CERCLL has some exciting news to report this Spring. First, Mary Wildner-Bassett, a faculty member of the Ph.D. program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) and a member of CERCLL’s Local Advisory Board, has been appointed permanent Dean of the College of Humanities (COH). Her Interim Associate Dean is Ken McAllister, one of CERCLL’s project directors. Thus, CERCLL is well known to, regarded by, and supported by COH administration.

CERCLL’s administrative office has recently moved to a new location in Modern Languages (ML) 561. CERCLL’s Graduate Assistants have desk space in 561 and in 569. We’re grateful to Irene d’Almeida, Head of French and Italian, and Malcolm Compitello, Head of Spanish and Portuguese, for allowing CERCLL to move into these rooms. Having this new location means a lot to CERCLL as it allows us to be in closer contact with the CERCLL staff since our faculty offices are on the same floor of ML. We also have a new staff member: in September Ladd Keith became our Administrative Associate. Ladd’s background is a perfect fit for CERCLL and we are grateful for the many organizational skills that he brings to our center. Also new to CERCLL this Spring is Kristin Helland, who will be editing the Proceedings of our Intercultural Competence Conference.

CERCLL started out the fall semester with a visit from our National Advisory Board – Micheline Chalhoub-Deville, Ray Clifford, Claire Kramsch, and Carmen Tesser. Their report was very supportive of our efforts and was circulated widely within the university administration. We also had a busy schedule of professional development events in Fall 2009. These included a series of technology workshops for language teachers, led by staff from the Learning Technology Center, Office of Student Computing Resources, COH Computing Support Team, and Garry Forger, CERCLL’s Technology Manager: 1) Podcasting Workshop: Teaching With Podcasting, 2) Technology & Language Instruction: Web 2.0, Social Networking, Interactive Audio, & Video Explained! We also sponsored a number of workshops and presentations at the university: 1) Bridging the Online Gap between Digital Immigrants and Digital Natives, led by Dolores Durán-Cerda (Pima Community College/Partnership Across Languages [PAL]); 2) Online Learning Environments for Foreign Language Learning: Strategies for Use and Implementation, presented by the two of us at the National Middle East Language Resource Center’s Hebrew Teachers Seminar; 3) Steven Krashen (USC), The Comprehension Hypothesis Extended; 4) Keith Rayner (UCSD), The Nature of Eye Movements and Reading; 5) William Watt (UCI), Evolution of Writing Systems and Motor Constraints; 6) Steven Strauss (UMD), Reading as a Neurological Reconstructive System; 7) Panels for K-12 Chinese Language Teachers (“Integrate Communicative Approach into Chinese Grammar Teaching” led by Cindy Shih and Xia Zhang (University of Arizona), and “Resources for K-12 CFL Teachers” led by Michael Paul (Brigham Young University); 8) Immersion and the Art of Conversing in your Language (led by Stephanie Duisberg, Amphitheater Schools/PAL). All workshops were well attended and well received by the participants.

In December, Linda Waugh was the “Featured Faculty Speaker” at a meeting of the Arizona Board of Regents held at the university. The President of the hosting institution of the Regents’ meetings asks one faculty member to talk about their achievements and Linda was the one chosen. She talked about: her interest in language, SLAT, CERCLL, and her work as Co-Chair of the Provost’s Advisory Committee on the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS).

In Spring and Summer 2010, our schedule of professional development events will be very busy. It starts with the Second International Conference on the Development and Assessment of Intercultural Competence: Aiming for the Third Place, at the Hotel Arizona (Tucson) on January 29-31, 2010.
**January 2010**

28 CERCLL Presentation by Carl Falsgraf (Center for Applied Second Language Studies, University of Oregon): “The Ecology of Assessment: The Use (and Misuse) of Student Performance Data.” Psychology 204, The University of Arizona (UA) campus, 4:30 pm

29-31 CERCLL’s Intercultural Competence Conference. Tucson, AZ. Details at http://cercll.arizona.edu/icc_2010.php

**February 2010**

3-6 National Association for Bilingual Education 39th Annual Conference. Denver, CO. http://www.nabe.org/conference.html

4-6 The 20th Annual Symposium on Hispanic Luso-Brazilian Literature, Language and Culture. UA, Tucson, AZ. http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/symposium/

19-20 Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) Roundtable. UA, Tucson, AZ. http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/slatroundtable/ (see page 5)


**March 2010**


13-14 Tucson Festival of Books. UA, Tucson, AZ. http://tucsonfestivalofbooks.org/ CERCLL will be there!


## Center for Educational Resources in Culture, Language, and Literacy - cercll.arizona.edu

### Upcoming Language-Related Events (continued from page 2)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>31 - April 2</td>
<td>The 10th Annual Middle East and North Africa Graduate Student Association Conference</td>
<td>&quot;Intercultural Approaches to the Study of the Middle East and North Africa.&quot; UA, Tucson, AZ. <a href="http://www.uamena.org">www.uamena.org</a></td>
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<td>1-2</td>
<td>7th Annual Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages &amp; Literatures Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA.</td>
<td><a href="http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/seccll.html">http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/seccll.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>2010 Global Language Convention: Many Cultures, One Community: Language, Knowing, and Power Wesley College Institute for Education and Innovation &amp; The IB at Wesley College, Melbourne, Australia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wesleycollege.net/convention.cfm">http://www.wesleycollege.net/convention.cfm</a></td>
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<td>Southern Arizona Language Fair. UA, Tucson, AZ.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.coh.arizona.edu/pal/lf09/index.html">http://www.coh.arizona.edu/pal/lf09/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>CERCLL 2010 Summer Workshop, Tucson, AZ: Teaching Texts: Pedagogical Stylistics in the Language Classroom</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cercll.arizona.edu/summer10/">http://www.cercll.arizona.edu/summer10/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>6th Conference on Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse. Atlanta, GA.</td>
<td><a href="http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwesl/aesla/conference/papers.html">http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwesl/aesla/conference/papers.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Public Presentation by Dr. Carl Falsgraf

#### The Ecology of Assessment: The Use (and Misuse) of Student Performance Data

Thursday January 28th, 2010. 4:30-6:30 p.m. in Psychology Building (UA Campus), Room 204

Advances in technology and psychometrics make it possible to gather and analyze huge amounts of performance data from language learners. Properly employed, technology-mediated assessment tools can inform curriculum and instruction, enhance student motivation, and support effective program evaluation. Misapplied, this data can be punitive to instructors, confusing to students, and misleading to administrators.

This presentation will examine the Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) as a case study of the potential good and harm that can come from the application of assessment data to pedagogic decision-making. Following a description of STAMP itself, examples of appropriate and inappropriate use will be presented. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of how STAMP and other assessment tools might be used at the University of Arizona to enhance student performance and improve decision-making.

Carl Falsgraf is the director of the Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS) at the University of Oregon. He has a doctorate in Linguistics and has published and presented widely on language acquisition and language assessment. He has overseen the development of the Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP), an online assessment of proficiency available in thirteen different languages.
Teaching Portuguese to Spanish-Speaking Learners (L1, L2 and Heritage): A Structured / Enhanced Input Approach.

Principal Director:
Dr. Ana Carvalho, Associate Professor
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
The University of Arizona

Principal Assistants:
Juliana Luna Freire and Antonio José B. da Silva,
The University of Arizona

This project is sponsored by CERCLL in collaboration with the Center for Latin American Studies and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at The University of Arizona.

The motivation behind this project is the great desire among the Spanish-speaking population to learn Portuguese. Nowadays, the trade agreements in South America between Brazil and its Spanish-speaking neighbor countries make competence in both languages desirable. US universities have doubled or tripled enrollment in Portuguese by offering a specific class for Spanish speakers. This increase in demand hasn’t been matched by development of material that would suit the need of this population. There is a chronic lack of material in Portuguese and there is even greater need for materials that suit the specific needs of Spanish-speaking learners.

This project addresses such a need as it proposes to develop a variety of input-based activities that will consist of a compilation of authentic texts from the Internet as well as the development of tasks that will explore these reading materials to provide the learner with rich language input and, at the same time, draw their attention to Portuguese structure, focusing on the grammatical aspects that differ from Spanish. The material can be used to complement currently available textbooks.

The project takes into consideration the positive transfer between Portuguese and Spanish, typologically very close languages, to introduce Portuguese to the Spanish-speaking through readings of authentic texts. Given the role of linguistic transfer and the advantages of metalinguistic awareness during the acquisition of Portuguese by Spanish speakers, we argue that a specific teaching methodology needs to be developed. In the field of Portuguese for Spanish speakers, there has been a strong consensus among scholars about the pedagogical importance of developing awareness of the differences between Spanish and Portuguese with the aim of counteracting negative transfer. This project supports the belief that it is necessary to call learners’ attention to the target language’s formal aspects, especially the subtle ones, so that they will notice the new form that are too ‘similar’ to be acquired implicitly. The activities capitalize on Spanish speakers’ early ability to read Portuguese texts and provide them with a range of learning tasks that are structured to help the learners make the necessary connections between form and meaning in Portuguese.

Building on the language skills of Spanish speakers (native speakers, heritage speakers, FL/SL learners of Spanish), this project focuses on teaching Portuguese through the early introduction of reading authentic texts. It provides a rich source of authentic materials for Portuguese teachers and learners through a website offering both classroom tasks and web-based language learning materials online. By using learning tools available on the web, the tasks are designed so as to enhance learners’ exposure to authentic input in Portuguese and draw users’ attention to forms that differ from Spanish. Authentic texts, arranged in thematic units, are compiled and available online. The texts and other online materials have been piloted in language classes and presented in workshops and national conferences.

The website provides free activities for Spanish speakers (native speakers, heritage speakers, FL/SL learners of Spanish) interested in learning (or improving) their Portuguese skills. It provides users with authentic readings, grammatical explanations and exercises to help them learn some of the structural aspects of the Portuguese language.

To visit the website, please go to this address: http://portspan.cercll.arizona.edu/

For more information on methodology and to give us some suggestions, please visit the “About the Project” section. The site also includes links to other Portuguese language resources.

A selected bibliography for the project can be found at: http://www.cercll.arizona.edu/pdf/biblio-Portuguese.pdf
CERCLL at ACTFL 2009

CERCLL hosted a booth at the 2009 Annual Convention and World Languages Expo put on by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in San Diego, California on November 20-22, 2009. We were pleased to join most of the other Language Resource Centers in showcasing some of the resources created by Title VI funding. CERCLL Project Directors were well represented among the many University of Arizona presentations at the event.

University of Arizona College of Humanities Dean Mary Wildner Bassett and CERCLL co-director Linda Waugh share a smile at CERCLL’s booth

CERCLL Graduate Associate M’Balia Thomas, Co-director Beatrice Dupuy, and Technology Manager Garry Forger

Directors’ Letter (continued)

are delighted that Claire Kramsch (keynote speaker) of the University of California-Berkeley, Vicki Galloway of Georgia Tech, Jun Liu of the University of Arizona, and R. S. Zaharna of American University (plenary speakers) have accepted our invitation to address conference attendees. Carl Falsgraf, Director of the Center for Applied Second Language Studies, University of Oregon, will be giving a talk at the conference and will also give, ahead of the conference, a presentation for the university community on “The Ecology of Assessment: The Use (and Misuse) of Student Performance Data”. In organizing the Intercultural Competence conference we have worked closely with the SLAT program, our Title VI-funded sister centers at the university, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Center for Latin American Studies, as well as the Confucius Institute at the University of Arizona; we are also grateful to the Arizona Humanities Council and the Center for English as a Second Language for providing funding, as well as the COH for logistical support. We are also pleased to announce a series of workshops to be offered during the month of June, 2010 (see the last page of this newsletter).

Title VI funding for Language Resource Centers is based on a four year cycle, with CERCLL being funded for the first time in Fall, 2006. We will complete our grant proposal this Spring and hope to receive renewed funding beginning in August, 2010. We are excited about the new as well as continuing projects and activities with other units at the UA and with many exceptional faculty and teachers working on language, culture and literacy at the UA. We have collaborations planned with many of our sister Language Resource Centers and faculty at other universities.

SLAT Roundtable 2010

The 9th Annual Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) Interdisciplinary Roundtable will take place on February 19th-20th at the University of Arizona. Organized and run by the student association for the Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program (SLATSA), this year’s theme is, Intersection in Second Language Acquisition. This year’s Roundtable invites participants to explore their places in the intersections of theory and practice, teaching and learning, researching and being researched. The Keynote Speaker is Dr. Paul Kei Matsuda (Associate Professor of English and Applied Linguistics at Arizona State University) and there will also be two plenary sessions featuring Dr. Linda Waugh (CERCLL Co-Director and SLAT Program Director) and Dr. Sonia Colina (Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Arizona). In addition to the faculty sessions, the Roundtable allows graduate and doctoral students the opportunity to present research and receive valuable feedback from peers and faculty. All submission proposals are competitively vetted in a blind review process by a panel of SLATSA members and SLAT faculty. What began as a small conference organized by a handful of SLAT faculty and students continues to grow in scope and participation, with presentations, posters, workshops, and panel discussions. SLATSA strives to create stimulating Roundtable presentations and thoughtful discussion, in addition to social gatherings that will allow all participants the opportunity to share and connect beyond the events of the weekend. CERCLL is a contributing sponsor of the Roundtable and has a close relationship with the SLAT Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, with many of its projects being directed by SLAT affiliated faculty and several SLAT students serving as assistants on these projects and in CERCLL administration. SLATSA is most grateful for the continued support from CERCLL. The Roundtable is free to attend and open not only to the University of Arizona community, but to the public as well. Updates regarding times and location for events can be found at:

http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/slat/
Update on Less-Commonly Taught Languages...

AILDI

The American Indian Language Development Institute’s (AILDI) mission is to mobilize efforts to document, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages, reinforcing the processes of intergenerational language transfer. AILDI plays a critical role in ongoing outreach, training, and collaborative partnerships with educators, schools and Indigenous communities nationally and internationally through the use of multiple resources.

AILDI would like to thank those who attended the 1st Annual AILDI Benefit Dinner and contributed to its success. Additionally, thanks to the 2009 participants for making the 30th anniversary a memorable one.

The 31st Annual American Indian Language Development Institute will be held at the University of Arizona from June 7-23, 2010. AILDI 2010 will offer a variety of classes, special presentations, workshops, and events to help celebrate 31 years of commitment to Indigenous language education. Below is the link for registration information:

http://www.u.arizona.edu/~aildi/SummerProgram/AILDI2010.html

Portuguese/Italian

The 20th Annual Symposium on Hispanic Luso-Brazilian Literature, Language and Culture is taking place Feb. 4, 5 and 6 at the University of Arizona, TOB Building. More information can be found here: http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/symposium/

The University of Arizona has the fifth largest Italian program in the nation. Arizona Illustrated turned the spotlight on this successful program on Thursday, November 5, with Tony Paniagua interviewing students and Professor Fabian Alfie, to explore why the Italian Program has had a steady growth in the number of its majors and minors in the last decade. Also appearing in the broadcast was Professor Irene d’Almeida, head of the Department of French and Italian. She not only commented on the success of the Italian program, but also talked about the overall range of the Department’s offerings in both Italian and French, across language, literature, culture, pedagogy and linguistics.

The segment devoted to the Italian Program can be seen at the following link:


The interview with Irene d’Almeida is at:


NES

The National Middle East Language Resource Center (NMELRC) Hebrew Seminar took place October 31-November 1, 2009. The 2009 National Middle East Language Resource Center’s Seminar for College and K-12 Teachers of Hebrew was hosted by the University of Arizona and chaired by Shmuel Bolozy and Anat Maimon. CERCLL contributed to this event which included a talk by CERCLL Co-Directors, Dr. Linda Waugh and Dr. Beatrice Dupuy, about CERCLL projects that could be applied in Hebrew courses.

Dr. Kamran Talattof (CERCLL Project Director) has received a Magellan Grant that will help in inviting Dr. Marta Simidchieva to campus early in the spring semester for a number of lectures on a variety of topics. Dr. Talattof also was awarded a UA Faculty Interaction grant to enhance language- and culture-related activities for students studying Persian language and Area Studies.

Dr. Talattof presented the keynote address on October 26 at the recent symposium on the burgeoning of Iranian cinema titled, From Pariah to the Pedestal. The topic of his talk was Sexuality and Cultural Change: Gender in Film Farsi. The symposium is sponsored by Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS) Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie vanWetenschappen (KNAW) Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO, project ‘Of Politics and Poetry’), and was held at Leiden University, Netherlands.

On November 19, 2009, the Near Eastern Studies Undergraduate Organization (NESUO) hosted its fifth annual intercultural outreach event aptly named, ‘Middle Eastern Shindig’. The event attracts students, faculty, community people and families from throughout Tucson. This year was highlighted by a belly dance troupe, authentic Middle Eastern food and traditional dress, as well as music of the Middle East.

New Turkish Studies Assistant Professor, Dr. Asli Igsiz presented an invited talk on October 27, titled, Grounds for Comparison: Jewish and Christian Converts to Islam within the context of 1923 Greco-Turkish Compulsory Religious Minority Exchange. This was a part of the Mediterranean Studies Forum at Stanford University’s Division of International, Comparative and
Area Studies. Dr. Igsiz will teach Turkish Studies courses and will coordinate the Turkish language program at the UA, one of the largest in the US.

The 10th Annual Middle East and North Africa Graduate Student Association Conference “International Approaches to the Study of the Middle East and North Africa” is taking place Wednesday March 31-Friday April 2. For more information, please visit: www.uamena.org

City of Tucson Premiere: Inside Islam: What a Billion Muslims Really Think. This new documentary film from Unity Productions Foundation, explores the expertly gathered opinions of Muslims around the globe as revealed in the world’s first major opinion poll, conducted by Gallup. The free screening will take place on January 27th at Gallagher Theater in the UA Student Union Memorial Center, Tucson, AZ, with doors opening at 6:30pm. The Keynote Address is by Imam Sidney R. Sharif, Esther D. Sharif, and Dr. Maha Nassar (Assistant Professor, UA) For more information please see: http://www.cmes.arizona.edu/events/insideislam.php

Understanding Islam: Bridging the Worlds of Academia and Journalism is a project to improve public understanding of Islam through significant enhancement of existing collaborations between the UA Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES), the UA Department of Near Eastern Studies (NES) and the UA School of Journalism. The project has two related goals: 1) to encourage understanding of Islam and Muslims among journalists in Arizona and New Mexico, and hence among the wider publics they reach, and 2) to train academic experts on Islam and Muslim communities to communicate effectively with journalists. On January 15th a professional media training workshop for faculty members and graduate students was held entitled, Talking to the Media: A Workshop on Strategic Communication. A symposium will be held on March 26th. Please check the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) homepage for updates: http://www.cmes.arizona.edu/index.php

EAS

The Department of East Asian Studies is dedicated to the study of the civilizations and culture of China and Japan in all their diversity. The rich cultural heritages of the region are covered by courses in literature, history, religion and thought, linguistics and language, and other aspects of culture. The Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Arizona hosted the Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies on October 22-24, 2009.

Critical Languages Program

The Critical Languages Program was created in order to meet the need for instruction in those languages for which there is no regular faculty at the University of Arizona. Its web page is at http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/crit_lang/. The Critical Languages Program is the publisher and developer of the Critical Languages Series courseware on CD-ROM and DVD-ROM for Brazilian-Portuguese, Cantonese, Chinese, Kazakh, Korean, Turkish, and Ukrainian.

In December, 2009, the University of Arizona Critical Languages Program and the UA Computer Assisted Language Instruction Group were pleased to announce Critical Languages Series Online. This resource is based on their published series of CD- and DVD-ROM courseware for less commonly taught languages, including Brazilian Portuguese, Cantonese, Kazakh, Korean, Kurdish (Kurmanji), Turkish and Ukrainian. Critical Languages Series Online can be used by independent learners studying at home, but is also designed for use by students in a classroom environment (traditional or modified self-instructional).

http://www.criticallanguageseries.org/

“Native Languages of Arizona” is an exhibit installed at the Arizona State Museum that allows museum visitors to hear digital recordings and see the written form of two native languages spoken in Arizona. This interactive PowerPoint presentation lets visitors click on basic phrases in each of the languages and hear them spoken. Also included are basic dialogs that can be heard spoken as individual words or sentences along with optional translations. So far, the exhibit includes the languages Navajo and O’odham and it is hoped others will contribute materials in additional languages with the help of interested students. The exhibit is located on the first floor of the museum, on the west end toward the rear, in the Paths of Life gallery. Scott Brill (CERCLL Project Director) was responsible for Software Engineering and Project Management and Dr. Alex Dunkel, Director, Critical Languages Program was noted for special thanks as well.
Professional Development Workshops

**CULTURE**

June 1-2

*Developing Intercultural Competence in the Foreign Language Class: Why and How?*

Gilberte Furstenburg (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

**TECHNOLOGY**

June 3-4

*Reconceptualizing Technology in Language Education: Emerging Tools and Practices*

Jon Reinhardt, Garry Forger (University of Arizona)

**LITERACY**

June 7-8

*Teaching Texts: Pedagogical Stylistics in the Language Classroom*

Chantelle Warner (University of Arizona)

**Registration Costs:**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Early Bird Rate (ending May 12)</th>
<th>Regular Rate (after May 12)</th>
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<td>June 1-8 (All Event Discount)</td>
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**Registration Scholarships Available!**

**More Information Online**

Scholarship Application Deadline: May 3rd, 2010

Proof of full-time student status is required for student rates. Registration costs include resources and refreshments. Costs represented here do not include accommodations, however information for educators visiting from outside Tucson will be available on our webpage.

Complete details including abstracts/activities, and presenter bios are online at: [http://cercll.arizona.edu/summer10/](http://cercll.arizona.edu/summer10/)

Registration will go live mid-February