



Dr. Susan Kalt, a 2008 National Endowment for the Humanities fellow and recipient of a 2010 grant from the Foundation for Endangered Languages, London, is embarking on a new phase of work she has been carrying out with partners in Peru, Bolivia and at Roxbury Community College, Massachusetts.

“We are working side by side with indigenous linguists as they transcribe and analyze their own language, a language which has been written by elites for 500 years but is endangered as its speakers leave the Andean countryside.” The RCC-Andes Connection is a project that links rural Andean farmers with inner city students in Boston as they explore issues of language, race and identity and learn to develop curriculum materials to support formal learning in students’ native languages. Through student and teacher-made videos and writing projects, they celebrate language diversity and promote mastery of all of the ways that 21st century persons may be literate.

This year’s project will carry Dr. Kalt back to rural communities where she has conducted controlled linguistic research over the past decade. Her thank you to the communities is to bring the concept of **hands-on and multimedia learning via the creation of native language curriculum kits**, modeled on those created by the Boston Children’s Museum. She will share the results in Spanish and Early Childhood Curriculum Development classes at RCC this Fall, as well as to international audiences at several linguistics conferences next year.

For more information on Dr. Kalt’s work, visit her webpage at http://www.rcc.mass.edu/Language/faculty/Sue_Kalt/Sue.asp