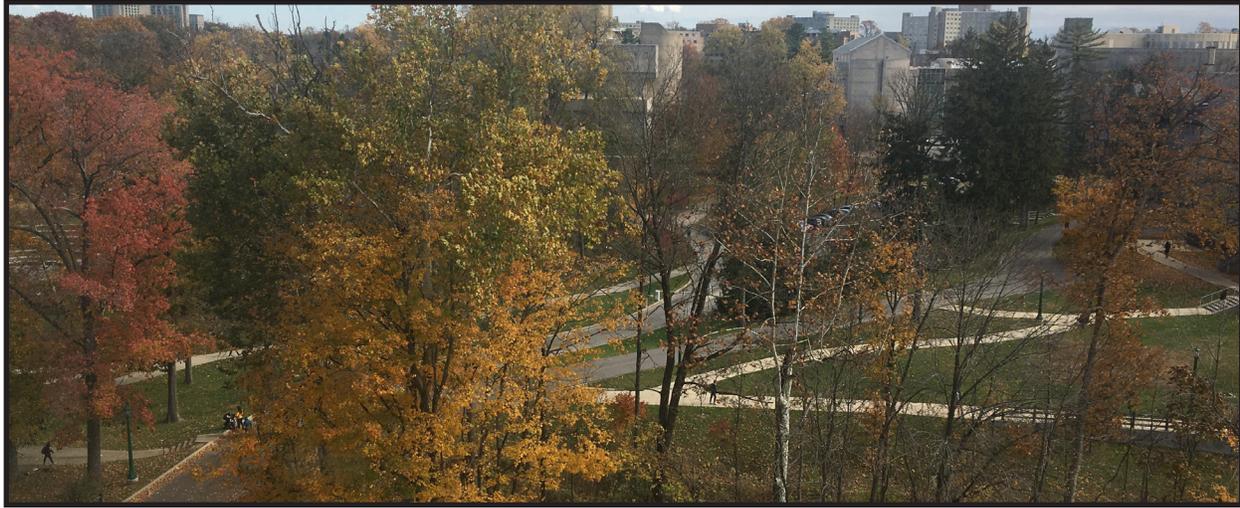


# Linguistics

at Indiana University



## Welcome to the Fall Newsletter

Welcome to the Fall 2021 newsletter, Back on Campus party edition! So much has gone on over the last year that we won't be able to cover even the highlights in this volume, but I hope that you get something of the flavor of the happenings in the department. The biggest change has been that many faculty and students find themselves working a portion of each week at home, taking care of research and developing teaching. However, with all but a few of the class being taught on campus, faculty and students are gathering again in our latest space on the 5th floor of Ballantine. From here, we can watch the seasons progress and work together.

The department recently finished an external review, which had been delayed for many years. This has been an opportunity to look at the department afresh, and to think with a longer-term vision. As part of the self-study, we collected indexes of hundreds of publications, traced nearly 300 doctoral graduates, and worked out the extraordinary level of academic

achievement of our undergraduate students. We've found, for example, that over the past few years nearly 1/4th of our linguistics majors have been elected to phi beta kappa! We hope to share more of what we've found in future newsletters.

Needless to say, we are profoundly grateful for being part of this unusual gathering of language scholars from all over the world.

Kenneth de Jong  
Chair, Department of Linguistics

### *What's Inside*

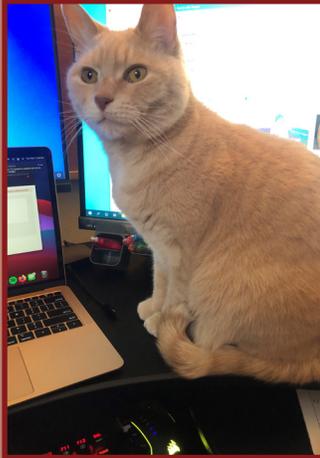
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# Work from Home with the Linguistics Department



Dr. Bunger's cat Sumi helps with online teaching

Putter Gallegos-Taylor working to become a linguistics meowster.



Is it breaktime yet?

My coworker loved helping during meetings!



James Wamsley with son Raymond and linguistics mug

Collaborator in training!



Noor's son giving feedback on her thesis

Zeeshan Sayyed and his dog work from home



Tom Grano's proudest achievement of last year, sitting on top of my second proudest achievement.

Jarod Warner with office mate Rey



This year was crazy beautiful for flowers and leaves

How do cookies work?



# Back in the Office with the Linguistics Department

Dr. Monic Nesbitt at the new faculty welcome in the college



At work in the new Ballantine lobby  
(Dr. Sandra Kuebler, Dr. Kelly Berkson, Dr. Kenneth De Jong)



Universal Dependencies Annotation discussion group



Jordin working in her office on a chilly Monday

Dr. Malgorzata Cavar working in her office



Dr. Ann Bunger meeting with AIs



Pictured are Dr. Francis Tyers, Rob Pugh and Robert Henderson from Arizona. We had 10 students, 9 of whom were from indigenous communities funded by NAACL and spent the day teaching and working on syntactic annotation for Indigenous languages. Represented were: Tojolabal, Zoque, Zapotec, Ch'ol, Maya, Totonaco, Amuzgo and Nahuatl.

# A Bright Future for Sociolinguists

Written by: Amalia Robinson

It is no secret that the Indiana University Department of Linguistics is home to renowned and respected faculty who are actively engaged in critical research in many distinct areas. This fall, we have the pleasure of welcoming two new faculty members into the department, both of whom are laying the foundation for the growth of the sociolinguistics program at IU: Dr. Monica Nesbitt, Associate Professor of Linguistics, and Dr. Jeffrey Lamontagne, Assistant Professor of French and Italian and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Linguistics. I recently had the privilege of interviewing Dr. Nesbitt and Dr. Lamontagne about their journeys to IU, their current research, and their combined vision for the future of sociolinguistics at Indiana University. Both professors report being keenly aware of and fascinated by the language variation in their surroundings at an early age, and this curiosity eventually led them to pursue careers in sociolinguistics. Some of Dr. Lamontagne's current research interests include phonological variation and change and issues of covert prestige in Laurentian French. Dr. Nesbitt is currently working on building a corpus of Black English in Boston, among many other projects. Commenting on what drew her to the Linguistics Department at Indiana University, Dr. Nesbitt referenced the accomplished faculty, cutting edge resources, and the many language departments housed on campus. Both professors expressed their belief that what sets IU apart are the relationships and "synergy" between students and faculty in Linguistics and related departments, such as Modern Languages, Psychology, Speech and Language Pathology, Second Language Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, and Computer Science.

Dr. Nesbitt said, "for me, the future of IU sociolinguistics looks like innovation, collaboration, and social justice advocacy." She



Dr. Jeffrey Lamontagne



Dr. Monica Nesbitt

shared her excitement about potential future opportunities to collaborate not only with these departments but also with various centers campus, such as the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society. Dr. Lamontagne said, "sociolinguistics is about seeing variation and, instead of turning away, asking how it works -- and why. We want students to learn not only about what languages do, but also what speakers do with it." Going forward, forging relationships and sharing data across disciplines is essential. In the current era of Zoom and online learning, Dr. Nesbitt is also exploring the impact of online sociolinguistic data collection and ways to leverage social media to recruit speakers. Both professors are encouraged by the growing number of students interested in sociolinguistics.

Speaking on the role sociolinguistics plays within the department and the discipline as a whole, Dr. Nesbitt underscored the value that it brings as a methodological approach that can be applied to practically any area of linguistics. As they look towards the future, both Dr. Nesbitt and Dr. Lamontagne are hoping to collaborate with students, faculty, and community members in innovative ways to foster the growth of sociolinguistics at IU for years to come.

# Focus on Faculty: Ann Bunger

Written By: Colette Feehan



Dr. Ann Bunger

Ann Bunger, PhD (she/her) is a senior lecturer here in the Department of Linguistics. She mostly teaches undergraduate classes like L103 (our intro for non-majors), syntax, first language acquisition, and language and thought. She is also the coordinator for graduate associate instructors and undergraduate teaching interns as well as the Director of Undergraduate Studies for linguistics. When asked what kind of bread Ann would be, we settled on pumpernickel. Ann comes to us from her hometown of Lynchburg, Virginia (the best state). She received a BS in biology (with a second linguistics major) from The College of William & Mary (also in Virginia). While there, Ann learned a delightful linguistic blend – touron, a mix between tourist and moron. Looking back, Ann says she was always thinking about language even from a young age but decided on the biology BS because she wanted to be part of the statistic for women with a Bachelor of Science degree. After two gap years working as a copy editor for scientific journals at the American Diabetes Association in Alexandria, Virginia, Ann began her graduate studies in linguistics at Northwestern University (not in Virginia). If Ann were any reptile or amphibian, she would be a Newt, (but then she

would get better).

When she began her graduate program at Northwestern she knew she wanted to do psycholinguistics, but thought she would have to do only syntax until Jeff Lidz (of the button Lidzes, not the hat Lidzes) arrived and took her under his wing. From then on, she was able to study first language acquisition. Ann's favorite color is mustard yellow, but when asked what color lightsaber she would wield, the answer was a clear, "blue." Her dissertation focused on syntactic bootstrapping and how kids learn the meanings of causative verbs. The Haiku below (provided by Ann) serves as a TL;DR summary of her dissertation work:

Causative verbs and  
events have internal parts:  
Kids learn like adults

Like many of us, several of Ann's current research projects have been delayed due to the pandemic, but she is currently working on development of a digital tool to help scaffold the research writing process for undergraduate students. If Ann were a dessert, she would be a caramel apple pie, but her favorite desserts are any that involve burnt sugar. Ann is also involved in several scholarly teaching pursuits and groups both here at IU and through the Linguistic Society of America. She is the past chair of the Linguistics in Higher Education Committee, and the current convener of the Scholarly Teaching in Linguistics Special Interest Group (or SIG for short). She is also a member of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Linguistics faculty learning community. In addition to membership in these committees, she plans and organizes mini-courses and professional development opportunities through the LSA and is involved in scholarly teaching professional development through the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL) at IU. If Ann ever got a tattoo (though she never would) it would be an outline of the state of Virginia.

# What's Happening with LCIU?

Written By: Trey Jagiella



Linguistics Students at Formal Linguistics Night in downtown Bloomington.

As things have been gradually returning to in-person, this fall, LCIU has also been working on hosting fun, in-person events where we can still practice COVID safety measures. In September, we hosted a trivia night conducted by the Linguistic Department's very own trivia master, Colette Feehan. In October, we hosted "formal linguistics" night. For this event, we dressed up in some fancy clothes and had a nice dinner in downtown Bloomington. In November, we are looking to host a game night as our final event of the semester. Going forward into the spring, we are planning ice skating, a cocktail hour, a tie dye event, and an end of the year picnic.

Looking at the academic side of things, we are planning on working with the fellow linguists at the University of Kentucky to participate for the second year in the Central Kentucky Linguistics Conference (CKLiC). This will give students an opportunity to present the research they are currently working on in a friendly, low-stakes environment.

Lastly, we would like to give a special thank you to Prof. Barbara Vance for serving as the club's new advisor and to Prof. Gosia Cavar, moderator of the Linguist List, for providing the Linguistics Club with a storage and meeting space.

# Faculty News



**Dr. Kelly Berkson:** During the pandemic, members of the Chin Languages Research Project used Zoom a LOT! Kelly Berkson received an NSF RAPID Award entitled “RAPID: Collaborative Research: Providing useable COVID-19 health information to linguistically underserved people” (Award # 2031060) with Shobhana Chelliah and Sara Champlin at the University of North Texas. Kenneth Van Bik at Cal. State Fullerton also served as a crucial collaborator. For this project, we conducted a large-scale community interview project, where students interviewed Chin community members about their experiences with COVID, social distancing, and accessing reliable health information. These interviews, which constitute the first existing corpus of conversational Hakha Lai data, will be archived at CoRSAL, the Computational Resource for South Asian Languages.

Want to help support our students in continuing this work? Get an end of year tax deduction by making a donation to the Chin Languages Research Fund: <https://www.chinlanguages.org/donate>

**Dr. Stuart Davis** has been engaged in collaborative work with Kelly Berkson on the American version of Canadian Raising, which they term ‘American Raising’. A recent publication (along with former undergraduate student Alyssa Strickler) entitled “Unlocking the Mystery of Dialect B: A Note on Incipient /aI/-raising in Fort Wayne” appeared in *American Speech* in 2020. Their edited monograph *American Raising* is set to appear later this year in the series *Publications of the American Dialect Society*. Stuart Davis has also been collaborating with graduate student Abdullah Alfaifi on a series of articles on Faifi Arabic, an understudied dialect of Arabic spoken in the Faifa mountains in the southwest corner of Saudi Arabia. These papers include “A Different Path to [f]: Labiodentalization in Faifi Arabic” in *Papers in Historical Phonology* in 2019, “An Examination of the /m-/ Definite Article in Upper Faifi Arabic” in *Zeitschrift für Arabische Linguistik/Journal of Arabic Linguistics* in 2021, and “The Faifi Arabic [st] Reflex of Sād: Proto-Semitic or Substrate?” to appear in *Journal of Semitic Studies* in 2022.

## Graduate Student News

**Dr. Colette Feehan:** This year I successfully defended my dissertation, was scouted for a job as an audiobook director for Hachette Audio Group, was appointed Dean of one of the Spanish immersion summer programs for Concordia Language Villages, and I won a Science Communication award with a \$1000 cash prize from the Acoustical Society of America for my ongoing Tiktok series The Science of Voice Acting which I will be accepting at the Seattle meeting in December.

**Noor Abo Mokh:** I received a Research Award from the IU Graduate and Professional Student Government. The award amount is \$1,000.

**Jarod Warner:** This fall semester, I was lucky enough to do a poster presentation at a conference at the University of Chicago. It was about how the phonology of Belize Kriol shows complexity. Plus, I got to spend time with a group of wonderful colleagues from our Department of Linguistics !

**Stefon Flego:**

Flego, Stefon, and Jon Forrest (2021). Leveraging the temporal dynamics of anticipatory vowel-to-vowel coarticulation in linguistic prediction: A statistical modeling approach. *Journal of Phonetics*, 88, 101093. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2021.101093>

Flego, Stefon (2021, September). Inter-morpheme asymmetry in vowel informativity is a path to mutation. Oral presentation given in the Phonological Diversity Matters thematic session at the 50th Poznań Linguistic Meeting. Held virtually.

Flego, Stefon, and Jon Forrest (2021, February). Interspeaker variation in anticipatory coarticulation: A whole-formant approach. Oral presentation given at the 17th Annual Meeting of the Associazione Italiana Scienze della Voce. Held virtually.

Flego, Stefon (2021, January). Vowel height gradation in Dinka: From perceptuo-motor "noise" to morphosyntactic exponence. Poster presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Held virtually.

## Alumni News

**Elizabeth Liapunov Cook:** After 5 years of teaching at a successful bilingual/bicultural community school on the Navajo Reservation, in 2006, I joined an effort by a group of Navajo educators, NLR, to get Rosetta Stone to produce Rosetta Stone Navajo. Levels I and II came out on CD discs in 2010 and was very successful in promoting the use of Navajo in homes and schools. Due to advances in technology, the discs are no longer supported by the newer computers. In August of this year, Rosetta Stone Navajo became available as an App for all mobile devices. For those who are interested, Rosetta Stone Navajo can be ordered at our website: [navajorenaissance.org](http://navajorenaissance.org), not at Rosetta Stone although they support the technology. A workbook for Level I will be available from NLR in January 2021.

**Kathryn Medill** (M.A. Linguistics 2016) graduated from Johns Hopkins University's Department of Near Eastern Studies with a Ph.D. in

Hebrew Bible and Northwest Semitic Languages. Her dissertation was entitled, "You Will Know Me By My Writing: The Scribes' Choice of Goal-Marking Strategies in Biblical Hebrew in the Light of Social, Historical, and Linguistic Correlates," and draws on methodologies from corpus linguistics and historical sociolinguistics.

**Rodney B. Sangster**, IU Linguistics Dept. Ph.D., 1970. He is a former Associate Professor of Slavic Linguistics at IU (1972-1988). He can be reached at [rsangster1@cox.net](mailto:rsangster1@cox.net) He has written two books;

*Reinventing Structuralism: What Sign Relations Reveal about Consciousness*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, Trends in Linguistics, Vol. 264, 2013.

*Follow the Signs: Archetypes of Consciousness Embodied in the Signs of Language*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, Studies in Functional and Structural Linguistics, Vol. 79, 2020.

## From the Director of Graduate Studies: Tom Grano

The 2021 calendar year saw the transition from largely remote learning and participation in the spring semester back into mostly in-person modality with the arrival of the fall semester. For example, graduate admissions was conducted exclusively online in the early part of the year, including even a Zoom-based faculty “meet-and-greet” for prospective students in early March. Flash forward to August 18, and our annual new graduate student orientation is once again taking place face-to-face. Our graduate program has remained strong throughout this period of adjustment, both in terms of the size of our incoming graduate cohort as well as the number of recently awarded Masters and PhD degrees.

On the incoming end, we warmly welcome our six new PhD students and ten new Masters students who joined us this fall. Of the six new PhD students, two are in the General PhD program: Jose Benavides Pantoja and Grayson Ziegler; and four are in Computational Linguistics: Santiago Arroniz Parra, Alexandra O’Neil, Robert Allen Pugh, and Daniel Glen Swanson. Among the Masters students, four are in General Linguistics: Emma Bonham, Zachary Leech, Amalia Robinson, and Nicholas Williams; and six are in Computational Linguistics: Andrew Davis, Matthew Fort, Jacob Hoffman, Lily Kawaoto, Jinhua Qian, and Holly Redman. With the addition of these students, our department currently has a total of 18 Masters students and 66 PhD students.

In the 2021 calendar year, eight students were awarded Masters degrees: Sharon Chang, Chien-Han Hsiao, Scott Kunkel, Jisu Park, Falcon Restrepo Ramos, Anthony Squire, Zuoyu Tian, and Kazuki Yabe. And congratulations are in order to seven students who successfully defended their PhD dissertations during the 2021 calendar year: Sherman Charles, Colette Feehan, Hai Hu, Levi King, Samson Lotven, Michael McGuire, and Paul Richards.

A glimpse of some of the extraordinary range of research being undertaken by our current and recent PhD candidates can be had by looking at the lineup of our most recent departmental Research Round Robin: Dissertation Edition, which took place via Zoom on April 2: J.C. Wamsley: ‘Topics in Hakha Lai Determination’, Michael McGuire ‘Computational Sentiment Analysis of an 18th Century Corpus of Moravian English Memoirs’, Feier Gao ‘Beyond Lexical Meaning: What Does Mandarin Tonal Alternation Tell Us’, Colette Feehan ‘Acoustic and Articulatory Phonetics of Voice Acting’, and Yue Chen ‘Multimodal Emotion Recognition with Audio and Text’.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Professor Stuart Davis for his two years of excellent service as Director of Graduate Studies, and also to thank him for his help with my transition into this role, which took place this past summer. I look forward to continuing to work with our graduate students in this role throughout the academic year.



Samson Lotven's virtual dissertation defense July 8, 2021

## From the Director of Undergraduate Studies: Ann Bunger

We're back baby! On campus, that is.

After two and a half semesters and two graduations apart, IU resumed (mostly) in-person classes this fall. While we have fewer chances to meet each other's pets, and learning the IPA while masked can be a challenge, meeting in person is energizing (and maybe also a little exhausting).

Despite the strange end to their time at IU, our 38 2021 graduates were a high-achieving bunch. Two students earned 2021 Outstanding Senior Awards: Alexis Bujtas and Noelle Turney. And (what must be a record?) 18 students earned Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Awards: Alexis Bujtas, Evan Cox, Olivia DeCrane, Kiley Gardner, Julia Haza, Sylvie Martin-Eberhardt, Alina Matthews, Alexandra O'Neil, Hailea Rose, Wendy Ruiz, Lorelei Schmidt, Jenna Smith, Michael Smith, Lydia Spellman, Noelle Turney, Chithra Vedantam, Alexis Wagner, and Lauren Weed. Alexis Bujtas, Olivia DeCrane, Julia Haza, Sylvie Martin-Eberhardt, Alexandra O'Neil, and Noelle Turney were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

Our graduates moved on to new beginnings in graduate school, law school, public service, and publishing, among other endeavors. You can view a video the department created to celebrate our 2021 graduating class here: <https://youtu.be/w-e0VWgHFps>

As we begin the Fall 2021 semester, our department maintains a high number of active undergraduate majors: there are currently 96 majors pursuing a B.A. in linguistics or linguistics and anthropology or a B.S. in computational linguistics and 27 students minoring in one of these areas.

Many of these students are involved in projects outside of their regular classes. Here are some highlights:

- **Isabelle Amacker** has been collaborating on ultrasound research with Dr. Malgorzata Cavar through the Center of Excellence for Women & Technology (CEWiT) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Last year they published a paper together on "Palatalization in

Ukrainian, Polish and Russian."

- **Chan Lu** and Dr. Tom Grano presented a virtual poster on "Mandarin *xiang* and the architecture of attitude reports" at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

- **Alex O'Neil**, Dr. Sandra Kuebler, and a graduate student from IU's Department of Information and Library Science published a paper "On the interaction between annotation quality and classifier performance in abusive language detection."

- **Aaryana Rajanala** and **Amanda Kessler** have begun research with Dr. Kuebler on conspiracy theories.

- **Decker Pope** has been working with Dr. Ann Bunger on a project investigating potential overlaps in the processing of structure in music and syntax.

- **Kiley Gardner** had an editing internship with the Victorian Studies journal, and is editor-in-chief this semester of a student-run journal, *An Inkslinger's Observance*.

- After years of frustrating cancellations, two linguistics students were able to study abroad this summer: **Morgan Ashman** in Seoul, Korea, and **Jessica Morris** in Alcala, Spain.

- Six students – **Joy Banda**, **Mikhael Hayes**, **Anne McCarthy**, **Jacob Schmitt**, **Anna Song**, and **Sydney Weber** – have served as undergraduate teaching assistants for linguistics courses this year, working with faculty members teaching Introduction to the Study of Language, Language and Computers, Phonology, and Language in the Mind.

Finally, after a brief hiatus, The UnderLings are back in action with **Janae Galburth** as President. Their primary goal this semester is to build community in a comfortable space. They began with a well-attended callout meeting in September that set the tone for how exciting a semester this will be.

Anyone interested in learning more about our undergraduate program should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Ann Bunger ([acbunger@indiana.edu](mailto:acbunger@indiana.edu)), or our staff advisers, Krystie Herndon ([kherndon@indiana.edu](mailto:kherndon@indiana.edu)) and Andy Bloomgarden ([ajbloomg@indiana.edu](mailto:ajbloomg@indiana.edu)).

# LINGUIST List



LINGUIST List editors with the Moderator, Dr. Malgorzata Cavar

It is perhaps surprising how undramatic the past year has been for the LINGUIST List. We (some of us) have missed the office and the little chat in the kitchenette in the LINGUIST List house on Bryan Avenue, Bloomington, IN, one block away from the IU campus. But all in all, it has been business as usual despite the turmoil in the world around. The submissions, the editing, the invoicing have continued at its usual pace.

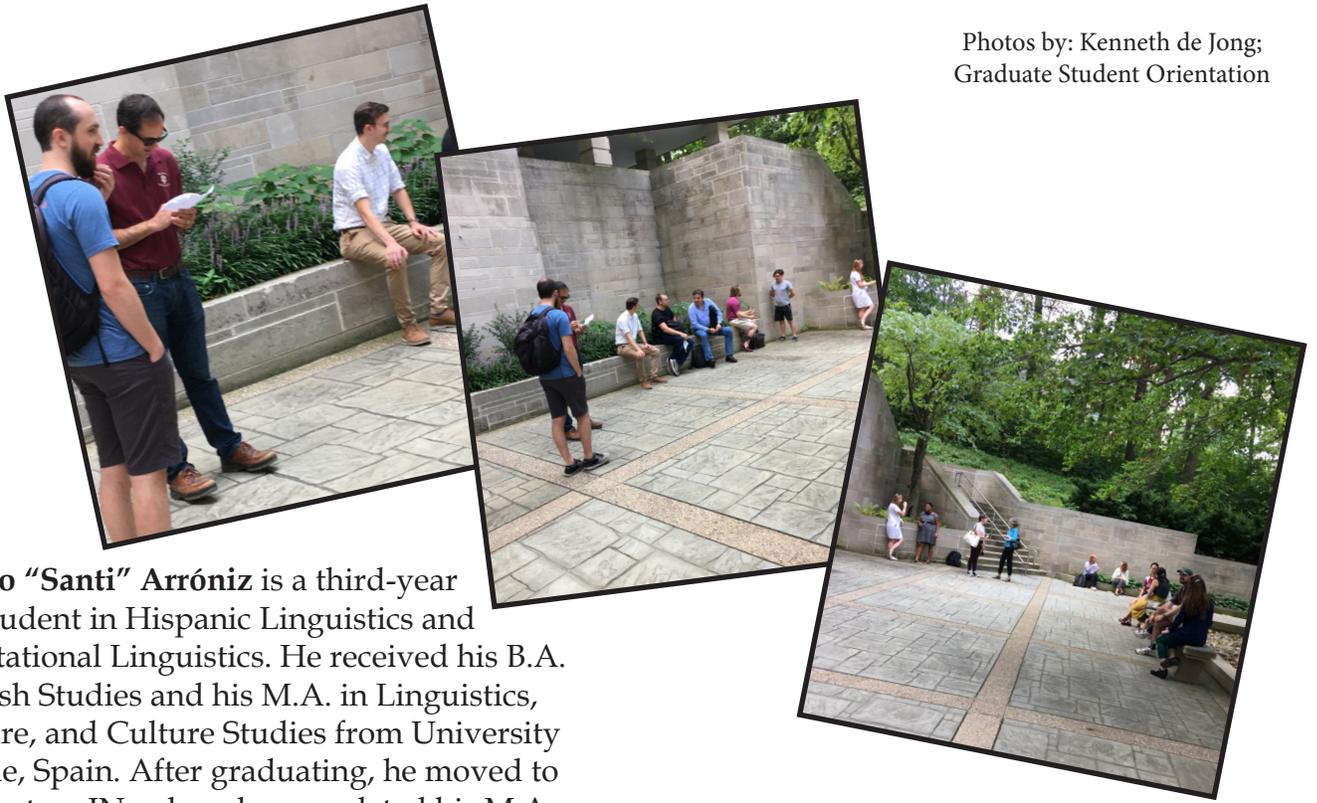
Our internal turmoil concentrated on the staff issues. Our first-in-the-history student co-moderator, Jeremy Coburn, gave up his function to conduct his dissertation research on Hadza in Tanzania. He was replaced in this position in March 2021 by Billy Dickson, graduate student of Computational Linguistics, who joined LINGUIST just a year earlier working as a publication editor. We had the first good-bye zoom for Jeremy some time in February but traveling to Tanzania to begin the fellowship was not possible, so Jeremy stayed with us a little longer. After the second round of good-byes in June, we are now prepared to keep Jeremy with us forever, while he is waiting for his program (and funding) to resume. The other big change in the LINGUIST was in the position of the Managing Editor. Becca Morris decided to complete

her impressive portfolio with some teaching experience and in August she was replaced in the role of Managing Editor by our new rising star, Lauren Perkins. At the same time our web dev “team”, Nils Hjortnaes, and our system administrator and otherwise a man of multiple talents, Joshua Sims, are collaborating, assisted by the former co-Moderator, prof. Damir Cavar, on optimizing the internal working of the LINGUIST List. Finally, Everett Green, the former jobs editor and a graduate student pursuing a dual degree in linguistics and cognitive science, had the undoubted privilege to extend his responsibilities (and his working hours) to include the whole new area, conference announcements and conference calls, in addition to the areas he had been responsible for before: institutions, readers’ profiles, FYIs and obituaries.

It takes the work of the whole team to continue the smooth operations of the LINGUIST List with so many moving points both inside and outside of the organization. Please consider supporting our student editors - Jeremy Coburn, Billy Dickson, Lauren Perkins, Sarah Goldfinch, Everett Green, Joshua Sims and Nils Hjortnaes - and donate to the LINGUIST List <https://funddrive.linguistlist.org/> Your contribution will certainly be appreciated.

# Meet the New Graduate Students

Photos by: Kenneth de Jong;  
Graduate Student Orientation



**Santiago “Santi” Arróniz** is a third-year Ph.D. student in Hispanic Linguistics and Computational Linguistics. He received his B.A. in English Studies and his M.A. in Linguistics, Literature, and Culture Studies from University of Seville, Spain. After graduating, he moved to Bloomington, IN, where he completed his M.A. in Hispanic Linguistics, and where he is currently also teaching undergraduate courses in Spanish as an Associate Instructor. His main research interests include Phonetics and Phonology, Sociolinguistics, Machine Learning, and Natural Language Processing. More recently, his research has focused on Laboratory Phonology and perception, as well as the acquisition of verbal humor by second language learners. Current projects include the perception of intonation, its role in human communication, and its effects on cross-dialectal understanding.

**Emma Bonham** is a first year M.A. student in Sociolinguistics with a strong interest in the anthropological study of language. She is particularly interested in indigenous languages and is currently studying Quechua, the language of the Inca. She hopes to focus her research on language documentation and revitalization, as well as codeswitching between Mestizo and Indigenous speakers in Latin America. In her down time, Emma enjoys hiking, plant shopping, and watching Gilmore Girls.

**Andrew Davis** is a first-year graduate student beginning his M.A. in Computational Linguistics. He is interested in many aspects of linguistics & Computational Linguistics and studied Phonological Reflexes in Arabic Dialects in the past. Now, he’s interested in AI Engineering/ Natural Language Processing for all of the sub-facets of Linguistics. Currently, he is working with the Natural Language Processing Research Lab under Dr. Damir Cavar. Outside of study & work, Andrew devotes his time to Brazilian jiu-jitsu, gardening, and his fiancée.

**Matthew Fort**, beginning an M.S. in Computational Linguistics, is from Albuquerque, New Mexico. There, he received a B.S. in Mathematics (with minors in History and Computer Science) from New Mexico Tech. His primary interests are the characteristics of propaganda - how it is formed, disseminated, and ultimately acted upon in virtual and physical systems. With the increasingly precious time, he prioritizes reading, climbing, and studying Biblical commentaries.

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## Meet the New Graduate Students

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**Alexandra O'Neil** is a first-year Ph.D. student in Computational Linguistics. She is interested in less-commonly taught languages and has experience both studying and teaching Finnish and Zulu. Additionally, she works with the Stoney language through her employment at The Language Conservancy. Her Ph.D. research focuses on enhancing access to linguistic resources and technology for native and second language speakers of under-resourced languages. Some of her current research projects involve cross-linguistic prediction of readability, the influence of morphological features on parsing performance, and the diachronic evolution of case in participle phrases in Finnish. During breaks, she enjoys crafting, cooking, spending time outdoors, and learning new skills.

**Jose Benavides Pantoja** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Linguistics program at IU. His research focuses on the documentation of indigenous and understudied languages, especially those spoken in his native Colombia (e.g., Kamëntšá, Inga, Cofán, Awa-Cuaiquer, etc.). His work incorporates analytic and theoretical descriptions that merge into the phonology-phonetics and syntax-semantics interfaces and could challenge accepted principles or generalizations. More recently, he has been interested in Biding and Pied-piping in relative clauses. Outside of academia, Jose enjoys cooking, good music, and outdoor recreation activities.

**Jinhua Qian** is from Heilongjiang Province, China. She is a first-year graduate student who is currently pursuing a M.A degree in Computational Linguistics. She works as an associate instructor in the Korean language program currently. With broad interests in linguistics, she is now expanding her knowledge in Computational Linguistics. She really enjoys what she is learning and always explores research opportunities in Computational Linguistics. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to music, spinning, and cooking.

**Holly Redman** is a first-year graduate student who is pursuing an M.A. in computational linguistics. She received her B.A. in linguistics from the University of Florida. Holly is interested in language technologies for low-resource languages, and she is currently working on building a treebank for Kapampangan. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, working out, and reading.

**Amalia Robinson** is a first-year student in the Master of Arts in General Linguistics program. Her interests include sociolinguistics, language documentation and revitalization, and multilingualism. She is currently researching negation in Lutuv, a Chin language from Western Burma, as part of her Field Methods course. In her spare time, Amalia enjoys listening to podcasts, trying new cuisines, and relaxing in the great outdoors.

**Daniel Swanson** is a first-year PhD student in Computational Linguistics with particular interest in parsers, finite-state transducers, and machine translation. When not battling compiler errors, he has been known to invent languages, study theology, and attempt to collect and read the complete works of Tolkien. He probably has more neckties than you.

**Grayson Ziegler** is a first-year PhD student in the General Linguistics program. His main interests include phonology and phonetics (specifically laboratory phonology), as well as linguistic fieldwork and field methods. Most of his work has focused on South and Southeast Asian languages, and he is specifically interested in the laryngeal contrasts in languages of those regions. In his free time, Grayson enjoys reading nature novels, cooking, and spending time with his family, his partner, and their two cats, Whitfield and Tallulah.

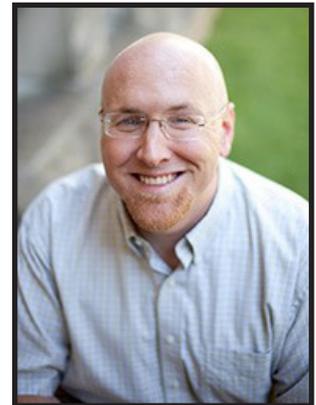
## College Advisor of the Year: Krystie Herndon



I am honored to be named College Advisor of the Year for the second time, in my 14+ years as an academic advisor. The most gratifying aspect of the award is that nominations come from the undergraduate students I advise. Since I consider connecting one of my “superpowers,” I am energized by helping undergraduate students find ways to connect their majors or minors in Linguistics, Criminal Justice, Art History, and Folklore & Ethnomusicology to opportunities, and to people who can help them not only to exercise their knowledge and skills, but also to expand their horizons. I am happy to represent all my advising colleagues as the recipient of this award, in a profession that is vital to the success and well-being of undergraduate students.

## New Second Linguistics Academic Advisor: Andy Bloomgarden

I have been working as an academic advisor for thirteen years now, as I am in my seventh year as an advisor for the College or Arts & Sciences. I am very excited to be expanding my advising portfolio to include the Department of Linguistics. Please do contact me if you have questions or need assistance.



## Linguistics Department Retirements

Photos By: Kenneth de Jong; Margaret's last day in a full-time position



Dr. Robert Botne, Dr. Steven Franks, and Margaret Anderson retired from the Linguistics Department. Margaret Anderson will be working in the department part-time after retirement. Stay tuned for more on Bob and Steve's retirements in future issues.

# Computational Linguistics: Sandra Kuebler

2021 has been another busy year for the program in Computational Linguistics. Paul Richards defended his PhD thesis on Computer simulations in pragmatics instruction: Investigating the effects of feedback on learner refusals and requests in April. He graduated from the program with a dual degree in Second Language Studies and Computational Linguistics and now works as a Lecturer at Miyazaki International College in Japan. In June, Hai Hu defended his PhD thesis on Symbolic and Neural Approaches to Natural Language Inference. After graduation, he started a tenure track position at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.

In August, we had 3 defenses: Zeeshan Ali Sanyed defended his PhD thesis on Multi-Task Learning for Morpho-Syntactic Analysis and Parsing. He graduated from the program in Computer Science and started as Visiting Assistant Professor for Computational Linguistics, replacing Damir Ćavar, who is on leave for the academic year. Levi King defended his PhD thesis on Semantic Analysis of Image-Based Learner Sentences, and Michael McGuire defended his PhD thesis on Computational Sentiment Analysis of an 18th Century Corpus of Moravian English Memoirs. Additionally, Jung Hsuan (Sharon) Chang, Anthony Squire, Zuoyu Tian, and Kazuki Yabe were awarded Masters degrees in Computational Linguistics.

In the fall semester, we had a large group of students starting in the CL program: Santiago Arroniz added CL as second major to his PhD program in Spanish Linguistics, and Jacob Hoffman added CL as second major to his MA program in Germanic Studies. Additionally, Alexandra O'Neil, Robert Pugh, and Daniel Swanson started in the PhD program, and Andrew Davis, Matthew Fort, Lily Kawaoto, Jinhua Qian, and Holly Redman started in the Masters programs. Additionally, we had a visitor, Nick Howell, working with Fran Tyers.



Universal Dependencies Annotation discussion group

Students and professors in the CL program continue to carry out research in a wide variety of areas, such as dependency parsing, language technology for under-resourced and indigenous languages, knowledge graphs and dialogue systems, speech recognition, sentiment analysis and emotion detection, abusive language detection, and conspiracy theory detection. There are active labs by Damir Ćavar, Sandra Kübler, and Francis Tyers. In addition to publications involving faculty members from CL, Zuoyu Tian has published two papers with Patrícia Amaral and others on using word embeddings to model semantic change in Portuguese. Hai Hu, He Zhou, Zuoyu Tian, Yiwen Zhang, Yina Patterson, Yanting Li, Yixin Nie, and Kyle Richardson published a paper on Chinese Natural Language Inference; and Daniel Swanson published a paper on a finite-state lexicon compiler for non-suffixational morphologies with Nick Howell.

We have also continued integrating undergraduate students into research. Sandra Kübler has been working with Alexandra O'Neil (who is now a PhD student in the program) on abusive language detection and with Amanda Kessler and Aaryana Rajanala on conspiracy theory detection. Francis Tyers has been working with Kylie Wilson on a treebank for Kapampangan, with Brian O'Connor on language identification for the languages of Mexico. Francis has also organized a workshop on syntactic annotation of indigenous languages in Mexico, for speakers of these languages.

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# Awards and Honors

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## Bachelors Degrees awarded:

**Fall 2020:**

Ruby Devonish  
 Karli Lewis  
 Logan Luther  
 Hannah Martin  
 Lena Nelson  
 Joshua Omran  
 Michael Rea  
 Megan Shamley  
 Adrian Thompson

**Spring 2021:**

Mary Bortka  
 Ben Kelly  
 Holly Lemna  
 Adamari Macias  
 Rhianna Mauro  
 Alexandra Pavot  
 Allison Reynolds  
 Delaney Sheehan  
 Emily Sherman  
 Jenna Smith

**Summer 2021:**

Christopher Robbins

***With distinction:***

Zoe Crim  
 Natalia Lange  
 Hailea Rose  
 Olivia Ryan  
 Anna Song  
 Isaak Spain  
 Lauren Weed

***With high distinction:***

Evan Cox  
 Wendy Ruiz  
 Lorelei Schmidt  
 Lydia Spellman  
 Alexis Wagner

***With highest distinction:***

Alexis Bujtas  
 Olivia De Crane  
 Kiley Gardner  
 Julia Haza  
 Sylvia Martin-Eberhardt  
 Alina Matthews  
 Alexandra O'Neil  
 Michael Smith  
 Noelle Turney  
 Chithra Vedantam

**MA's & MS's awarded:**

Sharon Chang  
 Chien-Han Hsiao  
 Scott Kunkel, Jisu Park  
 Falcon Restrepo Ramos  
 Anthony Squire  
 Zuoyu Tian  
 Kazuki Yabe

**PhD theses defended:****2021**

**Colette Feehan.** "Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics of Voice Acting"

**Michael McGuire.** "Computational Sentiment Analysis of an 18th Century Corpus of Moravian English Memoirs."

**Levi King.** "Semantic Analysis of Image-Based Learner Sentences"

**Samson Lotven.** "The Phonetics and Phonology of Zophei"

**Hai Hu.** "Symbolic and Neural Approaches to Natural Language Inference."

**Paul Richards.** "Computer Simulation in Pragmatics Instruction: Investigating the Effects of Feedback on Learner Refusals and Requests."

**2020**

**Yiwen Zhang.** "Subjectivity and Nominal Property Concepts in Mandarin Chinese."

**Hassan Bokhari.** "A Comprehensive Analysis of Coda Clusters in Hijazi Arabic: an Optimality-Theoretic Perspective."

**HONORS***Undergraduate**Outstanding Senior Award:*

Alexis Bujtas  
Noelle Turney

*Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Award:*

Alexis Bujtas  
Evan Cox  
Olivia DeCrane  
Kiley Gardner  
Julia Haza  
Sylvie Martin-Eberhardt  
Alina Matthews  
Alexandra O'Neil  
Hailea Rose  
Wendy Ruiz  
Lorelei Schmidt  
Jenna Smith  
Michael Smith  
Lydia Spellman  
Noelle Turney  
Chithra Vedantam  
Alexis Wagner  
Lauren Weed

*Phi Beta Kappa: Fall 2020:*

Alex Bujtas  
Julia Haza  
Noelle Turney

*Spring 2021:*

Olivia DeCrane  
Sylvie Martin-Eberhardt

**Graduate**

**Fred W. Householder Best Research Paper Award:** Scott Kunkel, Lauren Perkins, and Arielle Roadman for "The Perception of Dental Stop Assibilation in Two Dialects of French", written for Kenneth de Jong's L541, Introduction to Phonetics

**FUNDING AWARDS****Graduate***College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship:*

**Feier Gao**, for 2021-2022

*Fred W. Householder Memorial Student Research Fund:*

**He Zhou.** \$500 in support of Universal Dependency Treebank for Xibe

*College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award*

**He Zhou.** \$150 in support of his presenting "Universal Dependency Treebank for Xibe" at the Universal Dependencies Workshop.

**Hai Hu.** \$100 in support of his presenting "Original Chinese Natural Language Inference" at the Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing Conference.

**Yi-An Chen.** \$60 in support of his presenting "The Whiner is Gone: a Computer-mediated Discourse Analysis of Social Actors Living in Quarantine" at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

**Soyoung Kim.** \$40 in support of her presenting "Copular Constructions in Mbat: Grammatical and Classificatory Considerations" at the 52nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics.

*University Graduate School Grant-in-Aid in Support of Dissertation Research:*

**Jeremy Coburn.** \$1000 in support of doctoral thesis research

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# Awards and Honors Cont...

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## Faculty

**NSF:** Sandra Kuebler, to support research in automatic monitoring of media content on the web.

## Student

**Daniel A. Dinnsen AI Excellence-in-teaching Award:** (\$300):

**Patricia McDonough**, for excellence in developing three new classes in a difficult environment.

## TEACHING AWARDS

### Faculty

**Trustees Teaching Awards:**

Barbara Vance

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## Funds for Supporting the Linguistics Department

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**-Linguistics Student Fellowship Fund:** To provide a base for supporting graduate students. In the shorter term, this fund has enabled summer fellowships to attend institutes and other training venues pertinent to their research development. In the long run, we hope to have sufficient resources to endow a fellowship for a student, specifically to enable them to complete critical periods of their doctoral research. The current balance is roughly 25% of what is necessary for this purpose.

**Linguistics Student Support Fund:** To provide support, especially, for undergraduate research, including research grants and short-term fellowships. There is a good base for smaller grants of this type currently, and support for this fund will enable this program to continue and to grow, as more and more undergraduates are finding their way into research projects.

**Student Conference Travel Fund:** To provide support grants for students to attend conferences related to their areas of research. Each year, as many as 10 awards are made to graduate students for this purpose, as conference participation is a crucial element in their developing their awareness of the larger discipline and in networking with eminent scholars in their field of research.

**Daniel Dinnsen Excellence in Teaching Fund:** To provide support for an annual award for teaching excellence among our graduate students. Each year, a financial award is given to graduate teachers nominated by supervising faculty. Over the past years, student awards have recognized innovations in service learning, and the development of new classes by our graduate students.

**Linguistics Enrichment Fund:** The linguistics enrichment fund is the longest-running fund, supporting a variety of departmental activities, as well as underwriting the other funds in cases where they are drawn down.

**Fred W. Householder Memorial Fund:** To provide support for graduate student research expenses. This fund has been providing for a large number of Householder Grants to individual graduate students who are in the process of conducting larger-scale research projects which require financial outlays. Support for this fund will enable this very active program to continue. Fred Householder was a long term faculty member in the department who is known for his dedication to graduate student development and research.

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## Our Donors 2020-2021

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### **Linguistics Student Fellowship Fund**

Robert Botne  
Carolyn de Jong & Kenneth de Jong  
Thomas Grano  
Catharina de Jonge-Kannan & Vijay Kannan  
Samuel Obeng & Cecelia Obeng

### **Linguistics Student Support Fund**

Bradley J. Bohnert & Kathleen R Bohnert  
Gina Skelton Koons & Karl M. Koons, III  
Julia A. Franks  
Lisa Sulski LoVallo & Michael LoVallo  
Richard D. Janda & Barbara S. Vance  
Stuart Davis

### **Daniel A. Dinnsen Excellence-in-Teaching Fund**

Cynthia Clopper

### **Linguistics Enrichment Fund**

Susan M. Szarkowitz  
Sandra Kuebler  
Lisa Sulski LoVallo & Michael LoVallo

Marvin D. Moody

Kelly Berkson

Joe J. Ree

Hila A. Hill

Diana T. Praus

Craig A. Noll

Catharina de Jonge-Kannan & Vijay Kannan

Brian Jose

Bradley J. Bohnert & Kathleen R Bohnert

### **Fred W. Householder Memorial Student Research Fund**

Susie H. & Robert L. Cheng

Mimi Bentley

J.J. & Mary J. Pia

Gerald and Katherine Tullai

Ronald A. Goldsmith

Ann M. Coady & James M. Coady

Brian Jose

Gerald J. Tullai & Katherine G. Tullai

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# Thank You!

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# Indiana University Linguistics

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This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Department of Linguistics with support from the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Alumni Relations, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

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Chair .....Kenneth de Jong  
Newsletter Editor .....Meaghan Gallegos

### College of Arts & Sciences

Executive Dean .....Rick Van Kooten  
Executive Director of Advancement ....Travis Paulin  
Director of Alumni Relations .....Vanessa Cloe



## Linguistics alumni – *What’s new with you?*

Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates will be used for the next newsletter and to keep our records up to date. Mail to the address below, or email your update to [LingDept@indiana.edu](mailto:LingDept@indiana.edu).

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Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Work address \_\_\_\_\_

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Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Home page \_\_\_\_\_

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