Collin County Community College District
APPLICATION FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE

Instructions
Please complete this application by responding to all items. Attach requested documentation (in the order requested) and secure the appropriate signatures prior to submitting the application to the chair of the Sabbatical Committee. Please submit the original and 10 copies.

Name: Sandra Herron    SSN: 449-91-8494
Title: Professor of Spanish
Division: Humanities and Communications
Have you ever been granted a sabbatical? ___Yes___ ___No____ If yes: Date:

Please provide a brief description of your previous sabbatical project:

Sabbatical Leave Period Being Requested

Dates: Beginning Date__Spring 2008_____ Ending Date__Spring 2008____
Length: [x] One semester  [ ] Two semesters  [ ]
Other_____________________

Applicant’s Agreement

ABSTRACT
Please give a summary description of the project and its significance in a language that can be readily understood by persons in areas of expertise other than your own. PLEASE DO NOT EXCEED SPACE PROVIDED BELOW.

Students have different styles for learning a foreign language and the objective of my project is to present the students with a teaching modality that will enhance the Spanish learning process in the classroom, therefore every student will be provided with the opportunity to learn at his/her best ability. I am requesting a sabbatical to translate and create an exercise book for students to reinforce beginning and intermediate Spanish grammar classes. Therefore, students will further their studies in language related to culture. They will practice words and discover that every sentence carry within them the atmosphere and rhythm of culture, history, and aesthetic traditions. For instance, formulations such as; expression of emotional states, or subjunctive phrases are complex concept for a student to comprehend since one language cannot be reproduced with the same intensity in another one. The translation approach further communicates cultural reading, interpretation, and connotation. As a result, translation in the Spanish classes will promote interdisciplinary thinking. This sabbatical proposal supports Collin’s curriculum, mission and initiatives as stated in the QEP and Strategic Plan.

The goal of my project is to integrate the translation methodology into my course syllabi and focus on increasing retention by maintaining the number of students enrolled in lower level of Spanish courses and motivated them to continue into upper level Spanish classes. The idea is to offer the student another outlet to practice monotonous grammar and engage them in the translation exercises a supplementary learning experience. The benefit to the College and the significance of this work will be measured by retaining students with the implementation of translation modalities which is going to enrich the student’s Spanish language learning experience. Discuss research about engaged students tend to persist! In addition to the increase in student retention, completion of this project will give the Spanish department professional visibility in academia by presenting the methodology and the outcomes of this project in different national conferences.