

Kaleidoscope

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Andrade appointed advisor to Ecuador

By Elise Henshaw

Dr. Marcel Andrade, associate professor of Spanish, has been appointed advisor to the government of Ecuador. Dr. Claudio Malo, Minister of Education for Ecuador, made the announcement Aug 9, 1982.

As Assessor for International Cultural Matters, Andrade will advise Malo, who serves as minister of education, culture and sports. Andrade describes Malo as "very enlightened and dynamic."

Malo is currently conducting research on the theory of humor, specifically the folk humor of the different regions of Ecuador. Andrade is assisting in the research of the special bibliographies which this book will contain. "The resources are not as complete there [in Ecuador]," he said.

Andrade explained that a literacy campaign holds top priority in Ecuador today. At the same time, "there has been a rebirth in cultural endeavors. The standard of living has been raised by money from oil which was discovered in Ecuador," he said. Andrade noted that "Ecuador has always been a fairly stable country," in regard to its economy and standard of living.

Andrade said that he will advise

the minister on "suggestions and proposals for projects related to cultural anthropology and other areas within my field." Working with a \$5000 grant, Andrade is presently heading a research project in Hispanic body language.

Andrade has written four books. The most widely circulated of these, *Cultural Contrasts: Hispanic - North American*, is used widely as a text book and manual. The official publication of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management characterizes the book as "a delightful publication which contrasts the basic cultural differences between Hispanic and non-Hispanic North Americans."

Andrade describes his book as a "simple, basic, down-to-earth, easy to understand presentation, not a scholarly work." He collected material for the book over a 20-year period.

After coming to the United States he "began to take notice of the cultural differences between Hispanics and non-Hispanic North Americans." He narrowed a collection of 300 differences to 50, and by careful research determined which were common to all Hispanics. These provided the subject of his book.

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Dr. Marcel Andrade, pictured, shows his adaptation of *El Cid*, for intermediate Spanish students. Photo by David Pickett

Alarms unheeded

By Sara Orozco

And the shepherd boy cried, "Wolf! Wolf! Wolf!" or was that, "Fire! Fire! Fire!"?

Most UNCA students, like the villagers who no longer reacted to the cry of wolf, largely ignore fire alarm warnings.

"I've been living on campus for two years now and I don't think I've

ever seen anyone take an alarm warning seriously," says Kelly Distl, a UNCA student.

The new high-rise building recently experienced its fifth false alarm. "The first time everyone took it seriously. The second time only about two-thirds of the people evacuated, and by the third time in that same night hardly anyone cooperated!" says Julie Thompson, a freshman living in the high-rise building.

Sam Ledford says that, as a resident assistant [RA], he is responsible for getting everyone out of the building and making sure all of the windows and doors are shut. The hardest part is trying to get everyone to evacuate, especially those in the fifth, sixth, and seventh floors, three times in the same night, or at such odd hours as 4 a.m., 7 a.m., or 11 p.m.!"

The fire alarm system in the new high-rise building consists of four smoke detectors per floor; two on each wing. There are also special telephone plugs on each floor which provide firefighters with a means of communication among themselves during an emergency.

When the alarm system goes off the elevators automatically stop working and go to the bottom floor. The housing director gives evacuation instructions over the public address system. Each person exits to the stairway at the end of his hall.

The stairway offers some protection from both fire and smoke. At the top of each stairway is an automatic fan which should prevent smoke from entering the stairway.

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