

FYE Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2006

In this issue

Due to my (Fred) oversight, we left one of the entries on service learning out of the last issue. My apologies to Ana Börger-Greco. Her contribution appears in this issue.

FYE News

Advanced Notice

We are planning a debriefing session for all seminar instructors in January. The focus will be on choosing two or three common assessment goals for all UNIV 179 classes. We will also be celebrating your participation in this on-going initiative.

Recruiting for 2007-2008.

If you have an interest in teaching your seminar next year, please let Linda McDowell, Fred Foster-Clark, Marjorie Warmkessel or Thomas Burns know ASAP. If you have a colleague who has expressed an interest in writing a topic proposal for next fall, please encourage them to attend one our planning sessions in Adams House or direct them to General Education website (<http://muweb.millersville.edu/~gened/>) for the particulars.

More FYE News

Assessment. Follow-up surveys (post-tests) will need to be done in December in all of the UNIV 179 sections ("passion classes"). These should be done during the final week of classes and should involve just another 15 minutes. Don't forget students will need to put their names on these surveys so they can be matched up with the pre-tests. (Only a code number eventually gets stored with the data to protect confidentiality.) Fred will be contacting those of you who were chosen to submit student writing samples for the information literacy assessment within the next two weeks. You are asked to invite two students from your seminar to participate in a focus group session that will be held on December 11th from 5-7PM. Linda will be in touch with you about this.

Advising Issue. All UNIV 179 sections count toward a student's Gen Ed requirements in one of the Liberal Arts Core blocks (G1, G2, or G3). They cannot be used, however, for "doubling up" to meet the "two-in-a-department" rule (unless it is processed as a Request for Exception).

A Different View

By Ana Börger-Greco

My section of UNIV 179, *A Different View: How We Can Change the World*, is essentially a complete focus on diversity, because students are asked to study another country's history and culture, and then toward the end of the semester, represent the interests of that country, Spain, in a United Nations simulation run through the University of Maryland.

In the first text we read, Sir Raymond Carr's *Spain: A History*, the chapters we most emphasize are one toward the beginning and the last one. The earlier one discusses the seven hundred years during which three major religions and cultures – the Christian one, the Jewish, and the Islamic one – coexisted and informed each other. We see that periods of mutual tolerance – during which the arts and sciences flourished -- alternated with those in which hard-line fundamentalists insisted on separation and war. The other chapter that is most important, is the one which explains how Spain finally fought to become a democracy under the guidance of king Juan Carlos I. We also read a second text, Paul Preston's *Juan Carlos: Steering Spain from Dictatorship to Democracy* to further understand why this constitutional monarchy in Spain "worked," even though the country seemed not to have the background for democracy.

The class is also reading the *New York Times* on a daily basis to become conversant with the six major topics we will be debating during our UN component: Debt and Trade, the Global Environment, World Health, Refugees and Internally Displaced Peoples, International Terrorism, Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping. Much of the terminology students encounter while studying these topics seems to them to come from another culture, but the really interesting period will be when they must **BE** Spain in debates against a team representing the US as well as the following other countries: Canada, Congo, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, Mali, Mexico, North Korea, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, and Turkey.

November Events

Thursday 11/2/2006	Internship Fair	11am-1:30pm	MPR, Student Memorial Center	The Internship Fair provides students with the opportunity to meet employers that offer internships/co-ops to Millersville Students! Students earn credits and experience in their chosen field before they graduate. All majors will be represented. Students attending will receive a coupon for a free lunch at the Galley!
Thursday 11/2/2006	Millersville University's 22nd Annual Brossman Science Lecture	7pm	Lyte Auditorium	Get Rich and Save the World: Energy, Environment and Innovation. Dr. Richard B. Alley, Professor of Geosciences and Associate of the Earth and Environmental Systems Institute at the Pennsylvania State Univ
Friday 11/3/2006	FYE/LC Brown Bag	11:30am-1pm	Adams House	Center for Academic Excellence sponsored opportunity for informal faculty development and discussion. Topic TBA
Saturday 11/4/2006	Family Weekend		On campus	November 3-4 is MU Family Weekend. Sponsored by Student Programs
Saturday 11/4/2006	41st Annual In-Service Foreign Language Conference	8:30am-4:30pm	Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall	Each fall, the department of foreign languages at MU holds an annual conference, centering around a world language teaching theme. The conference features a variety of high-quality world language teaching presentations, plus a keynote speaker and social events. Attendees can view the latest products from a variety of vendors in the Exhibitors Hall, plus network with language teachers from all over the state.
Tuesday 11/7/2006	Immunization Clinic	1-7pm	MPR, Student Memorial Center	Maxim Health will be on campus administering Meningitis Vaccine (\$125), Pneumonia Vaccine (\$40) and Flu Shots (\$25).
Monday 11/13/2006	Empty Bowls Bowl-A-Rama	5-8pm	MPR, Student Memorial Center	This annual fundraiser allows students and community members to come out and make a ceramic bowl; which will then be fired and glazed and given out in the Empty Bowls annual dinner in the spring. This event is a reminder that homelessness and hunger are rampant in our country and throughout the world.
Thursday 11/16/2006	FYE/LC Brown Bag	3:30-4:30pm	Adams House	Center for Academic Excellence sponsored opportunity for informal faculty development and discussion. Topic TBA
Thu 11/9 - Fri 11/17/2006	WI/SP07 undergraduate registration begins	6am	N/A	WI/SP07 undergraduate registration begins
Wed - Fri 11/22-24/2006	Thanksgiving recess	N/A	N/A	Thanksgiving recess