



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

**PAMPLIN COLLEGE
OF ARTS, HUMANITIES,
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Department of English and World Languages

Department of English and World Languages

EWL Insights

May 2021

Interlingual Translations: A Collaborative Project

For Spring 2021, students in Dr. **Giada Biasetti**'s Spanish Translation class (SPAN 4600) worked on translating poems by Italian author **Viviana Viviani** from her 2019 book *Se mi ami sopravvalutami* (*If You Love Me, Overvalue Me*). This was a collaborative project with Florida Atlantic University (FAU), where students in Dr. **Emanuele Pettener**'s Intermediate/Advanced Italian class translated some poems from Italian into English. Students at Augusta University translated the poems from English into Spanish and some extra ones from Italian into Spanish and Spanish into English.

The AU students who worked as translators and editors were: **Ananya Chakraborty** (Cell and Molecular Biology/Spanish minor), **Gregory Jones** (History major/Spanish minor), **Diana Pacheco** (Biology major/ Spanish minor), **Xadier Santiago** (Business Administration major/Spanish minor), **Kayla Smiley** (Communication major/Spanish minor), and **Danielle Wardell** (Spanish major/Creative Writing minor).



After completing the final versions of the translations, Dr. Biasetti organized an event on April 27 called “Interlingual Translations: An Act of Love in Three Languages” via Microsoft Teams, with invited special guests. Students presented their work by reading the translated poems, commented on the translation process, and engaged in a conversation with Viviana Viviani. They also had a chance to interact with Dr. Pettener and other FAU professors, FAU students who worked on the English translations, and other guests joining from Italy, South Africa, Mexico, and France.

It was a successful and memorable event that allowed students to showcase their work, engage in inspiring conversations, practice their public speaking skills, establish connections, and expand their horizons. Students showed outstanding translation skills, professionalism, excellent presentational skills, and overall personal growth. Their translations will also be published in the near future.

To see the presentation: <https://youtu.be/hJBNfHpXdZs>

The students’ poetry reading was also featured on the Writing Center’s Instagram page during poetry month and an article on the virtual event was featured on FAU’s Program Highlights.

EWL Scholarship and Award Recipients 2021

Mary Lu Kuhl Scholarship (determined by Creative Writing faculty): Ashlee Cooper

Patricia Smith Leshner Essay: Odessa Hinton

Edith Wright Bailey Scholarship: Odessa Hinton

Chelsea Anne Collins Scholarship: Danielle Wardell

Lillie Butler Johnson Scholarship: Danielle Wardell

Ashlee Cooper, a senior Political Science major and Creative Writing minor, won the Mary Lu Kuhl Scholarship, which will assist her in attending a (virtual) writing workshop. Ashlee's portfolio submission included the creative nonfiction piece "After Learning to Dutch Braid" and the poem "My Last Time Skinning a Deer."

Odessa Hinton, the winner of the Edith Wright Bailey Scholarship and the Patricia Smith Leshner Essay Contest, is an English major with a Secondary Education concentration. Odessa's prize-winning essay analyzed Sylvia Townsend Warner's *Lolly Willowes* (1926). Odessa will use her funding toward tuition and fees.

Danielle Wardell, the recipient of the Chelsea Anne Collins Scholarship and the Lillie Butler Johnson Scholarship, is a senior World Language major with a concentration in Spanish as well as a Creative Writing minor. Danielle's scholarship submission was a creative nonfiction piece entitled "The 4 F's." She plans to use the scholarships to offset the cost of tuition and books.

Student Spotlight

Dr. Liana Babyan talks with French minor Marquette (Jediah) Persaud



Why French? French was *always* in me. When I was little I would tell people I spoke French, when I in actuality did not speak it! I believe the smoothness of the words and the art-inspired culture enticed me to learn French; it was unique and exotic to me, so when I had the opportunity, I went for it in high school!

How did learning French shape you so far? How does it relate to your major? French has formed me in many ways. Through discovering the tiny nuances between English and French, I began to become less ethnocentric. For example, the English say "how old are you?" and the French say "how many years do you have?" The difference demonstrates how the cultures think; the difference is small, but it provides a different perspective. This enables me in my own discipline, Art and Graphic Design, to look for the uniqueness in people, in objects, and in experiences. In other words, my studying French has heightened my appreciation for small details in life.

Is there a French expression that you absolutely love and want to use all the time? My favourite French expression is "loins des yeux, loin du cœur." It means, literally, far from the eyes, far from the heart. We would say in English "out of sight, out of mind." However, the English expression lacks the romance and the flexibility compared to the French one. Of course, even if something is out of sight, it could possibly still be in the mind. Conversely, if something is distant from the heart, then, it must truly be out of the mind as well, for the heart is much better at remembering than the mind in my experience.

If you could get rid of one French word, what word would it be? Although nearly every word in

French is beautiful, the word "usine" is not particularly charming. The "z" sound creates quite a bit of cacophony, so when it comes to using it, I become slightly agitated.

Why would a student at AU want to study French? What are the benefits, in your opinion?

Studying French opens the mind and causes the student to break away from ethnocentric mindsets. Furthermore, it's a skill to speak another language. Most people in the U.S. do not speak French; therefore, it is a sure way to impress others!

Do you dream in French yet? I remember the first time I dreamt in French; it was the beginning of my becoming intimate with the language. It made me assured knowing I was understanding the language enough to dream in French.

What aspects of French or Francophone culture interest you the most? It was art and French architecture that caused me to fall in love with the culture. It's frequently elegant and sophisticated. More specifically, the Haussmann architecture impresses me the most; the mansard roofs common to the second empire are stylish and scream French culture!

What fictional character from a French/francophone book or movie inspires you? Amélie is perhaps a cliché answer, but her character reveals to us that small rituals make life meaningful. One of her rituals that made her happy was skipping rocks on the water. For me, I think it is the ritual of tea drinking that add value to my life.

Can you make anything from French cuisine? Any favorites? I LOVE making French cuisine. I have made several things such as crème brûlée, macarons, mille feuille, and choux pastry. My favourite is poire belle Hélène (poached pear), for it is easy to make, and it will always impress my friends!

Can you design a logo for your French class? I certainly can design a logo for my French class. Of course, a logo needs a direction, so I would brand a logo according to the audience. If I were to choose a direction for a class logo, I know I would stay away from hackneyed icons of French culture (such as the Eiffel Tower), but rather on the subtle aspects of the French culture such as lavender production or perfume.

Writing Center Updates

We will be fully virtual for summer sessions from May 17-August 3. Live online appointments as well as written feedback online appointments will be available to all students, faculty, and staff. This will be our first semester making written feedback online appointments to undergraduates. Check the Writing Center website for more information about consultation types/options and summer hours. <https://www.augusta.edu/pamplin/writingcenter/>

The Writing Center hosted the Southeastern Writing Centers Association Georgia Spring Forum in March, featuring keynote speaker Dr. Lisa Bell of Utah Valley University. The theme was promoting accessibility and equity in writing centers and discussion break-out rooms were organized and led by WC staff.

Speaking Shakespeare

The Speaking Shakespeare series will continue over the summer. All students, staff, and faculty are welcome to join us as we read *Henry IV, Part I* aloud at the Maxwell Theater.



Dates and times TBD.

Contact Kelly Thomas (kthoma12@augusta.edu) or Blaire Zeiders (bzeiders@augusta.edu) if interested. Our regular schedule will resume in the fall

Student News

- **Rachel Beal** (B.A., English Literature, Spring 2021) has received a scholarship from Wake Forest University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She will join the M.A. program in English at WFU in Fall 2021.
- ENGL 1101 students **Elyse Garrett** and **Colby Gross** won awards in the Georgia Collegiate Honors Council Conference Social Science Essay Contest for their research papers. Elyse won First Place for her paper "Children, Philosophy, and Early Education" and Colby won Second Place with "Examining the Doctor-Patient Relationship in Terms of Communication and Consistency of Care." Elyse also won the Best Oral Presentation Award at the AU 21st Annual Phi Kappa Phi Student Research and Fine Arts Conference.
- **Isabel Miller**, (B.A., Spanish Education, Spring, 2021) has accepted and begun a full-time Spanish teaching job at Jefferson County High School.
- **Reine Mirzein** is graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in French. She intends on attending law school in the Fall. She has been accepted into Mercer Law and granted a partial scholarship offer. She plans on becoming an immigration lawyer and on using her knowledge of French, English, and Arabic to help her clients with legal issues.
- **Tiffanie Moore** (B.A., English, concentration in Secondary Education, 2021) has accepted a teaching position at Warren County High School.
- **Sabrina Nacci** (B.A., English Literature, Fall 2020) was accepted into Clark University's English MA program
- **Keturah Stewart** (B.A., English Literature, Fall 2020) presented a paper based on her ENGL 4800 Capstone project, "The Life of a 'Thing': Sámi Drums and Post-Colonial Discourse in Emerging Sámi Literature," at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, held virtually on April 12-14, 2021.

Faculty News

- Dr. **Carly Carver**, Assistant Professor of Spanish, presented a paper “The Effects of Distributed vs. Massed Corrective Feedback on the Acquisition of Spanish Differential Object Marking,” at the American Association for Applied Linguistics, held virtually on March 20-23, 2021. She also presented her research on “Perfect Timing? Exploring how learners of Spanish perceive and benefit from immediate vs. delayed grammar feedback in face-to-face vs. online chat environments” at the Pamplin College Life of the Minds lecture series, February 8, 2021.
- **F. Simon Grant**, Lecturer of English, published his novel *The Upholstery Man* with Thurston Howl Publications, the first installment in a trilogy of mystery novels (called the Slaughter Boxes trilogy). He wrote the novels between 2012 and 2014, inspired by the mid-20th century “kid detective” trend, specifically the Three Investigators books by Robert Arthur. He also created the cover art (minus the font). <https://thurstonhowlpub.storenvy.com/products/32006539-the-upholstery-man>
- Dr. **Christina Henderson Harner**, Assistant Professor of English, has recently had two articles accepted for publication. “The Romance of Independence: Working Women in Nineteenth-Century Telegraph Literature” is forthcoming in *Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature* and “‘A Pakistani Jane Austen’: Destabilizing Patriarchal and Postcolonial Hierarchies in Soniah Kamal’s *Transcultural Pride and Prejudice*” will appear in *Persuasions On-Line* during the summer of 2021.
- Dr. **Christina Heckman**, Professor of English, published a new article, “Playing the Game: Collaborative Project-Based Learning in the Medieval Literature Classroom,” *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, vol. 28, no. 1, 2021. This research study was based on an ENGL 4350 course offered in Spring 2019. She also presented a paper, “Where are the Weavers? Gender and Labor in the Evangelium of Pseudo-Matthew,” at the Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, held virtually on April 9-10, 2021.
- Dr. **E. Nicole Meyer** (recipient of the Boundless Teaching Award), Professor of French, received two Experiential Innovation Fund Grants and another teaching/research grant this Spring to fund her gamification and collaborative activities for her French courses. Her publications include: “Unnatural Disasters in the Autobiographical Narratives of Nathalie Sarraute and Marguerite Duras,” *The French Review* (May 2021) & “Rethinking the Beginning French Class: Strategies for Transforming Teaching Challenges into Opportunities” *The French Review* (March 2021) as well as a number of book reviews. She is proud to represent Pamplin College and EWL as the recipient of the Louis K. Bell Research Award, 2021. She also presented “Innovative Strategies for Teaching During a Pandemic: Engaging Students through Gamification, Collaborative Assessments, and the Growth Mindset,” Impacting Student Learning Conference, and “An Inclusive Learning Environment: Why Does It Matter?” Learning Spaces Where Everybody Belongs Series, both held at Augusta University.