Dear friends and alumni of FLL,

If you have been to campus within the last year, you know there has been much growth, not just in terms of facilities, but also in terms of ECU’s commitment to making a global impact. Our department is proud to be at the forefront of this focus on internationalizing our students’ education. Last summer, eighty-one undergraduates studied abroad through innovative programs led by our FLL faculty: to La Rochelle, France; Berlin, Germany; Granada, Spain; and along the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. This summer, we will also offer opportunities to study in Buenos Aires, Argentina; St. Petersburg, Russia, and Strasbourg, France. I hope you will take a few minutes to read about just some of our most recent initiatives and that you will visit us online for more information.

We would love to hear from you and also to have you visit us on campus; in the meantime, and on behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for your support.

Dr. Eduardo Leorri, FLL Interim Chair
Winter 2018
Undergraduate Research
Katie Collins and Chase Neese have been awarded ECU Undergraduate Research Grants to pursue original research this fall. Collins is investigating “Chekhov & Shakespeare on the Modern Stage: Two Plays in One Show,” while Neese is “Linking Tsiolkovsky’s Rocket Science to Humanities.” Both projects are being supervised by Dr. Elena Murenina.

Daniel Franch, Paige Vaughan, and Dr. Jill Twarek have had their article, “The Benefits of Apprentice Teaching with Undergraduates in German Language Classes,” published in Die Unterrichtspraxis. Franch and Vaughan previously served as teaching assistants in a German 1001 class on campus.

ECU’s Office of Undergraduate Research has awarded Dr. David Smith a course development grant to integrate research experiences into German 1002. Smith’s proposal was one of just six to be funded.

Students Receive Scholarships
Patricia Parke has been awarded the Harold H. Bate Scholarship for Study Abroad from Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, and Aurora Venegas, Amanda Curran, Jon Cockerham, and Julia Beauchamp have all received ECU’s Thomas Rivers Scholarship for Study Abroad. Parke and Venegas will study in Russia next summer with FLL faculty, while Curran, Cockerham, and Beauchamp will participate in departmental offerings in France.

FACULTY RESEARCH
Dr. Dale Knickerbocker delivered the keynote address, “De cómo la literatura fantástica puede salvar el mundo: la función social de los géneros no-miméticos,” at the III Coloquio Internacional de Literatura Fantástica in Mexico City in August.

Dr. Juan Daneri gave the keynote lecture, “Continuity and perseverance of Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl (Texcoco 1578-1650),” at the 5th International Seminar on Culture and Politics in Xalapa, Mexico, in September.

Dr. Elena Murenina received a THCAS Research Grant to present her paper on “Turgenev as Chekhov’s Descendant on the American Stage?” at the international conference “VI Skaftrymovskie Chteniya: Chekhov and Turgenev” in Moscow in November.

Congratulations to Dr. Dale Knickerbocker and Dr. Katherine Ford for receiving ECU’s Faculty Book Award in November for manuscripts published last fiscal year: Knickerbocker for Lingua Cosmica: Science Fiction from Around the World (Illinois, 2018), and Ford for The Theater of Revisions in the Hispanic Caribbean (Palgrave, 2017).

Dr. Justin Wilmes spoke on “The Ambiguity of the Image: Andrzej Wajda’s Ashes and Diamonds as Postwar Prism” as an invited guest to students and faculty at Duke University in November.

Teaching Excellence
In December, six FLL professors received the Honored Instructor Award from ECU’s Office of Campus Living: Prof. Ninfa Bayas, Dr. Ann Borisoff, Prof. Lisa Ellison, Prof. Tatjana Goodman, Dr. Susanne Lenné Jones, and Dr. Javier Lorenzo. Each of the six instructors had been “recognized by one or more student(s) who reside in Campus Living for having made a significant impact on their educational experience here at ECU.”
FLL’s Global Living-Learning Community Enters Second Year
The Global LLC welcomed a record 13 first-year students and two returning program graduates as mentors to campus in August. The diverse group of scholars live in Gateway East, take a class together each semester, and participate in a variety of academic and cultural activities to nourish their interests in all things international. Events have included workshops on effective study strategies and time management, a culturally authentic Japanese Tea Tasting, a Global Etiquette Dinner, and interactive presentations about Oktoberfest and the Mexican Day of the Dead led by FLL faculty.

Pirates Making a Difference
FLL students routinely complete internships for academic credit that allow them to apply the cultural knowledge and language proficiency they have gained with us to fields such as health care, education, business, engineering, and social work. Generally, those internships help improve communities in Eastern North Carolina, but often they occur abroad. Graziella Dominado, Hispanic Studies minor, traveled to Antigua, Guatemala, last May, where she helped teach mostly women about nutrition in addition to volunteering in a health clinic for children and infants.

FLL Launches New M. A. in Hispanic Studies
We are pleased to welcome the inaugural class of students to our newly established M. A. in Hispanic Studies. This one-of-a-kind program, which will be accessible also online in fall 2019, features a curriculum that includes opportunities for students to design research projects centered on community service and outreach. Check us out on our website and apply today!

FLL in the Community
FLL hosted its first-ever Weihnachtskonzert (Christmas Concert) at Greenville’s Museum of Art on December 1. The sold-out event featured time-honored holiday music performed by professors and students from ECU’s School of Music and homemade baked goods, all for a good cause: The concert raised money for student scholarships.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

Global LLC students on campus

Graziella Dominado, second from right

FLL in the Schools
Fall 2018 marked the beginning of the “ECU-Conley French Connection,” a partnership between FLL and Greenville’s D.H. Conley High School. Through this initiative, students majoring or minoring in French visit the high school once a month to interact with students and share their enthusiasm for Francophone cultures and Pirate Nation.

Whichard Chair
FLL is honored to host ECU’s 2018-2019 Whichard Visiting Professor in the Humanities, Dr. Eileen Angelini. A Fulbright Scholar and Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques, Dr. Angelini has already delivered well-received talks on the legacy of the Holocaust, French national identity, and the importance of studying other languages and cultures. Active in outreach on and off campus, she is also teaching undergraduate classes in FLL and to the general student body.
Please consider contributing to our newly designated Fund for Foreign Languages and Literatures (Fund for FLL) today.

The Fund for FLL will help us achieve our top three goals for 2019. In particular, your generosity will allow us to

• increase the number of scholarships given to FLL students to study abroad;
• enhance our students’ education by allowing us to host events related to the study of other languages and cultures on campus;
• expand outreach initiatives to prospective high school, transfer, and veteran students as they transition to study at ECU.

You can make your tax-deductible contribution by:

• credit card: go.ecu.edu/cb4bdebi
• check (made out to ECU Foundation, Inc., with Foreign Languages and Literatures in the memo line), and mailed to:
  
  Dr. David Smith, Outreach Coordinator  
  Mail Stop 556, Bate 3324  
  East Carolina University  
  Greenville NC 27858-4353  

Questions/Suggestions: 252-328-5524

I am pleased to help with a tax-deductible gift of

—— $25 Friend of FLL  
—— $50 Supporter of FLL  
—— $100 Sustainer of FLL  
—— $500 FLL Fund Builder  
—— $1,000 FLL Sponsor  
—— $ (other - every amount counts!)

My employer matches charitable contributions, and my matching gift form is enclosed.

Name: ____________________________
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City, State, Zip: ____________________
Telephone: ________________________
Email: ____________________________

On behalf of all of us in ECU’s Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, thank you for your generous support of our students!