that two students could work with her to research a German-language newspaper published in Waco around the turn of the twentieth century.

We also “fling our green and gold afar” by helping students to engage in research beyond campus. This year, undergraduate students presented papers at professional conferences under the guidance of Dr. Lilly Souza-Fuertes and Prof. Janet Norden. In April 2014, the Baylor team won several delegate awards at the Model Arab League competition at Texas A&M University-Commerce under the guidance of faculty mentor Dr. Mark Long. Four students in the MLC Japanese program competed in the Dallas Regional Japanese Speech Contest in February, one of whom advanced to the State Competition held in Houston during March. In all of these ways, we are helping to fulfill Baylor’s mission “to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.”

If you would like to support MLC students and programs, please visit www.baylor.edu/mlc and click “Give to MLC.”

Happy reading, and I would love to hear from you.

Heidi Bostic, Chair
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Department of Modern Languages and Cultures Undergraduate Research Small Grant for Fall 2014 allowed two students to research German-American history in the Waco area. Mentored by Associate Professor of German Dr. Jennifer Good, Katherine Kappelmann and Elise Kappelmann had the unique opportunity to conduct original research in The Texas Collection at Baylor University Libraries.

Their research focused on the Waco Post, a German language newspaper published in Waco from 1891–1936. The students worked extensively with the original documents, and in the process became expert researchers of census and immigration records. Katherine’s project focused on the editors and publishers of the newspaper to determine who the individuals were who had successfully published a German paper in a time of increasing anti-German sentiment due to the world wars.

“One of the most helpful sources of information for the editors came from the obituaries I discovered about them in the Waco Post,” Katherine explained. “I hadn’t realized how invaluable an obituary can be as a source; they provide details about the person’s life, often with an emphasis on the family’s view of their lives.”

The Germans felt very strongly that Prohibition was an attack on their cultural heritage.

Thanks to the obituaries in the Waco Post, I was able to gain a much more complete picture of the lives of the editors.” Elise’s project was concerned with the contentious issue of Prohibition in the Waco area and in Texas, and how differently the issue was reported and commented on in German-language newspapers compared with English-language papers.

As Elise noted, “It was fascinating to study the advertisements and editorials about Prohibition in the newspapers. The Germans felt very strongly that Prohibition was an attack on their cultural heritage. English-language newspapers revealed a more positive view towards Prohibition. I even found out that Pat Neff, future governor of Texas and president of Baylor, was a leading figure in supporting Prohibition in Waco.”

Dr. Good explains, “These newspaper archives and the German-American community of Waco and McLennan County have been neglected to such a degree that all the work done by this research team will be valuable to the discussion of central Texas history and the German-American immigration story in Texas.”

Katherine Kappelmann is a University Scholars major with concentrations in German, History, and Great Texts, and Elise is a Baylor Business Fellows major in economics and insurance, with secondary majors in German and History. They plan to present their research at a conference and to write up the results for publication in a scholarly journal.
Each year, Baylor’s Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement program hosts Scholars Week, an opportunity for Baylor students to present their original research prepared with the guidance of a faculty mentor. In 2014, as in past years, Modern Languages and Cultures had a stronger presence at Scholar’s Week than any other department.

MLC sponsored 26 student presentations, including 23 platform talks and 3 posters. The languages represented were Spanish, French, Russian, and German. There were also sessions from Latin American Studies and the Global Community Living-Learning Center.

Some of the topics were: South American wildlife tourism and protection of life, Spanish language and culture, poverty in South Africa, the representation of women in French literature, Russian literature, and gender roles in German fairy tales. Congratulations to all of our student presenters and their faculty mentors!

In 2014, as in past years, Modern Languages and Cultures had a stronger presence at Scholar’s Week than any other department.

In Spring 2013, the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures launched the Undergraduate Research Small Grant (URSG) program. Its objectives are to promote and expand research participation in MLC disciplines by undergraduate students, to engage students in active faculty/student collaborative learning relationships, and to support MLC faculty research. Continuing faculty are eligible to apply to have a student research assistant for one semester.

To date, the following projects have been funded: In Spring 2014, Dr. Fred Loa studied “Business Trends: Bridging the Cultural Communication Gap in Global Markets Expansion,” with student researcher Victoria Tijerina. In Fall 2013, Dr. Jennifer Good researched “Divided Loyalties in Central Texas: Making Sense of World Events in the German-Language Waco Post 1910-1936,” with student researchers Elise Kappelmann and Katherine Kappelmann. In Spring 2013, the department funded three research projects: Dr. Holly Collins’ article on “(Dis)Memory and Genocide in Rwanda,” with student researcher Jake Abell; Dr. Karol Hardin’s project “Assessing and Improving Communication in Spanish-speaking Patient Interactions with Medical Personnel at the Famili-
Baylor’s Japanese program has been especially active this semester. In February, under the guidance of faculty mentor Prof. Yuko Prefume, Senior Lecturer in Japanese, four students participated in the Dallas Japanese Speech Contest, sponsored by the Dallas Japanese Association. Scott Sykes, a Senior University Scholar and a Japanese minor, received a fourth-place award. Miki Wang, a Junior Biology major and a Japanese minor, received a second-place award and advanced to the Texas state contest in Houston in March. Miki was also selected by Baylor as the first participant in the new Hosei University Summer Japanese Program, thanks to which she will spend three weeks studying in Tokyo during summer 2014.

On March 29, Baylor’s Japanese Student Association hosted its popular annual Japanese Spring Festival on campus at the North Village Community Center.

On April 16 about 50 Baylor students, accompanied by Prof. Yoshiko Gaines, Regular Lecturer in Japanese, enjoyed a trip to Austin for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a traditional Japanese rakugo, or theatrical comic monologue performance. They were invited by Japanese faculty members at the University of Texas-Austin.

**MLC UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH GRANTS CONTINUED**

Ily Health Center—Waco, Texas,” with student researcher Carlos Silva, and Dr. Scott Spinks’ article on “The Mistrust of the Poor in the *Siète Partidas* and *Conde Lucanor*,” with student researcher Dillon Camp.

Upcoming in Fall 2014, Prof. Janet Norden will conduct research on “Exploring B. Traven’s ‘to-and-fro’ Techniques via Integral Theory” with student researchers Tieleena Smith, Victoria Haskins, and Carolyn Tucker.

**MODEL ARAB LEAGUE GOING STRONG**

Baylor’s Model Arab League team recently participated in the Southwest Model Arab League regional competition held 3-5 April 2014 at Texas A&M University–Commerce. Baylor’s team—advised by Dr. Mark Long, who teaches courses in Middle East Studies—won 10 delegate awards.

The Model Arab League is closely related to MLC’s course offerings in Arabic and Middle East Studies and is excellent example of an opportunity for undergraduates to engage in research.

The experience deepens students’ knowledge of the history, culture, religion, economics and politics of both their assigned country and the region as a whole. Students develop and sharpen skills in debate, consensus-building, critical thinking, parliamentary procedure and public speaking.

Arguing positions and foreign policy objectives of Arab States, participants gain a meaningful understanding of the issues underlying U.S.-Arab relations. See the full story at www.baylor.edu/media communications/news.

**STUDENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Prof. Janet Norden’s student Derek Byrnes (Business) presented “Integral Perspectives on Human Dignity in B. Traven’s *Assembly Line*,” at the XVth Annual Céfiro Conference, Texas Tech, Lubbock, 17-19 April, 2014.

Dr. Lilly Souza-Fuertes’ students Nathalia Goncalves and Dustin Lyles presented “Human Trafficking and the World Cup” and “Mexican-American Immigration: Past Problems and Future Solutions,” respectively, at the Latin American Studies Symposium, 11-12 April 2014.