

DEILING YOU IN

The Newsletter for Alumni



Spring

Division of English as an International Language

1999

"To Teach is to Touch the Future"

by Wayne Dickerson

At the end of this Spring semester, Larry Bouton, Director of DEIL these last four years, retires from full-time academic involvement after 30 years of service to the Division and the University. Since all alumni of DEIL have known Larry, we take this opportunity to reflect on his career and report on the retirement reception at which he was honored.

How does one take the measure of a professional career? One way is to look at the official record, distilled in one's curriculum vitae. Another is to look at the unofficial record as captured in the words of those touched by that career. Let us do both, for the sake of perspective, if only briefly.

After Larry's doctoral work in Linguistics at UIUC, Katharine Aston, then-director of the Division, invited him to join the faculty and then gave him the opportunity to teach nearly every course offered in the MATESL curriculum at the time. His public school experience (a high-school English teacher for four years) came into play as he established a model bilingual-bicultural program at King Elementary School in Urbana, the first of several successful outreach efforts. Of various internship opportunities that Larry initiated, the one that most captivated him was in Madrid, Spain, where Kristin, his daughter, lived and taught.

Larry's interest in cross-culture issues spun off into a required course on aspects of culture in language learning, an elective

course in pragmatics, and an international conference, Pragmatics in Language Learning, now thirteen years old and counting. A long list of articles issued from these commitments, as did his on-going editorship of the monograph series containing selected papers from the conference.

Along the way, these scholarly efforts have been punctuated by periods of administrative duties, as DEIL has gone through its many transitions. Larry, at the helm, provided the needed stability and perspective that only years of dedication to the Division and its goals could bring.

The lines on a vitae offer one kind of testimonial to a professor's life, but what those lines really mean can only be told in the words of those who have known and worked with Larry. Two nuns ended their letter to Larry with words that reflect the sum of many letters, "We remember with joy!" Consider the shades of their joy:

"You are my teacher for all time. Without your help, I wouldn't be myself today; indeed, you've changed my life. I can't thank you too much." "Thank you for opening the door to a very satisfying and productive professional life. Literally, it would not have happened without you." "It is that faith and confidence in my abilities that allowed me to see my true potential. I don't think I can express how much his guiding hand has influenced me."

"Perhaps most of all, we will remember the warmth, the kindness, and the sup-



Dr. Larry Bouton has been on the DEIL faculty for 30 years. The past four years, he has served as Director of the Division.

port that you gave so readily and willingly." "For many of us DEIL grad students, you helped to put a human face on our grad school experience—I know you did for me." "Thank you for your openness. Thank you for your willing availability." "There were lovely get-togethers at your home; there was your delightful mix of warmth and crusty collegiality."

"I also learned how it felt to be respected as an individual whose interests and talents, which may not have been obvious to all, became obvious to you. You were able to encourage me as only a visionary teacher can do." "As an administrator, you are someone who listens well and respects those who work for you." "What we will remember most about Larry Bouton is his ability to take a personal interest in every

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Greetings From the Director

Dr. Larry Bouton

This month ends my 30th (and last) year as a member of DEIL's faculty. With few exceptions, it has been pure pleasure, no matter what the assignment. DEIL has been such a great place to work because it has always welcomed and encouraged new ideas, courses, and programs, with the result that we have always been among the top MATESL programs in the country — and perhaps in the world.

As the field changed, so did our curriculum, and the excitement of everything up to date has always been a lot of fun. For me personally, this meant the introduction of the culture course and then the pragmatics course into our MATESL program.

Extracurricular endeavors have been stimulating, too. Besides our internship programs abroad in Iran, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Costa Rica, there has been our own Pragmatics and Language Learning Conference with its associated monograph, in which I take some pride. Our international connections and my interest in pragmatics have allowed me, thanks to DEIL, to travel to England, Scotland, France, Spain, Morocco, Poland, Iran, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, and India, and you can't ask for much more than that.

But I really have had much more than that — the pleasure of knowing and working with you all. What really makes a program a good place to be is the people with whom you work, and DEIL has always had more than its share of capable, interesting people who are a source of stimulating ideas, involved in challenging research, and easy to talk to — no matter what the topic.

In fact, the pleasure of being part of DEIL's faculty has been so great in every way that I really could not stop cold turkey, so I have been granted permission by the College to teach one course each semester (probably EIL 302 and EIL 356) for each of the next two years. It is hard to teach an old dog new tricks, they say, and this will give me a little more time to learn the one they call retirement. But retired I will be — as of June 20. It has been a great 30 years. Let's hope the next 30 are even better!

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Bouton, *cont'd from page 1*

student in the program."

As one alumna, now a professor herself, summarized, "'To teach is to touch the future.' You have touched and profoundly influenced many, and the world is a far better place for it."

To culminate Larry's final semester, Molly Mack, Cindy Giertz, and I prepared a retirement reception to be remembered. Many of you were an important part of this event through your contributions to his memory book and your monetary additions to a collection for Larry's gift. "Gift" became "gifts;" we were overwhelmed by the outpouring of letters, notes, cards, poems, pictures, and dollars.

Cindy prepared a beautiful book with dozens of pages filled with your expressions of affection and respect. Molly selected a wonderful winter print of the Quadrangle under new-fallen snow, with a bit of the FLB

in the distance, by the renowned Illinois photographer, Larry Kanfer. Two other gifts were in the form of checks, one for a weekend get-away with Marge at a favorite retreat, and the other was a gift made in Larry's name to the DEIL Awards fund. Molly characterized these gifts: The first three were to help Larry remember DEIL; the last was to help DEIL remember Larry.

The day of celebration ended with DEIL faculty and close friends joining Marge, Larry, and their family (Peter from California, Kristin from Urbana, and their spouses and children) for a quiet evening meal. As Larry commented afterwards, "It was such a happy event for a passage I have not exactly been relishing!" Larry's thanks and ours go out to you for your generosity in helping to make this occasion a very special token of our esteem for a very special colleague, professor, advisor, and friend. ■

Alumni Update

Since 1984, **Bill Pech** (1975) has directed a number of English language, educational exchange, and cultural orientation programs which have been developed cooperatively by Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington, and Asia University, Tokyo, Japan. In the past ten years, more than 6500 Asia University students have come to the Pacific Northwest as part of the Asia University America Program (AUAP), making this program one of the most successful 'large-scale' study abroad programs in the world. *bpech@cc.wvu.edu*

Daniel Robertson (1975) is a professor in the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages program at the University of Guam. After spending eight years to help build up the program, he is "happy to have left the administrative position and its headaches for a very busy but very rewarding faculty position." *d2r2@uog9.uog.edu*

Carol Chapelle (1979) will assume the editorship of *TESOL Quarterly* this summer. She is currently on the faculty at Iowa State University. *carolc@iastate.edu*

Wen-liuh Lin (1983) is an associate professor of Education and the Director of the Graduate School of Education at the National Taipei Teachers College in Taiwan. He writes that he is "glad to see in Taiwan an increasing nationwide interest in teach-

ing English as a Foreign Language to elementary school children as part of the national elementary curriculum."

wenliuh@tea.ntpc.edu.tw

Kelly Ann Rambis (1983) lives in Kuwait and teaches at the Language Center of Kuwait University.

Q8KellyAnn@hotmail.com

Masumi Muroi (1984) works for ALC Press, Inc., a publishing company in Japan. She is an educational counselor helping Japanese students who wish to study overseas. Their company has an English website at: http://www.alc.co.jp/ag/ALC_Press_International_Ho.html. *muroi@alc.co.jp*

Laura Hahn (1986) has successfully defended and deposited her dissertation: "Native speakers' reactions to non-native stress in English discourse." She will graduate this May with a PhD in Educational Psychology and a SLATE certificate from UIUC. *l-hahn@students.uiuc.edu*

Mariko Masden (1989) is currently teaching elementary Japanese to international students at the International Student Center of Kumamoto University in Kumamoto, Japan.

masden@gpo.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

John Nelson (1990) has taken a new
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position at a small but promising "language training and research center" called Partner Idiomias in Madrid, Spain, after having spent 11 years at the International Institute there. He started in September as Director of Quality Control and has since become Program Director and Head of Studies. His center focuses on the practicalities of EFL for the business community in Madrid, so he finds himself teaching everything from 'Telephone Courtesy' to 'Financial Reporting' and 'Real Estate Property Management', with a little cross-cultural training as well. jfnelson@maptel.es

Vicky Bolos (1993) recently moved back to the Chicago area after a three year stint teaching at Asia University in Tokyo. Although it was hard to leave Japan, Vicky says that she's happy to be back in the US. She's looking forward to brushing up on her Spanish at a language program in Costa Rica this summer. Vickybolos@aol.com

Diana Steele (1993) is working on her PhD in Educational Psychology at UIUC. She is specializing in language testing and hopes to finish next year. She got married in January to Doug Matzner, D.C. and they have happily settled down in Champaign where he has his chiropractic clinic. dmsteele@uiuc.edu

Joy Garling (1994) and Patrice Prud'homme are getting married in a tiny town in southern Normandy, France on August 14. They'll return to Champaign for a month to pack and have a little wedding party. Then they're off to Brazil for four months to travel, learn Portuguese and samba, get tans and relax. After that, who knows? They're interested in going to the west coast, maybe San Francisco. garling@uiuc.edu

Faculty Update

Professor **Eunha Jung** (1991) has completed her one-year position as visiting professor in DEIL. Her special contributions to the Division were recognized during the DEIL Awards Reception in May at which the DEIL faculty presented her with a token of their appreciation in the form of a gift for professional books. Students and faculty alike will miss her creative energy and good-humored collegiality. Our best wishes for the next stage of your career, Eunha! eunha@uiuc.edu

Teresa Baker (1996) is very excited about her move to Austin, TX, where she'll be the new Assistant Coordinator of ESL Programs at the University of Texas. She and her husband, Shawn Meredith (former Social Coordinator for the IEI), are looking forward to cool Austin blues and hot Texas summers. Her temporary email address is tm_baker@hotmail.com

Jennifer Lai Bromley (1997) married Blair Bromley in May 1998. They had both a Baha'i ceremony and a Christian ceremony all in the same day, so it was a very busy wedding day! Jennifer is in her second year of the graduate program in Linguistics at UTUC. She is still interested in collocations, computational linguistics and lexicography. jc-lai@students.uiuc.edu

Eric McCune (1997), his wife Sonia, and their new daughter, Mariana (born 8/18/98), live in Chandler, Arizona. Eric is a Computer Systems Training Specialist for the Maricopa County Attorneys Office in Phoenix. mccune@mcao.maricopa.gov

Valerie Ritter (1997) and her family moved to Greenville, North Carolina last August. She says it's a great town for music, which is what she has been working on, but she may try teaching ESL in the fall. They have a new addition to the family, Isaac, born 9/10/98. macraec@mail.ecu.edu

Audrey Humphreys (1998) has been living in New Jersey as the nanny to her sister's two children since graduating in December. She is moving to South Africa in May and is actively seeking a job teaching English in Johannesburg. ree_lynn@hotmail.com

Karen Schwelle (1998) is in her second semester at Washington University in St. Louis. She is teaching academic reading and writing, pronunciation, and business communication to undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals from the St. Louis communities.

kschwelle@rescomp.wustl.edu

Rachel (Wallace) Escoto (1998) and her husband, Alejandro, moved to Guadalajara, Mexico, in October. She is working at the TEC de Monterrey teaching Business English and writing. Rachel says that she "loves Mexico, but I desperately miss US stores" since she's about 2 feet taller than the average Mexican. She also misses bagels and twizzlers.

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DEIL Awards 1999

Congratulations
to the following graduate
student award winners:

**DEIL Peter Strevens Award
for Academic Excellence
Stacia Steward**

**Mary A. Hussey Award for
Excellence in ESL Teaching
Stacia Steward**

**DEIL Peter Strevens Award
for Excellence in Teaching in
the IEI
Audrey Humphreys**

**New Named Awards
Announced**

At his retirement reception, Larry Bouton made two surprise announcements. First, the faculty has created the *Katharine O. Aston Award for Outstanding Performance on the MATESL Comprehensive Examination* in honor of the past Director of DEIL who initiated the MATESL degree. Second, the faculty has renamed the DEIL Silver Anniversary Award for Excellence in ESL Teaching the *Mary A. Hussey Award for Excellence in ESL Teaching* in honor of one of the two professors who began the Division and who first taught ESL at UIUC. Both professors emerita were present at the announcement. And both awards are funded largely through the contributions of DEIL alumni and faculty to the DEIL Awards account, described in the last issue of *DYI*.

