

August, 2010

Newsletter #1

Newsletter of the Department of Linguistics & Cognitive Science

Welcome to the first issue of this newsletter from the department. We hope to be able to post news each month on the webpage to keep you updated on the latest activities of the students and faculty in the department. Each posting will include news from the department, from individual faculty and from graduate students and undergraduates. We will let you know about departmental events, such where to find our schedules of talks for our two departmental colloquia (in Linguistics and in Cognitive Science). We will also post news from former students, as we receive it. So, again, welcome, and here we go.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

The Department has a new webpage, where you are viewing this newsletter. The new site is the collective work of Jeffrey Heinz, Robin Andreasen, Gabriella Hermon, and Dan Blanchard (as well as the IT support staff from UD). It will continue to evolve as we rotate information to the new site.

Hestvik receives tenure: Associate Professor Arild Hestvik was granted tenure at the University of Delaware in the Spring of 2010. We all look forward to a long and productive career from our colleague from Norway.

Robin Andreasen: Associate Professor Robin Andreasen has returned to full time (from $\frac{3}{4}$ time), and will take on the role of Director of the Undergraduate Program.

Nancy Schweda-Nicholson: Full Professor Nancy Schweda-Nicholson will be away on sabbatical leave for the 2010-11 academic year.

Jeff Heinz: Assistant Professor Jeffrey Heinz has returned to full time from a Spring Research Semester leave.

Dr. Roberta Golinkoff receives Bronfenbrenner Award from the American Psychological Association

Roberta Michnick Golinkoff, Ph.D. Linguistics and the School of Education and Department of Psychology, and our department, who studies language acquisition was recently awarded the 2011 Urie Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contribution to Developmental Psychology in the Service of Science and Society from the American Psychological Association. It is awarded to "...an individual whose work has ... contributed not only to the science of developmental psychology, and who has also worked to the benefit of the application of developmental psychology to society. The individual's contributions may have been made through advocacy, direct service, influencing public policy or education, or through any other routes that enable scientific developmental psychology to better the condition of children and families."

Program Review: during the past academic year (2009-10) the department underwent a program review. These routinely occur roughly every ten years. This includes a visitation by experts in the field who study, evaluate, and report to the department and administration on the academic strength of the department and its programs. The external reviewers wrote a glowing report on our department saying such things as that our Ph.D. program was “first rate” and has top international recognition in unique areas strength. The reviewers especially praised the expertise and productivity of our faculty and the success and strength of our graduate students. The report praised our new undergraduate program in cognitive science, citing both its popularity and its rigor. Their one recommendation for change was that we add a new B.A. in Linguistics (and this we plan to do). The review team encouraged the administration to increase its levels of support for the department and its programs as a part of UD’s “path to prominence.”

Graduate Program News:

Laura Spinu obtains position at Concordia University

Laura Spinu who graduated from the PhD Linguistics program in 2010 has obtained a 3 year position at the Linguistics department at Concordia University beginning this fall. Under the advisement of Professor Irene Vogel, Laura's dissertation research provided a careful analysis of the phonetic and phonological properties of palatalization in Romanian, overturning some traditional ideas about this common pattern in the speech of the world's languages.

Rachel Pulverman obtains an assistant professor position at Delaware State University

Rachel Pulverman, who received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from UD in 2005, and a student of Roberta Golinkoff, has taken an assistant professor position in the Psychology department at Delaware State University. She previously held postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Michigan, in China at the Chinese Academy of Sciences Institute of Psychology, and at Temple University. In her new position, she will be setting up a language acquisition lab.

Graduate students receiving degrees: The following students completed their Ph.D. degrees:

PhD

2009:

Sean Madigan

Sachie Kotani

Yaping Tsai

Thuan Tran
Karthik Durvasula

2010:

Laura Spinu
Lanny Hidajat
Masahiro Yamada
Yanti

MA:

2009:

MaryEllen Cathcart
Darrell Larsen
Erica Hansen
Boseon Kim
Robert Wilder
CarolAnn Edie
Toni McLaughlin
Evan Bradley
Stewart McCauley
Timothy O'Neill
Eunee Ko
Zhiyin Dong
Emily Tynan

2010:

Yinxue Zhao
Daniel Blancard
Meaghan Connell

Graduate Students: The department welcomes the following returning and new graduate students into the program:

(* New students)

Al Khalaf, Eman Muhammad *
Almanea, Manar *
Athanasopoulou, Angeliki
Bosse, Solveig

Bradley, Evan
Cathcart, MaryEllen
Chandlee, Jane
Ding, Yuqian
Dong, Renee
Foltz, Karen *
Gainor, Brian *
Jeong, Jaehoon *
Jia, Zenghong
Khumbangly, Niran
Kim, BoHyun
Kim, Joonyoung *
Kim, Lan
Koirala, Cesar
Krylow, Joseph
Kurban, Elizabeth
Lai, Yee King
Larsen, Darrell
Livinsky, Vilena *
Lilley, Jason
Mann, Eustace
McKinnon, Timothy
O'Neill, Timothy
Paris, Mary *
Park, Yugyeong
Peng, Anne
Pincus, Nadya
Rucki, Jessica
Skordos, Dimitrios
Solomon, Sarah
Sonchaeng, Chayawan
Stohr, Antje *
Sun, Xiaole *
Tomas Subirats, Marta *
Tseng, I-Ju
Veniranda, Yohana
Wang, Jiao *

Undergraduate Program News: As noted above, we are adding a new B.A. in Linguistics. More information about that will follow in subsequent newsletters and on this home page. While the B.S. in

cognitive science is now three years old, we are clarifying the information on the web about the major and making it easier for students to track their progress through the major. See the relevant links on the page for undergraduates. The minor in cognitive science is still available, as is the minor in linguistics.

New B.A. in Linguistics: a new stand-alone B.A. in Linguistics is being added. It will consist of approximately 30 credits of Ling courses. When this is finalized, the requirements will be posted on the website.

The following students completed their B.S. degrees:

BS graduates:

2009

Catherine Bradley

Celia Gash

Jillian Ferrara

Frank Bellamy

2010

Jessica Aberger

Allison Brooks

Natalie Brousseau

Loren Cohen

Nicole Credendino

Alison DeIDuca

Carrie Deutsch

Brittany Drank

Michelle Frankel

Megan Kauffman

Jessica Lewis

Charmaine Leyenaar

Elise Lomboy

Michelle Lubetski

Samantha Muscio

Lisa Schonbach

Melissa Sechler

Lauren Sparacino

Amanda Vanderway

List of Contributions: In this section we wish to thank all those people who made financial gifts to the department during the past year. These donations are extremely important to the operations of the department. Among other things, these funds help us send graduate students to attend conferences and present their research and to remain current in their areas of research. Anyone wishing to make a gift to our department may do so by following the link at the college of Arts & Sciences and designating the Department of Linguistics & Cognitive Science as the intended recipient: <http://www.art-sci.udel.edu/MakeaGift/tabid/193/Default.aspx>.

Mark Di Pietro
Christie Di Pietro
Susan Amory
Ann Hughes
Thomas Klein
Jennifer Wagner
Karl Wagner
Christine Virion
Guangsheng Zhang
Qi, Yao
Daniel McClory
Mary Walters
Solveig Bosse
Mr. & Mrs. Arnad Bosse
Fred Adams
Jane Creswell
Stephanie Pulley
Lt. Karl Chandler