

ESL GO! Newsletter, November 2010

We can unofficially say goodbye to Mr. Fall and greet the young winter as we need to wear in layers lately. We hope our readers keep yourselves warm. Reading *heated* news in our program might help. We learnt about new people in our program in the last issue. Let's start the newsletter this month by getting to know more about some of the other ESLers.

Go! ESLers: This issue we are pleased to introduce a third-year student and two second-year students to everybody.

Mira Bekar



Mira Bekar is a third-year PhD student in the Second Language Studies program at Purdue University, USA. She earned her BA in English Language and Literature and her MPhil (Linguistics) from Sts Cyril and Methodius University, Macedonia. She has been teaching speaking, reading, grammar and writing in English courses for 9 years now. She is employed at Sts Cyril and Methodius University as a senior language instructor. She published few articles in Macedonian covering topics on second language writing curricula design and language

attitudes. Her research interests vary from discourse analysis and second language writing to exploring the relationship between language and social interaction.

C. Tyler Johnson



I earned an MATESOL from The Monterey Institute of International Studies and I'm currently studying in Purdue's SLS/ESL PhD program. I've taught in Prague, Chicago, Barcelona, Monterey and Quetzaltenango. Some of the language related stuff that I'm interested is: paradigms, power, cognition, prosody, comprehensibility, and phonology. When I'm not studying, I'm usually on a bicycle. I frequently do volunteer work for the Hoosier Mountain Biking Association, which largely involves building multiuse recreational trails.

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Annie Ou



Annie (Yu-Ching) Ou is from Taichung, Taiwan. She began learning English at the age of five while her mother was pursuing a PhD in the US and has since never lived in one place for more than five years. Before coming to Purdue she was at Boston University for a masters in TESOL and at UT Austin for a BA in Psychology. Her academic interests include Second Language Writing, SLA, and Sociolinguistics. She also enjoys traveling, watching foreign films, trying out food from different countries, and volunteering.

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For your information, the cat in Tyler’s picture is Tuttut. We believe our readers would like to know what it means, Tyler.

Go! Past Events:



On Friday October 29, Prof. Dwight Atkinson gave a talk on “Adaptive Intelligence and Sociocognitive Approach to Second Language Acquisition.” This talk was part of 2010 ESL Speaker Series. After the talk, happy participants met at Irish Brothers during ESL Happy Hour. The talk attracted participants from many departments and at any age. We can see from the picture.

Please keep updated on 2010 ESL Speaker Series. The organizers work really hard on this as we have had 3 talks in this semester already.

Kyle McIntosh recently gave a presentation entitled “Virtual Ethnography in the Foreign Language Classroom” at the 3rd Language Teacher’s Toolbox Conference held on October 16th at Purdue.

Kyle also had his review of John Hedgcock and Dana Ferris' new book, Teaching Readers of English: Students, Texts, and Contexts, accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of the Journal of English for Academic Purposes.



Go! Upcoming Events: 2010 *INTESOL Conference* will be held at IUPUI Campus Center, Indianapolis on November 13, 2010. Our faculty members and ESL/SLS graduate students will be presenting in the conference. Prof. Tony Silva, Prof. Luciana de Oliveira, Mira Bekar, Harris Bras, Lixia Cheng, John Hitz, Xinqiang Li, Mei-Hung Lin, and Veronika Maliborska are among the presenters from Purdue University. If you are interested in listening to our professors and peers as well as other TESOL scholars from all over the country, here is the link <http://www.intesol.org/index.html>. Pre-registration is open on November 7 or you might register on site.

Professor Margie Berns will be in Brazil from November 10 to November 20, first as a guest speaker to a round-table on the subject of World Englishes during *the XI Seminar of Applied Linguistics and Literature*, and *the VII Seminar of Translation Studies*. Her presentation is entitled "English in the Expanding Circle: the differences do make a difference". The conference will be held in the Institute of Letters, in Milton Santos Auditorium - Pavilion III, Campus Ondina, at Universidade Federal da Bahia, in Salvador, Brazil, from November 12-15, 2010. From November 16 - 18 she'll be giving a mini-course on World Englishes at the Universidade Federal da Bahia for teachers of English in the region. On Friday, November 19, she'll be giving a lecture at the American-Brazilian Cultural Exchange Union with the title "English for all? or Why teach English if they'll never use it?".

11th Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Symposium on Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Purdue University, is calling for papers. The theme of this year's symposium is "Identity and Culture." The submission is open until December 15, 2010, and the symposium will be held on March 5, 2011. For further information, please follow the link http://www.cla.purdue.edu/fll/main/graduate/Graduate_Symposium/

If you feel overwhelmed with academic events, let's take a break by joining our 2nd ESL GO! Trip to the Indianapolis Museum of Art on December 4, 2010. We will return to the Museum as there will be a special exhibition of Andy Warhol's art. Thank you Prof. Margie Berns and Mira Bekar for making this second trip happen soon. If you are interested, please contact Mira Bekar about carpooling by November 15.

Well, that's it for now. We hope you enjoyed it and got some information about our program and related issues. Questions, comments, and news are always welcome. Please feel free to e-mail that info to wlaorian@purdue.edu

Wutthiphong Laoriandee (Editor)