



# *The Communique* of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics

**SPRING UPDATE**

## LLL Students can **SPEAK THE GAME**

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics is excited to kick off its new campaign to educate students about the ways that foreign language can bolster job opportunities. The campaign focuses on the World Cup, which is hosted every four years. Not only does the sport bring together speakers of many languages and from all around the world, but it also creates thousands of jobs each year for which foreign language proficiency is highly preferred.



Check out our social media to keep up with events associated with the campaign, such as the Mini World Cup in March, to see how students can come together across languages for one, united goal. You can also learn about the ways that a foreign language education can serve you when looking for a career.

Our goal? To speak the game!

**GOAL: SPEAK THE GAME**

**LEARN THE LANGUAGES OF  
WORLD CUP 2026**

# GIVE TO BLUE day

April 16, 2026



Save the date! Give to Blue Day is an opportunity to support Indiana State University students, scholarships, and programs. Contributions make it possible for departments like Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics to take students on class trips, host engaging events and activities, and more!

Visit [givetoblue.indianastate.edu](https://givetoblue.indianastate.edu) to learn more!

# LLL Year in Review



## Sycamores in St. Louis

Classics professor Marilyn Bisch took students to St. Louis in September. The trip, sponsored by the Honors College, brought students to the St. Louis Science Center to see an exhibition on Pompeii. Afterwards, students got to visit the St. Louis Art Museum.

## Happy Ha-LLL-oween!

On Halloween, LLL faculty and students came together for our very first Ha-LLL-oween event! Students could walk through the hallway and get sweet treats from our costumed faculty.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Classics Fest

Classics Fest turns 20! Whoo-hoo! On Halloween, Classics Fest saw 204 students in attendance. Students presented their research, played games, and won fun prizes. The Greeks prevailed in our semesterly game of *Simultas Familiarum*, a Classics version of Family Feud!

# LLL Year in Review



## 2025 Symposium

LLL's graduate student, Soobin Kim, presented in the Fall semester at the 2025 International Symposium of Korean Education System and Culture, hosted by the Bayh College of Education.

## CAS Fall Fest

LLL faculty made an appearance at the 2025 College of Arts and Sciences Fall Fest. It was an afternoon of trick-or-treating, scavenger hunts, trivia, and, of course, a costume contest!



## How To Say BAT!



Language	Word for "bat"	Pronunciation
Spanish	murciélagos	/mur.θje.la.ɣo/
French	chauve-souris	/ʃov.su.ʁi/
Japanese	こうもり	/kou.mo.ri/
Korean	박쥐	/bak.jwi/
Latin	vespertilio	/wes.per.ti.li.o/
Ancient Greek	νυκτερίς	/njk.te.ris/

## LLL Gets Batty

The LLL faculty partook in the annual Bat Festival! Participants learned about how to say "bat" in many languages and played games guessing the concentration of bat populations around the world.

# LLL Year in Review



## Hispanic Heritage Month

In September, Indiana State students enjoyed a night of stories, music, dance, and fashion during the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, hosted by the Hispanic Latino Alliance (HLA).

## Korean Culture Festival

In January, students got the opportunity to be immersed in Korean culture by attending the Korean Culture Festival. Here, LLL graduate student Soobin Kim poses with other Korean language students, dressed in traditional attire.



## Romance Spelling Bee

In celebration of Valentine's Day, LLL held its first annual Romance Languages Spelling Bee! Students showed off their skills in spelling words in their target language, practiced translation, and tested their knowledge in etymology.. The prize? Sweet treats!

# LLL Year in Review



## Spring Classics Fest

LLL and Eta Sigma Phi held its 21<sup>st</sup> annual Classics Fest in March! Three Honors College students had the opportunity to present their research on ancient dyes, the origins of the Olympics, and fashion in ancient Rome.

## Eskenazi Adventure

The month of March saw professors Marilyn Bisch and Matt Bird take Honors College students to the Eskenazi Museum of Art at Indiana University. Students then could grab lunch, visit other museums, and explore IU!



## 2026 Mini World Cup

LLL reignited its Mini World Cup tradition! In March, students of French, Japanese, Spanish, and members of the Hispanic-Latino Alliance (HLA) took to the field for some friendly competition.

# Faculty Highlights

**Dr. Keri Yousif** is concluding her first year as department chair. Her most recent article, "Family Frames: Mathilde Bonaparte's *Mémoires inédits* and the Politics of Re/Presentation" has been accepted for publication in *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies*.

**Professor Marilyn Bisch** was recognized with the Faculty Sycamore Shout Out in August for "continually going above and beyond for the campus community."

**Dr. Calvin** has been nominated for the Excellence in Service Award for the College of Arts and Sciences in recognition of outstanding dedication and service.

**Dr. Lucy Campbell** has been nominated for the Spring 2026 Outstanding Faculty Award. She was also recognized with the Faculty Sycamore Shout Out in June 2025. Over the past five years, her work has focused on expanding experiential learning, strengthening mentorship through the Hispanic Latino Alliance (HLA), leading recruitment initiatives as Hispanic Counselor for Admissions, and creating inclusive learning environments that support Hispanic and first-generation students. In February 2026, Dr. Campbell was sworn in as a member of the Terre Haute Human Relations Commission. Dr. Campbell commented that "this community has given me so much, both personally and professionally... able to serve in this role feels like another way to give back."

**Dr. Melanie D'Amico** was named Faculty Fellow for the Center for Education Abroad in August. She works with faculty, staff, and students on faculty-led and traditional study-abroad programs.

**Dr. Cody Hanson** was appointed Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences in May 2025. Dr. Hanson continues to travel on medical service brigades to Ecuador with our university student chapter of Timmy Global Health. The Indiana State University group spends two weeks traveling in Ecuador with US medical professionals and Ecuadorian non-profit to provide primary healthcare clinics to rural, impoverished communities high in the Andes mountains.

**Dr. Scott Sterling** and his collaborators were awarded a National Science Foundation grant for their ongoing project titled "AI-related Questionable Research Practices (QRPs) in Academic Publishing: An Exploratory Incubation Project." Dr. Sterling also participated in the annual convention for the Modern Language Association (MLA) in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Sterling was an invited speaker for a panel titled: "How Can We Reverse Enrollment Trends in Language Programs in the United States and Canada?"

**Dr. Brian José** presented a poster titled "Broadcast Standard (American??) English: A BBC Perspective" in September at the 15th biennial United Kingdom Language Variation and Change (UKLVC 15) conference at Lancaster University. This followed up on and expanded on related presentations to the American Dialect Society and the Linguistic Society of America the year before.

**Ms. Soobin Kim** presented on "Teaching Korean Beyond Language, Bridging Culture and Connection" at the semi-annual Korean Culture Festival.

**Dr. Yukiko Takahashi** was awarded a grant by the University Arts and Research Committee to pursue her study on "Developing a VR-Lite AI Chatbot for Pragmatic and Communicative Competence in Japanese Language Learning." This year Dr. Takahashi also completed all of her preliminary doctoral exams.

# Alumna Spotlight- Ashley Washburn



Indiana State University alumna Ashley Washburn recently won a grand prize on Season 4 of the game show "The Floor," a trivia game in which contestants face off with each other in expert categories. Ashley graduated with a LLL minor in 2020 and studied Latin and Greek. One of the categories that she won with was "Ancient Greece." Ashley has said that she plans to visit Greece with her winnings. Congratulations, Ashley!

Want to stay informed about LLL events? Scan the QR codes below for the department's social media!

**INSTAGRAM**



**FACEBOOK**



**STUDENT ROOT**



## Photo Credits

Matt Bird: 6 middle; Marilyn Bisch: 3 top, provided 6 middle; Lisa Calvin: 6 top; Keri Yousif: provided 6 bottom; Soobin Kim: provided 4 top, provided 5 middle; LLL Dept: provided 3 middle, provided 5 bottom.