

# Linguistics AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

## Port retires after more than 30 years on faculty

After more than 30 years on our faculty, longtime Professor of Linguistics Robert Port announced his retirement in 2008. Port's teaching, research, and engaging personality had a positive impact on many students over the decades. He directed more than 20 doctoral dissertations to completion and served on committees for well over 50 additional doctoral students.

Because Port's interests were truly interdisciplinary, his students over the years came from many different fields in addition to linguistics, including cognitive science and computer science (where he holds appointments), as well as from speech and hearing, psychology, French, African studies, and even ethnomusicology.

A retirement reception was held on April 9 and attended by many, including Port's wife Diane Kewley-Port, his three grown children, and his mother. Various individuals reflected on his career at Indiana University. Speakers included Charles Watson from the Speech and Hearing Department, Edward Robertson of Computer Science, Robert Goldstone of Cognitive Science, and Daniel Dinnsen, who is Port's longest standing colleague in Linguistics. A variety of interesting stories about Port and his career were related. Gifts were presented to him from Rob Goldstone and Stuart Davis, heads of Cognitive Science and Linguistics,



Port at his retirement ceremony. View more photos at <http://www.indiana.edu/~lingdept>.

respectively. Port then gave a short speech reflecting on his time at IU.

Port's research career at Indiana University had a variety of different directions and interacted with several disciplines. Port completed his PhD at the University of Connecticut and worked with the group of well-known phoneticians at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven.

However, Port's original appointment in linguistics at IU in 1976 involved Swahili in addition to phonetics. Port spent time in the Peace Corps in Kenya in the 1960s and became fluent in Swahili; he has remained involved in the African Studies Program at IU and has served on a variety of disserta-

(continued on page 2)

### From the chair

## Eventful year in Linguistics Department

The year 2008 was a year of events and transitions in the life of the linguistics department. There were several personnel transitions of note. First and foremost was the retirement of long time faculty member **Robert Port** after more than 30 years on the faculty. A retirement reception was held in April (see story above) attended by more than 100. Bob has had an enormous impact on the department during these past

30 years, and his everyday presence and contagious enthusiasm for his research will be missed. Despite being retired, we expect that he will continue to work with students, pursue certain research interests, and occasionally offer a seminar.

I would like to congratulate Professor **Clancy Clements** on his promotion to full professor of linguistics and Spanish and Portuguese. Clements's *The Linguistic Legacy of*

*Spanish and Portuguese: Colonial Expansion and Language Change*, published by Cambridge University Press, is to appear in 2009. The book enhances Clements' reputation as the pre-eminent researcher in Spanish and Portuguese contact linguistics. Clements is also our director of undergraduate studies and is a popular and passionate teacher of courses on historical linguistics and

(continued on page 2)

## From the chair

(continued from page 1)

sociolinguistics at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

I welcome **Michael Marlo**, BA'02, as a visiting lecturer for the 2008-2009 academic year. Marlo was an undergraduate major in our department, where he was greatly influenced by the field methods course taught by **Robert Botne** on Luyia. Michael subsequently completed his PhD in 2007 at Michigan. His dissertation was entitled *The Verbal Tonology of Lumarachi and Lunyala-West: Two Dialects of Luluyia (Bantu, J.30, Kenya)*. This has established Marlo as a leading young Bantuist. In 2008-09 Marlo is offering a graduate seminar on tonal phonology and teaching our undergraduate phonology and introductory linguistics courses.

In terms of academic events, this past year witnessed a busy colloquium schedule and a continuation of the tradition started in 2007 of a departmental graduate student conference; the one-day event was held in March 2008. There are plans to expand that conference next year.

The department's major academic event in 2008 was the hosting of Sociolinguistics Fest. Leading figures gave a series of lectures during the second week of June (see accompanying article for more details). The event was enjoyed by more than 100 people, including many of our students and attendees from all over the country. Sociolinguistics Fest continues a tradition of "fests" started by **Steven Franks** in 2004 with the organizing of Syntax Fest; two years later we hosted Phonology Fest. The idea behind

these events is to invite a small number of leading scholars (both established and up-and-coming) to IU for a one to two week period during which each scholar delivers a series of lectures on a common theme.

The fests are academically intense, with two to three morning lectures and another set in the afternoon for each day during the period. The invited participants attend each other's lectures and our students and faculty have ample opportunity to interact with them. The format for these fests is unique in the field. We host these every two years, and plans are being made now for Syntax Fest II, most likely to be in June 2010.

Department faculty members continue to be productive in their research, and many have been very involved this past year on a variety of research projects funded through external grants and awards. These include **Kenneth de Jong's** National Science Foundation (NSF) grant on *Prosody in Cross-language Production and Perception*, Chancellor's Professor **Daniel Dinnsen's** National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant on *Development of Phonological Categories*, Franks' and **Markus Dickinson's** U.S. Department of Education grant on *Russian Advanced Language Learning/Global Health* (with Slavic languages professor Ronald Feldstein), **Yoshihisa Kitagawa's** NSF project on *Wh-interrogatives at the Prosody-Syntax-Pragmatics Crossroad*, **Sandra Kuebler** and Dickinson's State of Indiana 21st Century Fund project on *InfraWare Dictation Recognition Engine*, and Rudy Emeritus Professor **Albert Valdman's** NSF project on the sociolinguistics of Haitian Creole. All of these projects involve the participation of our graduate students and help to fund some

of them. In addition, faculty members have garnered other grants and awards, including **Frances Trix's** Research Fulbright and IREX awards and a variety of smaller funded travel awards.

At the graduate level, as well, there continues to be a high level of research activity. Not only did two *IULC Working Papers* volumes come out this year, (in addition to the online working papers) but more than 40 papers were presented by our graduate students at various conferences in 2008. In order to support our graduate students' attendance at conferences, the department established the Graduate Student Conference Fund. Presently, we can only support the travel of one graduate student a semester. We would like to increase this significantly so that we can support several a semester. To learn more about making a donation to this fund, you can contact the Linguistics Department's Fiscal and Scheduling Officer Jan Cobb via mail or visit the "giving to the department" section of our Web site, [www.indiana.edu/~lingdept](http://www.indiana.edu/~lingdept).

Finally, I would like to congratulate **Ashley Farris-Trimble, Toshikazu Ikuta, Eric Oglesbee, Han-Yong Park, Tristan Purvis, and Rose Wilkerson**, for successfully completing their dissertations in 2008.  
— Stuart Davis

## Port retires

(continued from page 1)

tion committees involving African linguistics. His love of African music is reflected by his other life as a musician with Afro-Hoo-siers International.

In terms of his linguistics research, Port will probably always be best known for his important work on timing and rhythm in speech. His more recent research has a philosophical bent to it concerning the relationship between phonology and phonetics. With respect to Cognitive Science more generally, Port will be known for his research on dynamical models of cognition and his work with Tim van Gelder, which made a case that the application of dynamical modeling is an essential step toward understanding human cognition. This culminated in the 1995 book Port co-authored with van Gelder from MIT Press, *Mind as Motion: Explorations in the Dynamics of Cognition*.

At IU, Port was a founding member of the Cognitive Science Program in 1989 and served as its director. He created Q500, the graduate-level introduction to cognitive science course.

In a real sense, Port's legacy to the field will be with his students. While he taught a wide variety of different courses in various units over the decades, his most influential teaching and mentoring has been in phonetics, judging by the quality of the students who he has supervised over the years. Port's former students constitute an impressive group of leading researchers in the phonetic sciences that include, among others, **James Flege**, MA'77, PhD'79; **Margaritis Fourakis**, MA'80, PhD'83; **Jonathan Dalby**, MA'79, PhD'84; **Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson**, MA'78, PhD'87; **Devin McAuley**, BA'88, MS'91, PhD'95; **Fred Cummins**, MA'96, PhD'97; **Catherine Rogers**, PhD'97; **Keiichi Tajima**, MA'95, PhD'98; **Debra Hardison**, MA'89, PhD'98; and **Mafuyu Kitahara**, PhD'01.

## Linguistics at IU

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Linguistics and the College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [iualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:iualumni@indiana.edu).

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### Leading scholars at sociolinguistics fest

**S**ociolinguistics Fest was held in the second week of June. The event, primarily organized by Professor Julie Auger and graduate student Alexis Lanham, with the help of numerous others, brought together leading sociolinguists. Each scholar gave a series of four lectures over a four-day period on the themes of language, gender, and identity; the lecture sessions were followed by a one-day workshop. Invited participants included Scott Kiesling, University of Pittsburgh; Mary Bucholtz, University of California at Santa Barbara; Sali Tagliamonte, University of Toronto; Dennis Preston, Michigan State; and Susan Herring and John Paolillo from Indiana University.

Since the invited participants all attended each other's lectures a synergy developed over the course of the week that made Sociolinguistics Fest truly memorable.

Kiesling's lectures revolved around gender, interaction, and social meaning in linguistic variation. Because of his lectures, some of us finally learned how to use the word *dude* correctly. Bucholtz gave a series of fascinating lectures on language, identity and indexicality in which she discussed such things as performative speech acts and styles in various settings making effective use of video clips from films and advertisements.

From the framework of quantitative sociolinguistics, Tagliamonte provided a series of detailed lectures on sex and age in variation. She compared the variation in linguistic features like final t/d deletion and use of intensifiers such as "really" and "so" based on corpora from York, England, and Toronto, Canada. One point that came out of her lectures is the importance of the



*Dennis Preston expounds at Sociolinguistic Fest.*

pattern of factors that affect the probability of variants.

Susan Herring and John Paolillo of the IU School of Library and Information Sciences gave a series of informative lectures on the sociolinguistics of online communication. We learned about gender identity on the Internet, CMC modes, Internet multilingualism, and language variation in online social networks.

At the end of each day, Dennis Preston treated participants to entertaining lectures on the role of attitudes and perception in language variation and change. He developed a detailed perspective on the modes of perceptual dialectology done in a way that brought out themes from the other lecturers.

Invited speakers Cynthia Clopper of Ohio State and Robin Queen of Michigan highlighted the final, one-day workshop to close Sociolinguistics Fest. The workshop also provided an opportunity for students to present their research and get feedback from all participants. Sociolinguistics Fest was a great success, and special thanks go to Julie Auger and Alexis Lanham for their efforts. We look forward to Syntax Fest II in 2010.

### IU linguists active at McWOP 14

IU linguists were once again well represented at the 14th Midcontinental Workshop on Phonology, held at the University of Minnesota in October. IU participation included five paper presentations and involved nine IU-affiliated linguists. These included **Andrew Kostakis** on "Vestige Theory: Sociolinguistic Evidence for Output-Output Constraints"; **Elizabeth Johnson** and Louis Goldstein on "The Nature of Underlying Representations: A Sensorimotor Adaptation Investigation"; **Christopher Green, Stuart Davis, Boubacar Diakite** and Karen Baertsch on "Syncope in Bamana"; **Traci Nagle, Rebecca Petrush, and Ben Trotter** on "Syllable Structure and the Complementary Distribution of Vowels: An Experimental Test of Phonological Theory"; and visiting student **Islam Youssef** (Tromsø, Norway) on "Feature Incompatibility Across Place Assimilations: Pharyngealization vs. Palatalization in Cairene Arabic." MCWOP 15 will be hosted by IU next fall.

### 2008 colloquium

The Department of Linguistics continued its colloquium series in 2008, sponsored by the Indiana University Linguistics Club, with funding from the IU Students Association. Spring 2008 speakers from outside IU included Michael Shapiro, Brown University; Damir Cavar, University of Zadar; Carmel O'Shannessy, University of Michigan; Elena Benedicto, Purdue University; Yvan Rose, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Chilin Shih, University of Illinois; Alexander Francis, Purdue University; and John Bailyn, SUNY Stony Brook. The fall 2008 Colloquium series celebrates the 40th anniversary of the IULC. As its first keynote speaker for this anniversary, former departmental professor John Goldsmith of the University of Chicago gave several talks including the keynote talk "Optimization is the Answer. Now, What is the Question?" Other fall speakers included Betty Phillips, Indiana State University; Richard Oehrle, Cataphora Inc.; Lenore Grenoble, University of Chicago; Hideki Kishimoto, Kobe University; and David Odden, Ohio State University. Specific titles and abstracts for our colloquium talks can be found at [www.indiana.edu/~lingdept](http://www.indiana.edu/~lingdept).

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## Faculty

**Julie Auger** published one co-authored article with Anne-José Villeneuve in a festschrift dedicated to Gillian Sankoff. She delivered a paper at a conference on romance-explicit pronouns in Konstanz, Germany. Together with three of our graduate students, she edited *Gender in Language: Classic Questions, New Contexts*, which is the seventh issue of our working papers. Finally, she collaborated with Stuart Davis and Alexis Lanham in the organization of a very successful Sociolinguistics Fest, which was held in June.

**Robert Botne** published a lengthy article, co-authored with former student **Tiffany Kershner**, MA'99, PhD'02, "Tense and Cognitive Space: On the Organization of Tense/aspect Systems in Bantu Languages and Beyond" in *Cognitive Linguistics*. The *Chindali Language of Malawi* — a three-volume set (vol.1: *A Chindali and English Dictionary*; vol. 2: *A Grammatical Sketch of Chindali*; and vol. 3: *Narratives of Ndali Life and Culture*) authored in collaboration with Loveness Schafer — was published by the American Philosophical Society. In October, departing from Bantu, he presented a paper, "Futurity and the Construal of Time in Dagbani" at *Chronos 8* in Austin, Texas.

**J. Clancy Clements** had three articles appear during 2007–08: "Me dicen que suena raro cuando digo *yo* en todo momento: ¿Por qué no es necesario usar el pronombre?" in the volume *El español a través de la lingüística: Preguntas y respuestas* (2008, Cascadilla Press), "Korlai Creole Portuguese" in *Comparative Creole Syntax* (2008, Battlebridge Press), and "A Creole Origin for Barlovento Spanish?: A Linguistic and Sociohistorical Inquiry" in *Language in Society*, which he co-authored with Manuel Diaz-Campos. During the same period, he has also presented six competitive papers in various conferences in the U.S. and Portugal, one invited paper at the University of Chicago, and a lecture in the Distinguished Lecture Series of the University of North Texas, Denton. Since fall 2007 he has served as the department's director of undergraduate studies.

**Stuart Davis** published, with former student **Karen Baertsch**, PhD'02, "Decomposing the Syllable Contact Asymmetry in Korean" in the edited volume *Asymmetries in Phonology: An East-Asian Perspective* (Kurosio Publishers). They also gave co-authored presentations at the CUNY Conference on the Syllable in New York and at the International Congress of Linguists in Seoul. He published "On English Word Final /s/

in Korean Loanword Phonology" in a festschrift volume for Professor Chin Wu Kim. His article "Velarization" has just appeared in the fourth volume of *The Encyclopedia of the Arabic Language* (Brill), and his review of David Crystal's *How Language Works* has appeared in the *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*. Additionally, he gave a talk on loanword prosody at the annual Manchester Phonology Meeting and two invited talks on this topic in Japan.

**Ken de Jong** has been developing an NSF-funded project that looks at how second-language learners differ from one another in their abilities to perceive and produce the new language. Results from this project with grad students Hanyong Park, Noah Silbert, and Yen-chen Hao will soon appear in articles in the *Journal of Phonetics* and in *Language Learning*, and have given rise to a number of talks presented at the Acoustical Society meetings in New Orleans and Paris. In addition, he has been continuing work with Silbert on examining the structure of variation in the production of English consonants. A portion of this research examining noise in fricatives appeared in an article in the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* this last year. This is part of a larger body of work on the nature of variation in speech production, which was described in an invited talk at the Paris international meeting of the Acoustical Society. In addition, de Jong has been working with Eric Oglesbee in relating this variation to the perceptual structure that Oglesbee found in his thesis work; this research was presented at the Acoustical Society meeting in New Orleans. Work on prosodic structures in Japanese and Korean is ongoing. A project with Jungsun Kim on cross-dialect variation in Korean was presented at the 18th International Conference of Linguists and at the 2008 Linguistic Society of America meeting. More information about these projects can be found at <http://www.indiana.edu/~lsl>.

**Markus Dickinson** published papers in several conference proceedings, including two papers at the Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT) Workshop with co-authors Adriane Boyd and Detmar Meurers. Dickinson had two papers at the Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC), one with student Charles Jochim, "A Simple Method for Tagset Comparison" and one with co-author Chong Min Lee, "Detecting Errors in Semantic Annotation." In addition, he presented single-authored papers: "Ad Hoc Treebank Structures" at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), and

"Representations for Category Disambiguation" at the International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING). He also presented work on "Similarity and Dissimilarity in Treebank Grammars" at the International Congress of Linguists, for which he was awarded travel money from the Overseas Conference Fund. Many of these publications were related to a DECCA project to detect and correct errors in corpus annotation, a project that finished up in the last year and also has resulted in the upcoming publication "On Detecting Errors in Dependency Annotation" (with Adriane Boyd and Detmar Meurers) in the journal *Research on Language and Computation*. Additionally, Dickinson began work with graduate student Josh Herring on a project to develop an intelligent computer-assisted language learning (ICALL) system for Russian. Together, they presented papers at the Midwest Computational Linguistics Colloquium and the ACL Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications. For a separate ICALL project, Dickinson and collaborators Soojeong Eom, Yunkyoung Kang, Chong Min Lee, and Rebecca Sachs presented work at the CALICO conference on "Integrating ICALL into Synchronous CMC," and they wrote an article, which will appear in an upcoming issue of *Computer-Assisted Language Learning*. Dickinson was invited to give a talk on this work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Chancellor's Professor **Daniel Dinnsen** is directing a research project on phonological acquisition and disorders along with Professor Judith Gierut. This project has entered its 23rd consecutive year of funding from the National Institutes of Health (<http://www.indiana.edu/~sndlrng/>). One outgrowth of the project is Dinnsen and Gierut's book, *Optimality Theory, Phonological Acquisition & Disorders*, which appeared earlier this year in the new series *Advances in Optimality Theory*, published by Equinox. The volume showcases their lab's most recent work within the framework of optimality theory. For more information about the volume, see <http://www.equinoxpub.com/books/showbook.asp?bkid=153>. An article by Dinnsen and Gierut, "Optimality Theory: A Clinical Perspective," appeared in the *Handbook of Clinical Linguistics* (2008). Another of their papers, "The Predictive Power of Optimality Theory for Phonological Treatment," has been accepted for publication in the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing*. Dinnsen

(continued on page 5)

## Faculty news

(continued from page 4)

co-authored two other papers with his doctoral student Ashley Farris-Trimble. One of those papers, “Developmental Shifts in Phonological Strength Relations,” will appear in *Phonological Strength*. The other paper, “An Opacity-tolerant Conspiracy in Phonological Acquisition,” appeared in the recent IULC working papers volume *Phonological Opacity Effects in Optimality Theory*, which Farris-Trimble and Dinnsen co-edited. That volume also includes a shorter paper by Dinnsen, “An Astronomical Opacity Effect.”

**Steven Franks** presented “The Fine Structure of Bulgarian Compound Tenses” in May at the 16th Balkan & S Sl Conference in Banff and, together with Nina Rojina (Tromsø), “Idiosyncrasies of Russian *kakogo cherta* ‘Why the Hell’” in June at Slavic Linguistics Society 3. Recent publications include: “Clitic Placement, Prosody, and the Bulgarian Verbal Complex” in the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* 16, “On Accusative First” in *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: The Stony Brook Meeting* (with James Lavine, Bucknell); “Deriving Discontinuity” in *Studies in Formal Slavic Linguistics*, “Clitic Placement in Bulgarian Compound Tenses: PF-Side vs. Syntactic Approaches” in *IULC Working Papers Online* 7, and a review of Sussex & Cubberly’s *The Slavic Languages in Lingua* (with Ronald Feldstein). He was also part of a two-year, \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, for an Advanced Language Learning/Global Health partnership project with Southern Federal University in Rostov-na-Donu, Russia. Other IU Bloomington faculty on the grant include Markus Dickinson and, from the Slavic department, Ronald Feldstein and Olena Chernishenko. The grant is providing full-time support for two graduate students, Joshua Herring and Brigid Henry (Slavics). Franks continues as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* and, on July 1, 2008, he assumed the position of chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

**Richard Janda** presented “Dialectal Origins of NHG [-er-chen] ‘Diminutive Plural’ as a Bipartite Single Suffix” at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. He also gave two departmental colloquia during the past couple of years entitled “... And a Cartridge in a Pear Tree?: Evolving Inflectional and Derivational Portmanteaus in Romance Fruit and Tree Names” and “‘If You Go, You Can’t Come Back’ Revisited: Relexicalization and Other Upgradings of Grammaticalized Forms.” A short piece by Janda on “Green Eggs & Linguistics Questions: Why Does

the Word ‘Egg’ Have Two Gs?” appeared in August as part of the “Hotline” feature in Bloomington’s *Herald-Times*. Janda’s Presidential Address to the 23rd Meeting of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest, titled “Language Change Always Occurs in the Present: Or, On Taking the Uniformitarian Hypothesis Seriously,” has been solicited for publication in the *Southwest Journal of Linguistics*. This fall, Janda expanded the Department’s AI Training Workshop. He has also been consulting with Director of Undergraduate Studies Clancy Clements and Undergraduate Academic Advisor Krystie Herndon about the best way to implement his proposal to introduce special events for linguistics majors.

**Yoshihisa Kitagawa** made the following presentations: “Speaker-Listener Asymmetry in the Use of Prosodic Cues,” at the Mini-Workshop on Prosodic Cues in Japanese Grammar (with Yuki Hirose), University of Delaware; “Matrix Phenomena in Wh-questions,” at the Workshop on Syntactic Structure and Force — Beyond Thematic Structure and Proposition, Center for Language Sciences, Kanda University of International Studies; “Emphatic Focus in Japanese,” and “Statistical Anatomy of Unacceptability,” (with Kenji Yoshida) at the 18th International Congress of Linguistics, in Seoul, South Korea; “Asymmetry between Encoding and Decoding of Wh-scope in Japanese,” (with Yuki Hirose), as a poster at the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, hosted by UCLA; “Production-Perception Asymmetry in Wh-scope Marking,” (with Yuki Hirose), as a poster at CUNY 2008: Conference on Human Sentence Processing; and “Informational Boost,” at the Workshop on Prosody and Information Structure 3, at the University of Tokyo, Japan. As a faculty of the East Asian Studies Center, he received an IU College Arts & Humanities Institute Grant for Workshops, Performances and Conferences (with Daniel Reed of Folklore and Ethnomusicology), and organized and performed in a series of musical events in *Traditional Japanese Music Workshop* at Bloomington City Hall, University Elementary School, Bloomington High School North and the IU Art Museum.

**Sandra Kuebler** co-authored a book on dependency parsing with Ryan McDonald and Joakim Nivre. The book will be published in late 2008 or beginning of 2009 by Morgan & Claypool. A handbook chapter on “Linguistically Annotated Corpora: Quality Assurance, Reusability and Sustainability”, co-authored by Heike Zinsmeister, Erhard Hinrichs, and Andreas Witt is scheduled to appear in *Corpus Linguistics An International Handbook*, published by Mouton de Gruyter, in December. Kuebler

published a paper with graduate student Steliana Ivanova on “POS Tagging for German: How Important is the Right Context?” and a paper with Wolfgang Maier, Ines Rehbein, and Yannick Versley on “How to Compare Treebanks” at the Sixth International Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC) in Marrakech, Morocco. She also published a paper with graduate student Emad Mohamed on “Memory-based Vocalization of Arabic” at the Workshop on HLT and NLP within the Arabic World, which was co-located with LREC in Morocco. In March, she gave a presentation on “Parsing German - With Different Representations” at Umbria Inc. in Boulder, Colo. Kuebler was co-organizer of three workshops in cooperation with three major conferences in computational linguistics: the LREC workshop on “Partial Parsing 2008: Between Chunking and Deep Parsing”; the COLING workshop on “Cross-Framework and Cross-Domain Parser Evaluation” with main organizer Stephan Oepen (University of Oslo); and the ACL workshop on “Parsing German.” For the ACL workshop, Kuebler organized a shared task on parsing German and published the results of this shared task in a paper at the workshop.

**Michael Marlo** spent the 2007–08 academic year as an adjunct assistant professor at UCLA, where he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in phonology, served as a member on Chacha Mwitwa’s PhD dissertation committee (“Verbal Tone in Kuria”, completed in Summer 2008), and supervised research of several students on the phonology of various African languages. He published an article with David Odden (Ohio State University) on “The Exponence of TAM in Bakweri” in *SOAS Working Papers in Linguistics* and presented papers on issues in the tonology and morpho-phonology of Bantu languages at the North American Phonology Conference, the Annual Conference on African Linguistics, and the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting. His ongoing research on dialects of the Kenyan Bantu language Luyia produced preliminary word lists of the Bukusu and Wanga dialects (of 6,000 and 4,000 words, respectively), and he is currently preparing an article and audio archive on the verbal tone system of the previously unknown Tura dialect. He plans to write up similar works on the Bukusu, Khayo, Marachi, Nyala, and Wanga dialects, based on data he collected during fieldwork in Busia, Kenya, in 2006.

**Samuel Obeng** (Linguistics & African Studies) published one book, *Efutu Structure*, and co-authored two edited volumes with Beverly Hartford: *Political Discourse Analysis* and *Intercultural Communications* in 2008. He also published book chapters:

(continued on page 6)

## Faculty news

(continued from page 5)

“Language Maintenance among Akan-Ghanaian Immigrants Living in the United States” in *Migrations and Creative Expressions in Africa and the African Diaspora* and “If We Have Something to Tell God, We Tell it to the Wind” A Linguistic and Discursive Analysis of Akan Therapeutic Discourse” in *Health Knowledge and Belief Systems in Africa*. Obeng also co-authored a review of the *Handbook of Discourse Analysis* with Christopher Green for the *Journal of World Englishes*. Obeng presented papers at a couple of conferences: “Biblical Intertextuality in US Political Text and Talk: A Discursive Analysis of Martin Luther King’s ‘I See the Promised Land’ Speech.” And with Cecilia Sem Obeng, “Sharing my pain and burden lessens my stress and brings me some relief.”

**Alwiya S. Omar** is one of the recipients of Indiana University Faculty Podcasting Initiative (<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/8437.html>). The initiative provided Omar and other African language instructors with digital audio recorders, microphones, and relevant podcasting software. Various podcasting activities and the ‘wiki’ tool will be used, initially at the advanced level classes, to reinforce learners’ communicative skills

**Frances Trix** published a book, *Muslim Voices and Lives in the Contemporary World*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008; a chapter, “A Story of Spiritual Migration from Rumeli: Selim Ruhi Baba of Elbasan;” and a blog, “Kosova: Stories the Press has Missed” in *Informed Consent: Global Affairs*. Trix received an Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Fellowship through the International Research and Exchange Board, to study “Civil Society Associations of Displaced Muslims from Kosovo and Macedonia vs. International Organizations in Kosovo: Learning from the Local,” during 2008–09. She is currently a Visiting Fellow at ISAM (*Islam Ara tırmaları Merkezi Center for Research on Islam*) in Istanbul, Turkey. She gave papers at Sabancı University in March 2008, and at an International Symposium on the Balkans in Istanbul in May 2008. She will present “Balkan Migrant Identity in Istanbul” in a panel on “Intertextuality and Misunderstanding” for the Society of Linguistic Anthropology at the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, in November. Her student, Elizabeth Raible, successfully defended her MA thesis, “Dilemmas of the Projected 2011 Census of Bosnia and Herzegovina,” in August 2008. Another student, Carolyn Psenka, defends her doctoral dissertation,

“A Monumental Task: Translating Complex Knowledge in NASA’s Human Space Flight Network,” in November.

**Barbara Vance** gave a presentation entitled “The Evolution of Subject Pronoun Systems in Medieval Occitan” at a workshop on Null subjects, Expletives, and Locatives in Romance at the University of Konstanz, Germany, in March 2008.

## Emeritus faculty

**Paul Newman** returned to IU this fall, having completed a two-year appointment as senior copyright specialist at the University of Michigan. His language and law activities during the past year include a book review of *Forensic Linguistics: An Introduction to Language, Crime and the Law* by John Olsson (*Language* 83, 2007), being a founding member of the new International Language and Law Association, and his appointment as special counsel to the LSA. Recent academic talks include “Reflections on Field Research and Academic Administration in Northern Nigeria” and “Internal Reconstruction as a Creative Tool for Unearthing the Linguistic Past,” both given at the University of Michigan, and an invited plenary talk, “The ‘Pluractional Verb’ Concept: A Few Answers and Many Questions,” presented at a workshop on nominal and verbal plurality (Journées d’études sur la pluralité nominale et verbale) held in Vincennes, France, at the Université Paris 8. During the summer, he and Roxana Ma Newman jointly taught an intensive Hausa language course in Darmstadt, Germany.

## New African language faculty

African languages welcome new faculty members: **David Adu-Amankwah** (Akan), **Abdou S. Yaro** (Bamana), and **Betty Dlamini** (Zulu), as well as a Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant **Mbaye Ngom** (Wolof). **Fabienne Diouf**, last academic year’s FLTA for Wolof, has returned as a graduate student in linguistics and associate instructor in Wolof. Diouf joins other language AIs in the department: **Abdulwahid Mazrui** and **Nasra Ahmed** (Kiswahili), **Hannah Essien** (Akan), and **Boubacar Diakite** (Bamana).

## Visiting Scholars 2008–09

**LuxiYang** is an associate professor in Chongqing Normal University of China. She will be in Bloomington for one year as a visiting scholar to further her study and research in linguistics.

## IULC NEWS

Thanks to last year’s constitutional amendments, the IULC has redesigned and streamlined its officer positions. The 2008–09 IULC officers and positions are Abbie Hantgan (president), Charese Smiley (vice president), Chris Green, (business manager), Jon Anderson (secretary/treasurer), Jason Siegel (colloquium coordinator), Kirsten Todt (library coordinator), and Seth Combs (undergraduate representative).

Two volumes of the *IULC Working Papers* were released in the past year, vol. 6, *Phonological Opacity Effects in Optimality Theory*, edited by Ashley W. Farris-Trimble and Daniel A. Dinnsen and vol. 7, *Gender in Language: Classic Questions, New Contexts*, edited by Jason F. Siegel, Traci C. Nagle, Amandine Lorente Lapole, and Julie Auger. Markus Dickinson and Sandra Kuebler are planning a computational linguistics edition for the 8th volume of the *IULC Working Papers*, slated for spring 2009.

The IULC assisted in the funding and planning of the very successful Sociolinguistics Fest, which brought together leading researchers in sociolinguistics, each of whom gave a series of lectures over a four-day period. Thanks to the hard work of Jason Siegel, the IULC began an exciting year of the colloquium series with a keynote speech from John Goldsmith to celebrate the IULC’s 40th anniversary. The speakers for fall semester include Betty Phillips, Dick Oerhle, Lenore Grenoble, Hideki Kijhimoto and David Odden. The IULC also sponsored the second annual IU Linguistics Department Conference, held in the spring.

**Islam Youssef** is a visiting PhD student from the Center for Advanced Study in Theoretical Linguistics at the University of Tromsø (the northernmost university in the world). He has a BA in English language from Ain Shams University, Egypt, a master’s of philosophy in English linguistics from the University of Tromsø, Norway. Youssef also has work experience in computational linguistics and translation. He is mainly interested in segmental phonology, feature geometry, and optimality theory, and his current research focuses on the spoken dialects of Arabic.

## Student news & awards

**Muhammad Abdul-Mageed**, a second-year PhD student, presented “Wikipedia Arabic: Linguistic and Community Issues” and “Hey, I Think Perhaps We Should: Disciplinary Interactions in Wikipedia’s Articles and Talk Pages” at The Fourth International Wikimedia Conference (Wikimania ‘08 in Alexandria, Egypt). He also presented “Online News Sites and Journalism 2.0: Reader Comments on Al Jazeera Arabic” at the International Students’ Conference in Salzburg, Austria; “New Tools, New Schools: Using YouTube to Teach Foreign Languages” at the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages 11th International Conference in Madison, Wis.; “Metadiscourse in Electronic L2 Writing: The Case of English E-mail Shared among Egyptian Academic E-groups’ Participants” at the Symposium on Second Language Writing at Purdue University; and “Arabic and English News Coverage on aljazeera.net” (with Susan Herring) at Cultural Attitudes Towards Technology and Communication 2008. The latter was published in the conference proceedings.

**Jennifer Better**s was awarded a 2008–09 FLAS to pursue interests in French linguistics and Western European studies.

**Anupam Das** is currently working on his dissertation “Linguistic Politeness and Interpersonal Ties among Bengalis on the Social Network Site Orkut: the Bulge Theory Revisited.” This study aims to investigate, quantitatively and qualitatively, the interplay of linguistic politeness (specifically compliments, greetings, and expressions of gratitude) with the interpersonal ties and social distances in naturally occurring dyadic conversations of Bengalis on the social network website Orkut. Das’s paper, “Echo-word and Politeness: a Socio-pragmatic Aspect of South Asia,” was presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation held at Rice University. Das is currently working as a graduate research assistant with Rudy Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman on his NSF-funded sociolinguistic project on Haitian Creole.

**Christopher Green** received a FLAS fellowship from the IU African Studies Program to study Advanced Bamana for the 2008–09 academic year. He also received a summer 2008 FLAS for intensive instruction in Swahili at IU. Green spent the second half of the summer teaching L303 Intro to

### Note from the undergraduate director

## Enrollments grow, new courses emerge

**O**ur undergraduate program continues to attract ever more interest among undergraduate students. As of October 2008, 66 active majors and 22 active minors were enrolled in the program. Clancy Clements, director of undergraduate studies, and Krystie Herndon, Linguistics advisor, visit the LING 100- to 300-level introductory and topics courses each semester to talk to undergraduates about majoring and minoring in Linguistics. This fall alone, 61 new students expressed interest in either minoring or majoring in Linguistics. As enrollments in our upper-level undergraduate courses grow, we have adjusted the rotation of courses to expand our course offerings to students. For the first time in several years, we are offering an undergraduate historical linguistics course. In the next few years, we hope to add to the 400-level in order to give our students more choices in the final courses of their majors. — *Clancy Clements*

Linguistic Analysis. His paper, “Discursive Strategies in Political Speech: The Words of Dr. Bingu wa Mutharika,” was accepted for publication in *Issues in Political Discourse Analysis* earlier this year. As a recipient of the Linguistics Department Travel Award, Green presented a paper “Nasal Deletion in Class 9/10 and its Effect on Augment Use” at the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics in Athens, Ga. He remains an active member of the IULC as its business manager, serves as an officer of the IU African Languages Club, and is a member of Graduate Students in African Studies. He also continues to work as a research assistant in the lab of Professor Daniel Dinnsen.

**Abbie Hantgan** spent three months this past summer with Jeffrey Heath of the University of Michigan working on an endangered language isolate in Mali, West Africa. In addition to funding from Heath’s National Science Foundation grant, she also received the IU International Enhancement Grant to participate in an internship and language study in Mali. Hantgan then presented the results of her research at the Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics in Leiden, Netherlands. She received a 2008–09 FLAS fellowship from the African Studies Program to continue studying Bamana for a third year. She is president of the IULC and vice-president of the Graduate Students in African Studies organization. She is also president and a founding member of the IU African Languages Club and is assisting in organizing an African Languages Festival, sponsored by the IU African Languages Club

At the Acoustical Society of America meeting in New Orleans, **Yen-Chen Hao**

presented her research in how second-language learners develop tone-production and identification skills when learning Mandarin.

**Nicholas Henriksen** presented two papers with Professor Erik Willis (Spanish and Portuguese) at the fourth Laboratory Approaches to Spanish Phonology. He published “A Reanalysis of Paradigmatic Variation in the Old Spanish Imperfect” in *Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*. He was the recipient of the Linguistics Department’s Fred W. Householder Outstanding Research Paper Award for his paper “Unexpected hiatus and base-identity in the Spanish verbal paradigm.”

**Yu-Yin Hsu** is a third-year student interested in syntax, linguistic interface areas, teaching and computational linguistics. She presented a paper titled “Sentence-internal Topic and Focus in Chinese” at the 34th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society in February and at the 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics in April, for which she received the EASC Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant and the IU Women in Science Travel Grant. She also received the IULC travel grant for her paper “Possessor Extraction in Mandarin Chinese” presented at the 32nd Annual Penn Linguistics Colloquium in February. In May, she presented a paper “Functional Projections in the Medial Domain in Chinese” at the 11th International Symposium on Chinese Languages and Linguistics. These papers will be published in the proceedings of the conferences. Finally, in October, she presented “Chinese Modals as Functional Categories” at Chronos 8 in Austin.

(continued on page 8)

## Student notes

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**Charles Jochim** presented “A Simple Method for Tagset Comparison,” at LREC 2008 in Marrakech, Morocco. He graduates in December, having completed the MA concentration in computational linguistics.

**Brian José** is in the process of completing his dissertation. In May, he presented a paper titled “(Re)Assessing Age as a Sociolinguistic Variable (and the Northern Cities Shift in Northwest Indiana)” at Ohio State University’s spring symposium, Linguistic Variation Across the Lifespan. He also recently had abstracts accepted for presentation at the upcoming meetings of the Linguistic Society of America (with a paper titled “Synchronic and Diachronic Views on the Northern Cities Shift in Northwest Indiana”) and the American Dialect Society (with a paper titled “A Preliminary Analysis of Final /z/ Devoicing in Northwest Indiana”). José presents both in San Francisco in January.

**Volya Kapatsinski**’s work in 2008 was presented at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, the CUNY Phonology Forum Conference on the Syllable, the annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society, the Laboratory Phonology Conference and the International Congress of Linguists. He received an NSF travel grant for travel to the Laboratory Phonology Meeting, and one of the papers he presented at that conference won a Best Paper Presented by a Student Award from the organizers. Also, a paper he wrote was published in the proceedings of *Chicago Linguistic Society 41*.

**Jungsun Kim** recently published, “Fortition and Lenition Patterns in the Acquisition of Obstruents by Children with Cochlear Implants” in *Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics*. This paper was co-authored with Steven B. Chin and supported by an NIH Research Grant, “Phonological Systems of Pediatric Cochlear Implant Users.” She presented “Mimicry of Lexical Pitch Accent by Native and Non-native Dialectal Speakers in Korean” at LSA Chicago 2008 and at Seoul National University. Kim also presented another paper, “The Effect of Lexical Properties of Pitch Accent Across the Dialects in Korean”, at the 18th International Congress of Linguists, Seoul, Korea. These papers were co-authored with Ken de Jong.

**Andrew Kostakis** received the German Department’s first annual Max Kade Summer Research Fellowship. He presented his research on the Dialect-Geography of High and Low German Rhotics. He also gave a talk at IU’s Language Share Fair and accepted a position as a German instructor for IU’s Summer Honors Program in Krefeld, Germany.

## Note from the graduate director

### Grants offset conference costs

An important aspect of graduate studies is the opportunity for graduate students to attend and present papers or posters at conferences, both domestic and international. Concomitant with that is the need for access to small-grant funding to pay language consultants or subjects for experimental studies. The department supports these endeavors through small grants from the Fred Householder Fund (up to \$400 for research) and the Student Conference Fund (up to \$200 for travel and expenses).

The Householder Fund honors Fred Householder, a former linguist at IU with wide ranging interests. Householder served as chair of the department as well as president of the Linguistic Society of America; the fund was initiated in 1996 after he passed away. The Student Conference Fund was initiated in 2005, established in honor of Professor Paul Newman’s retirement. Since these funds are rather small, only a few small research grants and only two conference travel grants can be allocated each year.

However, we currently have 61 PhD students, most of whom, at some point during their studies at IU, will carry out research projects that require small grants and/or presentation of their work at appropriate conferences. This fall alone seven students applied for support to present papers or posters at the following conferences: 83rd Annual

Meeting of the LSA in San Francisco; Chronos 8 in Austin, Texas; 9th Central Eurasian Studies Society in Washington, D.C.; Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference in New York City; 8th High Desert Linguistics Society Conference in Albuquerque, N.M.; Arizona Linguistics Circle 2 in Tucson, Ariz.; and the 14th Annual Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonology in Minneapolis.

We find this level of activity laudable, and we encourage students to attend as many conferences as they are able to, not only to present their own work, but to hear what others are doing in their areas of interest and to meet and network with professional linguists. However, the cost of presenting at one of these conferences, including registration fee, transportation, lodging, and meals, typically ranges from \$500 to \$800. The current size of the fund accounts, especially the Student Conference Travel Fund, does not permit us to assist all students who merit assistance.

The department’s goal is to increase the funds to support as many as four students each semester. If you would like to help students in their research endeavors or in their conference activities, visit <http://www.indiana.edu/~lingdept/giving.shtml>, or contact the Department of Linguistics (Memorial Hall 322, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 47405). — *Robert Botne*

**Scott Lamanna** was nominated for the spring 2008 Graduate Student Teaching Award in the IU Department of Spanish and Portuguese. He presented his paper “Extending the Sociolinguistic Variable to the Syntactic Level: The Case of para + infinitive/subjunctive in Venezuelan Spanish” at the Fifth Annual Graduate Student Conference on Luso-Brazilian and Hispanic Literature, Linguistics and Culture at IU. The paper has subsequently been published in vol. 8 of the IU Linguistics Club *Working Papers Online*. Also, his paper “Usage of Imperfect and Imperfect Progressive Verb Forms in Spanish as a Majority and Minority Language: Is There an Effect for Language Contact?” has been accepted for publication in the forthcoming *Selected Proceedings of the 10th Hispanic Linguistics Symposium*.

**Dongmyung Lee** presented a paper titled “Tonal Structure and the Location of the Main Accent of Kyungsang Korean Words” at the 18th International Congress of Linguistics, held in July in Seoul, Korea. He also presented a poster paper (co-authored with Stuart Davis) titled “Evidence for an Accentless Class in South Kyungsang Korean” at the 18th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference held in New York City in November.

**Emad Mohammed** published a paper on the vocalization of Arabic with Professor Sandra Kuebler. Currently he is also working with Kuebler on co-reference resolution and on the topic of how vocalization can help part-of-speech tagging.

(continued on page 9)

## Student notes

(continued from page 8)

**Catalina Mendez Vallejo** presented a paper titled “Focalizing ser (FS) Structure in Colombian Spanish: A Preliminary Analysis,” at the 11th annual Ohio State University Symposium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics. Also, she received the Agapito Rey Academic Year Graduate Fellowship from the IU Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and received the Tinker Field Research grant from the IU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS).

**Traci Nagle** is a third-year PhD student who is completing a concurrent MA in English. At the American Dialect Society meeting in January 2008, she was awarded a four-year Presidential Membership. She received the 2008 Laurence Urdang Dictionary Society of North America Research Grant to support a summer trip to Scotland and England for archival research about an understudied 19th-century Anglo-Indian dialect dictionary, the *Hobson-Jobson*; and was awarded the 2008 Frances Strickland/Agnes Wright Strickland Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Scholarship. Two of her papers were published in the online IULC *Working Papers Series* in spring 2008: “Double Opacity in Standard Colloquial Bengali Verbs, through the Lens of OT-CC” in vol. 6, *Phonological Opacity Effects in Optimality Theory*, and “Women’s Attitudes toward Sexist/Nonsexist Language across the Lifespan” in vol. 7, *Gender in Language: Classic Questions, New Contexts*, which Nagle co-edited along with Jason Siegel, Amandine Lorente Lapole, and Julie Auger. Since spring 2007, she has worked as a reader and research assistant in Daniel Dinnsen’s clinical phonology lab.

**Nathan Sanders** presented a paper called “Cluster Analysis of Phonological Distance Measures of Cochlear Implant Users” at CI-2008 (10th International Conference on Cochlear Implants and other Implantable Auditory Technologies). He and Steve Chin were the co-authors. Another paper co-authored by Sanders and Chin, “Phonological Distance Measures,” was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Quantitative Linguistics*.

**Jason F. Siegel** presented “Distinguishing Decreolization and Dialect Leveling from Internal Change: The Case of Guianese French Creole” at a conference on Language Contact and Morphosyntactic Change, held in Paris last year. He is now working as a research assistant for Albert Valdman and conducting separate research on politeness pronouns in a diglossic community, L2 acquisition of French phonol-

ogy, and the semantics of the conjunction “slash.”

**Mikael Thompson** is co-author with Nasrullo Khodjaerov of *A Reference Grammar of Tajiki for Beginners*, published by Georgetown University Press. He also received a postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the Luce Foundation and administered by the American Center for Mongolian Studies to spend six months to one year in Mongolia doing an instrumental study of the Khalkha (standard Mongolian) vowel system, stress, and devoicing, beginning in February 2009. He is completing his dissertation.

**Saowanee Treerat**, MA’05, has been working since February 2008 at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Ubon Ratchathani University in Thailand, teaching applied linguistics courses to undergraduate and master’s degree students. She also has a pending research project on the perception of English stress by Thai adult EFL learners. Saowanee has been writing her PhD thesis on English intonation of apologies by Thai learners.

In July, **Chung-Lin Yang** presented a poster, “Production of American English /ei/ and /E/ by Mandarin speakers: Monosyllabic Words,” at the joint meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the European Acoustics Association in Paris, France. He is also continuing his

research on Chinese visual word recognition and moving toward the questions of how orthography influences Mandarin speech processing and what perceptual unit Mandarin speakers exploit in speech processing.

**Kenji Yoshida** was awarded the departmental travel grant (for 16th ICPHS 2008, Germany) in the fall 2007. He was selected by IU’s Office of the Vice President for International Affairs as the recipient of a summer 2008 Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant. Funded by this, Yoshida was able to go to Japan and meet several leading Japanese linguists/dialectologists, local officers and speakers of dialects. He managed to have a successful trip and get home in time to help his wife, Hagiko, with the birth of their first child. His paper titled “Phonetic Implementation of Korean ‘Denasalization’ and its Variation Related to Prosody” was published in vol. 8 of the *IULC Working Papers*. In July, at the 18th International Conference of Linguists (held in Korea), he presented “Statistical Anatomy of Acceptability,” which was a joint paper with Yoshihisa Kitagawa. Yoshida also published a paper titled “Parametrization of F0 contour characteristics using exponential function” in *Ronshu IV (Papers IV)*, edited by the Research Circle of Japanese Accent History, at Waseda University School of Letters.

## Congratulations!



### PhDs awarded in 2008

- **Tristan Michael Purvis**, “A Linguistic and Discursive Analysis of Register Variation in Dagbani (Samuel Obeng)
- **Gladys Rose Wilkerson**, “Talkin’ Country: African-American English of Black Women in the Mississippi Delta (Stuart Davis)
- **Eric Nathanael Oglesbee**, “Multidimensional Stop Categorization in English, Spanish, Korean, Japanese, and Canadian French” (Kenneth DeJong)
- **Ashley Wilson Farris-Trimble**, “Cumulative Faithfulness Effects in Phonology” (Daniel Dinnsen)
- **Toshikazu Ikuta**, “fMRI Study of Grammar, Parkinson’s Disease and Dopaminergic Medication” (Steven Franks, Laura Murray)
- **Han-Yong Park**, “Phonological Information and Linguistic Experience in Foreign Accent Detection” (Kenneth DeJong)

### MAs awarded

- (October 2007-September 2008): **Amanda Black, Christopher Green, Amber Dawe, Chisato Kojima**

### BAs awarded

- **Althea Bauernschmidt, Deanna Cummings, Leah Fey, Dustin Jefford, Stephanie Louraine, Josiah Newmaster, Abigail Scott, Erin Stevenson, Katharine Strack, Melissa Troyer**

## Meet the new graduate students

**Aaron Albin** is from Omaha, Nebraska. He did his undergraduate work at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He majored in English with a concentration in writing and linguistics and a certificate in TESOL, and he completed a second major in Spanish. He is passionate about Japanese, a language that he has been studying for the last decade. This semester Albin is teaching Japanese as an associate instructor in East Asian Languages and Cultures. He has a research interest in the phonology of lexical pitch accent in Japanese. In addition, he has been working on a project that involves tracing the historical semantic change in Sino-Japanese morphemes. He is excited to be part of a thriving linguistics community.

**Fabienne Diouf** is from Senegal. She completed her bachelor degree at Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar. She is a fan of movies and music. She is interested in anything that is related to language, especially sociolinguistics and political discourse.

**Dustin Jefford**, BA'08, is starting the MA program in computational linguistics, having completed his BA from the linguistics department here at IU. Jefford is a southern Indiana native and enjoys music and sports.

**Elizabeth Johnson** received her BA in linguistics from Yale University, and spent three very different summers during that time: working in a speech lab at MIT, working on Icelandic phonology and phonet-

ics in Reykjavik, and waiting tables in her hometown of Clarion, Pa. After graduation, she spent a year as a research assistant in Harvard's Lab for Developmental Studies, working on child acquisition of prosody. In IU's PhD program, she hopes to study phonology, phonetics, and psycholinguistics, and will be splitting her time between the linguistics department and the Speech Research Lab.

**Christiane Kaden** is a new PhD student in the Linguistics Department, having just added linguistics as a second major, and is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Germanic Studies. Her main research area is phonology. She is also an associate instructor at the Germanic Department, teaching German. She is from Leipzig, Germany, and received her MA in Linguistics from the University of Leipzig in 2003. She is co-founder of the German Student Group at IU, and enjoys reading and listening to all kinds of music, travelling, and playing saxophone.

**Scott Ledbetter** is from Charlotte, N.C. He received a BS in computer science from Clemson University with a minor in French. He is now in the computational linguistics MA program. In addition to computational linguistics, Ledbetter is interested in second language acquisition and morphology. Outside of academics, he enjoys swimming and playing tennis.

**Tony Meyer** is a new student in the MA computational linguistics program. He received his BA from Ohio State, where he majored in linguistics and minored in Hebrew. He is from a small town called Leipsic, which is located in northwest Ohio about an

hour south of Toledo. Outside of class, he is interested in painting, drawing, and graphic art and design.

**Seong Eun Park** is beginning the MA program. She is from Ewha Women's University, in Seoul, Korea where she completed her master's degree. Her thesis there was about formal pragmatics, more precisely, presupposition projection and accommodation. She is very happy and very excited that now she will be studying some things that she didn't have any chance to study in Korea.

**Wil Rankinen** is a new student in the MA linguistics program at IU. His interests are in sociolinguistics, phonetics and phonology, and Finno-Uralic studies. He graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in 2008. He hails from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and his current research goals are centered on studying the phonetic vowel system of Michigan's Marquette County.

**Amber Smith** received her BA in English from Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan, where she spent the last two years teaching in an intensive English program. She is interested in all areas of linguistics. In her spare time, she enjoys camping and writing fiction.

**Terrin Tamati**, from Salem, Ohio, is a new PhD student in linguistics. Tamati did her undergraduate work at The Ohio State University, where she received a BA in linguistics and a BA in Portuguese with a minor in international studies. Her research interests include phonetics, psycholinguistics, and Romance linguistics. She enjoys traveling, playing sports, and cooking.

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## Computational linguistics takes on new projects

The Computational Linguistics Group has been quite active, as evidenced by a number of projects overseen by professors **Sandra Kuebler** and **Markus Dickinson** and the expansion of computational resources in the department. First, Kuebler, Dickinson, and **Ken de Jong** were awarded a subcontract in the project "The Infra Ware Dictation Engine," a project for the company Infra Ware from Terre Haute, Ind., funded by the Indiana 21st Century Fund.

This project seeks to improve automatic speech recognition for medical transcriptionists, and over summer 2008, it funded graduate students **Charese Smiley**, **Ross Israel**, and **Kirsten Todt** and undergraduates **Rachael Cantrell** and **Chris Riley**. Smiley, Israel, and Cantrell continue to be funded this fall.

Secondly, as part of a grant awarded to the Slavic Department, the US-Russia Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education grant, Professor Dickinson and student

**Joshua Herring** have begun development of intelligent computer-assisted language learning (ICALL) resources for Russian. Recently, undergraduate **Chris Riley** joined them to develop Web interfaces.

Thirdly, Kuebler was awarded a subcontract in the European project Theseus-Texo. She will fund three graduate students, **Traci Nagle**, **Jason Quinley**, and **Andrew Shimunek** for hourly work on annotating sentiment in blog data. She also co-organized three workshops in cooperation with three major conferences in computational linguistics: the LREC workshop on "Partial Parsing 2008: Between Chunking and Deep Parsing"; the COLING workshop on "Cross-Framework and Cross-Domain Parser Evaluation"; and the ACL workshop on "Parsing German."

Growing numbers of CL students have been active in their endeavors. Herring presented two papers with Dickinson, "Russian Morphological Processing for ICALL"

at the Midwest Computational Linguistics Colloquium (MCLC) and "Developing Online ICALL Exercises for Russian" at the ACL Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications. And at the Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC) conference in Marrakech, Morocco, **Steliana Ivanova** had a paper with Kuebler on "POS Tagging for German: How Important is the Right Context?" and **Charles Jochim** had a paper with Dickinson on "A Simple Method for Tagset Comparison." Additionally, Emad Mohamed had a paper with Kuebler on "Memory-based Vocalization of Arabic" at the Workshop on HLT and NLP within the Arabic World, which was co-located with LREC.

The computational linguistics group has also expanded its resources by acquiring four new iMac computers in the phonetics/computational linguistics lab, and a new, third server.

# Alumni Notebook

**Robert J. Cirillo**, BA'71, MA/MBA'75, is pursuing a PhD in linguistics at the University of Amsterdam. Previously, he worked for Legato Systems in Amsterdam. A classical guitarist in his spare time, Cirillo lives in Amsterdam.

**Michael L. McCafferty**, BA'71, MA'85, is an Algonquian and Uto-Aztecan linguist who teaches in the department of Second Language Studies at IU Bloomington.

His book, *Native American Place-Names of Indiana*, a detailed linguistic history of cities, counties, lakes, and other Indiana place names, has been published by the University of Illinois Press. McCafferty lives in Unionville, Ind.

In 2004, **Lisa M. Adeli**, MA'83, completed her doctorate degree in history at the University of Arizona. Adeli, who earned two master's degrees from IU Bloomington in a single year, lives in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

**John A. Erikson**, MA'89, PhD'01, is managing editor of the journal *Anthropological Linguistics*, published by the IU Bloomington anthropology department. He lives in Bloomington.

Leslie W. Schickel, JD'07, is an associate attorney for the law firm Feiwell & Hanon in Indianapolis, where she focuses her practice on creditors rights. She and her husband, **Nathan**, BA'95, live in Indianapolis.

**Amber L. Gallup**, BA'96, MA'98, is director of Essential Language, which provides vocational Spanish and ESL training for labor unions across the country.

She can be contacted through the Web site [www.essentiallanguage.com](http://www.essentiallanguage.com). Gallup lives in Washington, D.C.

**Elizabeth Carter Grissom**, MA'95, is an assessment specialist at Educational Testing Service in Princeton, N.J. She and her husband, Erik, have two children, Amelia, 3, and Clara, who was born Nov. 24, 2006. They live in Ewing.

**Rose Wilkerson**, MA'98, PhD '08, is a visiting lecturer in the Department of Linguistics at University of California, Berkeley. She lives in Richmond, Calif.

**Tristan Purvis**, MA'02, PhD'08, is now an assistant research scientist at the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study of Language (Less Commonly Taught Languages and Cultures Division) where he works on African languages and linguistics.

**Ashley Farris-Trimble**, MA'05, PhD'08, has taken a postdoctoral research position in the Department of Otolaryngology, Head, and Neck Surgery at the University of Iowa.

**Toshikazu Ikuta**, MA'05, PhD'08 is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research in Glen Oaks, N.Y.

**Eric Oglesbee**, MA'05, PhD'08 has accepted an assistant professor position at Bethel College in Mishawaka, Ind., where he will be teaching linguistics courses.

**Han-Yong Park**, MA'05, PhD'08, is now on an NIH postdoctoral training fellowship in the Speech Research Laboratory at Indiana University.

## Birth announcements

• **Saowanee Treerat**, MA'05, and her husband just recently welcomed their new baby boy, Sean Tristan Alexander, born on August 27, 2008.

• Student **Kenji Yoshida** and his wife, Hagiko, welcomed a baby girl on Sept. 18. Kaede Luiza Yoshida ('kaede' meaning 'maple') weighed 6 pounds and is the first addition to Kenji's family. Congratulations to both families!

## Many thanks extended to donors

*The Department of Linguistics wishes to express its gratitude to these generous donors.*



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Markus Dickinson  
Steven Franks  
Michael Marlo  
Robert Port

## 2008 department awards & honors

### • Trustees Teaching

**Award:** Julie Auger

### • Householder Paper

**Award** for best paper written in a graduate linguistics course: Nick Henriksen for "Unexpected Hiatus and Base-Identity in the Spanish Verbal Paradigm"

### • Graduate Student

**Conference Fund:** Chris

Green for presentation at Annual Conference on African Linguistics and Yen-Chen Hao for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

### • Outstanding Undergraduate

**Achievement Award:** Melissa Troyer, who is now doing graduate work in the Brain



*From left to right: Stuart Davis, Ken de Jong, Rose Wilkerson, Sandra Kuebler, and Julie Auger at the awards ceremony.*

and Cognitive Science department at MIT; and Abigail Scott, who is now doing graduate work in the linguistics department at University of British Columbia.

• **Outstanding Senior Award:** Melissa Troyer

# Meet the grads

(continued from page 8)

**Jonathan Washington** did his undergraduate work in linguistics at Brandeis University and master's work at the University of Washington in Seattle. He spent 2007-08 on a Fulbright fellowship in Kyrgyzstan conducting a phonetic and phonological survey of Kyrgyz dialects. His research interests include phonological theory, phonetics, comparative and historical linguistics, Turkic languages (mostly Kazakh and Kyrgyz), especially where these subjects overlap.

**Ksenia Zanon** is a first-year graduate student in the Linguistics and Slavic Languages departments. A native Russian speaker from the Urals, Zanon will work on comparative Slavic syntax with an eye toward an academic career. When not navigating Kafkaesque immigration bureaucracy, Zanon lavishes her increasingly scarce free time on literature, travel, and affordable wine.



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