Editor’s Message:
Carlos Fuentes’s Impact on Spanish Teachers and Professors

Sheri Spaine Long

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As 2012 draws to a close, it is appropriate to pay tribute to literary luminary and our learned and lettered compañero in the Spanish classroom—the late Carlos Fuentes (1928–2012). As devotees of Spanish language and culture, we will continue to enjoy his superb literature and refer to Fuentes’s succinct cultural observations in our classes. Many of us still feel his presence in our classrooms because we use the respected film series El espejo enterrado (The Buried Mirror). To honor the passing of this consummate man of letters and a central figure in the discussion of mexicanidad, I invited Hispania Associate Editor Harry L. Rosser to pen a guest editorial on Fuentes in which he includes an intriguing discussion of the late author’s overall contributions and his often overlooked impact on the teaching profession.

Harry L. Rosser is an Associate Professor of Latin American Literature at Boston College and is one of those indispensible colleagues that you meet at a session during the annual meeting of the AATSP. Having served a recent term on the AATSP Executive Council, he is a staple at the AATSP and has been a contributor to Hispania. Many of his publications focus on Mexican culture and literature. His impact in our field is broad because he is a well-known author and coauthor of instructional materials as well as literary criticism. I invite you to read his bio below and then continue on and enjoy his guest editorial, titled “Carlos Fuentes: Crossing Borders and into the Classroom.”

Sheri Spaine Long
Editor
Hispania

Harry L. Rosser

Harry L. Rosser (PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) was raised in Mexico, did his undergraduate work at the College of Wooster, and earned an MA in linguistics at Cornell University. He is an Associate Professor of Latin American Literature at Boston College. He has chaired the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures there, steered as founding Director the Latin American Studies program, and recently coordinated for four years his department’s Graduate Studies for the MA and PhD. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in literature, culture, and language. Previously, he taught at the Foreign Service Institute, Brandeis University, Boston University, and at Middlebury College’s Escuela Española.

His publications include a book on Mexican novelists, numerous articles on Latin American Literature in journals such as Cuadernos Hispanoamericanos, Revista Iberoamericana, Latin American Research Review, Hispania, Confluencia, Chasqui, Revista de Estudios Hispánicos, Cuadernos Americanos, Kentucky Romance Quarterly, Foreign Language Annals, and ADFL Bulletin. He is also the coauthor of a first-year college text, Tú dirás: Introducción a la lengua y cultura hispánicas, as well as a three-level series of textbooks for high school students, entitled Ya verás. In the area of video programs, he is the narrator-guide for the fifty-two, half-hour episodes of the telecourse Destinos: An Introduction to Spanish, which he also helped create. He is also the author and narrator of Mosaico cultural: Images from Spanish-Speaking Cultures. From 2006–09, he served a term as an elected member of the Executive Council of AATSP. In 2011, he was appointed as an Associate Editor of Hispania.