

Your Investment in Languages, Literatures and Cultures Education at the University at Albany

The gift of communication with other peoples and cultures is a treasure for a lifetime that enhances many lives. You can be part of that. As is the case with many humanities programs in state institutions, LLC is limited financially in its ability to offer varied opportunities across its many languages to further enrich students' experiences. Your contribution as an alumnus, friend or sponsoring business will help develop well-rounded, culturally competent, and internationally sensitive students who go on to use the language skills obtained here in many different settings, be these business or diplomacy, education or the media, social services or tourism, the legal profession or overseas development work.

History

The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures was formed out of several smaller departments: French, German, Slavic, and Hispanic and Italian. Currently, several other languages are also taught under the LLC umbrella: Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Latin, ancient Greek and, most recently, Arabic. Today we are a vibrant department embracing the many different languages and cultures represented by faculty who have connections to over 40 different countries. We celebrate our unity and diversity in a variety of ways: holding research conferences, bringing in guest speakers, organizing foreign film festivals and other international events. To take but one example, last fall our students participated in a play written in both Spanish and English that explored what it means today to be both Hispanic and American and living in New York City. We are actively moving to implement technology-enhanced language pedagogy, largely through our new Center for Languages and International Communications (CLIC).

We Welcome Your Involvement and Support

How can you help enhance learning, teaching and research opportunities for LLC students and faculty? There are many different ways – some are listed below, and you may well come up with others. You may wish to designate your gift for a specific purpose or for a specific language, or you may choose to make an unrestricted gift, one that would allow the department to use it as it is most needed. Here are some examples of how different levels of contributions might be used:

A contribution of \$200 would allow us to:

- Help underwrite student and faculty workshops and conferences
- purchase a specialized documentary film that may be used in one of our culture courses
- help support activities of student “language tables” and clubs

A contribution of \$500 to \$1000 would allow us to:

- offer a new LLC merit-based prize or scholarship for one year
- help an LLC undergraduate or graduate student participate in an overseas study program
- provide a travel grant for a graduate student to attend a national conference at which he/she will present a paper and thus improve his/her professional prospects

A contribution of \$2500 would allow us to:

- fund a distinguished guest speaker or a significant cultural event
- pay for the production and distribution of the LLC Newsletter (your name appearing as sponsor on the newsletter)
- update the hardware and software in the CLIC language center (your name recognized as a center sponsor)
- hold a major international conference at the University at Albany, with participants from overseas (your name featured as a sponsor in the conference program)

Of course, we welcome unrestricted gifts – at any level – that would permit the Department to respond to unexpected opportunities and needs. We also are glad to receive in-kind donations, but ask that you check with us in advance.

How to Donate

Making a gift is not difficult and will mean so much to our current and future students – linguaphiles, language professionals, true citizens of a global community. **All levels of contributions are welcome.** For more information, visit www.albany.edu/giving and follow the link to **make a gift** online: please remember to designate your gift specifically for the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Alternatively, please contact Mike Messitt, Assistant Dean for Development, College of Arts and Sciences, at (518) 437-3626 or mmessitt@albany.edu.

Your Legacy

Please also consider providing for LLC and its languages in your estate planning. Since May 2003, 15 students have received merit awards from LLC's endowed funds, totaling \$7300. Your generous support helps aspiring language students with excellent potential to pursue and achieve their goals.