

# News

## Meredith Celebrates Spanish Culture with Espectacular: A Night of Poetry, Music and Theater

Jenny Gerardo, staff writer

The students of Dr. Wade's Development of Theater class and Dr. Hunt's Spanish 252 filled Johnson Hall Rotunda with laughter and applause on Thursday, April 3. The students hosted Espectacular, an event that showcased Spanish poetry, music and theater.

Throughout the night students recited poems from famous Spanish writers and personal pieces, while also performing two plays. *La Tierra de Jauja* by Lope de Rueda tells the story of Honzigeria and Panarizo, two very poor men, who take advantage of a man named Mendrugo by stealing the food he takes to his wife in jail. They distract him with the story of a legendary paradise while they take turns taking Mendrugo's food. The second play was titled *El Marion*. This comical play is set in a world where the roles of men and women are reversed. In the play Don Constanzo is visited during the night by three women suitors. The suitor's attempts to woo Don Constanzo get out of hand and cause Constanzo's father to stand up and defend his household honor. Once Constanzo's innocence is confirmed, his dad throws a party.

Dr. Wade also took part in the night's events. He performed a soliloquy from the famous Spanish drama titled *La vida es seuno*. This drama tells the story of a prince who has been confined to a prison-tower since birth. In the soliloquy the audience sees how after getting a taste of freedom the prince struggles to figure out what is real.

America Moreno a student from Dr. Wade's class who played Don Constanzo in *El marion* explained the significant of her participation in the event, "I had a lot of fun with the production of *El marion*. Dr. Wade was great about giving us creative freedom with the play and letting us make it our own. We all worked really hard to make our actions as loud as our words so non-Spanish speakers could understand it and enjoy just as much as the Spanish speakers. I'm happy we've bonded and grown closer together as a class" she said.

Whether students need on-campus fliers approved, funding information for organization events, or advice on how to start a club on campus, their answers can always be found in the Office of Student Leadership and Service (SLS). According to the Director of SLS, Ms. Cheryl Jenkins, "When I started here [SLS] was known as Student Activities and Leadership Development, and in 2009 it switched to Student Leadership and Service to incorporate the service aspect."

## SLS Changes Impact Student Organizations

Cody Jeffery, assistant editor

Some of SLS' 2013-2014 goals include revamping student organizations with the new Student Organization Registration Process, offering consistent information regarding club activities and funding, and working with Meredith's Strong Points team to incorporate the experiential aspect of the program into student leadership roles. "The new registration process for clubs is not about more paperwork, it's about having organizations that contribute meaning and purpose to campus," said Ms. Jenkins.

Another change that will affect student organizations is "the word 'girl(s)' can no longer be used on imprinted merchandise, including t-shirts," said Ms. Jenkins. Although Marketing primarily reviews and handles how the Meredith brand is incorporated or distributed, SLS "helps [students] make sure that their messaging is consistent with Meredith's new message," said new Assistant Director of SLS, Ms. Heather Johnson. Ms. Johnson added that the changes in SLS were incorporated to help students "think about how they're connecting things, not just with what they're doing in their leadership roles, but to other parts of their life as well." In addition to on-campus leadership opportunities, new Assistant Director of SLS, Ms. Peggy Ross, wants to "try to connect students here at Meredith with the Raleigh community through service."

SLS' future plans include reviewing end-of-year club reports, analyzing collected data, and brainstorming ideas on how to improve processes for next semester. "We already have many summer planning meetings scheduled where we will get the chance to think about who we are and what we want to be. New people bring new ideas and new freshness. And at the end of it all, our biggest goal is to benefit the students," said Ms. Jenkins.

## Classifieds

Rentals

Great townhouse for rent 5 minutes from NC State Campus and Interstate 40. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, lots of closets, eat-in kitchen, living room with fireplace, dining room, washer/dryer and all appliances included, security system, deck, front porch, and plenty of storage space. Please call and leave message @ 919-389-2719.

## Psychiatrics an Underlying Factor in Fort Hood Shooting

Marlena Brown, news editor

Personnel at the base in Fort Hood, Killeen, Texas experienced a serious breach of security with a violent shooting on Thursday, April 3. The suspected shooter, Army Spc. Ivan Lopez, a 34 year-old Iraq veteran, suddenly open fired on his colleagues, killing 3 innocent bystanders, injuring 16 others and then killing himself shortly thereafter. The reasons attributed to the suspected shooter's random outburst have been questioned by Fort Hood personnel, as well as psychiatrists and military officials.

According to Al Jazeera English, Lopez was diagnosed with depression and anxiety. He was also diagnosed with PTSD, commonly known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Four month before the incident, Lopez had been deployed to Iraq and returned with a "self-diagnosed traumatic brain injury." The PTSD was considered a concurrent problem, but his history of depression and anxiety being foremost.

After some investigation, Fort Hood officials believe that PTSD is not an accurate indicator of whether someone will act in a violent and impulsive

manner. Dr. Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, chief clinical officer for D.C.'s Department of Mental Health, explained to Al Jazeera that "most mental illness is not associated with violence."

CNN reported that Lopez was carrying his own weapon, a .45 caliber Smith and Wesson semiautomatic pistol he purchased after arriving in Killeen. He took his weapon on the base, which is against regulation. If someone who is not a military officer chooses to bring their personal weapon with them, they must register it with the base, which Lopez did not do. This left ripe opportunity to be ac-

cused of having prior motivation for murdering fellow base officers.

Five years ago, a similar incident took place on the base and it seems that an unkind reminder has visited Killeen. Former Army Sgt. Alonzo Lunsford expressed his views on the shooting to CNN: "You have to wonder, five years later, have we learned anything from the shootings that happened with us?" This same question seems to be resonating in the minds of many, as they reflect on the events that have occurred thus far.

CSA Day photos by Julia Dent

