

中文

italiano

ESPAÑOL

Modern Languages Messenger

NEWSLETTER OF THE MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES DEPARTMENT

français

العربية

日本語

The sum of human wisdom is not contained in any one language. *Ezra Pound* FALL 2010

Tara Moylan '10 Travels to Paris Before Graduation



Tara Moylan '10 (right) and Kara Waybright '11 (left) in front of the Eiffel Tower, Spring break 2010

in French to declaring a major in it. In fall 2008, she took FREN 310 Inside France: Studies in French Culture with Febles. She loved the class, but felt something was missing. She recalls thinking, "this class would have been amazing if we went to France."

In spring 2010, the perfect opportunity for Moylan to study abroad emerged when Professor Febles was teaching FREN 310 again, but this time the course included a six-day excursion to Paris during spring break. Moylan joined the class of nine students and completed her French degree and her senior year speaking French with Parisians during her first trip to France. She reflects with mixed emotions, "This was a great way to end the year, but also kind of sad because I was graduating soon." Currently, Moylan is preparing to take the MTEL in French and volunteering at the French American Chamber of Commerce in Boston.

French and Economics major Tara Moylan '10 hadn't planned on concentrating in French or studying abroad while at Simmons. She started learning French in first grade at a French immersion school in Milton, Massachusetts and was speaking it fluently by the end of fifth grade. She continued to study French in junior high and high school. Upon entering Simmons, her position about studying abroad was pragmatic. She explains, "It's not like I didn't want to go [abroad], but I didn't need to go." This was just as well for Moylan because when she decided to major in Economics, she realized that the schedule of required courses would make it difficult to be away from Simmons for an entire semester, let alone a year.

While taking FREN 245 with Professor Eduardo Febles as Moylan explains it, "to put myself in an environment where I would keep using [French]," she went from contemplating a minor

From the Chair's Corner

I am delighted to welcome all of you back to campus as we begin another academic year.

Learning another language will possibly be one of the most rewarding endeavors you will ever undertake. In fact, recent studies show that students enrolled in foreign language courses tend to perform better in critical thinking tasks. Furthermore, employers today seek multilingual employees as the global market place becomes increasingly interdependent.

Finally, knowing another language will help you bridge national divides and foster cross-cultural understanding. I invite you to come to our Department and greet us in any language. We will be happy to share with you our academic offerings and study abroad opportunities.

I wish you a very productive and successful academic year!

Eduardo A. Febles

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 17

*Book Presentation by ML Professors
2-4 p.m., Special Functions Room*

Wednesday, September 29

*Modern Languages Open House
4-5 p.m., Lefavour 3rd floor patio*

From Simmons to France Redux

Kara Waybright '11 knew she wanted to study abroad, but with a major in French and minors in Education and Spanish, she couldn't dedicate an entire semester away from Simmons. So, with the help of her advisor, Professor Eduardo Febles, she customized a study abroad plan for herself, which included a six-day excursion to Paris during Spring break 2010 and a six-week program in France this summer. This past March, Waybright traveled to Paris with eight classmates from Professor Febles' course, FREN 310 Inside France: Studies in French Culture. Her experiences in Paris during Spring break provided the perfect preparation for her return visit in the summer. For example, when she arrived in Paris during the summer, she already



Kara Waybright '11 at Park Monceau in Paris.

knew how to navigate the Metro, Paris' public transportation system. Her advice to French majors and minors is, "If they can take FREN 310, they really should do it" whether they plan to study abroad at another time or not.

After researching numerous institutions that offer summer programs in France, Waybright decided on one at New York

University because it was recommended to her by a student from Emmanuel College who had participated in it. The Simmons Study Abroad office also gave it a thumbs up. She selected her courses: Paris Through its Museums and Monuments and Contemporary French Theater. To her surprise the theater course was the highlight of her trip. She explained,

"I never would have guessed that I would like theater, but now I really do." Her theater professor took the class on an excursion to the Avignon Theater Festival in a rural part of southeastern France. They traveled by high-speed train and attended live performances of the plays they read in class.

Waybright credits both of her study abroad experiences with helping her clarify her career goals. Initially, she thought she wanted to teach French to middle school students, but now she is considering a higher level because she would like to become more engaged with literature and theater. In addition, she is also considering becoming an English language assistant in France through the French government after she graduates from Simmons.

French Liaison

Bonjour!

French Liaison welcomes any and all interested students to take part in our club. Join us as we visit cinemas, museums, and restaurants in the Boston area and discuss current events in the Francophone world. To find out more, contact us at frenchliais@simmons.edu

À bientôt!

- Kara Waybright et Samantha Glasberg
(Presidents of French Liaison)

Upcoming Events:

Monday, September 20

Crepe Night on the Residence Campus

Photo Exhibit by Linda Szabo White:

FÊTE DES TUILERIES

Sep 1 - Sep 30, 2010

at the French Cultural Center

Vernissage: Wednesday, September 15

6:00-8:00 pm - Free

RSVP appreciated: 617-912-0400

For more information, visit
www.frenchculturalcenter.org



FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER
ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE OF BOSTON

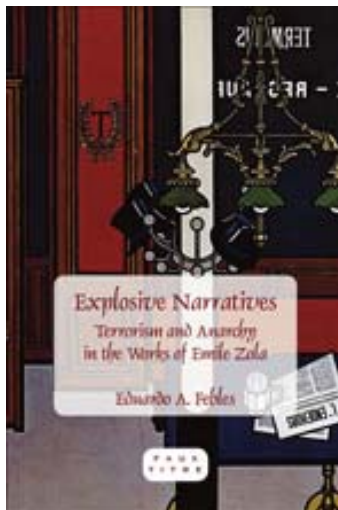
3 NEW BOOKS

The Modern Languages Department invites you to celebrate the recent publication of three books by our faculty on **Friday, Sept. 17 2:00-4:00 p.m.** in the **Special Functions Room**

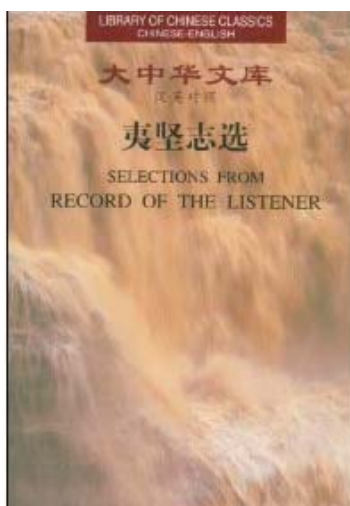
The authors will read from their works.

A reception will follow.

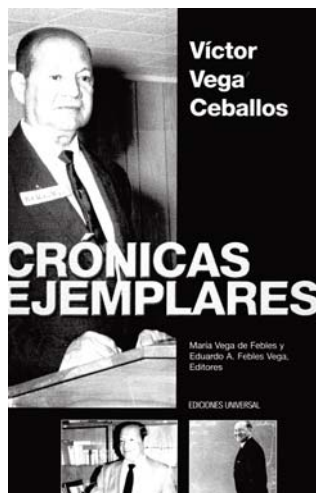
For more information & to RSVP, email melissa.poehnert@simmons.edu



Eduardo A. Febles's *Explosive Narratives: Terrorism and Anarchy in the Works of Emile Zola* by Rodopi Press (2010)



Alister Inglis's *Selections from Record of the Listener* by Foreign Language Press (2009)



Víctor Vega Ceballos' *Crónicas ejemplares* by Ediciones Universal (2010)

In *Explosive Narratives*, Professor Febles explores the genealogy of modern day terrorism through a close study of the anarchist figure in three of Emile Zola's novels: *Germinal*, *Paris*, and *Travail*. The study links the crisis of representation at the end of the 19th century with the rise of terrorism embodied in the bomb-throwing anarchist. It thereby traces Zola's evolving thoughts on anarchy from the terrorist to the humanitarian reformer, from class warfare to a peaceful artisan commune, from a naturalist depiction of an elusive reality to a utopian writing fleeing the contingencies of the historical. The volume brings together aesthetic, political, urban, and scientific debates of Belle Epoque France.

Record of the Listener is a renowned collection from the Song Dynasty written by Hong Mai. Its rich content includes topics such as gods and ghosts, injustice and retribution, fantasy and the uncanny, as well as regional customs. It also preserves much precious research material on daily life during the Song. For this volume, Professor Alister Inglis has selected and translated a total of 113 stories which typify the collection's overall nature. All the stories encapsulate a charming narrative quality which will hold readers spellbound while, at the same time, heightening the understanding of society during the late Northern/early Southern Song era.

Edited by María Vega de Febles and Eduardo A. Febles, this collection of newspaper articles contains a prologue by Dr. Horacio Aguirre, director of the *Diario Las Américas* in Miami, where the majority were originally published. They are divided by topic: Cuba, Camagüey, characters, family, religion, journalism, exile and other themes. Also included are commentaries by colleagues, students and friends of Dr. Vega Ceballos, as well as a chronology and pictures of his life. His daughter, Dr. Maria Vega de Febles, and grandson, Dr. Eduardo A. Febles Vega have made possible this book with their painstaking compilations.

COF Global Education Opportunities Center

The Colleges of the Fenway Global Education Opportunities (GEO) Center is a great resource for Simmons students who plan to study abroad. Check out the fall 2010 events.

COF International Welcome Reception

Monday, September 13
4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
MCPHS, Griffin Building,
670 Huntington Ave, 6th Floor

Fall Returned Study Abroad Students Event

Wednesday, September 15
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
MassArt Trustees Room,
Tower Building, 11th floor

COF Fall Study Abroad Fair

Wednesday, September 29
10:00a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Emmanuel College - Yawkey Atrium

Study Abroad Scholarship Writing Workshop

Wednesday, October 6
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Emmanuel College, Yawkey Center
Glass Conference Room 101

Learn about funding sources for study abroad and how to construct a quality scholarship application to help make your travel dreams come true.

Jobs and Careers: Using Your Travel Experience

Wednesday, November 17
1:00p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Simmons College - Career Resource
Library, Palace Road Building, 3rd Floor

Learn how to market your travel experience on your resume and in interviews. Learn more about work opportunities abroad.

"Away" Exhibit Reception

Thursday, November 18
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
MassArt, Student Life Gallery, Kennedy
Building, 2nd floor

For more information and to RSVP, visit:

www.colleges-fenway.org/global/

Interested in studying abroad in Spain?

Teresa Checa from the Granada Institute of International Studies (GRIIS) will visit Spanish classes on **Monday, Sept. 13** and hold an information table in the Fens on **Tuesday, Sept. 14** from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Professor Lola Peláez at pelaez@simmons.edu

What Can I Do with a Foreign Language Degree?

Part 1: Government

Learning to communicate in a foreign language opens up job possibilities in a wide-range of employment areas. Part 1 of this series focuses on government-related work. Did you know that the U.S. government is one of the largest employers of people with foreign language skills?

Jobs include:

- Translation/interpretation
- Journalism/broadcasting
- Linguistics
- Diplomacy
- Civil service
- Foreign service
- Immigration/naturalization
- Customs
- Intelligence
- Law enforcement

You could work for federal government organizations including:

- Overseas aid agencies

Did you know that the U.S. government is one of the largest employers of people with foreign language skills?

- Intelligence and law enforcement agencies such as Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency, Drug Enforcement Administration
- Department of State
- Department of Homeland Security,
- Immigration and Naturalization Service
- Customs Service
- Library of Congress
- Armed forces
- Voice of America

Since tests are required for specific areas including foreign service officers, customs, Border Patrol, Central Intelligence Agency, and Federal Bureau of Investigation, it is important to learn about the job application process. The [Career Education Library at Simmons College](#) is a great resource for exploring career paths.

Adapted from Career Services at U of T, Knoxville

International Work and Study Opportunities for Language Students

Teach English and Study Mandarin in Shenzhen, China

Spend a year teaching English conversation in a public school of Shenzhen, China and learning Mandarin Chinese. This program is supported by the Shenzhen government and is in its thirteenth year.

Details:

- Applications for the 2011-2012 Shenzhen Program will be accepted from November 15, 2010 through March 15, 2011.
- Program duration: September 2011 through June 2012.
- Monthly salary, paid vacation, housing, and reimbursement of airline tickets.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree by July 2011.
- The Chinese government limits this program to native speakers of English who are citizens of the USA, Canada, UK, Ireland, Australia or New Zealand.
- Teaching experience or prior study of Chinese not required.

For more information and to apply:

<http://www.chinaprogram.org/>

JET Program in Japan

JET stands for "Japan Exchange and Teaching", and is a government-operated program that recruits non Japanese people for foreign language teaching and counseling positions at schools and companies in Japan. Most JET participants work as Assistant Language Teachers (ALT) at high schools and junior high schools in Japan.

The citizens from over 30 countries, including the U.S., are eligible to apply for a position in the JET Program at the Japanese embassy or consulate of their home country. Requirements are a university degree in any field and good language skills.

The duration of JET positions is initially one year, but can be extended by up to two more years. The JET Programme is considered by many the best way of teaching in Japan. The application period opens in October 2011.

For more information and to apply:

<http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/JET/application.html>

Teaching Assistant Program in France

The French Ministry of Education, the Centre international d'études pédagogiques (CIEP) and the Cultural Services Department of the French Embassy in Washington, D.C. are seeking applicants for a Teaching Assistant Program.

Details:

- Application period opens in October 2010.
- Application due date: early January 2011.
- Program duration: All contracts begin October 1 and may be 7 months or 9 months.
- Stipend: €780 (approximately \$1,100/month). 12 hours weekly; may be divided among up to three schools.
- Placements include metropolitan France and in the overseas departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Réunion.

Requirements:

- No prior teaching experience necessary.
- Proficient level of French required.

For more information and to apply, go to:

<http://www.frenchculture.org/spip.php?rubrique424&tout=ok>

Language Assistantships in Spain

The Spanish Embassy's Education Office has openings for native English speakers to become language and culture assistants and share their knowledge of the English language and American culture with Spanish students and teachers while learning about Spanish culture and society.

Details:

- Application period opens in December 2010.
- Program duration: Mid-September through mid-June.
- Stipend: €700 (approximately USD \$1,025/month).
- Full medical insurance.
- 12-16 hours weekly schedule working under the guidance of a classroom teacher.

Requirements:

- Hold a U.S. or Canadian passport.
- Be a native English speaker.
- Be a junior or senior in college or have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree.
- Have an intermediate/advanced level of Spanish.

For more information and to apply, go to:

http://www.mepsyd.es/exterior/usa/en/programs/us_assistants/default.shtml