

Well, this is it: the final ESL GO! newsletter of the 2009-2010 academic year. And what a year it's been! We've had a number of current graduate students present papers at major conferences like TESOL and CCCC. A few have even gotten their work published. That's always wonderful news... although there's a sneaking suspicion in the back of my mind that many of you are being too modest about your accomplishments and not sharing them with the rest of us. So, I really encourage you to let future editors know what's going on with you and your research. This exchange of information is a great way for us to build a stronger ESL community here at Purdue.

In the meantime, let's give a BIG round of applause to Rui Yang for passing her dissertation defense, and to Shih-Yu Chang, Fatima Esseili, Kinga Volkan Kacso, Elena Lawrick, Cindy Torres, Harris Bras and Xinqiang Li for successfully defending their prospectuses (prospecti?). Well done, everyone!

BTW: Li also presented a paper on "Aspects of Chinese Rhetoric in Contrastive Rhetoric Studies" at the 2nd Annual Graduate Symposium on ESL Research at Purdue on April 3rd. Other presenters included Lixia Cheng, Masakazu ("Kaz") Mishima, Aliel Cunningham, Mira Bekar, and Suneeta Thomas, along with guests from University of Toledo, Wright State, and University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

We were all thrilled to welcome back former Purdue ESL graduate student turned visiting professor at Miami of Ohio, Tony Cimasko, who gave the Plenary address at the Symposium and serves as an inspiration to us all.

Elena wanted to share an email that she received from the Keynote speaker, Prof. Rakesh Bhatt:

I want to thank you, and thank everybody involved in putting together the ESL Symposium, for inviting me to share my work with you all. I had a very productive stay there and was very impressed with the intellectual energy among the students there. Hopefully, we can have more of such meetings in the future, perhaps in collaboration with the Illinois students. Please give my best to all your colleagues there!

*All best wishes,
Rakesh*

Kudos to all those who put so much time and effort into making this event happen for a second year in a row. I'm already looking forward to a third.

In summer news, Fatima Esseili, Cindy Torres, Elena Lawrick, and Shih-Yu Chang will be presenting at the 16th Conference of the International Association for World Englishes in Vancouver, British Columbia

on July 25th-27th. Fatima's paper is titled "English in Lebanon: Issues of Identity," and Cindy's paper is "Inner Circle Created Teacher Professional Development in the Expanding Circle."

A bit earlier and a bit further south, Kyle McIntosh will be presenting on "Rhetorical strategies of ELT professionals publishing in Chinese and English" at the 6th Conference on Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse, June 11 & 12 in Atlanta, GA. Our own Professor Dwight Atkinson will be one of the Plenary speakers at that Conference.

And speaking of Atlanta... Professor Margie Berns presented a paper titled "World Englishes Research: Past, Present, Future" at the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) Conference held there back in March. She is also now an Editorial Board Member of the journal *Revista de Lenguas para Fines Específicos (Review of Languages for Specific Purposes)* published by the University of Las Palmas of Gran Canaria, Spain.

Well, I guess that just about does it for this issue and for the spring semester. Good luck finishing up classes, working on dissertations, or studying for prelim exams. Please try to get a little rest this summer.

See you in August!