequences of intermediate Spanish as well as an Introduction to Hispanic Studies course. For that course, she has greatly enjoyed the opportunity of designing a Hispanic Linguistics curriculum. This has led to fruitful discussions on current and relevant issues involving, among others, questions of language and identity, gender, and social class, as well as debates about today's news on the use of Spanish dialects in the United States and elsewhere, in contact with English and other languages. On a more personal note, Mar's highlight of this academic year has been welcoming her first child, Duna Bassa de Barros, who just turned five months old (a fun fact: Duna was born the night of her parents' 8th anniversary; what a memorable present!). Duna has been having as much fun at Wellesley College as her mamá has.



Evelina Guzauskyte was honored to be asked to serve as an expert in the Comparative Expert Assessment of research and development in Lithuania. The expert committee that carried out the overall assessment of research quality in the humanities in 22 research institutions in the country. During the assessment, Evelina undertook an in-depth study of all humanities research activity at seven institutions, including reviewing research materials, participating in site visits, and meeting with faculty, students, and administrators. The committee's recommendations were instrumental in crafting a vision for funding, structuring, and supporting humanities research in Lithuania. In her research, Prof. Guzauskyte wrote a review of an exhaustive study of the printing history of Columbus's letter, *The Mythical Indies and Columbus's Apocalyptic Letter* by Elizabeth Moore Willingham (forthcoming in *Hispanófila*). Evelina currently serves as a member of the editorial board of the peer-reviewed academic journal *Colloquia*. She also participated in several conferences, including a symposium at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. At the Latin American Studies Association conference, "Nuestra América: Justice and Inclusion," where Evelina served as a panelist on "Designing ADRELA: The Alliance for Digital Research on Early Latin America." In May, Evelina was invited to participate to the first-ever World Writers of Lithuania forum hosted by the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, and was interviewed by the radio news channel on the topics of globalization, migration, and citizenship. Evelina continued directing the Blended Learning Initiative, which this year has supported blended learning and digital humanities projects in Peace and Justice Studies, Music, Spanish, French, and Classical Studies. Projects have involved virtual reality to study social justice and conflict, creating music for video games, social networks, and textual preservation and restoration. Together with Antonio Arraiza Rivera, she brought to campus 4 speakers as part of the Transatlantic Visions Speaker Series. Evelina was invited by two student groups to share her research on gendered visions of the conquest and forms of decolonial language (organized by the students of the Wellesley College Historical Society and the Casa Cervantes). She advised an independent study by Francesca Keller Sarmiento '21, "American Women Teachers in the Argentine Republic, under the sponsorship of Domingo Faustino Sarmiento," served on the thesis committee for honors in Peace and Justice Studies for Majaella Rueda '19. Evelina is currently working on her second book manuscript, entitled *Colonial Gaze, Local Narratives: Gender and Fashion in Eighteenth-century New Spain casta Paintings*.

Photos below: Evelina at a Lithuanian radio on the subject of double citizenship and with her daughters Emma and Audrey.



For **Koichi Hagimoto**, the 2018-19 academic year began with the birth of his daughter, Mina (pictured on right). He was on leave in the Fall and was able to spend many unforgettable days—and sleepless nights—with her. Taishi has been an amazing brother too, even sharing his favorite toys with her! Regarding his academic achievements, Professor Hagimoto co-edited a special number on the influence of Asia in Latin American literature for *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana*, one of the leading journals in his field. This work has led him to organize two workshops and present a paper at the 2019 Latin American Studies Association Conference. In addition, he was invited to give a talk about his current research project on literary and historical relations between Argentina and Japan at the international symposium organized by Yale University, "Japanese Diaspora to the Americas: Literature, History, and Identity."



As for his teaching, Professor Hagimoto enjoyed working with the students in his Spring courses, SPAN 202 and SPAN 335. He and Professor McEwan (Economics) were awarded the 2017-18 Apgar Award for Teaching Excellence for their team-taught course, “LAST 101: Introduction to Latin American Studies.” Thanks to everyone who is involved in Latin American Studies at Wellesley, we have made some great progress toward creating a more robust program. While his heart is, of course, with the Spanish Department, Professor Hagimoto looks forward to teaching more Latin American Studies courses, including LAST 221 (wintersession in Cuba) in January and LAST 101 in the Spring of 2020.



Above: Students view an original edition of Quevedo’s El Buscón in Clapp Library’s Special Collections. Below. Award-winning author Valeria Luiselli talks with Nancy Hall at the Humanities Center. Left. Ananí Galindo and don Vicente Bando sing “Paloma” at the Latinx Cultural Show.

Nancy Hall and **Ray Starr** (Classical Studies) have been over the moon this year as they welcomed two new grandchildren to their family. Back on terra firma, Nancy’s 241 students visited Special Collections in Clapp Library to examine, under Ruth Rogers’ expert guidance, an original edition of Francisco de Quevedo’s *El buscón* (1624). Her updated version of the Modern Mexico seminar, now Spanish 281, featured new literary and visual texts, plus student panels for sharing exciting multi-disciplinary research projects. Most recently Nancy was thrilled to interview American Book Award winner Valeria Luiselli during a well-attended event at Wellesley’s Newhouse Center for the Humanities. Luiselli’s novel *Lost Children Archive* (Knopf, 2019) and its companion essay, *Tell Me How It Ends* (Los niños perdidos), focus on the immigration crisis at the border and in our courts. Another high point of the year for Hall was seeing “Roma” on the big screen at Kendall Square. Set during a time and place of her own childhood and adolescence, Cuarón’s film offers a clear counterpoint to the Lomas-based hilarity of another Netflix production Nancy loves, “La casa de las flores.” She is grateful that a nadie se le ocurrió cancelar el mariachi for the 50th reunion of her class that graduated in Mexico City in 1968 and looks forward to spending the summer reading emerging short story writers from across the Americas and writing about contemporary Mexican literature.



António M.A. Igrejas is thrilled to continue his work on developing the Portuguese Program at Wellesley. He taught “The Cultures of the Portuguese-Speaking World Through Film, Fiction and Music” – in English and cross-listed with the Africana Studies Department. He also taught Intensive Elementary and Intermediate Portuguese courses, and directed several Independent Studies on fiction in the Lusophone world. For research he travelled to Washington DC to attend the Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference where he participated in a roundtable discussion on the Luso-Hispanic world entitled: “La ciudad plural: espacios literarios de tránsito/A cidade plural espaços literários de trânsito.” António also attended, for professional development, the “VIII Literature in Portuguese Language Conference: Gender Social Construction and Gender Identity in Lusophone Literature” at UMass. Boston.

*Photos. Right: António's daughter Camilla on Easter Sunday.
Below: AFR/PORT 256 class*



This academic year **Jael Matos** accepted the position in Italian Studies Department in addition to her continued role in the Department of Spanish. This was not her “first rodeo.” Jael has helped many Academic Departments over the years when they were in need of support. So, for Jael this was a welcomed opportunity to share with the Italian Studies Department how her knowledge and skills will benefit not only the Department but the students as well. They have certainly welcomed her with open arms as well as her ideas to “get them on the map!” Her semester was busy with many lectured events both during the Fall and Spring semester. But she definitely took the time to take a few vacations. In January, she travelled to Croatia and Slovenia with her sister Mara. They travelled to Dubrovnik, Split, and Opatija, Croatia and to Bled and Ljubljana, Slovenia. The weather was chilly but not as cold as it was in Boston. Her favorite part of the trip was a walking Games of Thrones tour around Dubrovnik where some of the most iconic scenes in the series were shot. Overall it was a great trip, which she will never forget. She also travel to Puerto Rico, where her parents and many relatives reside. Where is Jael off to next? Stay tuned!



Above: Jael and her sister Mara in front of Pile Gate, Dubrovnik, Croatia. Right: Jael with her some of her family in Puerto Rico



Carlos Ramos spent part of the 2018 summer working on the project for which he had been awarded a Mellon Evidence-Based Teaching Innovation Grant: “Development of an ePortfolio as a requirement for graduation for Majors in Spanish.” After creating a template and working with the department to develop it, an ePortfolio pilot has started with the majors of the class of 2021. In October, he presented research on Federico García Lorca at Dartmouth College, and in November he delivered another paper on Lorca at the XLV Simposio Internacional de Literatura, Instituto Literario y Cultural Hispánico in Buenos Aires: “*Federico ante el espejo: El poema doble del Lago Eden.*” He has served as the faculty advisor for the Honors Thesis of Julia Simon ’19—“Misiones educativas en España y México: Pedagogía, colonización y adoctrinamiento en la construcción de la nación moderna”—that she defended successfully on May 13th. Another proud moment this fall was to welcome back to the department Laura Mayron ’16, now a PhD candidate in Hispanic Language & Literatures at Boston University. She lectured on Lorca’s “Oda a Walt Whitman” to his seminar on “Federico García Lorca” In January he traveled with 16 students to Barcelona, for the 8th Wellesley Wintersession session there. This year, the guest of honor was graphic artist Miguel Gallardo, who spoke about his evolution as an artist, and on his views on art and social engagement. In May, he gave a talk at the Wellesley Columbus Club on the different manifestations of nationalism in Spain, with special attention to the situation in Catalonia. It was a great occasion, and a nice chance to catch up with the president of the club, Maura Atwater ’08 and her beautiful family. Also in May, he gave a talk on contemporary Spain at MIT’s International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI).

At the college, aside from serving as chair of the Spanish department, he has worked on the Committee on Curriculum and Academic Policy where he has participated in discussions and developed policy about the Multicultural Requirement, the Distribution Requirement and the Grading Policy. He also completed his work with the Accreditation Steering Committee (2017-2019), where he had been appointed by President Johnson. This year he has also been particularly involved in the work of the Faculty Advisory Committee for PRESHCO, with visits to Córdoba in October and March.

Finally, a couple of publications came out this year: “Federico García Lorca en Vermont. Un pulso herido” in José M. del Pino (ed.) *El impacto de la metrópolis. La experiencia americana en Lorca, Dalí y Buñuel*, La Casa de la Riqueza. Estudios de la Cultura de España. Iberoamericana-Vervuert: Madrid, 2018, pp. 117-135; and “Aura and Spectacle: The Digital Restitution Project at Sant Climent de Taüll.” *International Journal of New Media, Technology and the Arts*, Volume 13, Issue 2 (2018).



WS19 group, in Barcelona



Carlos enjoying some Helado de manzana al horno” at “Rocambolesc”, in Girona

Inela Selimović spent a transformative academic year on sabbatical. While away from the classroom, she pursued several interesting projects. In September Inela completed a site visit to our study-abroad program, PRESHCO, in Córdoba, Spain. She was delighted to see our students (see photos on below) ease into their Fall semester and was equally honored to spend several days with the PRESHCO administration, faculty, staff, and host families. Another site visit took place in March of 2019 during which Inela spent a few days with our students and their director at the Wellesley-in-Chile Program. Other international commitments included cinema-oriented events in Portugal, Switzerland, and Iceland, and a research conference in Gdansk, Poland, at which she presented a paper entitled “Affect, Dreams, Nightmares in Lucía Puenzo’s *El niño pez*”. Inela subsequently organized another panel, “Home, Politics, and Sexuality in Hispanic Cinema” at the 2019 LASA Conference in Boston, contributing a paper on Pablo Trapero’s cinema, and serving as a discussant for another session. Inela pursued several research undertakings as well. In collaboration with Prof. Philippa Page (Newcastle University, United Kingdom) and Prof. C. G. Sutherland (University of Groningen, Holland), she co-edited *The Feeling Child: Affect and Politics in Latin American Literature and Film* (Lexington Press, 2018). Inela’s chapter, “Coached Feelings and Political Resocializations in Paula Markovitch’s *El premio* (2012),” initiates this exciting collaboration. Her article entitled “Unorthodox Homes in Pablo Trapero’s *Leonera* (2008) and *El clan* (2015)” is forthcoming in the November 2019 issue of *Chasqui*. It would be inaccurate to characterize this academic year in terms of work-related experiences only. Inela enjoyed having more time for her family and friends in Bosnia, Latin America, and the United States.



Celebrating 40 years of Service



Being a twin girl and having twin sons, I have enjoyed a lifetime of partnerships. Faith, family and friends have guided me in my short, earthly journey of seventy-six years. Five decades with my “novio” Don Burgy have been a loving, exciting adventure.

As a teacher/scholar/community member at Wellesley, forty full years have inspired me with intellectual, social and personal growth. I treasure my multifaceted relationships with students - past and present- in the humanities, social sciences and sciences, as they are our ‘real treasures.’

My heart and soul have resided in the Spanish Department where former and current colleagues have extended continual care in good times and during physical struggles. Occasional appointments at MIT, Harvard and Boston College have added value to my academic development. Over the years, my close teaching associations with the Education Department, Writing and Summer Enrichment Programs, as well as PERA Athletics, and Wellesley Student Aid Society, plus countless College committees, have expanded my knowledge and enhanced my outreach and sense of mission.

Off campus, co-authoring pedagogical materials has represented other fulfilling partnerships, as has leadership in state, regional and inter/national professional organizations, complementary to my presence at Wellesley. Being named - by the King of Spain – ‘Dama de la Orden de la Cruz de Isabel la Católica’ has been a thrill.

I am grateful for a half century of rewarding partnerships.



Charlando con Constanza Sanz Sánchez

Our Language Assistant from the University of Córdoba, Spain, shares her thoughts and experiences during her year at Wellesley College

Was this your first time in the U.S.?

No, this was actually my second time. I think it was in 2009 when I first came to the U.S. I visited New York City with my family, but it was just a seven day trip. Being here for an academic year is completely different, because you see things from another perspective.

Was it hard to get used to life in the U.S. and at Wellesley College?

Well, not really. It's true that at first I got lost several times on campus (specially in Green Hall). Maybe the hardest thing to get used to was the meal schedule -very different from the Spanish one!

What will you miss most about life here at Wellesley College?

Everything! The new friends I've made here, my colleagues in the Spanish Department, theater classes, late walks around Lake Waban and all the amazing places I've visited during the year.

Any advice for other Language Assistants?

This is a unique and changing experience. So make the most of it! Try new things, meet new people, travel as much as you can and... enjoy!



Portuguese @ Wellesley

Evelyn Vivar '20. I'm an Environmental Studies and Latin American Studies double major. This semester I'm studying History at the Pontificia Universidade Católica in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. I chose to study in Belo Horizonte because of the sense of community that other students experienced, and that's exactly what I found in this city. From dancing samba on the streets and watching a group of people perform capoeira, I couldn't help but feel welcomed. I was also able to experience carnaval, and see how the city comes together to celebrate culture and one another.

During the past three months that I've lived in Brazil, I've had the opportunity to visit different parts of the country and meet some of the most welcoming and friendly people, who have made Belo Horizonte feel like home. My host family in particular has been a huge part of my experience, as they opened their home and hearts to me. The friends that I've made at my host institution have also helped me gain different cultural immersion experiences, such as being part of a waltz dance for a festa de 15 años, an important celebration that marks a girl's coming of age. I never imagined myself being invited to be part of a court, but it just goes to show how welcoming *mineiros* (Belo Horizonte residents) are. I'm excited to see what new memories I make in my last month in Brazil and to continue improving my Portuguese. Tchauzinho!



Kayla Nakeeb '21. For both the fall and spring semesters, I have been a Safety Net Project intern at the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School. The Safety Net Projects provides pro-bono guidance and representation through social safety net and anti-poverty programs like Social Security and SNAP with the intention that the most vulnerable, and most often underrepresented individuals can win not just ongoing monthly income but also substantial retroactive payments and access to comprehensive low-cost health insurance. My Portuguese and Spanish were essential in doing intake with new clients and in referring those that we couldn't help. When we accepted non-English speakers, my language skills again helped me to be a compassionate and real person first and a student advocate second, by building relationships with them in their first language, establishing trust, and explaining any concerns that they have about complicated bureaucratic processes that directly affect their lives. Besides that, a large part of my time was spent creating and translating existing self-advocacy resources into Portuguese and Spanish. Language shouldn't be yet another hurdle to those already least able to advocate for themselves

Leilani Stacy '18. My first year at Wellesley I took a Portuguese class just for fun, because I had heard good things about Professor Igrejas, and that he gave his students pastries! I never expected that four years later, I would be living in Lisbon as the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship to research women-owned businesses and entrepreneurship in the country. Thank you to the Department and Professor Igrejas for making this incredible opportunity possible.



Eventos Culturales



Fall 2018 Open House



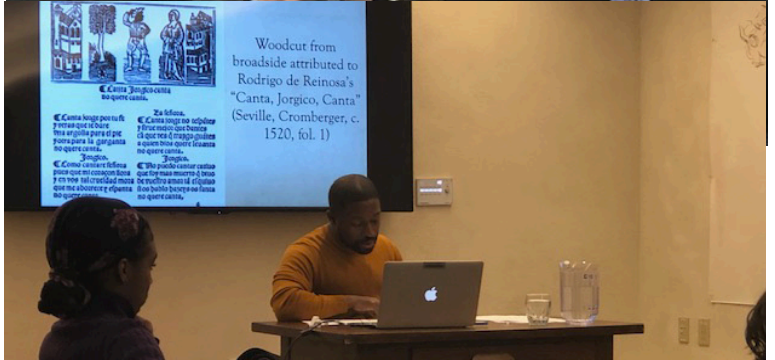
Welcome brunch with '18-'19 residents of Casa Cervantes

Spanish Majors Dinner



Transatlantic Visions Lecture Series Spring 2019

Evelina Guzauskyte and **Antonio J. Arraiza** coordinated the Transatlantic Visions Lecture Series, during the Spring 2019 semester. The series featured the engaging participation of Prof. Josiah Blackmore (Harvard University), Prof. Nicholas R. Jones (Bucknell University), Prof. Paul Firbas (Stony Brook University), and Dr. Hannah Alpert-Abrams (John Carter Brown Library), all of whom are carrying out innovative research in early modern Iberian and colonial Latin American literary and cultural production. Their work draws from an array of approaches spanning from the digital humanities to race and gender studies, illuminating how relevant the cultural production of sixteenth and seventeenth century Spain, Portugal and the Americas still remains today. We would like to thank the support from the Committees on Lectures and Cultural Events, the Blended Learning Initiative, and the Departments of Spanish, Religion, Women and Gender Studies, Latin American Studies, along with the Medieval-Renaissance Program. We are especially grateful to our Academic Administrator, **Jael Matos**, for her support of the series, and to all colleagues who attended events and recommended them to their students.



**EL DEPARTAMENTO DE
ESPAÑOL EN CONJUNTO
CON LA CASA
CERVANTES PRESENTA:**

**Hilos entrelazados: Un
acercamiento decolonial
hacia el arte y el lenguaje**

UNA CHARLA DE LA PROFESORA EVELINA
GUZAUSKYTE SOBRE EL ARTE HUICHOL
UN ACERCAMIENTO A LA HISTORIA DE UNO DE LOS
CUADROS POR PARTE DE AMELIA FORMAN '21

4:00pm- 5:00pm

VIERNES 8 DE MARZO

EN EL SCULPTURE COURT DE JEWETT
SE PROVEERÁN REFRESCOS Y APERITIVOS



*"Hilos entrelazados". talk given by Prof. Evelina Guzauskyte.
Amelia Forman '21 shared her artwork for the talk.*



*Alexandra Delgadillo' 22 on a class visit to the
LA Art Exhibit at the Davis, with the SPAN 242 class
(Carlos Ramos, Spring 19)*



Prof. Hagimoto's SPAN 335 Class



*Above: Carlos Vega with his SPAN 262 class.
Right: Carlos Vega with SPAN 308 class.*



Spanish Department Annual Reception



Honoring Our Spanish Majors



Alumnae Updates

Erica Saldivar Garcia '12. "I recently defended my dissertation titled "Racioliteracies: Race and Subjectivity in the Spanish Teaching of Bilingual Latinx Students" at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. My research examined how literacy, as a concept, intersects with other marginalizing discourses in ways that impact bilingual Latinx students' subjectivities. I currently teach courses in language and literacy development at Penn and serves as a Research Assistant for the Center for Standards, Alignment, Instruction, and Learning (C-SAIL). In addition to defending my dissertation, I recently married Evan P. Zimmerman (Colgate University class of 2011) in Deal, New Jersey." *(Erica is pictured here on her wedding day with her fellow class of 2012 Wellesley sisters.)*



Left to right: Aisha de Avila-Shin, Kristal Otero, and Charleen Johnson-Stover

Rocío Ortega '16. I am a Programs Associate for Girl Up, United Nations Foundation. I oversee various leadership programs for girls including an international Teen Advisory board program, leading the sports and gender initiatives and oversees a team of international consultants. I have visited Girl Up impacted countries in Guatemala and Ethiopia in conjunction with United Nations agencies like UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA. I have been involved with Girl Up since its founding in 2010 as a former Club Leader, 2011-2012 Girl Up Teen Advisor, and started a Girl Up chapter at Wellesley. I hold a BA in Political Science and Latin American Studies from Wellesley College and is currently pursuing her MA in Latin American Studies at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She's also the youngest alumna to serve as President of the Wellesley Latina Alumnae Network.





Melissa Zambrana '15 just accepted a spot in Harvard's Graduate School of Education Higher Education Master's program.



Grace Atherton '15, Erin Chow '15, Molly McNamara '15, Julia Golden, Jacqueline Baker '15, and Melissa Jo Zambrana '15 met at a Barcelona Wine Bar to enjoy tapas, catch up, and reminisce about their time in Spain.

Diana M. Castillo '17(right) "In the fall of 2015 I had the incredible experience of studying abroad in Valparaiso, Chile. I loved it so much I decided to move back this spring! I am working as a "profe" at DUOC UC schools in Valparaiso, where I teach various levels of English to students studying vocations ranging from gastronomy to engineering. I have been enjoying eating countless empanadas, finding restaurants with great views of the ocean, and learning so much from my Chilean students and colleagues. If anyone is in Chile anytime this year, please let me know!"



Noa Weinstein '18 (left) is working as an asthma educator/clinical research assistant at the IMPACT DC (Improving Pediatric Asthma Care in the District of Columbia) clinic at Children's National Medical Center. "I meet with families one-on-one in English or Spanish to talk about their children's asthma, how to manage their asthma triggers, the jobs of their medications and how to properly take them, and helps connect them to various resources that can work to eliminate asthma triggers within a child's home. She's thrilled to be speaking Spanish in clinic every day and never expected to develop an asthma-related vocabulary!"



Laura Mayron '16 (right) PhD candidate at BU gave a talk in October to the Lorca Seminar class with Carlos Ramos

Korenne Richardson Smith '09 welcomed her first child, a baby boy, on March 10, 2019. Eric Justin Smith II weighed in at 9lbs, 4oz and was 21.5 inches long. He's a happy baby that loves to eat! In addition to becoming a mother, Korenne also began a new position in 2019 leading digital at Discovery and Science Channels as Sr Director, Multiplatform Strategy and Social.



Summer Internships Abroad - 2018

Isabel Kim '20. “I spent this past summer interning at an NGO in Córdoba, Spain called ACPACYS - Asociación Cordobesa de Parálisis Cerebral y otras afecciones similares, roughly translated to “The Cordovan Association of Cerebral Palsy and other similar conditions.” I met many of the social workers, physical therapists, psychologists, and volunteers who serve the organization, in addition to the patients who receive treatment there. Most of the patients commute to the center, but some of them reside there. As an intern, I lead a variety of workshops including art therapy, education, and English-language. I also had the opportunity to observe and participate in therapy sessions with the head psychologist, Maricarmen. Being involved in these therapy sessions made me realize that clinical psychology is a field I am potentially interested in pursuing after graduation. I enjoyed and appreciated the plenitude of history and architecture in Córdoba, and am so grateful for the opportunity to see landmarks that I’ve studied in class at Wellesley such as the Mezquita-Catedral (Mosque-Cathedral) in person. Overall, I really enjoyed my experience at ACPACYS and in Córdoba, and will forever remember all the lessons I’ve learned and connections I’ve made during my time there.”

(Photo: Isabel Kim '20 and Aislinn Diaz '19)



Julia Simon '19. “Last summer I interned at the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (UIMP) in Santander, Spain. I worked in the office of cultural activities. Each week was a little different depending on the activities we had planned, but they could be anything from art exhibits, to plays, to guest speakers. I helped organize and run these activities, acting as support for three or four each week. Working in the cultural activities office, I was exposed to lots of Spain’s culture and got to practice my Spanish every day! I was also fortunate enough to work with a fantastic group of people, some of whom I am still in touch with today. Working at UIMP also gave me a chance to reflect on what I want to do after I graduate and inspired me to accept a job in Chile.”



Aislinn Diaz '19. “This summer I interned at a non-profit treatment center in Córdoba, Spain that offers rehabilitative and educational therapies to people with cerebral palsy and other neurological conditions. The center, ACPAYCS (Asociacion cordobesa de paralisis cerebral y otras afecciones similares), is run by a mix of health professionals and volunteers, and offers treatments to people of all ages, from toddlers to adults. Professionals include social workers, speech therapists, physical therapists, and trained psychologists who work in conjunction with classroom teachers to incorporate focus points from a patient’s treatment into their respective classroom activities. At ACPACYS I had a mix of experiences that challenged and reinforced my interest in a service-oriented career. I was able to learn from professionals in different fields with the same care and passion for their job at ACPACYS. I felt comfortable asking questions and suggesting ideas for classroom projects, however, only after a while of adjusting to the new time and place I was working in. I was able to practice my Spanish skills more consistently than ever and have reached a new level of comfort in this ability. I am grateful for this experience where I learned how psychology and social work are done in another culture. My key takeaway from this summer is that I deeply enjoy working in a non-profit setting, consistently interacting with other people and expanding the definition of health and wellbeing.”



Aislinn with a patient named Fran watching an end of year performance by other ACPACYS patients.

Summer Internships - 2019

Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (UIMP), Santander, Spain
Katie White '20

Observatorio Instituto Cervantes, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
Christine Arumainayagam '20

*Asociación Cordobesa de Parálisis Cerebral
y otras afecciones similares (ASPACYS), Córdoba, Spain*
Bella Adams '22 and Solveig Stensland '21

Fundación Poder Ciudadano, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Vita Solorio-Fielder '21 and Gen Brittingham '21

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), San José, Costa Rica
Amelia Forman '21

End of Year Events

Graduation Breakfast, May 31, 2019
8:30am, Green Hall 438

Alumnae Weekend Reception, June 8, 2019
3:30pm, Green Hall 438

If you are an Alum and would like to be featured in the
“Alumnae Spotlight” for our 2019-2020 newsletter, please send your stories and experiences along with photos
to: jmatos@wellesley.edu.

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