



L to R: Jessica McLamb and Angelette Stevens give their presentations at the UG Expo.

WCUSPANISH students rock their research presentations at Undergraduate Expo, NCUR

Angelette Stevens, a Spanish B.S.Ed. student, and **Jessica McLamb**, a student in Pre-Forensic Science with a Spanish minor, both presented at WCU's [Undergraduate Expo](#) in March. Stevens chose the topic of her presentation, "**Cuban Healthcare and the Fight Against AIDS,**" after a trip to Cuba in October 2013 that piqued her interest in the island nation. McLamb's presentation, "**El sistema nacional de salud de España: A look into Spain's healthcare system,**" was the result of independent research she conducted after studying in Spain in May 2013, particularly personal interviews with a Spanish hospital administrator. McLamb gave another presentation on the same topic a few days later at [NCUR](#), the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, held on campus at the University of Kentucky.

DEPARTMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE ASSISTS LOCAL RESIDENTS AND PETS

Students already know that when something gets done in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, chances are that its administrative associate, **Melissa Allen**, had something to do with it. From the moment they take placement tests to when they apply for graduation, Spanish students all rely on her.

What they probably don't know is that on top of her top-notch work with MFL, Allen also keeps herself busy volunteering for [AniMeals](#) with the [Department on Aging](#) Meals and Nutrition Program through WCU's employee community service benefit. This program provides pet food for qualifying elderly residents in Jackson County. In addition to her weekly pet food preparation duties, Allen was able to identify a grant to assist this program: The [Banfield Charitable Trust](#) granted \$1,500 to be used toward the cost of pet food, medication, veterinarian visits, and grooming. The county's elderly residents take comfort knowing their pets will be provided for, which keeps the animals out of shelters.



WCUSPANISH student wins scholarship for study abroad

The Dixie and Miles McGinty Scholarship is awarded to students fluent in a foreign language who will use the funds to study abroad. This year's recipient of the award is **Tiffany Losada**, who is majoring in Spanish and Sports Management. Losada will study in Valencia, Spain this summer with the WCU en Valencia program and will remain in that city until September to complete an internship.

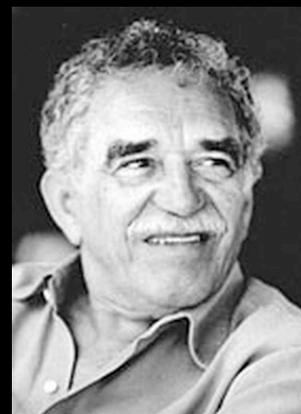


¡Enhorabuena, Tiffany!

Dean's Outstanding Scholar chosen for WCUSpanish program

On April 1st, at the ceremony to recognize Outstanding Scholars in the College of Arts & Sciences, Dean Richard Starnes presented awards from programs across the College. The **WCUSpanish** scholar for 2014 was **Margaret ("Mattie") Horine**, a Spanish major with a minor in Business Law.

Gabriel García Márquez, the Nobel Prize winner best known for his contributions to the Latin American "Boom," died April 17. If you want to learn more about this talented writer who shaped the world's view of Latin American literature, you can take SPAN 493 in Fall 2014, which will focus entirely on his most famous novel, *Cien años de soledad*.



 "El cuerpo humano no está hecho para los años que uno podría vivir."
 -*Del amor y otros demonios*



Quiz Bowl at Foreign Language Contest

Local high school students compete in WCU's Ramsey Center at the Quiz Bowl. [Carolina Day School](#) in Asheville won the event.

Foreign Language Contest attracts local high school students

Every spring, buses full of students from western North Carolina descend on Ramsey Center to compete in the Foreign Language Contest.

The students participate in competitions like extemporaneous speaking, music, skits, poetry recitation, how-to explanations, and quiz bowl events. WCU faculty and students in advanced classes serve as judges at the events, which culminate in a ceremony with presentation of awards to the winning schools.

WCUSPANHISH STUDENT PROFILES TISHA CARVER

Where are you from?

I was born and raised in Waynesville like a large majority of my family. But a fun fact about that would be that my family has lived in Waynesville since before the Civil War and fought in the last battle in North Carolina. I guess that's the history nerd in me.

Where have you traveled?

I have traveled to every state in the south except the delta states. Out of the country, I've been to Jamaica, where I did service work in orphanages, a home for unwed teen moms, and an elementary school. And I went to Cuba.

What are your majors, and why did you choose them?

I'm a history and Spanish major. I chose history mainly because I love it and eventually want to teach at a college level. I also extremely enjoy research so it goes hand in hand. I chose Spanish because I've always wanted to speak Spanish. My sparked interest began with an elementary school friend whose older sister only spoke Spanish. I was completely fascinated when they would speak to each other. After spending the past ten years studying Spanish, I am absolutely enthralled by the rich history and culture of Spanish speaking countries. I can definitely foresee myself including that in my research in the future, as well as for personal interest.

You read a LOT. What are some of the most meaningful things you've read?

What is probably the most meaningful thing you've read in Spanish?

Picking the most meaningful thing I've read would be like choosing which limb I want to lose. I think everything I read, in English and in Spanish, resonates differently with me. I always try to find the deeper meaning and importance of something. Everyone writes for a reason and I enjoy finding the meanings. But if I must choose something that's the most important in English would be *At the Dark End of the Street* by Danielle McGuire. It is an eye opening and mind blowing piece. I recommend it to any- and everyone. In Spanish I haven't read much recently, but my favorite piece is "El matadero" by Esteban Echeverría. Who doesn't love a little political allegory?

What are you reading now?

I'm currently attempting [Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's](#) works. She has a [TED talk about gender](#) that I recommend to everyone.

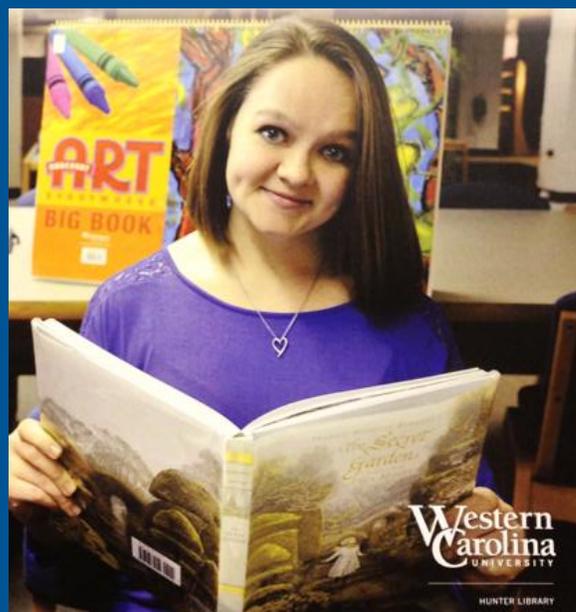
What will you do after graduation?

I'll be attending [Simmons College](#) in Boston for a dual masters degree in history and library sciences.



Above: Tisha with her mother, Darlene Carver.

Below: In 2013, Tisha was named Outstanding Student Worker at Hunter Library for her work in the Curriculum Materials Center there.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

WCUSPANISH

SPANISH PROGRAM PROFESSORS PRESENT/PUBLISH RESEARCH

- **Santiago García-Castañón** recently published an article, “Don Quixote and the Ethics of Power,” in the *Annals of the University of Craiova* (Romania).
- **Alberto Centeno-Pulido, Santiago García-Castañón, and Lori Oxford** all presented elements of their work at the XIII Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica in Cartagena, Colombia in March. Centeno-Pulido presented on [Argentinian-American singer-songwriter Kevin Johansen](#) (“‘*Sur o no sur*: That is [un] hueso’: *El humor como elemento de hibridación cultural en las letras de Kevin Johansen*”), Oxford spoke about a novel by [contemporary Cuban novelist Pedro Juan Gutiérrez](#) (“*Desencanto, muerte y heterotopía en Animal tropical de Pedro Juan Gutiérrez*”) and García Castañón presented his work on Spaniards in the Far East in the 1600s (“*La expansión española en el Lejano Oriente en el siglo XVI: varia fortuna de una crónica olvidada*”).
- **Will Lehman** presented his work on “Flipping the Language Classroom: Opportunities and Obstacles” at the Southeast Conference for Languages, Literatures, and Film in Tampa, Florida in February.

WaLC TUTORING AVAILABLE

The [Writing and Learning Commons](#), or WaLC, is offering tutoring for this semester in Spanish with four student tutors. If you think you’ll need help in any of these classes, call 227-2274 or go online to make an appointment. If you’re interested in becoming a tutor, talk to the faculty member teaching the class with which you’d like to work.

¡TERTULIA!

Thursday, April 24th at 4:00

Wednesday, April 30th at 2:00

Come practice your Spanish with us! The weekly *tertulia*, or Spanish conversation hour, will allow you to practice speaking or just listen. All Spanish professors offer extra credit for attending, and this can be one more step in your path to proficiency. All *tertulias* this semester will take place at Tuck’s Tap & Grille.

Upper level offerings in Spanish for Fall 2014:

SPAN 301 - Conversation and Composition

SPAN 321 - Hispanic Cultures

SPAN 333 - South American Literature and Culture

SPAN 452 - Advanced Spanish Conversation

SPAN 493 - *Cien años de soledad* (Special Topics)



Do you know a student in the Spanish program with an interesting story? Is there an event of interest to Spanish study that we should announce here? Let us know! Contact Lori Oxford at lfoxford@wcu.edu.



¡Muchas gracias!