



Linguistics Matters

The Linguistics Program Newsletter

SPRING 2014

NEW MAJORS

The Linguistics Program is growing! Starting Fall 2014, in addition to our existing minors in Linguistics and TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), we will be offering two new majors:

- (1) Linguistics Major
- (2) Linguistics Major-TESOL Concentration



2014 GRADUATES

There are four Linguistics Program students who are graduating this year.

Carlo Cinaglia is graduating with five minors (!) including linguistics and TESOL. He is our first TESOL graduate! This coming fall, he will be starting an M.S. Ed. graduate program in TESOL at the University of Pennsylvania.

Hank George is starting a 2-year accelerated J.D. program at the Drexel University School of Law. In fact, his classes in criminal law, contracts, torts, and legal methods start before SJU's final exams are over!

Anne Riddle has recently accepted a position at Corporate Brokers, a Philadelphia-based staffing company. Her position will be in sales. She will put her training in Sociology and Linguistics to good use there!

Nikki Uy will be pursuing an M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology at Syracuse University where she will learn to diagnose and treat individuals with speech and language disorders.



2014 LINGUISTICS PROGRAM AWARD RECIPIENT

We offer our sincerest congratulations to **Carlo Cinaglia** who is the 2014 Linguistics Program Award Recipient. Award selection is based on several criteria including academic GPA, leadership in the classroom, critical reflection, original research, mastery of subject material, contribution to department, and engaged learning. **Carlo**, a well-earned recognition. So happy for you! Offering you all best wishes. No subject pronouns, but our sincerest congratulations!

Explorations in Linguistics

In January, 2014, the new journal, *Explorations in Linguistics: An Online Journal of Undergraduate Research*, launched its first edition. *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 Georgetown University, the College of Wooster, the University of Alberta, and the University of Florida.

The first edition contains research articles on talk show closings and YouTuber greetings as well as essays on e-mail as a spoken and written discourse, the role of phonology in a classroom, grammatical gender in Romanian, and a comical miscommunication that took place in a biology class. The first edition may be accessed at <http://www.sju.edu/int/academics/cas/linguistics/journal.html>

Please send us your own submissions! See website for more information.

STUDENT RESEARCH

We congratulate several former and current SJU students on their January 2014 publications in *Explorations in Linguistics*:

"Well, Okay, Be Sure to Watch!": An Examination of Closings in Talk Show Interviews by Nicole DeMarco

Hello Internet!: An Analysis of YouTuber Greetings by Dana Mingione

E-mail: Spoken or Written Discourse? by Carlo Cinaglia

The Biology Report by Julia Maltz

Nikki Uy participated in Summer Scholars 2013. Working with Dr. James Boettcher, she created an argument in defense of bilingual education proposing that all students should receive multilingual education in hopes of creating the same economical and cultural benefits. This argument is aligned with liberal multiculturalism, a political idea that grants certain groups certain rights in accordance with recognition in society. She presented a poster at the SJU Celebration of Student Achievement as well as used this experience as a talking point with her graduate school interviews.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Linguistics and TESOL students meet twice annually for a fall "Linguistics Lunch" and a spring celebratory dinner for our graduates. These informal get-togethers provide faculty and students with opportunities to get to know each other better outside of class – and to eat!



SUMMER ACADEMY

Several students will be working as Interns for the SJU Summer Academy. The Academy, Directed by Professor Julie Yu of the SJU Asian Studies Program, will take place from July 13th - 21st. Over 30 high school students will be on the SJU campus to work on their English language skills, learn about American culture, and experience Philadelphia and Hawk Hill firsthand! Interns will be preparing the curriculum, conducting ESL classes, and participating in various social activities with the high school students throughout the week.

CURRICULAR HAPPENINGS

Our new majors in Linguistics have resulted in a number of new LIN courses being added to the regular rotation including *English Grammar for TESOL*, *Phonetics*, and *Language Acquisition and Learning*. Another new course under development is *Psycholinguistics*. It will likely be offered in academic year 2015-16.

Fall 2014 LIN course offerings:

- LIN 101 Introduction to Linguistics
- LIN 150 Language, Linguistics, and the Real World
- LIN 220 Logic (PHL 220)
- LIN 320 Phonetics
- LIN 340 Communication in Social Contexts
- LIN 474 Language and Thought (PHL 474)
- SPA 466 Spanish Dialectology

Spring 2015 LIN course offerings (tentative):

- LIN 101 Introduction to Linguistics
- LIN 260 Language and the Law
- LIN 280 Language Acquisition and Learning
- LIN 317 Sociolinguistics (SOC 317)
- SPA 380 Introduction to Spanish Linguistics



ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Many linguistics and TESOL students are currently involved both on- and off-campus in many different activities related to their academic interests:

Julia Burke and **Dana Mingione** collaborated on the establishment of a new *English Conversation and Writing Group* open to both SJU and English Language School students.

Julia Burke and **Sarah Sutherland** are working as Writing Fellows for the SJU Writing Center. They specialize in tutoring ESL writers.

Carlo Cinaglia carried out an independent study during the spring 2014 semester. His research project involved an investigation of personalized grammatical markers used (or not!) in the context of card messages attached to gifts purchased from a florist.

Carlo Cinaglia, **Hank George**, **Dana Mingione**, and **Laura Ostrowski** all serve as *Explorations in Linguistics* journal article reviewers.

Carlo Cinaglia and **Nikki Uy** teach ESL classes at the Sisters of Saint Joseph Welcome Center in Kensington. **Nikki** has served for two years as the Community Partner Coordinator for the Welcome Center.

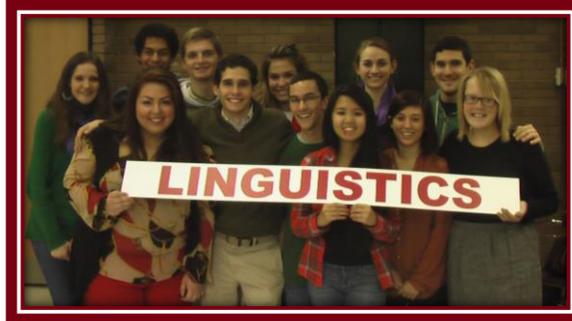
Ronald Klepadlo, SJU Spanish Club President, volunteered as a conversation aide for English classes at Colegio Regina Mundi in Granada, Spain and also

participated in a conversation exchange while completing a study abroad semester there.

Julia Maltz serves as the Student Editor for *Explorations in Linguistics*.

Dana Mingione is teaching English as a Foreign Language to elementary school students in the *Scuola Primaria Edmondo De Amicis* and the *Scuola Primaria Galileo Galilei* in Pontassieve, (Florence) Italy.

Laura Ostrowski serves the Linguistics Program as our Newsletter Designer. This is the first edition and she has done a wonderful job! (She didn't write that!!!)



Emily Smedley serves as the Copy Editor for *Explorations in Linguistics*.

Katie Smith celebrated her first anniversary of teaching English at *Puentes de Salud*. *Puentes* is primarily a health organization that serves Philadelphia's Mexican population as well as people from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Ecuador.

Katie Smith and **Esteban Valencia** will both be carrying out linguistics-related 2014 Summer Scholars projects.

If you are doing something "linguistics-related," please let us know so we can include your activities in future newsletters!

GUEST SPEAKER VISITS

Professional Court Interpreters Amelia Ehrlich and **Jennifer Figueira** visited LIN 260 in March to discuss various language issues faced by courtroom participants. They confirmed that in order to be certified, court interpreters must be highly proficient speakers of both languages in which they work. They also presented situations in which interpreters had to be highly sensitive to both linguistic and extra-linguistic signals from their clients.

Philadelphia Homicide Detective Patrick Mangold visited LIN 260 in April to discuss police interview and interrogation strategies. His visit was both entertaining and highly educational. He encouraged good citizenship from us all but now we know what to do if arrested!!! "I want a lawyer."

ALUMNI NEWS

Recent graduates are putting their knowledge of linguistics to good use and are currently working or pursuing graduate studies in various fields:



Kate Brenner '11 is living in the New York City area and is working as a Traffic Administrator for Dorian Drake International, Inc., an export management company. In this role, she provides logistics support to international customers from the regions of the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America.



Kerry Burns '12 is working with *Teach for America*, teaching a general education 5th grade class in inner-city Phoenix at Arthur M. Hamilton Elementary School. She is also pursuing her Master's Degree in Elementary Education at Arizona State University with the Mary Lou Fulton Teacher's College.



Danny Cahalin '12 has just completed his M.S. in Psychology (Florida State University) with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis, the most widely accepted treatment.



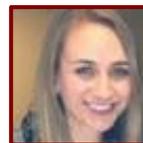
Nicole DeMarco '13 is working toward an M.S. in Sociolinguistics at Georgetown University. This past year she had the opportunity to take a course on Discourse and Social Media with Deborah Tannen and travel to Iceland.



Talia Goffredo '13 is working toward a J.D. at the Villanova University School of Law. All reports indicate that she is extremely busy with law courses! Over the summer, Talia will be interning with a senior judge in Northampton County. Although she is technically a Villanova Wildcat, she is a firm believer that THWND.



John Jenkins '13 is teaching at the Loyola Blakefield High School in Towson, Maryland. He teaches both Spanish and Italian.



Amy Phillips '13 is just about to defend her thesis satisfying requirements for her M.S. in Experimental Psychology at SJU where she has completed the 5-year program. Her thesis focuses on the emotions of disgust, curiosity, and interest. She is looking to acquire a job as a research assistant at local universities or as a market researcher within the healthcare industry.



Kane Puga '13 is currently somewhere (!) in Costa Rica teaching English as a Foreign Language with the Peace Corps.



Cristen Sheppard '13 is working in the Philadelphia area as a social worker, a job that she reports is both tough and enjoyable.

We miss all of you and wish you continued success in all that you are doing. Send us updates and keep in touch!

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Julia Burke, Carlo Cinaglia, Katie Smith, and Nikki Uy represented linguistics and TESOL at the SJU Spring View Open House on April 27th. Many thanks to them for their service and recruitment efforts!



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 if you are interested.



FACULTY RESEARCH

Dr. Jennifer Ewald, Associate Professor of Linguistics and Spanish

Publications

"Rhetorical Strategies of McCain and Obama in the Third 2008 Presidential Debate: Functional Theory from a Linguistics Perspective." Co-authored with Jessica Loughery, SJU Education graduate student, *Issues in Applied Linguistics*. 19(1):63-84. 2013.

"My Students Won't Participate!": Promoting Oral Communication in Language Classrooms." *NECTFL Review*. Vol. 73(1):35-53. January, 2014.

"Talking to, for and about the TV: An analysis of NFL fans' discourse." *Buckingham Journal of Language and Linguistics*. Coauthored with SJU undergraduate student authors Kathryn Brenner and Kerry Burns. Forthcoming, Spring 2014.

Presentations

"Language Study Strategies: Effective Tips for Language Learning" for the Faculty Guest Speakers Series sponsored by the SJU Learning Resource Center on 9/19/2013.

"I'm away from the office!": Conveying Politeness in Auto-Reply E-mail Messages." Co-presented with Dr. Anne Edstrom (Montclair State University). *Annual Meeting of the Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL)* in March, 2014.

Dr. Elaine Shenk, Associate Professor of Spanish and Linguistics

Publications

Shenk, E. 2013. H.R. 2499 Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2010: Language Policy and the Burton Amendment, in the *Journal of Language and Politics*, 12(4): 583-605.

Shenk, E. Forthcoming (2014). Teaching Sociolinguistic Variation in the Intermediate Language Classroom: *El voseo* in Latin America, in the journal *Hispania*, expected in volume 97.3.

Presentations

"Not demanded or anything': H.R.2499 and U.S. Language Policy for Puerto Rico", at the Latino Communities Conference, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, in October 2013.

"*Qué revolú: The ¡Atrévete y dilo!* campaign and language legitimation in Puerto Rico", at the International Society for Language Studies conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, in June 2013.

"*El engaño*l y *el cuco*: Las metáforas empleadas en el nexo entre el idioma y el plebiscito de status en Puerto Rico", at the conference on Spanish in the U.S./Spanish in Contact with Other Languages, McAllen, TX, in March 2013.

Talks at SJU

"Learning Through Interaction: On and Offline", electronic poster at ATLC's *Teaching and Learning Forum*, June 2013

"Why I chose to teach at a Jesuit university", iSJU talk, September 2013