

ESL GO! NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2011

SLS/ESL PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Go! ESLers

We meet once again our readers. Of course, it's new year, new semester, so our newsletter has a new look. We have to say thank you to Beril Tezeller Arik for suggesting the new design of our prime communication channel of our program.

This issue is packed with interesting stories both academic wise and personal wise. Let us start with bios of 3 PhD students.

Veronica Jayne

"Hi everyone, I'm from Ohio and I've been at Purdue for three years working on this PhD. My main area of interest right now is blogging with ESL students. Before Purdue, I taught English to children in South Korea for a year. I really enjoyed traveling around Korea and other parts of Asia during that time. My non-academic interests include hiking, photography and sightseeing. Recently, my boyfriend and I hiked up Half Dome in Yosemite. It took us 12.5 hours and it was one of the hardest things I've ever done... Although, I suspect writing my dissertation will be harder."

Beril Tezeller Arik

"Who am I? It's a more difficult question than it looks. If you don't believe me, wait until you write a bio about yourself. Here is some unnecessary info about me. I save the academic and boring stuff for the future. I'll think about that when I grow up—that is, if I ever grow up. Here is a riddle for you. Who am I? I'm a gipsy ^_^ (well, in spirit and in Halloween, anyway). I'm happily married with a wonderful man who turns my life into a fairy tale. I'm a romantic (as you can tell). Feel free to recommend me romantic movies, poems and novels. I'm from a beautiful city Istanbul, which I miss immensely. I'm a night owl so please approach with caution in the mornings for I might bite (just kidding). I'm pretty clumsy so watch out. I like to sing and dance when I'm home alone. I'm all and none of these things. I like Anime. Well, it's more than a 'like'. Actually, I believe that I'm an anime character living in an Anime world—the only thing missing is cherry blossoms in the moonlight. The trees in front of Heavilon Hall should do for now. I like the smell of strawberry jam and oranges. I like looking at beautiful things (the sea and Van Gogh paintings are my favorite). I like ice cream, the sound of violin and

watching the snow.

These are a few of my favorite things (please feel free to sing along this song here). My dream is to remain a kid forever so that I can feel that thrill of being amazed by the wonders of life. I believe you get old when you stop being surprised. When you have time check out my blog (<http://berilarik.blogspot.com/>) to take a look at the things that I like and please write some comments. I'd love to hear about your favorite things and your travails."

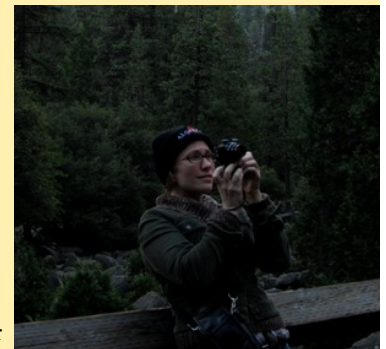
Aylin Baris Atilgan

is currently a second year student at the SLS PHD Program at Purdue. She earned her MA at Northwestern Illinois University, Chicago in Linguistics. She completed her BA in English Language Teaching in Middle East Technical University, Ankara. In 2007, she received the Virginia Welninski graduate scholarship award and two professional development awards from the Illinois Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages and Bilingual Education for her outstanding dedication to teaching excellence. She also holds the 2007 NEIU Golden Eagle Award given to a student who has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, has maintained a balance between academics and involvement

Highlights

- ◆ Bios of 3 PhD students
- ◆ Invitations form Friends of Europe
- ◆ TA Development: Teaching Certificates
- ◆ Teaching jobs abroad

Veronica Jayne



Beril Tezeller Arik



Aylin Baris Atilgan





Dr. Matsuda is giving a lecture on EIL to active participants from inside and outside the program

helped transfer leadership to fellow students. She worked at Bilkent University, Izmir University of Economics, Izmir American Collegiate Institute, Northeastern Illinois University and Chicago City Colleges as a language instructor. Aylin is passionate about writing, sociolinguistics, teaching, education as they center around the human element and any research that works toward that goal. She writes short stories some of which are published in a journal in Germany. She's from the beautiful coast of Aegean in Turkey and loves living by the sea and traveling to beautiful lands...

Go! Past Events

On January 28 2011, Assistant Professor Aya Matsuda gave a lecture entitled "Teaching English as an International Language FAQ." at RAWL 2079. There were around 40 participants. The lecture demystified the field of EIL as many people may not have had a clear understanding of it and may not have known how to apply it in their classrooms. Dr. Matsuda is currently teaching applied linguistics at Arizona State University. She is a graduate of our program.

pants enjoyed their Happy Hour at Bea One, a Korean restaurant, after the lecture. As EIL does not attach to particular culture, so do our happy hour places. Please keep updated for the next Happy Hour place.

Around half of the partici-

Go! Upcoming Events

There are two upcoming conferences outside Indiana that might interest you. The American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) will hold 2011 AAAL Conference under the theme "In the Changing Context of Globalization" during March 26-29, 2011 at Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers in Chicago, Illinois. Prof. Dwight Atkinson will join the language learning roundtable, and Harris Bras, a PhD can-

didate of our program will be doing a poster presentation at the conference. Please follow the link <http://www.aal.org/> for more information.

For those whose interests are beyond second language writing, 2011 CCCC Annual Convention will be on April 6-9, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia. You can find further information at <http://www.ncte.org/cccc/conv>

If you have been rejected by a journal, or just simply want to make your academic writings meet the publication standards, you need to join this in-house event. GradSEA has announced February "Write an Article Month." GradSEA will hold a series of events that help you polish your writing for publication. Register at <http://bit.ly/g03dE7> by Feb. 4. Please keep an eye on your Purdue mail for further details form GradSEA.

Go! Announcements

As the Vice President of Friends of Europe, Aylin Baris Atilgan has invited everyone to join activities of the group. No matter which part of the world you are from, Friends of Europe is a friend of everyone. European movie series is one of activities organized by Friends of Europe. To get to know more about the group, please go to

<http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~foeurope/>

Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE), Purdue University offers graduate teaching assistant developments by offering Graduate Teaching Certificate and Advanced Graduate Teaching Certificate programs. Learn how to become excellent in teaching free of charge and get certifi-

cates as another tickets to the big show from CIE. A friend of the editor shared his experience that these certificates are very beneficial for his teaching, especially the advanced certificate that is not easy to get but worthwhile. For more information, please see http://www.cie.purdue.edu/Grad_T_A_Development is on the left of the page.

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Go! Job Opportunities

For ESLers who are interested in teaching EFL university students in Thailand, please read this. Chulalongkorn University Language Institute, Bangkok, Thailand, is recruiting EFL teachers to teach integrated-skill English classes and English for Specific Purposes classes. If you would like to get a teaching experience at the most prestigious university in Thailand which is ranked 78th in the world in Social Sciences and Arts and Humanities according to QS World University Rankings 2010, please contact Wutthiphong Laoriandee at

wlaorian@purdue.edu for further details.

Well that's all for this issue. We hope you like the new look of the newsletter. We will report updates and announcements in our program again next month, especially updates on our program's t-shirts and the symposium.