



## Wellesley College Spanish Department 2012-2013 Newsletter

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Dear Alums,

It's been an eventful year with much exciting news to share. At Commencement 2012, 27 Spanish majors received Wellesley degrees and Koichi Hagimoto was awarded the Pinanski Prize for excellence in teaching. In June we saw many of you at Reunion Weekend Open House, and rolled out a new Department web page <http://wellesley.edu/spanish>. We wished Elena Gascón-Vera well on her sabbatical, and delighted when PRESHCO received the "Córdobeses del año" award. Jill Syverson-Stork began her third year as Exec. Director USA of PRESHCO, working closely with campus coordinator Joy Renjilian-Burgy to prepare a new group of students to live and study in Andalucía. Also over the summer Joy, Jill and Verónica Darer traveled to Puerto Rico to run a Spanish immersion workshop at the AATSP annual meeting.

Come Fall Mónica Klien, originally from Lima, Peru, joined us to teach Latin American Cultural History and Intermediate Spanish. Under Verónica's direction, Spanish 201-202 adopted a new textbook. Teaching Assistant Cristina Santos (U Córdoba) settled into Casa Cervantes and Nancy Hall brought Harvard's Andrés Monroy Hernández to speak on social media, a topic addressed in her Modern Mexico seminar. Students of Chair Carlos Ramos also explored social issues, including the ongoing financial crisis, in his Cultural History of Spain course. Carlos Vega traveled to the universities of Zaragoza and Alicante to share his expertise in medieval hagiography. He also continued to work with the Assoc. for North American University programs in Spain, and with Marjorie Agosín and Jennifer Thomas-Stark (International Study), assessed programs in Chile. Nancy and Takis Metaxas (Computer Science) visited Córdoba to bond with students, faculty and staff there.

Marjorie spoke on Chilean *arpilleras* at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM, and organized an on-campus screening of the 2010 documentary "Nostalgia de la luz." Alianza sponsored a lecture by Koichi on José Martí, and Inela Selimovic addressed the Alpha Phi Sigma Society. Her interview with Ariel Dorfman appeared in *Human Rights Quarterly*. Jill and Verónica organized an advanced grammar workshop for MaFla, and Joy became a trustee of the Armenian Library and Museum of America. With the help of Jael Matos, Cristina planned a *cena cordobesa* in Casa Cervantes and a monthly "Noche de cine" in Pendleton.

Before the December holidays we rejoiced at the news of Evelina Guzauskyte's positive tenure decision. Her outstanding contributions as a teacher and scholar of colonial Latin American literature and culture will further the hopes and plans we shared with a Visiting Committee this Fall. Also at term's end Teresa Guillén, '43 joined us for lunch, and Dominican-born novelist Junot Díaz, winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, visited Koichi's Caribbean Lit. & Culture class for a memorable session.

*El hispanismo nos une: Estudiantes, profesores y amigos del departamento en 2012-2013*



## Spring 2013

**New courses:** Carlos Ramos and Diego Arciniegas (Theater) teamed up to teach Spanish/Theater Studies 341, Reading-Performing Spanish Theater. Plans continue for the introduction of Portuguese instruction next Fall when Mellon Post-doc António Igrejas will hold a joint teaching appointment at Wellesley and MIT. Also next year, Carlos Vega will give a Calderwood Seminar in Public Writing for seniors in the department.

**Special guests:** Koichi hosted Betina González (U. of Buenos Aires) (Premio Tusquets, *Las poseídas*) for a talk about bilingualism and fiction writing. Carlos Ramos brought poet Luis Muñoz for a poetry reading and actress and director Esther Pérez Arribas of the Festival de Teatro Clásico de Olmedo for a master class on *La vida es sueño* by Calderón. Novelist Junot Díaz returned to speak at the Newhouse Center for the Humanities, where he was interviewed by Koichi. Also at the Newhouse, Marjorie hosted Jonathan Cohen on William Carlos Williams's connection to Spanish poetry.

**Study abroad:** Under the direction of Carlos Ramos, students spent Wintersession in Barcelona. Carlos Vega hosted a campus visit by Jeffrey Stevenson, Director of Middlebury College in Chile, and organized a special workshop titled "Bringing Study Abroad Home: Integrating the Experience Abroad with the Liberal Arts Campus" funded by the Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges and held at Wellesley.

**On the road:** Elena gave a paper on Almodóvar at the Univ. of Santiago de Chile. Nancy visited Wellesley Alumnae Clubs in Sarasota, Naples, Montpelier and San Diego, and Carlos Vega was a guest of the Tucson and Phoenix groups.

**Campus events:** Inela spoke at the Albright Institute, and with Marjorie and Carlos Vega, promoted a series of guest lectures on human rights. Noche de Cine offered "Chico y Rita," "Circo," "Crimen perfecto;" the AATSP also sponsored a film viewing and workshop. Faculty and students relaxed at the annual Spanish Department pub night in Punch's Alley, where we were joined by Ashley Shaffer '05 and Elizabeth Good '05.

**The art of teaching:** Verónica led a session of the Three-College Collaboration Faculty Teaching Workshop at Olin College. Chantal Thompson (BYU) hosted many of us at a proficiency workshop at Wellesley.

**Congratulations:** For her 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service Jael was honored at a brunch at Casa de Pedro. Koichi was reappointed as Assistant Professor, and will be on junior leave next year. Vicky Nguyen '13 earned honors in Spanish for her thesis on constructions of Asian identity in Latin America. ¡Enhorabuena!

**Publications:** Evelina's book, *Christopher Columbus's Naming in the Diarios of the Four Voyages (1592-1504): A Discourse of Appropriation and Negotiation* has been accepted by the University of Toronto Press. Palgrave will publish Koichi's book, *Between Empires: Martí, Rizal, and the Intercolonial Alliance*. The fourth edition of Joy's anthology *Album*, co-edited with R. Valette, has been issued. Nancy's review of Pin, Levander and Emerson's *Teaching and Studying the Americas: Cultural Influences from Colonialism to the Present* will appear in the summer edition of the online journal *Impact*.

**Students in the News:** Claire Fogarty '12 and Madeleine Weeks '11 have received Fulbright grants to Mexico. Tracy Bassett '06 is currently in Brazil under the same auspices. Yesenia Trujillo '14 won a grant donated by Andrés Monroy for research in the field of social media. Diana Dizoglio, '11, was elected to the Massachusetts State House from her North Shore district. Becca Kimball '14 has been invited to the US Rowing's prestigious "pre-elite" national team camp this summer at Syracuse University. Malia Maier '13 finished her Wellesley basketball career ranked 7th all-time in NCAA Division III history with her 449 total steals.



*Antonio, Esther, Betina, y Luis*

**PLANNING TO BE ON CAMPUS THIS SPRING? PLEASE JOIN US!**  
**COMMENCEMENT BREAKFAST, FRI., May 31, 8:30 AM GREEN 328**  
**REUNION OPEN HOUSE, JUNE 8, 3 PM GREEN 328**

*Alum Updates*

Lizzy Atkin '11 writes: "A lot has been going on recently! My passion for communication led me to land a job in sales and marketing at a tech startup after graduating from Wellesley. Most of our IT team is from South America, so I was able to bond with them through speaking Spanish. I have continued my language development by starting to learn French on my own. My fiancé (who I started dating after returning from the PRESHCO program) and I are getting married this June and moving to the DC area. I will be attending the Georgetown MBA program to study international business and hopefully study abroad again!"

Claire Shea '11 reports that she is in her second year of teaching IB Spanish at a public charter school in Hyannis, MA. She is excited to be able to use Spanish on a daily basis and continues to learn mini grammar lessons from her students' questions. In February, she led a trip of 37 students to Costa Rica with EF Tours, and is planning a trip to Madrid, Córdoba, Sevilla and Barcelona with about 30 students in April 2014. She has received four education mini-grants to complete a Spanish pen pal project in her sophomore classes with high school students in Córdoba, Spain; her students love writing to their pen pals, chatting with them on Twitter in their free time, and learning about Spanish festivals and norms.

Jacqueline Moreno '12 is an Assistant Legislative Deputy for the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

PLEASE SEND YOUR NEWS to Jael Matos ([jmatos@wellesley.edu](mailto:jmatos@wellesley.edu)). *Gracias mil*, Nancy Hall (editor)

*From the Office of Public Relations*

**Wellesley Has 21 Graduates in Teach for America for 2012-13**



[Teach For America](#) recently released its annual ranking of the colleges and universities contributing the greatest number of graduates to its 2012 teaching corps. Wellesley College ranks highest among small schools (fewer than 2,999 per graduating class) with 21 graduates joining the corps. Wellesley has been among the top contributors since the list was first released in 2008.

One of Wellesley's 21 is Erica Saldivar '12, now a Teach for America Greater Philadelphia corps member. The Spanish and economics major said, "I found that Teach for America's mission of changing the educational outcome of children in the low-income communities of urban America is a nonconventional but perfect starting point for me." While teaching she is simultaneously completing a master's degree in education at the UPenn.

---Reprinted and adapted from the Wellesley College Website, October 5, 2012

## Michelle Caruso-Cabrera '91 Delivers Latina Month Keynote at Wellesley



Chief International Correspondent for CNBC and Wellesley alum **Michelle Caruso-Cabrera '91** kicked off a full slate of Latina Month 2013 activities with a keynote address on April 3 entitled "Leading By Example."

The Latina Month Planning Committee nominated Caruso-Cabrera to be the keynote speaker because, said Robin Lush of the Office of Advisor to Latina Students, "We wanted to highlight a prominent Latina alum who would provide inspiration and guidance to students as they planned their academic and career paths based on their personal and professional goals." Caruso-Cabrera has earned critical acclaim as an author and network broadcaster, and has most recently earned the prestigious title of Chief International Correspondent for CNBC.

After graduating from Wellesley with a **dual degree in economics and Spanish**, Caruso-Cabrera began her career in 1991 as a stringer for the *New York Times*, reporting on education issues. She subsequently worked at Univision, gaining extensive experience covering Latin America, and as special projects producer won an Emmy Award for a five-part series on children with AIDS, as well as an Emmy nomination for a report on sexual abuse by clergymen. She joined WTSP-TV in St. Petersburg, Fla., where she was a general assignment reporter until joining CNBC in 1998.

Caruso-Cabrera reported for NBC News from Baghdad, covering the elections and their impact on Iraq's post-war economy, and has also traveled to Cuba, Brazil, and Venezuela to report on and produce groundbreaking stories about the economies of those countries.

In 2011, Caruso-Cabrera covered the European financial crisis. Reporting live from Athens, Rome and Frankfurt, Caruso-Cabrera warned viewers and users early on about the rising risk of default and the consequences for the global economy. Caruso-Cabrera has reported one-hour documentaries for the network including, "[Liquid Assets: The Big Business of Water](#)" and "[The Race to Rebuild: America's Infrastructure](#)." She also was co-anchor of "[Power Lunch](#)" with Sue Herera and Tyler Mathisen.

Now Caruso-Cabrera is CNBC's chief international correspondent. When not covering her beat, she anchors and reports for the network throughout CNBC's business day programming.

Caruso-Cabrera wrote her first book, *You Know I'm Right: More Prosperity, Less Government*, in 2010, and has written a personal finance column for *Shape en Espanol* focusing on issues of particular importance to Latinas and was a monthly contributor to *People en Español*.

Caruso-Cabrera has also been awarded Broadcaster of the Year from the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and was named one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics" in the country by *Hispanic Business Magazine*. You can follow Michelle Caruso-Cabrera on Twitter [@Mcaruso\\_Cabrera](#).

---Reprinted and adapted from the Wellesley College Website, April 3, 2013