Pedagogical Inquiry Grants

Report of Activities

From: Carlos Vargas Salgado

From September to January, I have successfully concluded the project: "ENHANCING THE TEACHING OF DRAMA IN SPANISH: RECORDING SELECTED PLAYS in SPANISH," which received one Pedagogical Inquiry Grant. Here, I make a detailed explanation of the activities carried out.

- Since September 2020, I dedicated myself to selecting two works to be recorded in audio. Among a large group of possible plays, I chose El viaje de los cantores by Mexican author Hugo Salcedo, and La hija de Lope by Peruvian author Sara Joffré. The two plays are included as required readings for my Hisp 341 Writing in the Air: Theater and Performance class.

- Between September 23 and October 20, I conducted several rehearsals via Zoom with the performers from the University Theater Company from the University Autonomous of the State of Mexico (CUT -Compañía Universitaria de Teatro) in Toluca, Mexico. A total of 9 actors participated in the rehearsals. During the rehearsals, I extensively explained the cultural contents and particular linguistic registers in the two works chosen for the recording.

- Between October 25 and November 05, actors from the CUT led by Professor Juan Carlos Embriz recorded the two plays, in Los Jaguares Theater building in Toluca, Mexico. The recording was done using a professional recording room. They sent me the tapes online immediately.

- Between November 10 and December 10, I did an exhaustive review of the recordings, checking that the sounds were exactly the same as those written in the texts. In some cases, when there was a discrepancy, I asked the CUT actors to re-record short texts (words or even letter sounds), which were later edited into the final version.

- I shared with you the final version of these two recordings thru Google Drive, and they will also be available to all of the Hispanic Studies faculty members.

- The two recordings will be immediately used in the Spring 2021 semester for the class Hisp 341. Being this the first experience with the new teaching material, I will also ask my students for opinions/reviews about the recordings and texts' quality and suggestions for future recordings.

Cordially,

Carlos Vargas Salgado, Hispanic Studies