

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 1

# ESL GO! Newsletter

SLS/ESL Program, The Department of English, Purdue University

## SLS/ESL Achievements

**Margie Bern's** book *Contexts of Competence: Social and Cultural Considerations in Communicative Language Teaching* (Plenum, 1991) has been translated into Korean and published in Seoul, Korea, by Hankookmunhwasa. Her article "Expanding on the Expanding Circle: Where do WE go from here?" – which appeared in *World Englishes* (24, 1, 85-93, 2005) – has also been translated into Russian and published in the journal *Personality. Culture. Society*.

**April Ginther** recently gave a talk entitled "Advantages and Disadvantages of Semi-Direct Oral Testing" at Melbourne University in Melbourne, Australia.

Do **you** have an achievement or accomplishment you'd like to announce? If so, please contact the ESL GO! Newsletter at [cmcmarti@purdue.edu](mailto:cmcmarti@purdue.edu).



## Winter is here!

November was a productive month for the Purdue SLS/ESL community. ESL GO! featured two ESL Speaker Series events: PhD candidate Crissy McMartin-Miller discussed error treatment in second language writing on November 11, and Dr. Luciana de Oliveira gave a talk entitled "What's the Problem? The Language Demands of Mathematical Word Problems for English Language Learners" on November 18. ESL Happy Hours – pictured above – followed. In addition, Purdue was well represented at the 2011 INTESOL conference in Indianapolis. For a full report and more photos, see page three.

## Save the Date: Graduate Student Symposium

The fourth annual Purdue University Graduate Student Symposium on Second Language Studies & English as a Second Language will take place on **Saturday, April 14, 2012**, here in West Lafayette. As you complete your final projects this semester, consider whether any one of them is something you could develop for a presentation. More details are soon to come...

## Meet the ESLers



### Carolina Peláez-Morales

Often selected for Secondary Security Screening at international airports, native Colombian Carolina Peláez-Morales is a fourth-year PhD candidate in SLS/ESL studies. Before coming to Purdue, she earned an MA degree in English literature from Eastern Illinois University and a B.A in languages from Universidad del Valle in her native city, Cali. Fluent in Spanish, semi-fluent in French, and almost-semi fluent in Italian, Carolina currently devotes most of her time to her teaching and her research. Her “recent” immersion into the ABD track has helped her gain an appreciation for the *old good days*. Thanks to her years of experience teaching English and Spanish as foreign languages and her current work with international ESL students, she has been interested in investigating the intersection between foreign and second language writing. Her research and teaching are, and will continue to be, her full time job for the next two years. She wishes to be able to find a job and to stop being “randomly selected” for additional screening at airports—and straight hair.

### Veronika Maliborska

Veronika Maliborska is a second year PhD student in the English as a Second Language/Second Language Studies program and the vice-president of ESL GO. She received her BA in English and French Languages at Ostroh Academy National University in Ukraine. She continued her higher education in the United States at Minnesota State University Mankato. Besides taking classes, she also worked as a tutor at the writing center, taught introductory composition to both native and non-native speakers of English, and volunteered to be a rater on the placement test for incoming ESL students. Due to her teaching experiences, she developed an interest in second language writing and written feedback strategies. After receiving her MA in TESOL in 2010, she was thrilled to join the friendly and encouraging community of the ESL/SLS graduate program at Purdue University.





## INTESOL 2011 Report

### By Margie Berns

The 2011 INTESOL Conference was held at the IUPUI Campus Center in Indianapolis on Saturday, November 19, and the SLS/ESL program was represented. Aylin Atilgan, Margie Berns, Luciana de Oliveira, and Tyler Johnson gave research presentations, Veronica Jayne, Joshua Paiz, and Yungjun You gave poster presentations, and Jennifer Lund took part in the Technology Fair. A number of Luciana de Oliveira's graduate students in Curriculum & Instruction also gave talks and sessions on various areas of K-12 ESL studies. Various other members of SLS/ESL attended and enjoyed the conference, too.

We all counted among the 350 people who registered for this year's conference, a record number for INTESOL.

Given the positive feedback everyone got from their audiences and the opportunity for interaction with others with shared interests (and not forgetting the great lunch buffet and generous offerings of break snacks), we look forward to returning next year and to having even greater representation of our program at the conference. So when the call for papers for next year's conference comes out, be prepared to submit your proposal!

The ESL GO! Newsletter staff  
wishes you a safe and relaxing winter break.  
See you next February!