



Eastern Connecticut State University

# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Eastern Students Translate “The Understory”**

**WILLIMANTIC, CT** – Three Eastern Connecticut State University students recently completed a month-long project, assisting in the creation of English subtitles for “The Understory,” a documentary that was created by another group of Eastern students.

Andrew Cooke, an English major and Spanish minor, and Dianisi Torres and Antonio Lopez, both Spanish majors, transcribed, translated and edited the Spanish component of the documentary. The students worked under the guidance of Sonia Cintron-Marrero, professor of modern language, and earned credits for their work.

“The Understory” was filmed by Eastern Communication majors during a visit to the Los Tuxtlas Biology Station in Veracruz, Mexico in May 2007. They were accompanied by Professor Jaime Gomez. The film chronicles deforestation and the ecological impact of the timber industry in the tropical rainforests of Mexico.

Cooke, Torres, and Lopez translated approximately 130 minutes of video footage from Spanish to English in less than a month in order to create the subtitles for the film's interviews.

According to Cooke, "The translation process worked in stages. Either Dianisi or Antonio would transcribe the Spanish from a given chapter of the DVD to paper, then I would take their hard copy of the Spanish transcript and translate it into English. We'd meet once a week to review my translations to correct any errors. We spent well over 50 hours each on the project."

Cintron-Marrero says, "This was a truly an interdisciplinary endeavor. After working many long hours, my students felt fortunate and proud to have had this experience working with students from a different field."

The documentary can be viewed at

[www.easternct.edu/depts/media/StudentProductions.htm](http://www.easternct.edu/depts/media/StudentProductions.htm).

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. Eastern serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

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