



# Linguistics Matters

## The Linguistics Program Newsletter

FALL 2014

### May 2014 Celebration Dinner

Many of us gathered at Dr. Shenk's house to enjoy our annual end-of-the-year celebration dinner in honor of our 2014 graduates. This year 4 students graduated with minors in Linguistics/TESOL: **Carlo Cinaglia, Hank George, Anne Riddle and Nikki Uy**. We wish them all the best as they currently pursue graduate school, law school, and employment opportunities.



### Explorations in Linguistics

In July 2014, *Explorations in Linguistics: An Online Journal of Undergraduate Research*, published its second issue. *Explorations in Linguistics* is published twice a year by the SJU Linguistics Program. Its goal is to promote undergraduate student research in all areas of linguistics. The journal is directly overseen by an undergraduate student editor (**Julia Maltz**). All submissions are evaluated by student reviewers from SJU and other universities including the College of Wooster, Drexel University, Georgetown University, the University of Alberta, the University of California-Davis, and the University of Pennsylvania.

The second issue contains a research article comparing adult and child support relation expression patterns and essays on ambiguous roadside words and discourse markers. The second issue may be accessed at <http://www.sju.edu/int/academics/cas/linguistics/journal.html>

*Please send us your submission by November 15th! See website for more information.*

### New Linguistics Major is official - Sign up Now!

Fall 2014 marks the first semester in which SJU officially offers a Linguistics Major. Students also have the option of pursuing a Linguistics Major with a concentration in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). For more information or to officially declare the major, please see Dr. Jennifer Ewald.

### Linguistics Lunch

Please join us for our annual Linguistics Lunch on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, in McShain 004 (the 4<sup>th</sup> floor classroom). This is an informal time for us to get together as a program, connect with (new) friends, and enjoy a free lunch!!!

## Summer Scholars

Two Linguistics students carried out Summer Scholars research projects during summer, 2014. Descriptions of their studies are below.

### **"The World is Yours: A Critical Lens for Adult ESL Learners in the United States"**

Katie Smith looked at the critical pedagogy framework as it applies to the context of adult ESL classrooms. Critical pedagogy is an educational philosophy that seeks to empower students and make them critical observers and advocates for societal change. Katie observed ESL classes and conducted interviews to determine the efficacy of the theory for adult students. Ultimately, she found that while some characteristics serve students better than others, critical pedagogy can only benefit stable populations of students, that is, students with legal status and who feel secure.

### **"Investigating Emotional Responses to the Language of Sexual Violence"**

Esteban Valencia's research question was, in the discussion of sexual violence, do we have synonymous terms that are not emotionally equivalent? To test this, Esteban created two surveys: one to gather terms used by everyday people, and one that presented participants with scenarios, utilizing the terms collected from the first survey, and asked them to rate their emotions. Currently, he is completing the analysis of his data.

Linguistics program t-shirts are available in both maroon and light gray (S, M, L, XL) for \$10. Please contact Dr. Ewald at [jewald@sju.edu](mailto:jewald@sju.edu) if you are interested.



## Who are we?

The Linguistics Program is growing! Majors and minors are added frequently but, to date, here is a list of current students pursuing specializations in Linguistics and/or TESOL.

### **LIN Majors**

**2015**

Julia Burke (TESOL conc)  
Thomas Ferraiolo  
Stephanie Kubu  
Laura Ostrowski  
Kathryn Smith (TESOL conc)

**2016**

Kevin Curtis  
Allison Hinkel (TESOL conc)  
Esteban Valencia

### **LIN Minors**

**2015**

Dara Driscoll  
Crista Dockray  
Ronald Klepadlo  
Caitlin Lavorgna  
Dana Mingione  
Denise Sciasci

**2016**

Samantha DiGiuseppe  
Julia Maltz  
Kathryn Miller  
Sarah Sutherland  
Nancy Thach  
Esteban Valencia

**2017**

Marissa Karomfily

### **TESOL Minors**

**2015**

Melissa Serrano

**2016**

Anna Avampato  
Paige Hering

**2017**

Haley Fischer

## Spring 2015 Course Offerings (tentative)

**LIN 101 An Introduction to Linguistics**  
**Dr. Jennifer Ewald (TR 3:30-4:45)**

*Satisfies the Art/Lit requirement.*

**LIN/SOC 260 Language and the Law**  
**Dr. Jennifer Ewald (TR 2:00-3:15)**

*This course satisfies the GEP Ethics Intensive requirement; it also satisfies a requirement in the Criminal Justice major/minor.*

**LIN 280 Language Acquisition and Learning**  
**Dr. Jennifer Ewald (TR 12:30-1:45)**

**LIN/SOC 317 Sociolinguistics**

**Dr. Elaine Shenk (MWF 12:20-1:10)**

*This course satisfies the GEP Social Science and Diversity requirement; it also satisfies a requirement in the Sociology major/minor.*

**SPA 380 An Introduction to Spanish Linguistics**

**Dr. Elaine Shenk (MWF 9:05-9:55)**

*Prerequisite: SPA 301 or 303.*

## NOTE OF APPRECIATION

**Samantha DiGiuseppe and Denise Sciasci** represented linguistics and TESOL at the SJU Admissions Summer View Event on July 20th. Many thanks to them for their service and recruitment efforts!



## Summer Academy

**Julia Burke, Allison Hinkel, and Dana Mingione** served as Teaching Interns for the SJU Summer Academy. The Academy, Directed by Professor Julie Yu of the SJU Asian Studies Program, took place on July 13<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Twenty middle and high school students were on the SJU campus to work on their English language skills, learn about American culture, and experience Philadelphia and Hawk Hill firsthand! The Teaching Interns prepared the curriculum, conducted the ESL classes, and participated in various social activities with the Chinese students throughout the week. Ask them about it!

What the students said they liked about their English classes: communication activities; ordering pizza; talking with the teachers; playing funny games; surprises in class; nice, friendly teachers.

