

Greetings:

We are all busy at this time of the year but I would like to bring the following to your attention as something you might think of during the Christmas break.

The Department of Spanish will be publishing an online Newsletter in Spring Semester. I have been asked to serve as Editor. Ms Kate Crofton will manage copy, design and other technical issues.

Our goal is to provide a means of communicating with students and between students, as well as affording students an opportunity to publish original material in Spanish.

We are asking all students to consider submitting material to be used in our Newsletter.

Some examples of appropriate material might include:

- Description of a trip you made to a place in the Spanish-speaking world
- Interview with a native speaker of Spanish, Erasmus student for example
- Erasmus students—description of your year in Spain and advice to others considering Erasmus
- People who took part in the **Auxiliares de Conversación** program—description of how you found it and advice to others considering applying for it
- If you have travelled in Latin America—describe your experiences
- Study tips and recommendations for learning resources
- Jokes, riddles etc. And how about trying to translate a short poem or short story from Spanish to English (or Irish) or vice versa?
- Commentary on any aspect of culture or history of the Spanish-speaking world. Topics could range from football to fashion.
- Account of a job you have held in the Hispanic world or using Spanish. Tips to others who may be seeking work.

These are only a few preliminary thoughts—we will be grateful for further suggestions. Generally, we need material in Spanish, Catalan or Portuguese except for translations from those languages. All levels of proficiency are invited to participate. You should not worry about defects in your command of the language, as I or a colleague will work with you to iron out any problems in your copy.

I hope you will participate in this project and I will be in touch again in the New Year.

Beannachtaí na Nollag/Felices Pascuas a Todos

David Barnwell