

DFLL NEWS

UAB | CAS | Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

All The Details

For more detailed information, contact and more about the events, programs and items in the newsletter, please visit us online at: www.uab.edu/cas/languages

Homecoming Door Competition Artists

Thank you to these students for decorating our department's main office for Homecoming:

Sarah Busby, **Sarah Faulkner** (Co-leader), John Stephen Hutchinson, Nykkie Israil, Jennifer Martens, **Paige Sandheinrich** (Co-leader), Carolina Walden (all German); Cayla Hamilton (Spanish); Maggie Powell (French)

Thank you to Prof. Erika Rinker for organizing and leading the students!



DFLL WINS CAS HOMECOMING DOOR DECORATION AWARD



*Our heartfelt thanks go to the language students (see their names to the left) who painted and decorated our main office door for Homecoming this year. The DFLL won an Honorable Award for **Most Creative** in the College of Arts and Sciences! If you have not seen it, please stop by to admire your peers' art work!*

Go Blazers! — Julián Arribas, Chair

Language Clubs And Conversation Table News

La Tertulia Spanish Table

Mondays at 2:30 pm
Starbucks (Sterne Library)

Info: centeno@uab.edu

La cena de la Tertulia

18 Nov, 6:00-8:00 pm
Mi Pueblo Restaurant
216 Green Springs HWY, Homewood

Palomitas Spanish Film Club

2 Dec Grand Finale
In the Time of the Butterflies
Humanities 105 , 6:00 pm
Info: jtmaddox@uab.edu

Japanese Conversation Table

3 Nov, 3:00-4:00 pm HB 424
16 Nov, 12:30-1:30 pm
HB 424
Info: takamiya@uab.edu

Chinese Conversation Table

Fridays Sept 9-Dec 9
2:30-3:30 pm Sterne Library
Dean's Conference Room
Info: coltyma@uab.edu

German Conversation Table

Stammtischtennis
Every other Friday 9 Sept-2 Dec
12:00-1:00, HB 424
Info: erinker@uab.edu

French Conversation Table

Mondays, 3pm to 4 pm
Starbucks, Sterne Library
Info: mbond@uab.edu

Italian Conversation Table

20 Oct & 17 Nov, 1:00-2:00
HB 402
Info: giuliana@uab.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS

BSMART (Blazer Scholarship Management and Resource Tool; www.uab.edu/bsmart) opened for 2017 scholarship applications on October 1, 2016, for incoming and current students. Go to: www.uab.edu/cas/languages/student-resources

Departmental Scholarships for Study Abroad

There are a number of student scholarships in the DFLL that provide support funding for Study Abroad in a Foreign Language, Linguistics, or Literature awarded yearly. Preference shall be given to students with a focus in French or German, but all FLL majors with a Concentration in either French or Spanish and students of all languages supported by the DFLL may apply.

Departmental Scholarships for Excellence in Foreign Languages and Literatures

There are a number of student scholarships in the DFLL that provide support funding for excellence in a Foreign Language awarded yearly. Preference shall be given to students with a focus in French or German, but all FLL majors with a Concentration in either French or Spanish and students with a minor in German may apply. Funds for these Scholarships come from the Dr. William E. Doggett III Endowed Support Fund for the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Lehmyer Endowed Award in German.

Study Abroad SCHOLARSHIPS for LESS COMMONLY TAUGHT Languages

U.S. Department of State | Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)

Program: full scholarships for summer study abroad to acquire less commonly taught languages, open to students from all majors, undergrads and grad students. No background language experience is required for Azerbaijani, Bangla, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Punjabi, Swahili, Turkish, or Urdu. Background experience is required for Chinese, Japanese, and Russian. The deadline to apply is November 16, so interested students should contact fellowships@uab.edu ASAP if they'd like to apply. Learn more at <http://clscholarship.org/>.

Boren Scholarships: provides up to \$20,000 in scholarship funds for undergraduate students interested in studying less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. A complete listing of preferred languages and countries for study abroad can be found online: http://www.borenawards.org/boren_scholarship/preferences.html. The UAB internal application deadline is Friday, January 6. Interested students should contact fellowships@uab.edu for more information.

INTERNSHIP/SERVICE LEARNING

Organization meeting for all students taking **FLL 333 in Spring 2017** will be **Wed, November 2 at 2:30pm in HB 424**. For more information, contact Prof. Sánchez-López at lourdes@uab.edu.

STUDYABROAD REMINDERS

Several study abroad opportunities are in the works for summer 2017. Among them are trips to **Paris, Spain, Japan** and beyond! Information was distributed in the October Newsletter, which you can find posted on our website. You can also contact Prof. Bond for Paris (mbond@uab.edu), Prof. Takamiya for Japan (takamiya@uab.edu) and Prof. Arribas for Spain (jarribas@uab.edu).

Got plans for spring break? Here's an idea ...PARIS! The UAB Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures and the Alliance Française of Birmingham are sponsoring a week in Paris, France, during the UAB spring break, March 11-19, 2017 (8 days, 7 nights). Cost: \$2,299.00 for UAB students and employees. Interested? Contact Prof. Serge Bokobza (sbokobza@uab.edu).

BLACK RESISTANCE and NEGOTIATION in LATIN AMERICA



Congratulations to Prof. John Maddox for organizing and directing a world-class and enlightening colloquium on October 7-8 at UAB. Thank you to all the students who volunteered during the colloquium.



Above (left): Dr. Yves Moñino (LLACAN, France)

Above (right): Dr. Yves Moñino (LLACAN, France), Dr. John Lipski (Penn State), Dr. Armin Schwegler (UC-Irvine), and Bernardino Pérez Miranda (Palenque, Colombia) Left Bottom: Dr. John Maddox (UAB), Dr. Lesley Feracho (UGA) and Prof. Maria Centeno (UAB)



DFLL OPEN HOUSE ...GO BLAZERS!



The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures hosted its **Fall Open House on October 17** to kick off UAB Homecoming Week. Take a look at some of the fun pics...



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Read **Junias Jackson's** (*ROTC and Spanish, 2009*) column as he shares a recent life-changing and inspiring experience with us. Since he graduated from UAB, he has traveled extensively to many parts of the world for work and service. Junias is a strong advocate for learning languages as these helped open the world to him.

A few weeks ago I noticed on the front of the Fort Lee home newspaper, The Traveler, that President Obama was coming to Fort Lee and CNN News Anchor Jake Tapper would host him at a town hall meeting on September 28, 2016. I checked with my leadership at Fort Lee to know the requirements for meeting him. I was informed that space was very limited and that I should submit several questions to the President through the Public Affairs Office. I did just that and on September 26, 2016 at 10PM ET I received a phone call from the CNN Whitehouse Correspondent Office. I was invited to sit in the Town hall meeting. The next morning, I received a list of instructions on what not to bring, what not to do and where to be and when to be there. Though I have a security clearance I was informed that a background check had been done on me. We weren't allowed to drive or walk to the location even though it was a few blocks away. Instead we had to meet with a Whitehouse Staff members and post leadership where they directed the few of us to be bused to the town hall location. Upon arrival I checked in with other Whitehouse Staff and the Secret Service where I was also checked. Once I entered the location, I spoke with the Secret Service Lead who was a rather friendly guy to my surprise and thanked me for our service. I looked for my assigned seat and found it, directly behind where the President would be sitting. I had the opportunity to meet CNN reporter Jake Tapper, who interviewed the President. He informed us of what to expect and how to react in certain situations. After about an hour and a half of waiting I heard the sound of helicopters landing and I saw the secret service shuffling





to their positions. We were informed that the President was on his way and it wasn't long before I looked to the right and saw President Obama walking out pass me and to his seat in front of me. It was a very unrealistic experience, me, a young man from the Westside of Birmingham within arms reach of the President. During the commercial break he took the time to speak to us from his seat, walked around a little, shook hands and even addressed some personal concerns from others. At the conclusion of the interview, he made his way around to the different invitees that were there to include the two of the oldest veterans in the US, Medal of Honor Recipient Florent Grogberg, and a Wounded Warrior. Soon afterwards I looked up and saw a tall man look at me, speak to me and shake my hand. It was an awesome experience to be able to

shake the hands of our President and the Leader of the Free world. Just to believe that my education at UAB brought me to this point.



Honestly, I was one of those students in high school that wondered why I would ever need to learn a foreign language. I didn't know that upon joining the Army in 2002, I would be stationed in Germany for several years and would deploy to Turkey, Kuwait and Iraq. In my last Iraq deployment, where I literally applied to UAB from the US Embassy in Baghdad, I had the opportunity to work on a US Provisional Reconstruction Team. I lived and



worked around the Iraqi people, went out in some of their neighborhoods and government buildings, doing my small part to help them rebuild. On a daily basis, I reported back to the US Embassy and had the opportunity to work alongside and see the joint work of our nation to include, the US Marshals, FBI and USAID. As a young man from the west side of Birmingham, AL that rarely left the city, as I immersed myself in the culture, I grew a strong appreciation for the differences in people and the fact that our differences is what makes us strong when we come together. I applied and was accepted to several universities. However, UAB was the school that represented what I had learned to know and understand: diversity, difference and direction.

In December 2009, I graduated from UAB, earning a commission as an Army Officer from the ROCT program, and a minor in Spanish from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. My experience participating in the UAB Foreign Language Program prepared me for the assignments and duties that followed. After graduating, I was assigned to an office in Vicenza, Italy with a headquarters in Germany. Our office coordinated and directed the transportation and clearance of equipment and personnel that transited throughout Europe and Africa. The employees, agencies and clients were from various countries. In 2012 I was called upon to coordinate transportation and customs clearance requirements for Combined Endeavor, the world's largest communication network interoperability exercise. This exercise took place in Grafenwohr, Germany with more

than 1,200 communication professionals from 38 nations. The many personalities, languages and cultures that were concentrated in a small area made my use of diplomacy and understanding imperative. I even had the chance to go to dinner one-on-one with Arnor Sigurjonsson, the National Representative to NATO for Iceland.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in UAB's Foreign Language Program. It gave me the competitive edge that I needed for the scores that I wanted when taking the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (Exam) and the Defense Language Proficiency Test so that I could pursue more prestigious assignments. The program also gave me the edge when having to communicate and work with our international, strategic partners in other government positions. Hopefully, the UAB Foreign Language Department is considered a top level priority, a necessity. In my case, foreign language proficiency is a matter of national security. It provides with the ability to get closer to people, reach their hearts and minds in a way that can sometimes prevent problems before they exist.

—Go Blazers!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Revisiting Global English in a Global World

A lecture by Prof. Adriana D'Angelo, University of Pescara, Italy, Nov 15, 3:30 pm, EB 144

Jewish Identity in French Cinema

A lecture by Prof. Serge Bokobza on Nov 12, 7:00 pm, Hulsey Recital Hall 105

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD



Are you ready to teach in France? Check this program out!

Teaching Assistant Program in France | French

Culture <http://highereducation.frenchculture.org/teach-in-france>

JET (The Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program Information Session

Consulate-General of Japan in Atlanta representatives will be at UAB to explain JET (The Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program on Thursday, November 3rd. If you are interested in teaching English in Japan after graduation from UAB, JET is a wonderful option. More information is available at the following website:

<http://jetprogramme.org/ja/>

JET Information Session

Thur, November 3, HB 412, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

JET Consultation Session

Thur, November 3, HB 424, 12:30 am - 3:00 pm

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