Welcome

Welcome to the Linguistics Department’s Fall, 2017, Newsletter. In it, you will find some of the bits and pieces of the busy world of linguistics at Indiana University. The department has been going strong for over 50 years, and is still an active place of learning and research into all aspects of language, languages, and how they are situated in the world. It has been home for many, great individuals with all kinds of accomplishments and skills, and the Newsletter is one place we can reflect on some of them. In addition, the Newsletter will give you a picture of the current events and work going on by faculty and students, both graduate and undergraduate. Both programs encompass very active communities, connecting people from many backgrounds and interests. The graduate program remains one of the largest in the country, and the undergraduate program is home to many promising young scholars who will go out and make a positive mark on the world. We also note the kind generosity of many alumni and faculty over the years who have made IU linguistics what it is, and are helping to make it better.

Dr. Ken de Jong (Chair)

Alumni Weekend

The department gathered together with returning alumni for the annual alumni weekend on the evening of the 6th of October. As has become traditional at these gatherings, there was an opportunity to recognize some of the many accomplished alumni of the department. This year, the department decided to focus on two such alumni who have graduated from the department within the last 10 years, one a graduate of our Ph.D. program, Volya Kapatsinski, and the other a graduate of our B.A. program, Kate Scherschel. You can learn more about these individuals elsewhere in this newsletter. These gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, or, sometimes, connect with some of the many talented people who have studied and worked within the context of our programs. The evening was capped off with wonderful work of Jan Aldridge Clark, jazz harpist. She filled the venue with her unique application of the harp to a variety of music.

We followed up with our typical get-together for breakfast at the Runcible Spoon, which has also become a tradition of the weekend, and the gathered again the next afternoon for an informal research seminar involving the graduate and undergraduate students in the department. Kelly Kasper-Cushman presented her work arising from our field methods class on the syntax of KiHehe, a Bantu language of Tanzania, and this was followed by a poster session with five different research projects, ranging from work trying to figure out how parse Chinese text to using ultrasound technology to study the vowel system of Kwa languages.

Dr. Ken de Jong (Chair)
A simple morphological parsing exercise he did in third grade was what first sparked an interest in language for Vsevolod Kapatsinski, who spent his early childhood in Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia. The exercise involved identifying different morphemes in common vocabulary items, and the particular word that fascinated him was obuv’ ‘shoes.’ “I remember being amazed that the root of this familiar word is just -u-, as one can verify by the word razul ‘took shoes off (somebody),’” he recalls. This was how a passion for language all began for Kapatsinski, who is now an associate professor of linguistics at the University of Oregon.

With both his mother and grandmother being linguists, Kapatsinski was aware of the possibility of pursuing a career in linguistics from a young age. However, it was not deemed a proper vocation for men by his grandfather, an applied physicist. Kapatsinski therefore went to a school with a specialization in mathematics and physics instead of languages. Yet, this did not discourage him from exploring his interest in language. He started to participate in the Russian Language Olympiad, and to help prepare for the nationals, his regional team received lessons from local university faculty on historical linguistics. The experience further reinforced his interest in the field, leading to his aspirations of becoming a professional linguist.

Kapatsinski moved to the U.S. with his grandfather as a teenager. Before coming to IU, he completed a year of high school in Ithaca, New York, attended college at Simon’s Rock in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, as well as the University of New Mexico, from which he also obtained his master’s degree. One of the main reasons he decided to pursue his doctorate at IU was for the considerable amount of interdisciplinary interaction happening here. While working toward his joint degree in linguistics and cognitive science, he also spent a lot of time doing research at the Speech Research Laboratory (SRL) in the psychology department. IU provided just the kind of collaborative environment he needed for his own research program, which he describes as “seek[ing] to explain recurrent patterns in language change with domain-general cognitive mechanisms.”

In discussing how his training at IU influenced his career, he credits Ken de Jong and David Pisoni (as well as his colleagues at the SRL) for equipping him with a solid foundation in experimental methodologies. He also thanks John Kruschke for making statistics accessible and interesting and for exposing him to the new Bayesian approaches to data analysis. He then commends the excellent research environment fostered at the university, citing different research conducted at IU which continues to influence his own work.

Kapatsinski remembers Bloomington and the surrounding area fondly. He reminisces about the Runcible Spoon and the evenings he spent studying in its cozy setting. “I really miss it,” he says. He also enjoyed mushroom hunting in the Hoosier National Forest and swimming in the lake.

Finally, when asked to give some advice for current linguistics majors, Kapatsinski had plenty to share. For graduate students, he believes it is important to read broadly and have conversations with people from a wide range of disciplines and sub-disciplines, linguists and non-linguists alike. “You can connect the work you are doing to the concerns and interests of others, and possibly raid their methodological arsenals,” he explains. With respect to securing a good job, he thinks having a publication, especially in a prestigious journal, is crucial. Reflecting on his personal experience, he notes the fact that he already had an article in Language played a big part in helping him get a job straight out of graduation. He warns, though, that the review process can be long-drawn (the aforementioned article took two years, and another one of his took four), so it is always best to start trying early. For undergraduates considering graduate school in linguistics, he suggests finding a faculty mentor who shares similar research interests as a gateway to get into research early. That way, he says, “you get a feel for what it is like to be a working linguist, and you get research experience under your belt.”
Kate Scherschel could have been earning her living by asking people for money... and correlating their politeness strategies to the amount requested (as she remembers from an undergraduate sociolinguistics course project at IU). She could have also put her superb Spanish farm vocabulary to use in developing organic farms in Argentina. Instead, she went on to work on human rights and became a lawyer. I guess that’s what you do with a law degree from Stanford. But we are particularly proud that her journey began here at IU.

Kate always knew she wanted to go to law school. This gave her a unique opportunity to major in anything she liked as an undergraduate. And she really liked linguistics. It all began with junk mail and a trip to Barnes and Noble: a random course catalogue listing History of Language and McWhorter’s book The Power of Babel. This led Kate to enroll in an introductory linguistics course at IU, then another linguistics course, and then another. Coincidence, you say?.. I don’t think so.

Kate fondly remembers Prof. Steve Franks’s honors course on Language and Thought and her independent project on politeness and gender in her sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta, with Prof. Clancy Clements. Her 3-year research assistantship in Prof. Pisoni’s psycholinguistic lab also contributed to her development of valuable skills that she now actively uses as a lawyer.

“Thinking like a linguist is [...] thinking like a lawyer,” says Kate. She mentions skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, intercultural communication, and looking at language scientifically. Having been practicing corporate law for 3 years now, Kate has worked with multiple contracts that require “parsing” and interpreting legal texts and avoiding syntactic ambiguity in writing up new client contracts. The best part about her job, according to Kate, is that she gets to learn something new every day and to work with “smart, dedicated, exceptional people” who also find linguistics fascinating once they get an impromptu lesson from her.

During our Skype interview, one recurring theme that kept penetrating Kate’s stories is helping people. To her, a lawyer offers skills and ways to help people that truly need help. That goal is a powerful drive that would explain her multiple majors and minors as an undergraduate at IU: she was a double-major in linguistics and international studies with minors in biology and Spanish. Her multiple volunteer activities at IU (e.g. IU Friends of Hoosier Food Bank), further work on human rights at Stanford (e.g. international human rights and immigration clinics), and pro-bono work at her current firm speak to the same ideals.

The Department of Linguistics was fortunate to welcome Kate back to Bloomington during her favorite fall season for the annual Alumni Weekend on October 6-7, 2017. She shared the great memories she has about her time here with particular appreciation for the friendly atmosphere of the department. Her message to the current linguistics majors is to really enjoy and take advantage of our close-knit and supportive department where all professors are genuinely interested in helping students thrive. And we, as a department, particularly appreciate Kate’s closing remark and a reminder that “a linguistics degree is a good foundation for a thoughtful life.”

Thanks, Kate, and best of luck in your quest to make this world a better place!
Focus on Faculty:
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR MALGOSIA CAVAR
by Kenneth Steinem

“I teaching is always necessary for good research because you get inspired and confronted with questions that you think you know the answers to but, when you try to answer them in a simple way, the answer is incomplete or you find that you have to look at another aspect.”

I met Dr. Malgorzata Ćavar at her office at the LINGUIST List House on a sunny autumn day. Dr. Ćavar is a professor of Phonology and one of two standing moderators of the LINGUIST List. Her experience as a linguist and as a person resonated with me and hopefully will with you as well.

Dr. Ćavar is originally from Poland. She recalls that when she began her education “I didn’t know that there was such a thing [Linguistics]. I was interested in grammars.” Irregularities she encountered along the way intrigued Dr. Ćavar. For example, some forms in Polish like ‘na rękę’, which do not look either singular or plural captivated her. “It is a remnant of an ancient dual that used to be there in Polish until the early Middle Ages and then disappeared”, she explains. “Certain forms, for the nouns that usually appeared in pairs, these forms were preserved.” However, linguistics was not the sole object of fascination for Malgorzata: physical anthropology and paleoanthropology were also interests during her studies. “I wanted to be Bones”, she said with a laugh.

I asked Dr. Ćavar what convinced her to pursue linguistics and phonology in particular and her response centered around the positive influence of her professor: Dr. Jerzy Rubach. “I studied English Philology (for my masters), which had minors and majors, but these weren’t really official. I was concentrating on Linguistics and I liked it”. Her interest in Phonology arose because of the passion that Professor Rubach displayed for this subfield of Linguistics. “He was, and probably still is, an amazing teacher.” She recalls fondly that, “He would come to class and say ‘here, this is a dataset. What’s going on here?’ and this was a game to us, an intellectual challenge”. “I wish I could be such a teacher.”

Ćavar is truly passionate about education. As I talked with her about her research interests and her courses, she lit up. “I like teaching very much because of the interaction with students”. She enjoys teaching for the incredible difference it can make in someone’s life. “If you want to be relevant and useful and really do something good, being a teacher is a great way”. She also reflected upon how teaching actually makes better research. “You think that you know the topic but when you have to explain it to somebody, you realize that there are certain aspects that you don’t understand in detail.”

Ćavar sums her research up eloquently: everything began at palatalization. However, like a thread in a sweater, this concentrated topic was woven into a network of other topics. She described the role of typology in relation to palatalization, stating that palatalization was actually a broad term for phenomenon that involves different processes cross-linguistically. “People try to give one measure to all these processes. [However,] there are many factors involved”. One language may exhibit palatalization triggered by one factor while another may be subject to a different factor. A third could be mitigated by some combination of the two. Palatalization “led me to the phonology of sibilants in different languages... it led me to the subdisciplines of Linguistics which show the state where the phonological system is being formed or transitioning (like language acquisition and language change) so that you see these cognitive processes at work.”

Clearly, Dr. Ćavar is a dedicated teacher and researcher. What about outside of the office? “What I really love is cooking. I have a huge collection of cookbooks.” She says she cooks all different varieties of food. “I think I can imagine the tastes from the description of foods. I have a huge collection of cookbooks but I seldom cook according to the recipes. I always have some substitutions (for the better)”. Professor Ćavar is a driven researcher, a dedicated teacher and an efficient moderator at the LINGUIST List. She’s also solid conversation. If you run into her at the house on North Bryan or in Ballantine hall, say hello. Maybe she’ll part with a recipe or two.
Visiting Assistant Professor

We are welcoming a new, visiting faculty into the department this fall. **Emad Mohamed** is not entirely an unfamiliar face to the department, having finished his Ph.D. work in our computational program in 2010. Since this time, he’s gathered extensive expertise in numerous projects in computational applications such as computational morphology, machine translation and text mining. He comes to us from Montreal with his first-grader son, Issa Mohamed, and his wife, Bakinaz Abdalla, who is a PhD Candidate in Jewish Studies at McGill University and a visiting scholar in the Jewish Studies program here at IU. They have been living in Canada, where Emad has been pursuing a variety of research programs in conjunction with the Université du Québec à Montréal, where he focused on applying techniques and approaches from computational linguistics to a broad range of questions in language, history, and culture. He also worked in research with Nuance Communications. He brings a keen interest in using CL tools far beyond the edges of what is typically examined in the core of the linguistic disciplines.

We are very happy to have his help with the very vibrant computational programs in the department. He is taking up the teaching responsibilities from Markus Dickinson, who is currently on leave to pursue various venues outside of academia. We will have more on the outcome of this in a future newsletter.

*Dr. Ken de Jong (Chair)*

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**FACULTY EVENTS**

**Julie Auger** was made an honorary member of the **Picardisants du Ponthieu et du Vimeu**. She and her work were featured in several newspaper articles.

**Photo caption:** The active members of Picardisants du Vimeu celebrated this weekend, in NiBas, 50 years of their association.

**Sandra Kuebler** was deservedly promoted to full professor. In July, 2017, she taught an invited course “Introduction to Computational Linguistics” at the LSA Summer Institute at the University of Kentucky, Lexington (July 5-August 1, 2017). Additionally, she became section co-editor for Language and Linguistic Compass. Her students continue doing amazing things (see Graduate Student News & Research).

**Yoshihisa Kitagawa** co-organized a satellite workshop entitled “Interfaces in Altaic — Prosody and beyond” in Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL) 13 held in Tokyo, Japan in May 2017. The workshop featured four presentations on Japanese, Korean and Turkish followed by a panel discussion led by four experts on phonetics/phonology, syntax, semantics/pragmatics and psycholinguistics, respectively. One of the presentations was made by IU graduate Prof. Junghyoe Yoon from Korea University together with Kitagawa.

**WAFL 13**

The 13th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics

(continued on page 6)
The Linguistics Club at Indiana University is currently celebrating its 50th anniversary. This year the board members have been working hard to prepare usable space for our graduate students and create a stronger community within and among IU’s linguistics-related departments. Be on the lookout for upcoming events such as our Weatherly Hall open house, monthly [filing] events (First Fridays in Linguistics), and Spring Graduate Student Conference. To kick-start the use of our new space in Weatherly, during our open house individuals will be able to reserve locker space and take home books from our library. We look forward to working with and for our students to create a strong academic and social community.
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**
- Robert Botne
- Stuart Davis
- Markus Dickinson
- Thomas Grano
- Brian Jose

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- Lisa LoVallo
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**Daniel A. Dinnsen Excellence-in-Teaching Fund**
- Jennifer Crittenden
- Cynthia Clopper

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3rd Fall Colloquia: Phonological Change & Adaptation

A Linguistics Coordinating Committee was formed about five years ago, comprising representatives from each department that teaches linguistics-related courses. Its original goal was to work out course scheduling conflicts for graduate students. Since then, it has broadened its agenda. One major endeavor has been a fall series of colloquia centered on a general theme. The first series of lectures took place in Fall 2015, focusing on issues in semantics, the second (Fall 2016) on (social) variation and change. This fall the theme is phonological change and adaptation.

Three speakers accepted invitations to come speak: **Ricardo Bermúdez-Otero** (University of Manchester, England), **Joe Pater** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), and **Yen-Hwei Lin** (Michigan State University).

In the two weeks leading up to a lecture, two reading/discussion groups meet for interested faculty and students to discuss articles relevant to the upcoming lecture. An introductory lecture at the beginning of the semester by Professor Stuart Davis opened the series by discussing some of the current issues in phonological change. A closing lecture by Professor Kelly Berkson will summarize and bring together the ideas presented by our guest lecturers.

Dr. Robert Botne
Duaa Abu Elhija Mahajna was invited to give a talk about “Hebrew Loanwords in the Palestinian Israeli Variety of Arabic” in University of Bar Ilan, Tel Aviv University, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and University of Ben Gurion.


Victor also received the African Student Research Award from the African Studies Program, IU, to do field research in Nigeria in Summer of 2017.

Wafi Alshammari co-authored and presented “Diminutive and Augmentative Formation in Northern Najdi Arabic” with Dr. Davis at the Annual Symposium on Arabic Linguistics (Mar., 2017). His second co-authored work with Dr. Clements, “Verb Form Selection in Two Restructured Varieties,” was presented by Dr. Clements at the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics Conference (June, 2017).

Silvina Bongiovanni was awarded the COAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship and a recognition as an outstanding instructor with distinction from the Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese. Her co-authored paper entitled “Context of Learning and Second Language Development of Spanish Vowels” (with Avizia Long and Megan Solon) has been accepted to Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics. Silvina is a co-editor of The Proceedings of the 48th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (with Dr. Obeng, Dr. Botne, Samson Lotven, and Phillip Weirich). She has also co-presented “The PIN/PEN merger and the time-course of nasality” with Phillip Weirich at MidPhon (Sept., 2017) and co-taught a Praat scripting workshop at IU in Spring 2017 (with Dr. Berkson, Dr. Scrivner, and Phillip Weirich).

Daniel Dakota has worked as visiting research scientist in Paris, France, at L’université Paris Diderot (Oct. 2016-Jan. 2017) as a winner of STEM Chateubriand Fellowship and Labex EFL Mobility Grant. All the while working on his thesis, Daniel has since worked at the Institut für Deutsche Sprache in Mannheim, Germany, and at Comtravo in Berlin, Germany.

He co-authored the following papers: “Towards Replicability in Parsing” (with Sandra Kübler), “Non-Deterministic Segmentation for Chinese Lattice Parsing” (with Hai Hu and Sandra Kübler) – presented at Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (Sept., 2017); “IDS IUCL: Investigating Feature Selection and Oversampling for GermEval2017” (with Zeeshan Ali Sayeed and Sandra Kübler) – presented at GermEval (Sept., 2017). Daniel and his co-authors won three of four tasks they presented in the GermEval competition. Finally, Daniel has published “The Devil is in the Details: Parsing Unknown German Words” in German Society for Computational Linguistics and Language Technology (Sept., 2017).


Valentyna Filimonova has presented portions of her dissertation research on the sociolinguistic variation in social deixis in Mexican Spanish at the Linguistics Symposium on Romance Languages (Apr., 2017) and LSA Summer Institute (July, 2017), both supported by departmental travel grants. She has co-authored two chapters with Dr. Manuel Diaz-Campos: “Sociolinguistic Variation” under review for The Handbook of Spanish Phonology and “Un enfoque sociolinguístico sobre la enseñanza de la variación y la diversidad lingüística” in press for The Routledge Handbook of Spanish Language Teaching. She was also invited to co-facilitate the CITL (continued on page 9)
Hai Hu has presented with Yiwen Zhang their poster and follow-up work on vowel raising in Chengdu dialect of Mandarin at the LSA Annual Conference (Jan., 2017) and then at the 29th North America Conference on Chinese Linguistics (June, 2017). His paper “Non-deterministic Segmentation for Chinese Lattice Parsing” (co-authored with Daniel Dakota and Sandra Kübler) was accepted to Recent Advances in NLP conference. He also worked with Yiwen Zhang and Charles Chien-Jer Lin on the poster “Processing Verbs with Ambiguous Complement Structures” which was accepted to East Asian Psycholinguistics: Recent Developments.

Kelly Kasper-Cushman co-presented “Do you speak Français: Incorporating U.S. French into the Curriculum” (with Laura Demsey and Renata Uzzell) at the Indiana Foreign Language Teacher Association conference (Nov., 2016) and the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages conference (Nov., 2016). She also presented “Variation in the Use of ça/c’ and il(s)/elle(s) in Parisian French” at the IU French & Italian GSO Conference (Mar., 2017), and presented “Universal Quantification in the Nominal Domain in Kihehe” at ACAL 48 (Apr., 2017).


Vitor Leongue presented a poster titled “Diachronic Change of Tibetan Coronal Codas: Phonetic and Phonological Motivations” at the 21st Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonetics and Phonology (Sept., 2016). He was also awarded a travel grant by the College of Arts and Sciences and the Linguistics Department to present a poster titled “On the Diachronic Change of Liquids in Onset Clusters and Codas across Tibetan varieties” at the 4th Workshop on Sound Change (Apr., 2017). Finally, he received the Grant-in-Aid of Doctoral Research from the University Graduate School and the Dissertation Research Fellowship from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences.

Samson Lotven presented co-authored work “Ultrasound Imaging of [d], [ɖ], and [ɡb] in Gengbe” (with Dr. Kelly Berkson) and “Logophoricity and Coreference Constraints in Gengbe Attitude Reports” (with Tom Grano) at the 48th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (Apr., 2017). He took the position of Editor of IULC Working Papers and a spot on the Editorial Board of the ACAL 48 Proceedings. He was advanced to candidacy and his older daughter started Kindergarten.

Charese Smiley and a collaborator from Thomson Reuters won first prize in the Turing Tests in the Creative Arts for the sonnet created by their software system: And be very careful crossing the streets. How fair an entrance breaks the way to love! Left, doors leading into the apartments. Just then a light flashed from the cliff above.

The fields near the house were invisible. Objects of alarm were near and around. The window had only stuck a little. From the big apple tree down near the pond.

The large cabin was in total darkness. Come marching up the eastern hill afar. When is the clock on the stairs dangerous? Everything seemed so near and yet so far.

Behind the wall silence alone replied. Was, then, even the staircase occupied?

https://blogs.thomsonreuters.com/answerson/art-artificial-intelligence/


JC Wamsley presented his research on “Effects of the Loss of Prenasalization in Nyere” at MidPhon 22 (Sept., 2017).
I attended the 2017 Linguistic Institute, held in Lexington, Kentucky. Even though I am an advanced PhD student, I took some introductory courses as well as some advanced ones since it is always refreshing to go back to basics and be (re)fascinated by facts about languages. I took 4 courses, which were: Introduction to Syntax, Polysemy and Syntax, Movement in Minimalism, and Philosophy of Language.

As well as being a venue for providing advanced training in linguistics and scholarly exchanging of ideas and collaboration, the Linguistic Institute gave me an opportunity to meet with linguistics students and professors from diverse backgrounds and institutions, socialize with them through a number of activities and establish personal, academic and professional connections that could last for years. In that respect, with the diversity of the faculty and students, attending the Linguistic Institute went far beyond simply taking summer classes in a certain institution and contributed significantly to my academic and social development.

That the venue for the Linguistic Institute was Lexington also meant two things: horses and whiskey! On days when I was not familiarizing myself with Strong and Weak Crossover or other syntactic phenomena, I visited the Kentucky Horse Park with other fellow linguists and had an amazing time finding out about different horse breeds from many countries. I also enjoyed a Bourbon Distillery tour with other linguists, where we witnessed how the finest whiskies in the world are made. One thing I did not know about Kentucky was that the world's longest cave system, Mammoth Cave, is a 2-hour drive from Lexington. I also visited the Mammoth Cave and left the cave tour in awe and fascination.

All in all, attending the 2017 Linguistic Institute has clearly been one of the highlights of my life as a graduate student, both in terms of the linguistic training it provided and also thanks to the great linguists I met.

Chien-Han Hsiao  
PhD Student, Dept of Linguistics

I took four classes at the LSA Summer Institute—Psycholinguistics, Neurolinguistics, Eye-Tracking for Linguistic Research, and Psycholinguistic & Corpus Approach to Code-Switching. In Psycholinguistics, recent psycholinguistic research on speech perception, speech production, language acquisition, bilingualism, and syntax is introduced. I learned how the psychological methods can be used to provide evidence for or against linguistic models. Neurolinguistics provided an overview of the research methods that are frequently used in neurolinguistics and introduced how the methods are used in phonetic, phonology, morphology, and syntax studies. In Eye-Tracking for Linguistic Research, I learned about the method of eye-tracking and how a linguist can incorporate eye-tracking in their research. I specifically learned how to design a phonetic research that can reveal a listener's perception of certain acoustic information based on the listener's eye movements. I also learned how to build an eye-tracking experiment in OpenSesame, an experiment building program. Psycholinguistic & Corpus Approach to Code-Switching had a seminar-like structure. I became familiar with many research papers on code-switching through the assigned readings. I also led discussion on a paper about the speakers’ control for phonetic details in code-switching and a paper about the perception of code-switching.
Apart from the classes I registered for, I also audited some classes and went to many workshops and talks. Intonation and Social Identity was one of the classes I audited. I learned about English pitch accent in detail and also learned how to annotate English pitch accent in PRAAT. I also sat in Morphophonology and Experimental Approach to Verb Meaning occasionally to learn about these topics. The workshops and talks I participated in had a wide range of topics, including morphological typology, linguistics and cultural identity, sociolinguistics, Wikipedia editing for linguistic content, historical language change, human-animal communication, and so on. Overall, at the summer institute, I was able to learn about different approaches to phonetics and phonology and was also able to broaden my horizons and learn about other topics in linguistics.

Valentyina Filimonova
PhD Candidate, Depts of Linguistics and Spanish & Portuguese

This LSA Summer Institute came at a very strategic point of my academic and professional career, right after my dissertation proposal defense in Spring of 2017.

As a variationist sociolinguist working at the intersection of morphosyntax, pragmatics, and psycholinguistics, I found two of my classes particularly insightful for my dissertation: Joan Bybee’s Directionality in Language Change and Melinda Fricke’s Psycholinguistic Approaches to Code-Switching. Not only did I have the chance to soak in all of this new knowledge, I had the chance to share my own dissertation research in a weekend poster session and have insightful discussions with the attendees.

Life also seemed to be giving me a second chance at trying out Computational Linguistics with our very own Sandra Kuebler, as I seek to expand and diversify my linguistic training. The most life-changing experience, however, was the course on Language as Evidence: Forensic Linguistics with Rob Leonard and Tania Christensen. As I was discovering how my sociolinguistic and pragmatic training can be used for social justice, I made invaluable connections and an opportunity to help out with real cases even after the institute.

I could not have done it without the generous support of the Department of Linguistics and our donors. Thank you!
MEET THE NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Matthew Carter has received his BA in Linguistics and in Russian from Indiana University and is starting his MA here with a particular interest in documentation of endangered and understudied languages in collaboration with the CEUS and REEI programs.

Anamitraa Chakraborty, an incoming PhD student, is coming from West Bengal, India, where she received her BA and MA in Language and Literature from the Presidency University, Kolkata. She is passionate about the sociolinguistic impacts of globalization and language contact on displaced migrants and refugees on the one hand and on the communities that host them on the other hand.

Jeremy Coburn is entering the PhD in African Linguistics track. He has a BA in linguistics from Brigham Young University, Utah. His research interests include Bantu languages and language documentation, especially in East Africa. One path he is considering is doing sociolinguistic research on the interaction of Swahili and Arabic.

Everett Green, an incoming PhD student in Computational Linguistics, has an Associates degree in Computer Science (Diablo Valley College) and a BA in Psychology (California State University at Sacramento). He is interested in natural language processing and computational linguistics, with a potential goal of developing of technologies for learning.

Pyoung-Hwa (Peace) Han is an incoming MS student in Computational Linguistics. Originally from South Korea, Peace has received her BS in computation linguistics here at Indiana University. For her graduate career, she hopes to learn more about text mining to apply it to the study of code-switching in online settings, such as Twitter and other online forums.

Nils Hjortnaes is coming with BA in Computer Science and German from the University of Wisconsin Madison. He is pursuing an MA in Computational Linguistics with the goal of combining linguistics with machine learning. He is particularly interested in such challenges as applying bioinformatics to historical linguistics and translation.

Derek Legg, a new PhD student, comes with a BA in English (Westminster College, MO) and an MA in Linguistic Theory and Typology (University of Kentucky, Lexington). He is enthusiastic about combining field research with computational methods to model morphological and syntactic data of under-resourced languages in the quest of promoting language vitality and preventing language death.

Binyan Li is a new MS student in Computational Linguistics. Originally from China, he has a BA in History and Italian from the University of California, Los Angeles. His research interest is in empirical humanities, specifically in bridging the divide between cognitive sciences and humanities (e.g. storytelling and moral judgment) with the help of computational linguistics methods.

Leah Schaede, an incoming PhD student in Computational Linguistics, has received her BA in Linguistics from Miami University and an MA in Linguistic Theory and Typology from the University of Kentucky, Lexington. She is particularly interested in computer-mediated communication, grammar engineering, and natural language processing. Additionally, Leah is passionate about sociolinguistics and forensic linguistics.

Zuoyu Tian, a new PhD student in Computational Linguistics, is coming with a BA in Chinese Language and Literature (Beijing Language and Culture University) and an MA in Applied Linguistics (Beijing Foreign Studies University). His particular research interest includes sentiment analysis on China English news.

He Zhou is also in the PhD-Computational Linguistics track. He has a BA in Chinese from Ludong University and an MA in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics from the Beijing Normal University. His interests include machine translation and automatic syntactic correction of Chinese language learners through a combination of natural language processing and language teaching and learning.

Some of the incoming students took 2nd place in the LCIU’s students-vs-faculty Trivia night.

Photo credit: LCIU
Cynthia Clopper (PhD, 2004) was promoted to Full Professor of Linguistics at Ohio State University.

Scott Jarvis (PhD, 1997) was hired by the Linguistics Department at Ohio University in 1998, and worked there for 19 years, serving five of those years as department chair. This past summer, he accepted a new position as the chair of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Utah—a department with strong concentrations in phonology, syntax & semantics, and second language acquisition, and is also currently serving as the Executive Director of the Board of Directors for the journal Language Learning.

Edith Maxwell’s (PhD, 1981) final career - mystery author - continues on an upward trend. Her bestselling Country Story Mysteries series (written as Maddie Day), which were inspired by a fellow grad student’s purchase of the Story General Store, are set in a fictional town in Brown County. Biscuits and Slashed Browns releases in January, 2018. Maxwell’s popular Quaker Midwife Mysteries are set in a Massachusetts mill town in the late 1880s. The first book, Delivering the Truth, was nominated for a 2017 Agatha Award and Macavity Award, both for Best Historical Novel, and also won the IPPY Silver Medal for mystery, noir, and cozy. Called to Justice came out last April, and Turning the Tide will release in 2018. Mulch Ado about Murder, Maxwell’s fifth Local Foods Mystery, came out in May. Maxwell has placed short stories in competitive juried anthologies once or twice a year for some years now. The newest one, “Death by Divination,” (Mystery Most Geographical, Wildside Press 2018) is based on her experiences in southwest Burkina Faso almost twenty years ago. She would love to hear from former colleagues and other IU alumni via her web site at edithmaxwell.com and on Facebook and Twitter.

Ashley Farris-Trimble (MA 2005, PhD 2008) was awarded the Cormack Teaching Award for her work as Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University. She continues to research phonological processing and has upcoming papers in Cognition and Laboratory Phonology. Ashley and her husband Mike welcomed a daughter, Clementine, in December of 2016.

Robert Cirillo (MA, 1973) is sending greetings from Amsterdam, where he received his PhD in linguistics at the University of Amsterdam in 2009. He has spent the past year on a fascinating literary project. When he was a small child his father would tell him an exciting Italian folktale called The Seven Golden Apples. The story had been passed down in the family for at least four generations but had never been written down. Cirillo traveled to Italy to research the origins of the story and then decided to write it as a kind of novella. It has now been published as a color-illustrated, hardbound book. With the completion of that project Cirillo will be working on a couple of articles in Germanic linguistics.

Sarah Buchanan (BA, 2016) is currently living in Dublin, Ireland learning to communicate as Gaeilge with the locals. In her free time when she’s not drinking pints of Guinness or jamming at the local sessions, she’s backpacking around the Continent and doing her best to explain American politics to Europeans. After only six months, accent assimilation has set in and she already knows it will be difficult reintroducing word-initial theta and do-support into her phonemic inventory and syntax. She wishes everyone in the IU linguistics department the best and hopes they are having a fantastic semester—or as they say in Ireland, “hope yous are havin’ a whale of a time.”

Juliet Stanton (BA, 2012) graduated this summer from MIT with a Ph.D. in Linguistics, and is now Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics at NYU. Her research focuses mainly on what generalizations from phonological typology reveal about the structure of the phonological grammar.
In Memoriam

Dr. Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson, Professor of Linguistics at the University of British Columbia, passed away May 30, 2017. Eric is a fixture in many different venues connected to speech modeling and dynamics, and has been bright personality who enlivened both our research and our lives. Eric received his B.A. at St. John’s College in Annapolis, and then worked in Anthropology at the Anthropology Film Center in Santa Fe, N.M.; thus, finding his way into linguistics at Indiana University. During the course of pursuing his Ph.D., he moved to the East coast and began his foray into speech production dynamics at Haskins Laboratories, eventually completing his degree in 1987 with Bob Port. After the degree, he continued at Haskins as a research associate, and then moved to Japan, taking advantage of the rapid development the speech research group at ATR, where he became particularly noteworthy for research with animated heads. From there, he moved to Vancouver to begin his long tenure at UBC in 2003. Eric’s work was particularly attention grabbing in his love of seeing how the whole person is involved in speaking. For example, some of his recent work involved gathering recordings of speech by means of a pressure plate that the participant would stand on, thereby showing that while we speak with our lips and tongue and jaw, and sometimes with our hands and eyebrows as well, we also speak with our legs and feet. Eric always took the broad view, and his perspective will be missed.

By Dr. Ken de Jong,
Chair, Linguistics
& Dr. Robert Port,
Professor Emeritus, Linguistics

Dr. Jacob (“Jake”) Caflisch, III (December 7, 1938 – June 25, 2017), Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Linguistics and Slavic Studies, age 78, passed away on Sunday, June 25, 2017. From his birth on December 7, 1938, in Union City, PA, to his death on Sunday, he touched all around him. Indeed, Jake was born a teacher, which ran in his family. His love for the Humanities was seen in his membership in the FL West Coast Symphony, where he played three instruments: oboe, clarinet (second chair), and English horn. He continued his love for the Humanities at Duke University where he was a medical illustrator. After Duke, he returned to where he was raised, Sarasota, FL, to attend Manatee Junior College. There, he met Sophia (his wife of 53 years). His love for languages developed, and he transferred to Florida Southern University, majored in English and minored in religion. He continued his education at Indiana University, earning his Ph.D. in Linguistics. From there, he taught English at Edinboro University, PA, then moved to FL where he taught at the University of South Florida. He was, in fact, one of the founding members of the Linguistics department. Although his specialty of over 38 years was Slavic linguistics, he taught numerous courses, even learning Mandarin. He also attended Middlebury Language Institute for Russian in Putney, VT. In all, he was fluent in ten languages and was a published scholar of countless articles and one book, Issues in Russian Linguistics.

Redacted from a notice in the Herald Tribune from July 5 to July 6, 2017
DEGREES AWARDED IN 2016-2017

B.A.s awarded: Julia Bogan, Matthew Carter, Sarah Chappelow, Daniel Hamman, Lydia Lahey, Blake Patteson, William Shankman, Iann Singer, Zachary Wampler, Shohei Yamazaki

With distinction: Mia Aharon, Crystal Leming, Alyssa Strickler

With high distinction: Chelsea Bonhotal, Trevor Fitzhugh, Kristina Mahajlovic

With highest distinction: Katherine Blake, Tori Collins, Abigail Elston, Catherine Warmuth, Laura Zweig

M.A.s awarded in General Linguistics: Colette Feehan, Amanda Foster, Meaghan Gallegos, Je Young Park, Morgan Smith

M.S.s awarded in Computational Linguistics: Noor Abo-Mokh, Sarah Shenk

Ph.D.s awarded:

Basem Al-Raba’a “Reflexivity and Reciprocity in Arabic”

Joshua Herring “Grammar Construction in the Minimalist Program”

Sara Sowers-Wills “Schema Theory as Support for Templatic Analysis in a Dynamic Systems Approach to Early Phonological Development”

FUNDING AWARDS

Student Support Fund Awards:

Colette Feehan, $1100
Valentyna Filimonova, $1100
Yilmaz Koylu, $1100

to support their attendance at the 2017 LSA Institute

Fred W. Householder Memorial Student Research Fund:

Yu-Jung Lin, $240
Yiwan Zhang, $500 in support of Verb Information in Filler-gap Dependencies

Misato Hiraga, $400 in support of Building a Learner Corpus of Japanese with Particle Error Annotation

Young Hwang, $500 in support of Diachronic Sound Changes in North Kyungsang Korean

David Tezil, $500 in support of Sociolinguistic Variation in the Postposed Determiner La in Haitian Creole

College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award:

Daniel Dakota, for presentation of “Brown Cluster in Unlexicalized Parsing” at KONVENS in Bochum, Germany

Hai Hu and Yiwan Zhang, $300, for presentation of “Vowel Raising in Chengdu Dialect of Mandarin” at the Linguistic Society of America

Student Conference Travel Fund:

Young Hwang, $200, for presentation of “Pitch-pattern Diffusion of Generational Tone Change in North Kyungsang Korean English Loanwords” at the 4th International Workshop on Sound Change.

Vitor Leongue, $200, for presentation of “On the Diachronic Change of Liquids in Onset Clusters and Codas across Tibetan Varieties” at the 4th International Workshop on Sound Change.

Hai Hu, $200, for presentation of the “Path of Vowel Raising in Chengdu Dialect of Mandarin”, at the 29th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics

Valentyna Filimonova, $250, for presentation of “Polite Leismo in Mexican Spanish: Sociopragmatic Variation in Processing” at the Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages

University Graduate School Grant-in-Aid of Doctoral Research Award:

Silvina Bongiovanni, in support of “Production and Perception of Vowel Nasality in Two Dialects of Spanish”

TEACHING AWARDS

Faculty

Trustees Teaching Awards: Kelly Harper Berkson

Student

Daniel A. Dinnsen AI Excellence-in-teaching Award:
Chien-Han Hsiao, Sara Sowers-Wills

(continued on page 16)
Honors & Awards (continued)

HONORS

Undergraduate

Outstanding Senior Award: Tori Collins

Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Award: Tori Collins, Abigail Elston, Trevor Fitzhugh, Catherine Warmuth, Laura Zweig

Phi Beta Kappa: Katherine Blake, Victoria Collins, Abigail Elston, Trevor Fitzhugh, Kristina Mihajlovic, Laura Zweig

Graduate

COAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship: Silvina Bongiovanni, “Production of Vowel Nasality and Word-final Nasals in Two Dialects of Spanish”


Fred W. Householder Best Research Paper Award: Kelly Kasper-Cushman “Universal quantification in the nominal domain in Kihehe” [for L654 Field Methods. Instructor: Robert Botne]

Runner-up Awards: Hai Hu, & Narges Nematollahi

THE UNDERLINGS

UnderLings is IU’s Undergraduate Linguistics Club. The club is free to join and regularly holds events, including talks given by professors and grad students, movie nights, game nights, language puzzle nights, food-related events, and language microlessons. Here is what’s cooking this fall:

September: Game Night
October: “Arrival” Movie Night
November: Language & Food Potluck
December: Show and Tell/Cookie Decorating

They are also in the process of planning a graduate school workshop for undergraduate linguistics majors. Stay in touch with the UnderLings through their Twitter account (https://twitter.com/IUUnderlings) or look them up on Facebook as “UnderLings (IU’s Undergraduate Linguistics Club).”

Fall 2017 UnderLings Board:

President: Taitum Caggiano
Vice President: Morgan Farrell
Secretary: Carmen Paul
Treasurer: Jackie Flores

Photo credit: College of Arts & Sciences
Linguistics Fund Drive and IU Linguistics Polo Shirts

The Linguistics Student Support Fund drive is entering its fifth year. This fund provides financial support to retain promising students, to encourage students to attend the LSA Summer Institute, and to facilitate completion of dissertations.

The Linguistics Student Support Fund has been primarily focused on graduate students. We are now hoping to implement a program that would also provide undergraduates with some financial support from the fund. You can help make this a viable undertaking through a contribution. The larger the endowed fund, the greater the useable interest it generates for student support.

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 you, our donors, we offer an IU Linguistics 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.

Dr. Robert Botne

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.

Home address ____________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ___________ Zip ____________
Home phone _________________________________________________________________________________________________
Company/Institution ________________________________________________________________
Work address ________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ___________ Zip ____________
Work phone _________________________________________________________________________________________________
* Email _____________________________________________________________________________________________________
* Home page _________________________________________________________________________________________________

* Please indicate clearly upper and lower case.

Mailing preference (circle one): Home Work
Your news: ____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
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Department polo shirt modeled by Markus Dickinson

Photo credit: Stephanie Dickinson