



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
COLLEGE PARK



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE FOR
THE SCHOOL *of* LANGUAGES,
LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

Sunday, December 20, 2015
1:00-2:30pm
Memorial Chapel

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Gonzalez, Norman Alberto

Spanish and Portuguese

Volkhausen, Petra

Germanic Studies

Wagener, Thomas Robert

Second Language Acquisition

MASTER OF ARTS

Chacon, Dustin Alfonso

Linguistics

Harrigan, Kaitlyn

Linguistics

Funakoshi, Sayaka

Linguistics

Orita, Naho

Linguistics

White, Aaron Steven

Linguistics

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Arabic

Abdurrahman, Fatima Naeem

Bailey, Margaret °

Bernstein, Molly Rachel °

Bhatti, Asifa Nusret

Deshong, Brian Kline *

Hildebrandt, Carrie Littlepage °

Sansbury, Stephanie Elizabeth

Smith, Roland Franklin

Taylor, Bobby Eugene

Waterhouse, Amy K °

Williams, Tatyana Iman

Chinese

Alleyne, Akeel

Davidson, Alex Benjamin

de Gail, Brittany M

Kouloganes, Anastasia Nichole

Lewis, Charles C.

Millner, Rebecca M

Rudolph, Saria Nicole

White, Coreene

French

Bakari, Aisha

Cappetta, Rosa Maria

Moon, Elisa Jina

Souchet, Pierre Hans

Waterhouse, Amy K °

German

Brennan, Elizabeth C

Edmunds, Deanna Christine

Fauth, Brady Douglas

Oves, Elaine Yentl

Italian

Keeler, Samuel T

Lockard, Andrew T.

Japanese

Doscher, Juliane Valynn

Huang, Yuehshan

Landers, Valerie Christine

Lee, Byung K.

Lockard, Andrew T.

Powell, Stephanie R

Rudolph, Saria Nicole

Wilson, Katelynn Rebecca

Linguistics

Dawson, Timothy Joel

Kim, Youngjung

Landers, Valerie Christine

Lockard, Andrew T.

Orfanidis, Jerry N.

Pertmer, Caitlin

Ramirez, Amilcar

Sachsenmeier, Jasper F.

Sacks, Jacob Nathaniel

Wong, Analee Catherine

Russian

Flanagan, Molly Anne

Halper-Stromberg, Seth David °

Murphy, Gehrig Maex

Oganesyan, David

Spanish

Alba, Raquel

Brecker, Theresa Jeanne °

Cappetta, Rosa Maria

Figueroa, Amal-Harijam Sharym

Guzman, Gloria Marina

Hampton, Barbara Lillian

Jannotta, Melia Jane

McKeown, Anna Mikal

Orellana, Karen

Williams, Christina

Williams, Derrick Hodges

Dear Graduates, Parents, Relatives, and Friends,

On behalf of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, I welcome you to this milestone event. We are here today to celebrate the achievements of the young men and women who now leave us to join a global world very much in need of their energy, wisdom, and the linguistic and cultural skills they have gained. My colleagues and I look forward every semester to honoring the achievements of our graduates, and to conferring the degrees that their talents and tenacity have earned them. We have been entrusted with the intellectual care and development of these young scholars, and we feel a special bond with them – both intellectual and personal. We salute their commitment to fostering understanding of cultures other than their own and, in some cases, to deepening their understanding of their own heritage.

Graduates, we wish you all success as you move forward into the next phase of your lives. I invite you to stay in touch with your professors and mentors and especially to share with us news of your future achievements. I speak for all the faculty and staff of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures in offering my congratulations to you and to those who have supported you throughout the years of your study. Do come back and bring us your stories.



Fatemeh Keshavarz, Director

School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

° *Cum Laude*

+ *Magna Cum Laude*

* *Summa Cum Laude*

Name: Norman González

Dissertation Title: En busca de un país interior: La Novela Lírica Vanguardista en Gilberto Owen, Rosamel del Valle, y Humberto Salvador

Director: Dr. Jorge Aguilar Mora.

Abstract: This dissertation examines three Latin American writers: Gilberto Owen (Mexico, 1904-1952), Rosamel del Valle (Chile, 1901-1965) and Humberto Salvador (Ecuador, 1909-1982) and their avant-garde lyric novels written between 1928 and 1931. These novels contain new elements, and their content creates new sensibilities by challenging the generic conventions of traditional narrative. The avant-garde fundamentally breaks with the aesthetics of representation, leading to broader ontological, epistemological, and political ruptures. The aim of avant-garde literature is to regain the dynamic aspect of reality that was lost through the domination of rationalism. We are able to explore this reappropriation through unique approaches to the elements of imagination, the occurrence (or not) of events, and experience and see how the authors were able to contribute to the radical critique of aesthetic beliefs and notions of reality at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Name: Petra Volkhausen

Dissertation Title: “Female” Madness in German-Language Literature of the 20th and 21st Centuries

Director: Dr. Elke Frederiksen

Abstract: Using an interdisciplinary approach, my dissertation examines the intersection of “womanhood” and madness in German-language literature and culture. While scholars have studied the “madwoman” of the previous centuries extensively, my dissertation presents the first comprehensive study of representations of “female” madness from 1894 onward. While previously applied almost exclusively to the realities of white, middle-class women, I argue for an intersectional conception of critical madness studies which takes account of gender, race, and religion to offer culturally specific insights into the lives of German women from diverse backgrounds. My study addresses texts by well-known authors, such as Hedwig Dohm, Christa Wolf, Ingeborg Bachmann, and Elfriede Jelinek, as well as lesser known writers, such as May Ayim and Christine Lavant

Name: Thomas Wagener

Dissertation Title: The Influences of Aptitude, Learning Context, and Language Difficulty Categorization on Foreign Language Proficiency

Director: Dr. Steven Ross

Abstract: This research investigates the ability of predictive measures to differentiate level of language proficiency among learners across languages, language categories, and learning contexts. It fills a gap in the literature pertaining to language categorization and demonstrates differential predictive ability of language learning aptitude measures depending on the language being learned. In addition, it challenges a default assumption that aptitude and other individual difference measures ought to be context independent. This research provides evidence to support claims that suggest an interactive role between the learner and context leading to differential learning outcomes based on individual differences. It highlights the fact that predictive models of proficiency are not consistent within language category, nor are they consistent across language category boundaries. It shows that a measure of general cognitive memory may be the best indicator of long term language learning success across languages. Finally, it replicates earlier findings that the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB) provides incremental predictive validity in the face of other individual difference measures indicating that it remains a useful predictor of language learning performance.

Processional
Faculty, Graduates, & Platform Party

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Mary Ellen Scullen
Associate Director, School of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures

Dr. Fatemeh Keshavarz
Director, School of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures

SLLC Undergraduate Speaker

Ms. Karen Orellana
BA in Spanish and Portuguese

SLLC Faculty Speaker

Dr. Julie Koser
Department of Germanic Studies

Presentation of Graduates

Linguistics
Dr. William Idsardi
Dr. Peggy Antonisse
Dr. Tonia Bleam
Dr. Jeffrey Lidz

Germanic Studies
Dr. Julie Koser
Dr. Elke Frederiksen

Arabic
Dr. Peter Glanville

Persian
Dr. Fatemeh Keshavarz
Dr. Ali Abasi

Russian
Dr. Cynthia Martin

Second Language Acquisition
Dr. Steven Ross

Spanish
Mr. Fabian Faccio
Dr. Eyda Merediz

Chinese
Dr. Minglang Zhou

Japanese
Dr. Michele Mason
Ms. Etsuko Yamakita

French
Dr. Mary Ellen Scullen

Italian
Dr. Giuseppe Falvo

Romance Languages
Ms. Stefania Amodeo

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