

## ABBREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE

R. McKENNA BROWN

Office of International Education  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
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### EDUCATION

1985-91 Tulane University / Ph.D. in Latin American Studies  
Title: *Language Maintenance and Shift in Four Maya Towns*  
1983-85 Tulane University / MA in Latin American Studies  
1977 Florida A&M University / BA in Speech Pathology, *Summa Cum Laude*  
1974 Florida State University / AA in Liberal Arts

### PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

2008- Executive Director, Office of International Education, Virginia Commonwealth University.  
2003-2008 Professor and Director, School of World Studies, College of Humanities & Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University.  
1998-2003 Director, International Studies Programs, College of Humanities & Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University.  
1995-2003 Associate Professor of Foreign Languages, College of Humanities & Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University.  
1991-1995 Assistant Professor of Humanistic Studies/Spanish, Division of Humanistic Studies, U of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, Wisconsin.  
1989-1996 Co-Director, Intensive Summer Program in Kaqchikel Maya Language and Culture, Guatemala. (Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education through Tulane University).  
1990-1991 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.  
1988-1990 Instructor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.

### AWARDS

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Director, State University of New York at Potsdam, 2008.  
Elske V.P. Smith Distinguished Lecture Award, Humanities & Sciences, 2007.  
Presidential Award for Community Multicultural Enrichment. (PACME) 2006.  
Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, 2003-present.  
Humanities and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award, 2002.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### A. Articles

- "Building a Future for Our Past: Contemporary Guatemalan Mayan Literature," in *Endangered Languages and Literacy: Proceedings of the IV FEL Conference*. Bath, England: The Foundation for Endangered Languages. 2000. 35-40.
- "Una breve reseña de la literatura Maya guatemalteca," in *Literatura Indígena de América: Primer Congreso*. Guatemala City: Asociación B'eyb'al. 1999. 238-245.
- "Mayan Language Revitalization in Guatemala," in *Endangered Languages and Education: Proceedings of the III FEL Conference*. Bath, England: The Foundation for Endangered Languages. 1999. 38-42.
- "La representación de las relaciones interétnicas guatemaltecas en *La otra cara* de Gaspar Pedro Gonzalez," in *Cultura de Guatemala*. Guatemala City: Universidad Rafael Landívar. 1997. 25-33.
- "La expresión de la identidad maya en el español guatemalteco," in *Segundo Congreso de Estudios Mayas (Revista de Estudios Sociales, No. 58, 4a. Epoca)*. Guatemala: Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales - Universidad Rafael Landívar. 1997. 167-174.
- Mckenna Brown, Edward F. Fischer And Raxche' Demetrio Rodriguez Guajan, "Mayan Visions For A Multilingual Society: The Guatemalan Peace Accords On Indigenous Identity And Languages" in *Fourth World Bulletin*, Vol 6. Denver, Colorado: University Of Colorado. 1998. 28-33.

### B. Chapters

- Argenter J. and R. McKenna, "Preface: *On the Margins of Nations: Endangered Languages and Linguistic Rights*." In Argenter J. and R. McKenna, eds. *On the Margins of Nations: Endangered Languages and Linguistic Rights* (c/o Barcelona: UNESCO Chair of languages and Education). Bath: FEL. 2004.
- Blythe, Joseph, and R. McKenna Brown, "Preface: Maintaining the Links: Language, Identity and the Land," in Brown, R. McKenna and Joseph Blythe, eds. *Maintaining the Links: Language, Identity and the Land Proceedings of the VII FEL Conference, Broome, Australia, September 22-24, 2003*. Bath, England: Foundation for Endangered Languages. 2003
- "Preface: Endangered Languages and Their Literatures," in *Endangered Languages and Their Literatures: Proceedings of the VI FEL Conference, Antigua, Guatemala, August 8-10, 2002*. Bath, England: Foundation for Endangered Languages. 2002. 1-4.
- "The Mayan Language Loyalty Movement," in *Maya Cultural Activism in Guatemala*. University of Texas Press. 1996. 165-177.
- "Mayan Cultural Activism in Guatemala: Introduction," (co-author) in *Maya Cultural Activism in Guatemala*. University of Texas Press. 1996. 1-18.

### C. Books

- Brown, R. McKenna, Judith M. Maxwell and Walter Little *La ützwäch? Introduction to Kaqchikel Maya Language*. University of Texas Press, 2006.
- Argenter J. and R. McKenna, Eds. *On the Margins of Nations: Endangered Languages and Linguistic Rights*. (Barcelona: UNESCO Chair of languages and Education). Bath: FEL. 2004.
- Brown, R. McKenna and Joseph Blythe, Eds. *Maintaining the Links: Language, Identity and the Land Proceedings of the VII FEL Conference, Broome, Australia, September 22-24, 2003*. Bath, England: Foundation for Endangered Languages. 2003.
- Brown, R. McKenna, ed. *Endangered Languages and Their Literatures: Proceedings of the VI FEL Conference, Antigua, Guatemala, August 8-10, 2002*. Bath, England: Foundation for Endangered Languages. 2002.
- González, Gaspar Pedro. *The Dry Season: Poems in Q'anjob'al Maya*. Trans. R. McKenna Brown. Cleveland, Ohio: Cleveland State University Poetry Center. 2001. *Finalist, 2002 PEN Literary Award for Poetry in Translation*.
- Garzon, Susan, R. McKenna Brown, Julia Becker Richards, and Wuqu' Ajpub'. *Ruk'aslem Qach'ab'al: La conservación, pérdida, y revitalización del idioma Maya Kaqchikel*. Guatemala City: Editorial Cholsamaj. Trans of *The Life of Our Language: Kaqchikel Maya Maintenance, Shift and Revitalization*. 1998. 2000.
- Fischer, Edward F. and R. McKenna Brown, Eds. *Rujotayixik ri Maya' B'anob'al: Activismo Cultural Maya*. Guatemala City: Editorial Cholsamaj. Trans of *Maya Cultural Activism in Guatemala*. 1996. 1999.
- Garzon, Susan, R. McKenna Brown, Julia Becker Richards, and Wuqu' Ajpub'. *The Life of Our Language: Kaqchikel Maya Maintenance, Shift and Revitalization*. University of Texas Press. 1998.
- Fischer, Edward F. and R. McKenna Brown, eds. *Maya Cultural Activism in Guatemala*. University of Texas Press. 1996.

### D. Selected Fellowships and Grants Awarded

- U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant. *An Undergraduate Certificate Program in International Social Justice Studies*. \$145,231. 2003-2006.
- Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, "A Visiting Scholar in Islamic Studies". 2005.
- Recipient, VCU Office for Research Seminar in the Arts and Humanities Award, 2003.
- U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant (co-author). *A Certificate Program in International Management Studies*. \$125,396. 2000-2002.
- VCU Center for Teaching Excellence Grant. *Continued Training in Technical and Professional Spanish Translation and Interpreting*. \$1,460.00. 2001.
- Fulbright Scholar Award, Visiting Scholar Award, Lecturer in Linguistics, Mariano Gálvez University, Guatemala, \$24,510. 1998.

### E. Recent Scholarly papers

- "Who Owns the Mayan Apocalypse? Identity Claims in \_El 13 B'aktun\_ by Gaspar Pedro Gonzalez," 107th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November 23, 2008.

"Gaspar Pedro González' *El 13 B'aktun: A Internal Vision of the Mayan Apocalypses*," Carolina Conference of Romance Languages, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, March 29, 2008.

"Representing Gender in Recent Guatemalan Mayan Literature," American Comparative Literature Association 2006 *Annual Meeting: The Human and Its Others*, Princeton University, March 23-26, 2006.

"Vanishing Voices and Globalization: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language Issues among the Guatemalan Mayas" *Crossing Boundaries: Ideas, Communities, Cultures*, Virginia Commonwealth University's School Of World Studies and Mid-Atlantic Conference Of Latin American Studies XXVI Annual Meeting Joint Meeting, April 9, 2005.

"Representing Gender in Recent Guatemalan Mayan Literature," American Comparative Literature Association 2006 Annual Meeting: The Human and Its Others, Princeton University, March 23-26, 2006.

"Portraits of Complementary Gender Relations In Recent Guatemalan Mayan Literature," The International Colloquium for Vernacular Studies, Puebla, Mexico, 2003.

"Representing Gender in Recent Guatemalan Mayan Literature," Society for Latin American Studies Annual Conference, University of Manchester, UK, 2003.

"Gender Constructions in Recent Guatemalan Mayan Literature," XXIV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Dallas, Texas, 2003.

#### *I. Selected Sessions/Conferences organized/chaired*

"On the urban/rural border: language and identities in a global landscape," 107th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November 19, 2008.

At the Margins of Nations: Endangered Languages and Linguistic Rights, VIII Conference of the Foundation for Endangered Languages, October 1-3, 2004. Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Barcelona. (Co-organizer).

"Indigenous Voices Respond to Empire and Colonization," "Visual and Oral Discourse," "Language Revitalization," "Indians in the Construction of National Identities," "La tradición oral," "Indigenous Cosmovisions," and "Constructions and Representations of Indigenous Realities." Panels organized for the Indigenous Literatures Section of the International Colloquium for Vernacular Studies, Puebla, Mexico, October 8-11, 2003

#### *J. Selected Lectures and Workshops for Teachers*

"International Studies as an Academic Discipline," Roundtable Session at the International Studies Association-South Conference, Richmond, October 20, 2002.

"El acercamiento comunicativo en la enseñanza de segunda lengua: la forma versus la función," half-day workshop for Spanish teachers at Casa de Español Xelaju', Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, June 9, 1998.

Workshop, "Working Towards Proficiency in the Language Classroom." Department of Foreign Languages, Virginia Commonwealth University, August 28, 1998.

## VI. TEACHING AND OTHER RELATED ASSIGNMENTS

### A. Selected Courses Created and Taught

Andean Religion & Ecology (Honors), Virginia Commonwealth University, 1996.  
Contemporary Mayan Culture. The VCU Commonwealth Society. 2000.  
Discourse Analysis, Universidad Mariano Gálvez, Guatemala, 1998.  
Kaqchikel Maya Language (non-credit), U of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 1993-94; Virginia Commonwealth University, 1996.  
Language Issues in Spain and Latin America, Tulane University, 1991; U of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 1994; Virginia Commonwealth University, 1997. (Service Learning Course).  
Language Planning, Universidad Mariano Gálvez, Guatemala, 1998.  
Latin American Indigenous Literatures, U of Wisconsin-Green Bay 1994 (semester abroad program); Virginia Commonwealth University, 1996.  
Latinos in the United States, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2000, 2002, 2004.  
Mayan Ethnography, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2007.  
Mayan Language & Identity (Honors), Virginia Commonwealth University, 1996.  
Mayan Literature, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2007.  
Spanish Translation, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1998, 2002, 2004 (Service Learning Course).

### C. Programs Developed and Taught

Contemporary Maya Culture, Teacher Workshop (Graduate/Undergraduate).  
Sponsored by the U of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the Center for Latin America, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1994.  
Intensive Summer Program in Kaqchikel Maya Language and Culture, Antigua, Guatemala. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education Title VI Program through Tulane University and University of Texas-Austin, 1989-96.  
Semester Abroad in Guatemala. Sponsored by the U of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 1994.  
Study Tour to Guatemala for Teachers/Social Workers/Health Workers. Sponsored by the U of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the Center for Latin America, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1995, 1997; Cleveland State University, 1998; VCU, 2004, 2005.

### D. Education Materials Developed

*El futuro maya: Mayan Voices from the Present*. Producer, Educational video produced by The Center for Latin America, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. 1998. Winner of the 1998 Northeast Central Council of Latin Americanists Professional Teaching Award.  
*Maya K'iche' como segundo idioma* (consultant). Guatemala: Ministry of Education. 2000.  
*Maya Q'eqchi' como segundo idioma* (consultant). Guatemala: Ministry of Education. 1999.  
*Maya Kaqchikel como segundo idioma* (consultant). Guatemala: Ministry of Education. 1998.