



APLNG Newsletter, Fall 2010

## DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS

I am very pleased to report that Penn State's Department of Applied Linguistics continues to prosper. Let me begin by congratulating Soeun Cho on her graduation from the PhD program this fall, with the successful defense of her dissertation entitled *Project-based learning in a foreign language immersion camp*. She is currently teaching at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Korea. We wish her much success in her future endeavors.

As we say goodbye to graduating students, we welcome new members into the APLNG community. This fall, eight new students entered the MA program and seven students entered the PhD program. We also have three visiting scholars with us. Lu Yu arrived last Spring and is affiliated with the Center for Language Acquisition. Two department-affiliated scholars arrived this fall. Sherry Xuehui Liu is a faculty member of the College of Foreign Languages and Cultures in Nanjing Normal University, China. Adriana Kuerten Dellagnelo is a Professor in the Foreign Languages Department at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil.



As you know, the department's workforce has increased with the integration of the staff of the Departments of Applied Linguistics, Communication Arts and Sciences and Philosophy into a single unit. We now have nine staff members working with our Department and The Center for Language Acquisition. In addition to our able assistants, Lynn Maggs, Sally Arnold, and Vickie Lucas, the team includes Katelen Blair, Wendy Harter, Robin Haynes, Kristie Kalvin, Roxann Kormanik, and Robin Orndorff. If you haven't yet, please stop by 234 Sparks to introduce yourselves to the new members.

While the integration has been successful in consolidating the Sparks Departments' management activities, the move of Lynn and Sally to 234 has left a huge void in 305 Sparks. While we can't replace them, we are trying to recreate some of the warm, friendly ambiance their presence inspired. Many thanks to Meredith Doran, Tracy Davis and others for their ongoing efforts to do so by redesigning 305 to make it more of a communal area for APLNG folks. We now have some comfortable, nicely arranged seating and good reading materials. Additional ideas and/or items for enhancing the space are very welcomed.

In terms of the intellectual vitality of the Department, I extend hearty congratulations to Jim Lantolf, Karen Johnson and Gabi Appel, under whose leadership the Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research's application for a new Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education was successful. With the current grant, CALPER now enters its third funding cycle. CALPER's success is highly significant to the department for at least two reasons: it enables several faculty members to continue their research projects, which, in turn, helps maintain the Department's high quality scholarly reputation and it contributes significantly to our ability to fund graduate students, which in turn, contributes to our reputation as a provider of top-tier graduate programs. CALPER was well represented at the ACTFL conference held in Boston in mid-November.

Also adding to our reputation was the awarding of named professorships to two faculty members by Dean Welch this fall. Karen Johnson is now the Kirby Professor in Language Learning and Applied Linguistics. Suresh Canagarajah is the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Applied Linguistics, English, and Asian Studies.

In terms of curricular developments, the Online Graduate Certificate Program in TESOL begins in Spring 2011, with the offering of two on-line courses. Thanks to Karen Johnson, Mark Ouellette and Becky Zoshak for their efforts this fall in getting the courses up and running. I also note that both the TESOL Minor and the ESL Certificate Immersion Program are in their second years and enrollments continue to grow.

Outside of the Department, I note that we will be very well represented at 2011 AAAL conference, taking place in Chicago next March. As 1st VP of AAAL, Suresh Canagarajah has spent the last year or so designing what promises to be an outstanding conference, and several faculty and students will be presenting on their research. We hope to host an APLNG event at the conference. More information on this will follow on our department's website.

Thanks to the APLNG newsletter committee for their efforts in putting together this latest issue. And, thanks to everyone in the APLNG community for your continued contributions to maintaining this outstanding, intellectually vibrant community.

Joan Kelly Hall, Head



# APLNG WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

## VISITING SCHOLARS

### Adriana Dellagnelo

I am Adriana Kuerten Dellagnelo. I have a PhD in Applied Linguistics (from the Federal University of Santa Catarina - Brazil) and I am a Professor in the Foreign Languages Department at the Federal University of Santa Catarina. I am currently a visiting scholar working closely with Professor Karen Johnson. My main interest is to identify forms of access to the teacher's knowledge-base subjacent to culturally perpetuated methodological procedures concerning the pedagogical practice of teachers of English as a second language. In addition to describing how this knowledge is elicited in the teacher's discourse and recognizing ways of reframing it, I am looking at identifying to what extent such a reframing may impact discursive and pedagogical practice.



### Xuehui Liu



I am Xuehui Liu, a visiting scholar from China. Sherry is my English name. I am a faculty member of the College of Foreign Languages and Cultures, Nanjing Normal University, which is in eastern China. My education background includes developmental and educational psychology (Ph.D from Beijing Normal University), curriculum and instruction in ELT (M.Ed from East China Normal University) and English. My major areas of interest are Instructed L2 Acquisition and Language Teacher Cognition/Learning--and I am very interested in looking into the process and mechanism of L2 learners' internalization of social interaction, particularly in classroom settings. Recently, I engaged in data analysis of a longitudinal and micro-genetic study of an EFL learner's development of *relative clause* as the effect of T-S negotiated interaction. I also conducted longitudinal research with a group of EFL teachers investigating their knowledge of and behavior in *classroom interaction* as members of a study group in which they observed and discussed their own or their peer's classroom

interactional behaviors.

My recent research in both areas has drawn a lot on socio-cultural theory, which provides me with a powerful explanatory framework and methodological inspiration, and more importantly, significant pedagogical implications. But at the same time, I find psycholinguistic conceptions, which I am perhaps more familiar with, still very valuable for me in understanding L2 learning. To understand the complexity of human learning, including L2 learning, I believe both sociocultural and psycholinguistic approaches, in a complementary way, will serve as useful meditational tools of conception!

I enjoy my visiting study in the Department of Applied Linguistics and look forward to continued communication with the faculty and graduate students around.

### Yu Lu

Yu Lu received her MA degree in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics from Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) in 2003 and has been a faculty member in the English Department ever since. She is currently a PhD candidate in Applied Linguistics at BFSU and has been at the Center for Language Acquisition as a visiting scholar since January 2010. Yu Lu's research interests include second language acquisition, English language pedagogy, sociocultural theory, and L2 speaking. Her dissertation, currently in progress, aims to explore the oral proficiency development of Chinese first-year EFL undergraduates in and out of the classroom via the theoretical framework of sociocultural theory.



## NEW MASTER'S STUDENTS

### Meltem Ilkan

My name is Meltem Ilkan. I am a Fulbright scholar from Cyprus. My native language is Turkish. For my undergraduate degree, I studied at Eastern Mediterranean University and received my BA in 'Translation and Interpretation'. After my undergraduate degree, I completed a CELTA (Cambridge Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults) Course at St. John's University, in New York. Now I am getting my master's degree in TESL here at Penn State. I am specifically interested in teaching adults and young learners.



### Meng-Wei (Mavise) Lin

So happy to join the Applied Linguistics department this semester! I am an MA TESL student from Taiwan.

My major in undergraduate school is History, but I am interested in language also. At the end of this semester, I feel really great to have chosen Penn



State! Not only do I explore the academic world beyond my expectations, but also I experience great classroom discussions I never had before.

I am looking forward to learning more about TESL as well as getting to know more people in the department next semester.

## Siyuan Wu

Hi, everyone, I am Siyuan Wu, from China. I am now a first-year student in our department majoring in TESL. One of the most important reasons why I choose this major is that I am particularly interested in second language methodology. I plan to be an English teacher in China after I graduate. I have lots of hobbies, i.e. playing badminton, playing basketball etc, almost any kinds of ball games! My hometown is Jingzhou, a beautiful city in Hubei province, which is an ancient city with many modern characteristics.



## Ting Liu



I am Ting Liu from China. My hometown, Sichuan, is in the southwest of China and famous for various spicy foods like hotpot and a great many popular resorts. In my free time, I like playing table tennis and going on outdoor excursions. My academic interest is foreign language learning and teaching methodology. I like language teaching which brings a lot of enjoyment and also many challenges. I intend to pursue a career as a language teacher and believe the two years' of graduate study at Penn State will help me to achieve my career aspiration.

## Yohan Hwang

Hi, all. I am Yohan, from South Korea, a first year MA student in TESL. I first came to the United States in 2005 as an exchange student. After finishing a year-long program at North Dakota State University, I returned to South Korea to join the army for two years, which is mandatory. While in the army, I decided to return to the U.S. again later.

As a learner of English as a second language, I experienced my fear for English as a beginner changed to confidence after having had some experiences related to language learning, which led me to think that learning a new language goes beyond the skill itself and how important appropriate language teaching is to improve one's quality of life. I chose the TESL Program at Penn State for more professional learning and research. After completing the course, I would like to accumulate years of experience in my career as an English teacher and take a doctoral course in Applied Linguistics Department.



## Yi Zhang



大家好! My name is Yi Zhang and I come from China. Now I am studying in the TESL program (MA) in the Department of Applied Linguistics, and also work as a Research Assistant for Professor Donald Brown in the Rock Ethics Institute, studying the ethical solution for climate change issues. Currently my interest lies in the study of world Englishes, sociolinguistics and ESL teaching.

I am also a fan of music and animal reservation. I have played the piano for more than 10 years and am now learning guitar.

## Margarita Seregina

Hello! I'm Margarita and it's a great pleasure for me to become a part of PSU. This is the second time I'm in the United States. Two years ago I participated in a student exchange summer program and I enjoyed my stay, so that I hoped someday I would come back. Also I was lucky to visit Great Britain, where I studied at a language school. Being a student there, I found that teaching English as a foreign language was appealing to me, as it gives an opportunity to work with people from all over the world and to get acquainted with different cultures. I have just graduated from Tula State University (Russia) this June, where my major was Translation Studies and Linguistics as a minor. I like learning languages, I think it's such a rewarding experience when you notice how each little step helps you to express your ideas in a new language and to discover a new world behind it. That is why it is interesting for me to learn about the process of second language acquisition and especially about factors which hamper people in mastering a language. I have also studied French and Spanish back at home. I enjoy travelling, meeting new people, reading books, especially about Scottish history and culture, and going to the cinema.



## Rebecca Zoshak



Heyo -- this is Rebecca, newish M.A. student here at PSU. Originally from suburban Philadelphia, I recently fled from Hollywood where I was working as a Story Editor after graduating from Northwestern University as a radio/television/film major. Thanks to this escape, I've been able to spend more time volunteering and, in the last year, have been lucky enough to be a volunteer ESL tutor, volunteer sailor, volunteer gardener and volunteer pen pal through various non-profit organizations. Hopefully this blurb has been posted next to the thrilling photo of my death-defying sail furling aboard a tall ship in San Pedro, CA.

## DEPARTMENT ROUNDTABLE



During Fall semester, the Department held 4 roundtable sessions.

**Rémi Adam van Compernelle**, "Developing Sociopragmatic Knowledge through Concept-based Instruction: A Microgenetic Case Study," September 10, 2010

**Mary Kathryn Malone**, "Advanced L2 Repertoire: Contextualizing Sociopragmatic Choices," November 6, 2010

**Adriana de C. Kuerten Dellagnelo**, "Brazil Echoes from Teacher Discourse: An Inside-out Perspective," November 13, 2010

**Jacqueline Gianico**, "Discursive Construction of Traumatic Life-Stories," December 3, 2010



## CENTER FOR LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (CLA)

### CLA Fall 2010 Speaker Series

The Center for Language Acquisition hosted three invited speakers this fall:

**Ning Yu** (University of Oklahoma) gave a lecture on September 24, 2010, entitled "Chinese Expressions and Conceptions of the Self: A Cognitive Semantic Study." Professor Yu also met with faculty and graduate students during his visit.

**Michèle Koven** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) gave a lecture (via video-conference) on October 1, 2010, entitled "'Linguistically Mediated Displays and Interpretations of Identity Among French-Portuguese Bilinguals.'"

**Michael Cole** (University of California, San Diego) presented this year's Gil Watz Lecture (via video-conference) on October 29, 2010, which was entitled "The Zone of Proximal Development: From Theoretical Disagreements to Practical Tool of Design." For those interested, the two video-conferences were recorded. A CD of each talk may be borrowed from Vickie Lucas in 5 Sparks.

## CENTER FOR ADVANCED LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (CALPER)



The biggest news from CALPER, which most of you already heard, is that we earned a new federal grant for \$1.28 million to continue our Title VI Language Resource Center throughout 2014. In the next four years, CALPER faculty will work on some new projects, and extend others. New project directors joining the LRC include Xuehua Xiang (University of Illinois-Chicago), Victoria Hasko (University of Georgia), and Dali Tan (Landon School in China).

One of our new collaborations is with the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA), with whom we will co-sponsor the 2011 annual conference to be held in the Penn Stater Conference hotel in October. CALPER faculty will offer two half-day workshops and one conference session. We also hope to involve some of our APLNG graduate students in showcasing their work. In Spring we will know more and announce additional details.

Another new collaboration is with LARC, the LRC at San Diego State University. For the past few months, we have been working on organizing a series of webinars on assessment that LARC will broadcast using Elluminate®. While the series is not finalized in its entirety, the first session will be conducted by Matt Poehner in January/early February. For those interested, it is a good idea to visit LARC's site at <http://larc.sdsu.edu/events/webinars/> and to put their name on a list to receive relevant information when it becomes available.

Part of CALPER's charge is to reach out to the teaching profession – after all that's for whom we develop the materials and put together the resources. This semester, we exhibited our materials at the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA) in Erie and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in Boston. Erie was a smaller conference - about 250 teachers were in attendance-, but ACTFL Boston hosted over 7000 language educators. The largest number ever in the history of the organization! We talked to many instructors at our booth and heard from colleagues who participated in past CALPER workshops, from those who are using our materials, and also from many who attended one of the CLA Summer Institute in Applied Linguistics.

Every year, the Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research gets a little more known and more people become aware of our work and use our work. That makes it worth the effort. And on that positive note, we are all looking ahead towards another productive and successful funding cycle.

*Gabriela Appel*

# NEW ONLINE TESOL PROGRAM

The Department of Applied Linguistics is pleased to announce its new [Online Graduate Certificate Program in TESOL](#) for individuals who are interested in teaching in post-secondary and/or adult English language programs in the United States or abroad.

The program includes four introductory graduate-level courses with integrated practical field experiences that enable candidates to gain essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions for teaching adult English language learners in diverse contexts throughout the world. For each of the four courses, individuals are required to have access to a community of English language learners in order to gain direct experience tutoring English language learners, observing, planning for, and teaching English language classes, and interviewing communities of nonnative English speakers.

For more information, contact the [Graduate Certificate Program in TESOL](#).

## MIGRATION STUDIES PROJECT UPDATE

The Migration Studies Project (MSP) organizes monthly lunch hour seminars, special and guest lectures and workshops on topics relevant to globalization, migration, and diversity. MSP brings together faculty from diverse academic disciplines not only at Penn State University but also from Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) to collaboratively construct explanatory models that unravel the linkages between and among migratory processes across social and geographical domains.

The research group on skilled migration, comprising researchers from universities in Bristol, Leeds, Cape Town, Seattle, Madison, Sydney, and York, met on December 10 and 11 at University Park to share their research findings from fieldwork conducted this year. The research is supported by a grant from the Worldwide Universities Network.

### *Lunch Hour Seminars*

**Xiaoye You**, Assistant Professor of English and Asian Studies, "Multilingual Creativity and the Diaspora Life of Chinese White Collars," September 14, 2010

**Meredith Doran**, Assistant Professor of French & Applied Linguistics, "Hip-Hop in the Hexagon: Diaspora, Youth Language, and Minority Identity in Contemporary France," October 5, 2010

**Tobias Brinkmann**, Malvin and Lea Bank Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History, "From Empire to Nation State: Jewish Migrations, 1860-1948," November 2, 2010

**Vivian Yenika-Agbaw**, Associate Professor of Literacy/Children's Literature & Affiliate Faculty in African, African American Studies, "Literacy, Culture, and African Communities," December 7, 2010

### *Guest Lecture*

**Isabel Hofmeyr**, Professor of African Literature, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa  
"Seeking Empire, Finding Nation: Gandhi and Indianness in South Africa," October 18, 2010

### *Fall Distinguished Lecture*

**Adrian Bailey**, Dean, Social Sciences at the Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong  
"Labor Migration, Recession, and Transnationalization: Notes from Europe," December 9, 2010

## CONGRATULATIONS

The Department congratulates all those who have successfully defended their doctoral dissertations in summer and fall 2010.

### **Selim Ben Said**

*Urban Street Signs in the Linguistic Landscape of Tunisia: Tensions in Policy, Representation and Attitudes*  
Dr. Ben Said now teaches at the National Institute of Education in Singapore.

### **Davi Reis**

*Non-native English Speaking Teachers and Professional Legitimacy: A Sociocultural Theoretical Perspective on Identity transformation*  
Dr. Reis accepted a position at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA.

### **Soeun Cho**

*Project-based Learning in a Foreign Language Immersion Camp*  
Dr. Cho is a new faculty member at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, Korea.

### **Sharon Childs**

*Language Teacher Cognition: Tracing the Conceptualizations of Second Language Teachers*

## HOLIDAY PARTY

We celebrated the end of a great semester here at APLNG with a wonderful party hosted by Joan Kelly Hall and Bill Hall at their home. We toasted to the many accomplishments of our APLNG community. And as the start of a new tradition, we were entertained by the lovely talents of Jackie and Katya, Tania & Company.



## EXTENDED APLNG

The extended APLNG community has a new addition. Congratulations to Mary Kathryn Malone and her husband on the birth of their daughter, Molly Amelia.



## PUBLICATIONS - May - November 2010

Canagarajah, A.S. (2010). Internationalizing knowledge construction and dissemination. *Modern Language Journal*, 94(4), 661-664.

Canagarajah, A.S. (2010). A rhetoric of shuttling between languages. In B. Horner, M-Z Lu, & P. K. Matsuda (Eds.), *Cross-language Relations in Composition*. (pp. 158-182). Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press.

Canagarajah, A.S. (2010). Ideology and theory in second language writing: A dialogical treatment. In T. Silva & P.K. Matsuda (Eds.), *Practicing theory in second language writing*. (pp.176-190). West Lafayette, IN: Parlor Press.

Canagarajah, A. S. (2010). Achieving community. In David Nunan and Julie Choi (Eds.), *Language and Culture: Reflective Narratives and the Emergence of Identity*. New York and Abingdon: Routledge.

Lantolf, J. P. (2010). Sociocultural theory and the pedagogical imperative. In R. Kaplan (Ed.), *Handbook of applied linguistics, 2nd ed.* (pp. 163-177). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lantolf, J. P. (2010). Minding your hands: The function of gesture in L2 learning. In R. Batstone (Ed.), *Sociocognitive perspectives on language use and language learning* (pp. 131-150). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lau, D.T., Berman, R., Halpern, L., Pickard, S. Schrauf, R.W., & Witt, W. (2010). Exploring factors that influence informal caregiving in medication management for home hospice patients. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 13(9), 1085-1090.

Lu, X. (2010). A corpus-based evaluation of syntactic complexity measures as indices of college-level ESL writers' language development. *TESOL Quarterly*, 44(4).

Lu, X. (2010). Automatic analysis of syntactic complexity in second language writing. *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*, 15(4), 474-496.

Park, K. & Kinginger, C. (2010). Writing/thinking in real time: Digital video and corpus query analysis. *Language Learning and Technology*, 14(3), 31-50.

Poehner, M. E. & Lantolf, J. P. (2010). Vygotsky's teaching-assessment dialectic and L2 education: the case for dynamic assessment. *Mind, Culture, and Activity: An International Journal* 17, 312-330.

Schrauf, Robert W. and Sanchez, J. (2010). Age-effects and sample size in freelisting. *Field Methods*, 22(1), 70-87.

## Newsletter Credits

Contributors to this issue include: Gabriela Appel (Newsletter committee advisor, Editor), Matthew Jadlocki (HTML), Dan Zhong (Content editor), and Jackie Gianico (Content editor).

Thank you to Sung-Woo Kim for many of the photographs included in the newsletter.

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