

Faculty News

William Comer, Professor of Russian and Section Head, was elected President of the American Association of the Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages in 2023. His article “Exploring the lexical profile of advanced L2 writers: Longitudinal data from the Russian Overseas Flagship Program” appeared in *The Modern Language Journal* in Spring 2023.

Cassio de Oliveira, Associate Professor of Russian, published [*Writing Rogues: The Soviet Picaresque and Identity Formation, 1921-1938*](#), from McGill-Queen’s University Press in Spring 2023. He was also awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend to work on his new book, entitled *Mark Twain’s Mississippi Writings in the Soviet Imagination*.

Annabelle Dolidon, Professor of French, published [*CONTINUUM: French Science Fiction Short Stories*](#), co-edited with Dr. Tessa Sermet of Lake Forest College (IL), and published by Ooligan Press. The book was launched on April 9th at Annie Bloom bookshop in Multnomah Village with a celebratory reading and a lively discussion with the audience. *CONTINUUM* offers nine stories translated in English, each accompanied by extra information and discussion questions for book groups, classes, or just for fun. It is available at Powells and on Amazon.

Isabel Jaén Portillo, Professor of Spanish, recently published ““From body to world: empathy and the transformative power of cinematic imagination” in the science/interdisciplinary journal *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*; the article has garnered 2,669 views and downloads since publication in March 2024. She also delivered the public talk/plenary session “Empathy and the Transformative Power of Fiction” for the Transformative Humanities Lecture Series and the

International Conference of Three Societies on Literature and Science at the University of Birmingham, UK (April 2024). As part of the citywide events of [Shakespeare's First Folio: 1623-2023](#), an initiative in partnership with PSU and other arts organizations, she delivered the talk "Shakespeare, Cervantes, and Mental Health" at PSU on May 2024.

Stéphanie Roulon, Teaching Assistant Professor of French, co-authored the textbook [#OnYGo](#), published in January 2024. [#OnYGo](#) is an innovative, Open Education Resource e-textbook that takes a multimodal, multicultural and translanguaging approach to the instruction of beginning French. Through authentic materials and activities, [#OnYGo](#) makes the learning of French varieties and cultures accessible to all, by promoting linguistic justice and transforming learning in engaging ways that equip students as globally aware, empathetic citizens engaged with the entire francophone world. The textbook is being piloted at PSU, Florida Atlantic University, Pacific University, and Southern Connecticut University. [#OnYGo](#) won the [CALICO](#) 2024 Access to Language Education Award (ALE).