

UW LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT

Volume 1, Issue 1
August 13, 2002

LETTER FROM CHAIR

I'm really pleased to initiate the Chair's column in this first number of our newsletter from the Linguistics Department of the University of Washington. I hope that it will serve to inform our alumni, supporters and community associates, and to draw them to stay in touch with us. The Department continues to be recognized for the excellence of our undergraduate and graduate programs, the international reputation of our faculty, and our service. We are also making progress towards the goals we laid out in our Strategic Plan (to be posted on the new website). We are thrilled that John Goldsmith, currently at the University of Chicago, will join our faculty in 2003 to devote himself to the creation of a first rate Computational program. Four of our faculty were awarded major grants, and our Lead TA, Chia-Hui Huang, won the UW Excellence in Teaching Award. Also, our funding for the Nostrand Professorship in Language and Cultural Competence increased dramatically. I'll outline below the most significant achievements and

aspirations of our department this year.

A major preoccupation this year has been our Computational Linguist search that culminated with the hiring of John Goldsmith. In addition to his excellent publication record and international reputation, he is very well qualified to create the new specialization, since he has already established such a program at the University of Chicago. We have forged an official department relationship with Microsoft through University Relations. These efforts contribute to the computational linguistics specialization, to ties with other linguists, to the development of a protocol for faculty-industry interactions and to internship opportunities for graduate students.

During the past year, Linguistics faculty gave papers in Europe, Asia and the Americas (see related story). Fritz Newmeyer—in addition to publishing numerous articles and giving a dozen invited talks in six countries—is serving as President of the Linguistic Society



of America this year. Jurgen Klausenburger published a single author book, as did Karen Zagona who was also keynote speaker of the Going Romance Conference in Amsterdam. She and I edited a volume dedicated to Heles Contreras. Overall the faculty produced 17 articles in refereed journals and 18 chapters in collections. Ellen Kaisse continues her work as the principal editor of the flagship publication in her field, *Phonology*, while Mike Brame spent his sabbatic year sleuthing Shakespeare's true identity. Toshi Ogihara has raised enough money to sponsor the Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) conference next May, so now he's into the logistical planning stage.

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Special points of interest:

- Celebrate 40 years with the Department!
- Linguistics overseas
- Nostrand Professorship
- Send your contact info!
- Find out the latest news about professors, fellow alumni, and current students

FUNDRAISING NEEDS FOR DEPARTMENT

In 1970, public funds met 40% of our budget needs as a university—today this figure is down to 14% and the trend seems set to continue. The Department of Linguistics must, like other programs at the University of Washington, call on its alumni and friends to make a difference. We

cannot maintain excellence without your involvement of time, talent, and financial support.

Your gifts make an incredible difference to us. For example, \$25 sponsors one week's faculty-student colloquium; \$100 pays the honorarium for a visiting lecturer; \$500 enables a graduate

student to present a paper at a distant conference; \$1,000 brings a scholar to Seattle for a lecture or seminar. You will find an envelope in this newsletter inviting you to renew your support of the Linguistics Department. We hope that you will do so. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

LETTER FROM CHAIR CONTINUED...

Sharon Hargus received a grant of \$192,000 from the National Science Foundation for a three year research project on the Alaskan language Deg Xinag's lexicon and grammar. She's starting work this summer with a trip to Alaska. Alicia Wassink, Richard Wright and I were awarded grants totaling \$170,000 from the UW Center for Mind, Brain and Learning headed by Pat Kuhl and Andrew Meltzoff. My own project—funding one quarter research for me and five quarters for an RA—examines the acquisition of Spanish by first graders (in their second year of immersion) in the John Stanford International School. The Wassink-Wright project—funding one research quarter for each of them and five quarters for an RA—is examining perception of vowel length, particularly as it relates to parent input to children. In addition, the College funded Alicia's travel research trip to Jamaica where she collected data in the field on Jamaican Creole vowel length.

In our undergraduate program, the awarding of B.A. degrees has increased four-fold, from 12 in 1992 to 46 in 2000. From 1993 to 2001, we have also increased the number of undergraduates served in courses for both lower division and upper division. The lower division courses serve non-majors at about 100%. Our upper division courses also provide a significant

amount of instruction for non-majors, since they constitute about 50% of the population. We cap our graduate program (which is very selective, accepting about 15/80+ applicants), so we never anticipate seeing growth in that area.

This year we reaped the benefits of a Curriculum Development Grant from 2000-2001. The grant permitted us to develop Powerpoint slides and detailed interactive websites for Linguistics 100 and 200. Because the entire faculty rotates in teaching the introductory courses, they have been able to modify the curricular materials to fit their needs. We were also able to offer a new course on maintenance of endangered languages, taught by one of our graduates, Dr. Alice Taff, who works on Alaskan indigenous languages. The course—which made the front page of the *Daily*—has proved of interest to Anthropology and Ethnic Studies, as well as Linguistics.

Another interdisciplinary effort—including letters of support from Psychology, Computer Science and Music—helped Linguistics to garner a Walker-Ames Lecture position for Professor Ray Jackendoff (Brandeis University) to take place in May 2003. Linguistics and English supported the Communications Department nomination of a second Walker-Ames Lecture, Professor Deborah Cameron, who was also se-

lected for the same honor next year.

The Department has benefitted directly from the tech support that was provided by the Provost this past year. Dan Stiefel, who works 50%, has served mainly in our Phonetics Lab, a state of the art teaching and research facility used intensively by faculty and students at every level. The wide variety of tools, the specialized nature of the software and hardware, and the high volume of use mean that the Lab is an important resource for researchers in and outside Linguistics.

We have embarked on a major outreach effort to contact alumni, donors and the general public to make our research and teaching in Linguistics better represented in the community. To that aim we have established an Advisory Board which has met twice and has now embarked on a number of projects such as an improved website, a newsletter, a Fortieth Anniversary celebration planned for June 2003, increased visibility through community outreach, and improved relations with local industry.

FACULTY NEWS

In our first issue we'd like to introduce all of our department professors and give you a brief update from each of them on what they've been doing this year!

Frederick Newmeyer has been elected President of the Linguistics Society of America for 2002. The LSA is the main professional grouping of linguistics in the US, with over 5000 members! He has also published numerous articles and lectured all over the world.

Jurgen Klausenburger has recently published two single-author books, three refereed book chapters and two reviews. Following the publication of "Grammaticalization: Studies in Latin and Romance morphosyntax" in 2000, his Coursebook in Romance Linguistics appeared in 2002. He has made numerous presentations at European conferences in the past year as well.

Karen Zagona continued ongoing research in the area of tense and aspect, focusing on contrasts between Spanish and English. She also saw the publication of her book "Spanish Syntax" with Cambridge University Press, and collaborated with Julia Herschensohn and Enrique Mallen (Texas



A&M) as editors of "Features and Interfaces in Romance", a festschrift for Heles Contreras.

Ellen Kaisse's research this year includes two refereed book chapters and three professional lectures (one in Spanish in Mexico!). She had the honor of being nominated a senior scholar in the Simpson Center for the Humanities 2001-2002 and has three works in progress on laterals, vowel harmony, and Argentinian intonation.

Michael Brame has been working in the areas of algebraic syntax and using linguistic methods to determine authorship. In relation to the authorship research he has written a book entitled "Shakespeare's Fingerprints" which is scheduled to appear this fall. He has also worked with his colleague, Prof. Galina Popova in the Dept. of Slavic Languages and Lit. to develop what they call the 4C criterion and have applied it to the Shakespeare authorship controversy with some striking results.

"Professor Frederick Newmeyer has been elected President of the Linguistics Society of America in 2002."

Sharon Hargus has published several articles concerning her research in Yakima Sahaptin and BC, Canada Witsuwit'en. She presented at many conferences including the Athabaskan Languages Conference, Native Languages and Cultures and International Conference on Salish

and Neighboring Languages. Sharon received a Royalty Research Fund for one year towards her research in Yakima Sahaptin Lexicon and a three year NSF grant to study Deg Xiang Lexicon and Grammar. She also advised the Heritage College on pri-

orities for Sahaptin language research as they implement a recent award from the Mellon foundation. For further details on Sharon's year see related article in newsletter.

Alicia Beckford-Wassink and Wright received a grant from the Center for Mind, Brain and Learning (CMBL) to study the ways in which people modify their speech under a variety of conditions. This work builds on "Motherese" made famous by Patricia Kuhl. While Motherese is fairly well studied, few studies have placed it in the context of other types of exaggerated speech and of normal conversational speech. Beckford-Wassink and Wright continued on page 7...

ENDANGERED LANGUAGES REVITALIZED

This article will be presented in a 2 part series. Watch for the 2nd part in the newsletter quarterly update on the new website! Thanks to all involved!

This spring quarter the U.W. Linguistics Department offered a new course on Language Endangerment (Ling 480B), taught by Dr. Alice Taff, a graduate of the department. In an interview excerpted below, Dr. Taff and U.W. Linguistics Professor Sharon Hargus discuss language endangerment and language revitalization efforts. (Interview conducted May 22, 2002 by Nancy Emery, a linguistics graduate student enrolled in the course).

Nancy Emery (NE): *First, a little background: what does endangerment of languages mean?*

Alice Taff (AT): A language is endangered when it will not be used in the future. In this context, let's mean "used in conversation among a community of speakers". If children aren't learning the language at home we consider that to be a sign that the language will no longer be used in the foreseeable future.

NE: *Language revitalization – is there a chance*

of turning this around?

Sharon Hargus (SH): That all depends on the particular communities, and how endangered the language is, how few speakers remain that speak it. What some communities have done is set up daycare centers, language nests, some people call them, that are supposed to be staffed by older people so they can transmit the language to the



younger people. It seems like a good idea but in practice, to have an 80 year old take care of a two year old can be difficult. When you have got two really elderly speakers left and that's all, it's going to be difficult to transmit the language in some sort of quasi-natural way. When you have less extreme endangerment, some sort of revival along the daycare language nest idea is more practical. But it's all a matter of what we mean by revitalization. Do we want to create first language speakers? Second language speakers?

AT: I would say that whatever state the language is in as far as its viability, can be counterbalanced by the amount of energy that's put into the revitalization. So even if nobody has spoken the language for several generations in daily use, if there are documents that are useful and there's a huge interest in it and people spend their time on it, then they can use it more, in the home again.

NE: *So something can be done to bring a language back into use even if it's not necessarily being passed on with the full range and fluency of past use?*

AT: Right. "Revitalization": bring life back to the language. So the language might change some - we hope it would, because all living languages do continued on page 4...

THANKS TO UW LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT DONORS

Many thanks to our generous donors, especially from the last year! We could not have made it 40 years without your amazing contributions!

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Thanks again to all the generous donors from this year. Please remember that continued support helps the linguistics department continue in its mission of providing an outstanding and renowned linguistics education!

ENDANGERED LANGUAGES CONTINUED...

change. This is a concept that people don't always understand – if it's not the conservative older language then people tend to think it's no good. I think every language has its detractors who don't want anything to change – but it changes anyway.

NE: *The languages of Washington state – are any of them endangered? What are the indigenous languages of this area?*

SH: The language families that used to be spoken in Washington state are mainly Salishan, Wakashan, Chimakuan, and Penutian is a larger group that would include Sahaptian. Some of the languages of these families are clearly extinct, and they're all endangered really, dwindling numbers of speakers. Lushootseed, which was the Salish language spoken around Puget Sound, also known as Puget Sound Salish, I think has 6 speakers left. There's another branch of Salish which was spoken to the SW of Olympia, Tsamosan branch, four languages that are no longer spoken, like Upper Chehalis. Most of the Wakashan languages are spoken in Vancouver Island and western parts of B.C. Makah is a representative of that family, with 2 speakers left. Sahaptian, which I work on, in the Sahaptian family,

the larger Penutian family, I'd say there's maybe 20 speakers left of the Yakima dialect. That's just the ones I know about.

NE: *Although there seem to be programs to try and pass on some of those (languages) in the schools.*

SH: I'd say most Native American communities in this state have some kind of language revitalization program going. What most programs lack is some kind of assessment, of how well the program's working and what could be done to improve it, in my experience.

AT: And realistic goal setting – not only about how much do we expect of the students per unit of time, but is our goal to create fluent speakers? And if people say "yes that is our goal", then they need to confront the necessity to have domains of use for the language. Where are they going to use the language? On the sports field? In the home? In religious events? In business? On the radio? On TV? Those are things that need to be addressed too, depending on the goal. It seems that one of the first places that is hit with language revitalization work is the school, because people think "well, the kids will learn at the school". But the outcome they want to achieve is

fluency, and fluency is usually achieved in a conversational mode, an immersion mode. It does not happen in school. So there's a clash between methodology and desired result that has caused programs to fail. It's a problem that shouldn't be laid at the foot of the teachers. It's a general overall community need to address the situation.

NE: *So the children need people to talk to, and people to talk to them outside of the classroom.*

SH: Yeah.

AT: Programs that have been successful at achieving their goals are those programs that have been initiated by the community. The definition that we're using in class is that language is an agreement among a community of speakers that certain symbols have certain meanings. So the first thing is an agreement among a community, and that's what has to start any language revitalization effort. It doesn't have to include everybody, it can be a small portion of the community that is interested and is willing to spend their time doing this. Frequently when the interested active people begin to achieve some positive results, other people will join in.

Stay tuned for Part 2 in the quarterly update!

STUDENT NEWS

The Linguistics Department is proud of their thriving students, both undergraduate and graduate.

Department Stats:

11 new graduate students - 44 total, 105 undergraduates

1 Phd awarded

(congrats Gabe Webster!), 7 graduate students completed generals, 3 MAs awarded,

and 105 BAs awarded.

Graduate Students Updates:

The superiority of our graduate students was shown in several awards. Susannah Levi won both a FLAS year-long

award and a Fritz Fellowship for next year. Misha Preston won a year-long FLAS to

study Serbo-croatian. Benjamin Toronto was awarded a summer FLAS Fellowship, and Jeff Stevenson received a Chester Fritz Travel Grant to do research in Chile. Linguistics Lead TA Chia-Hui Huang was one of only two (of two dozen nominated) who won the UW Teaching Excellence Award. Although we have only five regular TAs per year, two of our TAs have won the UW Teaching Excellence Award within six years. Excellent work and congratulations to our outstanding students!

"Linguistics Lead TA Chia-Hui Huang was one of only two (of 24 nominated) who won the UW Teaching Excellence Award."

DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISING REVIEW 2001

Our fundraising letter brought a response of \$4140 to the Friends of Linguistics, an amount that has helped sponsor colloquia, pay for student travel to conferences and fund special events in the department. A more significant fundraising project is the Nostrand Endowed Professorship in language and cultural competence, a \$500,000 gift that will eventually fund the research of a professor of Linguistics while furthering the vision of the Nostrands. The donation is to be funded over five years by the

Nostrands who have already made a significant gift of over \$200,000. In addition, their friends and supporters have donated an additional \$8575 to the endowment in the last year. We are aiming to upgrade our fundraising efforts as part of the Development Plan that we have written. We intend to raise money to fund an additional endowed professorship as well as two graduate fellowships. The Board's development plan will be posted on our new website. See page 3 for thanks to our generous donors!

CONTACT INFO FOR UW LINGUISTIC DEPARTMENT

Department of Linguistics

Box 354340

Seattle, WA 98195-4340

Phone: 206-543-2046, Fax: 206-685-7978

Email: phoneme@u.washington.edu

Undergraduate advisor: Kening Li, lingadv@u.washington.edu

Graduate advisor: Ellen Kaisse, kaisse@u.washington.edu

Department Chair: Julia Herschensohn

ALUMNI EXPERIENCE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY

Tatsuya Suzuki is an alumnus of the UW Linguistics Department (see Alumni News section for further information) and is working in Japan. Tatsu has written the following article to give us a brief insight into linguistics in a foreign country...

There aren't many graduate programs for generative grammar in the Departments of Linguistics in Japan. Usually, English departments offer graduate programs in generative grammar, mainly because there weren't many Japanese linguists who were interested in the "new wave" of linguistics born in the English speaking world 50 years ago. Nanzan University is not an exception. I teach generative linguistics in the graduate program of our English Department.

Belonging to the English Department, I must teach English classes, such as English composition and reading. Since our teaching load is very heavy at the undergraduate level, I can teach only one course in the graduate program. I teach 7 classes a week, each lasting 90 minutes.

There is a lot of non-academic work, too. We usually belong to one or two committees, each of which has one meeting a month. In addition, we must attend a departmental meeting and a faculty meeting at least once a month.

Currently, I am an associate dean of Nanzan's student affairs office. There is a 150 minute long meeting every Wednesday, in

addition to 7 two-hour long meetings per academic year. I try not to count the number of meetings I must attend in a year...

So, it's very hard to remain a "linguist" in Japan. A lot of linguists become "English teachers", mostly because they can't find time to read new articles or books. It seems absolutely necessary to set up graduate programs in linguistics departments here in Japan.

Thank you Tatsu for sharing your experience! Send us your stories! Stay tuned for future stories about the experiences of UW Linguistics Department alumni in other foreign countries...

ALUMNI NEWS

For our first issue of the UW Linguistics Department Alumni Newsletter we chose to introduce you to our recently formed Advisory Board, consisting of mostly UW alumni. The board is committed to delivering on the department's development plan and helping to ensure the future vibrancy of UW Linguistics (visit the new website soon to see the current development plan!). In the future we hope to use this section to share news, announcements, and other happenings in your lives! Please fill out the contact information on the back and check out our new website where you can submit your stories for inclusion! We'd love to hear from you and share our stories!

Jim Armagost (PhD, '73) taught at Kansas State University until retiring in 2001. He now lives in Mount Vernon, where his wife is a high school Spanish teacher. Jim is working on the planning for the Department 40th anniversary celebration.

Karn Choi (BA, '87) was working for Siebel. She is working on the major gifts project for the Advisory Board.

Michael Gamon (MA, '91; PhD, '96) has been working as a computational linguist in Microsoft research since 1996. His areas of interest include: computational grammar of German, sentence

realization, machine translation, and machine learning techniques in Natural Language Processing (especially in sentence realization). Michael is working on University relations with Microsoft.

Mark Haslam (BA, '97) is working at CARTAH on the UW campus. He is working on communications for the Advisory Board.

Jim Hoard (MA, '66; PhD, '67) taught at the University of Kansas, the University of

Victoria, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Oregon (where he was Professor of Linguistics and English). He joined Boeing in 1986 and led the development of its natural language processing program. He recently retired from Boeing, where he was a Senior Manager, to start up his own consultancy, Relational Logic, Inc., concentrating on knowledge management and knowledge discovery solutions for corporate and government clients. As an Affiliate Professor in the UW Linguistics Dept. since 1990-91, he instituted the introductory Computational Linguistics course (Linguistics 472) and taught it numerous times. His interests in linguistics include natural language processing, computational linguistics,

phonology, semantics, and Amerindian languages of the northwest.

Paula Johnson (BA, '00) has been working as a Linguistic Test Engineer in the Microsoft Natural Language Group for the past two years. She is now working on pursuing her interests in Neurolinguistics and Neuroscience by preparing to return for her MD/PhD in Neuroscience. Paula edited and produced this initial newsletter and is assisting Mark Haslam with communications.

Jeffrey Kallen (MA, '79) is a senior lecturer in Linguistics and Phonetics in Trinity College Dublin, where he has been teaching since 1980. His research interests in sociolinguistics, bilingualism, and language acquisition have involved a number of international collaborative efforts supported by the European Science Foundation, the Commission of the European Union, the Arts and Humanities Research Board in UK, and the Royal Irish Academy. A member of the LSA and the American Dialect Society, he is also a past president of the Irish Association for Applied Linguistics and currently edits the Association's journal.



Tatsuya Suzuki (PhD, '88) teaches English and English

linguistics at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. (Did you know Ichiro was originally from Nagoya area?) Tatsu visits the UW to give a talk continued on page 6...

NOSTRAND PROFESSORSHIP

Thanks to A&S Perspectives and Nancy Joseph for the original article. To see the complete article visit:

<http://www.artsci.washington.edu/newsletter/WinterSpring01/WinterSprNews.htm#matthewsnostrand>

Donald Matthews and Howard and Frances Nostrand know a thing or two about the University of Washington. Having taught at the UW for a combined total of 79 years, they've experienced the University's many facets firsthand. So when Matthews recently made an \$814,000 gift to the UW and the Nostrands made a \$500,000 gift, they did so with an insider's understanding of what private giving can accomplish.

The Nostrands' gift—which established the Howard and Frances Nostrand Endowed Professorship, based in the [Department of Linguistics](#)—reflects the couple's lifelong interest in the connections between language and culture.

The Nostrands have been particularly interested in issues of cultural competence—the idea that every language student should also know background about the history, geography, literature, social institutions, and value system in which their language exists.

"The goal of the professorship is to continue our incomplete life's work."

"You can't really use a language unless you understand the culture of the people who speak it," says Howard, professor emeritus of Romance languages and literature. "Cultural competence is so important in business, diplomacy, and even tourism."

Howard served as chair of the department from 1939 to 1965, retiring in 1981. He has written more than 100 publications, many of them with Frances, who served as a lecturer in the department from 1962 to 1979.

"We've been thinking about this gift for a long time," says Howard. "The goal of the professorship is to continue our incomplete life's work. We

invite friends and colleagues who share this goal to add their own gifts to this professorship."

David Hodge, Dean of Arts and Sciences, describes both recent gifts as "wonderful not only for the financial support they provide but also for the commitment to the College they represent." He adds, "We are grateful for the extraordinary generosity of these dedicated faculty."

For more information or to make a gift to these professorships, contact Antoinette Wills at (206) 616-6553 or awills@u.washington.edu.



ALUMNI NEWS CONTINUED...

almost every year. See the article on this page about linguistics in Japan!

Alice Taff (PhD, '99) is a freelance linguist, currently working on language revitalization projects for the Alaskan languages Deg Xinag (Ingalik Athabascan) and Unangax (Aleut) and teaching occasional courses at UW and U of Alaska Fairbanks. Her current research program is a phonetic description of Unangax (Western Aleut) intonation.

Non-Board Member Alumni Update:

Douglas Wulf (PhD, '99) was hired by Teknowledge Corporation as a senior member of their research staff. He is creating knowledge-

based ontologies with an inference engine. In addition, he is generating lexicons for a natural language processing program that can interface with these ontologies. The goal is to provide the computer with a robust semantic component, accessible through natural language input, that allows the computer to make inferences that go far beyond the explicit facts it is provided. The benefits of such a semantic component will be great improvements to many applications, such as web searching and database management.

Deepest Thanks to the Linguistics Department Advisory Board for their generous donation of time and effort!

LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT TURNS 40!

All alumni and friends are invited to three days of activities next June as the department celebrates its 40th birthday. Don't even think old, gray and wrinkled! As a quick glance at this newsletter makes clear, the department is just as innovative, energetic and involved in 2002 as it was years ago when the local overcast first lifted to reveal an eastern horizon ablaze in Chomskyan sunshine. Please mark your calendar for June 5th - 7th. Talk

to your husband/wife/other. Make plans. Come join us for food, camaraderie, lively retrospectives by some of your colleagues, a keynote



presentation by Fritz and perhaps a toast or two to times past and times to come.

Jim Armagost

Party Director

Class of '73

Stay tuned for updates on activities and information regarding lodging, etc...

VISITING SCHOLAR: ROCHELLE LIEBER

The UW linguistics department was honored to have Rochelle Lieber as a visiting scholar this year among many other talented individuals. Rochelle is Professor of English at the University of New Hampshire and chair of the English Department. She did her PhD at MIT (1980) and her undergraduate work in Anthropology at Vassar College (1976). Rochelle came to Seattle to spend her sabbatical year with her fiancé, who is a lawyer. She says "It's been a wonderful year, although too short." As a visiting scholar at the UW Linguistics Department, Rochelle spent the 2001-2002 academic year working on a book entitled "Morphology and Lexical Semantics." In February she gave a colloquium to the department entitled "Morphology and Lexical Semantics: what we can learn from -er and -ee."

Stay tuned for news about other visiting scholars in our future newsletters...

LECTURES AND CONFERENCES ON CAMPUS

Last year the department heard from many excellent speakers including Bruce Hayes and Professor Heles Contreras during WECOL, as well as Alan Kaye on Arabic linguistics. The out of town speakers included: Stephen Dworkin, U Mich; Lisa Matthewson, UBC; Emily Bender, Stanford; Eleni Miltsakaki, U Penn; John Goldsmith, U Chicago; Brian Roark, AT&T Labs; Rochelle Lieber, U New Hampshire; Keith Johnson, Ohio State; Claire Kramsch, UC Berkeley; and John Ohala, UC Berkeley.

During the coming year we will hear from many more exciting speakers. Contact the department for further information regarding specific dates, locations, and other pertinent information.

See page 4 for department contact info or visit the updated website for information



regarding colloquiums, conferences, and speakers.

Walker Ames Lectures: May 19-23, 2003

Ray Jackendoff - May 20th, 2003, 7pm

Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) Conference 13: May 9-11, 2003

Angelika Kratzer—U Mass Amherst

S.-Y. Kuroda—UC-San Diego

William Ladusaw—UC-Santa Cruz

Mandfred Krifka—Humboldt University (Berlin)

Linguistics Department Colloquiums:

Fridays, 3:30pm

Deborah Cameron - April

Watch for updates on colloquium speakers!

FACULTY NEWS CONTINUED...

are studying conversational speech and speech under three conditions. They are recording women from three language varieties that differ crucially in the vowel inventories. Beckford-Wassink also is directing the sociolinguistic component of the Phonetics Lab. She just published an article entitled "Theme and Variation in Jamaican Vowels."

Richard Wright received a grant from the CMBL (see Prof. Beckford-Wassink for details). He also received a grant from IBM to study the intonational patterns of

read speech, which has implications for speech synthesis and automatic speech recognition. Wright also published an article on speech errors in the *Journal of Phonetics*, an article on Witsuwit'en written with Prof. Hargus and Davis, and two book chapters on speech perception. He was a key organizer in last fall's WECOL conference. The UW Phonetics Lab, under Wright's direction, continues to grow with 6 faculty members from 4 departments. It houses both a general phonetics component and the sociolinguistics component.

Julia Herschesohn co-edited a book (J. Benjamins, 2001) dedicated to Heles Contreras that contains articles on current theoretical issues (see Prof Contreras and Zagona). Julia also

published several articles and book reviews. She gave talks at conferences in New Orleans, Lisbon, Portugal, and Ottawa, Ontario. She received a grant for \$58,000 from the UW Center for Mind, Brain, and Learning. For that, Julia has been working with graduate RA Jeff Stevenson to study acquisition of Spanish verb morphology by first graders in the immersion program at the John Stanford International School. She continues to enjoy being chair of the department.

Heles Contreras is currently working on different aspects of head movement within the

Minimalist Program. He was a keynote speaker at WECOL 2001, and will be an invited speaker for *Going Romance* in November 2002, in Groningen, Netherlands. In April 2001, he was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award by Indiana University Linguistics Department. A volume dedicated to him, "Features and Interfaces in Romance" (edited by J. Herschensohn, E. Mallen, and K. Zagona), was published by John Benjamins in 2001.

Toshi Ogihara published two articles on scope and quantification and gave talks at the UW, in Canada and Japan. He's working hard on organizing the SALT conference for next May.

"...he was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award by Indiana University..."

New Linguistics Department Website update:

We have mentioned a new website for you to visit, so we figured we better update you with information regarding this new site!

Mark Haslam, an alumnus and Advisory Board member, is consulting with graduate student Joyce Parvi to update the Linguistics website, <http://depts.washington.edu/lingweb/index.html> Joyce is working to make a crisper presentation, a more explicit navigational bar, more information, and a more contemporary design. Mark knows a lot about the site since he designed the original one in 1997! You can follow developments by checking out the site periodically. Please contact us if you have comments or suggestions.

UW

University of Washington
Department of Linguistics
Box 354340
Seattle, WA 98195-4340

Phone: 206-543-2046
Fax: 206-685-7978
Email: phoneme@u.washington.edu

Donate to the department today! Watch for the annual giving campaign in September!

Coming soon the new website for linguistics at <http://depts.washington.edu/lingweb> !!!

Birthday Celebration for UW Linguistics Department!!!!!! Yes Folks, we're celebrating 40 years this next year! Mark your calendars today. Join us on June 5-7 for fun filled events, learn about the department's current endeavors, and help celebrate our vibrant and thriving department! See page 6 for details!

UW LINGUISTICS MEMORABILIA

You too can be a proud owner of COOL memorabilia from the ling. Department! Buy your t-shirt or car window stickers for LSUW today! Contact Ben Toronto: btoronto@u.washington.edu

T-shirts: \$10 + \$2.50 postage (per shirt)

Stickers: \$3 or 2 for \$5 + \$0.50 postage (per sticker)



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PLEASE RETURN DIRECTLY TO DEPARTMENT (IN INCLUDED ENVELOPE) OR VISIT THE NEW WEBSITE SOON AND COMPLETE ONLINE!

Name: _____

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Recent news about you: _____

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