

School of Languages & Cultures

Newsletter

2022-23
Academic Year



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

School of Languages and Cultures



EMMA BEN HADJ



TATIANA ELISTRATOVA



CAROLINA FERREIRA



LOUIE GUERWANE



MUNI JEAN



JUNGEUN KIM



JAVIER MARTÍNEZ MUELA

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SLC COLLEAGUES!

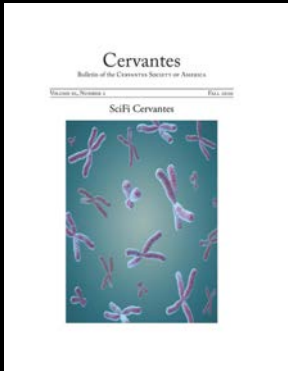
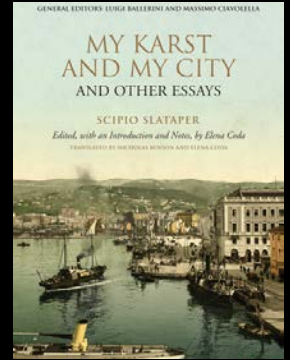
- **EMMANUELLE "EMMA" BEN HADJ**
LECTURER IN FRENCH
- **TATIANA ELISTRATOVA**
GRAD STUDIES & SPANISH OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
- **CAROLINA FERREIRA**
LECTURER IN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
- **LHOUSSEINE "LOUIE" GUERWANE**
LECTURER IN ARABIC
- **MUNI JEAN**
KOREAN FOUNDATION VISITING PROFESSOR
- **JUNGEUN KIM**
VISITING SCHOLAR IN KOREAN
- **JAVIER MARTÍNEZ MUELA**
LECTURER IN SPANISH

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEAGUES PROMOTED TO SENIOR LECTURER IN 2022!

- **LOURDES "LOU" BARRANCO CORTÉS**
SENIOR LECTURER IN SPANISH
- **SHARON BORKOWSKI**
SENIOR LECTURER IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
- **BLANCA CABRERA DE MORALES**
SENIOR LECTURER IN SPANISH
- **KELY Y. PÁEZ-URBANO**
SENIOR LECTURER IN SPANISH

**KUDOS TO THESE
SLC RESEARCHERS
ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS!**

Elena Coda, Professor of Italian and SLC's Associate Head, along with her co-translator Nicholas Benson, won the Society of Authors' John Florio Book Prize for *My Karst and My City* by Scipio Slataper (University of Toronto Press, 2020)! The prize, which comes with a monetary award of £2,000, was announced At the British Library on February 8, 2023.



It was announced recently that Professor Emeritus **Howard Mancing** won the 2020 Luis Murillo Best Article of the Year award from the Cervantes Society of America (CSA) for his essay "Cervantes Lives Again." In addition, we are very pleased to report that Purdue Comparative Literature PhD alumna (2002) **Ana Laguna** won the 2021 CSA award of the same name for her article "Sancho Panza and the Islas inútiles"!

**ENHANCING RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES
AND ARTS (ERHA) GRANTS WERE AWARDED
BY THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS TO THE
FOLLOWING SLC COLLEAGUES:**

- Professor **Nadège Veldwachter**, for her research project "A Digital Visualization of Francophone History: Caribbean Resistance Fighters in Concentration Camps during World War II"
- Professors **Olga Dmitrieva**, **Atsushi Fukada**, **Daniel J. Olson** and **Jessica Sturm**, for their initiative titled "Hosting the 14th PSLLT to Enhance the Visibility and Reputation of Purdue Research in Second Language Pronunciation" (this annual national conference will take place on Purdue's campus September 6-8, 2023)



PHD ALUMNI UPDATES!

- **Dr. Valentina Concu** (PhD in German, 2021) is an Assistant Professor of German at Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia.
- **Dr. Juliette Duthoit** (PhD in French, 2022) has started a Lecturer position in French at Tennessee Tech University.
- **Dr. Gladys Francis** (PhD in French, 2008) is Associate Dean for Academic Student Affairs, and Professor of Africana French, and Francophone Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University.
- **Dr. Heather Offerman** (PhD in Spanish, 2020) is an Assistant Professor in Spanish at the University of Arkansas.
- **Dr. Niall Peach** (PhD in Spanish, 2022) is an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Coe College.
- **Dr. Jeff Peterson** (PhD In Japanese Applied Linguistics, 2019), currently a visiting Assistant Professor of Japanese at Brigham Young University, has received the Hamako Ito Chaplin Memorial Award!
- **Dr. Sandra Úsuga** (PhD in Spanish, 2017) is an Assistant Professor at the University of Indianapolis.
- **Dr. Claudia Sadowski** (PhD in Applied Linguistics/Foreign Lang. Acquisition, 2021) was awarded a Doctorate Honoris Causa by the Ibero-American Board in Chicago on October 29th, 2022!



DR. GLADYS FRANCIS



DR. CLAUDIA SADOWSKI

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND SLC



PURDUE STUDENTS AT THE
SUBARU PLANT IN LAFAYETTE

Last April, students from **Gabriel Rios Rojas's** courses "Spanish for Engineers" and "Humanities-Informed Engineering Projects" visited the Subaru of Indiana Automotive plant in Lafayette to learn firsthand about topics they had studied in class, including tools and machinery, production processes, and industrial standards. Students were impressed by the automation system, the dimensions of the plant, and by how much the company cares about its employees. They also asked interesting questions during the two-hour tour. Later in class, students practiced new technical Spanish vocabulary, analyzed the production process, and reflected on what they had learned.

In October, SLC Lecturer in Arabic **Louie Guerwane** took a team of Purdue students to the Qatar Debates American Championships at Stanford University. The team members were Giovanna Brahms, Amy Morrissett, Arwa Neemuchwala, and Serenity Strom. The team of beginning and intermediate learners won one of their debates against some native speakers of Arabic!



PURDUE ARABIC DEBATE TEAM
AT STANFORD



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CONFERENCE NEWS

SLC Success at the 2022 Fall Undergraduate Research Expo!

- **1st Place:** "Linguistic Changes in Russian in Turbulent Times" by **Renee Forfa** (Mentor: Olga Lyanda-Geller)
- **2nd Place:** "Laughter and Madness: The Comic Horror of *Evil Dead II*" by **David Gowan** (Mentor: Elena Coda)
- **3rd Place:** "English-Russian Philosophical Glossary for Aleksei Losev" by **Michael Line** (Mentor: Olga Lyanda-Geller)



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
K ALLADO-MCDOWELL AT THE SLSA

Purdue hosted the **35th annual conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA)**, October 6-9, 2023. With its theme of "Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks, and the Reading Human," the conference was an inspiring and productive event that brought over 200 researchers from across the country and across the ocean here to Purdue's campus. Participants represented the fields of literary and film studies, visual and performing arts, machine learning, psychology, philosophy and ethics, environmental studies, history, media studies, computer graphics technology, the medical humanities, and more.

MANY THANKS TO ALL OF THE SPONSORS AND ORGANIZERS OF THIS YEAR'S SLSA, AND ESPECIALLY TO SLC'S PROFESSOR **PAULA LEVERAGE**, WHO WAS CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE'S ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AND MADE THE EVENT A BIG SUCCESS!



SLC EXPANDS ITS REACH ON AND OFF CAMPUS!



PURDUE STUDENTS TELLING OTHERS
ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF DEGREE+

Degree+ Callout

In our ongoing efforts to grow our undergraduate student body and gain new majors, SLC organized a callout event to spread the word about the Degree+ Dual Degree program. This program benefits STEM students or CLA majors who would like to add on a language major, providing them with a streamlined pathway to two majors or even two degrees, a BS and a BA degree. Several students currently enrolled in the program were invited to the event and talked about the many benefits of dual degrees and double, or even triple, majors! We are thrilled to be able to offer this option to Purdue students.



CHARLES CAMPBELL REPRESENTING
SLC AT IFLTA 2022

54th Annual IFLTA Conference 2022

Each year, we look forward to reconnecting with world language colleagues from all around Indiana at the IFLTA conference in Indianapolis. 2022 was no exception, and we enjoyed meeting many people there.

Several of our faculty and graduate students presented their work and research at the IFLTA conference, and we showcased our SLC programs to K-12 and postsecondary language teachers from around the state. We can't wait for IFLTA 2023 this November!



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HELEN BASS WILLIAMS PORTRAIT UNVEILING!

To honor the contributions and legacy of Helen Bass Williams, Purdue's first Black faculty member, the College of Liberal Arts' Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Initiatives, along with the School of Languages and Cultures celebrated the public health worker, civil rights leader, and Purdue faculty member on January 26th with an unveiling of her portrait painted by local artist Stacy Bogan.

At the event, Katey Watson, the France A. Córdova Archivist, provided an educational presentation on Professor Williams, sharing details about her activism and her many contributions to Purdue. In addition, artist Stacy Bogan talked about the process that she went through in conceptualizing and creating the portrait.

Professor Williams was an extraordinary figure in Purdue University's history. During her time at Purdue, she taught French and counseled minority students in the School of Humanities, Social Science, and Education (HSSE). Professor Williams contributed significantly to the creation of the Learning Center (now named after her, the Helen Bass Williams Academic Center), the establishment of the Black Caucus of Faculty and Staff, and the Black Cultural Center. We look forward to being inspired by her portrait each day after the installation in its permanent home in the main hallway of Stanley Coulter Hall this summer!



LOCAL ARTIST STACY BOGAN REFLECTS
ON CREATING THE PORTRAIT



THE PORTRAIT OF HELEN BASS WILLIAMS
DISPLAYED AT THE RECEPTION AFTER THE UNVEILING



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GIVING TO SLC

enriches our students' experiences
by funding many activities and
events that enhance their learning
of languages and cultures.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



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