



## DEILING You In Dealt a New Hand

Wayne B. Dickerson



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As Doug Kibbee notes in his Message from the Director, DEIL is approaching an historic point. With the start of the Fall 2008 semester, the unit that we knew as the Division of English as a Second Language, and more recently as the Division of English as an International Language, will officially come to an end after more than a half-century.

For those of us on the faculty who have invested enormously in the success of the Division over the years, and for those of you who felt proud to be among its graduates, this turn of

events, although full of exciting promise, also brings with it a sense of loss. We understand the important academic advantages of this merger going forward, and we appreciate the fact that much of what we have worked for together over the years will be preserved. Elabbas Benmamoun, Head of Linguistics, likes to think of the merger as giving DEIL a new, more secure home. That is, our various departmental endeavors are more likely to succeed inside a larger unit than in a small, isolated department. Even so, we can empathize with family-owned stores when WalMart comes to town. Bigger does not always feel like better, particularly at the start.

Many things will continue. Our ESL program and MATESL curriculum will go forward as before. We will keep on recognizing our graduates with our teaching and academic awards. Our library, with its unique collection of ESL teaching materials and its special alumni author's collection, will be an on-going resource to all ESL/EFL teachers-in-training. Our role in testing and placing incoming international students through the ESL Placement Test (EPT) will remain. And our DEIL faculty will move into Linguistics to create one of the larg-

est units in the new School of Cultures, Languages and Linguistics (inaugurated Fall 2007 under the continuing direction of Doug Kibbee, who has also been our interim Director these last three years).

Some things will cease. One casualty of the merger is this newsletter for alumni, *DEILING You In*, but not just because its name would have to change. For the eighteen years of its existence, it has been a family affair; that's how we have felt about it on this end. We created the newsletter and carried it on because we did not want to lose touch with you nor have you lose touch with us. It has been a joint and voluntary effort beginning when Laura Hahn and I started the newsletter with the encouragement of Braj Kachru and continuing through the editors who brought each of the 30 issues to the light of day, namely, Laura Hahn (1986) (Term: Fall 1990 - Spring 1993), Portia Williams (1995) (Term: Fall 1993 - Fall 1994), Anna Kasten (1985) (Term: Spring 1995 - Spring 1999), Jean Czaja (1998) (Term: Fall 1999 - Spring 2000), and Patti Watts (1994) (Term: Fall 2001 - Spring 2008). It has been my distinct pleasure to work with all of these talented editors as the Consulting Editor and to serve briefly

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as a DYI editor, too (Term: Fall 2000 - Spring 2001).

To consolidate the work of the two merging units, a major move is underway to combine as many functions as possible so that there is no duplication of effort. The Department of Linguistics has its own alumni association. My hope and expectation is that our alumni efforts will continue within the larger unit. To help you understand where I plan to focus my energies, I want to share with you my personal goals for this new academic year as they relate to our alumni.

1. I would like to see that past issues of DYI continue to be available on the new Department of Linguistics website. I know that they have been a resource to many of you who are looking for a lead on a past classmate or want to create an

alumni group in your home country.

2. I would like to continue our alumni database. I began our current database in 1990 and have maintained it all these years to provide an easy way to keep track of our far-flung tribe and to notify you each time there is a new issue of DYI.

3. I would like to have a distinctive MATESL corner in the Linguistics alumni publication where our alumni, past and future, can continue to report on happenings in our growing family and can learn what's happening here.

4. I would like the new Linguistics website to have an alumni update form as we have had on the DEIL website so you can easily send us your news. We have Jean Czaja to thank for this electronic feature.

5. I would like to continue our

alumni listserv as a way for our alumni community to share with other alumni and with current MA candidates information about ESL/EFL job opportunities and working conditions around the globe. This service has already been an important resource. We have Stephanie Hanson (2006) to thank for its creation and Amanda Huensch (2007) for carrying it on.

It would make me happy to realize these five goals early on so there is no loss in the continuity of our alumni efforts and to mitigate somewhat the loss that I, and perhaps you, feel because of the changes before us. As we make progress on these fronts, I will let you know. Until then, my best wishes to you all.

Wayne



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## Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

The University of Illinois began offering English as a Second Language courses in 1947, and established a Division of English as a Second Language in 1952. In 2008, the Division of English as an International Language (as we are now called) will cease to exist as an independent unit. DEIL will merge with the Department of Linguistics.

One might be tempted to see this loss of independence as a sad occasion. However on this occasion we do not feel sadness, but rather excitement. The MATESL remains, with a broader range of electives for students. The new merger will permit us for the first time to offer a PhD program for those students who wish to continue on after their MATESL. In the past, students have had to leave DEIL or even the Uni-

versity of Illinois in order to pursue their advanced research interests in the teaching of English as a second language.

The creation of a PhD option in Second Language Studies, within the new Department of Linguistics, also provides access to some of the sharpest minds in applied and theoretical linguistics. Second Language Studies encompasses the teaching of all languages as second languages, taking into account the more than thirty languages that are taught within the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics. It all adds up to an exciting new environment for the study of language acquisition.

Another new environment for the teaching of English as a Second Language is afforded by the internet. Wayne Dickerson, Fred Davidson and Hugh Bishop have been exploring opportunities to deliver some EIL courses electronically. We will

keep you posted on these developments.

The future for our students and faculty has thus never been brighter. It's especially bright for longtime DEIL faculty member Fred Davidson, who has just been promoted to the rank of Professor. It's a great recognition of Fred's scholarly accomplishments and devoted teaching and mentoring. Please join us in congratulating Fred on this milestone in his career.

The next message of this sort will come from the Head of the Department of Linguistics. It has been a great privilege to work with the faculty and students of DEIL over the past few years. Fortunately I do not really have to say goodbye, as I'll continue connections to you through the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics. In that capacity, I look forward to advancing with you to the new frontiers of English language teaching.

With all best wishes,

Doug



# Alumni Update

**Susan Osuch** (1977) wears many hats as Director and co-owner of Englishworks, Inc., an English language school in Plano, Texas. Prior to that, she taught English in the state university system for ten years.  
*susanosuch@englishworksinc.com*

**Nuchamon (Stitnimankarn) James** (1979) teaches at Miami Dade College and has had an opportunity to connect there with fellow DEIL alum, **John Kostovich** (1976) for Thai food and a robust discussion about teaching.  
*nuchnbill@aol.com*,  
*jkostovi@mdc.edu*

**Tim Collins** (1987) just completed a two-year Fulbright scholarship in Taiwan, where he was academic director of the Fulbright Taiwan English Teaching Program. While the experience was rewarding, he is eager to return to Chicago and his position at National-Louis University in Chicago. Tim also published three books recently: *Gateway to Science*, *Avoid the Mistake*, and *Classic Classroom Activities*. The latter contains activities to accompany the Oxford English Picture Dictionary.  
*tgcollins@earthlink.net*

**Marion Friebus-Flaman** (1992) is transitioning to two new roles (yes, two!). This fall she will serve as Assistant Principal at Dooley Elementary School in Schaumburg, Illinois and as the Dual Language/Modern Languages Coordinator for the school district. Son, Ben, will be in sixth grade and keeps Mom busy! Hats off to you!  
*MarionFlam@sd54.org*

**Jean Ghadiri** (1992) has been teaching at Harper College in Palatine, Illinois for the last eight years. She and Majid will become empty-nesters this Fall with all three children away at college.  
*jghadiri1@yahoo.com*

**Julie Prentice** (1992) is back in the States after fourteen years of teaching English in China and Tibet. She is teaching ESL part-time at Parkland College and at UIUC while looking for a full-time position.  
*fisherbunnie@hotmail.com*

**Juan Pedro Rica** (1993) is now Dr. Rica, having received his Doctorate in English Studies from Complutense University in Madrid. His dissertation on corpus linguistics and phraseology received the highest

marks (a unanimous cum laude). Well done, Juan Pedro!  
*juanpe@illinoisalumni.org*

**Joonmi Hwang** (1995) is back in Houston substitute teaching at an elementary school while she investigates other work possibilities.  
*hjoonmi@yahoo.com*

**Jaana Thorarensen** (1996) loves her work as ESOL coordinator for Francis Howell School District in St. Charles, Missouri, where the number of ELL students has doubled in the last four years. Jaana has two children at home and one son at Saint Louis University.  
*anjthorarensen@charter.net*

**Sue (McDonagh) Amaya** (1997) continues to expand her teaching repertoire by teaching Spanish at a middle school in Phoenix, Arizona. Daughter, Isabela, turned three this year.  
*sm\_amaya@yahoo.com*

After leading the Multimedia Lab at the US-Costa Rica Bi-National Center for several years, **Bernardo Angulo** (1997) now works for Fiserv CB Worldwide, the world's largest banking software developer as a full-time translator. He also recently received a special acknowledgement for serving as technology coordinator for the local TESOL convention. Bernardo and wife Kattia live in Costa Rica with their son Alex (5).  
*bernardo.angulo@cbs.fiserv.com*

**Steve Song** (1997) received his Doctorate from Harvard in June 2007 and is already reaping the benefits, having been named Dean of Faculty at a Christian international school in China. Double congratulations, Steve!  
*songst@gse.harvard.edu*

**Rungruedee "Nice" Naratreegul** (1999) continues to work in Public Relations for an American company in Thailand. She and other DEILers enjoyed a lovely reunion in September. **Pimyupa "Pim" Watkhaolarm** (1999) *pimyupa.w@msu.ac.th*, **Bussayanee "Bus" Getmanee** (1999) *lbws@kmitnb.ac.th*, **Duangrudee "Petch" Charoenbundit** (2001) *thepetchy@hotmail.com*—who were also in attendance—all teach English as the university level.  
*naratree@hotmail.com*

**Jeongwon Yoon** (1999) writes that he is attempting to revitalize the formerly active DEIL alumni group in Korea. If you are in Korea, please write him with your update information. I know he will appreciate your help.  
*jwoon5@hotmail.com*

**Kyung Eun Yoon** (1999) is a professor at the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL) where she teaches beginning and intermediate Korean in the newly established Korean program in the department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures. Best wishes in your new position!  
*kyoon3@yahoo.com*

**Jin-Suk Byun** (2000) started working as an instructor in TESOL for the Department of Childhood Education at the University of North Florida Fall 2007 and will continue in a tenure-track position this Fall. He writes that all the knowledge and experience he gained in DEIL help him a lot!  
*jinsbyun@gmail.com*

**Jungtae Kim** (2000) is a tenure track professor in Paichai University's newly formed TESOL department. The department has the distinction of being the first undergraduate TESOL program in Korea. Best wishes, Jungtae!  
*Kim.jungtae@gmail.com*

**Jaihee Kwon** (2001) returned to Korea in 2005 and has been teaching a TOEIC class at Cheongju University near her family in Daejeon.  
*kwon.jaihee@gmail.com*

**I-Chun Lee** (2001) had a busy year. She married and relocated to Raleigh, North Carolina and will begin teaching ESL in an elementary school this fall. Before her move to the States, I-Chun taught ESL for five years at a private elementary school in Taipei. She found herself in good company, working with fellow DEIL Alum **Wen-Chin (Patty) Lee** (2000). Good luck, I-Chun!  
*s831234@yahoo.com*

It's a big year for **Mi-Suk Seo** (2001). After receiving her doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Illinois, Mi-Suk accepted a tenure-track position at California State University in Sacramento. She and husband, **Julian Elias** (2001), head west this summer. Best wishes to you both!  
*misukseo@uiuc.edu*,  
*eliasjulian@hotmail.com*

**Kátia Mello** (2003) has good news: She has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship for doctoral studies. Waiting on news about where. Congratulations, Kátia!  
*katiamello@hotmail.com*

**Emily Rebro** (2003) made the move to Tucson, Arizona where she continues to work as a supervisor for Pearson assessing

reading/writing on the SAT in addition to using her K-12 endorsement to work as a substitute teacher. In her free time, she is looking around for ESL faculty positions in the area. That's a lot, Emily! Sadly, Emily reports the loss of her mother to lung cancer. [erebro@yahoo.com](mailto:erebro@yahoo.com)

**John Young** (2003) proudly welcomed home his second son, Théo, in October. He and Miho are both working on completing PhDs at the University of Illinois in between changing diapers and attending to big brother, Seiji who will turn three in August. [bayoujay@hotmail.com](mailto:bayoujay@hotmail.com)

**Sharon (Pyun) Yoon** (2004) relocated to St. Louis, Missouri and is working for Washington University as the Associate Director of MBA Student Affairs. [sharonyoon@wustl.edu](mailto:sharonyoon@wustl.edu)

After tackling a year of doctoral studies at University of Texas, **Elina Banzina** (2007) is working her way back to the mid-west. She hopes to transfer to University of Indiana or Ohio State in the fall. [banzina@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:banzina@mail.utexas.edu)

**David Bartsch** (2007) teaches English at Qatar University. He is enjoying it so much that he invites other DEILers to consider teaching there as well. [David.Bartsch@qu.edu.qa](mailto:David.Bartsch@qu.edu.qa)

**Amanda Huensch** (2007) is the first DEIL graduate accepted to take qualifying exams to enter the new doctoral program in Second Language Studies in our newly reconstituted Department of Linguistics. She continues to work on alumni matters and will help to integrate MATESL alumni into the alumni efforts of our new department. This fall she will TA with Professor Koshik in our MATESL practicum, working with incoming MATESL students, something she's really looking forward to, she says. She takes over from **Sue Ingels** (2005) who has been Professor Koshik's TA for the last two years. [huensch@illinois.edu](mailto:huensch@illinois.edu), [ingels@illinois.edu](mailto:ingels@illinois.edu)

**Zehra Toprak** (2007) relocated to Boston, where her husband is a post-doc at Harvard. Zehra hopes to land a teaching or administrative position working with international students. Good luck! [zehratoprak@gmail.com](mailto:zehratoprak@gmail.com) ■

## DEIL Award Winners

2008

### *The DEIL Peter Strevens Award for Academic Excellence*

Vanesa Rouillon

### *The DEIL Katharine O. Aston Award for Outstanding Masters Thesis*

Julieta Fernandez

### *The DEIL Mary A. Hussey Award for Excellence in ESL Teaching*

Soo Hyon Kim

### *The DEIL Peter Strevens Award for Excellence in Teaching in the IEI*

Julieta Fernandez

### *Graduation with Distinction\**

Elena Babkova

Sun Kyung Lee

Hongli Li

Shafinaz Ahmed

Amanda Huensch

*\*Two different achievements qualify a person for this honor. The first is a grade of HIGH-PASS for the whole comprehensive examination. The second is a grade of PASS for the whole exam and a perfect 4.0 GPA for all courses taken in the MATESL curriculum.*

## From the Editors

*"They must often change, who would be constant in happiness or wisdom."*

~Confucius

Eighteen years ago when DYI was launched, DEIL alumni numbered 650. Today, that amount has nearly doubled. We are now 1206 alumni strong. The intent of this publication from its start has been to serve as a vehicle to help us stay in touch as we grew and changed, both individually and as a Division. The changes you have read about in this issue—both the merger between DEIL and Linguistics and the discontinuation of DYI—affect us all. What hasn't changed is the need or intent to strengthen the

ties between DEIL and its graduates. Although we do not have any specific details about the form or shape of future alumni efforts, expect metamorphosis. In fact, expect the best. The quotation at the start of the column—though quite serious—is also positive. We leave you on that note.

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Editor

**Patti Watts**

[pawatts1@illinois.edu](mailto:pawatts1@illinois.edu)

Consulting Editor

**Wayne B. Dickerson**

[dickrson@illinois.edu](mailto:dickrson@illinois.edu)

Editorial Support

**Doe-Hyung Kim**

[dkim12@illinois.edu](mailto:dkim12@illinois.edu)