

**Universidad de Puerto Rico
Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez
Decanato: Artes y Ciencias**

Informe Anual 2016– 2017

Sometido por:

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Director Interino**

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Información General del Decanato y Unidades Adscritas

DEPARTAMENTO DE INGLÉS

A. Misión y Visión

The English Department, which exists in an academic environment in which English is a Second Language, addresses the needs of all students who enter the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. It directs its efforts towards the development of educated, responsible, and cultured citizens and professionals in English and its disciplines, including Linguistics, Literature, Writing and Communication, English Education, and English as a Second Language. Graduates of departmental programs will be qualified to contribute in an effective manner to the social, cultural, and economic development of Puerto Rico and the world at large. The English Department focuses its efforts and initiatives equally in three fundamental areas: instruction, research and creative work, and service to the university community.

MAEE Mission Statement

The Master of Arts in English Education (MAEE) program directs its efforts toward preparing professionals from Puerto Rico and abroad with the theoretical and practical knowledge in linguistics, literature, and pedagogy and the social awareness necessary to meet the educational needs of the learners they encounter. We address students' needs to think critically in a complex, culturally diverse, highly technological world in order to continue on a path of life-long learning which will enable students to develop to their fullest potential.

B. Descripción y Funciones

As stated in the Strategic Planning documents of the UPRM and the College of Arts and Sciences (2012), the vision of the University of Puerto Rico is to be a leading institution in higher education and guarantee that our students receive the best education through strengthening the research, teaching, and creative endeavors of our faculty and administration. The Department of English, a department within the College of Arts and Sciences, we continue to refine this fundamental goal in this strategic planning document.

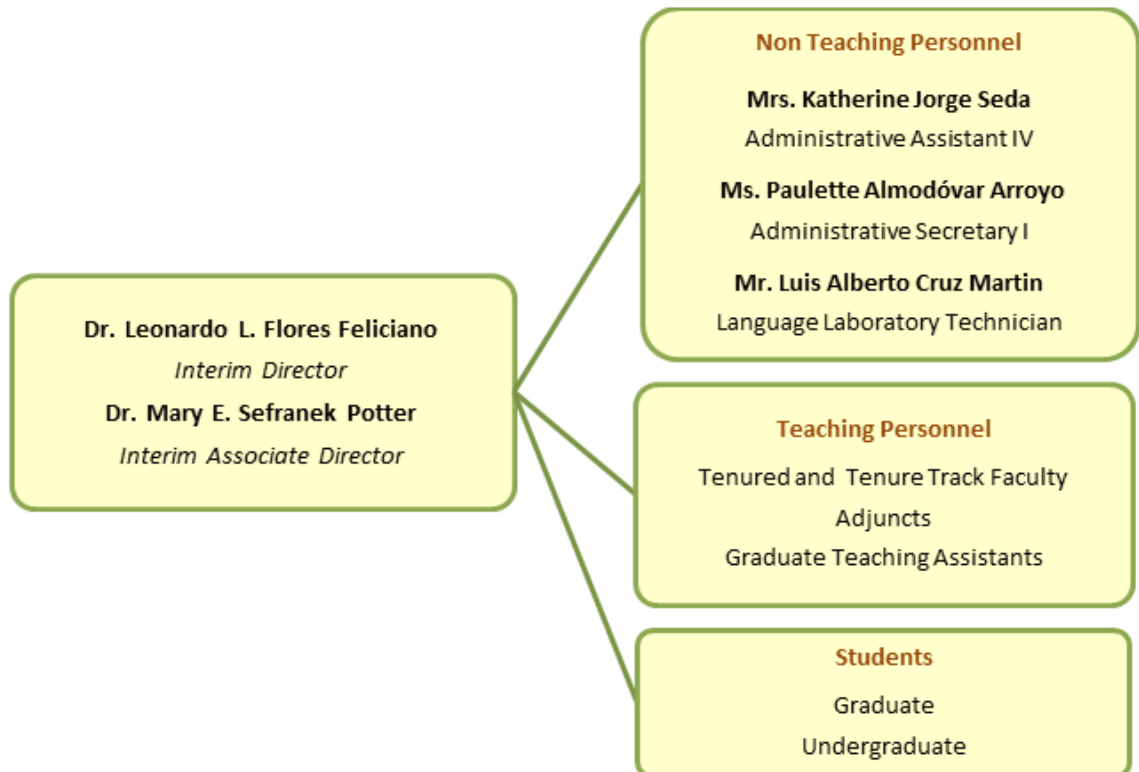
The English Department's role in the university is threefold. First, it serves all university students who enter as freshmen through its gateway, or general education, courses. As each student is required to enroll in either 6 to 12 credits of English, depending on their ESLAT scores, courses at three levels are offered to meet their needs. Students fall into ESL courses which are taught in accordance with their proficiency level in English: Basic English (INGL 3101-02), or Intermediate English (INGL 3103-04). Students who pass the advanced English exam on the College Board take 6 credits of Advanced English (INGL 3211-12) and are waived from the other six credits.

The English Department is also a department in its own right which offers two tracks leading to a BA in English: Literature and Linguistics. A third track, Writing and Communication, has been proposed and the courses are in line, and pending approval from the Academic Senate.

The MAEE, Master in English Education is the third important part of the English Department. This program serves students who wish to become English educators or who intend to pursue doctoral studies. Within the MAEE, students have the opportunity to teach the proficiency entrance courses described above and are eligible for teaching assistantships. To gain teaching proficiency, they must enroll in a 1-credit course over three semesters in teacher-training. There is also a plan for a Masters in English Literature. Courses have been developed and some are in the process, and the program awaits approval.

C. Estructura Organizacional

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH ORGANIGRAM



Perfil del Departamento

- a. Programas académicos
 - Bachelor of Arts in English (Linguistics or Literature Track)
 - Master of Arts in English Education
 - Teacher Preparation Program (English)
 - Minor in Writing and Communication in English
 - Film Certificate

- b. Matrícula subgraduada y graduada por programa académico
 - Undergraduate Program 183
 - Graduate Program 54
 - Teacher Preparation Program (English) 8
 - Minor in Writing and Communication in English 26
 - Film Certificate 30

- c. Grados otorgados por programa académico
 - Bachelor of Arts in English (Linguistics or Literature Track) 22
 - Master of Arts in English Education 7
 - Teacher Preparation Program (English) 8
 - Minor in Writing and Communication in English 0
 - Film Certificate 14

- d. Personal docente y no docente
 - Tenured and Tenure Track Faculty 30
 - Adjuncts 8
 - Graduate Teaching Assistants 38
 - Non-Teaching Personnel 3

Informe de iniciativas, actividades y logros de acuerdo al Plan Estratégico

- A. Logros asociados a la misión institucional
- B. Institucionalizar una cultura de Planificación Estratégica y Avalúo
 - a. Desarrollo y actualización de métricas
 - b. Iniciativas para mejoramiento basadas en las métricas
 - c. Avalúo de resultados
 - d. Recursos asignados para atender los objetivos del plan estratégico
 - e. Esfuerzos relacionados con acreditación
- C. Estar a la vanguardia de la educación superior en Puerto Rico garantizando que nuestros alumnos reciben la mejor educación
 - a. Revisiones curriculares (Decanato de Asuntos Académicos): **no**
 - b. Nuevos programas académicos: TESOL Certificate, Writing and Communication Minor
 - c. Reconocimiento al personal docente: English Department Blog
 - d. Iniciativas para fortalecer la enseñanza: **University Teaching Development**
 - 1. Desarrollo e implementación de metodologías de enseñanza: Google Apps for Education
 - 2. Uso de tecnología en el salón de clases: Google Apps for Education
 - 3. Actividades de capacitación al personal docente: Google Apps for Education
 - e. Acuerdos de colaboración: **no**
 - f. Participación de estudiantes en competencias y actividades académicas: **diversas conferencias.**
 - g. Fortalecimiento de instalaciones para uso académico: Apoyo técnico y mantenimiento.
 - 1. Mejoras a instalaciones: **No**
 - 2. Adquisición de equipo especializado: **No**
 - i. Oferta académica
 - ii. Divulgación de logros de índole académica
- D. Aumentar y Diversificar las Fuentes de Ingreso de la Institución: **No**
 - a. Iniciativas para obtención de fondos
 - b. Fondos recibidos
 - c. Ingresos propios y uso destinado
- E. Implementar Procesos Administrativos Ágiles y Eficientes
 - a. Automatización de procesos: Implementación de Google Drive para documentos compartidos y de trabajo del Departamento.
 - b. Procesos revisados: avalúo y rediseño de procesos administrativos
 - c. Establecimiento y documentación de procedimientos administrativos internos: **sí**
 - d. Avalúo de procesos administrativos: **sí**
 - e. Actividades de mejoramiento dirigidas al personal administrativo y de apoyo: adiestramiento continuo en Google Apps for Education
 - f. Reconocimiento al personal no docente: **A través del blog.**

F. Fortalecer la Investigación y Labor Creativa Competitiva

- a. Cantidad de fondos externos recibidos, por fuente, para investigación y labor creativa:
 - a. Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades: \$23,700
 - b. USDA/NIFA: \$213,722
- b. Total de propuestas sometidas y aprobadas, por departamento: 2
- c. Cantidad de proyectos de investigación y labor creativa nuevos y en progreso: 29
- d. Descripción breve de proyectos de mayor relevancia, ya sean nuevos o en progreso:
 - a. La literatura electrónica en Puerto Rico: Divulgando el futuro de la palabra
 - b. Preparing Hispanic Students for Internship Experiences through Experiential Learning and English Enhancement
 - c. Certificado de Cine
- e. Descripción breve de resultados de proyectos de investigación y labor creativa de mayor impacto
 - a. La divulgación mediante publicaciones y presentaciones del Departamento de Inglés es enorme. De lo que tenemos reportado, nuestro impacto en el campo es masivo.
 - b. El Certificado de Cine adiestra no solamente al talento cineasta puertorriqueño, sino que nutre la divulgación y mercadeo de iniciativas en todo el Recinto.
- f. Iniciativas para involucrar a los estudiantes en proyectos de investigación y labor creativa:
 - a. Certificado de Cine
 - b. Digital Humanities Internship
 - c. Proyecto Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades
- g. Cantidad de acuerdos de colaboración para investigación y descripción breve (propósito, vigencia y nombre de la agencia)
- h. Publicaciones y presentaciones más relevantes: 29 publicaciones, principalmente en el 2do semestre.
- i. Ayudantías graduadas para investigación y cátedra (cantidad y monto otorgado): 75 ayudantías: \$156,298.34

G. Impactar a Nuestra Sociedad Puertorriqueña

- a. Iniciativas para promover mentalidad empresarial y liderazgo entre los estudiantes
 - a. Certificado de Cine
 - b. innovation Tracks: Cine y Digital Media
- b. Iniciativas para promover los valores de ética, justicia y honestidad
- c. Actividades dirigidas a estudiantes y jóvenes en edad escolar
 - a. Linda Rodríguez: Puppet Shows
 - b. Leonardo Flores: Talleres Literatura Electrónica
- d. Divulgación de logros e iniciativas de la institución que redunden en beneficio a la comunidad
 - a. Leonardo Flores: Columna 80 Grados

H. Fortalecer el Sentido de Pertenencia y “Orgullo Colegial”

- a. Mejoramiento en servicios ofrecidos a los estudiantes
- b. Actividades de organizaciones estudiantiles
- c. Actividades para promover vínculos con ex alumnos
- d. Donativos recibidos de los ex alumnos
- e. Acuerdos de colaboración con agencias gubernamentales, sector privado y diversas entidades

- f. Actividades dirigidas a la comunidad en general
- g. Actividades dirigidas a la comunidad universitaria
- h. Mejoras a la infraestructura y edificaciones

Apéndice

Department of English Achievements and Announcements

April 6, 2017

Announcements

- **Classes suspended today (April 6) from 6:00 pm onward** so students can attend their assembly.
- Please send your course promos, and/or flyers by e-mail to leonardo.flores@upr.edu.
- Registration process
- The Orientation committee is organizing the following two events:
 - Undergraduate Mixer: Thursday, April 20 (Wednesday Schedule) 6:00-7:30 pm in CH-326.
 - Graduating Student Semi-Formal Celebration: Friday, May 12 from 5:00-7:00 pm
- **Personnel Committee paperwork and deadlines** (sent to department faculty via electronic mail):
 - Please submit completed annual evaluation files to Kathy Jorge by Monday, April 17, 2017 at 4:00 pm.
- Grant opportunities:
 - [NEH Awards for Faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions](#) - deadline: April 12.
 - [NEH Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic Serving Institutions](#) - deadline: June 22.
 - [Fulbright Scholar Program](#) - deadline: August 1.
 - Other grant opportunities:
 - [Grants.gov Humanities Grants](#)
 - [Grants.gov Education Grants](#)

Achievements

- Leonardo Flores:
 - Recent publications in [my 80 Grados column](#):
 - [“Como crear un \(ro\)bot de protesta en 4 pasos”](#) March 24, 2017.
 - Participated in the Venturewell Open Conference in Washington D.C. from March 23 to 25
- Mary Leonard:
 - Participated in the Venturewell Open Conference in Washington D.C. from March 23 to 25
 - Moderated a conversation with Spanish film director Jaime Chávarri at UPRM on April 4, as part of the Hecho en Europa Film Festival in Mayagüez, a collaboration between our student organization Cinematheque and the Alliance Française of Puerto Rico. Other events of the Hecho en Europa festival in Mayagüez: the presentation of the 2013 French film, Les Lendesmains, on April 4, and the presentation of the short films competing in the festival's competition for Puerto Rican filmmakers, followed by a question and answer session with the filmmakers on April 19.

Linda M. Rodriguez Guglielmoni:

- Presented 4 puppet shows, *Nena y sus Amigos se Van de Paseo por Nuestra Tierra*, at Feria Agricola 5 Dias con Nuestra Tierra (March 15-18). Many of her Film and Creative Writing students helped out and participated in the shows.
- Presented *Nena y sus Amigos se Van de Paseo por Nuestra Tierra* at MUSA on March 24 for the students of RUM Pre-Escolar Center.
- Presented *Nena y sus Amigos se Van de Paseo por Nuestra Tierra* at Biblioteca del Centro Cultural de Mayaguez on April 4. Reading was open to the public and elementary students from a local public school.
- Moderated the panel, Genero y Textos Literarios, XI Coloquio Nacional de las Mujeres, April 5.

Department of English Achievements and Announcements

March 16, 2017

Announcements

- Grant opportunities:
 - ["Changing Campus Culture of Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking: Pathways to Innovation Grant Program"](#) - \$2,500 for interdisciplinary collaborative projects. Deadline March 31, 2017.
 - [NEH Awards for Faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions](#) - deadline: April 12.
 - [NEH Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic Serving Institutions](#) - deadline: June 22.
 - [Fulbright Scholar Program](#) - deadline: August 1.
 - Other grant opportunities:
 - [Grants.gov Humanities Grants](#)
 - [Grants.gov Education Grants](#)
- María Quintero will be presenting at the National African American Association's (NAAAS) Joint International Conference at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa on Derek Walcott's *Omeros*.
- PCSA would like to inform you that the 3rd Annual Academic Popular Culture Conference has been moved May 5th-6th. An extended Call For Papers is now running until April 1st for undergrad, graduate students, and professors from all majors within the UPR system are invited to present their research. Info on the CFP can be found [here](#).
- **Personnel Committee paperwork and deadlines** (sent to department faculty via electronic mail):
 - Please submit completed annual evaluation files to Kathy Jorge by Monday, April 17, 2017 at 4:00 pm.
 - For class visitations from the PC, please submit a completed request form (sent by electronic mail) to Gayle Griggs by no later than March 20, 2017. The PC will conduct class visits from Monday, March 27 through Thursday, April 6, 2017.

Achievements

- Maria Quintero:
 - Presented a paper on the role of the beach as the synthesizing locus between nature and culture in *Omeros* at the CEA's "Sea Crossings" conference.

- Recently published the book titled *Caribbean Without Borders: Beyond the Can[n]on's Range* with Cambridge Scholars Press (CSP).
- Linda M. Rodriguez:
 - Directed a creative writing session titled "Magical Doors: Exploring Your Unique Inner Life" on Thursday, Feb. 2 as part of the Symposium PRACTICES of ECOSEXUALITY and SEX-POSITIVE EDUCATION.
 - The Caribbean Writer, Highlighting Journeys and Pathways, published Linda M. Rodriguez's book review, "God's Spider" by Cyril Dabydeen, Vol. 30 (2016) pgs. 353-55.
 - The Caribbean Writer, Journeys and Pathways, published Linda M. Rodriguez's poem "On an Island Waiting for Answers as Wars Rage On". Vol 30 (2016) pages 36-37.
- Gayle W. Griggs:
 - This academic year she is providing communication coaching workshops for the association, Enactus UPRM. Enactus UPRM is part of an international organization that exists in over 1,700 universities in 36 countries, and has 69,000 participating students. The students, with the support of academic and business leaders, help communities create entrepreneurial-based projects for their sustainable progress. Currently, Gayle is coaching the students for their 2017 National Exposition competition to be held in Missouri in May 2017.
 - She is the coordinator for Her Campus UPRM, an online magazine targeted to our student population and has provided writing-related workshops to the team of Her Campus UPRM student-writers during this academic year.
- Leonardo Flores:
 - Won a fellowship to participate and give a workshop in the [Digital Pedagogy Lab's Summer 2017 Institute](#), on July 28-31 in Vancouver, Canada.
 - Recent publications in [my 80 Grados column](#):
 - [Literatura electrónica y activismo digital: los memes](#), February 17
 - [11 beneficios que la UPR brinda a Puerto Rico](#), February 23
- Mary Leonard:
 - Presented a [selection of short films by Film Certificate students](#) including [Enganche](#), winner of Best Short Film in the 2016 Rincon Film Festival, and [Feel Live Ride](#), winner of the Best Documentary award in the 2015 Rincon Film Festival, on March 7 in the Teatro Sol as part of the event Noches de Galeria sponsored by [ARCUCOOP](#). Several of the filmmakers also participated in the presentation.
 - Published the article "[La UPR: Hablemos del Futuro](#)" in Revista Cruce (March 15)
 - Is giving a talk and film presentation entitled "[Cine Animado: Un Recorrido Internacional](#)" featuring an interview with a Puerto Rican director of animated films via Skype from New York on Friday, March 17 at 11:00 AM. **The talk is one of the educational events of UPRM's fair Cinco Días con Nuestra Tierra.**
- Glory J. Soto:
 - Presented a poster of her thesis project "Exploring Academic Writing at the Master's Level: Perceptions of Graduate Students and Professors" on March 9-10, 2017 in the XIV Puerto Rican Congress on Research in Education at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus.

Department of English Achievements and Announcements

Fall 2016 to January 31, 2017

Instructions: Please fill in the requested information in an organized fashion below. This document will close for editing on February 15, 2017.

Announcements

- Attendance reports must be submitted by this Friday, February 10th. Please ensure you do this *as soon as possible*. Attendance is now confirmed only **ONCE** a semester and students with Pell Grants (a substantial majority of our student population) lose them if their attendance is not reported. Remember that you must now individually report each student's attendance rather than simply marking off non-attenders. If students have stopped attending, you must also list their last date of attendance. Our Administrative Assistant, Paulette Almodóvar Arroyo, sent out an email last Thursday with guidelines for how to confirm student attendance if you are new to the process or still have doubts about the new system. The link to these guidelines is:
<http://www.uprm.edu/cms/index.php?a=file&fid=13596>.
- A total of 71 faculty members, adjuncts, and GTAs submitted their syllabi for the second semester of the 2016-2017 academic year. All of these were transferred to the Department's digital archives.
- TESOL Certificate approved in Senate Meeting.
- **New courses approved**
- Important opportunities for our students: <http://www.uprm.edu/english/?p=5648>
 - HACU Summer Internship deadline: February 15
 - HSF Scholarships deadline: March 30
- Catherine Mazak and Kevin Carroll will present on their new edited publication, *Translanguaging in Higher Education: Beyond Monolingual Ideologies* (2016) for EING 6005/Foundations of English Education on Monday, April 24th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (open to the public and CEP sponsored; location TBA).
- **Dr. Solsiree Del Moral of Amherst University and author of *Negotiating Empire: The Cultural Politics of Schools in Puerto Rico, 1898-1952* (2013) will present on "Negotiating the Politics of Race and Gender in Puerto Rican Education" for EING 6005/Foundations of English Education via Skype on Monday, March 13, 2016 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend; CEP sponsored; location TBA).**

Achievements

Please list any unreported achievements you've had from last semester until January 31, 2017.

Leonardo Flores

- Published two articles in his [80 Grados column](#):
 - [Géneros literarios digitales: primera parte](#)
 - [Géneros literarios digitales: segunda parte](#)
- Was featured in a 1-hour Studio Visit for the Networked Narrative project, hosted by Kean University: <http://netnarr.arganee.world/studio-visits/leonardo-flores/>.
- Was published in an interview by MAEE alumna Jessica Lauer on [the January 2017 issue of *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*](#):
<http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/21.2/interviews/lauer/>

Ricia Anne Chansky is the editor of the double-blind, peer reviewed scholarly journal, *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies*, a member of the Routledge Literature Portfolio of journals (www.tandfonline.com/raut). The journal publishes three issues per year. She has recently published *Auto/Biography in the Americas: Relational Lives* (Routledge, 2016) and *Auto/Biography across the Americas: Transnational Themes in Life Writing* (Routledge, 2016). She is the Co-PI of a fully funded Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant, which will be used to support the 2017 conference “Lives Outside the Lines: Gender and Genre in the Americas.” She is a US Fulbright Specialist in American studies and, as such, was recently named a summer 2017 scholar in residence at York University through a joint appointment to the Centre for Feminist Research, the Centre for Research in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Department of Humanities. In 2016, she delivered keynote addresses at the International Auto/Biography Association conference in Nicosia, Cyprus and the BIOGraph conference in Cuiabá, Brazil.

Kenneth S. Horowitz

- Obtained his Ed.D in Education in ESL from Northcentral University
- Published [*Playing at the Next Level: A History of American Sega Games*](#) (McFarland)

Catherine M. Mazak

Published:

“Language Policy in Puerto Rico’s Higher Education: Opening the Door for Translanguaging Practices” in *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, Vol. 48, Issue 1 (Co-authored with Dr. Kevin S. Carroll).

Translanguaging in Higher Education: Beyond Monolingual Ideologies, an edited volume published by Multilingual Matters (co-edited with Dr. Kevin S. Carroll).

Spanish-English Codeswitching in the Caribbean and the U.S., an edited volume published as part of John Benjamin’s series *Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics* (co-edited with Drs. Maria del Carmen Parafita Couto and Rosa E. Guzzardo).

Grants:

Preparing Hispanic Students for Internship Experiences through Experiential Learning and English Enhancement, a USDA/NIFA Hispanic Serving Institutions Grant, \$213,722, 2016-2020. (P.I. Guillermo Ortiz Colón, Co-P.I. Catherine M. Mazak).

Eric D. Lamore

The University of Wisconsin Press published Eric D. Lamore’s third university press book, *Reading African American Autobiography: Twenty-First-Century Contexts and Criticism*, in its *Wisconsin Studies in Autobiography Series* (gen. ed. William L. Andrews). In addition to editing the volume, Lamore wrote the introduction, “African American Autobiography in the ‘Age of Obama,’” and a chapter, “Olaudah Equiano in the United States: Abigail Mott’s 1829 Abridged Edition.” An interview with Lamore on the book can be found here: <https://uwpress.wisc.edu/blog/>.

Gregory K. Stephens

Published:

(with Dr. Janice Cools) “[Living with Coyotes](#): Rethinking Human-Animal Relations, from Aesop to *Prodigal Summer*.” *Pakistan Journal of Historical Studies*, 1.2 (2016). [Published by Indiana UP]. Special issue on Emotions, Humans and Animals.

Accepted for publication:

“Letting Go of America.” Forthcoming in *Rhetor, the Journal of the Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric*, special issue on “National Identity & Rhetorical Scholarly Work.”

“Retailing Creative Writing Pedagogy: Transferable Skills, Traveling Theory, and the Arts of Empathy,” forthcoming in *Journal of Creative Writing Studies*.

“Senior Fathers in the work of J.M. Coetzee and Cormac McCarthy.” *Frame: Journal of Literary Studies*-- special issue on “Aging” (Spring 2017).

Maria Quintero

- Will be presenting a paper at the National African American Association’s (NAAAS) international conference at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in Durban, South Africa on Derek Walcott’s *Omeros*.
- Will be presenting at the CEA “Sea Crossings” conference a paper entitled “The Sands of Un-Certainty: Tidalectically Synthesizing Nature and Culture in Derek Walcott’s *Omeros*.”
- Published *Caribbean Without Borders: Beyond the Can[n]on’s Range* with Cambridge Scholars Press.

Janice Cools

Published:

(with Dr. Gregory Stephens) “[Living with Coyotes](#): Rethinking Human-Animal Relations, from Aesop to *Prodigal Summer*.” *Pakistan Journal of Historical Studies*, 1.2 (2016). [Published by Indiana UP]. Special issue on Emotions, Humans and Animals.

Revising for publication:

“Chivalry in a Modern Age: Genre and Generic Transformation in *Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand*, submitted to *The Journal of Popular Romance*.

Accepted for Publication:

“Beyond Brainstorming, Freewriting and Clustering: Oral Presentations in the Research Writing Process” in *Beyond the Frontier: Innovations in First-Year Composition*, Edts. Jill Dahlman and Piper Selden. Cambridge Scholars.

“Dual Affinities, and Rhetorically constructing an Ethno-Academic Identity.” Forthcoming special issue on “National Identity and Rhetorical Scholarly Work” in *Rhetor, the Journal of the Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric*.

Mary Leonard

Presented the paper “Against Human Exceptionalism: The Animal and the Human in Berger, Agamben and Braidotti” at the *Human-Animal Boundary Conference* in Martuljek, Slovenia in June 2016.

Presented “The Ontology of the Filmic Image” as part of the *Alternative Pedagogies Series* in the English Department on October 20, 2016.

Presented “Cine Animado: Un Recorrido Internacional” at the *Mayagüez Children’s Library* on January 21, 2017. This talk was sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades.

Is a columnist for the magazine [Cruce](#). Her first article [“Máter Atómica: Sobre el Miedo”](#) was published on February 1.

The student association *Cinémathèque* was one of ten student associations in the United States to receive the France on Campus Award for this year from the French Embassy. This award is offered to student organizations who submit a project they will undertake to promote French culture. *Cinémathèque* will make a short documentary about how the Alliance Française promotes French culture in Puerto Rico.

**University of Puerto Rico
Mayagüez Campus
Department of English Meeting
December 8, 2016
10:32am – 11:42am**

Minutes

1. Dean Fernando Gilbes Santaella
 - a. Discussion of the informal consultation process for Interim Director for the Department of English
 - b. By December 15, 2016 Dr. Linda Rodríguez will receive nominations and votes from faculty members and by December 19, 2016 will write a letter to Dean Gilbes with the voting results.
2. Consideration of minutes for:
 - a. Department Meeting November 15, 2016 [APPROVED]
3. Mellowes Award Presentation
 - a. Dr. Nancy V. Vicente presented the nominee.
 - b. Faculty members voted and approved it.
4. Announcements

- a. Dr. Rosita L. Rivera will be stepping down as Director of the Department after six years of working as administrator (2 and a half years as Associate Director and 3 and a half years as Director). She wishes to thank faculty, staff and students for all their support. She will continue supporting the department and the institution at large with the same commitment and enthusiasm.
 - b. Graduate Student Representative report
 - c. Undergraduate Student Representatives report
 - d. Deadline to submit grades: December 19, 2016 at 1 pm.
 - e. First day of classes in the spring is January 17, 2017.
 - f. Possibility of Remodeling one of our classrooms
 - g. Curricular Evaluation for BA and MAEE due April 2017
 - h. Meeting with Engineering and Advanced Courses
 - i. Eric D. Lamore published his third university press book, *Reading African American Autobiography: Twenty-First-Century Contexts and Criticism*, with the University of Wisconsin Press. In addition to assembling and editing the volume, Eric wrote the introduction, "African American Autobiography in the 'Age of Obama,'" and a chapter, "Oludah Equiano in the United States: Abigail Mott's 1829 Abridged Edition of *The Interesting Narrative*." Robert B. Stepto, an influential scholar of African American autobiography at Yale University, wrote the following blurb: "Timely and superb, these essays bring our engagement with African American autobiography--life writing--into this century, urging new approaches to the early literature while guiding us in creative, interdisciplinary assessments of contemporary narratives including comics, online lives, and 'fluid texts.' This volume makes us better readers--and quite possibly better writers--of life narratives."
 - j. PRTESOL held its 43rd Annual Convention on Friday and Saturday, November 18th and 19th here at UPRM. There were close to 250 participants altogether including guests from Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Virgin Islands, Texas, Chicago, Boston, New York, Florida, and many towns in Puerto Rico. There were 49 presentations from which to choose including work by our graduate students, teachers, researchers, and international guest speakers. We had a convention evaluator from the Inter-american University San German and we are pleased to say the results are outstanding. On January 1, 2017, I step aside as Immediate Past President to work alongside Dr. Jennifer Alicea Castillo, from UPR Ponce as the 2017 President and Dr. Anibal Muñoz Claudio, UPR Humacao as the 2017 Vice President. Thank you to all who collaborated in one way or another.
 - k. Nandita Batra and her collaborator Mario Wenning (Professor of Philosophy at the University of Macau) have been offered a contract for the publication of their book "The Human-Animal Boundary: Exploring the Line in Philosophy and Fiction" by Lexington Books (a division of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers) for their Ecocritical Theory and Practice Series.
 - l. Department logo discussion: Leonardo Flores
5. End of Semester Reports
- a. Graduate Student Representative – Laura García de la Noceda
 - i. Graduate Students are interested in UPRM Safety Protocols for future references
 - ii. Professional Graduate Honor Society (PGHS) participated in Christmas Child Operation and received more than they initially expected.
 - b. Undergraduate Student Representatives – José Álvarez and Gretchen Rodríguez
 - i. The English Department Student Association (EDSA) will have two major activities next semester to advise English majors in opportunities available after concluding their Bachelor's Degree. Professors interested in participating should contact José Álvarez.
 - c. Personnel Committee – Gayle Griggs (Excused)
 - i. Scheduled for next department meeting.
 - d. Curriculum Committee – Mary Leonard
 - i. Recommended two courses for INGL 3300. Digital Media Criticism for Spring 2017 and Modernism in America: The Harlem Renaissance for Fall 2017.
 - ii. Recommended the course Principles of Speech Communication submitted by the ESL Sector.
 - e. Graduate Committee – Sandra Soto
 - i. Received seven new MAEE Applications
 - ii. Five students were admitted to the Graduate Program
 - iii. TESOL Certificate was approved in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. It will be evaluated in the Academic Senate in their first meeting in January.

- iv. Received five proposals for open content courses. All of those were reviewed and recommended. For next semester there will not be a call for proposals.
- v. Dr. Sandra Soto accepted to be Co-coordinator of Centro Universitario para el Acceso (CUA) starting in January. She will be stepping down as Graduate Program Chair.
- f. Writing and Communication Sector – Aixa Rodríguez
 - i. The sector had for the first time a meet and greet with students in the minor.
 - ii. There are thirty students officially registered in the minor in writing and communication.
 - iii. Currently are in the process of an assessment.
- 6. Senators Report
 - a. Scheduled for next department meeting.
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Department of English Meeting
November 15, 2016
10:44am–11:55am

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from: October 6, 2016 Department Meeting [APPROVED]
2. Announcements:
 - a. PR TESOL Annual Conference will be held at UPRM from November 18-19, 2016. Registration starts on November 28 and ends on December 6.
 - b. Online COE: please follow up with your students and encourage them to fill it out. If you need a computer room to give them time and space to do so, please let us know.
 - c. Schedules for next semesters were placed in your mailboxes. Please let us know of any changes by Wednesday, November 16 at 4:30pm. Otherwise that would be your final schedule.
 - d. Pay Activity Fee to Dr. Chott: \$10 for current semester; \$20 for year
 - e. Final exam: proctors were assigned and final dates are also posted on the proctor roster. Please make sure you contact your proctor prior to the exam to confirm their attendance.
 - f. If you need photocopies for final exams, please contact Norbert in Arts and Sciences at least 48 hours in advanced. Please use that service for final exams because otherwise you will have to make arrangements off campus to ensure you have the number of copies you may need for your final exam.
 - g. Please make sure you **send your syllabi** for all the courses you teach. We need to have them available for evaluating courses that are from other institutions to give credit to students as well as for assessment purposes and program evaluation in accordance with university policy.
 - h. Final day for submitting grades **is December 19, 2016 at 1:00pm**. Do not give any incomplete to students unless it is in accordance with institutional policy.
 - i. Both the BA and the MAEE are due for a curricular evaluation. Sectors and committees will be requested to provide information regarding assessment and evaluation of courses. This request will be discussed during the department's last meeting in December.
 - j. Leo Flores presentation possible logos for Department of English
3. Special Accommodations Orientation: Prof. Pura Vicenty
 - a. Certification 133 includes policies for how to handle Special Accommodations at UPRM.
 - b. Official documents from the Special Accommodations Office will always be delivered by Pura Vicenty and not by the student.

- c. It is extremely important to have every agreement in writing. It also has to be signed by the student and professor in the contract. It has to be sent to Pura Vicenty because it will serve as evidence in legal cases. It is required by law to save all paperwork for Special Accommodation cases for fifteen years.
 - d. If a professor is not available to administer an exam for a Special Accommodation Student as stated in the agreement, Ms. Pura Vicenty is available to do administer the exam. The professor needs to specify the additional time allowed for the student to complete the exam whether it is before or after the time agreed by professor and student.
 - e. If the professor includes deadlines for assigned work, there is no need to give additional time for the student to complete the assigned work. If the professor does not include deadlines in the syllabus for assigned work, they need to give the student additional time to finish the assigned work.
 - f. Professors should mention several times that students with special accommodations should go by their office hours for the required paperwork. If the student does not show up, the professor should contact Pura Vicenty.
 - g. In the case of students with autism, the professor needs to communicate with the note taker.
 - h. Professors should provide special accommodations as requested by agreed by the Special Accommodations office and the student. If after arrangements are made, the student fails, the professor is not accountable for the student's failing the class as long as they provide evidence of student grades and grading policy for the course as established in the syllabus.
 - i. Students in the Special Accommodations Program are required to have a yearly specialist evaluation.
 - j. Professors have to take the first step and contact special accommodation students. If the student says he doesn't need any accommodations, it should be in writing and signed by the student and professor.
 - k. Justified absences are official if sent by Pura Vicenty. If the professor has any doubt, they should contact Pura Vicenty directly.
 - l. If a student appears in the middle of the semester saying that he is from the Special Accommodations Office, the professor should refer it to Pura Vicenty.
 - m. Administrative course drops are a possibility. It should be consulted with Pura Vicenty.
 - n. Special Accommodations with the students are effective during final exams period. If the professor needs help with special accommodations during final exams, they should contact Pura Vicenty.
 - o. Special Accommodations have to be allowed and these accommodations are prospective in time. From the moment they are released, they are in effect.
 - p. Required additional time is 30 minutes for every hour.
 - q. For legally blind students, the font size for exams has to be enlarged as specified in the agreement. If the professor forgets to print an exam with the required specifications, a new exam should be printed out or the exam has to be postponed. If the student takes the exam without the required accommodations, professors are liable.
 - r. Professors have to allow students with special hearing accommodations to record the academic part of the class.
 - s. Under any circumstances, a professor may argue with Special Accommodation students. This situation may be used against the professor in a court of law. In the case of any discrepancies with the student, Pura Vicenty may serve as a mediator.
4. Senators report

- a. Scheduled for next department meeting.
5. Student representatives reports
 - a. Scheduled for next department meeting.
6. Meeting adjourned at 11:55am.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Department of English Meeting
October 6, 2016
10:30am–12:03pm

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from: September 8, 2016 department meeting [APPROVED]
2. Announcements:
 - a. Academic Calendar of UPRM was amended.
 - i. Thursday, October 13 is going to be a Friday class.
 - ii. Thursday, October 20 is going to be a Thursday class.
 - iii. Friday, October 21 Academic Recess has been cancelled.
 - b. Open House will take place on October 21, 2016 from 8:00am to 12:00pm at the Coliseum Rafael Mangual.
 - c. Course preferences: Please submit electronically to Paulette by October 15, 2016.
 - i. Send course promotion for next semester.
 - d. November department meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, November 15.
 - i. We will have a presentation of the Special Needs Accommodations Office.
 - ii. Sectors meeting have been rescheduled for Thursday, November 3.
 - e. Dr. Leonardo Flores recent news:
 - i. The second article for his 80 Grados Column, “¿Qué es la literatura electronica?” was published on September 23
 - ii. The 2.0 version of the Electronic Literature Collection, Volume 3 was recently released. Here’s [a press release about the new version.](#)
 - f. Social gathering for graduate students and faculty will take place on November 13 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm at Salón Tarzán.
 - g. The Writing and Communication Sector will host a meet and greet for the students in the minor on October 13, 2016 from 4:30pm to 6:00pm in Chardón 326.
 - h. Dr. Rosa Román announcements:
 - i. Proposals for TESOL Annual Conference have been accepted.
 - ii. Offered a teacher training to 48 teachers.
 - i. Dr. Rosita Rivera will be presenting at Harvard University from October 28 to November 3.
3. Curricular evaluation for BA, M.A.E.E., Minor in Writing and Communication, and Film Certificate in accordance with Certification 41
 - a. Due date on April 2017.
 - b. Further information will be provided after Academic Affairs orientation regarding this process.

4. Personnel Committee
 - a. Faculty submitting promotion papers need to submit paperwork to Kathy Jorge by November 9, 2016 at 4:00pm.
 - b. Documents have to be organized in the specified order including chronological order.
 - c. Evidence of everything stated in the documents has to be submitted for consideration.

5. Dr. Nevin Leder's presentation academic release time project spring 2014
 - a. Dr. Leder presented his findings and discussed the implications.
 - b. There was a discussion and questions were answered by Dr. Leder regarding his findings.
 - c. Motion that Nevin Leder becomes a member of the Assessment Committee.
-Nevin Leder accepted to be part of the Assessment Committee.
6. Graduate Representative Report
 - a. Safety and emergency Protocols were requested by graduate students for future situations in which the institution needs to decide whether or not to cancel classes.
 - b. It was clarified that in emergency situations, only the information offered by the Institution is the official one. The Department is not authorized to cancel classes without consulting or approval of the institution.
7. Undergraduate Representatives Report
 - a. Student representatives discuss the possibility of fixing the air conditioner for the English lounge.
8. Senators report tabled for next meeting
9. New Business
 - a. Since there was a video recording of the presentation without consulting with the department, it was discussed and clarified that, permission has to be requested from those attending the meeting for video recording purposes before the meeting starts.
10. Meeting adjourned at 12:03pm.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Department of English Meeting
September 8, 2016
10:51am–12:01pm
Chardón 326

Minutes

1. Consideration of minutes: May 5, 2016 [APPROVED]
2. Announcements:
 - a. After two years, Dr. Nancy V. Vicente stepped down as Associate Director. She will continue to support the department as advisor two days a week. Thanks to Dr. Vicente for all her much needed and appreciated support!!!
 - b. Dr. Kevin Carroll accepted a position as Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at UPR Río Piedras. He will be coordinating the TESOL program. We thank him for his service to the department and wish him all the best during his tenure at UPR Río Piedras.
 - c. Congratulations to our new student representatives for Academic Year 2016-2017:
 - i. M.A.E.E. student representative is Laura García de la Noceda Vázquez.

- ii. Faculty of Arts and Sciences Representatives: Gretchen Rodríguez and José Alvarez. They will be attending our Faculty and Department meetings and are also assigned to the Orientation Committee to represent the students in the B.A. Program.
 - iii. Representatives will also have a space to present students concerns/issues/activities during our Department meetings.
- d. Registration issues for fall 2016
 - i. Budget
 - ii. Teaching Assistantships
 - iii. INGL 3211 (Advanced English)
 - iv. Class size in Writing Courses
 - v. Incompletes (Institutional Policy)
- e. Form 125A for all researchers
- f. Classrooms equipment
- g. Dr. Catherine Mazak and Kevin Carroll's edited volume *Translanguaging in Higher Education: Beyond Monolingual Ideologies*. Multilingual Matters is now available for purchase online.
- h. Welcome adjunct professors: Dr. Stephania Uwakweh, Kenneth Horowitz and returning adjuncts Dr. Janice Cools, Dr. María Quintero, Profs. Marci Denesiuk, Gabriel Romaguera, and Edward Contreras.
- i. The essay by Gregory Stephens, "Seeing Freedom: Emergent patriotism in the Middle East as a Structure of Feeling," has been accepted for publication in *Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy* (2016/2017).
- j. The study by Gregory Stephens and Janice Cools, "Living with Coyotes: Rethinking Human-Animal Relations, from Aesop to *Prodigal Summer*," will appear in the *Pakistan Journal of Historical Studies*, 1.2 (2016)--Special issue on Emotions, Humans and Animals.
- k. Dr. Leonardo Flores - Recent presentations and other announcements:
 - i. "I ♥ E-Poetry: Un recurso para la era digital" Virtual Educa, Centro de Convenciones de San Juan, June 22, 2016.
 - ii. "Los Niños de Ahora y la Literatura Electrónica: Preparación para el Siglo 21" Cumbre Internacional los Padres de Ahora, México City, May 17, 2016.
 - iii. "How E-Literary is my E-Literature?" Electronic Literature Organization Conference, University of Victoria, June 10-12, 2016.
 - iv. "Zen and the Art of Reading Endless Works" Electronic Literature Organization Conference, University of Victoria, June 10-12, 2016.
 - v. Won a grant from the Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades for a project titled "La Literatura Electrónica en Puerto Rico: Divulgando el Futuro de la Palabra."
 - vi. Has been offered a monthly column on electronic literature in *80 Grados*.
 - vii. Was elected as Vice President of the [Electronic Literature Organization](#).
- f. Dr. Nandita Batra attended the "Shakespeare: Metamorphosis 400" symposium at the University of London (Senate House).
- g. Ricia's third book, *Auto/Biography across the Americas: Transnational Themes in Life Writing*, will be published on Aug 17, 2016 by Routledge in their Interdisciplinary Approaches to Literature book series.
 - i. Her first book, *The Routledge Auto/Biography Studies Reader* (Nov 2015), published in the Routledge Literature Theory Reader book series, has been selected as a featured book for 2016-17 by Routledge.
 - ii. ► She has been selected by Routledge to be a featured author for the autumn 2016 literature catalog.
 - iii. In May she received her second Distinguished Faculty Researcher Award from UPRM.
 - iv. In May she also delivered a keynote address at the 2016 IABA Conference in Nicosia, Cyprus on developing global research communities and chaired a panel on comparative American studies and transnational narratives at the same conference.

- v. In July she delivered a second keynote address at the BIOGraph Conference in Cuiaba, Brazil, VII CIPA, on embodiment in the work of Jamaica Kincaid and was appointed to the Editorial Board of the newly formed *Revista Brasileira de Pesquisa (Auto)biográfica*.
 - h. Writing Project held their summer camp for intermediate and high school students.
 - i. Summer Institute: English for Academic Purposes was successfully held in June 2016. Dr. Dwight Fee from Harvard presented three workshops for institute participants.
 - j. PR TESOL Conference will be held for the first time at the University of Puerto Rico in Mayagüez on November 18 and 19. POC is Dr. Rosa Román, PR TESOL President.
 - i. Dr. Roman represented Puerto Rico at the Central American and Caribbean Basin TESOL (CA & CB) on July 7, 2016 and presented: Creating a Classroom Environment of Engaged Writers at the NICA TESOL on July 8th 2016 at UNAN Managua, Nicaragua.
 - ii. She was also the closing keynote speaker at the DRTESOL in Santo Domingo on July 28, 2016 where she presented “Keeping it Simple: Three proven techniques to move students to become independent thinkers, writers, and collaborators.”
 - iii. Both NICA TESOL and DRTESOL are looking forward to establishing alliances with PRTESOL for teacher training in their countries.
 - k. Dr. Sandra Soto informed faculty members of the new certification of GTA’s assistantships.
 - i. During their first two semesters of assistantship TA’s have to complete 21 CEP hours or any type of professional development hours. There is a form they have to fill out with the corresponding evidence to the Graduate Program Coordinator for its approval and submission to Office of Graduate Studies. If they haven’t done so by their third semester they won’t qualify for an assistantship.
3. Personnel Committee Elections
- a. Drs. Catherine Mazak and Mary Sefranek’s terms expired in May 2016.
 - b. Nominations: Mary Sefranek, Nancy V. Vicente, Leonardo Flores and Ricia Chansky
 - c. Vote results: Mary Sefranek (18) and Nancy V. Vicente (18) [3 year term]
4. Graduate Committee Elections
- a. Dr. Betsy Morales decided to step down due to her responsibilities as Dean of Academic Affairs.
 - b. Dr. Ricia Chansky’s term expired in May 2016.
 - c. Nominations: Ricia Chansky, Catherine Mazak, Linda Rodríguez, Ellen Pratt
 - d. Vote results: Ricia Chansky (16) Catherine Mazak (16) [3 year term]
5. Curriculum Committee Elections – Departmental Representative for English Department
- a. Curriculum Committee – Dr. Elizabeth Dayton’s expired in May 2016.
 - b. Nominations: Elizabeth Dayton and Aixa Rodríguez
 - c. Vote results: Elizabeth Dayton (15)
6. Discussion of Department organization, communication, and how information flows
- i. English Department Communication Networks (website, Facebook page, twitter, mailing list)
7. New Business
- a. Acomodo razonable concerns of who should make the first contact (student or professor).
 - i. Dr. Rivera will request an orientation from Ms. Thyrazia Roura.
8. Meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.