The ability to acquire language is innate and specific to humans, and we know that the language children acquire is based on the language that they hear around them,” said Karen Miller, who will use the three-year $166,217 NSF grant to study how children native to those two places learn and incorporate plural morphology in Spanish. “What I am interested in is how different types of variation in the language children hear affects the type of language they initially acquire,”

Miller’s specific focus is the plural marker, which in Spanish, as in English, is the “s” sound. Yet while children in Mexico City regularly hear their parents using the “s” to make one perro into two perros, children in Chile hear their parents adding the “s” with less constancy; instead, it is sometimes produced by adults and sometimes omitted in plural noun phrases.

“How will the input that Chilean children hear affect the language that they acquire?” Miller expressed her basic research quandary. “Will they build a language system with plural morphology (like English) or one without plural morphology (like Chinese)? While focusing on the acquisition of plural morphology may seem very small, she said, it is important because it teaches us how the human brain organizes different types of linguistic input in the acquisition of language.

“We are finding that children who receive inconsistent input take longer to acquire morphology when compared to children who receive consistent input.”

Calvin student researchers will be essential to her work, Miller said. One group of researchers will transcribe the conversations; another group will provide phonetic transcription of the plural marker; and a third will make a morphological transcription and carry out statistics on the data. “Looking at this very small thing means hours and hours of work,” she said.

Though the research has a seemingly specific focus, it may shed light on the wider picture of how languages change. “We know that language change occurs as children construct a language that is slightly different than their parents’ language. In Chile, we might predict that over time plural morphology may be lost. There has been some evidence that in other dialects of Spanish with ‘s’ lenition, the plural marker is no longer associated to ‘more than one,’” Miller said.

This project also has practical implications for language testing and standardized tests in education. “It has been reported that difficulty with plural morphology may be a way to diagnose language disorders in Spanish-speaking children. These tests would not be appropriate for children learning varieties of Spanish with ‘s’ lenition,” she said. “This work then will provide valuable information for language specialists in order to create dialect-sensitive tests for Spanish children.”

Miller’s and the students’ three years of research will be published in journals related to linguistics and cognitive science and presented at several conferences. It will also be posted on the CHILDES database, a digital collection of transcript and media data collected from conversations between young children and their playmates and caretakers. “That way, other researchers from anywhere in the world can use our data,” Miller said.
Semester in Mexico

Over-enrollment in the programs in Spain and Honduras for Spring 2008 meant that the Spanish Department had to move into action quickly to find a way to serve all of our students. A wonderful solution was found in Mérida, Mexico. Although Calvin has had an interim program in Mérida for many years, this year thirteen Calvin students had the opportunity to study there all semester long. This program offered students an experience quite different from other Spanish seminars. Instead of having classes with only other Calvin students, the Study in Mexico students were enrolled in classes at La Universidad Modelo alongside Mexican students. And, rather than taking a number of shorter, weekend-long excursions, the group made one, grand, two-week tour.

Taking regular classes with Mexican students was very difficult, especially at first, but by the end of the semester students were thankful for the experience and felt that it was well worth it because of the strides they made with the language. Some students took three classes at the university; others took two classes there and two classes elsewhere. What seemed like lightning-fast Spanish at first soon became understandable and normal. Studying at the Modelo also gave students the opportunity to make friends at the university and to share their culture.

Going on a 15-day excursion in a very small bus was another special feature of this semester program. Mexico is a huge country, as varied geographically as the USA. The trip offered the students a well-rounded view of Mexico as a whole and not just of the Yucatán Peninsula. They started out along the gorgeous coastline of the Gulf of Mexico, crossed various mountains to Mexico City, felt the dry prairies of Oaxaca, swam in the Pacific Ocean with sea turtles, and enjoyed the cool temperatures of Chiapas before heading back to Mérida. Along the way we visited La Venta, where the huge Olmec heads are displayed, participated in Easter-week activities in Vera Cruz, Mexico City, Oaxaca and Puerto Angel, explored the pyramids of the Aztecs near Mexico City, learned about the various peoples that built Mitla, Toniná and Palenque, and cried for the people at Chamula who have combined their pagan beliefs with a form of Catholicism. On the lighter side, they also enjoyed swimming, horseback riding and hiking. It was a wonderful time of learning and discovery, but not surprisingly they were happy to leave their ‘busto’ upon our return to Mérida.

Living in Mérida had its own challenges, one of which was learning the bus system. Every bus line is like a spoke of a wheel that goes in one direction only: to the centre, the hub. Thus everyone took buses to the centro on one spoke and then took another spoke to the Universidad Modelo. Going home was the same, but in reverse order. Students came to love the centro with its museums, vendors, tourists, cultural activities, dances, students, and churches appreciated getting a bigger picture of the hustle and bustle of this large metropolitan city.

The semester program in Mérida, Mexico, was a one-time opportunity, at least for now. The Spanish department is investigating various locations for a third, permanent program for our majors and minors. Mérida certainly is an option!

Huellas Fall 2008 Issue

Funding for this newsletter was provided by the Calvin Alumni Association and the Calvin College Department of Spanish.

Edna Greenway Scholarship

Me llama Kayla Wilkinson y soy la recetitente del Premio Edna Greenway del año escolar que viene. Seré estudiante de cuarto año en el otoño y haré mi práctica de enseñanza en la primavera de 2009. Cuando empecé a asistir a Calvin, quería ser maestra de la escuela primaria y conseguir una especialización menor en el español. Luego, en el otoño de 2006, fui a Honduras con el programa de Calvin y me enamoré del español tanto que ya no puedo limitar mis estudios a una especialización menor. Al volver, declaré una especialización mayor en la enseñanza del español y una especialización menor en la educación bilingüe. [Ahora no puedo esperar a ser maestra de español!] [...]

Quiero agradecerles [a todos] por otorgarme este premio. Estoy humildemente agradecida por haberme seleccionado a mí [...]. Me inspira el hecho de que ustedes me vean como alguien que puede ser seguidora de la voluntad de Dios mientras que enseña con propósito y significación.
Faculty News

A large part of faculty life includes writing papers for publication or presentation at conferences. This year the Calvin College Spanish Department was well represented at the 2008 NACFLA (North American Christian Foreign Language Association) conference. Professors Bierling, Cleverger, Pyper, Slagter, Tischelaar, and Zandstra presented papers. Since Calvin hosted the conference, all department members contributed to making the conference run smoothly.

Professors Bierling, Pyper, L. Rodriguez-Lancel, M. Rodriguez, Slagter, and Zandstra attended the ACTFL (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages) conference in San Antonio, Texas. Professors K. Miller, Slagter and Zandstra also presented papers at the Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters in Kalamazoo. At this conference professor Miller presented along with Calvin students Hannah Forsythe and Juliana Litts.

Professor K. Miller also presented her research at the Workshop for Locating Variability at the University of Massachusetts and received a National Science Foundation grant ($165,000) to carry out a project on child language acquisition in Mexico and Chile. Several students from the Spanish department are involved in the project (see related story or www.calvin.edu/~km26).

In addition to the usual course offerings on language, literature, culture, and linguistics, the 2007-08 school year saw interim courses on Grammar through Translation and Spanish for Business and special topics courses on Spanish Film and The Spanish Civil War.

As usual, our off-campus programs kept us very busy. Professor E. Miller led the Honduras program, professor Leder did double duty, leading the Yucatan interim and then going back to Mérida to direct the first-ever semester in the Yucatan (see related stories), and professor TenHuisen was in Spain (accompanied by professor Bierling in January).

Professor TenHuisen extended his time in Europe with the aid of a grant from the Mellon Visiting Research Fellowships in Renaissance and Early Modern Studies at the University of Warwick. He and his family traveled to England where he used the libraries at Oxford and the British Library in London to continue work on a project on religious discourse and early modern travel narratives. He also presented papers at conferences in Chicago, Minneapolis, and Montreal.

Spanish professors also love to travel. Professor TenHuisen and his family visited Asturias, where they enjoyed Oviedo, Covadonga, Ribadesella, pre-Romanesque architecture, prehistoric cave paintings, green mountains and the Atlantic. Professor Leder spent time in Alaska, where her daughter was married. Professors Bierling and Zandstra traversed South America scouting possible locations for a third semester-long Spanish program. Professor M. Rodriguez accompanied a church group to Guatemala for a service project. Professor K. Miller spent the summer with her husband's family in Chile. Professor Slagter participated in a “Week of Adventures” in Costa Rica at Christmas and walked another section of the Camino de Santiago in the summer.

In short, Calvin professors are busy people with full lives!

Calvin Hosts NACFLA

The North American Christian Foreign Language Association is an organization of Christian foreign language educators that works to advance Christian reflection on the teaching of and research into foreign and/or second language education, culture, literature, and linguistics. Many of the pioneers of this organization were Calvin College professors and the college continues to be well represented on the executive committee and the editorial board of the organization's journal: Journal of Christianity and Foreign Languages. This year the annual NACFLA conference was held at the Prince Center at Calvin College. Nearly one hundred people from six different countries attended round-table discussion, panels, and paper sessions. If you are interested in more information about NACFLA, go to: www.nacfla.net.
Kathleen (Greenway) De Jong (1981)

Kathy travelled to Guatemala City (along with her parents, Roger and Edna Greenway) and spoke a Women's Tea at SETECA (Seminario Evangelico Teologico de America Central) on the theme "Una vision para las mujeres en las iglesias urbanas." Some 75 women attended the event. The seminary plans similar events in the future.

Miriam Driscoll (1992)

Miriam directed the Study in Spain program in 1995 and 1996. She is currently teaching English classes in Ensenada, Mexico.

Tracy Ariza (1996)

Tracy lives in Denia with her husband Mauri and has been working with Calvin's Study in Spain program for the last four years.

Erin Laurell (1999)

Erin and her husband, Julio Recio (whom she met in Denia) live in Grand Rapids, where Erin teaches Spanish at Forest Hills Northern. Their baby, Ariana Joy, was born on Oct. 27.

Joey Eelkema (2003)

Joey is living in southern California and uses his Spanish every day. He is thankful for the experiences and skills he gained at Calvin. Being able to speak Spanish connects him with hundreds of people every year.

Melissa Rozeboom (2003)

Melissa will be spending the 2008-09 school year studying in Lleida, Spain as part of her masters program at Western Michigan University.

Kate (Landau) Avila (2004)

Kate has accepted a teaching assistantship at MSU and will start this fall on the MA in Applied Spanish Linguistics and teach 100 or 200 level Spanish part time.

Kevin Haag (2004)

Kevin and his wife have moved back to the U.S. from Nicaragua, and now live in Seattle. Kevin is Office Manager at Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (http://nwirp.org/Home.aspx), which is a medium-sized legal services nonprofit.

Danielle Jackson (2004)

Danielle Jackson pursued a physician assistant program at Emory University Atlanta, finishing up with a rotation in Costa Rica where she had the opportunity to do some more public health and community work. She writes:

"Overall, the rotation wasn't as medically challenging as I had hoped. That was complicated by the fact that even though my Spanish is good it was more difficult than I realized to follow along with Spanish-speaking colleagues. But it was definitely a good experience in so many other ways. It is one thing to work with Spanish-speaking patients, but another thing entirely to communicate with Spanish-speaking colleagues. I realized that if I ever would want to be involved in building up health care systems in other countries in Latin America or Africa, I've only just touched the tip of the iceberg in what I would need to know.

Miah and Katia Bruxvoort (2005)

After working in Juarez, Mexico, Katia and Miah moved to Atlanta where Katia will study Public Health with an emphasis on global health.

Jon Dent (2005), Tera Dent (2005)

Jon and I have made the move to Grand Rapids, MI! Jon was offered a Resident Director position at Calvin College. Though it's the same position as he had at Grove City College, he welcomes the opportunity to grow professionally. Calvin has a more established Residence Life program and therefore, the RDs have more responsibility than what he's used to at Grove City. While we're sad to be leaving behind many friends, we're really excited about this new opportunity that God has given us to go back to Michigan and serve at our alma mater.

Matt Ferner (2005)

After serving with the Peace Corps for two years in the Dominican Republic, Matt is now working with the Peace Corps Response in Panama City. Matt applies information and communication technologies to the development of eco-tourism.

Leslie Harkema (2005)

I finished my MA thesis in Comparative Literature (on Spanish novelist Benito Pérez Galdós and German critic Walter Benjamin) at the University of Georgia. I have moved to Boston in order to pursue a PhD from Boston University in Spanish Literature. I’ve been awarded a Presidential Fellowship, which allows me to complete all of my coursework during my first year. After that, I will teach undergraduate Spanish courses for three years, while I study for my exams and then work on my dissertation. During the summer of 2008 I am studying in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

There is so much to do and see in this huge city—which can be paralyzing, but I keep going to museum after museum, café after café, and especially bookstore after bookstore. I’ve accumulated more that 15 books already, among them a first edition of the Italian poet Gabriele D’Annunzio's Teneo te Africa (some of the pages are still uncut), and an issue of the early-twentieth century journal, Sur, in which appear writings by Borges, the Spanish writer Francisco Ayala, and even a translation of Tennessee Williams. Eccentric but fascinating finds for the graduate student in literature.

Besides rifling through stacks of books, I’ve been doing plenty of exploring and sight-seeing. We’ve taken a tango class in the café “El Ideal,” witnessed a performance of medieval music in a class at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, seen a theatrical production of the Spanish work La Celestina, and taken in some independent Argentine cinema. All this is on top of an excellent line-up of personalities that our BU professor has brought to speak to our classes. We’ve already had intimate conversations with prominent writers, literary critics, musical and theatrical performers from Buenos Aires. The experience has been stimulating to say the least.

Aaron Iverson (2005)

Aaron is working in Mozambique with New Missions Systems International. He writes: The reed-walled home I share...
with Mozaic’s director, Geraldo, is a cozy place. Not surprisingly, my diet is rich in rice, beans and of course xima, the maize meal staple (i.e. corn mash). Manjacaze has a population of around 10,000, but its lack of structure and its “ruralness” give it the feel of a small village. As agricultural coordinator for Mozaic, a very small Christian NGO, I’ve been dedicating most of my time to establishing an agricultural resource center on our property. This includes experimenting with semi-arid farming techniques, nutritious plants, plant propagation, animal husbandry and appropriate technologies (like sawdust coolstores, composting toilets and water pumps made from tires, PVC and rope—all these thanks to the help of my parents during their visit for the month of February). As produce is relatively expensive and malnutrition is high, the local church with which we have identified a great need for nutrition gardens. So Mozaic has been working together with the church’s volunteer group to put together a program that constructs a garden in the homes of those most vulnerable: people living with HIV/AIDS and orphan-headed households.

Scott McPheeters (2005)

Scott McPheeters, financial advisor with Edward Jones, has opened a new office in the vibrant Grand Rapids community of East Hills. He has been with the investment firm for three years and specializes in assisting individual investors reach their financial goals such as retirement, college education, and wealth transfer. He and his wife, Heidi, live in the community and are excited about all of the changes happening in the Grand Rapids area.

Katie Penninga (2005)

Katie is doing volunteer work for a year in Peru, living in Tambo Grande, a rural town in the north of Peru. She is about two hours (by bus) from the city of Piura and three hours south of the border with Ecuador. She writes: “Aunque no era mi clase favorita en el momento, la clase de lingüística en Honduras ha sido una ayuda que no puedo describir. Acá, he recibido bastante comentarios que ‘Oh, su acento es muy bueno’ o ‘Dominas muy bien el castellano’ y la mayoría de esto viene de la clase de lingüística. Entonces, gracias!”

Emily (Steenwyk) Romero (2005)

Emily is studying at Fuller Seminary in California. She and her husband, David Romero, met in Honduras and have finally returned there as she completes her internship requirement. She writes: “We are overwhelmed with joy to be back in Honduras again. After two very long years we are back in Carra-cholanda (nickname for Honduras) and have seen our Honduran family again! It sometimes feels like we never left and sometimes it feels like it has been a long time. In addition to all the research work of my practicum (visiting different Christian schools, doing interviews, discovering different models and methods of Christian education) we have to make up for so many lost hugs, conversations, jokes, meals, etc!

Wendy VanderZwaag (2005)

Wendy just completed her Masters degree at Bowling Green University. She is looking for work teaching either high school or college Spanish.

Jordan Bruxvoort (2006)

Jordan is working for the Michigan Organizing Project in Kalamazoo. He networks with churches and community organizations to push for comprehensive immigration reform.

Zach Campbell (2006)

Zach married Alexandra Garcia, our Spanish Language Assistant from Ecuador (2003-04). They are now living in New York City.

Adrienne Martinez (2006)

I am currently living in Downers Grove, IL. attending Midwestern University in the physical therapy program there. I will go all year round till May 2010.

Michael VanderMeulen (2006)

Mike is in Medical School in Cleveland. He says: “Last summer I was involved in a research project which studied the association between malaria and a cancer called Burkitt’s Lymphoma. It was all bench work, but hopefully in a year or two I’ll get to go to Kenya for a few months to do a bit more intensive research. We’ve been studying infectious diseases in school, so I’ve been trying to figure out what all I probably picked up in Honduras. My Spanish is slipping a little but my rusty Spanish has come in handy in the hospital a few times though.”

Ashley (Wallace) Uyaguari (2006)

Javier and I are leaving the country for a while, we’re off to see the world! We’re going to live in Gualaquiza, Ecuador (Javier’s home town). We’re excited about this adventure! I have started a blog to keep friends and family up to date: http://uyaguari.ecuador.blogspot.com/

Kristen Aardema (2007)

I am a fourth grade bilingual teacher in Carpentersville, Illinois. I am really enjoying my first year, but it is even more work than I expected!

Hannah Forsythe (2007)

Hannah is beginning a year working as a manuscript editor in Hanoi, Vietnam with the Mennonite Central Committee.

Shelly (Veenstra) Hendricks (2007)

I’m teaching Spanish 2 and 3 at Lynden Christian High School (Lynden, WA). I’m loving it! It definitely is challenging being a first year teacher, but I don’t ever feel overwhelmed to the point where I can’t handle what I’m doing or what needs to be done. I feel confident that I am where God wants me to be and that I have the gifts and skills needed to do well. I know without a doubt that I am not perfect (I am reminded daily!), but am glad I am doing what I am doing. The other Spanish teacher and I are in the process of planning a trip to Merida for Semana Santa. I am so thankful for Calvin College and the training and preparation I received there.

Grace Miguel (2007)

I am in Honduras and so I have created a blog so people know that I am still alive. Feel free to read it. The link is here: http://igmigster.blogspot.com/
The semester in Spain was full of new experiences, both good and bad. There were a few rough spots, including a 30 hour trip from Grand Rapids full of complications and missed flights, meeting our families at 3am after the 30 hour trip and realizing how poor our Spanish was, having problems at La Alhambra in Granada and missing one of our appointments so we had to go back (although not so much of a problem), and our famous head lice scare towards the end of our trip.

But these minor problems did not even compare to the positive experiences we had. One of my favorite experiences was our 12-hour “barbecue” at Tracy (one of our professors’) house. Her house is right at the foot of Montgo, Denia’s mountain, with a gorgeous view of the Mediterranean. Almost everyone from the group was there as we grilled, played games, and relaxed in the sun from 2 in the afternoon until 2 in the morning. Another unforgettable memory came at the beginning of the trip when almost the whole group dressed up in costumes and went to Pego, a nearby city, for an all-night celebration of Carnaval. This was one of our first true cultural experiences as the bus dropped us off before midnight and we didn’t end up getting back to Denia until almost 7:30 in the morning!

The semester was full of these festivals and new experiences and we loved it. We improved our Spanish, learned about the Spanish culture and got to know our families all while having a great time together. Many of us are now trying to figure out how to go back! Overall, it was an incredible experience that I don’t think any of us will ever forget.

Study in Honduras

Calvin’s Study in Honduras program will be entering its 8th year of existence this fall. This past year twenty four students spent the semester in Tegucigalpa and enjoyed week-long excursions to Guatemala, and Nicaragua. There were twenty two females and just two males in this group. They enjoyed being around each other and they helped each other grow spiritually and learned about Honduran literature and culture together. Many of them made friends with Honduran students at the university and took advantage of opportunities to interact with Hondurans who were not part of their host family.

Students start their semester off with a two-week summer class that deals with Culture and Language. Their classes are taught by Honduran professors at the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Francisco Morazán, one of Honduras’ teacher training colleges for secondary teachers. Our students are able to interact with a wide range of Honduran university youth, and even take courses with Honduran students. Calvin’s Spanish Language and Culture offices and classrooms are at the Universidad Pedagógica.

This group did lots of traveling on the weekends within and outside of Honduras, just as students did in previous years, but they also spent quality time with their Honduran families and friends, going to family parties, visiting members of the family that did not live in the house, and going to celebrations in the city.

Students were again encouraged to attend worship services with their host families. There are many options in Tegucigalpa, but many of the students this semester attended “La Iglesia Gran Comisión,” one of three mega churches in Tegucigalpa.

Visit the Spanish Department’s web page/Honduras Web-blog and enjoy some of the pictures that better describe the incredible experience that Calvin students had this past year.
Elsa Cortina Scholarship

As the cost of higher education continues to grow, scholarships are increasingly important to enable all students to be able to participate fully in our off-campus programs. Fortunately, the endowment for the Elsa Cortina Study in Spain Scholarship also continues to grow! To date, alumni, friends, and faculty listed below have raised approximately $13,000. We need approximately $12,000 to be able to begin to award this scholarship to deserving students.

If you haven't already, please consider making a donation. Checks can be made out to Calvin College; specify “Elsa Cortina Scholarship” in the memo line, and send to: Development Office, Calvin College, 3201 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4388, Attention: Elsa Cortina Scholarship. We are extremely grateful for your support.

For more information on the scholarship see www.calvin.edu/academic/spanish/elsacortinascholarship

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El Puente Spanish Immersion Program Has Study in Spain Connections

The Study in Spain program has had a lasting impact on its participants and is now going on to affect a new generation. A few years ago, a group of parents and others in the West Michigan area began to explore the possibility of creating a Christian Spanish immersion program. Many of these parents were Calvin alumni and, although not all of them had majored or minored in Spanish, many of them had participated in the program in Denia. Their personal immersion experience offered through Calvin made them passionate to see their dream become a reality. They realized how invaluable the gift of knowing another language truly is. Some of these pioneers who had studied abroad with Calvin include: Stacey (Washburn) VandenBosch, Becky Schrotenboer, John Holwerda, Laura Senti, Bill Huizenga, Karen Holleman, and Pam Mulder.

Last year, Zeeland Christian School Board accepted El Puente, a Spanish immersion program, as one of the educational options available for parents. “El Puente,” which is Spanish for “the bridge,” allows parents to give their children the opportunity to become completely bilingual by the end of their fifth grade year. This year, at Holland Christian Schools request, Zeeland Christian will be expanding El Puente by offering Spanish immersion preschool and kindergarten classes at Holland Christian as well as at the original Zeeland location for the 2008-2009 school year.

Beginning in preschool, students are taught traditional academic subjects solely in Spanish with adjustments made when necessary to include cultural and language learning components unique to an immersion education. El Puente currently offers classes through the second grade with the plan to add a new grade level each year until fifth grade. By modeling El Puente after successful immersion programs across the country, Zeeland and Holland Christian Schools hope to cross language and cultural barriers by producing bilingual children well-educated in both Spanish and English.

This spring the students from El Puente came to Calvin to participate in our weekly Spanish Chapel. They sang, recited Bible verses, and generally showed their love of Spanish and their love of the Lord.

For more information about El Puente go to the website at: www.zcs.org/Web/SpanishImmersionClassroom.asp
Mi familia española

Zac DiPaolo wrote this poem for his host family in Denia. He read it to them at the final farewell party.

Tengo una familia en los Estados. Que la amo mucho. Son mis mejores amigos y echo de menos tanto.

Pero después de cinco meses aquí tengo otra familia. Tengo una segunda para mí. Madre, padre, dos hermanas, y perrita. También tías y tíos, yayas y yayos, y mis primos.

Estoy parte de su familia ahora. Me han aceptado como su propio. Y cuando me entro en casa me siento como es mía. Mi hermana Mireya y yo salimos juntos por la noche. Sus amigos, ella, y yo, pasamos el tiempo.

Mi hermana Rakel y yo siempre haciendo bromas, yo diciendo te apuesto. "Viva Barce" es nuestro grito. De mi padre y yo, vemos juntos cada partido. Y cada día en clase. La única cosa que puedo pensar. Es que quiero volver a casa, y almorzar, porque mi madre es la mejor cocinera. Toda la comida.

Preparado con amor, y ella me cuida muy bien. Es la mejor a por ciento cien. Al fin ya estamos. Y no quiero salir. Pero tengo que irme y tengo que despedir.

Voy a escribir y llamar. Mi nueva familia, que la amo yo como mi propia. Le doy gracias a Dios para esta oportunidad de conocer mi familia. Alicia, Jaime, Mireya, Rakel. Nunca os olvidare. Y os prometo que algún día volveré.

Zach DiPaolo
5/08