
DEIL *The Newsletter for Alumni* DEILING YOU IN



Spring

Division of English as an International Language

2006

Gratitude for the Wisdom Learned in DEIL

Betsy Rubin

I received my MA/TESL from UIUC in 1979. The knowledge, the skills, the values I learned in two short years at DEIL have shaped my career for over a quarter century.

At DEIL (then “DESL”), I learned rules of pronunciation, spelling, and grammar. I learned that every language and every dialect has rules, and no language is inherently inferior or superior, though some varieties open more doors. I learned how to design materials that teach as well as test and how to plan a solid lesson yet remain more attuned to the needs of the learners than the notes on my index cards. I learned how important it is to let students themselves make discoveries, practice language in controlled situations, ask questions, and apply their new knowledge to communicate in the real world.

My professors and the IEI students I worked with as a TA taught me something more: learning leads to euphoria. In the classroom, preparation, demonstration, information, interaction, questions, answers,

comical moments, balance, trust, and passion for a subject somehow combine to produce this mysterious joy... and learning happens.

Since 1979, my career has included teaching ESL to immigrants and international students, authoring and editing textbooks for adult education, working in adult literacy, writing grants, and establishing and directing a family literacy program. Today I am the family literacy specialist for Literacy Works, a grassroots organization in Chicago that promotes adult and family literacy—including ESL—through training, support, and direct services (www.litworks.org). Among other responsibilities, I help young parents in literacy programs discover ways they can help their own children grow up as strong readers and eager learners. Learning still leads to euphoria.

Thanks to everyone at DEIL who taught me with wisdom and joy.

Betsy Rubin
April 23, 2006
Chicago



Betsy Rubin

Alumni Update

Mino Varzegar (1971) is a full-time faculty member at Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, where she teaches writing courses and is the Coordinator for ESL and Placement at the Writing Program of the English Department. varzegar@aol.com

Sandy Elbaum (1972) retired from City Colleges of Chicago after 36 years of teaching ESL. She is still active giving workshops all over the U.S. on how to make the teaching of grammar fun and is writing ESL textbooks with Thompson Publications. The 4th edition of *Grammar in Context* was published recently and she added a new

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book to the series, *Grammar in Context Basic*. Sandy also works as a volunteer, helping to resettle African refugees in Chicago.

sannettie@comcast.net

Sharon (Linder) Chubbuck (1973) received her PhD in Education from the University of Illinois in 2001 and has been an assistant professor of education at Marquette University since that time. She teaches courses in English Methods, multicultural policy issues, sociolinguistics, and practitioner research. Sharon writes that her DEIL training still influences her thinking about language and literacy learning. She would love to hear from other 1973 alums!

sharon.chubbuck@mu.edu

Mary Fritz (1974) says she loves retirement, doing what appeals and seems important! Among her projects, she's been returning to Bolivia at least once a year for the last five years, training ESL teachers and working on the school curriculum.

garmar@chorus.net

Alison Jacobs (1974) continues as an airline attendant for United Airlines and happily spends a couple of days each week in Frankfurt, Germany. She sold her house after 17 years of living outside the Loop to move to a condo in the Loop.

CiaoBellaAli@ameritech.net

Robert Erickson (1978) is head of the English Department at Kanagawa Prefectural College of Foreign Studies in Yokohama, Japan. To be a professor there, he was the first foreigner allowed to join the Japanese Civil Service! For many years, he was involved in fund-raising for UIUC's Japan House. Drop by and see it, Bob. It's beautiful! bobului@hotmail.com

Carmen Gilbert (1978) is now teaching Spanish at Milford High School in Milford, NH. While she is on the advisory committee for all ESL matters in her district, she has not taught ESL since 2001. This reflects the greater demand for Spanish than for ESL in her area (only 36 ESL students in the whole school population of about 2500).

ccgilbert@surfglobal.net

Joanne Marino (1978) writes to say

DEIL alum-list

Amanda Huensch, a current MATESL degree candidate, is the new list manager of the DEILalum-list. She takes over from **Stephanie Hanson** (2006) who created the listserve and managed it until she graduated this May. Amanda invites you to subscribe. It's easy; just send an email as follows:

To: LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UIUC.EDU

Subject: (leave this empty)

Message: subscribe DEILALUM-L yourfirstname yourlastname

If you have ESL/EFL job announcements to share (no secondary listings), or if you are seeking information about job openings, employers or locations, or are looking for advice about adjusting to living in a new country/culture, or are interested in providing information about DEIL alumni gatherings (for example, at conferences), please post your messages to DEILALUM-L by sending your message to deilalum-l@listserv.uiuc.edu.

that she's now working for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction as one of two ESL Consultants/Title III Directors. Best wishes with your new job, Joanne! jgmarino@juno.com

Adele Hansen (1979) is working for Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, where she develops courses for students interested in entering health careers. hanse002@umn.edu

Cynthia Gockley (1980) teaches ESL and EAP (English for Academic Purposes) at Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood, Washington. cgockley@hotmail.com

Wendy (Spoor) Ernst (1981) taught ESL in Greece, South Africa, California and Virginia, and worked a spell as an editor at The Christian Science Publishing Society. Although she's been a stay-at-home mom (in Lexington, VA) since her children were born, and is not teaching ESL these days, she says, "the skills I learned in graduate school in researching, writing, and teaching have been very valuable in advocating for my special-needs son (born with Asperger's

Syndrome)." wendyernst@juno.com

Neil Heyen (1982) has been recently promoted to Senior Lecturer at Eastern Washington University, where he is the Assessment Coordinator for the English Language Institute and lead English teacher in the MBA Preparation Program for international students. Neil has been at Eastern for ten years since returning from teaching in Japan. nheyen@mail.ewu.edu

Kristin Lems (1983) sent some highlights from her years after DEIL. After spending two years on a Fulbright in Algiers, Algeria, she taught in the ESOL program at National-Louis University, achieving tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in 1998. She completed her doctorate in 2003. Her dissertation, *Adult ESL Oral Reading Fluency and Silent Reading Comprehension*, was a finalist for the 2005 Outstanding Dissertation of the Year Award of the International Reading Association. Kristin now teaches at the graduate level in the School of Education at National-Louis and will become Program Coordinator in the fall. She

is also co-director of a grant designed to prepare and train Dupage County teachers for the large influx of immigrant students. On the family side, Kristin's oldest child now attends Knox College and the other attends Evanston Township High School.

kristinlems@yahoo.com

Wen-liuh Lin (1983) enjoys teaching at National Taipai University in Education, Educational Policy and Management, where he has worked since 1977. In addition to teaching courses in Translation and Public Speaking, he teaches doctoral level courses in Leadership, Leadership Development, Organizational Theory, and Politics of Education. *wenliuh@tea.nptpc.edu.tw*

Claire Vossbrink Tsukiyama (1983) and her husband have been living in Spain for the past twenty years. They are now in Valencia where she teaches English at the Language Center of The Valencia Polytechnical University. "Our fourteen year old Spanish-English bilingual daughter, Akemi, is a star student, having been my 'language guinea pig' since birth."

clairevossbrink@msn.com

David Wible (1984) has just published *Language Learning and Language Technology: Toward Foundations for Interdisciplinary Collaboration*. (Taipei: Crane Publishers. 2005). The cover art for the book is a watercolor by Ana—now age 3. The book tries to bridge the gap between those with expertise in natural language processing and technologies on the one hand and those with expertise in language pedagogy and language acquisition on the other. Congratulations, Dave!

wible45@yahoo.com

Su'ad Awab (1987) is now an Associate Professor at the University of Malaya, Malaysia and has completed a sabbatical leave at the University of Melbourne. After obtaining a PhD in Linguistics from Lancaster University, UK, Su'ad's research focus has been on corpus linguistics and computational linguistics. She also had an interesting 4-year hiatus from linguistics as Director of International Relations at the

University of Malaya which involved planning and coordinating internationalization programs. She writes: "This post allowed me to travel quite extensively around the world, which was wonderful!" Her daughter Ilani is now in college. *suad@um.edu.my*

Tim Collins (1987) had a banner year. The Chinese edition of his ESL textbook, *Ready to Go* was published in a custom edition for Chinese vocational and technical high schools by Peoples Education Press this summer. Additionally, he was promoted to associate professor of ESL and bilingual education at National-Louis University in Chicago, where he is focusing on building international programs in China and Chile, and continuing to move forward with his project in mobile English language learning with cell phones. *tgcollins@earthlink.net*

Jenny Derksen (1987) teaches academic writing at the College of Wooster (Ohio) and also coordinates two ESL programs through the adult education program. About her three boys, she says "The boys and I have chickens, rabbits, far too many cats, a dog, a pony and a mule. Yikes!!"

jderksen@wooster.edu

John Levis (1989). The good news from John is that he has been promoted to Associate Professor at Iowa State University. Congratulations, John! You may also be interested to know that John was the webmaster and past-chair of the TESOL Speech, Pronunciation, and Listening Interest Section. **Laura Hahn** (1986) is the current chair. *jlevis@iastate.edu*

Debbie Barks (1991) started teaching in the University of Washington English Language program in January and says she's really enjoying it. One thing that's really impressed her was the size of this program — around 70 full-time instructors. In spite of the size, she says it's a very friendly, collaborative place to work. "I see **Stephanie Sidhom** (1994) and **Olivia Szabo** (2001) pretty regularly, so I feel right at home."

barksd@u.washington.edu,
ssidhom@u.washington.edu,
oszabo@hotmail.com

Eunha Jung (1991) writes from

Silverdale, Washington where she is now a professor of English at Olympic College.

eunhaj@yahoo.com

Ryonhee Kim (1991) is working on a book about American English pronunciation. Good luck, Ryonhee!

kryon@dongduk.ac.kr

Viola Sultan (1991) is now teaching Spanish at Kankakee High School, a short ten minute commute from her house. Daughters Elsa and Elen attend Olivet Nazarene University. Her son Abiel spent time in Biloxi, MS helping out with hurricane relief efforts. *visultan@hotmail.com*

Chongmin Lee (1992) is a leader of the research team at Sogang University Language Program (SLP) in Korea. SLP is an English program for Korean children which has 50 franchise schools in Korea. Chongmin is also developing the curriculum and working as an editor for the course book series. *clees@sogang.ac.kr*

Joelle Uzarski (1992) has recently joined the team of Regional English Language Officers in the Foreign Service (State Department). She will work in Washington, DC through the summer of 2006 and then go overseas. *joelleshark@yahoo.com*

Shawn Harrison (1993) reports that he enjoys work as an editor for Tyndale House Publishers in Carol Stream, IL, where he has worked since 1997. He writes: "I have also discovered that helping authors become better writers bears a remarkable similarity to helping students become better writers!" *harrison@tbc.net*

Juan-Pedro Rica (1993) is busy, busy, busy. He is a university English professor for two degrees: English Studies (Moncloa Campus) and Translation and Interpreting (Aranjuez Campus) from the Complutense University in Madrid. He is also engaged in various funded research projects based on corpus linguistics and second language acquisition (ICLE Research Project), and translation and interpreting.

juanpe@illinoisalumni.org

Brian Phillips (1994) serves as the Department Chair of World Languages and Music at Wheaton North High School. His

job involves a combination of teaching ESL and doing administrative work.

bphillip@CUSD200.ORG

Joy Garling Prud'homme (1994) is in her sixth year as Coordinator for International Undergraduate Admissions at UIUC, where she processes and evaluates international students' credentials for admission eligibility. *garling@uiuc.edu*

Patricia Clemente (1995) resides in Hanover, Germany with her husband and son. Pachi teaches Business English for the Carl Duisberg Centrum. Her husband has finished his post-doctorate work, which entitles him to seek a professor position. Six-year-old Matthias is busy with school and playing soccer for the Hanover 96.

patricia.clemente@gmx.de

Joonmi Hwang (1995) reports that her husband passed away in March. Now she and her family are considering where to live - whether to stay in North Carolina or move back to Houston, TX where they lived before. Our deepest condolences for your loss, Joonmi. We wish you well as you make the adjustment. *joonmi@hanmail.net*

Tabitha (Nissley) Plake (1995) and John added daughter, Hannah, to their family in 2005. Congratulations to you both!

tabitha.plake@hqmail.agmd.org

Teresa Baker (1996) enjoys her work as Program Coordinator, ESL Services at The University of Texas (Austin). She and husband, Shawn, live in Austin's Quail Creek neighborhood. Congratulations to Shawn—former IEI social coordinator. He retired from wheelchair rugby after his team won the national championship in May. *tm-baker@austin.utexas.edu*

Srisucha McCabe (1996) reports: "Paul (1996) and I are doing well. Acacia and Jasmine, our twins, are turning 4 this week. They just started preschool this year. I'm still with TESOL; I had my 5th anniversary with them in August."

srisucha@go.com, pmccab@msn.com

Sue (McDonagh) Amaya (1997) relocated from the DC area to Phoenix. Sue is teaching ESL and enjoying life as a first

time mother. She and Jose welcomed their first child, Isabela Grace, earlier this year. Congratulations! *sm_amaya@yahoo.com*

Kim Kickert (1997) moved from Indiana to Versailles, Kentucky to help start up a new Challenge Course program there. For her own challenges, Kim joined the ranks of home owners and is busy with marathons and triathlons. *kismet_219@yahoo.com*

Catherine (Czerepak) Kulpa (1997) relocated to the Chicago area to accept a position as Director of North American Sales for ELS, a subsidiary of Berlitz International. Previously she opened and managed ELS's new Center in San Antonio, Texas. When Catherine's not working, she enjoys life back in Chicago with her husband and their two Cocker Spaniels. *ckulpa@els.edu*

Jiaying Lin (1997) has just had a baby boy. Congratulations, Jiaying! Her email address is *jiayinglin@gmail.com*.

Serene Chan (1998) reports that her family now has two daughters. Her second daughter, Jaden, was born on April 9. Her older daughter, Charisse, just turned 18 months. For the moment, she's at home with the two little ones but plans to go back to work part-time in September.

serene_c@yahoo.com

Jean Czaja (1998) completed her sixth year of teaching ESL at Marquette in Milwaukee, WI. In addition to teaching language skill and ITA courses and running the language laboratory, Jean works with **Mike Groen** (1995) to establish policy and procedures for ESL students. Outside of the classroom, Jean is actively involved in social justice issues in her parish and occasionally spends her summer volunteering at Tarboro Community Outreach in Tarboro, NC. Keep up the good work, Jean!

jean.czaja@marquette.edu,

michael.groen@marquette.edu

Rachel (Wallace) Escoto (1998) has been on the move since graduating, hopping from Houston to Guadalajara, Mexico to North Carolina and now to the Seattle area. Rachel, husband Alex and their three children love living in Seattle, where Alex is working on the Xbox for Microsoft.

Rachel is looking forward to staying put long enough to meet up with DEILers at TESOL 2007. *rwescoto@yahoo.com*

Fred Griffiths (1999) reports that he and **Aileen** (1999) are taking a year off from teaching to help his mom in Oregon with her property management business. The family moved to a small community there with no ESL program. *fsgriffiths@hotmail.com*

Deanna Williams (1999) and her husband welcomed Grace Sarang into their family on January 3. Congratulations to you both! ('Sarang' is Korean for 'love'.) Deanna continues to teach ESL at Parkland College, though she admits it's a challenge to be a good mother and a good teacher at the same time. *djwilliams@parkland.edu*

Rungruedee (Nice) Naratreegul (1999) is working for Pfizer Thailand, translating, preparing press releases, and developing PowerPoint presentations. The job has lots of variety but she reports that the workload is just enormous.

naratree@hotmail.com

Damon DellaFave (2000) is living and working in Turkey. He is planning on a July wedding. We wish you well, Damon!

dellafav@yahoo.com

Kate Hahn (2000) is now teaching an introduction to linguistics class at Northeastern Illinois and continues with her half-time position at the Center for Teaching and Learning at NEIU as a "faculty development specialist for ESL." She says, "I did not realize how much I would enjoy linguistics and the opportunity to introduce students to the field." *khahn7@mac.com*

Barbara Schroeder Jensen (2000) is still working full time in the ITA program at Princeton, and but she and Kurt are planning to move back to Chicagoland sometime after her baby is born this summer. We're eager for your news, Barb!

barbaramarie728@yahoo.com

D.J. Kaiser (2000) has gone from a full-time instructor in English Language Programs at Washington University (St. Louis) to a full-time student in Theatre Studies there. He is editor of *Theatron*, a journal on theatre, performance, and theory

and continues to write plays for the stage. He also completed his first translation of a Catalan play. "My partner (Tom) and I have also moved into a new home together a few blocks from the Washington University with our year-old puppies, Rusty and Roxy."

kaisersanders@hotmail.com

Roderick van Huis (2000) and his family are heading back to Japan. Rod is taking a new job in Kitakyushu, Japan, working for a corporate training company. His focus will be on English for Special or Specific Purposes or, as it is often referred to now, workplace English.

vanhuis1@hotmail.com

Amy Whitish (2000) is working as a program coordinator at LASPAU: Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas, which is under the Harvard umbrella. She places Fulbright (and other) scholars from Latin America and the Caribbean in masters and doctoral programs in the US, Latin America, and Europe.

amy_whitish@harvard.edu

Dan Craig (2001) has a new job at the Seoul National University Language Education Institute, starting in mid-July. He and his family are in the process of selling everything to make the move. He's keeping his 9-week-old son! Best wishes Dan! And congratulations on the birth of your son!

dan@danielcraig.com

Marilena Draganescu (2001) moved to Chicago after graduation and worked as an ESL instructor with the Adult Education Program of Richard Daley College. In 2002, work visa difficulties prompted her to return to Romania, where she has been working as a lecturer in English with one of the most prestigious universities in Bucharest, the Academy of Economic Studies. She teaches Business English now, but she may be back in the States soon to enter a Ph.D. program at an American university.

mari_draganescu@hotmail.com

Seoung-Hye (Veronica) Mok (2001) is now in a doctoral program at Ewha Woman's University, focusing on EFL for children in order to address the huge interest

of Korean parents in teaching their children English from a very early age.

veronicamok@hotmail.com

Omar Nunez (2001) asks: Is anyone interested in learning Spanish and, at the same time, getting some hands-on culinary experience preparing authentic Mexican and pre-Hispanic foods? Omar is offering this unique combination at his Intercultural Communication Institute in Oaxaca, Mexico. *nunezmen@fulbrightweb.org*

Ben Willey (2001) and Kiyomi Wakai-zumi were married in Japan in mid-June. Congratulations to you both and our best wishes! Ben is working on the JET Program as a coordinator for international relations. He says, "I'm actually a jack-of-all trades, but I mainly do translating work. I also teach an occasional English class." Kiyomi is a dental hygienist. They live in Fukui City, a small town on the sea of Japan.

fukuinobenjamin@gmail.com

Leo Duran (2002) writes: "Besides my teacher mentoring/supervision job at the Binational Center in Costa Rica, I am now involved in curriculum development. I have just developed a new and exciting one-year program of English for Tourism designed to help people working in the industry acquire the skills they need for dealing with tourists more efficiently. Tourism is the #1 industry in Costa Rica now! Come for a visit!"

lduran@cccncr.com

Theresa Ferguson (2002) works for the Department of the Interior in the Office of the Inspector General in Sacramento, CA. *tafergus@yahoo.com*

Julie (Love) Oliver (2002) and her family are moving back to the States next year after finishing a two-year, full-time language study program at Northeast Normal University in Changchun, China. She expects to teach high school English or Chinese. *joliver@elic.org*

Jessie Price (2002) sends greetings. She's teaching EFL at a university in Dubai, UAE. *jessie_price@hotmail.com*

Ron Crawford (2003) now has cleared all legal hurdles to live in the US with his wife, Kim McDonough. Congratulations!

DEIL Award Winners

2006

The DEIL Peter Strevens Award for Academic Excellence

Carolina DaCunha

The DEIL Katharine O. Aston Award for Outstanding Masters Thesis

Chiao-Ling (Lily) Chen

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

Veronica Gabriela Sardegna

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

Kate Curry

*Graduation with Distinction**

Carolina Da Cunha

Veronica Sardegna

Ligia Mihut

**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.*

They are building a house near Flagstaff, AZ. He now works for an American Indian agency that helps procure grants for projects on the reservation. But a desk job is not what inspires him. He's now into handcycling and competed in the Las Vegas Marathon last December! *roncrawfo@hotmail.com*

John Young (2003) is the proud father a baby boy, Seiji, who will turn one year old in August. That same month, John and family will return to Champaign, where he will begin work on his PhD in Educational Psychology. Double congrats! *bayoujay@hotmail.com*

Maria-Thereza Bastos (2004) sends greetings. She is a Ph.D student in the Language Education Department at Indiana University - Bloomington.

mbastos@indiana.edu

From the Editors

Sook Eun (Sarah) Oh (2004) enjoys teaching Reading & Writing for Academic Purposes at Pagoda Language Institute in Seoul. She misses all of her DEIL colleagues and wishes to thank her DEIL professors. ose015@chol.com

Sharon (Pyun) Yoon (2004) is Assistant Director of Student Affairs in the UIUC Master of Business Administration program, carrying on the work of **Christine Gozdzia** (1998), former director of the program. ssyoon@uiuc.edu, gozdzia@uiuc.edu

Lauren Douglas (2005) moved to Seattle and is teaching ESL at City University in Bellevue. She met up with **Jenna (Colby) Pollok** (2003) and **Olivia Szabo** (2001) recently. ldouglas@illinoisalumni.org, jennapollock2003@yahoo.com, oszabo@hotmail.com

Fang-Ying Yang (2005) is hard at work on her Ph.D. program in Speech and Hearing Science at the University of Illinois and is serving as a TA for the Department of Community Health. fyang@uiuc.edu ■

Greetings once again! Here in sunny Urbana we've been sorting through e-mail and updates to bring you the latest news from your fellow DEIL alumni. Thanks go out to Betsy Rubin, who contributed our feature article about her work in family literacy.

Keep in mind that we are always looking for ideas for articles and welcome your contributions about the work you've been doing.

We always look forward to hearing from you. If you haven't sent an update recently, consider doing so. You can send us your news via the

Alumni link on the DEIL website (<http://www.deil.uiuc.edu>) or by e-mailing Wayne Dickerson at the e-mail address listed below:

dickrson+DYI@uiuc.edu.

Best wishes and stay in touch!

∞

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