HELLO (AGAIN...) BMCC!

The last two years have been extremely challenging and difficult, there is no doubt about that.

For faculty, the challenges have been of various kinds. From one day to the next, and in the midst of complete uncertainty, we had to leave our classrooms and adapt to new ways of teaching; we had to become familiarized with new platforms while attempting our best to accommodate our students and support them emotionally; we had to adapt lessons plans while dealing with care duties and other personal responsibilities. In addition to all these intensive labors, and despite all the adversities that we are all familiar with, the Modern Languages Department faculty continued to develop their interests and flourished in different endeavors—some continued or began research projects, some established collaborations with community partners, some participated in educational and cultural events, some developed curricula, some received important awards and recognition, and some engaged in creative work.

With this Newsletter, we envision to create a space to share our interests and celebrate our numerous achievements, not only our MLD faculty, but also with the entire BMCC community.

We are excited to be back on campus and look forward to celebrate in person with all of you soon!
Professor Paquita Suárez Coalla has two recent book publications. In 2020, she published *Cuentos pequeños y grandes pa dormir y pa quedar espiertos* (Trabe), a book of short stories for children, written in Asturian, and in 2021, a second printing of *La mio vida ye una novela. Testimonios de las Mujeres del Campo de Asturias* (Trabe).

In April 2021, Professor Alejandro Varderi published his latest book of criticism entitled *Cámara, acción, reacción. Cine e intolerancia en Iberoamérica* (Berlin: Peter Lang) This study reflects on different forms of intolerance, as they are shown in recent Spanish and Spanish American films. The book was presented in October via Zoom in a dialogue with professors from the Universidad Carlos III in Madrid and the Universidad de la República in Montevideo. The book has been reviewed in *El Nacional* newspaper in Caracas by Professor Mario Valero (NY Fashion Institute of Technology). Professor Nora Glickman (Queens College and Graduate Center) published an interview with the author in *El Nacional* as well.

In 2021, the book was published in Spanish in Chile as La insubordinación de la fotografía with Editorial Metales Pesados (Professor Donoso Macaya did the translation).

In 2021, Professor Chun-Yi Peng published his book titled Mediatized Taiwanese Mandarin: Popular Culture, Masculinity, and Social Perceptions (Springer). This book explores how language attitudes and ideologies have emerged for Taiwanese Mandarin through televised media. The data presented in this book point to a realignment of attitudes among the Chinese towards Taiwanese Mandarin, a variety traditionally associated with chic, urban television celebrities and young cosmopolitan types. In contrast to Beijing Mandarin, Taiwanese Mandarin is now perceived to be effete and effeminate, mirroring the power dynamics between Taiwan and China.
ARTICLES, ESSAYS, REVIEWS, SHORT-STORIES, AND BLOGS WRITTEN BY MLD FACULTY


Professor Ángeles Donoso Macaya's recent articles have appeared or are forthcoming in The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History, Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies/Travesías, Revista Sueño de la Razón, and Cold War Camera (Duke UP). Her blogs include "Brewing memories, sustaining life in common" (The Distributaries, December 9, 2020); "'Love is the most subversive praxis.' On reading together as a working of love," co-written with Marco Saavedra (The Distributaries, March 10, 2021); “Archives in Common” (Humanities for All, April 6, 2021); and “Researching and Teaching with Feminist Archives: A Reflection” (Commentary Special Series on Community Colleges, TCR, March 10, 2022).

Professor Laurie Lomask's article "Nazarín de Galdós y de Buñuel" came out in the 2021 issue of Anales Galdosianos. She has also published two short fictional pieces in the last year. One in Spanish, "De mi casa-miento" was published in the anthology Hastío (Lima, 2021), and another in Portuguese, "Um quarto próprio," will come out in a chapbook Mulheres nas quebradas from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (forthcoming).


Professor Sophie Mariñez's most recent publications include essays in The Boston Review, Small Axe Salon, The Journal of Haitian Studies, and the prologue of Soñemos juntos: La independencia dominicana, Haití y la lucha por la libertad en el Caribe (2021), by historian Anne Eller (Yale University).
... MORE ARTICLES, ESSAYS, REVIEWS, SHORT-STORIES, AND BLOGS WRITTEN BY MLD FACULTY


Professor Nidia Pullés Linares published the review “José María Heredia in New York, 1823-1825: An Exiled Cuban Poet in the Age of Revolution” in Selected Letters and Verse, 2021 in Literature and Arts of the Americas.

Since September 2021, Professor Paquita Suárez Coalla has been contributing to Nortes magazine, from the newspaper Público. She has published “La savia del idioma”, “El progreso”, “Semeyes de la llingua nel añu de la oficialidá”, “Un adiós difícil a Verónica Forqué y a Georgina Herrera”, among others She also published an essay remembering the Modern Languages teacher Alicia Perdomo, titled “Feliz cumpleaños, Alicia” in ViceVersa Magazine on September 11, 2020.

Professor Alejandro Varderi’s recent published articles include: “Iliana Gómez Berbesí: inventar la vida de los otros,” “El fantasma dictatorio en Latinoamérica,” “Marco Antonio Ettegari en el pulso de nuestra contemporaneidad,” “Especulación y vivienda en España,” and “El terrorismo vasco y sus consecuencias hoy.”
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND KEY NOTE LECTURES GIVEN BY MLD FACULTY

Professor Margaret Carson presented “The Silver Linings of Teaching in the Pandemic.” at the MLA 2022 Conference, in January 2022. She also participated in “A Conversation between Mary Ann Caws and Margaret Carson about Alice Paalen Rahon and Remedios Varo.” at the ISSS Surrealisms Conference, in November 2021.

Professor Ángeles Donoso Macaya gave the 2022 Art School Inaugural Lecture at Universidad Alberto Hurtado in Santiago, Chile (April 6, 2022) and the Key Note Lecture at the 1er Encuentro FoCo, Fotografía Contemporánea, organized by the Instituto Gino Germani, UBA (June 4, 2021). She has given talks about her book at Dartmouth College, NYU, Columbia University, The CUNY Graduate Center, and Virginia Tech, and co-presented about “Archives in Common” at The Feminist Art Project Day of Panels (with Yajaira Saavedra, via zoom) and at Archivo Vital: Archivos de/en pandemia, part of Archivos del Común IV, organized by Red de Conceptualismos del Sur at Museo Reina Sofía (with Carolina Saavedra, in person).

Professor Marilyn Rivera presented the paper “Las masculinidades desde el lente transpersonal” at the XXIX Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos (March 9, 2022).

Professor Germán Garrido gave the inaugural public lecture for the 2021 academic year of the Masters Program in Latin American Studies, at Universidad de Tres de Febrero (virtual), titled “Concepciones del mundo: Cosmopolíticas queer e imaginarios planetarios” on March 17, 2021. He gave the invited public lecture “Queer Revolutions in/and the Third World,” at the Comparative Literature Department, New York University, on October 19, 2020. He also participated in congresses, symposia, and roundtable discussions.
... MORE CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS, BOOK TALKS, AND PERFORMANCES BY MLD FACULTY

Professor Paquita Suárez Coalla presented the paper “Lliteratura neyorquina con acentu asturianu” at the I International Santina Conference, on October 29, 2021. She also made several presentations in Spain of her most recent books: the new printing of La mio vida ye una novela (Trabe, 2021), and the children’s book Cuentos pequeñinos y grandes pa dormir y pa quedar espiertos (Trabe, 2020).


Professor Alejandro Varderi has been invited to present his scholarly and literary work in the III Feria Virtual del Libro in Cajamarca (Perú) that will take place in September. He is also co-organizing, with Dr. Glickman and Dr. Inmaculada Lara-Bonilla (Hostos Community College), the III Summer Literary Workshops in poetry, fiction, and theater during the month of June, as well as the XI yearly issue of Enclave literary magazine sponsored by the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences.

From September 30-October 2, Professor Laurie Lomask organized the IV Congreso Internacional Vallejo Siempre, held at the Roger Smith Hotel in Manhattan. The conference had scholars from 4 continents both in person and virtually, reading their latest research on the poet César Vallejo. It was supported by a City Artist Corps grant and featured a poetry and dance performance (and Professor Marilyn Rivera was one of the poets!). In March 2022, Professor Laurie Lomask traveled to Puerto Rico to perform Bomba, a folkloric Afro-Puerto Rican dance, with the Bronx-based group Bombazo.

Siempre Vallejo Conference flyer.
STUDENT ACTIVITIES, CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT, PUBLIC HUMANITIES AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

Professors Berenice Darwich, Germán Garrido, Laurie Lomask, and Silvia Roig edited the first online version of Acentos Latinos magazine, with contributions by our students.

During the summer of 2020, Professors Ainoa Iñigo and Paquita Suárez Coalla organized a virtual Literary Tertulia with all students who showed interest as a way of coping with the initial difficulties of the pandemic. Students and professors met once a week to discuss different literary pieces and share their own work with the group. At the end of the session an audiovisual document recording their pieces was created. Additionally, the MLD MicroStory contest for students was established during the Fall Semester 2020. The III Edition of the contest is taking place during the current semester, Spring 2022.

In March, Professor Ángeles Donoso Macaya and students from her Latin American Women Writers course attended the inauguration of “The Path of the Heart,” an exhibition of Argentinean visual artist and writer Fernanda Laguna at The Drawing Center, and a public talk given by activist scholar and writer Veronica Gago at Columbia University.

As Faculty Leader of the Public Seminar Archives in Common: Migrant Practices/Knowledges/Memory, she has convened public conversations at The Center for the Humanities with notable guest speakers around current issues: immigration justice and immigration rights activism, mutual aid organizing and accountability, toxic clouds, documenting state repression, food justice, and antiracist work.

Public conversations organized by Professor Ángeles Donoso Macaya, co-sponsored by Archives in Common: with the Saavedra siblings from La Morada restaurant (left), and with Forensic Architecture researchers (right).
On June 20, 2021, Professor Marilyn Rivera created a community action called Taller Playero. She gathered with community kids and youth monthly to offer them free workshops on emotional wellbeing, meditation, art, creative writing, and horticulture. Taller Playero also is involved in the protection of the beaches, wetlands, and mangroves of Puerto Rico.

In April, 2022 Professor Marilyn Rivera co-organized the public events Día del Planeta Tierra and En Defensa de Nuestras Playas in Luquillo, Puerto Rico. She also conducted the workshop “Poesía y creatividad” at the Semana de la Biblioteca, Escuela Superior Isidro A. Sánchez de Puerto Rico (April 4, 2022).

In January 2022, Professor Marilyn Rivera was invited to participated in the first “Tardes de Poetas” of the Editorial del Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña. She also participated in the “Tardes de Poetas II” on February 17th, 2022. She will be participating again in May, 2022.

This current semester, Professor Rivera is creating the course Masculinities in Latin American Literature. Also, she completed the Máster en Terapia Transpersonal granted by Escuela de Atención Transpersonal, Madrid Spain.

Professor Valerie Thiers-Thiam created the asynchronous French IV course and the Young Adult Literature course (Spring 2022), and Intensive Intermediate French course (Fall 2021).

Professor Ainoa Iñigo has been conducting a study with the Gender and Equality Research Group at the University of La Rioja, a comparative analysis about social issues that homosexual immigrant women experience in the US and in Spain.
MLD FACULTY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS AND RESEARCH AWARDS

Professor Ángeles Donoso Macaya was awarded the 2022 FONDART Grant by the Chilean National Council for the Arts and Culture for the project “Archivo Imperfecto. Fotografías de Paz Errázuriz y Textos de Ángeles Donoso Macaya.” She received the 2021 Mellon/ACLS Fellowship for Faculty at Community Colleges to work on the project “The Expanding Feminist Archive of Feminist Movements in Chile.”

Professor Germán Garrido got PSC-CUNY Awards in the most recent three cycles (2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023). This support has helped him to expand his ongoing, long-term research project on the transnational scope of Latin American and US Latinx LGBTQ activism and literature, with a focus on the 1970s and 1980s.

Professor Ainoa Iñigo received a Faculty Development Award (2021) to complete a Master Degree in LGBTIQ+ studies at University Complutense of Madrid and create a 400 course about LGBTIQ+ Literature in Spanish during her sabbatical year.

Professor Ling Luo was awarded a PSC-CUNY Research Award (Traditional B) to work on her project “Teaching Mandarin Using Virtual Reality 2022-2023”.

Professor Sophie Mariñez has received two nationally-competitive awards for her book project Spirals in the Caribbean: Representing Violence in Haiti and the Dominican Republic: the 2021 Mellon/ACLS Fellowship for Faculty at Community Colleges and the 2022 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend Award.

Professor Chun-Yi Peng was awarded the Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowship for his project “The Acquisition of Mandarin by Migrant Workers in Taiwan: Diversity, Pedagogy, and Community.” This project explores how migrant workers in Taiwan acquire Mandarin through the lens of the migrant worker, the language instructor, and Taiwanese society.

Professor Paquita Suárez-Coalla has been recently awarded with the PSC-CUNY Grant 2022-2023. TRADA 53 to work on her project Stories, Photographs and Voices of 17 Women from the Spanish Countryside in the 20th Century: An Audiovisual Narrative.

Professor Valerie Thiers-Thiam received a Cycle 53 PSC-CUNY Research Award.

Professor Maria Enrico was one of four teachers nationwide to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Italian Language Foundation.
... MORE PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS AND RESEARCH AWARDS FOR THE MLD FACULTY!

Professors Rachel Corkle, Ángeles Donoso Macaya, and Sophie Marín ez, have been recently appointed to the doctoral faculty of the Ph.D. Programs in French (Rachel and Sophie) and Latin American, Iberian, and Latino Cultures (Ángeles) at The Graduate Center.

Professor Germán Garrido was invited by the peer-reviewed journal CHUY: Revista de Estudios Literarios Latinoamericanos to guest edit and coordinate a dossier on the topic of his choosing, “Latin American planetary imaginaries”, for which he wrote the introduction and selected articles to be submitted to peer review (July 2021)

Professor Sophie Marín ez taught graduate courses on Haiti and the Dominican Republic at the Graduate Center in fall 2021 and, in fall 2020, for the MA in Human Rights offered at City College’s Division of Interdisciplinary Studies. In April 2022, she was named Series Editor of the Caribbean Series at Brill, a long-standing academic press in Europe. In addition, in June 2020, the Modern Languages Association’s Executive Council appointed her to serve in its Committee on Community Colleges. In the fall 2021, she was invited as a Visiting Scholar at the University of Connecticut (Storrs), where she gave a talk on her research, workshopped a chapter-in-progress from her manuscript Spirals in the Caribbean: Representing Violence in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, and met with recently-hired faculty of color to talk about the challenges of winning tenure and surviving emotionally in a White-dominated university environment based on her earlier experience teaching at a private liberal arts college.

In 2021, Sophie won the BMCC’s Distinguished Teaching Award!
A COLLEAGUE TOOK TO PAINTING TO LIFT UP THE SPIRIT

French Adjunct Lecturer Elizabeth Manukian shared that the one hobby that intensified for her due to the pandemic, to extra home time, and a lack and longing to visit art museums was her painting. All works were inspired by French 19th century Impressionist and post-Impressionist painters, her favorite art period and area of Graduate study.

Below are some of the paintings she made.

#1 Inspired by Claude Monet's afternoon Antibes sun from viewpoint of La Salis

#2 Auguste Renoir, "Moulin de la Galette"

#3 "Iris" by Vincent Van Gogh (above)

#4 Terrasse de café la nuit" by Vincent Van Gogh (right). (Shared with the Van Gogh community on Facebook with 2.4K Likes).
NOW BMCC STUDENTS CAN GRADUATE WITH 2 CREDENTIALS

WHAT:
Students in eligible majors can graduate with both an Associate’s degree and a Certificate in Spanish/English translation using the 60 AA credits. [15 credits in Spanish/English translation courses]

WHO is eligible:
- Modern Languages (AA) majors with concentration in Spanish or Translation,
- Liberal Arts students
- Other majors with curricular space between Pathways flexible core and electives

HOW:
- Students should consult with their major advisor to see if MLD translation and interpretation courses can count towards their Pathways Flexible Core and your major and general electives.
- Students can also graduate and come back to BMCC to continue with their TRS courses so they can obtain their certificate in translation.

PRE-REQUISITES:
- Intermediate Spanish proficiency or above (check with the Modern Languages Department).