

A P R I L 2 0 1 2

ESL GO! Newsletter

SLS/ESL Program, Department of English, Purdue English



SLS/ESL Accomplishments

In March, **Dwight Atkinson** presented a paper at the American Association for Applied Linguistics conference in Boston entitled "Culture from the Bottom Up in the 21st Century." In April, he will present a keynote address at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference entitled "Sociocognitive Approaches to Second Language Acquisition."

Yu-Shan Fan presented the poster "The transition from central to peripheral language learning: A case study" at the 2012 Annual Graduate Student Educational Research Symposium on March 27.

Three translations by **Ghada Gherwash** appeared in the book *Gathering the Tide: An Anthology of Contemporary Arabian Gulf Poetry*.

Xinqiang Li presented the poster "Writing-reading comparison in L2 writing classes: Discussions and researches" at AAL.

Kyle McIntosh and **April Ginther** recently had their manuscript titled "Writing Research Reports" accepted for inclusion in *The Companion to Language Assessment* to be published by Wiley-Blackwell.

Thank you!

ESL GO! has received donations from many sources this spring. This includes \$200 from the Oral English Proficiency Program, \$200 from Languages of Wider Communication through Professor Margie Berns, and \$200 from the Office of International Students and Scholars at Purdue. The money will be used for academic activities like the Speaker Series and especially the upcoming Symposium. Thanks to the funding sources for the generous support!

Save the Date: Purdue SLS/ESL Symposium

The third annual Purdue University Graduate Student Symposium will be held Saturday, April 14, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Rawls Hall, Rooms 1057 and 1071. Keynote speaker Fred Davidson of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will address measuring L2 proficiency and research project design, featured speaker (and Purdue alum) Muriel Gallego of Ohio University will lead an interactive presentation on TA training, and graduate student presenters from Purdue and several other schools will cover a range of topics, from theoretical issues to pedagogical ones. Registration begins at 8:30 AM and will be \$10. A dinner will follow at 6 PM.

ESL GO! 2012-2013 Officers Nomination Information

It's time to submit nominations for next year's ESL GO officers. Participating in ESL GO allows you to shape program events and gain valuable professional development experience. You may nominate your peers or self-nominate for any of the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Treasurer
4. Fundraising Coordinator
5. Speaker Series Chair
6. SLS/ESL Symposium Chair
7. Event Planning Committee (3 positions)
8. Webmaster
9. Newsletter Editor
10. Happy Hour/SLS Lunch Coordinator

The duties of the ESL GO **President** include working with the Student Affairs Office, coordinating ESL GO meetings, and organizing elections. The **Vice President** oversees public relations, and the **Treasurer** works primarily with the Business Office of Student Organizations to manage ESL GO funds.

The **Fundraising Coordinator** is a new position this year; this person will handle all fundraising for ESL GO, including grant proposals.

The **Event Planning Committee** assists both the **Speaker Series Chair** and the **Symposium Chair** in such matters as selecting speakers, reserving rooms, working with Purdue Catering and Events, and advertising events.

Keeping the website up to date is the responsibility of the **Webmaster**, while the **Newsletter Editor** communicates with the SLS/ESL community to create the ESL GO Newsletter. The **Happy Hour/SLS Lunch Coordinator** reserves space at restaurants for special events.

Please submit all nominations to current ESL GO President Sara Randrianasolo at srandria@purdue.edu by Friday, April 13. Nominees will be notified by email to accept or decline a nomination. A survey for the election process will be distributed soon thereafter.

Congratulations!

Beril Tezeller Arik successfully defended her prospectus last month.

Matthew Allen, Tyler Johnson, Masakazu Mishima, and Xun Yan all passed their preliminary exams.

John Hitz successfully defended his dissertation at the end of February.

Crissy McMartin-Miller will receive recognition at the Celebration of Graduate Student Teaching Excellence event in April.



Meet the ESLers



Shih-Yu Chang is a fifth-year-PhD candidate in Second Language Studies though this is her seventh year at Purdue. (Why? You will probably have to ask her in person if you ever see her in Heavilon.) Before coming to Purdue, she got her MA at the University of Washington in Seattle and BA in National Taichung Teacher's College in Taiwan. She taught English to elementary school children for three years and loved her job very much. Her research interests are World Englishes, focusing in particular on the spread of English in the Expanding Circle countries, and Second Language Writing, focusing on tailoring the World Englishes paradigm to the field of Second Language Writing. Currently, while she spends a huge amount of time taking care of her 21-month-old son, William, she is also teaching introductory composition for international students and trying to get her dissertation chapters done. This is her last year of volunteering teaching the 7:30 AM-section-106I, so is any one of you ready to become the next early bird?

Deanne Brenneman, a Continuing Lecturer in the ESL Writing Program, moved to the Lafayette area in the fall from her native Fort Wayne, Indiana. She received her BA in Linguistics and Psychology from Indiana University Bloomington in 2000 before returning to Fort Wayne to pursue a career in social work. Several years later, she returned to school and pursued her Master's Degree in English and a Graduate Certificate in TENL from Indiana/Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW). At IPFW, she worked as a TA for both the English and Psychology Departments, teaching Elementary and Basic Composition to native and ESL students, and assisting with Introductory Psychology classes. Graduating in 2010, she then worked as a tutor for international students at Canterbury High School in Fort Wayne for a year before coming to Purdue. Deanne and her husband, Reuben, will celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary this year, and have two beautiful children: Adam, four years, and Lillian, nine months. Her hobbies, if she had time for them, would include traveling, horseback riding, and scuba diving.



Purdue SLS/ESL Alumni: Where Are They Now?

Catching up with Karyn Mallett



Since her 2009 graduation, Karyn E. Mallett has been at George Mason University as Assistant Director of the English Language Institute (an IEP), as well as Adjunct Professor in the Linguistics program (teaching graduate-level Intro to Applied Linguistics/TESOL and Modern English Grammar). Big-picture-wise, Karyn is situated in the IEP but works primarily with the Provost Office's Center for International Student Access constructing, administering, and training faculty across the disciplines to teach in two new international student programs (one undergraduate and one graduate). Along the way, she has collected a sizeable amount of data (60+ interviews and 100+ surveys) from faculty and students affiliated with internationalization initiatives at Mason (about which she has a lot of writing to do). To date, the most interesting aspect of this administrative position has been co-developing sustainable collaborative practices for making principled, research-driven policy decisions that affect not just the students enrolled in the programs, but also the way the institution thinks about (and communicates about) multilingual users of English overall. In fact, this real-world exercise has led Mallett to co-edit the Diversity at Mason issue on internationalization initiatives and to realize several important things related to the field of ESL in general: 1) while there are courses/programs in Writing Program Administration, there are not many (if any?) in Language Program Administration (and perhaps there should be); 2) the SLS/ESL program at Purdue provides a bedrock of knowledge on which any professional can build confidently; and 3) administering, teaching, and researching each require different skill sets (yet, the combination can lead to really comprehensive projects). Karyn can be reached at kmallet1@gmu.edu.