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In 2014-2015, 39 students graduated from the Spanish Department with a major in Spanish along with 26 with a minor. Below are some pictures of the *Celebración de los Graduados.*
alumni news

Joel B Groat ‘83

I wanted to say thanks to the Calvin Spanish department where I did a Spanish major from '82-83 in conjunction with Cornerstone’s (then Baptist College) combined curriculum program. I’ve been involved in theological ministry and training of Hispanic pastors all over Latin America for over 25 years with the Institute for Religious Research here in GR.

I also just completed work on an 8 hour, Spanish-language DVD training course on evangelism and discernment related to false religious groups that is now available through our ministry (a project that was over 2 years in the making). I’m so grateful for Calvin’s part in developing, polishing and honing my Spanish skills as well as exposing me to the joy of teaching, something about which I continue to be passionate.

You can see a one-minute video trailer of the project here: http://irr.org/Fe-Projimo-DVD-Course-English-info.

Noah Kruis ‘04

I graduated with a Spanish Major in 2004 and have worked at Calvin (in Admissions and then the Service-Learning Center) since then. This summer, my family will be moving to Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood where I will be studying at McCormick Theological Seminary for a Masters of Divinity. I am especially excited to study in a setting that is intentionally Cross-Cultural, Urban, Reformed and Ecumenical. Among other draws to the seminary is the Center for the Study of Latin@ Theology and Ministry. If my two-day visit this spring is any indication, I will have many opportunities to use my Spanish as I connect with my fellow students.

Phanuelle Duchatelier ‘12

I’m currently on my way to a protest in Washington D.C. at the Dominican Republic embassy to demand equal rights for Haitian Dominicans.
Morgan Blizzard '09

I am a 2009 graduate from the Spanish and ESL programs. The Spring 2008 semester in Denia left me with a desire to return to Spain, and in 2013 I moved to Madrid to work as an English language assistant at an elementary school, through a program called BEDA. The last two years have been amazing, challenging, and unforgettable. I’m certain that the professors I learned from and traveled with at Calvin had a direct influence on my decision to take a leap of faith and live abroad. The friendships and professional relationships I made here will be for a lifetime. I even still keep in touch with my host family from Denia.

In the fall I return to Michigan to start a new career as a Spanish immersion teacher in the kindergarten class at Fremont Christian School. I hope I can pass on to my students the love of language and cultural diversity that was modeled to me in the Spanish department.

Rachel Mefor '11

I am currently teaching at Delaware County Christian High School in Newtown Square, PA. I will be entering my 4th year of teaching (took a year off for full-time graduate school). This is my second year at this particular school. I will be teaching Honors Spanish II and Honors Spanish III.
Angela Svaan ‘12

Just before I graduated from Calvin in 2012, I made the choice to pursue dentistry as a career. I’m just starting my second year of four in the DDS program at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, and I can’t think of any place I’d rather be! One of the greatest blessings this year was getting involved with the Hispanic Student Dental Association and learning to screen for dental caries and oral cancer in Hispanic populations around southeast Michigan. It has been a treat to develop my chairside manner in Spanish and learn from our dedicated faculty from all over the world, including Spain and Latin America.

Josiah Kuiper ‘14

Since August, I’ve been working as a teacher at Vida Abundante Escuela Cristiana, a bilingual school in Honduras. I live in La Unión, a picturesque mountain town in western Honduras where most people make a living by growing coffee. La Unión has a population of about 8,000 people, and it has grown dramatically in the last few years; just last year, we got our first paved road. It is a beautiful and safe place to live.

This year, I taught high school history and language. Shortly after Christmas, the leader of our school’s American teachers moved to another town several hours away to begin a new bilingual school. Consequently, I have been taking over a few of his responsibilities in the office as well. Next year, I plan to continue work here, teaching and facilitating communication between the Honduran and American staff.
Dan Hermen ‘95

Soy director de ventas para Witte Travel & Tours en Grand Rapids, donde cada día puedo ayudar a gente tener experiencias internacionales formativas como yo tuve en Denia hace tantos años.

Spanish has served me well throughout the years, from teaching high school to conducting business throughout Latin America, to now working with groups on performance, cultural, religious and study travel experiences.

I get to work with Calvin regularly, too. Last year I accompanied the Orchestra to Costa Rica. I just recently led the Calvin Women’s Chorale on tour in Brazil and I’ve been working with the Bierlings on their upcoming trip for Calvin Alumni to Peru! Let’s go!

Meg Lawry ‘07

I finished my Master's in Spanish philology at St. Louis University in Madrid in August of 2012, and began working to become a medical interpreter shortly after returning. I became a fully certified medical interpreter a year ago and I began working as an interpreter at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles in March!

Kayla Innis ‘12

I am a 2012 graduate from Calvin. I studied nursing and minored in Spanish. While at Calvin I traveled to Mexico and Nicaragua for interims and since graduating have visited Costa Rica, Belize, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic. This past February I took a test to be certified to speak Spanish at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital, where I currently work in the Emergency Department as a nurse. I passed the test and no longer am legally bound to use an interpreter during patient care. I am so thrilled that I invested in Spanish during my time at Calvin and am still hoping to live in Central or South America in the future. For right now I get to practice Spanish at work!
Margaret and Dan Ausema

Dan Ausema (2000) and Margaret Lesage Ausema (2001) live in Fort Collins, Colorado with their three children. Dan is a speculative fiction writer and stay-at-home dad. He’s had a number of stories and poems published over the past few years in a variety of venues.


Margaret is Board-certified in Family Practice and enjoys the diversity of family medicine, with special interests in obstetrics, newborn care, and pediatrics.
This past year, Student Activities Committee in collaboration with *La Casa de Español* brought us fun and engaging activities in order to help us learn more about local and broader Hispanic community as well as to help Spanish-loving students to get to know each other better. Enjoy photos from all of our events this year!

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**Ballet San Francisco Xavier**

On September 15, a local dance group, Ballet San Francisco Xavier, performed traditional Mexican folk dances at Calvin to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15-Oct 15).
The Real Face of Immigration

On October 9, the Spanish Department and Multicultural Student Development Office co-sponsored a panel discussion The Real Face of Immigration unveiling myths and stereotypes about this hot issue. Panelists included attorney Liz Balck from JFON (Justice for Our Neighbors), a refugee youth from Honduras, and Shannon Bruin from Bethany Christian Services.

Yincana

*Yincana* (Hispanic scavenger hunt) followed on October 11. Students traveled in teams to 5 locations: Hispanic Center of West Michigan, Cesar Chavez Elementary School, El Cuñado restaurant, Roosevelt Park Church, and a Hispanic market.

In each location they had to do an activity, for example, learn a Spanish game or song, recite the Lord’s Prayer, talk to a local, etc. Each team earned points and the winning team got a gift certificate for a fiesta in a local restaurant.
As is becoming our tradition, on December 4 students and faculty assembled in the Spoelhof Atrium for the Villancicos (Spanish Christmas caroling) event. We sang and enjoyed churros with hot chocolate.

The tradition of alfombras is practiced during Holy Week in many Hispanic countries including Peru and Guatemala. On March 30, Calvin students participated in a Noche de Alfombras, making colorful "carpets" using confetti and shredded paper to create designs. Some carpets reflected the Holy Week theme of the crucifixion and resurrection.
Tacos Return!

Last year’s Taco Tasting Tour was so successful and tasty that we were compelled to repeat it this year on April 18. We visited local *taquerías* to judge for ourselves which makes the best taco in Grand Rapids.

Sabor Latino

The last but not the least event of the year was *Sabor Latino* where students and guests danced and snacked until late in the night. Those who arrived early learned moves from Latin dance styles such as Bachata, and Salsa. This event was co-sponsored with *Puente* (the organization for Hispanic students) and the Latin American Student Association.

Spanish House

In addition, the Spanish House hosted two Open House events: one in the Fall where traditional Hispanic food was prepared, and one in the Spring where students watched the movie *No se aceptan devoluciones.*
Cynthia Cortez faithfully served the Spanish Department as a native assistant for two consecutive years. We’ve been blessed by her dedicated work and wish her all best in her future endeavors. Below Cynthia summarizes the highlights of the past year:

Este año la casa de español fue un lugar muy especial para todos los que vivieron ahí. Fue un lugar donde todas pudimos crecer, aprender y expandir nuestras mentes e ideas. Lo más importante y especial fueron las amistades creadas durante los momentos más inesperados; durante las noches largas y el proceso de planear los eventos. La Yincana no solo fue un éxito sino que también aprendimos a trabajar como equipo y además trajo a miembros de La Casa del año anterior para ayudar. La fiesta de Sabor Latino en colaboración con LASA (Latin American Student Association) y Puentes, trajo a toda la comunidad latina a un lugar para poder compartir la cultura. En una palabra, La Casa de Español fue un lugar muy especial porque creó unidad, unidad entre las chicas, la comunidad latina, los profesores y la comunidad de Calvin.

Cindy carries the Ecuadorian flag at the 2015 graduation ceremony
scholarships and awards

Congratulations to Megan (Rozeveld) Karsten and Jessica Furno, the recipients of the competitive Edna Greenway Scholarship and Elsa Cortina Award, respectively.

Megan shared with us what it means for her to have won the scholarship:

Receiving the Greenway Scholarship means that I can spend more time focused on my Spanish and teaching, and less time worrying about taking out an extra loan, or wondering if I will be able to pay my bills. This scholarship makes possible spending time forming a robust pedagogy for Spanish education, and for more time interacting in the Hispanic community. Both of these things are necessary if I want to be excellent.

Service learning and extra-curricular activities are almost impossible to manage while working three jobs just to scrape by. This scholarship gives me the opportunity to do more. Anyone who speaks a language understands the necessity to

(Continued on page 14)
practice in order to maintain and improve ability. Studying in Peru in the fall of 2013 was a great catalyst, but I crave something more.

The Greenway scholarship means I can volunteer at Burton Elementary School in the Spanish classroom as I did my sophomore year improving both my Spanish and my teaching style. The better I understand Spanish, the better I will be able to teach what I know to my students.

I have hope for my future because I know God has a plan for me, and because Calvin prepared me well. I can achieve my dreams of graduating from Calvin with a degree in Spanish Education. The Greenway Scholarship provides me the opportunity to go into the world to be excellent, and it gives me the encouragement to continue growing and improving.

Participate in helping other students like Megan and Jessica finance their education. Click here to learn how to donate.
student honors work

The Honors program in the department continues to blossom. This year four students graduated with honors in Spanish: Serena Hamann, Grace Kim, Jessica (Koranda) De Vries, and Marlena May. Their thesis topics testify to the breadth of interests of our students:

Politics in the writings of Borges and Cortázar (Serena)

Spanglish as a Reflection of Identity: What Christian Educators Should Know (Grace)

The Subversion of Gender Roles in Cuentos de Eva Luna by Isabel Allende (Jessica)

Latino Youth (Marlena)

In addition to presenting her work at Calvin along with other honors students, Grace had an opportunity to showcase her thesis at the North American Christian Foreign Language Association (now Christian Association of World Languages) conference at Biola University in March, as a winner of the Emerging Scholars Award from that association.

read more about their projects on the following page >>
The Subversion of Gender Roles in *Cuentos de Eva Luna* by Isabel Allende:  
*Cuentos de Eva Luna*, a collection of short stories by Isabel Allende, mimics the storytelling style of *One Thousand and One Nights*, in which Scheherazade tells stories to the king in order to save her life. In the case of Eva Luna, however, she tells stories to her lover, and her life is not threatened. In the collection, Allende presents women who are oppressed by men through literal domination, eroticization, or abandonment. In my thesis, I suggest that Allende represents these women in these manners only to subvert their oppression. Applying gender performance theory, my I analyze five stories from the collection in order to illustrate exactly how this subversion occurs. —*Jessica (Koranda) De Vries*

Spanglish as a Reflection of Identity: What Christian Educators Should Know: In response to the influx of Spanish-speaking immigrants to the United States, the use of Spanglish has increased dramatically among Hispanic Americans. Based on a sociolinguistic perspective, this presentation provides an orientation for Christian educators on Spanglish as a reflection of the intercultural identity of Hispanics in the United States. —*Grace Kim*

Politics in the writings of Borges and Cortázar: In my honors project I examined the biographies and short stories of Julio Cortázar and Jorge Luis Borges for political themes. I discovered that although Cortázar and Borges had different philosophies of writing and different political beliefs, they both wanted to create new political ideas in their readers and to combat ideas they considered dangerous. In particular, Cortázar promoted socialism and collective political invention and condemned authoritarian regimes. Borges supported anarchy and individual ethics while also rejecting authoritarianism. To support my arguments I discussed the political formation and experiences of the two authors and provided analysis of several specific short stories. Overall, I enjoyed working on this project and learning more about two such important Latin American authors. —*Serena Hamann*
This past January, Professors Lamanna and Pyper took a group of 21 Calvin students to Yucatán, Mexico for a fun and educational Spanish-language immersion experience. The students lived with Mexican families and attended lectures on various aspects of the culture of Mexico and the Yucatán. Although they spent most of their time in Mérida, they also took a weekend trip to a local pueblo in groups and visited Mayan ruins at Dzibilchaltún, Chichén Itzá, Labná, Uxmal, and Tulúm. The students made notable gains in their oral Spanish language proficiency over the 3-week period, and also increased their skills in cross-cultural communication through interactions with their families, friends, and other Mexicans. Finally, they learned to trust God more as they were stretched beyond their comfort zones in ways they usually aren’t at home. It was a blessing to spend time with our Mexican brothers and sisters and we look forward to taking another group in January 2016!
Durante el primer semestre de este año escolar, tuve la oportunidad de estudiar en el extranjero con dieciséis otros estudiantes de Calvin y la Profesora Bierling. Pasamos cuatro meses muy lindos en la ciudad de Arequipa, Perú en la Universidad Católica San Pablo. Aunque estuvimos allí desde agosto hasta diciembre, experimentamos un clima casi perfecto en esta “ciudad blanca” de mucho sol. Nos quedamos con familias peruanas y conocimos la ciudad a través de la ayuda de amigos peruanos y nuestra propia exploración.

Tengo memorias imperecederas de mi tiempo en Perú. Recuerdo muy bien mi tiempo en la universidad con los peruanos y los otros estudiantes extranjeros. Aunque tenía mi propia regla sobre la cantidad de empanadas que debía comprar cada semana, todavía comí demasiadas. Cada excursión (Cañón del Colca, Cuzco y Machu Picchu, Lago Titicaca y Lima) me dejó memorias fuertes y divertidas. Una
de mis memorias más vívidas es mi decisión de hacer una peregrinación a Chapi, un pueblo en el desierto cerca de Arequipa. Caminé por toda la noche con otros estudiantes de Calvin y con estudiantes de la San Pablo a este pequeño pueblo para agradecer a la Virgen y orar. Fue una experiencia importante para entender la cultura peruana y mejorar mi entendimiento de mi fé personal.

Pero, más que todo, nunca olvidaré mi casa bonita y las relaciones que formé con mi familia peruana. Cada vez que regresaba de mis clases, alguien estaba allí para saludarme, darme un abrazo y unos besitos, preguntarme sobre mi día y darme una comida rica. En realidad, las relaciones con mi familia peruana y mis amigos son más importantes que todo lo que he aprendido. Obviamente, el español también fue algo importante para nuestro semestre en Perú para poder formar nuestras relaciones y tener éxito en nuestras clases. Es algo que podré usar durante toda mi vida. Siempre estaré agradecida por cada experiencia y oportunidad que tuve durante este semestre.

—Bonnie Van Dyk
There are so many things that I love about my semester in Honduras, but one thing that I will always remember is the chance we got to travel and know not only Honduras, but Central America. During the semester we have a weeklong trip to a small town in Honduras, to Nicaragua and to Guatemala. From looking out the bus windows at the surrounding mountains filled with beautiful views and tiny towns to staying the night in countless cities, meeting the people who live there, and trying their delicious food, I have learned about this culture in a way that I never imagined I would. I have been able to see so many different sides of the countries, and through this deepen my knowledge and my love for this place, its people and its culture. And yes, we do go to school here, it's just hidden in between our trips. --Sarah Slotsema
One of my favorite aspects of studying in Honduras has been living with a Honduran family. After 3 months, they have adopted me as a member of the family, and I have developed deep and loving relationships. They are the ones that encourage me to keep practicing my Spanish, and I am forever grateful for their patience and grace as I continue to learn about their culture and refine my conversation skills. --Josie Baar

One great thing about the Honduran semester is that you have the chance to study something related to your major for the length of the semester. Being a nursing student, I was able to observe in a hospital’s maternity ward three days a week. Having the opportunity to see firsthand the realities of the health care system in another country has been an eye opening experience that I would have never understood without coming here. --Carissa Brink
Antes de ir a España, tuve muchas opiniones de que la experiencia sería; la cultura, la gente, la comida, la ciudad. Mi propia hermana fue a España vía Calvin también, y muchas de mis ideas de Oviedo vinieron de su experiencia. A pesar de las cosas semejantes de todos los otros que fueron a Oviedo, aprendí después de un ratito, que mi experiencia es mía – única. Por eso, es importante darse cuenta de que mi experiencia de la gente y la cultura no es cierta para todos. Por ejemplo, mi mamá cocinó mucha comida saludable, incluyó muchos vegetales. Además, cada noche para el postre, comimos un kiwi – una fruta muy asturiana. Pero, una amiga de nuestro grupo de Calvin, nunca comió un kiwi en Oviedo, y nunca tuvo ninguna idea de que los kiwis fueron populares en Asturias.

En Oviedo, viví en un apartamento pequeño muy central de la ciudad. Para caminar a la universidad o al Campo de San Francisco, no pasa nada – todo estaba cerca. Viví con una mamá y una perra (se llama Tina Turner), y en nuestro edificio vivían su hermana, sobrinos, hija y
madre. Eso fue divertido porque yo conocía a muchos de mis vecinos, y todos eran simpáticos. La ciudad, por general, es muy diferente de las ciudades en los Estados Unidos, y muy diferente de lo que yo pensé antes de llegar. Algo muy obvio es la naturaleza, o la falta de naturaleza en Oviedo (con excepción del Campo de San Francisco), por eso, subí al Cristo de Monte Naranco muchas veces. A pesar de todas mis aventuras y viajes en Europa, creo que mi lugar favorito es Monte Naranco. Monte Naranco me recordó de Michigan – los sonidos, los olores, la vista; además, fue una manera para escapar – más que de la ciudad, de la tarea, los estudios, el estrés, la morriña. Fue una oportunidad para pensar y compartir todos los pensamientos con mis compañeras – algo muy importante, porque fue fácil a sentirme sola en España, y la oportunidad de recordarme de que “no estoy sola” tuvo mucho valor.

Para resumir mi experiencia, digo que vivir en Oviedo cambió mi vida, y la recomendaría a cada persona que quiere desafiarse, cambiarse y crecerse en cada parte de su vida. --Arielle Veenstra
In 1971, newlyweds Marilyn and Neal Bierling set out for Ulysses, Kansas to serve as VISTA volunteers living and working with Mexican-American migrants. Having grown up in the sixties, Marilyn recalls feeling called to do something significant for others. Many years later, Marilyn and Neal revisited Ulysses and found the same five families and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren still living in the homes the Bierlings helped them build. That dedication to knowing and serving others across cultural and linguistic lines has been a constant in Marilyn’s life. From working as camp manager for seven summers at the Ekron/Tel Miqne excavations in Israel (and acquiring an Israeli son-in-law in the process) to founding and serving as first director of the Calvin Spanish semester program in Honduras by way of a stint at Aquinas College teaching with Catholic nuns and, more recently, traveling to Cuba to help preserve the stories of early Cuban immigrants, Marilyn has relished these global connections and opportunities.

That early work with migrants has proved formative in more ways than one. Marilyn had only two years of Spanish under her belt as she began her time in Ulysses, but became fluent through this immersion experience and learned first-hand the way language expresses culture and community. After the Bierlings’ time as volunteers, Marilyn returned to her Spanish studies with renewed interest, graduating with a teaching major and eventually pursuing an M.A. in Romance Linguistics and a PhD in Spanish. In recent years she has taught
courses on Hispanic immigration to Calvin students, and her sabbatical research on Cuban immigrants helps the Christian Reformed Church understand the first stages of its diversification. Over the past number of years she has translated and interpreted for Justice for Our Neighbors and at immigration clinics. Her scholarly work has ranged from a translation of archaeological studies on the Phoenicians in Spain to sociolinguistic phenomena such as pronoun use and Sephardic Spanish to syncretism in Mexico. And the understanding of cross-cultural adjustment she began to acquire as a VISTA volunteer has no doubt stood her in good stead as she has shepherded hundreds of Calvin students through their own intercultural journey while studying in Mexico, in Spain, in Honduras, and in Peru. This past fall Marilyn finished directing her tenth semester abroad in eighteen years.

A little known fact about Marilyn is that she taught first-year Spanish at Calvin as an undergraduate, the second semester of that course while she was also student teaching. This generosity with her time, enabled by a truly impressive work ethic, has remained consistent throughout her professional life. Marilyn has taught a wide variety of courses over the years and has in fact embraced the challenge of new course preparations. For instance, though she is primarily a linguist, she has taught Introduction to Hispanic Literatures as well as our history, culture, and literature survey; Spanish, Honduran, and Peruvian culture; and a senior integrative seminar on Hispanic Immigration. She loves learning and has inspired a similar enthusiasm in her students, who say that they finally understand aspects of
language or culture that had never become clear to them before. They also say that she models for them a way to be a gracious, committed, caring Christian professional. It is very fitting that this spring Marilyn was selected for the From Every Nation Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Teaching at Calvin was, according to Marilyn, her dream job. It would be impossible to overstate her dedication to her students, to the Spanish Department, and to the college. Marilyn has served as department chair and also on virtually every committee in the department, as well as on many campus-wide committees. As chair she oversaw an ambitious curriculum revision, including the expansion of offerings in Linguistics. As she enters retirement she will finally have more time for favorite activities such as camping, travel, and spending time with her parents, children, and grandchildren. Calvin College is greatly indebted to Marilyn, and she has shown much joy in her work here. We will miss her quiet encouragement, her Christian example, and her passion for all things intercultural.
NACFLA


Scott Lamanna

In addition, Scott Lamanna presented a paper at the 25th Conference on Spanish in the United States/10th Conference on Spanish in Contact with Other Languages at the City College of New York entitled “Maintenance of Colombian Pronominal Address Patterns in a Dialect Contact Situation in North Carolina”. This presentation was part of a panel he organized with several colleagues at other universities on Spanish(es) in the Carolinas. Professor Lamanna also published a review of the book Christian Faith and English Language Teaching and Learning: Research on the Interrelationship of Religion and ELT in the 2015 volume of the Journal of Christianity and Foreign Languages.

Dwight TenHuisen and Maria Rodríguez

Our heartfelt congratulations go to Dwight TenHuisen who has been promoted to Full Professor and Maria Rodriguez who has been reappointed for three years.
Marcie Pyper and Cynthia Slagter

In addition to the paper presented at NACFLA, Marcie Pyper and Cynthia Slagter completed two more mutual projects this year: a paper “Student Intentionality and Personal Volition: Keys to Successful Language Learning during Study Abroad” presented by Professor Slagter at the First International Conference on Spanish in Study Abroad Programs, Learning in a Cultural Immersion Context in Alcalá de Henares in June 2015 and “Competing priorities: Student perceptions of helps and hindrances to language acquisition during study abroad” published in *Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad* 2015.

Alisa Tigchelaar

Alisa Tigchelaar recently published an English translation of the Medieval troubadour poem “Veles i vents” and an article on the drama of an Early Modern Spanish nun: “Christ with Us” in the Seventeenth-Century Carmelite Convent: María de san Alberto’s Dramatic Recasting of the Nativity.” Moving beyond Catholic spirituality, she taught a course on minority religions/ethnicities in the Hispanic World - Jews, Muslims and Protestant Christians- this spring for the first time.

Marcie Pyper

Marcie Pyper made yet one more presentation at the 9th International Conference on Language Teacher Education in Minneapolis in May 2015 titled “Living the Dream: Designing an Elementary WL Field Experience to Match Pedagogical Goals”.

Pablo Villalta

Pablo Villalta returned to Honduras. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.
Please consider making a donation to help fund the Elsa Cortina scholarship. This scholarship aids students interested in studying Spanish during a semester abroad in Spain. Visit the [Spanish Department website](#) for more information on this scholarship. [Click here](#) to learn how you can donate and make a difference in the life of a student at Calvin.

We love to hear from our alumni! There are many ways you can get reconnected with the Spanish Department at Calvin. Whether that is by sharing your story on the department website, joining us for Spanish chapel on Tuesdays at 10:00am (usually in the Meeter Center Lecture Hall), or organizing a night to give a presentation or talk with students about whatever you are passionate about—you are welcome!

If you are interested in getting involved in the department in any of these ways or would like to know more about how else you could get connected, please contact the department chair, [Professor Marcie Pyper](#), or [Professor Olena Shkatulo](#).