New Start in old Hoyt Hall

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages is happy to be home in Hoyt Hall, the University of Wyoming’s fourth oldest building but latest remodeled space. An unpacking party took place in the end of August in time for a Dedication Ceremony in September. The ceremony included poetry readings by Phil Holt (Classics), Joy Landeira (Spanish), Peter Parolin (English) and Jeff Lockwood (Creative Writing). It was an excellent start to our 2016-2017 academic year.

Other new beginnings are in store for the Spanish section. New classes are being created to accommodate the specific needs of Heritage Speakers of Spanish in Wyoming. In particular, Irene Checa-García received an Innovative course grant to teach Spanish as a Heritage Language for the summer of 2017. In conjunction with this course but open to others, she will be organizing a workshop with scholars from the National Heritage Language Center to come to Wyoming and offer their knowledge on this topic.

Irene’s article, in collaboration with Mark Guiberson from Communication Disorders, was accepted for publication in a journal ranked 25 in the field of languages and linguistics and first among journals dealing with assessment.

The department is celebrating the achievements of Bénédicte Sohier (French) for receiving the Wyoming Foreign Language Teacher’s Association (WFLTA) 2016 Friend of Foreign Language award. She also successfully defended her thesis for her Master of Arts in Spanish in November.

UW was well represented at this year’s Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference in Salt Lake City in early October. Four UW departments from two colleges sent 17 students and faculty.

In yet another conference in early fall, Hannelore Mundt (German) presented “Framing the Past in Graphic Novels: Ulli Lust’s/Marcel Beyer’s Flughunde” at the International German Studies Association Conference in San Diego.

Happy New Start for 2017 from MCL!
Consider a Tax-Deductible Contribution to World Languages Day 2017

It’s time to make those December donations to funds you care about. If encouraging world language learning is a cause close to your heart, please consider making a contribution to World Languages Day 2017.

Plans are underway for the department to host up to 300 students from Wyoming communities in the fifth annual World Languages Day, March 3-4, 2017.

The goals of the event are threefold: to provide a competition to showcase language learning, to expose potential students to the University of Wyoming, and to excite students about world languages with events hosted by current UW student volunteers, interns and professors from the department.

This year’s theme is Festivals, and donations are needed to eliminate registration fees. For the first time, we have launched a crowd-funding campaign which secured more than $800 in donations from individuals giving as little as $1 to the cause. Thank you for donating; if you have not, please consider a donation today. Giving categories are as follows: Travel Channel ($5-$99), Tourists ($100-$499), Ex-Pats ($500-$999) and Natives ($1000+).

Contact Co-Directors Yan Zhang or Mollie Hand with any questions about how your contribution will be used to foster a love for language learning. You can be the bridge from small town Wyoming to a global festival of languages.

Giving to the Department of Modern & Classical Languages

Here is my/our gift to make a difference to Modern & Classical Languages: $ ___________________

ONLINE: Make a payment using our secure server: www.uwyo.edu/giveonline.
PHONE: Call the University of Wyoming Foundation: (307) 766-6300 or (888) 831-7795.
MAIL: Return this stub with your contribution.*

Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for Modern & Classical Languages, College of Arts & Sciences. You can specify if your contribution is intended for World Languages Day.

Thank you!

* Please make your check payable to the UW Foundation and indicate Modern & Classical Languages in the memo line.

Your gift is tax deductible as provided by law.

Comments or gifts can be mailed to Modern & Classical Languages, Dept 3603, 1000 E. University Avenue, Laramie, WY 82071

First Year Seminar creates cookbooks for a cause

First Year Seminar students in LANG 1101, Food, Language and Culture, participated in a service learning course this fall. They learned about global food habits.

In addition to readings and discussions, students were given the task of getting to know a person with a different cultural background and language, collect recipes from their partners’ countries, and design, print, and sell cookbooks as a culmination of their learning.

Freshmen met and shared cultural conversations with their partners throughout the semester. In journal reflections, they collected recipes from 15 countries covering five continents.

In November, they compiled the recipes into a cookbook and sold the book for either canned goods to Interfaith Good Samaritan or monetary donations to benefit Heifer International. The 17 women in the course voted to fund one girl’s education for a year and purchase rabbits for a family in need through Heifer. If they sell more books, they will make another contribution to Heifer International.

This course was made possible by a grant that Mollie Hand received from the SLICE Department, Service Leadership and Civic Engagement.