

LINGUISTICS

AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY



Brian Riordan honored as Outstanding Young Alumnus at Alumni Weekend



Brian Riordan delivers the Outstanding Young Alumni Lecture at Alumni Weekend 2015

The Department hosted its 5th Annual Linguistics Alumni Weekend October 9-10 at the Devault Alumni Center. Events began on Friday, October 9 with a lecture by Brian Riordan (M.A. 2005, Ph.D. 2007), the second recipient of the Outstanding Young Alumni award. This award honors an alumnus or alumna who has shown outstanding promise within the first 10 years of their careers. It was established and first presented in 2013 to Dr. Cynthia Clopper (Ph.D. 2004). Dr. Riordan presented a public lecture—"Natural language processing for high-stakes environments"—in which he discussed the development and current breadth of natural language processing technology as it is being used in a range of what are considered to be high-stakes environments, including the military, health care, and education. The lecture was followed by a reception as part of Alumni Weekend 2015 events.

Robert Botne, Chair of the Department of Linguistics, presented Dr. Riordan with a framed certificate recognizing his achievements. He also presented him with an "Indiana IU Linguistics" polo shirt, also available to donors who contribute to any of the

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departmental funds. To learn more about the personal side of Brian Riordan, see the article on page 14.

Events on Saturday, October 10, began with a lecture by Sara Sowers-Wills, the recipient of this year's Householder Outstanding Graduate Paper award. She presented research involving an ongoing study detailed in her paper titled "The Template in Phonological Acquisition: Evidence from a Diary Study". Afterward eight students presented their current research in a poster session. Presenters included graduate students Silvina Bongiovanni, Juyeon Chung, Kelly Kasper-Cushman, Andrew Kostakis, Andrew Lamont, Wen Li, Jonathan Washington, and undergraduate student Max Nelson.

If you were not able to attend Alumni Weekend this year, we hope to see you next year.



Graduate student Je Young Park, alumni Kris Ebarb (M.A. 2012, Ph.D. 2014) and Lwin Moe (M.A. 2010) listen to undergraduate Max Nelson discuss his poster.

FRANCES TRIX RETIRES

Frances Trix, Professor in the Departments of Anthropology and Linguistics retired in May 2015. A retirement reception in her honor was held September 30th in the University Club of the IMU.

Frances came to I.U. from Wayne State University, where she was a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology from 1990-2005. In 2005, she came to IU as Visiting Associate Professor. She stayed on for the next ten years, being promoted to full professor in 2011.

What describes Frances best is her wide-ranging diversity of interests, which comes through in all facets of her career. Her research ranged widely from discourse analysis of the cockpit recorder of Singapore flight 006 to spiritual discourse in learning with an Islamic Master; from linguistic analysis of the process of attunement in dialogues of a Sufi Master to *The Sufi Journey of Baba Rexheb*; from the immigrant voice in Istanbul to blessing cars, a Sufi play on ritual in immigrant America. Some of her most well-cited work on discourse include her work on letters of recommendation for female and male faculty that appeared in *Discourse and Society* and her article "Women's Voices and Experiences of the Hill/Thomas Hearing" that appeared in *American Anthropologist*.

Although much of her research focused on the Balkans—particularly Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Turkey, and the former Yugoslavia, where she did much of her work—she also spent time in Czecho-slovakia, Egypt, France, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Lebanon, Taiwan, and Yemen.

Diversity is also reflected in the dissertation committees she served on. At IU she served

as a member of committees in the Departments of Anthropology, Linguistics, Second Language Studies, French and Italian, and Spanish and Portuguese. At Wayne State these included—in addition to Anthropology—Philosophy, Communication, English, and Speech-Language Pathology.

Frances is an excellent teacher. She received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching [Wayne St. University] and was a nominee for the U.S. Professors of the Year Program [Carnegie Foundation]. She taught a popular undergraduate course, Language in Disasters, as well as Language and Gender and Discourse Analysis.

Frances was very active and interested in university affairs, particularly academic governance. She served

on, and continues to serve on, the Bloomington Faculty Council, where she co-chaired the Diversity & Affirmative Action Committee and was a member of the subcommittees on Sexual Assault and Student Affairs.

In addition to her teaching award, Frances was also recognized as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, spending a year at the Wilson International Center for Scholars in Wash., D.C. She was a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Albanian American National Organization and the Bosnian and Hercegovinian Association Award for service to the people and the country.

Although now retired, retirement seems not to have slowed her pace, as she continues to remain active in the BFC and academically, spending the past summer as a Visiting Scholar in the People's Republic of China.



Frances Trix chatting with Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Newman and Roxana Ma Newman

FOCUS ON FACULTY

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MARKUS DICKINSON

by Sara Sowers-Wills

Conversation began easily when I sat down with Markus Dickinson at one of his favorite hang-outs, Bloomington Bagel, while he ate a Greek yogurt and drank Earl Grey tea. In the first few minutes, I learned that he values skilled writing in a variety of genres, and he appreciates the profound weirdness of Captain Beefheart and Frank Zappa and the marked sadness in Big Star's song "Kangaroo". I also learned he happily welcomes the modern-day challenge to eat locally and do what he can to care for the environment.

This small collection of facts is only minimally representative of Professor Dickinson's many facets. In IU's Linguistics Department, where he has been since 2007, Professor Dickinson is an Associate Professor of computational linguistics. As a person, he is genuinely amiable and cares deeply about people. He grew up in and around Peoria, Illinois, which he describes as fun – not because it is particularly different from other Midwestern farm communities but because of the family he grew up with and the values instilled in him there. This is where he met the person who would become his wife.

Professor Dickinson didn't come to linguistics directly. He began college oscillating between English and math but found himself in English courses. A chat with him about literature reveals his knowledge of – and affinity for – both fiction and poetry. He touts Kurt Vonnegut for his ability to get at the human condition with seeming effortlessness while maintaining humor. He admires Flannery O'Connor's "dark and strange" writing for its compelling honesty and insight. He also enjoys writing a bit himself.

By way of his English curriculum, Professor Dickinson enrolled in a Modern English Grammar course, where he found that syntactic trees just made sense and felt like home. Afterward an introductory linguistics course put him more firmly on the path to where he is today. He later encountered computational linguistics, which brought math back into his life

and introduced programming, which he found he was good at. Also, the aspect of computational linguistics research that reaps clear results appealed to him.

When I asked what he would do if he could no longer be a linguist – but could be anything he wanted – Professor Dickinson paused thoughtfully then said he truly loves what he does. As a previous student of his, I can say his enthusiasm as a teacher is palpable, as is his concern for students. At last, though, he named a few roles in which we might otherwise find

him – that of a tour guide, a high school English teacher, a social worker, a traffic engineer, or doing church-related work. His father is a pastor, and church has always been a part of his life, as has been the impulse to help others. For the past 5 or 6 years, he has volunteered at New Leaf–New Life, an organization that offers services to inmates in the Monroe County Jail. Professor Dickinson meets with people in an Addicts in Recovery (AIR) group, chatting with them about language, math, and life in general.

Professor Dickinson occasionally has free time, and he spends it running, hiking, baking, or watching movies. One of his favorite places to hike is Turkey Run State Park, located in western Indiana, and he gravitates toward movies whose humor is richly woven with the substance of humanity, like that in movies by the director Wes Anderson.

As a final question, I asked if there is anything about him that might surprise us. It turns out Professor Dickinson is skilled at the video game Dance Dance Revolution, even though he neither likes nor is good at – in his words – dancing in the real world. He also remarked that, despite using technology in his research, he can be a Luddite. He hangs on unabashedly to his "dumb phone". My guess is that someone as involved with family, community, work, and a gamut of other interests as Professor Dickinson is can successfully maintain a life free of kerfuffle (a word he noted he enjoys), despite the scant intelligence of his phone.



COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS: NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Computational Linguistics group continues to be very active. A new 5-year BS/MS degree in Computational Linguistics has recently been approved, and we already have 3 new BS students and 3 MS students. We also had 2 students who graduated with an MA, Braxton Meyer and Chris Kuzma, and 2 students who graduated with a PhD, Muhammad Abdul-Mageed and Olga Scrivner. Braxton and Chris have found positions in industry, Muhammad has a position as a visiting assistant professor in SOIC, and Olga has a position as a lecturer in the Spanish Department at IU.

One of the major changes this year concerns the CL lab, which has moved into a new and larger office. We hope that we can provide a pleasant work environment for more of our PhD students this way.

We are also continuing our collaboration with Linguist List: Currently a number of our students are working or volunteering at Linguist List, such as Sara Couture, Andrew Lamont, and Anna White.

Turning to various presentations and publications, not including the ones co-authored by Markus Dickinson and Sandra Kuebler: Larry Moss published the paper “Two Advances in the Implementations of Syllogistic Logic” at the NLP and Automated Reasoning workshop, with CS students Jason Hemann and Cameron Swords. Larry also organized the Conference on Computing Natural Reasoning at IU. Andrew Lamont and Jonathan Washington published the paper “Metrics for Optimality Theoretic Grammars” at the Workshop on Computational Phonology and Morphology at the Linguistic Summer Institute. Jonathan Washington published the paper “Finite-state Morphologies and Text Corpora as Resources for Improving Morphological Descriptions” at the same workshop, with co-authors Francis Tyers and Tommi Pirinen. He also published the paper “Towards a Free/Open-source Universal-dependency Treebank for Kazakh” at the 3rd International Conference on Computer Processing in Turkic Languages (TurkLang 2015), with Francis Tyers. Charese Smiley published the paper “Natural Language Question Answering and Analytics for Diverse and Interlinked Datasets” at NAACL-HLT 2015 with co-authors Dezhao Song, Frank Schilder,

and Chris Brew. And she published the paper “TR Discover: A Natural Language Interface for Querying and Analyzing Interlinked Datasets” at ISWC 2015, with co-authors Dezhao Song, Frank Schilder, Chris Brew, Tom Zielund, Hiroko Bretz, Robert Martin, Chris Dale, John Duprey, Tim Miller, and Johanna Harrison.

With regard to projects, Sandra Kuebler, Eric Baucom, Daniel Dakota, and Can Liu have been working on a project funded by the Office of Naval Research, in collaboration with project partners at the University of Miami. The IU team is focusing on sentence simplification, domain adaptation, conversion to semantics, and sentiment analysis.

The YouTube project, involving Markus Dickinson, Sandra Kuebler, Can Liu, and Laura Zweig is continuing to work on classifying YouTube videos based on their comments, and Markus Dickinson, Wen Li, and Daniel Whyatt were working with Armando Razo in Political Science on the project “Construction of a Linguistic Corpus and Ontology for Comparative Analysis of Networks”, funded by IU’s Faculty Research Support Program (FRSP).

PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY LAB NEWS

The Phonetics & Phonology Lab at IU is up and running after a busy summer! Five undergraduate students won summer research funding from Hutton Honors College to work in the lab, and data collection on a variety of projects has commenced. Visit us at <http://www.indiana.edu/~phonphon/home.html> to learn more about who we are and what we’re up to. We’re now actively collecting data for a number of studies (both production & perception), in addition to working with speakers of three under-resourced languages – Chatino (a Zapotecan language), Mina (a Gbe language), and an under-studied dialect of Khams Tibetan. Want to learn how to be involved? Contact Kelly Berkson at kberkson@indiana.edu.

New Faculty Appointment

Małgorzata Cavar has been appointed Assistant Professor in phonology, with a joint quarter-time appointment in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures. She came to IU in 2014-15 as an Associate Research Scientist in the Department of Linguistics. She obtained her Ph.D. from Potsdam University, Germany. She has held positions at the University of Konstanz (Germany), the University of Zadar (Croatia), and the University of Nova Gorica (Slovenia). She co-founded the Department of Linguistics at the University of Zadar and developed a curriculum for the linguistics program.

Since 2014, she has been a co-director and moderator of the LINGUIST List, the largest information portal for the discipline. Her research focus is in phonology, including topics in theoretical phonology, computational and empirical approaches to phonol-



ogy, second language and inter-language perception. She is actively involved in research projects developing natural language resources and in cyber-infrastructure digital humanities projects hosted at LINGUIST List.

FACULTY NEWS & RESEARCH NOTES

Julie Auger spent the 2014-15 academic year in France, first in Grenoble and then in Toulouse. During the first part of her leave, she was the recipient of a Fulbright fellowship. The major project for her sabbatical leave was the preparation of her book on Picard, the endangered Gallo-Romance language that she has been studying for the past 20 years and for which she has secured a book contract with Brill Publishers. Julie took advantage of her presence in France to conduct new fieldwork in Picardie, collect data from speakers not interviewed before, and to reconnect with her subjects. Finally, she gave 11 lectures in France, Spain, and Scotland, and presented some of her latest analyses at conferences in France and Germany.

Małgorzata Cavar transferred to IU in July 2014, first, as an associate research scientist and co-director of the LINGUIST List, and then accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in linguistics with a quarter of the appointment in the Slavic Department in August 2015. She is affiliated with the Phonetics and Phonology Lab directed by Dr. Berkson, and in August 2015 she joined as faculty in REEI (Russian and East European Institute). In the past academic year, she worked primarily with Damir Cavar, the other co-director of the LINGUIST List, on re-launching the LINGUIST List in the new environment of IU, and negotiated the integration of the LINGUIST List into the existing IU infrastructure.

Cavar was a co-organizer of two conference events this academic year. In July 2014, she co-organized with Damir Cavar the biannual Lexical Functional Conference (at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), and in January 2015, the AARDVARC Symposium at the LSA Annual Meeting in Portland. She has managed two NSF-funded projects, MultiTree and AARDVARC, and participated in the transfer of the grants to IU. She has been involved with the GORILLA initiative (Global Open Resources and Information for Language and Linguistic Analysis) developed by Damir Cavar, which hosts speech corpora, in particular for under-resourced languages and develops tools to bootstrap further language resources from the speech corpora.

This summer LINGUIST List had interns to work on the speech corpora of Yiddish, using, among others the data collected through AHEYM project by Prof. Dov-Ber Kerler, Baharlu Turkish spoken in Iran, Castilian Spanish, Russian and Croatian. Together with Dr. Hilaria Cruz of University of Kentucky and Damir Cavar, she collaborated on the development of the Eastern Chatino (a Zapotecan language) speech corpus. The work on corpora led to two grant proposals to DEL for further work on Chatino, Baharlu Turkish and the infrastructure under GORILLA. Over summer the LINGUIST List—in collaboration with Kelly Berkson—hosted the internship program with 8 interns (out of that 3 international interns).

 FACULTY NEWS & RESEARCH NOTES *(continued)*

In collaboration with Damir Cavar, Kelly Berkson, Markus Dickinson, and Sandra Kuebler, Cavar developed and submitted a proposal for a REU Site, to finance the internship program in the following years. She reviewed for *Lingua*. Together with Damir Cavar, Lwin Moe, and Aaron Albin, she was a co-author of the presentation at the Midwest Speech and Language Days at Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago in May 2015, a co-author of the poster at the Alumni Weekend in October 2014, and an invited speaker (together with Damir Cavar) at the workshop “Development of Linguistic Linked Open Data (LLOD) Resources for Collaborative Data-Intensive Research in the Language Sciences” during LSA Summer Institute in Chicago.

Clancy Clements published “Portuguese settlement of the Chaul/Korlai area and the formation of Korlai Creole Portuguese” in the *Journal of Language Contact* (special issue entitled “The Early Years of Language Contact”). He gave a keynote address entitled “Typology, acquisition, and the distinctness of pidgin and creole languages,” at the Hispanic Linguistic Symposium, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. At the

“Francis Lieber's *Americanisms* as an Early Source on Southern Speech” in Michael D. Picone and Catherine Evans Davies (eds.), *New Perspectives on Language Variety in the South: Historical and Contemporary Approaches*, from University of Alabama Press. Davis gave presentations at 5 different conferences during 2015 that included talks at the 23rd Manchester Phonology Meeting in Manchester UK, the Word Formation Theories Conference in Slovakia, the Association of Linguistic Typology conference in Albuquerque, and the 29th Arabic Linguistics Symposium held in Milwaukee where he gave a keynote talk on templatic mapping in Arabic. In addition he gave an invited talk in June at University College London on ambiguous syllabification in American English.

Ken de Jong has been wrapping up his fifth year as the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Phonetics*. The journal has continued to be a center for collecting and reviewing the very best experimental work in the discipline. The position involves initial review and disposition of approximately 120 manuscripts per year, and interacting with 200–300 scholars from around the world as au-

Ken de Jong is president-elect of the Association for Laboratory Phonology

annual meeting of the Association of Portuguese- and Spanish-based Creoles, Professor Clements organized a workshop, held on two occasions (July 6 and July 10) entitled “Introduction to the Hugo Schuchardt Archive”, at the University of Graz (Austria). While in Austria, he presented two papers, one for the Society of Pidgin and Creole Languages titled “The emergence of form and structure in highly structured contact varieties”, and the other at the annual meeting of The Association of Portuguese- and Spanish-based Creoles: “Variable plural marking in Papiamentu”, (Margaret Glide, the first author). Clements was re-elected to serve another two-year term as president of the Asociación de Criollos de Base Léxica Portuguesa y Española.

Stuart Davis published three articles during the past year. With former student Marwa Ragheb (PhD 2014) he published “On the L1 Development of Final Consonant Clusters in Cairene Arabic” in *Perspectives on Arabic Linguistics* 26. With Natsuko Tsujimura he published “Non-concatenative Derivation” in *The Oxford Handbook of Derivational Morphology*. He also published

thors or reviewers. In addition, he is in the position of president-elect of the Association for Laboratory Phonology, the governing association overseeing the journal *Laboratory Phonology* and the biennial international meeting. The association also is investigating various other venues for encouraging experimental work on phonological systems and capabilities, including various scholarship, workshop, and electronic resources.

His research publication last spring includes work with Kenji Yoshida featuring some very interesting modeling of how speakers of different languages perceive vowel length differences. The Bayesian modeling technique was developed in close connection with John Kruschke in the quantitative psychology faculty here at IU. Finnish and Japanese listeners exhibit extraordinarily similar treatment of durational differences, raising the question of how two language groups arrive at such strikingly similar systems.

In the past year, **Markus Dickinson** has kept himself busy, first by publishing four papers at the Treebanks and Linguistics Theories (TLT) workshop in Tuebin-

 FACULTY NEWS & RESEARCH NOTES *(continued)*

gen, Germany in December of 2014, two papers with current PhD student Amber Smith and two with former student Dr. Marwa Ragheb.

Some of that work transitioned nicely to a survey paper titled “Detection of Annotation Errors in Corpora” that appeared in *Language and Linguistics Compass* this year. Apparently, Markus has been the main person doing annotation error detection during the last decade. This may be why he was invited to participate in a workshop on Annotation Tools at Florida International University in March and to give a talk at Brandeis University in May.

Stemming from his work with Marwa Ragheb, he was also invited to give a talk as part of a Symposium titled “Connecting data and theory: Corpora and second language research” at Lancaster University in July. Likewise, Marwa and he published a paper at the Linguistic Annotation Workshop questioning the categories used for second language learner data. Around the same time, Scott Ledbetter and he published “Automatic morphological analysis of learner Hungarian” at the Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications, and presented related work at the CALICO (Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium) Conference.

Most of his growing number of students are developing interesting research for future publications; for example, Wen Li is developing research on gender prediction for Chinese social media, the focus of a poster she and Markus presented at the Midwest Speech and Language Days. Many of his students have also presented this year in CLingDing, the Computational Linguistics discussion group. Markus served on four different dissertation committees this summer (one external), all of which made for excellent beach reading.

Steve Franks recently published a number of articles, including “Speculations on DP-structure: Macedonian vTersus Bulgarian” in *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: The First Berkeley Meeting*, edited by M. Szajbel-Keck, R. Burns, and D. Kavitskaya; “Less Movement is More Minimalist Movement” in *The Proceedings of Florida Linguistics Yearly Meeting 2*, and he presented the paper at the meeting in March; “Cased PRO: From GB to Minimalism and Back Again” in *New Insights into Slavic Linguistics*, edited by J. Witkoś & S. Jaworski. Peter Lang; and “Strategies with Conjoined Subjects in Croatian”, co-authored with Jana Willer-Gold, in *New Insights into Slavic Linguistics*, edited by J. Witkoś & S. Jaworski. Peter Lang. He also published “Invariant *-to* in Bulgarian”,

co-authored with IU alumna Catherine Rudin, in *Studies in Accentology and Slavic Linguistics in Honor of Ronald F. Feldstein*, edited by Miriam Shragger, Edna Andrews, George Fowler, and Steven Franks. Both Miriam Shragger and Edna Andrews are IU PhDs (the latter in Slavic), and George Fowler is an adjunct in Linguistics.

In September, he was a plenary speaker at the Slavic Linguistics Society X, Heidelberg, Germany, where he spoke on “Lessons for Linguists from Slavists and their Languages”. He continues to serve as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*.

Tom Grano published his book *Control and Restructuring* (Oxford University Press). He presented “Getting Your To-do List Under Control: Imperative Semantics and the Grammar of Intending” at 45th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 45) at MIT, and presented (joint work with Howard Lasnik), “How to Neutralize a Finite Clause Boundary: Phase Theory and the Grammar of Bound Pronouns”, at the Workshop on Pronouns in Embedded Contexts at the Syntax-Semantics Interface in Tübingen, Germany. In addition, he presented “A Coercion-free Semantics for Intention Reports” at the 51st Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 51), and “Control Theory and the Syntax of Aspect: A View from Mandarin Chinese” at the Workshop on Aspect in Embedded Clauses in Berlin, Germany.

(faculty news continues on page 19)



Photo by Vitor Leongue

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS & RESEARCH NOTES *(continued)*

With Jonathan Washington he presented a poster titled “Comparing Distance Metrics for Optimality Theoretic Grammars” at the Workshop on Computational Phonology and Morphology, University of Chicago, July 11, 2015. He presented a poster titled “Deriving the Distribution of Laterals in Homorganic Clusters” at the IULC Spring Conference, Indiana University, April 3, 2015. He gave a presentation titled “Lateral Place Assimilation in Kuman” at the 12th Workshop in General Linguistics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 11, 2015. SpecGram published an article he originally wrote for LINGUIST List, which can be found here: <http://specgram.com/CLXXIII.3/07.lamont.pez.html>. He also submitted two papers to conference proceedings journals, which are not yet available.

Scott Ledbetter presented at CALICO 2015 (Boulder, Colorado) and had a co-authored presentation at BEA 2015 (Denver, Colorado).

Vitor Leongue presented “The Phonology of Portuguese Borrowings into Macau Cantonese: A Preliminary Analysis” at the 9th Annual Linguistics Department Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University Bloomington,

shop on Phonetics and Phonology right here in Bloomington in September. In June she presented more of her lexicographical research, in a presentation titled “The Case of the Missing Attributions: Tracking the Source of OED’s Sources on South Asia,” to the joint biennial meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America and the International Conference on Studies in the History of the English Language in Vancouver. Her paper on that same topic has been conditionally accepted for publication in 2016 and is currently under revision. On a less sedentary note, Traci was a member of the IU Tennis Center’s team that won the 2015 Indiana 2.5 state championship and competed in the U.S. Tennis Association’s Midwest Sectional championship tournament in August.

Beatrice Okelo attended and chaired two sessions at the African Language Teachers Association/National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (Hilton Washington Dulles). She also attended and chaired a session CHAUKIDU (Global Association for the Promotion of Swahili) Conference at Howard University, and presented two papers at the African Language Teachers Association/National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages.

Valentyna Filimonova was an invited roundtable facilitator on Complexity Theory at IU's Interlocutor Individual Differences Symposium

April 3, 2015. He also was awarded the Daniel A. Dinnsen Excellence-in-Teaching Award for Associate Instructors.

Samson Lotven presented posters at the Alumni Weekend last year and at MidPhon 20 this year. He also was awarded a departmental and a college travel grant to help pay for his trip to the 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics in Eugene, Oregon where he presented his paper titled “Tone Sandhi as a Diagnostic for the Morphological Status of Reduplication in Mina”. Also, he has a healthy newborn baby girl.

Michael McGuire presented a digital electronic poster titled “Creating a Digital Environment for Engaging Students, Teachers, and Researchers in Medieval Literature” at BUD-SC15 Digital Scholarship Conference, Bucknell University.

Traci Nagle traveled to Kolkata, India, in April 2015 to conduct field research for her dissertation. She presented her initial findings, on phonetic and phonological patterns in Bengali vowels, as posters at the 169th annual meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Pittsburgh in May and at the 20th Mid-Continental Work-

Basem Al-Raba’a gave a presentation on April 3, 2015 at Indiana University Linguistics Club (IULC) Spring Conference, titled “A Linguistic Analysis of Antonymy: An Empirical Study”.

Kirsten Regier presented two posters: “Formant Trajectory analysis using dynamic time warping: Preliminary Results”, at the 168th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Indianapolis, Indiana, Oct. 27-31, 2014; and “Dynamic Time Warping as a Tool to Tease Apart the Durational Effects of Vowel Identity and Postvocalic Consonant Voicing on English Front Vowels: Preliminary Results”, at the 19th Mid-Continental Phonetics & Phonology Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, Sept. 12-14.

Charese Smiley worked on projects reported in two co-authored presentations: “Natural Language Question Answering and Analytics for Diverse and Interlinked Datasets” at the 2015 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics-Human Language Technologies; and “TR Discover: A Natural Language Interface for Querying and Analyzing Interlinked Datasets” at the Semantic Web-ISWC 2015.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS &
RESEARCH NOTES (*continued*)

Amber Smith is an author, with Markus Dickinson, on "Evaluating Parse Error Detection across Varied Conditions" in the *Proceedings of the 13th International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT13)*, Tübingen, Germany; and on "Finding Parse Errors in the Midst of Parse Errors in the *Proceedings of the 13th International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT13)*, Tübingen, Germany.

Sara Sowers-Wills presented some of her ongoing research on templates in early phonological acquisition at the 9th Annual Linguistics Department Graduate Student Conference and presented a poster at the 20th Mid-Continental Phonetics & Phonology Conference (MidPhon), Bloomington, Indiana.

David Tezil presented at the Indiana University Graduate Student Conference and at York University in the UK.

Jonathan Washington has been progressing with his dissertation project on the articulatory correlates of the vowel anteriority contrast in Turkic and Mongolic languages using ultrasound imaging. He has presented on different stages of this research at the ASA conference in Indianapolis last October and at MidPhon in Bloomington this September. He also presented two coauthored research projects unrelated to his dissertation at the Workshop on Computational Phonology and Morphology at the LSA Summer Institute at the University of Chicago in July, as well as a coauthored paper on Kazakh dependency syntax at the International Conference on Turkic Languages Processing held in Kazan (Tatarstan) this September. He is currently preparing to present more of his dissertation work at the First Workshop on Turkish, Turkic, and the Languages of Turkey, which will be held at UMass in November.

Anna Wilson published "Testing the Limits of Orthogonality: A Study of the Interaction between lexical frequency and Independent Variables" in the IULC Working Papers, September 2014 (Special edition).



Photo by Vitor Leongue

Department Hosts MidPhon 20

The 20th MidContinental Workshop on Phonetics and Phonology was hosted by the Department of Linguistics along with the IULC and Linguist List. The Workshop brought in linguists from more than 15 colleges and universities in the region.

Departmental student and faculty presenters were particularly well-represented at the Workshop. They included **Ken de Jong** "Appor-tioning Variation: Causes for Variation and Determining the Phonological Space"; **Andrew Lamont** "How Unifiable are Local and Long-Distance Place Assimilation?"; **Samson Lotven** and **Kelly Berkson** "The Consonant-Tone Connection in Mina: Do Voiced Obstruents Trigger Lower Tone?"; **Jonathan Washington** "An Ultrasound Study of the Articulatory Correlates of Vowel Anteriority in Kazakh and Kyrgyz"; **Andrew Kostakis** "Germanic Mid Vowels as Complex Segments"; **Stuart Davis** "Foot Structure and Blurred Syllabification in American English"; **Silvina Bongiovanni** "An Acoustic Characterization of the /ɲ/-/n+j/ Contrast in Buenos Aires Spanish"; **Juyeon Chung** "Production of English Vowel Length by Korean L2 Learners"; **Traci Nagle** "Are Opaque Patterns What We Think They Are? An Acoustic Investigation of the Bengali Vowel Chain Shift"; **Max Nelson** and **Kelly Berkson** "Phonotactic Frequencies in Marathi: Data from the EMILLE Corpus"; and **Sara Sowers-Wills** "The Template in Phonological Acquisition: Preliminary Data from a Diary Study".

Moreover, several of our recent former PhD students presented as well. They included **Aaron Albin** (PhD 2015) "Using 'Stylization Queries' to Analyze Second Language Learners' Intonation Production"; **Hanyong Park** (PhD 2008) "Perceptual Category Mapping between English and Korean from the Perspective of English-speaking Learners of Korean"; **Iskra Iskrova** (PhD 2010) "Strengthening and Weakening in Caribbean French Based Creoles"; **Brian José** (PhD 2009) along with **Jane Stuart-Smith**, **Rachel Macdonald**, and **Ludger Evers** "Initial Explorations of a New Real-Time Corpus of a Standard Dialect: Acoustic Vowel Quality in Standard Scottish English"; and **Kristopher Ebarb** (PhD 2015) and **Michael Marlo** (BA 2002) "Bukusu Tonology". In addition, the many student volunteers made the Workshop a resounding success.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Ken de Jong

As noted in previous issues of the newsletter, the graduate programs in linguistics are remarkably large and varied and occupy an important place on the IU campus and in the discipline, forming an important connection between the language and culture strengths on this campus and a number of very high-quality programs in the cognitive and social sciences. The current enrollment in the Ph.D. program is 65 students, including 11 new admits beginning the program. In addition there are currently 20 students in the M.A. and M.S. programs. Of these graduate students, around $\frac{1}{4}$ of them are in our computational programs, which have been the most recently developed of our areas. The move of LINGUIST List to the IU campus and our growing computational programs represent a great opportunity for students coming from all around the world. Approximately 30% of our students come from overseas, with countries origin ranging from Afghanistan to Kenya to France to China to Argentina. As is the IU design, students are all encouraged to extend their research across departmental and disciplinary lines, with substantive minors or dual majors involving French Linguistics, Spanish Linguistics, Central Eurasian Studies, Near Eastern or East Asian Languages and Cultures, Second Language Studies, Speech and Hearing Sciences, Cognitive Science, Psychology, Informatics, Library Science, and Computer Science.

As many of you may know, the situation with graduate education is quite challenging in the economic climate that colleges and universities find themselves in. We are facing constant pressures to reduce the size of graduate cohorts due to limitations on resources for graduate education from within the general funding structure of an institution heavily involved in undergraduate education. We have a vision of maintaining the active and diverse cohort of our graduate programs, having seen the good that comes from the program to the discipline, to the university community, and to the world at large. The department is currently beginning a process of curriculum review to assess what is constituting excellence in our graduate degree, and then to insure that the requirements and approach to encouraging growth in our students are appropriately focused and efficiently structured. We will be contacting a variety of people, most particularly recent graduates of our Ph.D. programs, to get the perspective from the end-point on the students' side. We solicit any feedback any of you might have about the Ph.D. program, and trust that even better things will come from it.



As always, students have been completing degrees and moving into various further opportunities. These last 12 months have seen 6 Ph.D. defenses, which are always a time for celebration, opening up new venues. For example, Ksenia Zanon has moved into the faculty of St. Olaf College in Minnesota, Michael Dow has taken up a faculty position at the University of Montreal, Kris Ebarb has moved into a teaching and research position in African Linguistics at the University of Missouri, and Wil Rankinen has moved back to Michigan onto the faculty at the Communication Disorders unit at Grand Valley State. Ross Israel is doing research for Factual, Inc., in Los Angeles, and Yufen Chang has moved out of the city of New York and back into the neighborhood to run the Chinese program at the University of Western Kentucky. Also Terrin Tamati is conducting research in the communication disorders research group at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. These are just a few of the great things our alumni have been engaged in, and we appreciate the opportunity to be working with such talented and motivated individuals.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Stuart Davis

In 2015 we had more than 30 students graduate with a Bachelors degree in Linguistics. For the past several years we have maintained a historically high number of active undergraduate majors at over 100 students. This can be compared to around twenty or so active majors at the beginning of the last decade. In addition to the more than one hundred undergraduate majors that we presently have, we also have around 50 minors, which include those minoring in African Languages. Many of our undergraduate students have participated in research opportunities with various faculty members and this has led to several conference presentations among our undergraduates. We have also had several students inducted into Phi Beta Kappa during the past year.

The Undergraduate Linguistics Club, informally known as the UnderLings, hosted a workshop regarding graduate school for those undergrads interested in pursuing advanced degrees. They heard perspectives from several of our faculty and current graduate students. Anyone interested in learning more about our undergraduate program should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Stuart Davis (davis@indiana.edu) or our staff adviser, Krystie Herndon (kherndon@indiana.edu).

MEET THE NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Victor Alabi is a first year Ph.D. student. He received his B.A. degree in English from the University of Ilorin in 2010, and an M.A. degree in English Language in 2014 from the University of Ibadan, both in Nigeria. He was a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant from August 2014 to June 2015 at IU. His research areas are pragmatics, stylistics and semiotics.

Mamdouh Alhuwaykim is from Saudi Arabia. He received his B.A. in English Language from Aljouf University in Saudi Arabia in 2008. He received his M.A. in Applied Linguistics from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 2013. His research interests include Phonology, phonetics, Arabic Dialectology, Language Contact and Sociolinguistics.

Vanessa Anderson is in the M.A. program in Computational Linguistics.

Yasmeen Bassas is from Saudi Arabia. She received two masters, one in English Literature from Umm Al-Qura University in Saudi Arabia, and the second in Linguistics with an HLT certificate from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is a first-year student in the Ph.D. program in Computational Linguistics. Her research interests include NLP, MT, and Computational Lexical Semantics.

Sherman Charles just finished his Master of Arts in Hispanic Linguistics here at Indiana University. He is very excited to officially become a part of the Department of Linguistics as he begins to work on his doctorate. His research interests are in bridging gaps between linguistics, speech and hearing sciences, and music. This past summer he worked in Dr. Steven Lulich's Speech Production Lab (Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences) on a project looking into the role of the vocal tract in clarinet and French horn playing.

Yue Chen is currently an M.A. student in computational linguistics program. She received her B.A. in English Language and Literature from Beijing Foreign Studies University in China. Before joining IU, she also worked for a few IT companies. Her current academic interests are machine translation and natural language processing.

Completing a BA double major in psychology and linguistics from the University of Minnesota in 2014, **Colette Feehan** headed west to work in the University

of Utah's Speech Acquisition Lab for one year before beginning her PhD in general linguistics here at Indiana University. Her areas of interest are phonetics and phonology and second language acquisition.

Amanda Foster is a first year student in the M.A program in general linguistics. She is originally from France, and has received a B.A. in Linguistics and a B.A. in Philosophy at the Sorbonne Universities in Paris, France. She is especially interested in field research methods and language documentation, but she is also fascinated by philosophy of mind and the interactions between language and culture.

Meaghan Gallegos is from Princeton, Indiana. She graduated from Bellarmine University with majors in English and History. She is pursuing an M.A. in Linguistics.

Misato Hiraga is in the Ph.D. program in Computational Linguistics.

Chien-Han Hsiao received her B.A. in music and linguistics, with the concentration of language and cognition, and M.Ed. in TESOL from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is currently a Ph.D. Student in general linguistics with interests in speech perception and production, tonal phonology, psycholinguistics, and Austronesian languages.

Hai Hu was born and raised in Chengdu, China. He received his B.A. in English and M.A. in Linguistics, both from Renmin University of China in Beijing. He also spent one year in Tübingen, Germany as an exchange student. Now pursuing a Ph.D in Linguistics at IU, he is interested in syntax, computational linguistics and Psycholinguistics.

Noah Kaufman is from northern Indiana and received his B.A. in Linguistics at McGill University. He is now pursuing an M.S. in Computational Linguistics. His academic interests include NLP, second language learning, sociolinguistics, education policy and machine learning.

Michael Kunz is currently a Ph.D. student in Linguistics. He received his B.A. in French from the South

(new graduate students continued on page 19)

Fall Semantics Colloquia

A highlight of the Fall semester has been a series of colloquia focused on various aspects of semantics. Three guest lecturers have presented so far: Alexis Wellwood (Northwestern University) "Sources of evidence in semantics", Itamar Francez (University of Chicago) "Semantically impossible adjectives", Ashwini Deo (Yale University) "The semantic and pragmatic underpinnings of grammaticalization paths". Judith Tonhauser (Ohio State University) will present the fourth lecture later in November. Associate Professor Tom Grano presented an introductory lecture to the series of talks and will present a summary lecture in December, wrapping up the series.

This is the first time there has been a series of lectures focused on semantics. This format grew out of the Linguistics Consortium, composed of linguists on campus in departments teaching linguistics courses. Support for the series came from ten different departments. Support from the Department of Linguistics came out of the Linguistics Enrichment Fund. Thank you to the generous donors whose support to this fund helped to realize these semantics colloquia.

Thank you, Donors!

The Department of Linguistics wishes to express its deep gratitude to the generous donors listed below who have contributed to the various linguistic funds in the past year. Your new and continued support is greatly appreciated by both students and faculty members.

Linguistics Student Support Fund

Mimi Bentley
Robert Botne
Clancy Clements
Markus Dickinson
Frances Ingemann
Cyril M. & Violet Franks
Steven Franks
Thomas Grano
Yoshi Kitagawa
Linda Schinke-Llano
Don Salting
Daniel & Beth Zweig
Wells Fargo Bank (matching funds)

Linguistics Enrichment Fund

Mimi Bentley	Catherina Kannan
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Susie Cheng	Sandra Kuebler
Clancy Clements	Ernst Migliazza
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Cynthia Clopper
Dan Dinnsen
Judith Geirut

2015 Outstanding Young Alumnus: BRIAN RIORDAN

by Sara Sowers-Wills

Now a senior research scientist at Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, New Jersey, Brian Riordan made his path to computational linguistics and machine learning by following his interests, which began with a propensity for reading books and using language creatively. He grew up mostly in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, a suburb of Philadelphia, and was raised by his mother after his father passed away when he was young. He notes that while he played—and wasn't bad at—sports, it was reading books that held his attention when he was growing up. He became a fan of Stephen King and his style of storytelling and, when he was 15 years old, published a short story in a small journal of horror fiction. At this point, Riordan had aspirations of becoming a novelist and was even offered a full scholarship to Rutgers University to pursue creative writing. Ultimately, though, he turned down the scholarship and decided to attend New York University.

It was at NYU that Riordan gained a new perspective on what language could do. Sure, language was good for telling stories, but there was much to be discovered by analyzing how language was used. NYU's degree program in linguistic anthropology drew Riordan's attention, and he began to study Japanese. He studied in Tokyo for a year, and then decided to spend additional time there to gain experience in the culture. For two years, he worked in a local government office in Japan doing translation and interpretation. Afterward he fully intended to pursue graduate study in linguistic anthropology, conducting fieldwork in Japan.

Before beginning graduate school, however, he read a book that redirected his course in life. Sidney Lamb's *Pathways of the Brain* instilled in Riordan an interest in cognition and computational linguistics. Because Indiana University was the only place he could find that offered programs in both cognitive science and computational linguistics, he sought graduate study there. Ultimately, he earned a Master's degree in computational linguistics and completed a joint Ph.D. in linguistics and cognitive science.

After graduating, Riordan held a post-doctoral position in the Department of Cognitive Science at Indiana University and was open to working in either academia or industry, but he has met with much suc-



Brian Riordan (M.A. 2005, Ph.D. 2007) with Associate Professor Sandra Kuebler

cess in positions in industry. He continues to collaborate with researchers both in academia and industry using his expertise in computational linguistics, data mining, and machine learning.

While Riordan keeps busy with his work and research, when he's not working he most enjoys spending time with his family. His wife, Masako, who earned a Master's degree in International and Comparative Education at IU, leads curriculum development at a Japanese language-learning web site, nihongomaster.com. They have two sons, aged 9 and 12 years, with whom Riordan enjoys playing soccer, basketball, and other sports. His family likes watching Japanese TV together, including a show called "Sugowaza", which he says might translate to "Amazing Technology", where research and development groups from selected companies compete with each other to create or improve products, like the world's longest rope or the highest-jumping pogo stick.

Riordan notes that his family still roots for IU sports whenever they are able to see a game on TV in New Jersey, and that his older son continues to wear an IU baseball cap every day.

Although Riordan has not become the writer of horror fiction he aspired to be early on in life, his turn to the computational issues appears to have been just as linguistically creative.

Alumni News

Jessica Barlow (Ph.D., 1997) holds two positions at San Diego State University. Half-time she is professor/researcher in child phonology, and in the other half she runs a program called the Sage Project that she helped to launch in Fall of 2013. This is a university-wide program that partners with local government to tackle their social, environmental, and economic needs. Over the past two years the program has engaged over 2000 students from the university on projects with the City of National City, in such disciplines as city planning, civil engineering, public health, public administration, homeland security, graphic design, and geography. The program has received support and recognition from the Washington DC office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mimi Bentley (Ph.D., 1995) divides her time between Omaha, Nebraska, and Watson, Missouri, where she oversees her family farm. Although not currently using her linguistics degree, she is using her degree in agriculture business and enjoying it very much.

Cynthia Brown (M.A., 1985) has worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons from 1992 to the present and is currently stationed at the National Corrections Academy in Aurora, Colorado, where she is a Training Specialist. Her Indiana University Applied Linguistics degree has served her well throughout my teaching career and government service.

Nelleke A. Bruyn (M.A., 1971) got a secondary education teacher certificate in Spanish and Math and student-taught in Nogales, Arizona, in the IU Latino Project, and started teaching ESL in the Indianapolis Public Schools in 1976. She taught ESL there at all levels for 28 years and retired in 2004. In 2007 she moved to Costa Rica and has lived there ever since. She is active in Democrats Abroad Costa Rica and a not-for-profit organization there that helps provide text books and university scholarships for poor children.

Elizabeth Casserly (Ph.D., 2013) is starting her third year as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. She has been teaching courses like the Psychology of Language, Research Design and Analysis, and a senior capstone seminar on the Psychology of Deafness. She has also been continuing her research on speech perception and production with the help of the gifted undergrads at Trinity, and has several papers under review from her current collaborations there. Hartford has been excellent, and she is close to family,

which is particularly good since she and her husband are expecting their second child in January.

Peter Cramer (M.A., 1992) worked at Georgetown Law as Associate Director of the Center for Global Legal English after graduating, and since 2010 he has been Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs at Washington University School of Law. He has combined his interest in law and linguistics to become a specialist in Legal English and has been designing programs for law schools that integrate Legal English in their law curriculum. In 2013, he published *Drafting Contracts in Legal English: Cross-border Agreements Governed by U.S. Law*, together with Cynthia Adams from IUPUI. At Washington University School of Law, he has taught Contracts classes and Legal Analysis and Writing classes, and designed on-line Legal English classes. He oversees the graduate programs for international lawyers in the LL.M. program.

Cramer recently (2014) also returned to his linguistics roots and taught "Language and Culture," an online course offered by Webster University in St. Louis. He lives in St. Louis with his wife Cathy Raymond (IU-M.A. Germanic Studies 1990, M.A. TESOL 1993). Cathy is the Assistant Director of the English Language Programs (ELP) at Washington University. Their daughter Lena, is in her last year of high school and intends to spend a gap year in Germany and a Spanish speaking country after graduation. Their son Felix, graduated from high school in 2015 and is currently spending a gap year in Germany. After returning from Germany, Felix wants to study Arabic and Chinese.

Jennifer Crittenden (B.A., 1981) has moved to Mammoth Lakes, California where she has begun writing for the local newspaper. In 2014, she published her second book and is currently working on a book about sports language and culture in America.

Anupam Das (Ph.D., 2010) joined the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK, Kerala, India) as a full-time visiting professor at the Humanities & Liberal Arts in Management Department in November 2010, just before graduating from IUB, and four years later got tenured. Das was the founding chair of the department, whose focus is to help business executives understand the importance of literature, linguistics (especially pragmatics and semiotics), communication, sociology, and history in management studies. Das co-authored a book titled *2047: Globalizing Indian Thoughts* in 2014 and, in 2015, received a research grant to study the impact of social media

Alumni News (continued)

on the lives of the women of the Kantha Embroidery Industry. Das is currently working on another project titled "Likeability factors of Indian feminist television advertisements: Myth vs. reality".

Karin deJonge-Kannan (Ph.D., 1995) holds a position as Senior Lecturer of Linguistics at Utah State University, and served as visiting faculty member on a Fulbright Teaching Award from March–May 2015 at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso in Chile. She was recently admitted to the roster of English Language Specialists who are invited by US embassies around the world to conduct EFL teacher workshops.

Katherine Demuth (Ph.D., 1983) was selected as a new Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, one of thirty new Fellows announced, all recognized for their distinguished research. This accolade follows on Demuth's ARC Laureate, awarded in 2013, her award of Distinguished Professor in 2014, and her award as a Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW in 2015.

Professor Demuth is a world leader in linguistic research and is passionate about the importance of theoretically driven empirical evidence for understanding both the structure of languages and how children learn them. This is evidenced in her ground breaking psycholinguistic research on child language acquisition, and the implications this has for understanding language development in bilinguals, those with hearing loss, and those with specific language impairment/language delay. A link to further information can be found at www.mq.edu.au/about_us/faculties_and_departments/faculty_of_human_sciences/linguistics/.

Rafael Dovale (M.A., 1981) was director of Panasonic's Global Overseas Language Development Program, at the time the world's largest company language program, from 1990 to 2004 in Osaka, Japan. He co-authored with Keith Adams *Global Links I*, an elementary level business English text for Pearson Education in 2000. This year his memoir *Ten Days in Havana: Observations of an Exile* was accepted for publication and will be published in 2016 by McFarland Publishing Co. The memoir uses his recent visit to the communist island as a springboard for a socio-political expose of American and Cuban societies and results in an epiphany that the Cuban-American experience engendered in me. He lives in Costa Rica in semi-retirement as he continues pursuing a new career in writing.

Timothy Hoffelder (B.A., 2014) is serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia, learning Oshikwanyama.

His two years of service as an EFL teacher will begin in October. In between IU and Peace Corps, he completed an MA in TESOL at Saint Michael's College in Vermont.

Barbara G. Hoffman (Ph.D., 1990) is Professor & Director of the Anthropology Program at Cleveland State University, where she is also Director of the Visual Anthropology Center. She is also President of the Mande Studies Association (MANSA).

Brian José (PhD, 2009) recently completed a post-doc at the University of Glasgow and has started a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics at Indiana State University.

Joshua Lumsden (M.A., 2003) is pursuing a Master's degree in clinical health services at the University of Washington. In a year, he will be a practicing physician assistant. This summer, as part of his Capstone project, he is doing qualitative research on structural barriers to treatment of Mesoamerican Nephropathy (chronic kidney disease of unknown origin) in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Larry Lyman (M.A., 1972) recently published a grammar of the indigenous language (Comaltepec Zapotec), which he studied in Southern Mexico. The grammar, titled *Gramatica Popular del Zapoteco de Comaltepec, Chapan, Oaxaca*, was published in Spanish by the Instituto Linguístico de Verano in Mexico City. He also published an article on Zapotec prepositions in *LINCOM EUROPA Studies in Native American Linguistics*. The volume, titled *Expressing Location in Zapotec*, was edited by Brook Danielle Lillehaugen and Aaron Huey Sonnenschein, and the title of the article is "Location and Position in Comaltepec Zapotec". He also recently turned in a manuscript of a dictionary in this same language, which is forthcoming and should be out in a year or two.

Michael Marlo (B.A., 2002) is in year two of a four-year project funded by the National Science Foundation, called "Structure and Tone in Luyia", which has its first roots in our 2000-2001 field methods class at IU. He was awarded a Fulbright grant to carry out research on the project while lecturing at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya from January through June 2016.

Edith Maxwell (Ph.D., 1981), an Agatha-nominated and national bestselling author, writes four multi-book murder mystery series as well as award-winning short stories. The first in her Brown County, Indiana, Country Store Mysteries, *Flipped for Murder*,

Alumni News *(continued)*

was released in late October under the name Maddie Day (Kensington Publishing). The latest in her Local Foods Mystery series, *Farmed and Dangerous*, came out last June to critical acclaim (also Kensington Publishing). Her historical mystery series, set in an 1888 Massachusetts mill town, will be out in April 2016 with *Delivering the Truth* (Midnight Ink). Her second Lauren Rousseau mystery, *Bluffing is Murder*, released a year ago (written as Tace Baker, Barking Rain Press), and features a Quaker linguistics professor solving crimes in a small coastal town in the northeast. Information about her books and stories can be found at www.edithmaxwell.com.

Jennifer McCormick (B.A., 1998) completed a Master's of Information Science focusing on Human-Computer Interaction at the IU School of Library and Information Science in 2000. She later pursued doctoral work at University of Texas at Austin in Human-Computer Interaction, and currently owns and runs a research and design firm based in San Francisco, California. Her background in linguistics, and in particular the field methods course, was a key driver in her interest in studying people and their relationship to one another as well as in technology.

Kathryn Medill (M.A., 2014) is currently pursuing a doctorate in Hebrew Bible & Northwest Semitic Philology from the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Kathryn was delighted to have two articles published in volume 14 of the IULC's Working Papers Online.

Catalina Méndez Vallejo (Ph.D., 2009) is currently working as Associate Director of the Spanish Language Program at Princeton University. She has published several articles on the syntactic and dialectal status of the Focalizing Ser ('to be') structure in Spanish (more information can be found at <http://www.princeton.edu/~dvallejo/FS/>). Recently, she was invited as guest speaker at the 20th Conference of the German Association of Hispanists (Hispanistentag 2015), and she gave a talk in one of the linguistic sessions designated to cleft structures. This summer, she conducted additional research in Colombia, where she completed her data collection in four Colombian cities.

Vincent J. Palozzi (M.A., 1995) is the director of the undergraduate linguistics program at Miami University (B.A. within English), where he helped establish and advise the undergraduate Miami University Linguistics Society and the annual in-house linguistics conference.

Christen M. Pearson (Ph.D., 2000) is a Professor of English Linguistics and TESOL, in the English Department at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, one of the 100 largest universities in the U.S. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in introductory linguistics, applied linguistics, and second language acquisition (from a psycholinguistic perspective), along with a course she developed on language disorders and English literacy, which is required for all special education majors and an option for English majors and Applied Linguistics minors. Over the summer, she served as Interim Director of the new Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics. Her scholarly work currently involves the impact of stress and micronutrient deficiency on language development, as well as the differences in brain structure and processing between boys and girls and how this impacts their second language learning.

Michael Pendlebury (M.A., 1978) also has an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from IU and is Professor of Philosophy and Head of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at North Carolina State University.

Cas Rider (B.A., 2015) has been accepted into a year-long program to be an English teaching assistant in Austria.

Evan Smith (Ph.D., 1982) changed paths to be in independent study at IU after serving as a Visiting Assistant Professor there in 1983-84, later to be associated, to some eyes, with distance learning. In 1989, he took a position at the University of Missouri as a curriculum coordinator and even recruited two faculty members to develop course in linguistics, cross-listed with English. Over time, he wrote the occasional article on distance learning, with some references to the basics of discourse analysis. In late 2011, he was reassigned to investigate approvals for online degree programs in other states, thus learning much about state governments and education. In the last few years, he has given webcasts or webinars on the subject of state authorization. He lives in Columbia, Missouri, with his wife. They also have a son in college at MU.

Hans-Joerg Tiede (Ph.D., 1999) accepted a position as senior program officer in the Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). He recently edited the AAUP's *Policy Documents and Reports* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015) and authored *University Reform: The Founding of the American Association of University Professors* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015).



Honors & Awards



DEGREES AWARDED IN 2014-15

BAs awarded:

Vanessa Anderson, Alexander Bement, Kathryn Boots, Cheng Chen, Taylor Davis, Katelynn Dockerty, Czesia Eid, Rebecca Frey, Daniel Jarvis, Elizabeth Mattingly, Savannah Meslin, Laura Peters, Kimmy Pockels Ortiz, Cassandra Rider, Meaghan Rigali, Benjamin Snider

With distinction: Nathan Goldberg, Emil Pelech, Brandon Rhodes, Maxwell Walter

With high distinction: Joseph Polchek, Anne Tally

With highest distinction: Alexandra Abell, Abigail Hoff, Mikaila Kummerow Brown, Michael Lawrence Young

MAAs awarded:

Young Hwang, Sarah Klankey, Christopher Kuzma, Braxton Meyer, James Wamsley, Daniel Whyatt, Thomas Williams

PhDs awarded:

Andrew Kostakis "Height, Frontness and the Special Status of /x/, /r/, and /l/ in Germanic Language History"

Ksenia Zanon, "On Hybrid Coordination and Quantifier Raising in Russian"

Aaron Albin, "Typologizing Native Language Influence on Intonation in a Second Language: Three Transfer Phenomena in Japanese EFL learners"

Olga Scrivner, "Probabilistic Approach in Historical Linguistics: Word Order Change in Infinitival Clauses, from Latin to Old French"

Chung-Lin Yang, "Phonological Variation and L2 Word-learning: The Role of Orthography in Word Recognition and production"

Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, "Subjectivity and Sentiment Analysis of Arabic as a Morphologically-rich Language"

HONORS

Undergraduate

Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Award:

Alexandra Abell, Daniel Hamman, Abigail Hoff, Mikaila Kummerow Brown, Savannah Meslin, Brandon Rhodes, Cassandra Rider, Andru Shively, Anne Tally, Michael Young

Outstanding Senior Award: **Andru Shively**

Phi Beta Kappa:

Alexandra Abell, Abigail Hoff, Mikaila Kummerow Brown, Brandon Rhodes, Michael Lawrence Young

Graduate

Fred W. Householder Research Paper Award:

Sara Sowers-Wills "An Overview of the Template in the Work of Marilyn Vihman and a Preliminary Templatic Analysis of Data from a Diary Study" [for L712 Seminar in Phonology: L1 Phonological Acquisition]

Sara Sowers-Wills (Honorable Mention): "Using Corpus Data to Examine Collocational Patterns, Lexicographic Representations, and the Nature of Near-synonymy" [for L630 Lexicology]

FUNDING AWARDS

Graduate

Linguistics Student Support Fund:

Yiwen Zhang, \$1,100, LSA Summer Institute (University of Chicago)

Kelly Kasper-Cushman, \$200, LSA Summer Institute (University of Chicago)

Fred W. Householder Memorial Student Research Fund:

Traci Nagle, \$400, Experiment: Study of Bengali speakers' production of opacity in nonce words

Student Conference Travel Fund:

Andrew Lamont, \$200, Workshop in General Linguistics 12, "Lateral Place Assimilation in Kuman"; \$250, Annual Meeting on Phonology 2014, "Directionality and the Coda Condition"

Samson Lotven, \$250, Association of Contemporary African Linguistics Conference, "Tone Sandhi as a Diagnostic for the Morphological Status of Reduplication in Mina"

Traci Nagle, \$200, 169th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, "Are Opaque Patterns What We Think They Are? The Acoustics of the Bengali Vowel Chain Shift"

Olga Scrivner, \$300, Computational Linguistics for Literature, "Tools for Digital Humanities: Enabling Access to the Old Occitan Romance of Flamenca"

Honors & Awards *(continued)*

Chung-Lin Yang, \$300, 9th International Conference on the Mental Lexicon, "Lexical Representation of Free Variants: On the Effect of Orthography on Word Learning"

TEACHING AWARDS

Faculty

Trustees Teaching Award: **Barbara Vance**

Student

Daniel A. Dinnsen AI Excellence-in-teaching Award:
Vitor Leongue

(new graduate students continued from page 13)

east Missouri State University and his M.A. from IU in French Linguistics. His focus is on language shift and maintenance of Louisiana Regional French, an understudied North American variety of French still spoken in the French triangle of Louisiana.

Yina Ma is from China. She is a Ph.D. student in General Linguistics. She comes to IU from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she received her M.A. in Linguistics. Prior to studying in the U.S., she received an M.A. in English Translation and a B.A. in English from China. Her main research interests include syntax and its interfaces.

Richard Nyamahanga was born and raised in Tanzania. He received his B.A in Education from Dar es Salaam University in Tanzania, majoring in Swahili and English. He taught English for 5 years at Oysterbay Secondary school. Last year he came to IU on a government program to learn to teach Swahili. He is now in the M.A program in Linguistics and is a Graduate Assistant in Field Methods, working as a language consultant for Kihehe, his native language. His primary interest is phonetics, and dreams of writing about the phonetics of Kihehe.

Je Young Park is from South Korea. She received her B.A from the Chonnam National University in South Korea, majoring in English language and literature. Here at IU she is in the M.A. program in general linguistics. She is mostly interested in phonology and language acquisition.

Sarah Shenk is a new graduate student in the MA for Computational Linguistics. She comes from the great Pacific Northwest, where she received her bachelor's degree in Linguistics from Western Washington University. She is also currently interning at The Language Conservancy, so that she can pursue her other linguistic interest: language preservation.

Kenneth Steimel is a new Ph.D. student. He received his Bachelors from the University of Missouri - Columbia. He is interested in both Language Documentation and Computational Linguistics. He has worked some with Oluwanga, Lubukusu and Igala.



Photo by Vitor Leongue

 FACULTY NEWS & RESEARCH NOTES *(continued from page 7)*

Yoshihisa Kitagawa's paper entitled "Interfacing Syntax with Sounds and Meanings" has been revised, resubmitted, and accepted for the publication in the *Handbook of Japanese Syntax*, to be published by Mouton de Gruyter. Together with Shinichiro Ishihara (Lunds Universitet) and Shigeto Kawahara (Keio University), he presented a paper entitled "Phonetic Properties of Nuclear Prominence in Japanese" at the 150th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Japan. He also presented, together with Aaron Albin, the research "The Interaction of Fortition, Lenition and Voicing in Japanese: Diachronic and Experimental Evidence" at IULC's linguistics colloquium.

Sandra Kuebler is currently the chair of the Faculty Alliance of the Center of Excellence for Women in Technology (<http://cewit.indiana.edu>). She is also the PI of the IU sub-award in a project called "Opinion Dynamics in Social Networks: Latent Attitudes and Observed Behavior", funded by the ONR. This project is in collaboration with the University of Miami and is a continuation of the project "Evidence-Based Fusion of Hard and Soft Information for the Assessment of Reliability of Soft Information". The project started in May 2013 and is funded for a duration of 4 years.

e-humanities Colloquium. And in September, she presented a poster titled "Unix for Poets Digital Humanists" at the Digital Humanities Forum in Lawrence, KS. At the same forum, she was asked to hold a workshop called "Unix for Poets".

Samuel Obeng is the recipient of the 2015 McGraw-Hill Distinguished Scholar Award, awarded by the Research Committee on "Ethnographic and Qualitative Research in Conference" and the "American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences" at the EQRC & AABSS Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was also a Carnegie African Diaspora Fellow at the University of Ghana (Legon) in September. He spent June and July in Ghana continuing his research on three endangered languages: Dompò, Efutu, and Talensi.

While in Ghana, he gave three presentations at the University of Ghana: (1) "Strategies and Problems in Academic Publishing." Professional Workshop Organized by the Sociology Department; (2) "'The Spirit Touches you and Immediately Switches your Tongue': On the Phonology and Pragmatics of Ghanaian Christian Glossolalic Prayer", School of Languages Professional Colloquium Series; (3) "Grammatical Pragmatics: On the Contributions Made by Ghanaian Languages to Ghanaian English: The Case of

Samuel Obeng is the recipient of the 2015 McGraw-Hill Distinguished Scholar Award

Kuebler has co-authored the book *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistically Annotated Corpora* with Heike Zinsmeister from the University of Hamburg, Germany. The electronic version of the book was published by Bloomsbury Academic Press in November 2014, and the print edition was published in February 2015.

Kuebler is co-author on two conference papers: With students Daniel Dakota, Timur Gilmanov, Wen Li, Christopher Kuzma, Evgeny Kim, and Noor Abo Mokh, she published the paper "Do Free Word Order Languages Need More Treebank Data? Investigating Dative Alternation in German, English, and Russian" at the 6th Workshop on Statistical Parsing of Morphologically Rich Languages (SPMRL), in Bilbao, Spain. With Olga Scrivner, she published the paper "Tools for Digital Humanities: Enabling Access to the Old Occitan Romance of *Flamenca*" at the Fourth Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Literature in Denver, Colorado.

During her one-month stay at the University of Hamburg, Germany, via the IU Faculty Short Term Exchange Program, she gave an invited talk titled "Wortbasierte Sprachenerkennung in 'Chymistry of Isaac Newton'" at the

'Dumsor.'" Multilingualism: Resource or Challenge: First Conference on Language and Society in Ghana, School of Languages. He also gave presentations at the 27th Annual Ethnographic & Qualitative Research Conference, "Sequential organization of Akan juridical discourse: The case of pre-announcements and pre-requests", and at the 18th American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences Conference, "Turn Regulation in Akan juridical discourse", both in Las Vegas, Nevada. In addition, he presented the paper "Ebola and Human Security in West Africa: An Ethnopragmatic Perspective", at the Ebola Symposium: Health, Politics, Law, Center on American and Global Security, and a paper "'Metaphor in the Libyan Revolutionary War.' Mapping the Landscapes of Islamic Studies", in Bloomington.

With Cecilia Sem Obeng and Joav Merrick, he published *Health Issues in Diverse Cultures* (Nova Science Publishers) and with Ahmed Youssef Agha and Jayawardene Wasantha "Contemporary Issues in Public Health in Africa and the Middle East" (Nova Bio-Medical). Finally, he was successful in obtaining a U.S. Department of Education Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant for the African Studies Program for four years.

Linguistics Fund drive and IU Linguistics polo shirts



*Department polo shirt
modeled by Markus
Dickinson*

Photo: Stephanie Dickinson

The Linguistics Student Support Fund drive is entering its third year. We have raised over \$20,000 so far toward our goal of \$250,000. This fund provides financial support to retain promising students to encourage students to attend the LSA Summer Institute, to facilitate completion of dissertations. We thank those individuals who have contributed generously to the fund. We encourage those of you who haven't to consider doing so in the coming year. Your gift can, and will, make a positive difference in the lives and experience of our students—both undergraduate and graduate—from providing financial support in these austere times to enriching their research.

As an incentive and thank you gift for our donors, we are offering a polo shirt for each \$100 in donations to any of our departmental funds. In order to receive this gift, donors must fill out the accompanying pledge sheet and return it to the IU Foundation. Whether you wish to receive a polo shirt or not, we hope that you will consider a donation; contributions of any amount are welcome. If not ordering a shirt, donations can be made directly online (www.indiana.edu/~lingdept/, then click on the Give Now button at the bottom of the page).

- Robert Botne, Chair

Linguistics alumni – *What's new with you?*

Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates will be used for the next newsletter and to keep our records up to date. Mail to the address below, or email your update to LingDept@indiana.edu.

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This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Department of Linguistics with support from the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Alumni Relations, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

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