Basque Studies Library awarded NEH grant

The Basque Studies Library of the University of Nevada, Reno Libraries is the recipient of a $248,000 grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to create a database of materials on Basque language, culture, and history. The database will include bibliographic records for around 30,000 books, articles, documents, and other materials from 1994 to the present, including full text of the materials when possible. The information will be accessible to the public via the Internet, and it will be possible to conduct searches in English, Spanish, or Basque.

The database will provide the first integrated access to the growing body of multi-disciplinary literature on Basque topics, and will serve as a high quality reference tool for scholars in the field, as well as for the casual information seeker. The widespread availability of the information through the Internet, along with the multilingual interface, is a boon for researchers throughout the world, who would otherwise find it difficult to access these materials, and certainly would not find them in one convenient location.

According to the text of the grant, “A large body of periodical literature that has never been indexed will be represented in the database, along with records for Basque films, CDs, documents, pamphlets, book chapters, and books. Basque popular culture will be represented as well as the results of academic research. The database will provide strong support to distance education initiatives. The full text component will bring important Basque Studies literature to the desktops of readers everywhere, any time.”

The grant also states, “The Basque Studies database initiative at UNR will take advantage of a favorable conjunction of conditions. The Basque Studies Library (a unit of the UNR Libraries) and the world-renowned Center for Basque Studies work extremely closely. The Center, which has recently received a significant amount of new support, is deeply committed to the development of Web resources for the dissemination of information, and the Library’s dean [Steven Zink, Vice President for Information Technology and Dean of Libraries] is a campus leader in the use of information technology. The database development team has the necessary skills, energy and interest, and the infrastructure is excellent.”

Materials from 1994 on will be entered into the new database.

The grant request was written by Joseba Zulaika, Center Director; Marc Ugalde, Basque Studies Librarian; and Donnelyn Curtis, Director of Research Services, University of Nevada, Reno Libraries. Project directors include Marcelino Ugalde; Kathryn Etcheverria, Basque cataloger; and Donnelyn Curtis. The project is expected to be finalized within two years.
The Center for Basque Studies Newsletter is a semi-annual publication sent free of charge to any interested person. If you would like to receive the newsletter in paper format, please send your name and postal address to:

Center for Basque Studies / 322 University of Nevada, Reno Reno, NV 89557-0012

Or e-mail us at: basque@unr.edu

The newsletter is also available electronically, in a printable format. If you would like to receive the newsletter in electronic format, thus saving printing and postage costs, please let us know your e-mail address.

Please visit our web site: basque.unr.edu

Produced by Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno. Jill Berner, editor.

The Center for Basque Studies was delighted to welcome some distinguished visitors this past winter. Councilor Anjeles Iztueta, head of the Basque Government’s Department of Education, Universities, and Research and Vice-Consul Abel Ariznabarreta from the Department of Education, along with assistant Amaia Goikoetxea, were in Reno February 7–11. They attended the CBS Advisory Board’s third annual winter meeting, held on Saturday the 8th, and the following week met with several administrators and faculty of the University of Nevada, Reno.

On February 10, Center faculty and staff gave the visitors a presentation of our current research and projects, many of which have been funded by subsidies resulting from the recent Agreement of Collaboration. In our last issue, we reported on the Agreement that was signed by the General Administration of the Basque Autonomous Community—including the General Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of the Presidency of the Government; the Department of Education, Universities, and Research; and the Department of Culture—and the Center for Basque Studies of the University of Nevada, Reno.

The object of the Agreement, which provides economic assistance to the Center in the amount of $96,000 annually, is to promote the knowledge of Basque heritage and culture, and to promote closer ties between the Basque people and other cultures. To this end, the funds will provide for digitalization and cataloging of bibliographic sources in the Basque Studies Library of the University of Nevada, Reno; assist with development of online courses in English; assist with organization of conferences and seminars relating to Basque culture; and fund production of various publications, including a Basque Classics Series and a Basque Literature Series (see related article on p. 7). The Center for Basque Studies is very grateful to receive this generous support from the Basque Government.

On the afternoon of February 10, Councilor Iztueta delivered a public lecture on “Education and Universities in the Autonomous Basque Country: A European Dimension.” The lecture discussed current policies of the Department, including curriculum models that allow instruction mostly in Basque, and changes planned for the next few years.

The contingent visited three other Basque communities during their ten-day U.S. stay: Gardnerville, Nevada; Boise, Idaho; and San Francisco, California, where they attended the North American Basque Organizations’ spring meeting and the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center’s 21st anniversary celebration.
The CBS Advisory Board, headed by chairman John Echeverria, met on Saturday, February 8 to discuss future endeavors. Much of the discussion centered on funding for several proposed initiatives, including the creation of a foundation. The Board also viewed a presentation on Basque genealogical searches by specialist Alberto Alday. Present at the meeting were two Basque

Government representatives, Councilor Anjeles Iztueta of the Department of Education, Universities, and Research, and Vice-Consul Abel Ariznabarreta from the Department of Education, along with Press Secretary Amaia Goikoetxea. Several of the CBS’ current projects have been carried out with assistance from the Basque Government’s Department of Education, Universities, and Research; the Department of Exterior Affairs; and the Department of Culture.

The meeting was held at John Ascuaga’s Nugget Hotel and Casino in Sparks. The Board welcomed new members Roy Eiguren of Boise, Idaho and Joe Goicoechea of Townsville, North Queensland, Australia. Also present at the meeting, in addition to Chairman Echeverria and Vice-Chairman William A. Douglass, were Board members Anita Anacabe-Franzoia, Michonne Ascuaga, José María Basagoiti, Pete Cenarrusa, José Ramón Cengotitabengoa, Emilia Doyaga, Pete Ernaut, Pello Salaburu, Carmelo Urza, and Joseba Zulaika. Board Secretary Sandra Ott was also in attendance.

CBS Advisory Board Chair John Echeverria

Interview with the Chairman of the Board, John Echeverria

by Jill Berner

JB: What do you see as the role of the Center’s Advisory Board?
JE: I see the Board as a unique group of persons of predominantly Basque descent who are in a position to work with the Center on new ideas, new directions for the Center, and the potential for securing long-term financing for the Center. There are people on the Board who I think can have a significant impact on generating support throughout the worldwide Basque community, both intellectually and financially, for the future of the CBS. The CBS is uniquely positioned; with the more than thirty years that Bill Douglass [former Center Director and Advisory Board Vice-Chair] devoted to it, it is now in a situation where he can step back from the day-to-day involvement and have some vision for the future, without having to worry about everyday concerns. It’s been very rewarding for me to be able to visit with Bill about where he’s been, and some ideas he has for the future. He is infusing a great deal of enthusiasm among the other board members, particularly among the smaller group we put together for the fundraising committee. The enthusiasm he generates is really infectious, and I can see how he got this Center to the point it is now. I see a wonderful future for it, with Joseba Zulaika at the helm, and I think the Center along with the Board is in a position to really do something unique and special for Basques worldwide.

JB: How does the Board tie into the Basque Community? Should we have more of a role there?
JE: From my perspective, as a third-generation Basque from Reno, about all I knew about the Center was that it existed. I didn’t know any details about what it did, its mission. That’s not a criticism of anyone, just a realization that maybe there’s an opportunity here to fill a void and make Basques everywhere more aware of what

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Irish journalist Paddy Woodworth lectures in Reno—
Book launch of Yale Books’ *Dirty War, Clean Hands*


Since the September 11th attacks in the U.S., the “war against terrorism” has been invoked by world leaders as an imperative for a wide range of military and political campaigns. Woodworth, author of *Dirty War, Clean Hands: ETA, the GAL and Spanish Democracy*, discussed the strategies of the Madrid government in combating the Basque terrorist group ETA over the last 40 years. In particular, he talked about what happens when a democratic administration begins to use terrorist methods—kidnappings, torture and death squads—against a terrorist group, as occurred under the Spanish Socialist Party governments in the 1980s. He argued that such a strategy undermines democracy’s best arguments against terrorism in principle, and has a deeply negative effect in practice.

Paddy Woodworth
Author and journalist Paddy Woodworth published *Dirty War, Clean Hands*, a study of terrorism and state terrorism in contemporary Spain, in 2001 (Cork University Press). The book was a best-seller in Ireland and well-reviewed internationally by publications ranging from *Time* magazine to the *Financial Times*. It was described by Sebastian Balfour in the *Times Literary Supplement* as “a brilliant piece of investigative journalism,” and by Paul Preston in *The Irish Times* as “one of the most important books about post-Franco Spain ever published.” It was also published in Spain in May 2002 by Critica, where it received widespread coverage and good reviews. Yale University Press published the paperback version in Ireland and Britain in November 2002, and in the U.S. in March 2003. The U.S. launch took place on March 11th, presented by the Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno.

Paddy Woodworth has written extensively for the *Irish Times*, where he was a staff journalist from 1988 to 2002, first as arts editor and later as an editor and contributor on the foreign desk. He has also written for the *Sunday Times*, the *Scotsman*, the *World Policy Journal* (New York), *El País*, and *Politica Exterior*. He works regularly for RTE, the BBC and Spanish national television and radio. He has lectured on topics related to his book at the London School of Economics, Dublin City University, University College Cork, the Instituto Cervantes and the Royal Dublin Society.

Paddy Woodworth is currently working as a freelance writer on several projects, including the Basque and Northern Irish conflicts; historical memory, amnesia and the Spanish Civil War; a book on human culture and natural history; and an article on architecture and the reinvention of cities. Mr. Woodworth was born in Co. Wicklow, Ireland, and presently lives in Dublin. He has a degree in English Language and Literature from Trinity College, Dublin.

“One of the most analytical, serious and well-documented books on State terrorism and its dreadful socio-political implications...essential reading, not only for academics and scholars, but for the general public.”
— Pedro J. Oiarzabal,
*Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*
Minoo Moallem: Gender & Fundamentalism after 9/11

Minoo Moallem lectured on “Modernist Tropes, Postmodern Encounters: Gender and Fundamentalism after 9/11,” at the University of Nevada, Reno on November 21.

Dr. Minoo Moallem is an associate professor and chair of the Women Studies Department at San Francisco State University. She is co-editor (with Caren Kaplan and Norma Alarcón) of the groundbreaking book entitled Between Woman and Nation: Nationalisms, Transnational Feminisms and the State (Duke University Press, 1999). She is currently working on a book entitled Between Warrior Brother and Veiled Sister: Islamic Fundamentalism and the Cultural Politics of Patriarchy (forthcoming from University of California Press). Articles published include “Universalization of Particulars: The Civic Body and Gendered Citizenship in Iran,” from the audience and some interesting and lively debate.

Joseph A. Massad is assistant professor of modern Arab politics and intellectual history in the Department of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University. He is also Assistant Editor of the Journal of Palestine Studies, the leading quarterly devoted exclusively to the Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian affairs. He won the Malcolm Kerr Award from the Middle East Studies Association for his work, Colonial Effects: The Making of National Identity in Jordan (Columbia University Press, 2001).

Regarding the book Colonial Effects, Rashid Khalidi of the University of Chicago, one of the leading scholars in Palestinian studies, called it “Well written and tightly argued... One of the best of the new crop of studies that deal with the evolution of national identity in the Middle East.”

Joseph Massad: The Palestinian Question

The Center presented a lecture by Joseph A. Massad, “Racism, Nationalism, and Settler-Colonialism: The Persistence of the Palestinian Question,” on December 5 at the University of Nevada, Reno.

In his talk, Massad gave some background on Jewish and Arab relations and the rise of Zionism. He commented that the root of the Israeli-Palestinian dilemma is that the Israeli state is a racist (Jewish) state, and that the Palestinian population there is marginalized, threatened and encouraged to leave. He felt that the Palestinian question will persist as long as Zionism persists. He also said that after 9/11, parallels could be drawn between the war on terrorism and the Israeli war on Palestine. His comments drew many questions from the audience and some interesting and lively debate.

Prof. Massad has also written numerous articles on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, including “Return or Permanent Exile? Palestinian Refugees and the Ends of Oslo,” in Critique (Spring 1999); and “Palestinians and Jewish History: Recognition or Submission?” Journal of Palestine Studies (30:1, 2000).

This was the final lecture of the series Politics after 9/11 – Part 2, in which the Center brought top researchers in several fields of current interest to the campus. Assistance was provided by the Hilliard Committee and the Department of History, University of Nevada, Reno.
Highlights

For Spring 2003 we offered Ethnicity, Nation, and State in the Hispanic World, taught by visiting scholar José Portillo; Basque Cinema: An Introduction, taught by Joseba Gabilondo; and Second-Year Basque by Linda White.

On November 20, Gloria Totoricaguena gave a presentation on “Interconnected Disconnectedness: the Immigration Experience of Basque Women,” as part of a series of lectures sponsored by the Women’s Studies Department at the University of Nevada, Reno. The lecture was based on her interviews of several hundred Basque immigrants in six host countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Peru, the United States, and Uruguay.


Gloria Totoricaguena’s research regarding maintenance of religious identity among diaspora Basques in Idaho has been published in Euskones and Media, issue 190. The article, “Church of the Good Shepherd, Boise, Idaho, USA,” chronicles the development of the only specifically Basque church in the history of the United States.

Sandra Ott participated in a series of events at the University of Oxford in November marking the renewal of the agreement between the Basque Government (through Eusko Ikaskuntza) and the University that enables a Basque scholar to spend two terms or the full academic year as the Visiting Basque Fellow at St. Antony’s College, Oxford. The President of the Basque Country, Lehenadakari Jose Ibarretxe, was the guest of honor, and the Warden of St. Antony’s, Sir Marrack Goulding, presided and delivered a lecture. As coordinator of the Visiting Basque Fellowship scheme at the University of Oxford, Dr. Ott will also be promoting academic links between Oxford, Eusko Ikaskuntza, and CBS.

We congratulate CBS office manager Kate Camino and her husband Manuel Villanueva on their marriage on November 26 in Reno. Many of the bride’s family members from Euskadi were in attendance, and her uncle Father Joseph Camino along with Father Marcel Tillous assisted in the ceremony. Zorionak, Kate and Manu!

Joseba Gabilondo published an article in Sexualidad y escritura (1850-2000), edited by Raquel Medina and Barbara Zecchi (Barcelona: Anthropos, 2002). His contribution is entitled “Histéricos con casta: masculinidad y hegemonía nacional en la España de fin de siglo (para una arqueología feminista, torcida, marxista, poscolonial y posnacional del noventayochismo).”


The Basque daily Egunkaria published interviews with three Center for Basque Studies figures, conducted by journalist Miel A. Elustondo. The articles featured William A. Douglass, former coordinator of the Center, September 8; Gloria Totoricaguena, December 8; and Mike Bidart, Center Advisory Board member and noted Basque-American from Chino, California, December 29.


Well-known author Mark Kurlansky’s article “Unmask the Basques” appeared in The Globe and Mail (Toronto) on January 3. The article (available in full text on our web site) discusses what happens when a people are labelled “terrorists,” using the Basque case as an example. The article was written two weeks after a large public demonstration held in Bilbao against ETA and denouncing political violence.

Center faculty members Joseba Gabilondo and Joseba Zulaika were invited to join the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies, the most prestigious academic journal in the field of cultural studies in the Spanish area. They serve three-year terms from January 2003. Founding editors of the Journal are Jo Labanyi, Paul Julian Smith, Alberto Moreiras, and Teresa Vilaros.


Gloria Totoricaguena conducted fieldwork in December researching Basques in New York for a book in the Urazandi Series. One of the highlights was an interview with centenarian Gabrielle Amestoy, who emigrated to the U.S. in 1918 from Macaye. Ms. Amestoy celebrated her 100th birthday at the Euzko-Etxea of New York with a performance by the municipal choir of Biarritz.

William Douglass recently published his memoir, Casting About in the Reel World. Fishing on the Fly (RDR Books). It includes some of his many angling adventures in places such as Mongolia, China, the Russian Far East, Bikini Atoll, and the Amazon Basin. The book is more about the people (including Basques) and places than the fishing. Douglass also scrutinizes the sport of fly fishing with his anthropological eye.


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Center for Basque Studies mourns loss

The Center for Basque Studies was greatly saddened to hear of the death of esteemed colleague and Advisory Board member, Begoña Aretxaga. Begoña, originally from Donostia, passed away on December 28, 2002 in Texas after a long battle with cancer. She was 42.

Considered a brilliant anthropologist, Begoña received her Ph.D. from Princeton and went on to teach at Harvard, Princeton, Chicago, and as a tenured associate professor at the University of Austin, Texas. In 1994 she won the award for best anthropological essay of the year for a piece she wrote on Irish prisoners. She was also nominated for the coveted MacArthur “genius grant” two years ago, and was frequently invited to lecture at top universities.

The Center owes a large debt of gratitude to Begoña. In 1998 she was part of a three-person outside Program Review panel that assessed the Center and wrote a vigorous report asking for increased funding. Due to the highly positive report, UNR administrators became very supportive of the Center and included it on the budget priority list for the following legislative session. The Center received an increased state budget allowing the creation of two new positions.

When the decision was made to create an Advisory Board for the Center, Begoña was immediately considered because of her role in the Program Review and also because of her academic prominence. In spite of her failing health, Begoña was also a co-organizer and participant in the Center’s conference on “Nationalism, Globalization, and Terror: A Debate on Stateless Nations, Particularism/Universalism, and Radical Democracy,” held in April of 2002.

All at the Center would like to extend their condolences to her family and many friends. She will be sorely missed. Goian bego, Begoña.

Basque Literature Series editors meet to organize project

Prof. Marijose Olaziregi of the Department of Philology, University of the Basque Country (Vitoria) visited the CBS for two weeks in November to meet with colleagues here regarding the forthcoming Basque Literature Series. The series will consist of various works of contemporary Basque literature—one or two books each year—that will be translated into English. According to Dr. Olaziregi, “A very important aspect of the work is that the translations will be done directly from the Basque into English.” Most English translations done to date are taken from a Spanish translation of the original Basque text.

Dr. Linda White, a Basque literature specialist with the Center, will serve as series editor along with Dr. Olaziregi. The team will coordinate all aspects of the extensive project, which has received generous funding from a Basque Government grant (see page 2). The first book to be published will be an anthology of short stories by several authors. News about the Basque Literature Series also appeared in the Basque press.

Scholarships were recently awarded to two Nevada residents of Basque descent who will attend the University of Nevada, Reno. Andrea Mori of Elko, Nevada received the Peter Echeverria Scholarship, and Lauren Landa received the Dolores Saval Trigero Scholarship.

The scholarships were both established as memorials to esteemed Nevada Basques. In 1995, a scholarship was established in memory of Dolores Saval Trigero, the daughter of immigrants from the Basque Country in Spain. This scholarship is awarded to a Nevada resident of Basque descent, preferably from a rural area of the state. The Peter Echeverria Scholarship was established in 2002. Peter Echeverria had a distinguished thirty-year legal career in Nevada and also served in the Nevada Senate and on the Nevada Gaming Commission.

We thank the Trigero and Echeverria families for their generosity and thoughtfulness in designating these funds for the benefit of Basque-American students. Eskerrik asko!
Marcelino Ugalde recently published an article, “What is Basque Cuisine? A Culinary History” in *Journal of the Society of Basque Studies in America* (vol. 22, 2002). The article discusses food production and consumption in the Basque region and the features that define Basque cuisine. Mr. Ugalde has developed the course Consuming Culture: Food, Gastronomy, and Lifestyles (BASQ 480/680), which will be taught at UNR next fall and also is offered online through UNR’s Independent Learning division.

Faculty associated with the Center attended Cine-Lit V, an international conference on Hispanic literature and cinematographies held in Portland, Oregon, February 26–March 1. Joseba Gabilondo presented a paper on “Erice’s Primal Scene: Invisible Fathers and the Basque Uncanny Gaze” in a session on Basque Cinema. He also moderated the session on El Cine Vasco II in which Jaume Martí-Olivella presented a paper, “(En)gendering ETA in Basque Cinema: Helena Taberna’s *Yoyes*.” The new book by Martí-Olivella, *Basque Cinema: An Introduction*, published in the Center’s Basque Textbooks Series, was also presented at the conference. Basque Studies Librarian Marcelino Ugalde also attended the conference and gave a presentation of the “New Filmoteca and Database on Basque Film,” an important archive housed at UNR.


Pedro Oiarzabal published “El sector del voluntariado y comunitario en Irlanda del Norte,” in *Economía Social, Nuevos Yacimientos de Empleo y Desarrollo Local* (Ed. Xabide, 2002), proceedings of the First International Conference (Vitoria-Gasteiz, April 2001) on Social Economy, New Sources of Employment and Local Development. The paper addresses the community-based employment initiatives generated by community groups in West Belfast, in the context of peace settlement in Northern Ireland.


Sandra Ott has replaced William Douglass as the editor of the Basque Book Series of the University of Nevada Press.

The Spring 2003 issue of *Silver & Blue*, the alumni magazine of the University of Nevada, Reno, features an article on William Douglass, former Coordinator of the Center. The article focuses on his experiences since his retirement as Professor Emeritus at the end of 1999.


Basque Studies Librarian Marcelino Ugalde was among 55 librarians nationally recognized as the “2003 Movers and Shakers,” who are shaping the future of libraries and the library profession. This select group was honored by *Library Journal* in its March 15 supplement. A gala luncheon will be given in honor of the Movers & Shakers at the American Library Association annual conference in Toronto in June.

On April 11, Joseba Gabilondo presented the paper, “An Avallearcean Approach to the Relationship between Spanish and Basque Golden Ages” at an Homage to Professor Juan Bautista Avalle-Arce, sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of California, Santa Barbara.


Jeronima Echeverría, a member of the CBS Advisory Board, has been named interim provost and vice president of academic affairs for California State University, Fresno. Currently Fresno State’s associate provost, she will assume the new post July 1.

Marcelino Ugalde gave a workshop on “Beginning Basque Research” at the annual conference of the Utah Genealogical Association in Salt Lake City, Utah, April 24–26.
Pete Ernaut is a younger member of the Board who has been very active in politics in Nevada, was a member of the State Assembly at one time, decided not to continue in public office but instead to advise politicians. He’s been involved in some national and statewide elections, and at one time served as the Chief of Staff for Gov. Kenny Guinn. Pete now has his own political and governmental affairs consultancy business. He’s very involved in legislative activities, in assisting individuals and companies to work with governmental issues. So he brings to the Board knowledge of governmental affairs and legislative actions—and of course an integral part of the CBS is the public funding it gets through the Nevada legislature and University budget. He also, by being a consultant on political campaigns, has a lot of background in fundraising. So Pete is able to bring us a lot of skills.

Also, he was key in helping us get a funding enhancement in the last legislative session, even before he was on the Board. One of the Board’s first priorities, since it was a legislative session year, was to obtain that extra funding for the Center. The president of the university had decided to seek an enhancement to the CBS budget based on an outside Program Review by international scholars that suggested that the university highlight the Center. He asked for more funding to enable hiring of two additional faculty. Some of us on the Board were asked to work with legislators to help ensure that the budget enhancement was in the final appropriation. Pete, a lobbyist working down there, heard about the request and took it upon himself to help guide that bill through the process. He did it because he agreed with the importance of the Center’s role.

JB: Tell us a little about Roy Eiguren.
JE: Roy Eiguren is the premiere lobbyist in Idaho, and is very close friends with Pete Cenarrusa, who has been on our Board since its inception. Pete strongly encouraged us to ask Roy Eiguren to join the Board because Roy brings those same kinds of talents concerning how to wend your way through the minefield of political issues, how to deal with legislatures. Roy is a lawyer in Idaho with one of the most prominent law firms. He’s very respected, not only in Idaho but across the country. So we were thrilled to have him on board, and he’s become a great mentor to the Board members.

Oteiza was known for his strong opinions on politics and art, which he published in long, philosophical volumes. The Center for Basque Studies is producing an English translation of some of Oteiza’s writings, scheduled for publication later this year.

We are indebted to the artist for allowing us the opportunity to publish this work, and also for graciously permitting us to use a design from a bas-relief he sculpted, on which the Center’s logo is based.

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firms in Boise. He is a Basque, and brings another unique talent in that he (and I think Pete [Cenarrusa] also) helped with a huge fundraising project for the University of Idaho. Since we are investigating fundraising, he had some very helpful input. He also adds another connection to the Basque community in Idaho. An important thing about this Board is that we have representation from Basques all over America, and also from Basques all over the world.

Which takes us to Joe Goicoechea, who is from Australia. And while there’s a smaller Basque population there, it is an active population. Joe is a very successful operator in the construction industry there. I only met him the day before the meeting, when we happened to fly in to Reno on the same plane. He’s a lot of fun, and obviously a successful businessman who has some great ideas. I’m very excited to have him on our Board, and he lends more of that international flavor. We have an international presence on the Board anyway, with Josemari Basagoiti, for one, from Mexico, Felipe Muguerza from Argentina, and Pello Salaburu from the Basque Country. We need that international input because the Center is for the worldwide Basque community, and I think that if we limit ourselves to just having members from the U.S., or even the West, we’d make a mistake. The willingness of people like Joe and Pello to come from afar twice a year to help the CBS here shows tremendous dedication, and we are very thankful that we have people like them on the Board.

JB: That is true, we do need that international element, because the Center has always tried to serve Basques everywhere. And one of our main areas of research has been Basques in the diaspora, so it really makes sense to include all those areas where Basques have settled.

JE: Yes, and that brings us to Anjeles Iztueta, the Minister of Education of the Basque Government. She was invited to attend our Board meeting as a guest in February, along with Abel Ariznabarreta, Vice-Consul from the Basque Department of Education, and Amaia Goikoetxea, Press Secretary for that department. She spoke to me about the fact that English is becoming the predominant language throughout the world. Whether we like it or not, it is the common language now at international conferences, at meetings, the academic world is using it as the base language. In February, Minister Iztueta mentioned that one of their strategic goals is to make the entire Basque educational system trilingual: Basque, Spanish, and English. And they want the CBS to play an important role in providing the needed textbooks in English. That’s one reason they were so willing to give the levels of support that the Basque Government has given to the Center. Over the last year, Pello Salaburu and Joseba and Bill Douglass have been very instrumental in getting the Basque Government to commit to spending about $100,000 annually on various programs here dealing with education in English: the development of the online courses, the creation of the textbooks. The Basque Government wants to use the textbooks to assist them in developing their English language program. So there is a great example of where, when we bring together international groups, we find common needs. We have the expertise of the CBS that works predominantly in English, and a desire on the part of the Basque Government to increase the English education of their students, so we have a natural fit. At the end of that board meeting, we discussed asking Minister Iztueta to be a member of our board, and she accepted.

So that’s very exciting. We have four new and very active members, people interested and willing to roll up their sleeves and help out.

JB: The Board in general has been really enthusiastic and active; we have been really impressed. They don’t just come once a year and hash things over and then go away.

JE: One great thing we can say about our members is, they aren’t viewing this Board as just a position that they can put on their resume. They are viewing their participation on the Board as an active one, and to a person, whenever they are asked to do something they do it. And that’s exciting, because it’s different from a lot of Boards you sit on, where people just want the title and are willing to come to a meeting or two and then go home and you never hear from them again.

JB: What is the general agenda for the meeting coming up in August?

JE: Actually we’ve moved it up to July 20. We have contacted members to see whether they would have an interest in having the summer meeting in Euskadi this year. The genesis of that idea was that the World Congress of Basque Collectivities, held every four years and attended by Basque representatives from all over the world, will be held in July. There are about two hundred people at this meeting, and some of our members are already involved in it and will be in Euskadi then. We also have Pello Salaburu and Minister Iztueta resident there; so already there are about six people who will be there at that time. So we sent out e-mails to see if others would be interested in having the summer meeting right after the World Congress. The response was very favorable, so we plan to have the meeting in Euskadi.

The agenda hasn’t been set yet. Our main focus right now is finalization of the fundraising project, and to work with the Basque Government to define what help the CBS can give to them in furthering their goals of improving knowledge of the English language in the Basque Country. It’s a symbiotic relationship, as Minister Iztueta told us at the meeting. Those to me are the best kinds of partnerships, where everybody benefits. And I think we need to continue to foster that relationship.

“We need that international input because the Center is for the worldwide Basque community…. if we limit ourselves to just having members from the U.S., or even the West, we’d make a mistake.”
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Courses offered: Intensive Spanish and Basque language, Spanish and Basque culture, international business, dance, cuisine, political science, and more.

Field Trips: Madrid, French and Spanish Basque Country

Lodging: Homestays or apartments

Pau, France
French Studies

Fall 2003: September 1–December 18
Spring 2004: January 2–April 22

Courses offered: Intensive French language, French culture, cuisine, history, and more.

Field Trips: Paris, Pyrénées, French and Spanish Basque Country

Lodging: Homestays or residence halls

Summer 2003 — Spaces still available!

These four, eight, and twelve week programs are ideal for those unable to participate in semester or yearlong programs.

San Sebastián, Spain
Spanish and Basque Studies

July session: July 1–July 31
August session: August 2–August 22 or August 29

Courses offered: Intensive Spanish and Basque language, Spanish and Basque culture, art history, and more.

Field Trips: Madrid, French and Spanish Basque Country

Lodging: Homestays or apartments

Pau and Bayonne, France
French Studies

July session (Pau): June 26–July 25
August session (Bayonne): July 26–August 14

Courses offered: Intensive French language, French culture, photography, art history, and more.

Field Trips: Paris, Pyrénées, French and Spanish Basque Country

Lodging: Homestays or residence halls

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Visit our web site at: http://basque.unr.edu

Liburutegitik: From the Basque Library
by Marcelino Ugalde

The Basque Studies Library and the University of Nevada, Reno Libraries are pleased to announce that they are recipients of a grant of $248,653 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access. Funding was requested for the design and development of an online Basque studies bibliographic and full-text database. See the cover story for more details.

Basque Country visit
Creating and strengthening successful ties with Basque publishers, institutions, and vendors is extremely vital for the expansion of the Basque Studies Library. Even with electronic communication, regular visits to the Basque Country are essential to create these ties. With this in mind, Basque Studies Librarian Marcelino Ugalde traveled to the Basque Country in December. His main goal was to attend the annual Durangoko Liburu eta Diska Azoka (Book Fair) in Durango, Bizkaia from December 5–8. This important event stresses the promotion and use of the Basque language, Euskera. Because the fair is so popular, on the weekends one can barely move from booth to booth. Luckily Marcelino was able to accomplish most of his work during the first day, a day set aside for educators and students, with the help of Karlos Zarara of bookseller Urretxindorra Megadenda. Marcelino also met with Basque University faculty to identify solutions to problems with the systematic acquisition of departmental publications, especially academic journals; met with local librarians to discuss partnerships in producing digital information and forming cooperative links for sharing information; and met with local vendors who supply our materials. Positive results were achieved from all the meetings.

Digital projects
D. Papaeliou, Basque Library Assistant, is pursuing a Masters degree in Information Science from Southern Connecticut State University, including a recent class on designing and evaluating digital libraries. A class assignment provided the foundation for a new Spanish Civil War Digital Library. This resource will add a new dimension to materials on the Spanish Civil War of 1936–1939, especially from the Basque perspective. An important feature of the digital library is that it places more primary sources on the Web for public access. Papaeliou’s project will complement and highlight the Huarte de Jauregui Spanish Civil War Archive. The project should be available on the Basque Library’s website within a year. Photographs from the archive, for which the Basque Library has the copyright, make up a large part of this work. These materials present a candid and multi-dimensional view of the Spanish Civil War, showing the ceremonial Francoist forces and occupying leadership in the northern front as well as the destruction left by the war, especially in the Basque town of Gernika.

Major acquisitions
We recently acquired a major personal archive of 19th century Argentinean Basque intellectual, Florencio de Basaldua, an engineer, writer, governor of Chubut and ambassador to India, who regularly wrote for the newspapers La Nación, La Prensa, and La Baskonia. He also published seven books on various topics. This acquisition is a major contribution to the library’s holdings in the area of the Basque diaspora. The archive consists of manuscripts, numerous photographs, personal correspondence, and books.