

# *Foreign Language News*

*Department of Foreign Languages  
Coleman Hall, Eastern Illinois University  
Charleston, Illinois 61920*

**Vol. 9, No. 1**

**Editor: Kathryn M. Bulver, Ph.D.**

## **Dear alumni and other friends,**

Well, thanks primarily to the diligence and energy of Kathryn Bulver, we are back on schedule with this newsletter. Since our last edition there have been a number of noteworthy changes for which we owe thanks at least in part to you. First, if you were to visit (and we certainly wish you would), you would find our halls lined with new bulletin boards covered with bright displays posted by faculty, language clubs and individual students. Subjects range from travel to study abroad to famous French monuments to German beer.

On a higher technological plain, last summer we outfitted our remaining two classrooms with ceiling mounted projectors, computers, VCR and DVD players, stereo sound and internet access. The days of overhead projectors, transparencies and dependence on chalkboards are rapidly receding. If the bottom does not totally fall out of the university budget, we will be reporting major lab changes next year.

Technology is a wonderous thing but the heart of our department has always been its faculty. I am especially proud of the people I work with this year. In particular, I want to ask you to join me in congratulating Kathryn Bulver on her promotion to full professor. Equally impressive is the fact that both Karen Taylor and Shelley French received well deserved Faculty Achievement Awards for their service to the university. To all of you - Bravo!

A record number of students profited this year from our evolving connection with International Programs and Study Abroad. We sent students to Germany (2), France (2), Spain (3) and Mexico (5). As you will read further on in this newsletter, two of these

students received travel scholarships funded directly through alumni gifts. Thank you all for your continued support. So much would be impossible without you.

I want to alert you that you will more than likely be called in February and asked to continue to pledge your financial support to the department. Some of you have undoubtedly already received calls on behalf of other campus entities with which you were associated during your years at Eastern. As in the past, you will find a pledge sheet and return envelope with this newsletter. Should you choose to send it in before the end of January, your name will be taken from this year's call list.

I need to end this letter on a somber note and tell you that Leyla Waddell passed away this past Spring. Ms. Waddell graduated from Eastern in 1967 with a degree in French. Since then she was a staunch advocate of language study and an unassuming supporter of both our department and the university. I first met Ms. Waddell at a social function a year or so before beginning my tenure as department chair. I was taken with her knowledge and appreciation of French culture as well as her intelligence and personal charm. It was not until after I became chair that I learned of her longstanding generosity to this department. She will be missed, but her memory and the things she helped make possible for the students and faculty of our department remain a fitting tribute.

On that note, I will close. Please stay in touch when time and inclination allow. It is always good to hear from you.

*-Stephen Canfield, Chair*

## New Alums

The department wishes to congratulate the following students who graduated in the spring of 2002:

Stephanie Adams (SP); Daniel Bach (FR); Amy Cibula (SP); Jaime Cisek (SP); Nels Erickson (GR); Andrea Farmer (SP, Summa Cum Laude); Kevin Gilligan (FR); Kathryn Hester (SP); Angela Krishon (SP); Jaime Ortiz-Nava (SP); Vanessa Sanders (SP); Dalbert Severado (SP); Jennifer Strong (SP); Kelly Tull (SP); Lauren Zivic (FR).

## Alumni News

☞ **Nels Erickson (GR '02)** is working for Ford in Cologne, Germany, and recently worked at the International Automobile Expo in Hannover. One of the perks of the job is the use of a company car. Nels intends to continue his studies in the future, pursuing a graduate degree.

☞ **Jackie Gross (GR '01)** has been working as an English teacher in Cologne for the past year, and is moving to Stuttgart, Germany. She intends to return to the States in the future to attend graduate school.

☞ **Teri Ann (Lawlor) Thibedau (GR, '92)** sends us this news: "I have been with DER (Destination Europe Resources) for almost nine years now. We are a subsidiary company of Rail Europe in New York. For the past two years, I have been working in the Sales and Marketing Department. I support all outside sales reps, and I have been able to use my German skills. I am married to Todd and have a 19-year-old stepdaughter, Bianca, who is majoring in Japanese at Ole Miss in Oxford, Mississippi." Contact Teri at: Teri Ann Thibideau, 9609 S. Mayfield Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453 tthibedau@der.com

☞ **Rachel (Siler) Weishaar (FR, '98)** sends us news: "My job at Quest Academy (an independent school for gifted children in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago) has worked out, and I have gotten a raise and a promotion! Next year, I will be teaching the same load (about 100, 6th-8th graders, three times a week) and will also be in charge of the Advisory program as well as teach an elective two-out-of-three semesters.

I have never been more fulfilled in a job. Although I loved teaching at Northern and will continue to teach a fourth-semester French course there this summer, I was made for teaching gifted children. So far, it has been a dream job. It is the hardest job I have ever had, but the most satisfying. Also, the staff at Quest is incredibly interesting and supportive.

The kids are so curious and creative. Of course, this means they pose creative discipline problems as well, but

that just allows me to come up with even more creative consequences for them!

I will be continuing courses in education to fulfill some requirements for the school in the fall. Who knows...these classes may encourage me to shoot for a doctorate in that field!" Contact Rachel at: doceo2002@yahoo.com

☞ **Kate Hester (SP '02)** writes: "I am planning on moving to New Mexico, where I can continue working with Spanish-speaking people and their culture, before eventually moving to Mexico."

☞ **Jennifer Shonk (FR '02)** is doing graduate work in French at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Contact Jennifer at: jen9\_4@hotmail.com

☞ **Cheryl King (FR '01)** is pursuing a Master's degree in English as a Second Language at Southern Illinois University.

☞ **Rick Cohoon (FR '93)**, who formerly taught in Lovington, Illinois, has taken a job teaching French at Charleston High School. rcohoon@hotmail.com

☞ **Brent Cole (GR '96)** is back from a year as an *assistant d'anglais* in France and is currently working in Charleston. He is looking into other opportunities to return to Europe to teach.

☞ **Daniel Bach (FR '02)** is working on a graduate degree in business at the University of Illinois in Springfield. Contact him at: \_n\_bach@hotmail.com

☞ **Angela Krishon (SP '02)** studied in Salamanca, Spain during the summer after graduating from Eastern.

☞ Before graduating, **Kristy Poteete (SP '02)** was chosen as "Student of Achievement" by the Women's Advocacy Council as part of their "Women of Achievement" awards. She spent the summer studying in a special program in Brazil and is currently living in London, where she is pursuing a master's degree in Latin American Studies at King's College.

☞ **Jennifer Grecius (SP '98)** worked as a bilingual customer care representative for McCleod USA since the summer of 2000. Currently, she is teaching Spanish at Okaw Valley High School in Bethany, IL. Contact her at: vieja23@hotmail.com

☞ **Jaime Ortiz-Nava (SP '02)** is teaching Spanish at a private Catholic school in Effingham, Illinois. He loves his job and is very happy, and often visits the Mesa Española at Eastern to converse with Spanish students.

☞ **Dalbert Severado (SP '02)** had his original play, "Houston, We Have a Problem," performed in Danville in February of 2002. The audience was packed with adoring family and friends, as well as several fans from the Department of Foreign Languages, including Shelley French, Kathryn Bulver, and Karen Taylor.

☞ **Malikah Abdullah (SP '01)** is working in a full-time management position at Target in Champaign. Her daughter Akilah is an outstanding student in elementary school in Champaign.

☞ **Juanita Elias (SP '99)** is living and working in the Chicago area. She would like to attend graduate school to prepare for a teaching career.

☞ **Reagan (Schultz) Jauch (GR '00)** sends news: "I have been employed at AHI International Corporation since graduation. AHI is a company that organizes tours for the Alumni Associations of about 400 universities. Unfortunately, I do not use my German in my job; however, several of my coworkers speak German! We get together for lunch about once a week to speak German. Although I like my job, I am considering going back to school to continue my foreign language education.

I have been married since October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002. My husband and I have just bought a townhouse in Wauconda, IL, which is currently being built. We are looking forward to it being finished in April 2003".

☞ **Allegra Wilber (FR '70)** has been attending foreign language events at Eastern, including several Latino Heritage Month activities.

☞ **Jessica Cartledge (SP '01)** passes on the following news: "I ended up not doing anything even remotely close to my Master's in Speech Communication, but was lucky enough that a Spanish teaching position fell into my lap. I'm teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Oak Forest, Illinois, and I love it so much that I want to get a Master's!"

### In Memoriam

The department was saddened to hear of the passing of **Leyla Waddell** on July 5 of this year. Leyla, who was born in Cairo, Egypt, graduated from Eastern with a Master's Degree in Library Science and was a faculty member of Booth Library. She "loved all things French" and was a faithful contributor to our yearly fund-raising drive.

### Student news

☞ **Alexis Berry (FR)** and **Katy Gilbert (FR)** spent July 1-August 1 in a French study program in Angers, France. In addition to intense language study, they took many trips to

cultural sites, including Mont-St.-Michel, Puy de Fou and St. Malo.

☞ **Katherine Ferguson (SP)** spent a year abroad (August 2001-July 2002) in Quito, Ecuador, where she studied, travelled and taught English as a second language to children aged 4-6 years. She helps keep her Spanish skills sharp by working on translations for the business of Mark E. Ferguson, LTD.

☞ **Katie Agles (SP)** and **Jill Andrys (SP)** studied in Madrid, Spain, this summer with a program sponsored by the College of DuPage and directed by **Flora Breidenbach**. High points of the summer included trips to Granada and Barcelona and visits to "tapas" bars in Madrid.

☞ In spring semester of 2002, eleven EIU students taught after-school classes at Monroe Elementary School in Casey, Illinois. **Jennifer Bernecker** and **Brian Winkelman** taught German to fifth and sixth graders; **Kim Broche, Andrea Fritz** and **Krystal Higgins** taught French to third and fourth graders; and **Katie Agles, Jill Andrys, Jaime Cisek, Diana Quen, Jennifer Rodriguez** and **Vanessa Sanders** taught Spanish to first and second graders. Classes met on Wednesday afternoons and culminated in celebrations emphasizing cultural aspects of the three languages. The coordinators of the program praised the fine work done by the students.

☞ **Lauren Keppler (GR)** assisted with the first German Immersion Day ever held in Springfield, Illinois, on Friday November 8, 2002, at the U of I, Springfield campus. Lauren joined German teachers in leading about 50 high school students from the Southern Illinois AATG region (comprising all of Illinois South of Chicago) in various afternoon activities, including a scavenger hunt, German songs and folk dances, and short plays, which were presented after a very authentic dinner. A versatile linguist, Lauren also assisted with the ICTFL Spanish Immersion day on October 17.

### Award Winners

Thanks in part to alumni donations, we were able to award scholarship money to the following very deserving students:

\***Ruth Carman Scholarship:** Lauren Keppler (SP); Katy Gilbert (FR);

\***Bobbi King Memorial Scholarship:** Alex Berry (FR); Lauren Keppler (SP); Blake Johnson (GR); Katy Gilbert (FR);

\* **Richard Crouse Memorial Scholarship:** Lauren Keppler (SP);

\***Blake Johnson (GR)** and **Alex Berry (FR)** were awarded departmental study-abroad awards of \$500 each, which came directly from funds contributed by you--our alumni and friends of the department--over the past few years. Blake used his award to study in Cologne, Germany, and Alex used hers for a semester-long program in Angers, France.

### Clubs and Social Events

çThe Foreign Language Department's annual fall picnic on September 12 was once again a big success. Approximately 50 students, staff, faculty and friends of the department, including a large contingent of international students, gathered at the campus pond picnic shelter to catch up on old news, chat in an informal setting, and eat some delicious food. DJ Karl Konrad provided music in any language requested, while Steve Canfield shared his talents as "chef extraordinaire" at the grill and Shelley French served espresso on the spot. Thanks to all of those who helped to make this event such a pleasure.●The **French Table**, an informal conversational hour, meets Thursday at noon in the MLK Student Union, across from the bookstore. The Table is open to anyone interested in speaking French in a relaxed atmosphere, and we encourage former students to join us. Next semester's meetings will be on Tuesdays at noon. If you would like to participate, bring your lunch at noon on Tuesday and join us for conversation and an occasional French game. Venez nous rejoindre!

●The members of the **Spanish Club** have continued celebrating "hispaneidad" by providing activities that promote Hispanic culture and language. During the spring of 2002, we held a culture quiz game and led a workshop to make Valentine cards in Spanish, both activities designed to involve students of all levels. We also organized a games night for intermediate and advanced students, during which we played "Piccionario," "Basta" and "Tabú." In March, we decorated a bulletin board in Coleman Hall to teach vocabulary words dealing with the newly arrived spring season. During the fall semester, we constructed a Mexican "altar" in the language lab to observe "Day of the Dead." We look forward to planning more activities in the semesters ahead that share our enthusiasm for Hispanic culture. -Kristin Routt, Spanish Club advisor●After several years of inactivity, the **French Club** has been resurrected under the guidance of club president **Alex Berry**. Activities so far have included films, a bake sale, games and a field trip to a one-day "French Means Business" forum held at the University of Illinois-Urbana.

### Foreign Language Week

Foreign Language Week, held in March, is a nationwide event that promotes the learning of foreign languages and cultures in order to better relationships between countries and peoples. This year, the faculty and students of the Foreign Language Department were joined by professors from other departments to present a wide variety of events, including the showing of Mexican, Russian and French films (as well as a presentation of *Shrek* in German), presentations on Bolivia (by **Luis Clay-Méndez** and **Penny Clay**), the Euro (by **Karl Konrad**), the Mennonites in Belize (by Geography professor **Michael Cornebise**), and Macchu Picchu (by **Betty Smith** from Geography and **José Deustua** from History). Participants also had the opportunity to take a beginning German lesson, based on a Sesame Street video from Germany (presented by **Shelley French**), play games in Spanish or French (under the guidance of Spanish professors **Karen Taylor** and **Kristin Routt** and French student **Alex Berry**), or participate in the recreation of folktales from Francophone Africa, under the guidance of **Stephen Canfield**. **Carlos Amaya's** theater practicum class had their first public acting experience by presenting two skits in Spanish, and student **Angélica Bauman** gave cumbia and salsa lessons. Next year's National Foreign Language Week celebration will take place on March 3-9, and the theme is "Make Friends, Peace Follows."

### Latino Heritage Month

**Luis Clay-Méndez**, **Carlos Amaya**, **Kristin Routt** and **Karen Taylor** were all actively involved in the planning and execution of events for Latino Heritage Month. Luis Clay gave a multimedia presentation on Bolivia and served as MC for the Latino Heritage Banquet. Carlos Amaya presented the movie "In the Time of the Butterflies." Kristin Routt gave a PowerPoint presentation on Latin American foods and culture, followed by a taste-testing of delicious foods from Central and South America, including empanadas, flans and arrozo con leche. Karen Taylor presented the film "Tortilla Soup" and gave a lecture entitled "Laura Esquivel: New Directions."

### La Semaine du Français/French Week

French Week takes place in November. This year's activities were planned and executed by the French Club. Starting with a bake sale of luscious homemade cookies and other treats, the week continued with a showing of the film "Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulin," a French food night, to which attendees brought foods from French-speaking areas, and a games night.

### Alternative Certification

Did you get a language degree from Eastern and only later decide that you wanted to go into teaching? The EIU alternative certification program may be for you.

In May 2002, **Shelley French** joined a 12-member group of EIU faculty working with Jim Kestner from the EIU College of Education and Professional Studies to develop an alternative route to teacher certification program. Slated to begin in summer 2003, the program targets districts seeking new sources of teachers. Those with a Bachelor's degree but no teacher certification may enroll in what is tentatively to consist of: 1) a web-based course in May 2003; 2) an 8-week summer program (mid June to mid August 2003); 3) A one-year internship as a paid teacher (2003-2004 school year); and 4) a 2-week follow-up assessment during June 2004.

Those who successfully complete the program will earn a regular Illinois 4-year Initial Teaching Certificate. The first year of the program will lead to alternative certification in the following secondary areas: Technology Education, Family & Consumer Sciences, Business Education, Foreign Languages, Math, Science.

Prerequisites for the program are: 1) graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree (GPA 2.65 or higher on 4.0 scale) and a major or minor in the intended area of certification; 2) employment for a period of at least five years in an area requiring application of the individual's education; 3) a passing grade on the Illinois Basic Skills test and applicable subject matter test required by the state for certification in the student's intended teaching endorsement area(s); and 4) a commitment secured from a school district to be hired (and paid as a full-time teacher) for the internship.

For more information, please contact:

Jim Kestner, Coordinator of Web-Based and Alternative Route to Certification Programs

College of Education and Professional Studies

217/581-6671                      217/581-2518

[jlkestner@eiu.edu](mailto:jlkestner@eiu.edu)

And view the web site: <http://www.eiu.edu/~eiuttp/>

### Archeology Dig in Belgium

This summer, history professor **Bailey Young** will once again be teaching an on-site history course in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. Participants can earn either four or eight credits for helping to work on an ongoing archeological dig. The program has been in existence since 1998, and previous participants include French alums **Jennifer Shonk** and **Christian Schiavone**. Dates of the program are July 5-August 2, and cost, not including airfare to Brussels, is approximately \$3300. Anyone interested in

applying should contact Dr. Bailey K. Young by e-mail ([cfbky@eiu.edu](mailto:cfbky@eiu.edu)).

### Foreign Languages and Accounting

Accounting majors must complete 30 credit hours in addition to the 120 required for graduation before they are allowed to sit for the CPA exam. **Karen Bruce**, an accounting major with a German minor, decided to devote this time to German, and spent winter semester 2002 in Cologne, Germany. Inspired by Karen's decision, **Shelley French (GR)** and **Roann Kopel**, Associate Professor of Accountancy, researched the marketability of the combination of Accounting and Foreign Languages. Forty-seven percent of the CPA's who responded to their survey indicated that a foreign language would be beneficial to accountants in their careers. Drs French and Kopel presented the results of their research in December at the annual conference of the American Academy of Accounting and Finance in New Orleans in a paper entitled *The 150-hour Requirement: What about Foreign Languages?*

### Faculty and Staff News

Several faculty members participated in the annual Globalfest celebration in Urbana Illinois in March. **Karl Konrad** and **Luis Clay-Méndez** shared Master of Ceremonies duties. **Shelley French**, **Stephen Canfield**, **Luis Clay-Méndez**, **Kristin Routt** and **Kathryn Bulver** each hosted discovery rooms /immersion rooms.

**Carlos Amaya (SP)** taught a Theatre Practicum class for advanced students in the Spring of 2002. For this new course, students gave two public performances. The first was presented in conjunction with Foreign Language Week and was co-sponsored by the Latin American Studies Committee. The second performance was the final class project. Both events were well attended by students and faculty from different departments.

**Heribert Breidenbach**, retired German professor and former department chair, and his wife **Flora**, Professor of Spanish, took 14 students to Perú last August for academic credit through the College of DuPage. They explored the area of Cuzco and Machu Picchu, studying the culture and tradition of the Incas. The 10-day excursion will be repeated in August 2003. For information, contact Dr. Breidenbach at [Wuestenhof@aol.com](mailto:Wuestenhof@aol.com)

**Carlos Amaya (SP)** had his short story "El Nacimiento" published in Chiricú, a journal published by Indiana University, Bloomington.

☞ On May 4, 2002, **Kathryn Bulver (FR)** was the invited speaker at the spring meeting of the Northern Illinois AATF (American Association of Teachers of French). She gave a two-hour presentation on the use of French song in the classroom to a packed and enthusiastic audience at Mon Ami Gabi restaurant in Oak Brook, Illinois.

☞ **Richard Crome (SP)** and **Carlos Amaya (SP)** were co-leaders of the Spring Break Abroad program to Mexico. This year there were ten students who participated. It was a very international group, with participants from four different countries—France, Japan, Jamaica and El Salvador—as well as the United States.

☞ **Kathryn Bulver (FR)** was promoted to the rank of full professor.

☞ **Shelley French (GR)** and **Karen Taylor (SP)** were awarded faculty Achievement and Contribution awards for service performed during the 2001-2002 school year.

☞ **Dr. Luis F. Clay-Méndez (SP)** is currently on a one-semester sabbatical. During this time, he is teaching emergency Spanish classes to Coast Guard personnel involved in law enforcement and emergency patrols in south Texas. He will spend 3 weeks in November and 3 weeks in December at several stations in Galveston, Corpus Christi and South Padre Island. Dr. Clay Méndez is teaching the emergency Spanish method he designed and which was published by the Coast Guard.

☞ The annual Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ICTFL) conference took place on October 17-19 in Springfield, Illinois. **Kathryn Bulver (FR)**, **Karl Konrad (GR)**, **Luis Clay (SP)**, **Penny Clay (SP)**, **Stephen Canfield (FR)**, **Kristin Routt (SP)** and **Carlos Amaya (SP)** were in attendance. **Kathryn Bulver** gave an hour-long presentation to a standing-room-only audience on techniques for teaching the past tense. She also attended several meetings as ICTFL Region IV Chair. **Karl Konrad** gave two presentations on the Euro. **Kristin Routt** and **Carlos Amaya**, assisted by student **Lauren Keppler**, hosted a full-day Spanish immersion program for 31 high school teachers. Activities included making skeleton parodies of figures from popular culture to celebrate the Day of the Dead, writing an ode Pablo Neruda style, and viewing a PowerPoint presentation entitled “¡Sabor latino! A Culinary Tour of Latin America.” Professor **Amaya** also gave an hour-long presentation on using theater techniques in the Spanish classroom. **Luis Clay-Méndez** gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Bolivia: ♦ Now that the campus library has been completed (and has been featured in several architectural journals), renovations have begun on the Fine Arts Building. The search for space has been particularly interesting this time around, as the requirements were a bit more demanding

A Country of Diversity” and **Penny Clay** gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Cadiz: Not a Bad Place for a Teachers’ Workshop,” based on her recent trip to Cadiz, Spain to explore the possibilities of an EIU-sponsored program for teachers for the summer of 2003.

We are proud to be a continuing presence at ICTFL, and were happy to see several students and alums in attendance, including **Meghan Lynch (SP ‘00)**, who won a 5-day trip to London or Paris from one of the conference vendors.

☞ **Karen Taylor** and **Luz Whittenbatger (SP)** attended a lecture by Isabel Allende, the best-selling Chilean novelist, at Illinois Wesleyan University on September 25, 2002. The lecture was followed by a lively question-and-answer session.

☞ **Karl Konrad (GR)** has developed PowerPoint presentations applicable to teaching several levels of German. He also serves as president of the Southern Illinois AATG chapter (2002-2004) and shares the title of web master for the Southern Illinois AATG web site with his colleague **Shelley French**, who will serve as president in 2006-2008. He chaired the regional AATG meetings in the spring.

Karl is still active in the International Service area with Rotary district 6490. He served as Inbound Coordinator for a vocational team from India and as Rebound Coordinator for Rotary Youth Exchange students at the high school level. One of his rebounds (students who have returned from a year abroad) is **Katie Ferguson**, who is taking Spanish classes at EIU after spending a year in Ecuador. Another rebound student is **Blake Johnson**, who began taking Spanish and German classes after spending a year in Venezuela. Blake is currently taking courses at the University of Cologne in Germany.

Karl also took a group of Rotary high school students to Globalfest and organized a field trip for second- and third-year German students, who got to meet German Inbound students from Köln (Cologne). Everyone enjoyed speaking German, and, of course the partaking of German cuisine at the Bayernstube in Gibson city, destination of the field trip. For spring 2003, a similar trip is being planned to visit German heritage sites in Indianapolis.

### Campus News

than just space for classrooms and books. The theater department was relocated to the former Wilb Walkers East/IGA, which is now called “Village Theater.” The grand opening of the stage was an invitation-only showing of Beckett’s “Waiting for Godot” in November. Art classes

are being held in the former IGA on Lincoln avenue, now known as "Art Park West," and Music has taken over McAfee gym. The business offices of the Dean have also been relocated to McAfee, and according to someone in the know, the sound of hours on end of music practice is not highly conducive to office work.

With the library renovations done, the parking lot off of Coleman Hall was also reopened, much to the joy of faculty members who were tired of hunting even farther than usual for parking spaces. For some mysterious reason, the parking lot off of Lumpkin Hall, which was used for construction vehicles and equipment during the library overhaul, is still closed off and houses construction equipment, even though the new renovation site is several blocks away.

One unforeseen result of the reconstruction was an electrical problem that effected clocks all over campus. It seems that the main clock control is housed in a building that is having asbestos removed from it, and which only those workers who are properly suited up can enter. Unfortunately, this included none of the workers who knew how to reset the clocks! For a very long two-and-a-half weeks, clocks were off by both hours and minutes, and no one was sure what time it was. Luckily, things are back to normal, though those of you who have had classes in 1170 (formerly 107) in the past few years will recall that the clock has always been erratic--stopping on the half hour and not catching up again until five minutes before the hour.

◇In the department, we have now equipped all four classrooms with multimedia stations that include computers, VCRs and DVD players as well as a projection screen and speakers--though some of us sometimes wonder if the old overhead projector or even blackboard and chalk aren't more reliable. The campus has been going through some frustrating times with the Internet lately, and students often complain about the s-l-o-w-n-e-s-s of the system. Hope is in sight, however, as the university is feverishly working to make things run faster and more reliably.

◇Eastern still lacks a permanent president, and Lou Hencken continues as interim president, after the first round of candidates for the position were not deemed a good fit for EIU.

◇On the food front (a topic of interest to one and all), the Union has recently started selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts. The tasty treats (which, to this writer, look neither crispy nor creamy) were a sell-out on their first day, and continue to be popular.

## **FYI**

Laura Esquivel, the beloved author of *Like Water for Chocolate*, has published a new novel, available in both the original Spanish version and an English translation. The book, entitled *Tan Veloz Como el Deseo (As Swift as Desire)*, is available at larger bookstores, including Borders and Barnes and Noble.

Enrique Iglesias has come out with a new Spanish-language CD entitled *Quizás*.

Las Ketchup, a group from Spain, has taken Europe by storm. In Germany, for example, their single "the Ketchup Song" not only remained in the number one spot on the music charts for many weeks, but also ended up being used as the melody for a spoof CD targeting the newly elected German chancellor as a thief who steals from the public by coming up with new taxes. Obviously welcomed by the opposition party, it is not only funny, but it may help German teachers liven up their classrooms with music and a commentary on cultural differences.

<http://www.steuerkanzler.de/> is a direct link to the video of the German version of the song.

German teachers may enjoy browsing for German pop music or films on DVD, but before ordering the latest by the Puhdys or the Prinzen, you need to know that DVDs ordered from Germany require either a region-free DVD player or a change in the setting of your software for an external DVD player. Either option lets you play back DVDs from Germany. Tips on computer DVD players for German DVDs can be found at the following web site: <http://www.german.about.com/cs/dvdvideo/index.htm>

Whether or not you decide to go the DVD route, why not browse for the music anyway at [www.amazon.de](http://www.amazon.de). Browsing is an immersion activity the also lets you discover write-ups about musical groups and movies. By the way, ordering 5 CDs or DVDs will cost about \$25.00 for shipping and handling and your order arrives in about 7 days.

## **Visit us via the Internet**

Instructors love to hear from former students, especially when it's not just to answer a request for a letter of recommendation (though we're happy to do that as well)! Drop us an Email to let us know what you're up to, or just to say hello. Here are our e-mail addresses:

<b>Stephen Canfield</b> (chair):	<a href="mailto:cfsac@eiu.edu">cfsac@eiu.edu</a>
<b>Kathryn Bulver</b> (newsletter editor):	<a href="mailto:cfkmb@eiu.edu">cfkmb@eiu.edu</a>
<b>Carlos Amaya</b>	<a href="mailto:cfcaa@eiu.edu">cfcaa@eiu.edu</a>
<b>Luis Clay-Méndez</b> :	<a href="mailto:cflfc@ux1.cts.eiu.edu">cflfc@ux1.cts.eiu.edu</a> <a href="http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cflfc">www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cflfc</a>

**Penny Clay:** cfpjc@eiu.edu  
**Richard Crome:** cfrkc@eiu.edu  
**Shelley French:** cfsf@eiu.edu  
**Karl Konrad:** cfjk1@eiu.edu  
**Kristin Routt:** cfker@eiu.edu  
**Don Sundheim:** cflds@eiu.edu  
**Karen Taylor:** cfklt@eiu.edu  
**Missa Anderson (Secretary)** csma@eiu.edu

Check out our newly refurbished web site and let us know what you think (suggestions and comments are always welcome!): <http://www.eiu.edu/~language/>

**Thank You! Merci! ¡Gracias! Danke!**

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following alums and friends who made donations to the department's Telefund account and the Foundation during the past year:

Eulalee Anderson  
 Louise Bidle  
 Robert Briggerman  
 Cindy Cline  
 Dorothy Cumby  
 Polly Eyestone  
 Barbara Grant  
 Robert Hallowell  
 Jean Harison  
 Charles Hoelscher  
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 Karen Meyer  
 Ana Neal  
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 Peoples Energy Corporation (Matching contribution)  
 Theresa Powel  
 UPS Foundation (Matching contribution)  
 Leyla Waddell  
 Marion Webb  
 Allegra Wilber

We also want to thank those of you who donated to other special accounts. Unfortunately, due to limitations within the tracking system, we have been unable to obtain a list of those donors. Please be assured that we are very grateful for your donations

**Your assistance is appreciated!**

The department would again like to ask for your assistance. As you may know, this past year, the State has had to make budget cuts, which include some belt-tightening at the University. In addition, the Gift Account, which we use to fund student travel awards and other programs that are not otherwise covered by our budget—including French Week, Foreign Language Week, and this newsletter—is not as strong as we would like it to be. We are asking you to consider donating to the department. As in the past, we are hoping to get enough donations through the newsletter to be able to not spend our money and your time on phone calls. Therefore, we are asking you to please **send** donations to the department, using the enclosed form. If we receive a donation from you by **Friday, January 31, 2002**, we will take your name off the call list. Your donations are very important to us and are greatly appreciated.

**Contributors:**

In addition to those alumni and students cited, the following have submitted articles and/or information for this edition of the newsletter:

Karen Taylor	Karl Konrad
Kristin Routt	Shelley French
Penny Clay	Carlos Amaya
Stephen Canfield	Missa Anderson
Bailey Young	

**Keeping in Touch**

We want to hear from you! Please send any comments, corrections or (especially) submissions to the editor, **Kathryn Bulver**, at [cfkmb@eiu.edu](mailto:cfkmb@eiu.edu) or by mail (Department of Foreign Languages, 1159 Coleman Hall, Eastern Illinois University, 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, Illinois 61920). Also, if you are interested in receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please send me a message. I apologize to those of you who requested e-mail versions in the past but did not receive them. I am setting up a new newsletter address list, and need to hear from you if you wish to be put on it.

Check out previous years' newsletters on our web site: (<http://www.eiu.edu/~language/>).

*-Kathryn M. Bulver, Editor*