



# Center for Basque Studies

## NEWSLETTER

### Javier Echeverria Douglass Distinguished Scholar

SPRING  
2009

NUMBER 77

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University of Nevada, Reno

A semi-annual publication of the  
Center for Basque Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, NV 89557-2322

During the 2008–2009 academic year, the Center for Basque Studies has had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Javier Echeverria as the William A. Douglass Visiting Distinguished Scholar.

Currently Dr. Echeverria is a Senior Research Professor of Ikerbasque, the Basque Science Foundation at the University of the Basque Country, and leads several research projects at the Institute of Philosophy (Spanish National Research Council, CSIC, Madrid).

Echeverria, who was born in Pamplona and raised in Mexico, began his academic career as a mathematician. When he was introduced to set theory at the age of sixteen he also became interested in philosophy. He obtained degrees in both mathematics and philosophy from the Complutense University of Madrid in 1970.

He holds a Ph.D. from the same university in Philosophy of Mathematics. In 1980 he earned a prestigious Doctorat d'Etat-ès Lettres et Sciences Humaines degree from the Université Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne) for his dissertation on the work of mathematician and philosopher Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz in which he brought to light and interpreted hundreds of pages of the German thinker's unpublished manuscripts.

Over the years Dr. Echeverria has held academic positions in Paris, Brussels, Hannover (Germany), and Urbana-Champaign (Illinois, USA). In 1979 he joined the faculty at the University of the Basque Country in Donostia where, among other positions, he served as vice-rector for six years. By the

1990s Echeverria considered himself a philosopher of science and technology. In 1997 he received the Euskadi Award for research in the humanities and social sciences for his publications on the history of mathematics and philosophy of technology.



In 2003 Echeverria published the influential book *La revolución tecnocientífica* (The Technoscientific Revolution) in which he argues that during the second half of the twentieth century, a radical transformation has occurred in which science and the social sciences have become technosciences.

According to Dr. Echeverria, traditionally science has pursued knowledge, an understanding of how things work, how they are composed, etc. The objective of technoscience, on the other hand, is transformation. For example, Darwin's mission as a scientist was to discover and catalog species and learn about their

(continued from page 1)



Visiting Scholar Karim Gherab-Martin and Dr. Javier Echeverria at the Knowledge Center

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**Produced by the Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno. Lisa Corcostegui, Ph.D., editor.**

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physiology. Today's technoscientists also gather seeds and plants throughout the world, but their objective is to transform them, genetically alter them, and then market them. The objective is not knowledge in itself, but rather its application in order to transform something and generate some kind of benefit. Technoscience has a significant economic component and this means that it is not neutral. In contrast to the idea that science is neutral with regard to ethics, aesthetics, politics, or social values, Echeverria has found that technoscience is laden with economic, political, and even military interests and therefore cannot be free of values.

Currently Echeverria is engaged in research aimed at distinguishing between various disciplines and their techno-counterparts: economics and technoeconomics, pedagogy and technopedagogy, psychology and technopsychology to name a few. This is the primary focus of his research while in residence at UNR.

In an interview for this article he stated, "I was very interested in the creation of the Knowledge

Center, especially in the building and its design, the fact that the Center for Basque Studies is located in it, and the library." As he accessed the Knowledge Center's web site from his office in the Center for Basque Studies, he commented, "This puts me in the 'third environment.' From this network I can access all available knowledge from this server and those connected to it. This is part of the Telepolis that I call the 'third environment' where knowledge is distributed."

Echeverria believes that UNR's decision to create a knowledge center of this scale is truly innovative and may serve as a model for similar-sized universities in the Basque Country and Navarre. "What they have created here is a knowledge center that is a library, on one hand, but also a center for computing with access to telematic networks. It also incorporates

artistic components with @One (a design lab with advanced software, technologies, and expert staff located on the first floor of the Knowledge Center) and its space for artistic and graphic design, as well as printing services. It's this confluence of information, library, access to networks and art that interests me with regard to the study of knowledge society, because I believe this is the kind of infrastructure that will take us there. That is why I was so interested in working here and organizing the conference on knowledge communities." This conference, which was held April 23–25 at the Center for Basque Studies, explored various knowledge communities including science, arts, documentation, and library science.

Echeverria regards the Knowledge Center as an example of social technoscience

*"I was very interested in the creation of the Knowledge Center, especially in the building and its design, the fact that the Center for Basque Studies is located in it, and the library."*

because it has changed our habits as users. For example, everything is accessed through the Internet. If something doesn't appear there, it is as if it didn't exist. Everything revolves around the computer and technology. All

of this impacts the behavior of researchers and those who work in this environment. When he walks through the Knowledge Center he observes that most users have their heads in the "third environment."

As a Leibnizian philosopher, Javier Echeverria is interested in possible worlds and observes that this new digital environment has also transformed the behaviors of children to whom it seems completely natural—it is their world. At present this virtual world is limited to sight and sound, but Echeverria has recently written about the day when this third environment becomes pentasensorial. We would then be able to transmit physical and olfactory sensations, as well as tastes, digitally. This would make for an extraordinary virtual world and would transform our lives.

# Jill Berner Retires after 31 Years at Basque Studies

On October 30, 2008 the Center for Basque Studies held a retirement party for Jill Berner to celebrate her 31 years of service to Basque Studies.

Jill's association with UNR began when she was a student. She obtained a B.A. degree with a double major in fine arts and Spanish language and literature at UNR in 1970. She later worked as a library assistant at the Circulation Department of Getchell Library from 1970 until 1972.

In 1976 she joined the staff at the Center for Basque Studies (called the Basque Studies Program at the time). Over her long career at the Center, Jill has worked in many capacities—as Library Assistant and Basque Cataloger, Office Manager, Publications Production Specialist, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster. In addition to her official duties, Jill also learned Basque.

In the early days she worked closely with William Douglass, Jon Bilbao, and Virginia Chan. Jill saw many changes and interacted with many more individuals over the years as the faculty expanded and Ph.D. students and visitors came and went. All were put at ease by her friendly

tended the party to wish Jill all the best in her retirement. Former director, William Douglass, current director Joseba Zulaika, and Office Manager Kate Camino were among those who reminisced and shared their anecdotes about their years working with Jill.



Jill Berner

Several former co-workers, students, authors, and editors who found themselves far away also sent their wishes that were incorporated into a PowerPoint presentation, created by Pedro Oiarzabal and Lisa Corcostegui and narrated by emeritus professor Linda White, that followed Jill's long career.

In addition to her dedication to the Center for Basque Studies, Jill has also been active across campus. She received awards for her 25 and 30 years of service as a UNR employee. In 2000, the Women's Resource Center honored her for her distinguished career at UNR.



Everyone had a chance to visit with Jill.

Jill has served on the UNR Balloon Race Scholarship Committee and served as its chairperson in 1999 and 2000. She has also participated in the UNR Toastmasters Club and was its president in 2006.

Jill's story has been recorded in *A Candle in the Night*, Pedro Oiarzabal's oral history of Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno.



Kate Camino and Jill

Some of this technology has already been developed and has been utilized to benefit people with disabilities, allowing them to perform activities that would otherwise be impossible. Future advances in this field could allow the physically handicapped to experience artificially simulated sensations and radically transform their lives. Another sector that uses these technologies is the perfume industry, which makes use of "digital noses." "Digital tongues" are beginning to be used in gastronomy as well.

All the benefits of a pentasensorial virtual world, however, come with their own dark side. Dr. Echeverria's research explores the ethical issues associated with technologies that could produce digital hallucinogenic drugs or be used for undetectable torture and mind control. Much of this is still many years away, but Echeverria feels that in order to avoid these problems, certain lines of research should be prohibited. He will address issues such as these in his next book.

Dr. Echeverria will be in residence at UNR for the rest of this academic year, and was pleased with the April conference which brought scholars from many locations and disciplines together at the Center for Basque Studies. "The Basque Country is clearly becoming a knowledge society. The Center for Basque Studies will be its distribution center in North America."

## Sandra Ott Awarded NEH Stipend and College of Liberal Arts Grant

Sandra Ott has been awarded a \$6,000 Faculty Summer Stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities which will allow her to carry out two consecutive months of archival research in France. Dr. Ott will spend June and July working in archives in Pau and Paris. She is currently engaged in research on the justice of judgments made in post-liberation trials in the borderlands of the Basque Country and Béarn during 1944–46.

Ott has also received a Scholarly and Creative Activities Grant from the College of Liberal Arts to continue her research on suspected collaborators, their trials, and more broadly, Basque-Franco-German relations during the Occupation and post-liberation period.



A slideshow brought back many memories.

smile, warm personality, and seemingly boundless patience. The Center for Basque Studies has been housed in three different locations over its existence and Jill worked in all of them.

Many current and former colleagues as well as friends and family members at-



## New CBS Publications Presented in Durango

(Jill Berner - continued from page 3)

The faculty and staff at the Center thank Jill for her hard work, dedication, and friendship over the years. We wish her the best in her retirement and will miss her daily presence.

*Eskerrik asko eta ondo ibili, Jill!*



### Beatriz Robinson Completes Basque Ph.D.

Basque Tutorial Ph.D. student Beatriz Robinson completed her degree with an emphasis on literature by defending her dissertation, *Sor Juana Inés y la ensalada villanciquera: Cultura, etnicidad, multilingüismo y artes performativas en la Nueva España*, on March 27, 2009. Sor Juana, a nun and poet who lived in New Spain during the second half of the seventeenth century, identified herself as a “Vizcaina,” or Basque.

Beatriz has two Master's degrees from UNR and has worked as a lecturer in the department of Foreign Languages and Literatures teaching Spanish while completing her Ph.D.

*Zorionak, Dr. Robinson!*



Beatriz with her daughter and her Ph.D. committee. From left to right: Dr. Gerald Petersen (emeritus), Dr. Joseba Zulaika, Beatricita Robinson, Dr. Beatriz Robinson, Dr. Linda Curcio-Nagy, Dr. George Thomas, Dr. Nelson Rojas. Also part of the committee, but not pictured: Dr. Linda Egan of UC Davis.

Joseba Zulaika traveled to Durango in early December to attend the yearly book fair from December 5–8. He manned a booth there in which he displayed five new titles published by the Center for Basque Studies in 2008 as well as Linda White's textbook, *Aurrera!* and Sandra Ott's *War, Judgment, and Memory in the Basque Borderlands, 1914–1945* published by the University of Nevada Press.

*The Red Notebook* by Arantxa Urretabizkaia and translated from Basque by Kristin Addis is a new addition to the Center's Basque Literature Series. This work belongs to the autobiographical genre and is the author's most ambitious novel, one that has achieved a truly lyrical tone. Although it should be included in the novel-writing tradition that deals with female voice and memory, this novel breaks new ground from a physical and psychological point of view, bringing out the social and political aspects of motherhood. For the protagonist, political commitment is an endeavor that cannot compare to motherhood and this is what the novel emphasizes once and again. Thus, with great skill, Urretabizkaia offers us the confessions of a woman forced to weigh political commitment against motherhood. *The Red Notebook* is available in paperback, \$19.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-82-9).

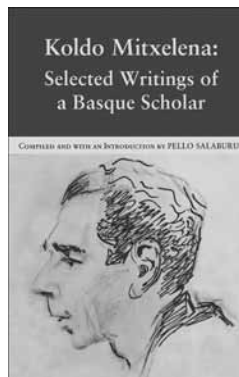
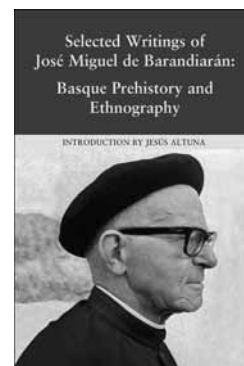
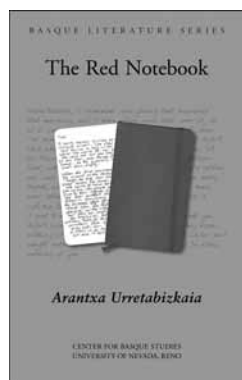
The Center was very pleased to add two new volumes to the Classics Series in 2008. This series aims to provide scholars and students with basic foundations for Basque Studies.

*Koldo Mitxelena: Selected Writings of a Basque Scholar*, edited by Pello Salaburu, brings together a number of texts by

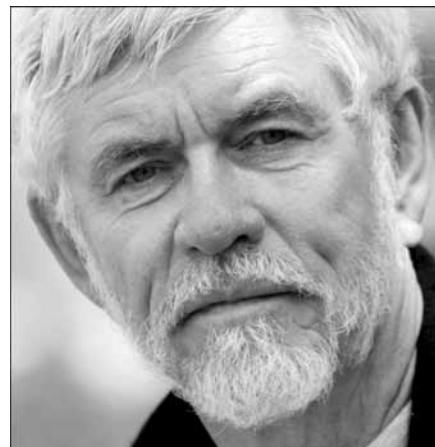
Koldo Mitxelena (also known as Luis Michelena) concerning the Basque language, its history, and its literature. Some of these are more general or informative, while others require a degree of familiarity with linguistics. The reader will find a clear explanation of the Basque language, together with a systematic account of the theories surrounding its relationship with other languages, its dialects, and its literature. Furthermore, there is ample information about certain central features associated with the history of the language, about its phonetic and phonological system, and about the first writings in Basque. Also included is the text of his unification proposal that, since 1968, has made the written unification of the language possible. As a general criterion, the texts selected here have not been previously published in English. The book is available in paperback, \$29.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-80-5) or hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-81-2).

*Selected Writings of José Miguel de Barandiarán: Basque Prehistory and Ethnography*, edited by Jesus Altuna, makes these canonical texts available to an English-speaking audience for the first time. Noted Basque ethnographer José Miguel de Barandiarán was an exceptional witness to an entire century of the history of the Basque Country. He was born in 1889 and died in 1991, just prior

to his 102nd birthday, having remained active until a year before his death. An ordained priest, he dedicated most of his life to researching the past of his homeland. His research included excavating caves and dolmens as well as recording the traditional lifeways, legends, and superstitions of the Basque people. His findings were published in hundreds of articles appearing in the *Anuario de Eusko-folklore* and other journals, as well as several monographs. This work includes an extensive introduction by the editor, Jesús Altuna, with biographical information on Barandiarán and a discussion of the selected writings. These are taken from Barandiarán's books *Mitología vasca*



## William Douglass Named Member of Jakiunde



William A. Douglass

On April 3, 2009, William A. Douglass was named as a member of the Basque academy Jakiunde.

Jakiunde, the Basque academy of science, arts and letters, was founded on October 25, 2007. This multidisciplinary institution brings together experts in their respective fields to collectively work on society's future challenges. Renowned physicist Pedro Miguel Etxenike is Jakiunde's current president and the organization's members include winners of the Euskadi Research Award, the Príncipe de Viana Award, and the Eusko Ikaskuntza Award. Academy members represent the fields of literature, law, history, anthropology, science, cinema, music, and architecture.

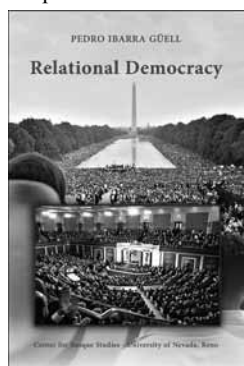
Activities of Jakiunde include research and reports; collaboration on cultural projects; participation in academic debates at local, state, and international levels; organization of courses, conferences, and competitions; and promoting the dissemination of knowledge in arts and sciences. Members come together in plenary sessions to approve work carried out by specialized committees throughout the year.

This is the latest of several prestigious honors received by William Douglass. In 1984 he was awarded *Doctor honoris causa* by the University of the Basque Country. He has been made an honorary member of Euskaltzaindia, the Royal Academy of the Basque Language, and in 1999 he received the distinction of *Lagun Onari* from Eusko Jaurilaritza for his efforts on behalf of Basque culture and the Basque people. William A. Douglass is professor emeritus at the Center for Basque Studies of the University of Nevada, Reno.

(Basque Mythology), *El hombre prehistórico en el País Vasco* (Prehistoric Man in the Basque Country), and *Bosquejo etnográfico de Sara* (An Ethnographic Sketch of Sara). Included are a number of Barandiarán's drawings, plus photographs, bibliography, and an index. This book is available in paperback, \$29.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-69-0) and in hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-70-6).

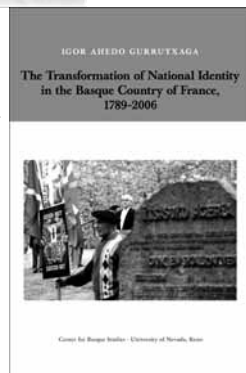
*Relational Democracy* by Pedro Ibarra Güell is the first work to be published in

the Douglass Distinguished Scholar Series. Democracy is the most important idea underpinning the modern Western political tradition, yet what do we really understand by the term? Do governments really carry out the wishes of the people who elect them? In this work, Pedro Ibarra Güell questions conventional approaches to democratic theory that judge democracy by elections alone. Specifically, he argues in favor of a new interpretation of democracy that incorporates not just electoral processes but also an established set of relations between citizens and leaders that facilitate a greater harmony, or concurrence, between popular demands and political decision-making. He contends that such an approach, which he terms relational democracy, is in fact demonstrably more democratic than the purely representative democracy of many current political systems. Yet he is also aware that many claims for greater participatory democracy fall short when it comes to their practical implementation. Therefore, his highly original proposal for relational democracy is grounded in an appreciation of the pitfalls of relying on theory alone, and instead offers what he believes to be a viable and practical alternative to representative democracy. By way of a conclusion, the book applies the basic tenets of the argument in favor of relational democracy to a specific case study, evaluating the nature of democracy in the Basque Country. This title is available in paperback, \$29.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-84-3) or hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-83-6).



*The Transformation of National Identity in the Basque Country of France, 1789–2006* by Igor Ahedo Gurrutxaga is the fifteenth book in the Center's Occasional Papers Series. The emergence of modern France is typically cited as the prime example of a strong model of state construction. At the same time, the Basque Country is renowned for its own distinct identity. This work demonstrates how feelings of national identity have changed over the last two hundred years in Iparralde, or the Basque Country of France. It charts

how the construction of the French state involved imprinting a French national identity on that part of the Basque Country within its borders. This was a lengthy process, beginning with the French Revolution and culminating in France's involvement in twentieth-century world and colonial wars, and involved creating and disseminating a French national mythology while at the same time denying any strong feelings of Basque particularity. The author then shows how a



distinct sense of Basque national identity resurfaced in the 1960s with the first overtly politicized Basque nationalist movement in Iparralde and how, by the turn of the millennium, different political forces were competing to articulate diverse notions of national attachment, with territory forming a central feature

of Basque nationalist claims to people's primary identity. This title is available in paperback, \$29.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-79-9) and hardcover, \$39.95 (ISBN 978-1-877802-78-2).

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# International Conference on Knowledge Communities Held April 23–25

The Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center was the venue for the Center for Basque Studies' International Conference on Knowledge Communities, which attracted scholars from various disciplines and institutions in the United States and Europe.

The three-day conference was organized by Javier Echeverria, William Douglass Distinguished Scholar; Joseba Zulaika, Co-director of the Center for Basque Studies; Pedro Oiarzabal, visiting research scholar at the University of Nevada, Reno; and Andoni Alonso, associate professor at the University of Extremadura in Cáceres.

Throughout history diverse scientific, engineering, and artistic communities have cultivated knowledge by establishing institutions, organizations, and associations focused on generating it. Other institutions such as libraries, archives, and museums have also preserved and disseminated knowledge. Furthermore, each popular culture has produced its own traditions and shared knowledge. For instance, legends, songs, dances, and recipes have become a constitutive common good of communities and ethnic groups. However, these communities and institutions have never been able to establish a civil society based on knowledge because the diverse knowledge communities have remained isolated from each other in linguistic, geographic, socio-political, and academic terms.

Currently, some argue that a knowledge society might be possible due to the development and widespread use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). These technologies have brought about changes in production, exchange, distribution, and storage of knowledge. The Internet, in particular, has provided ability for individuals and groups to create new knowledge communities—from Web forums to virtual communities and online social networks—within the current frame of the so-called Web 2.0 and cloud computing. In turn, traditional knowl-

edge communities have adapted to the new digital and electronic technological context constituting new communities of practice that develop e-science, free software, electronic art, and new technologies of production, exchange, distribution, and preservation of information and knowledge. Popular cultures have begun to utilize ICTs and the Internet despite the fact that there is a deep digital divide among countries, socio-economic sectors, gender, and generations.

This interdisciplinary conference explored whether such a plurality of communities can generate real knowledge societies that could potentially contribute to economic, social, and political advantages for the whole of the population, facilitating technological development and innovation. It also analyzed factors that may or may not favor such a goal, and studied which

models of distribution and appropriation of knowledge are preferable for the creation of free, fair, and democratic knowledge societies in the twenty-first century.

The conference discussed the complexity of the knowledge communities within the aforementioned context by focusing on five broad types of knowledge communities:

- Science and engineering
- Art
- Online
- Free knowledge
- Librarians and archivists

In addition to the analysis of the evolution of each one of these communities towards networks of knowledge, the conference dealt with the specific relationships and convergences between these communities and networks, as well as the values that guide their respective practices.

The proceedings of the conference will be published in the Center's Conference Series.

## Center Bids Final Farewell to Félix Menchacatorre

The Center was deeply saddened by the death of long-time friend Félix Menchacatorre, Director of the USAC Spain programs. Félix was leading the last leg of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage, an optional field trip available to students participating on the Spain and France summer programs, when he suffered an apparent heart attack on August 1, 2008.



Félix, 59, was a native of Bilbao/Getxo and earned a law degree and an MBA from the University of Deusto and a Doctorate in Spanish Literature from the University of Cincinnati. He taught on and directed the Spain programs for 25 years, building programs in San Sebastián, Bilbao, Madrid, and Alicante. 700 students participated in these programs this year alone. Additionally, he was instrumental in developing other programs and shaping what USAC is today.

Félix was doing what he loved at the time of his death and was surrounded by his friends, his fellow Resident Directors in Spain. He was a true humanist who genuinely cared for his students. Félix was loyal, capable, a man of integrity, trustworthy, and totally dedicated to his students, friends, family, and USAC. He was a great friend to those who make up the USAC family, had a wonderful sense of humor and lived life to the fullest. He will be deeply missed but his life's work will live on and continue to have a positive impact on many more lives.

USAC is establishing a memorial scholarship fund for Bilbao and San Sebastián students in Félix's honor. If you are interested in donating funds for the Félix Menchacatorre Memorial Scholarship, you may send them to the address below. Please make the check out to "UNR Foundation," write in the memo section "Félix Menchacatorre Scholarship," and include a short note indicating that it is for this specific scholarship.

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*Goian bego.*



# Highlights

On July 3–5 **Mari Jose Olaziregi** co-chaired the IV Iberian Conference on Literature for Children in Donostia.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** presented a paper at the “First International Conference on Literature, Languages & Linguistics” in Athens, Greece on July 28.

USAC hosted 7 visiting scholars over summer of 2008. Along with their research, the visitors participated in cultural activities and USAC-planned events. Some notable excursions included a visit to the Nevada Museum of Art, two barbecues, several hikes, and a trip to Pyramid Lake. Most of the visitors were paired with a conversation partner through the USAC Alumni club.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** taught a 300-hour on-line master’s degree course for UNED (Universidad de Educación a Distancia, Spain) from March through September 2008.

**Joseba Zulaika** presented a paper, “De Gernika a Nueva York pasando por el Guggenheim,” in a conference entitled “(Post) Memorias globales: museo, monumento y desterritorialización,” on July 27 at the summer courses organized by Madrid’s Universidad Complutense at El Escorial. He also participated in the round table “Museos, globalización e institucionalización de la memoria,” moderated by Joaquín Barriendos.

On July 14, 2008 **Dr. Zulaika** attended a conference on immigration and diversity entitled “Aniztasun berrien harira” at the University of the Basque Country. He presented a paper, “Naiz naizena. Ez, eznaizena.” The conference was held at Palacio Miramar in Donostia.

**Dr. Zulaika** gave the closing keynote address at the XI Conference of Anthropology held in Donostia-San Sebastian September 10–13, 2008. The theme of the conference was Theoretical Challenges and New Practices. Zulaika’s paper was entitled “Etnografías del deseo: bases teóricas.” The paper has been published in *Retos teóricos y nuevas prácticas* edited by Margaret Bullen and Carmen Diez Mintegui.

**Lisa Corcostegui** taught a 15-hour weekend workshop on Basque Ancestry and Genealogy at Boise State University on September 6–7.

On September 10, 2008 **Mari Jose Olaziregi** taught a seminar on Bernardo

Atxaga to 80 students at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela (Spain).

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** lectured on Contemporary Basque Literature at the Universidad de Educación a Distancia, Madrid, Facultad de Filología on September 12, 2008.

**Joseba Zulaika**’s “Bilbao begehren: Die Krensfizierung des Museums und das damit verbundene Unbehagen” has been published in *On Difference* #3. *Politics of Space: On the Expropriation and Reappropriation of Social, Political, and Cultural Spaces of Action*, edited by Iris Dressler and Hans D. Christ. The volume was published by Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart, 2007.

On October 1, 2008, **Juan Madariaga Orbea** presented the Spanish version of *Anthology of Apologists and Detractors of the Basque Language in Navarra*. The English-language version was published by the Center for Basque Studies in 2006.

On October 4–5 **Dr. Lisa Corcostegui** taught a 15-hour weekend workshop at Boise State University on the History and Aesthetics of Basque Dance.

**Sandra Ott** was nominated by the University of Nevada, Reno’s College of Liberal Arts to compete nationally for a faculty summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Ott’s project is titled “The Vicissitudes of Purge Justice: An Ethnographic Approach to the Trials of Collaborators, France 1944–1946.”

**Joseba Zulaika** participated in a seminar at Murcia’s CENDEAC, Center for Documentation and Advanced Studies of Contemporary Art, on October 14–16, 2008. He presented the paper “Terrorism’s Dialectical Images and the Hunchbacked Dwarf.”

On October 17, **Dr. Zulaika** gave a talk in Bilbao called “Oteiza, el bilbaino,” as part of an event on Oteiza and Architecture at the Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos Vasco-Navarro.

In an event hosted by the Basque Educational Organization, **Dr. Sandra Ott** introduced her book *War, Judgment, and Memory in the Basque Borderlands, 1914–1945* at the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center on Sunday, October 19, 2008.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** presented “Exile and Utopia in Contemporary Basque Literature” at the Euskal Herria Mugaz Gaindi Conference at CSU Bakersfield on October 22, 2008.

**Xabier Irujo** presented a paper, “Basque Politics in the West,” at the Euskal Herria Mugaz Gaindi Conference at CSU Bakersfield on October 22, 2008.

On October 25, **Dr. Lisa Corcostegui** gave a presentation, “Euskaldunak: Old World and New,” touching on the Basque language as a unique identity marker and on immigration to the American West, to visiting Fulbright Professors as part of a program hosted by the Northern Nevada International Center.

**Sandra Ott** attended the annual conference of the Western Society for French History in Québec on November 5–8. She presented the paper, “The Gestapo as Witnesses and Gift-Givers: The Trial of a Vichy Police Commissioner,” in a session devoted to Politics and Society in the Aftermath of World War II.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi**’s “Robbe-Grillet’s Concept of Realism and his Influence on Basque Novelist Ramon Saizarbitoria” was published in the *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* (University of Liverpool), no. 85, 2008-3, 383–396.

The fall meeting of the North American Basque Organizations, Inc. was co-hosted by the Center for Basque Studies and the Zazpiak Bat Basque Club on Saturday, November 8, 2008. After a business meeting in the Senate Chambers, **Kate Camino** led a tour of the Center’s new facilities and the Basque library located in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.

On November 18, **Joseba Zulaika** presented a faculty seminar entitled, “Terrorism: The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy.”

**Kate Camino** was interviewed for *Iroulegiko Irratia* on October 30 by Pantiara Arambide regarding the upcoming U.S. elections. Kate also participated in a subsequent group interview hosted by JoJo Bidart that focused on the results of the election and how Basques reacted to them.

William Douglass Distinguished Scholar, **Javier Echeverria**, presented a paper entitled “Creatividad y ciencia” (Creativity and Science) at the 19th Spanish Conference of the European Forum on Educational Administration in Bilbao on November 15, 2008. The conference theme was “Educar para la innovación” (Educate to Innovate). The conference was inaugurated by Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe.

(Continued on p. 8)

# Center to Co-host 2009 NABO Convention

This year the Center for Basque Studies has the unique opportunity of co-hosting the 30th annual NABO convention along with the Reno Basque Club.

The theme of this year's convention is "Handik hona - From There to Here," which is certainly fitting as this 2009 convention marks a number of significant anniversaries: the 50th anniversary of the First Western Basque Festival that was held at the Dick Graves Nugget (now John Ascuaga's Nugget) in June 1959, the 41st anniversary of the Center for Basque Studies, and the 20th anniversary of Zenbat Gara Dance Ensemble founded at the Center for Basque Studies in 1989.

The NABO meeting and the Center for Basque Studies Advisory Board meeting will take place on the morning of Friday, July 23.

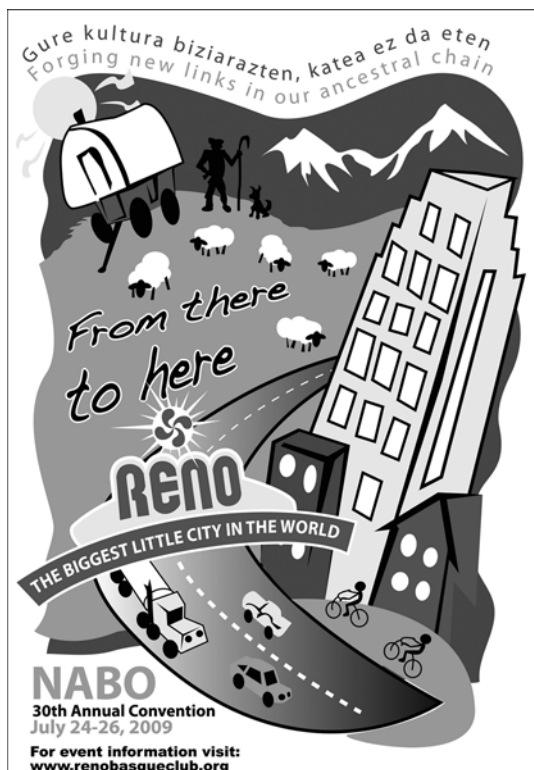
The Center's guest Marvel comic author Guillermo Zubiaga will present his comic book, *Joanes Euskal-Baleazalea*, an illustrated fictional adventure set within the historical context of Basque whaling. Panels from the book will be on display at the Center.

A reception will follow for friends of the CBS and visitors who may not yet fully appreciate the role of the CBS in promoting the preservation of Basque culture, heritage, and scholarship. The inauguration of the new Center and Library will follow. We are looking forward to this festive and exciting occasion to raise awareness about the CBS and our unique resources.

Friday's activities will close with a multimedia performance by Zenbat Gara. It will feature live music by Mikel Urbeltz and Marian Arregi and will be followed by a *Dantza Ganbara* led by Juan Antonio Urbeltz and Fernando Aristizabal. *Dantza Ganbara* is a dance party for everyone to participate in, with brief instructions before each piece.

The festival begins on Saturday July 25 at 10 am with dancers from many NABO Basque clubs performing a traditional suite of dances, accompanied by live musicians

from the northern Basque Country. Following the dance portion other traditional Basque activities will take place, including the weight-carrying competition, wood-chopping exhibition, as well as a children's *bota* drinking contest. Traditional food and souvenirs will be available for sale throughout the day.



Sunday's festivities will begin with an open-air Catholic Mass at Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral (310 West 2nd Street) at 10:30 am featuring traditional Basque music, dances, and song, followed by a Basque barbecue lunch served in the West Street Plaza. The afternoon will be reserved for dancing, card playing, and visiting until 3 pm.

The Reno Basque Festival is part of the 14th annual Artown festival, July 1-31, 2009. The month-long summer arts festival features more than 350 events produced by more than 100 cultural organizations and businesses in locations citywide, with major funding provided by the City of Reno.

For complete updated information visit: [www.basque.unr.edu/nabo](http://www.basque.unr.edu/nabo)

(Highlights - Continued from page 7)

On October 25, **Sandra Ott** presented the second talk in the CBS Faculty Seminar Series, entitled "The Gestapo as Witnesses and Gift-Givers: An Anthropological Approach to Post-Liberation Trials of Suspected Collaborators, 1944-1946."

On November 20, 2008, Dr. **Mari Jose Olaziregi**, together with Professor Barbara Pregelj (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), presented a paper entitled "Reformacija in protireformacija v luci slovenske, baskovske in spanske literarne zgodovine" (The Reformation in Slovenian and Basque Literatures, A Comparative Approach) at the 27th Obdobja International Symposium (Ljubljana).

**Igor Calzada**, visiting researcher at the Center for Basque Studies, presented the third talk in the faculty seminar series entitled "To a Basque City" on December 2, 2008.

On December 3, 2008 **Xabier Irujo** presented "Language Rights in the Basque Country" at the Stanford Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Iberian Studies Program and Language Center.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** published "Panorama de poesía vasca actual / An Overview of Basque Poetry Today," in *Boletín galego de literatura*, nº 38/2º semestre.

*Western American Literature* published a review of **David Rio**'s book, *Robert Laxalt: The Voice of the Basques in American Literature* in its last issue (Fall 2008, Vol. 43, No.3).

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** taught a 20-hour postgraduate course at the University of the Basque Country (UPV; Vitoria) on December 13-24 titled "Postmodernism and the Novel."

**Javier Echeverria**, William Douglass Distinguished Scholar, published an article, "Realidad virtual y artes pentasensoriales," in the December 2008 issue of the Mexican journal *Ciencia y Desarrollo* (vol. 34, no. 236).

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** was an invited speaker at the international conference "I Trobada europea i mediterrània d'entitats de promoció de la literatura i la lectura," organized by Institut de Lletras Catalanas. The conference was held in Barcelona December 18-21, 2008. Dr. Olaziregi's paper was titled "The Social Projection of Basque Literature: The Influence of Education and the Mass Media."



On December 16, 2008 in Donostia, **Mari Jose Olaziregi** chaired "Encuentros de Narrativa Castellana, Gallega, Catalana y Vasca." The event was organized by the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, UNED.

**Xabier Irujo** developed a new course, Contemporary Basque Politics, which is being taught spring semester 2009.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** was invited to attend an international workshop: "Aldaketa eta aldaerak euskaran eta euskal testugintzan" (Change and Variation in Basque Language and Texts) that took place in Bayonne on the 13th of December, 2008. Dr. Olaziregi's paper was entitled "Aldae-rak egungo euskal literaturan. Adibide zenbait."

On January 5–10, **Mari Jose Olaziregi** taught a 20-hour postgraduate course at the Faculté Multidisciplinaire de Bayonne titled "Contemporary Basque Narrative."

**Lisa Corcostegui** attended daily sessions on Spanish and Hispanic genealogy offered by the Utah Genealogical Association, January 12–18 as part of its yearly Institute.

On January 15, 2009 **Xabier Irujo** presented the paper "Basque Language in Exile 1936–1975," at the University of Navarre.

**Joseba Zulaika** participated in the Belfast International Terrorism Workshop organized by Professor Richard English at Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland on January 16–17, 2009. His book, *Basque Violence*, was one of the six books discussed at the workshop.

**Joseba Zulaika's** "Terrorism and the Betrayal of the Intellectuals" has been published in Christian Fleck, Andrea Hess, and E. Stina Lyon, eds., *Intellectuals and Their Publics: Perspectives from the Social Sciences* (Burlington: Ashgate, 2009), 41–56.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi's** essay, "The Evolution of Basque Fiction in the Twentieth Century," has been published in *A Companion to the Twentieth-Century Spanish Novel*, edited by Marta E. Altisent, a collection of studies by eighteen prominent theorists and critics.

On February 5, **Javier Echeverria**, with

visiting colleagues **Luis Lizasoain** and **Luis Joaristi**, gave a presentation on Social Techno Sciences and Education. During their talk, they unveiled a new project entitled Philosophy of Social Technosciences. The two-year project is funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation.

**Joseba Zulaika** gave a public lecture entitled "Who's Afraid of Truman Capote: Writers versus the Counterterrorists" at the Department of Anthropology of Maynooth University, Ireland, on Feb 18; and a seminar on "The Discourses and Subjectivities of Terrorism" on February 19.

**Xabier Irujo** published "220 Years of Language Policy of the Spanish and French States (1789–2009)," in *Tinta. Research Journal of Hispanic and Lusophone Studies*. Vol. 8, No. 1 (Spring 2009).

On February 20, **Joseba Zulaika** presented "Subject and Decision in Oteiza" at the two-day workshop on "Jorge Oteiza's Radical Thought" organized by the Center for Modern Thought and Hispanic Studies at the University of Aberdeen.

On February 25, **Dr. Zulaika** gave a seminar on "Conflict, Regeneration, and the Bilbao Guggenheim Museum," organized by Christine Sylvester, at the University of Lancaster, United Kingdom.

**Dr. Zulaika** gave the keynote lecture, "The War on Terror and the Iraq War as Self-Fulfilling Prophecies," at the conference "Touching War," organized by the Sociology Department at the University of Lancaster on February 26.

**Xabier Irujo** co-authored two chapters in *The Legal Status of the Basque Language Today: One Language, Three Administrations, Seven Different Geographies and a Diaspora*, published by Eusko Ikaskuntza.

**Dr. Ott's** article, "Duplicity, Indulgence and Ambiguity in Franco-German Relations, 1940–1946," has been published in the British journal, *History and Anthropology*.

On February 26, **Mari Jose Olaziregi** presented a paper entitled: "Mapping the Nation in Contemporary

Basque Literature," at the Northeast MLA's 40th Anniversary Convention in Boston.

On March 24, 2009 **Karim Gherab-Martin**, visiting and teaching fellow in the Department of Philosophy at Harvard University, gave a talk at the Center entitled "Technoscience and Social Tagging: Toward a Three-Fold Cord for Interdisciplinary Research."

Art historian and critic **Anna Maria Guasch** presented a lecture entitled "From the Local to the Global: Bilbao and So On," on March 25 at the Center.

**Mari Jose Olaziregi** was one of five keynote speakers invited to present papers on the works of Bernardo Atxaga at Grand séminaire de Neuchâtel: Bernardo Atxaga from March 23–25, 2009.

**Sandra Ott** presented a conference paper and organized a panel at Washington University, St Louis, for the 55th annual meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, March 26–29. The panel was entitled "Rethinking the Social and the Political: Understandings of Collaboration and Justice."



## Israel Katz Publishes Bibliographical Guide to Folk Music and Dances of Spain

**Israel Katz's** Volume I of *The Traditional Folk Music and Dances of Spain: A Bibliographic Guide to Research* has been published by the Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies.

The guide provides bibliographic data in the following categories: institutional resources and bibliographical aids; surveys, studies and song collections; regional and provincial studies on folk music; dances (regional and provincial); revered national and regional dances; organology; iconography/iconology; traditional song genres; conference proceedings and collected essays.

Published: New York, 2009; hardback, 337 pages; ISBN: 978-1-56954-132-6

## News from the Basque Library

### Shifting Knowledge: The Basque Library Moves to the Knowledge Center

by Marimar Ubeda



Sometimes moving a library simply involves physically relocating the materials of a given collection from a building that has been outgrown or has become antiquated, to a more ergonomic and spacious location.

The Basque library's move to the Knowledge Center, however, has laid the foundation for the development of a specialized library with advanced technological capabilities to support the research needs of the Center for Basque Studies and to serve the Basque communities of the diaspora that require an English-language resource center like UNR's unique Basque Library.

#### Photographic Collections Digitalization Project

One need only visit the archives to discover a valuable collection of thousands of photographs from personal collections (e.g. Laxalt, Orella), as well as those donated by anthropologist William A. Douglass on Basques who immigrated to America. On this note, we would like to acknowledge the recent donation of an important collection of personal documents and photographs by Gene Eduart Etchart on behalf of the John and Catherine Etchart family. Other significant collections are those created by Joxe Mallea on Basque aspen carvings, and Richard Lane's materials on Basque Americans. Until recently our efforts have focused on the identification, compilation, and conservation of these photographs, limiting our ability to make these items widely available. In this new phase of the library, the ability to make these photographs available will significantly expand the collection through the Internet giving researchers and patrons quick and easy access to our materials. Although it is still under construction, a preview of our digital collections can be found at: <http://tiny.cc/Basque-Digital>.



*Basque Library Student Assistant Hilda Scutt views slides that are being digitized.*

The Basque Digital Collection forms part of a larger project carried out by the Knowledge Center composed of numerous photographic collections of enormous historical value. You can browse this project at: <http://contentdm.library.unr.edu/>

#### Basque Database

The goal of the database is to provide a multilingual bibliographic tool available to anyone interested in accessing documentation about the Basque diaspora and general information about Basques worldwide. To accomplish this we have reinitiated a project that ran from 2003 until 2005 to create a web-accessible database for research on Basque language, culture, and history. This project is a continuation of the bibliographic work begun by Jon Bilbao at the Basque Library in the 1960s. The specialized database will contain documentation in all formats and will provide users with complete text of materials for which we have copyright permission. Please see: <http://basquedb.unr.edu/>



#### Correction of Item from Issue No. 76

The article on page 9 of our last issue about the seminar on the Gernika Incident should read "1937" instead of "1936." Thanks to reader Frank X. Mur for bringing it to our attention. Our apologies.

### Center Saddened by the Passing of Basque Chaplain Aita Martxel Tillous

Martxel Tillous passed away on March 31, 2009 in Kanbo. He was born in 1934 in the Basque town of Eskiula, Xiberoa. Following his calling he entered the priesthood and began work as a missionary for 26 years in Ivory Coast, Africa. Returning to Europe he served four years as the Basque chaplain for the Basque community of Paris. He served as chaplain of the Basque-American communities beginning in 1994 and did so until recently when he found he could no longer continue due to the onset of cancer.



Aita Martxel is the last in a line of several Basque chaplains to serve here. His ministry as chaplain to the Basques of the United States had him traveling the country, averaging 60,000 miles a year. He spent an average of 200 nights a year sleeping in his van—with the license plate "Pottoka"—as he traveled from his base in San Francisco, California to the scattered Basque communities of eleven western states to serve the spiritual needs of Basque-Americans by celebrating mass in the Basque language, baptizing, marrying Basque couples, and consoling us at funerals.

In 2002 Aita Tillous was honored by NABO with its "Bizi Emankorra" or Lifetime Contribution Award, for both his spiritual and cultural contributions. An avid *txistulari*, Aita Martxel was often seen and heard playing this ancient Basque flute (or its variation the *xirula*). He served as the *txistu* instructor at NABO's annual Udaleku-Music Camp (Basque Cultural Summer Camp) for youth for most of his years with us. After a Basque meal he was always there to join in a sing-along or to help encourage the formation of a new Basque cultural venture. Aita Martxel also started the newsletter *Lokarria* that went out to thousands of Basque-American families, thus further assisting efforts to bring our community closer together.

His many contributions will live on in our communities. He will be missed by all. *Goian bego.*

Adapted from the NABO web site.

# Study Abroad in the Basque Country



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## **Bilbao/Getxo, Spain**

### **International Business, Spanish, and Cultural Studies**

Fall 2009: September–December

Spring 2010: January–May

Summer 2009: Session I, Session II (both sessions are 3 weeks)

**Courses offered:** Intensive Spanish language, international business, economics, finance, marketing, Basque and Iberian studies, art history, culture, internship, dance, art, cuisine, political science, Madrid field study, and more.

**Field Trips:** Madrid, Burgos, French and Spanish Basque Country.

**Lodging:** Homestays or apartments.

## **San Sebastián, Spain**

### **Spanish, Basque, and European Studies**

Fall 2009: September–December

Spring 2010: January–May

Summer 2009: Session I (5 weeks), Session II (4 weeks)

**Courses offered:** Intensive Spanish and Basque language, culture, art history, dance, cuisine, communications, cinema, history, women's studies, Madrid field study, and more.

**Field Trips:** Madrid, Burgos, French and Spanish Basque Country.

**Lodging:** Homestays or apartments.

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## **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe's New Photographic History Celebrates Basques of Reno and the Northeastern Sierra**

Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe's *The Basques of Reno and the Northeastern Sierra* celebrates the dynamic heritage of Basques in this area through over two hundred vintage photographs.

The new book belongs to Arcadia Publishing's Images of America Series that began in 1993 and aims to preserve and share the history of hundreds of individual communities throughout the country.

For the past twenty years Mallea-Olaetxe has been teaching and documenting many cultural aspects of the Basque communities of the American West—their involvement in ranching, sheepherding, and aspen tree carving, as well as festivals and improvised poetry performances. His research has yielded several publications on these topics.

Dr. Mallea-Olaetxe hopes that this book will inspire others to record the history of minorities who have contributed much to the economic development and cultural richness of the U.S. In particular, it is his wish that the Basque-Americans of Reno, through their club where he serves as a director and photographer, will carry on the cultural legacy and by doing so make Reno a better place to live.

This 128-page book is available for \$21.99 at area bookstores or through Arcadia Publishing at [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com). ISBN: 978-0-7385-6961-1.

"I'm a big fan of the *Images of America* books from Arcadia Publishing. I can't say enough about these books. They offer exciting opportunities for time travel into our collective past. I never open one of them without learning something new."

— San Bernardino County Sun

