2014 started off with what may well be the first faculty retreat in the history of the department. Retreat is a fancy term for a day spent off-campus to discuss a number of issues in more depth than at a regular department meeting. Priorities included removing bottlenecks in the undergraduate curriculum by providing students with more choices to fulfill degree requirements. We also explored the pros and cons of converting our graduate program to a two-year terminal M.A. program and a five-year Ph.D. program (with an M.A. en route to the Ph.D.).

We also introduced two new capstone experience courses in the undergraduate curriculum. One of these courses (LING 420 Capstone: Research in Language Science) focuses more on experimental investigations of language structure while the other course (LING 421 Capstone: Typology - The Unity and Diversity of Human Language) emphasizes crosslinguistic structural diversity. While the two capstone courses emphasize different kinds of linguistic data, they are each designed to make students integrate, expand, and apply knowledge, concepts, and skills that they have been exposed to throughout our curriculum. KU’s Center for Teaching Excellence recognized our efforts with a $5,000 grant that will allow the department to use these courses to assess student learning.

In the spring, the department hosted the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL). Organized by Professors Jason Kandybowicz and Harold Torrence and a team of graduate students, the conference attracted scholars from all over the world and was a great success. (See p. 13 for more details).

In the summer of 2014, Professor Jie Zhang stepped down as Director of Graduate Studies (DGS). Jie had served in this capacity since the fall of 2007. Under his leadership, we streamlined our graduate program, improved our recruitment efforts, and successfully competed for a number of university graduate fellowships. Professor Alison Gabriele took over as DGS. She is immediately being tested: this fall, we received a record 86 applications to our doctoral program.

It is a good sign when former students return to campus for a visit. Stephen Politzer-Ahles (Ph.D. 2013) returned last December to give a talk on his latest neurolinguistic research. Currently a postdoc at New York University, Steve also shared his experiences on the job market with our current graduate students.
Message from the Chair continued

As I write this update, the department is in good shape: enrollments in our introductory courses are booming – we are currently serving some 1,200 students per year. We would like to get a greater proportion of those students to select Linguistics as their major or minor. At the graduate level, our students are finishing their degrees in a timely fashion and have secured jobs upon graduation. Faculty productivity remains high. This year alone, three faculty members secured major funding for their research: Clifton Pye (NSF), Annie Tremblay (NSF), and Jie Zhang (Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation).

Allard Jongman

2014 Frances Ingemann Lecture

Speech, melodies and invaders from space: What speech reveals about how the auditory system uses the past to interpret the present

Prof. Lori L. Holt
Department of Psychology and the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, Carnegie Mellon University

The ease of everyday conversation masks the cognitive and perceptual challenges of translating from acoustic signal to meaning. Long relegated as a special perceptual system, it appeared that speech could tell us very little about more general issues of auditory processing. The latest research guides us away from this classic way of thinking about speech. I will illustrate how perceptual challenges from human speech perception illuminate how experience shapes auditory perception at different time scales - from the influence of a single precursor sound, to distributions of sounds across seconds, to statistical regularities in acoustics experienced across multiple training sessions. For each phenomenon, I will make connections with the neurobiological mechanisms that may underlie experience-dependent effects in audition in hopes of stimulating discussion about what the challenges of speech perception contribute to understanding of auditory processing, more generally.
Prof. Robert Fiorentino presented work with students and collaborators at a number of conferences, including the 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, SNL 2014: Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting, Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing 2014, the 9th International Conference on the Mental Lexicon, and the Frontiers Scientific Session at KUMC. Fiorentino also presented a series of lectures at the MorphologyFest conference at the University of Indiana, and an invited talk at L’Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). Fiorentino published manuscripts with faculty and student collaborators in the journals Cognitive Neuropsychology and Second Language Research. Fiorentino also continued work on his NIH-funded project, Timing and Neural Bases of Complex Word Recognition: Electrophysiological Studies, as well as on an NSF-funded collaborative project with Dr. Gabriele (Examining Development and Ultimate Attainment in Second Language Processing: An ERP Investigation) and a Frontiers Pilot and Collaborative Studies Funding Program/NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award-funded collaborative project with Drs. Minai, Jongman, Sereno (KU-Lawrence) and Gustafson (KUMC), Pre-birth Assessment of Language Ability: a Fetal MEG Study.

Prof. Alison Gabriele continued her work on the second language acquisition of syntax and semantics. She published two journal articles, one co-authored with Robert Fiorentino and José Alemán Bañón in Second Language Research and the second, co-authored with Beatriz López Prego in Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism. She also published a paper in the Selected Proceedings of the 5th Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition with graduate student Chiating Chu and Utako Minai. With graduate students Lauren Covey, Jie Liu, and Maite Martinez Garcia, as well as colleagues Robert Fiorentino, José Alemán Bañón (KU Ph.D. 2012), and Amy Rossomondo, she presented at various conferences including the CUNY Sentence Processing conference, the Society for the Neurobiology of Language conference, the Second Language Research Forum, and Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing. Gabriele serves as an Associate Editor for the journal Linguistics Approaches to Bilingualism.

Prof. Allard Jongman continued his research on the relation between acoustics and perception, exploring predictive coding, the notion that the difference between predicted and observed information, rather than the raw acoustic cues themselves, drive speech perception. At this point, four papers are scheduled to appear in 2015. Jongman presented his research at the Workshop on Speech and Lexical Processing, Oxford, UK. At the fall meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Indianapolis, he co-authored 4 posters with graduate students Goun Lee, Bea Lopez Prego, Hanbo Yan, and Quentin Qin. He also introduced his advisor, Prof. Sheila Blumstein, as the recipient of the ASA’s Silver Medal in Speech Communication. Jongman continued his collaboration with researchers in Kazakhstan to develop a writing system for the Kazakh language with a transparent mapping between spelling and sound. This project garnered media attention, including an interview on public radio. He taught summer school as an Invited Professor at L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan. Jongman serves as an Associate Editor for the journal Phonetica.
Prof. Jason Kandybowicz continued his work on the languages of West Africa and the syntax-phonology interface. His article “On Prosodic Variation and the Distribution of Wh- in-situ” was accepted for publication in Linguistic Variation and will appear in late 2015. The paper was also presented as a plenary talk at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society in the spring. Two articles written in collaboration with Professor Harold Torrence were also accepted for publication: “Wh- Question Formation in Krachi” will appear in Journal of African Languages and Linguistics and “The Prosodic Licensing of Wh- In-situ: Evidence from Krachi and Wasa” will appear in Selected Proceedings of ACAL 44. This spring, Professors Kandybowicz and Torrence co-organized the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics at KU, which ran from April 17-19 and drew over 200 participants from USA, Africa and Europe (see page 13 for a summary of the conference). 2014 also saw Kandybowicz and Torrence return to the field in Ghana. The two spent a month in the remote lake town of Kete Krachi conducting fieldwork on the endangered Krachi language. Funding for Kandybowicz was made possible by a New Faculty Research Grant secured in February. Some of the discoveries made on this trip were presented in the fall by Kandybowicz in a series of invited talks at the following institutions: UPenn, NYU, Yale, KU, Georgetown, and Rutgers. The two will also present revised versions of this material in shorter form at the following upcoming conferences: the 33rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics in Vancouver and the 46th Annual Conference on African Linguistics in Oregon.

Prof. Andrew McKenzie conducted many activities pursuing his research program of understanding the role that context plays in the semantics, especially by studying understudied and endangered languages. He saw the recent publication of a book chapter on topic movement in Kiowa. McKenzie awaits the July publication in the International Journal of American Linguistics of his massive survey of switch-reference systems in North America, and recently submitted an article on the semantics of `non-canonical’ switch-reference in Kiowa to the Journal of Semantics. His work has gained increased recognition as well. In May, he presented an invited talk on emerging discourse effects in Kiowa at the 8th conference on the Semantics of Under-represented Languages of the Americas. He also conducted peer-review for several journals and conferences, and two NSF grant proposals. McKenzie took multiple trips to Oklahoma to conduct fieldwork with Kiowa speakers, and won a New Faculty Research Grant to conduct more fieldwork in the coming year. Over the last year, McKenzie has also begun fruitful collaborations with students which have led to conference talks planned for 2015.
Prof. Cliff Pye initiated a new project to document the acquisition of Northern Pame (Oto-Manguean) this year. His team is recording natural language samples of Northern Pame children between two and three-years-old. Pye continued his collaborative research on the acquisition of Mayan languages. His team is completing year three of recording children acquiring the Wastek language, and completed recordings of Chuj. With his colleague Barbara Pfeiler, Pye presented the paper "La adquisición de lenguas mayas ante la variación individual" (the acquisition of Mayan languages in the face of individual variation) at the workshop on individual differences in language acquisition at the Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in Mexico City. With his colleague David Ingram, he presented the paper "The comparison of the effects of word complexity on the acquisition of consonant correctness in Spanish and K’iche’" at the Linguistic Association of the Southwest XLIII (LASSO) in San Diego.

Prof. Utako Minai has published co-authored articles in *Selected Proceedings of the 5th Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition* with Chia-Ying Chu and Alison Gabriele, in *Proceedings of the 14th International Symposium on Chinese Languages and Linguistics (IsCLL-14)* with Chia-Ying Chu, and in the *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics* with Rachel Brown (University of Arizona), Chia-Ying Chu and Gretchen Hess. She also has two articles to appear in *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, one with Miwa Isobe (Tokyo University of the Arts) and Reiko Okabe (Nibun University), and the other with Robert Fiorentino and Yuka Naito-Billen. Minai has also presented work with Chia-Ying Chu at the Second East Asian Psycholinguistics Colloquium, the 14th International Symposium on Chinese Languages and Linguistics, and the 39th Boston University Conference on Language Development, with Adrienne Johnson at the 13th International Association for the Study of Child Language, and with Kiwako Ito and Adam Royer (Ohio State University) at the 2014 CUNY Conference on Human Language Processing. She also reported results of a collaborative project on prenatal language discrimination (funded by the Frontiers Pilot and Collaborative Studies Funding Program/NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award Grant) at the Frontiers Scientific Session with Robert Fiorentino, Allard Jongman, Joan Sereno and Kathleen Gustafson (KUMC). She continued to work on a cross-departmental collaborative initiative, *Investing with Kids* (an interdisciplinary longitudinal project investigating children’s savings activities) with Terri Friedline (School of Social Welfare), Emily Rauscher (Sociology Department), Barbara Phipps (School of Education) and Karin Chang (Achievement & Assessment Department); in this project, Minai is examining the relation between elementary school children’s ability to comprehend quantificational expressions and the development of non-linguistic cognitive abilities including executive function, and how these abilities may in turn relate to children’s ability to understand fundamental financial concepts.
Prof. Joan Sereno continued her research examining acoustic changes in and perceptual consequences of second language speech, with five recent articles in publication. Four articles were research with graduate students: Wendy Herd (Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics); Hyunjung Lee (Language and Speech); and Mahire Yakup (Journal of the International Phonetic Association; Psychonomic Bulletin & Review). One article was part of an undergraduate Honors thesis by Lynne Lamers (Applied Psycholinguistics). Prof. Sereno also finished her NSF-funded research examining processing in second language learners and is continuing her collaboration with colleagues in Vancouver, Canada examining visual articulatory features of sounds in different speech styles. Prof. Sereno presented her research at the Workshop on Speech and Lexical Processing (Workshop in Honour of Professor Sheila Blumstein) in Oxford, England. She also presented research with graduate students (Kotoko Nakata, Perception of sound symbolism in mimetic stimuli; Yu-Fu Chien, The representation of Tone 3 sandhi words in Mandarin) at the 168th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Indianapolis, Indiana. Prof. Sereno is an Editor of the journal Language and Speech. She is also on the Editorial Board of Applied Psycholinguistics and is an elected Member-at-Large of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Section Z (Linguistics and Language Sciences). Prof. Sereno was a Faculty Fellow for Faculty Development, working with Vice Provost Mary Lee Hummert, and was a member of the HLC (Higher Learning Commission) Reaccreditation Self-Study.

Dr. Harold Torrence conducting fieldwork with a native speaker of Krachi in Ghana, summer 2014

Prof. Harold Torrence continued his research on West African and Mesoamerican languages. In January at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Torrence gave a talk on adverbs in Cocuilotlatzala Mixtec. Torrence then gave an invited talk at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Torrence and Dr. Jason Kandybowicz organized the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, which was held at KU (see page 13 for a summary of the conference). Over the summer, Torrence and Kandybowicz travelled to Ghana to conduct fieldwork on Krachi, an endangered North Guan language. They spent a month in the town of Kete Krachi, which is on the shore of Lake Volta. Funding for the trip for Torrence was through a grant from the KU General Research Fund. In the fall, Torrence was invited to give a talk in Linguistics Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. A paper by Torrence and Kandybowicz, ‘The Prosodic Licensing of Wh-in-Situ: Evidence from Krachi and Wasa’, was accepted for publication in the proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. A second paper by Torrence and Kandybowicz, ‘Wh-Question Formation in Krachi’ has also been accepted for publication in the Journal of African Languages and Linguistics.
Prof. Annie Tremblay continued her research on second language processing. She obtained a $258,964 research grant from the National Science Foundation (Linguistics Program) for her research project entitled “Effects of native language and linguistic exposure on non-native listeners’ use of prosodic cues in speech segmentation” (co-investigators: Drs. Mirjam Broersma, Taehong Cho, Sahyang Kim, and Elsa Spinelli). She also received a $9,998 research grant from Language Learning (Wiley-Blackwell Publishers) for her project entitled “Understanding the use of prosodic cues in non-native listeners’ speech segmentation”. She co-wrote four articles that appeared or are in press in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition* (second language morphological processing, with graduate student Caitlin Coughlin), *Language and Speech* (second language speech segmentation, with Dr. Elsa Spinelli), *Probus: Language Acquisition in the 21st Century: Theory and Methodology* (second language morphological processing, with Dr. Robert Reichle and graduate student Caitlin Coughlin), and *Arborescences: Acquisition du français* [Acquisition of French] (second language morphological processing, with Dr. Peter Golato and graduate student Emily Felker). She co-wrote a book chapter (native speech segmentation, with Dr. Elsa Spinelli) and an article that appeared in the *Selected Proceedings of the 7th Speech Prosody Conference* (second language stress processing, with graduate student Zhen (Quentin) Qin). Together with graduate students Chia-Ying (Joleen) Chu, Caitlin Coughlin, and Beatriz López Prego and with Dr. Utako Minai, she edited the *Selected proceedings of the 5th Conference on Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition – North America* (Cascadilla Proceedings Project, 190 pp.). Prof. Tremblay was also a co-author in presentations given at the 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (March), 7th Speech Prosody Conference (May), *Primera conferencia internacional en lenguística, literatura, y estudios culturales en lenguas modernas* [First International Conference in Linguistics, Literature, and, Cultural Studies in Modern Languages] (September), and the 2014 Second Language Research Forum (October). She was also invited to join the editorial board of *Applied Psycholinguistics*.

Prof. Jie Zhang received a two-year research grant from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation of Scholarly Exchange to investigate the production and representation of tone sandhi in Hakka dialects spoken in Taiwan. He is also collaborating with students and colleagues to extend his studies on the cross-linguistic patterns of tone sandhi to other psycholinguistic and neurolinguistic domains. His work has appeared in *Journal of East Asian Linguistics*, *Contemporary Linguistics*, *Oxford Bibliographies in Linguistics*, and *The Handbook of Chinese Linguistics*. Zhang also has two co-authored papers in press at *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*. He gave a keynote speech at The 9th Phonology Festa in Japan and colloquium talks at Indiana University and Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Graduation weekend—Gary Reed, Dr. Kelly Berkson, Dr. Joan Sereno & Dr. Jie Zhang
Did you know that...

Linguistics faculty are very active in their professional service to Linguistics? For example, many Linguistics faculty are editors, associate editors, and serve on editorial boards. Dr. Fiorentino serves on the editorial boards of Frontiers in Language Sciences and Mental Lexicon. Dr. Gabriele recently became Associate Editor (AE) of Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism and serves on the editorial board of Second Language Research. Dr. Jongman started a three-year term as AE of Phonetica and also serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Phonetics and the International Journal of Speech Technology. Dr. Pye recently finished his term as AE for the Journal of Child Language. Dr. Sereno is co-editor of Language and Speech and serves on the editorial board of Applied Psycholinguistics. Dr. Tremblay also recently became AE of Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism and serves on the editorial boards of Applied Psycholinguistics; Bilingualism: Language and Cognition; Canadian Journal of Linguistics; and Second Language Research. Dr. Zhang serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of East Asian Linguistics; International Journal of Chinese Linguistics; and Korean Journal of Chinese Language and Literature.

Welcome New Graduate Students!

Zhuo Chen—China—BA in Chinese Language and PhD in Chinese Philology from Fudan University—Research: linguistic typology and language universals—MA/PhD

Masashi Harada—Japan—BA in Linguistics from Waseda University—Research: comparative syntax of English and Japanese—MA

David Kummer—United States—BA in Linguistics from the University of Iowa—MA/PhD

Xiakun Li—China—BA in English from Beijing Language and Culture University and MA in Translation and Interpreting from China Foreign Affairs University—MA

Wenting Tang—China—BA in English Language and Literature from Beijing Foreign Studies University—Research: second language acquisition—MA

Xiao Yang—China—BA in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language from Shanghai International Studies University and MA in Linguistics from Purdue University—Research: psycholinguistics and neurolinguistic processing of semantics and syntax—MA/PhD

2014-2015 GTAs

- Ibrahima Ba—LING 106
- Yu-Fu Chien—LING 305 & 110
- Kate Coughlin—LING 110
- Philip Duncan—LING 325 & 700
- Longcan Huang—LING 106
- Goun Lee—LING 110 & 435
- Mingxing Li—LING 106 & 312
- Beatriz Lopez Prego—LING 110
- Travis Major—LING 106
- Xiao Yang—LING 106

Linguistics would like to hear from its students and alumni!

Please send news about yourself to:
Linguistics@ku.edu
Yu-Fu Chien collaborating with Dr. Joan Sereno and Dr. Jie Zhang, submitted a manuscript entitled “Priming the Representation of Mandarin Tone 3 Sandhi Words” to *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*. Yu-Fu also presented his poster, “The Representation of Mandarin Tone 3 Sandhi Words: A Psycholinguistic Study”, at the 168th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Indianapolis, with Dr. Joan Sereno. His trip to Indianapolis was funded by Graduate Studies.

Joleen Chu presented two posters, “Comprehension of Demonstrative Phrases in Mandarin Chinese” and “The role of Theory of Mind in the acquisition of demonstratives: Evidence from child Chinese”, at the 2nd East Asian Psycholinguistics Colloquium (EAPC 2) and the 39th Boston University Conference for Language Development, with Dr. Minai. She also presented a paper, “Comprehension of the Demonstratives by Chinese-speaking Preschool Children” at the 14th International Symposium on Chinese Languages and Linguistics (IsCLL-14) with Dr. Minai. Joleen published “Acquisition of quantifier scope interpretation by Chinese-speaking learners of English” in Selected Proceedings of the 5th Conference on GALANA with Dr. Gabriele and Dr. Minai.

Katrina Connell was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship to conduct her dissertation work at Peking University in Beijing, China for 6 months starting in September 2015. While in China, she will be working on advanced L2 learners' use of tone in word recognition.

Kate Coughlin had an article co-authored with Dr. Annie Tremblay appear in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*. Along with collaborators Dr. Annie Tremblay, Dr. Mirjam Broersma (Radboud University, Netherlands) and Jiyoun Choi (Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands), Kate’s project entitled “Use of prosodic cues in non-native speech segmentation: The prosodic-learning interference hypothesis” was accepted to be presented at the International Psycholinguistics Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Lauren Covey received an Honorable Mention in the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Competition for her proposed ERP project on Hindi gender agreement.
Philip Duncan continued his work on the syntax and morphology of indefinite pronouns in Me'phaa. He published "Remembering the future: Temporal tensions in the discursive construction and commemoration of Israel" in Critical Discourse Studies and "The commodification of Kaqchikel: A commodities chain approach to the Kaqchikel language in the Foreign Language and Area Studies program" in Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics. With Dr. Lizette Peter (KU C&T), Dr. Tracy Hirata-Edds (KU AEC), Durbin Feeling (Cherokee Nation), and Wyman Kirk (NSU), Phil collaborated on "Second language learning in the Cherokee Nation Immersion School: Linguistic and sociocultural perspectives" and "Linguistic and sociocultural perspectives on second language learning in the Cherokee Nation Immersion School," which were presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics (Portland, OR) and the American Educational Research Association (Philadelphia, PA). Phil also began work on Ibibio morphosyntax, and together with Travis Major and Mfon Udoinyang presented "The morphosyntax of verb focus in Ibibio" at the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (Lawrence, KS).

Adrienne Johnson presented a poster "Children's knowledge of structural dependency in the semantic interaction of logical words" at the International Association for the Study of Child Language with Dr. Minai. She also received an East Asia & Pacific Summer Institute Fellowship from the National Science Foundation to conduct research in Seoul, South Korea.

Goun Lee presented her research "Cue integration in the perception of fricative-vowel coarticulation in Korean" with Dr. Allard Jongman at the Fall meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Indianapolis. She also gave a talk on the same topic at the colloquy series in the fall of 2014. She published a book chapter entitled "Perceptual cues in Korean fricatives" in a Festschrift for Prof. Harvey Sussman.

Mingxing Li presented his research "Perceptual distinctiveness of dental vs. palatal sibilants in different vowel contexts" at the 168th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, "Apical vowels in Chinese dialects: Place assimilation vs. contrast enhancement" at the 19th Meeting of the Mid-Continental Phonetics & Phonology Conference, and "A contrast-driven account of apical vowels in Chinese dialects" at the 2014 KU Graduate Research Competition.

Maite Martinez-Garcia won third place in the KU Sigma Xi Graduate Research Competition for her presentation at the 2014 KU Graduate Research Competition. During the summer, she participated in the summer school of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology, hosted by The Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, where she won a grant to work with Dr. Carreiras, Dr. Plaut and 4 other students to work on the effects of bilingualism on the lateralization of the brain. Maite also presented her major work “Processing verbal inflection in native and non-Native Spanish” at the Segundo Congreso Internacional de Lingüística, Literatura y Estudios Culturales en Lenguas Modernas: Contextos de Enseñanza-Aprendizaje at the Universidad Católica San Antonio de Murcia (Spain).
Graduate Student News continued

**Kotoko Nakata** presented a poster “Perception of sound symbolism in mimetic stimuli: The voicing contrast in Japanese and English” at the Fall meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (Indianapolis).

**Zhen Qin** in collaboration with Dr. Annie Tremblay, presented his research "Effects of native dialect on Mandarin listeners’ use of prosodic cues to English stress" at the 2014 Speech Prosody Conference in Dublin, Ireland (May, 2014). In collaboration with Dr. Allard Jongman, he presented his research "Does second language experience modulate perception of tones in a third language?" at the 168th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America in Indianapolis, Indiana (Oct., 2014). He received travel funds from the KU Confucius Institute for the two conference trips. He also received Graduate Student Conference Travel Support from the Department of Linguistics for his conference trip to Ireland. Zhen presented his research "Effect of native Mandarin dialects on English learners’ use of prosodic cues to stress" at the KU Graduate Student Research Competition. He started his doctoral dissertation project "How native listeners and L2 learners process tones in recognition of Chinese words—an eye-tracking study".

**Mfon Udoinyang** along with Phil Duncan and Travis Major, gave a talk entitled “Searching high and low for focus in Ibibio” at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Portland, Oregon in January 2015. Mfon received support from the Graduate student travel fund, which enabled him to attend the LSA in Portland.

**Hanbo Yan** presented a poster "An acoustic comparison of dental and retroflex sibilants in Chinese Mandarin and Taiwan Mandarin" at the 168th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, with A. Jongman. She also presented a poster "The Perception of Laryngeal Contrasts in Shanghai Wu" with J. Zhang at the 22nd Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics/26th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics.

Graduate students enjoying the Kansas sunflowers — Quentin Qin, Katrina Connell, Wenting Tang, Lauren Covey, Xiao Yang, Goun Lee, Mfon Udoinyang, & Mingxing Li
### UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
#### BACHELOR OF ARTS

**MAJORS**
- Devon Bartel  
- Lucas Boley  
- Seth Brooks  
- Taylor Clossin  
- Joann Doll  
- Rebecca Fensholt  
- Valerie Finch  
- Veronica Fox  
- Alexandria Haggerty  
- Emily Hein  
- Gretchen Hess  
- Cody Johnson  
- Michael Lebovitz  
- Catherine Lees  
- Quan Liu  
- Kelsey McGongile  
- Meaghan Melech  
- Liz Myers  
- Melyssa Pabon  
- Sylvia Somiari  
- Elizabeth Steil  
- John Steinmetz  
- Amanda Swanson

**MINORS**
- Brook Brown  
- Matt Butterworth  
- Katie Cleary  
- Hannah Jayne  
- Elizabeth Madrigal  
- Ashley Martinez  
- Chelsea Mies  
- Lauren Pfister  
- Stephen Schroer

### GRADUATE STUDIES
#### MASTER OF ARTS
- Jie Liu “Grammatically-guided resolution of filler-gap dependencies: An investigation of Chinese multiple dependencies” (Advisors: Alison Gabriele & Robert Fiorentino)
- Travis Major “Syntactic Islands in Uyghur” (Advisor: Harold Torrence)
- Maria Rangel, Written Exam
- Ethan Skinner “Sources of difficulty in the L2 acquisition of Chinese reflexives and pronouns” (Advisor: Alison Gabriele)
- Kimberly Swallom, Written Exam
- Wen-chi Yeh, Project Exam

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
- Khady Tamba “Clausal nominalization in Wolof” (Advisor: Harold Torrence)

---

Winter 2014 Linguistics Party
In April of 2014, KU Linguistics hosted the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL). This international conference brought more than 200 scholars from over 20 countries in Africa, Europe, and North America to the University of Kansas. ACAL is the largest annual conference with a focus on African languages. The 2014 conference featured more than 170 presenters, one of the largest ever. ACAL is traditionally a broad conference that attracts not just linguists, but scholars from allied fields such as anthropology, psychology, and history. As such, the three-day conference (April 17-19) included talks on all areas of linguistics, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, and anthropological linguistics (http://www.acal45.ku.edu/home.html). In conjunction with the main ACAL conference, a three-day workshop, “Africa’s Endangered Languages: Documentary and Theoretical Approaches”, was also held. The workshop, with nearly 70 presenters, was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (BCS DEL 1360823). The ACAL organizing team consisted of Drs. Jason Kandybowicz and Harold Torrence, along with KU Linguistics graduate students Travis Major, Ibrahima Ba, and Mfon Udoinyang. Dr. Carlos Nash from Anthropology provided critical technical support. KU Linguistics received funds from the KU Office of the Provost and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to host ACAL.

The major objective of the endangered languages workshop was to facilitate synergistic partnerships between documentary and theoretical/formal linguists working on endangered African languages. The workshop was based on the idea of showing how documentation and description of endangered languages can contribute to linguistic theory and how theoretical analysis can enrich documentation and description of endangered languages by pushing fieldworkers to obtain the kinds of data that might not typically be sought in descriptive or documentary work. By bringing together both documentarians and theoreticians, the workshop presentations also highlighted the ways in which language endangerment in Africa, with its very high multilingualism and long-term language contact, is different from that in other parts of the world. The workshop featured talks from six plenary speakers drawn from a variety of specializations, but all fieldworkers.

In his plenary, Dr. Kofi Agyekum (University of Ghana-Legon) focused on the interaction of sociolinguistic theory, language policy, and documentary linguistics (“Decolonising Linguistic Imperialism in Africa through Documentation and Preservation”). Dr. Chris Collins (New York University) presented “The Linker in the Khoisan Languages”, which summarized aspects of his long-running research on these highly endangered southern African languages. Dr. Michael Marlo (University of Missouri) spoke on his fieldwork on “The Exceptional Properties of the 1st SG and Reflexive Object Markers in Bantu Languages: Syntax, Phonology, or Both?”. Dr. Carlos Nash (University of Kansas) discussed his ongoing community-driven documentation project in “Working with the Abagusii of Kenya: Applying an ‘Empowering’ Research Model to Linguistic Fieldwork”. Dr. Bonny Sands (Northern Arizona University) addressed the synergistic focus of the conference in “The Challenge(s) of Documenting Africa’s Least Known Languages”. Dr. Malte Zimmermann (Universität Potsdam) discussed semantic fieldwork on endangered languages in “Universal and Existential Quantifiers in Chadic and Beyond”.

The NSF grant also provided travel funds for 16 graduate linguistics students (1 domestic and 15 in-
ternational) to attend the workshop. KU Linguistics has a strong commitment to graduate education and the workshop was important for graduate student professional development because it provided a forum where graduate students could present their research in a public forum and receive feedback from other linguists. In fact, KU Linguistics graduate students gave presentations on “The Morphosyntax of Verb Focus in Ibibio” (Philip T. Duncan, Travis Major, Mfon Udoinyang), “Homorganic KP Nasal Assimilation in Ibibio” (Mfon Udoinyang), and “Factive Relative Clauses in Pulaar” (Ibrahima Ba)

Another important aspect of the workshop was that it included a session that was designed to increase awareness of language endangerment in Africa for undergraduate students, who typically do not receive any information on this subject during their college careers. The undergraduate session sought to take advantage of this missed opportunity to make these young, educated people aware of the extent and value of language diversity in the world and in the African context. Kandybowicz, Torrence, and Nash spoke to about 40 students in the Introduction to Africa class (African and African American Studies 103) taught by Dr. Beverly Mack and fielded questions from the audience. Undergraduate students were able to attend ACAL and the workshop free of charge. This, coupled with the increase in Linguistics majors at KU over the last few years, resulted in a large number of undergraduates attending talks, which is highly unusual for an academic conference.

The conference and workshop will result in two publications. Kandybowicz and Torrence are in the process of editing a peer-reviewed volume that will contain about twenty papers based on talks from the workshop. This will be published by Oxford University Press in 2016. Kandybowicz, Torrence, and Linguistics graduate student Travis Major are also currently editing the ACAL Proceedings volume, which will contain peer-reviewed papers based on the main session and is due to be published by Language Science Press. The ACAL proceedings volume will be published in 2015.
Experimental investigations of tone sandhi in three Hakka dialects spoken in Taiwan

Traditional phonological research primarily relies on data gleaned from the lexical patterns of the language to deduce speakers’ unconscious knowledge of the sound patterns in the language. However, recent advances in the field have shown that lexical patterns are often not an accurate reflection of the speakers’ knowledge, as they can both overlearn and underlearn from the lexicon. This has wide-ranging consequences to the construction of phonological theory and analysis as well as the methods of phonological research. This issue is particularly evident in tone sandhi research in Chinese dialects: the lexical patterns are exceedingly complex, so much so that modern theories of phonology often lack effectively ways of analyzing them; yet we know relatively little about what the speakers’ knowledge of these patterns is like. This motivates the need for experimental investigations of tone sandhi patterns that directly shed light on the speakers’ sandhi knowledge.

Hakka dialects spoken in Taiwan have a rich array of tone sandhi phenomena that are not only interesting in their own right, but also provide a testing ground for theoretical hypotheses regarding their speakers’ phonological knowledge. This research focuses on three dialects of Taiwanese Hakka — Sixian, Dapu, and Hailu, which provide an interesting comparison both among themselves and with the cross-dialectal typology of tone sandhi. Two experimental methods will be used to test the hypothesis that the Hakka speakers’ unconscious knowledge of the sandhi patterns is not characterized by the derivation of sandhi tones from base tones, as suggested by the lexical patterns, but by listed allomorphs of syllables and tones in the appropriate contexts. The nonce-probe test investigates whether the sandhi patterns are productive in novel-word contexts, and the auditory priming test provides insight to the phonological representations of the sandhi tones used in lexical access. The experiments will be conducted in the Psycholinguistics Laboratory of the National Chiao Tung University in collaboration with co-PD Dr. Yuwen Lai (KU Ph.D. 2008) over two summers, and the data analysis, interpretation, and write-up of the results will primarily take place in the US, also in collaboration with Dr. Lai. We plan to involve 20 native speakers for each of the three dialects in our experiments, and the results of our research will be widely disseminated to regional and international conferences as well as in journal articles.

The merit of the proposed research lies in two distinct areas. First, it allows us to test two theoretically significant yet understudied questions: (a) To what extent does a speaker’s phonological knowledge replicate the statistical patterns in the lexicon? (b) If there is discrepancy between the two, what are the factors that cause overlearning and underlearning from the lexicon? In a way, what we have proposed here is not only a set of experiments on Taiwanese Hakka dialects, but also a methodological challenge to phonologists interested in Chinese tone sandhi: we need to rebuild the empirical basis for the sandhi patterns before theoretical analysis can fruitfully proceed. Second, we have proposed to conduct the experiments in three dialects of Hakka spoken in Taiwan. Compared to other dialects of Chinese, Hakka is understudied, especially in the experimental realm. Moreover, although in terms of the number of speakers, the danger of losing these dialects cannot be compared to many indigenous languages around the world, with the increasing dominance of Mandarin Chinese, the urgency to document, preserve, and study these dialects cannot be underestimated. The psycholinguistic investigation proposed in this research allows us a more direct peek into Hakka speakers’ phonological mind. This type of work will complement the existing descriptive work in providing a fuller picture of the state of the language and its speakers.
Effects of native language and linguistic exposure on non-native listeners’ use of prosodic cues in speech segmentation

Speech is a continuous flow of sounds where no single device explicitly marks word boundaries. A crucial challenge for language learners is that the cues that signal word boundaries differ across languages; thus, a speaker's experience with her native language may be misleading when attempting to segment a second language into words. Specifying how adult language learners recognize words in continuous speech is very important, first because it can help resolve key theoretical debates about how language learning and language comprehension take place in adults. More precisely, it can shed light on whether (and if so, the extent to which) the adult brain is sufficiently plastic to develop sensitivity to new segmentation cues and the factors that modulate whether or not this learning is possible. This research can therefore have important implications for cognitive and linguistic sciences. Furthermore, speech segmentation is essential to successful communication among multilingual speakers. As our society is becoming increasingly multilingual, languages have become intrinsic components of K-12 and college curricula, and computational linguists and computer scientists have striven to develop technologies that could afford efficient communication among multilingual speakers. Investigating the factors that influence how adult language learners segment a second language into words can thus have important implications for the teaching of languages and for the development of communication technologies (e.g., automatic speech recognition).

This research focuses on the influence of the native language and of recent linguistic exposure on adult language learners’ use of prosodic cues, specifically pitch, in speech segmentation. Its primary aim is to determine how the similarities and differences between the native language and second language affect adult language learners' ability to use prosodic cues in speech segmentation. Two hypotheses are tested: (i) the Prosodic Assimilation Hypothesis: Second-language prosodic systems that are similar to, yet different from, native-language prosodic systems are assimilated and thus more difficult to learn in speech segmentation than second-language prosodic systems that are very different from native-language prosodic systems; and (ii) the Cue-Weighting Transfer Hypothesis: The functional load of segmentation cues in the native language is carried over to the second language. A secondary aim of this research is to assess the effect of recent linguistic exposure on speech segmentation. A third hypothesis is tested: (iii) Probabilistic Speech Segmentation Hypothesis: The speech processing system uses a single set of speech segmentation strategies that reflect the probabilities of cues to word boundaries across the native language and second language. To test these hypotheses, this research focuses on native French, Korean, English, and Dutch listeners with or without knowledge of French or Korean as second languages. Listeners will complete visual-world eye-tracking and artificial-language segmentation experiments.
Mingxing Li was the recipient of the Frances Ingemann Scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year. Mingxing extends his sincere gratitude to Prof. Ingemann and to all the Linguistics faculty for this honor. He enrolled in the doctoral program in Fall 2012 and works with Prof. Jie Zhang. His research is on the perceptual distinctiveness of consonants in different vowel contexts and the connection between psychoacoustic perception and linguistic typology.

Mingxing presented his experimental study of contrast distinctiveness at the 19th Meeting of the Mid-Continental Phonetics & Phonology Conference (Sept 2014) and the 168th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (Oct 2014). His collaborative work with Prof. Jie Zhang on the perception of Mandarin sibilants will be presented in April 2015 at the 27th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics and his co-authored article with Prof. Lian-Hee Wee (HKBU) appears in the Oxford Handbook of Chinese Linguistics.

Dr. Pye’s National Science Foundation-sponsored project documents the acquisition of the Oto-manguean language Northern Pame that is spoken by 6,000 people in the state of San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The goal of this project is to record longitudinal language samples from three children acquiring Northern Pame as their first language. Dr. Pye recruited and trained two native speakers of Northern Pame to assist in recording the children and in transcribing the recordings on the computer. He later recruited two additional Northern Pame speakers to assist in transcribing the recordings on the computer. To date we have recorded 60 hours with 13 children.
Dr. Frances Ingemann 10th recipient of Distinguished Alumni Award from Indiana University

Dr. Frances Ingemann, Professor Emerita at the University of Kansas, is the 10th recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, first presented in 1992. A public lecture and reception honoring Dr. Ingemann was held at the Devault Alumni Center on October 10th, 2014. Dr. Ingemann’s lecture was titled “Verb inflection in Ipili”. As part of the formalities, Dr. Mary Sleator Temperley (Ph.D. 1957) contributed remarks about the intellectual atmosphere during the 1950s, while a former student of Dr. Ingemann’s, Antonia Folarin Schleicher, currently Executive Director of the IU Joint Language Resource Centers and Director of the National African Language Resource Center, gave a touching summary of Dr. Ingemann’s mentorship and support when she was a graduate student at KU, presenting Dr. Ingemann with two bouquets of flowers.

Department Chair Robert Botne presented Dr. Ingemann with a framed certificate recognizing her achievements as a distinguished alumna. He also presented her with a commemorative polo shirt embroidered with “Indiana IU Linguistics”.

Dr. Ingemann received her Ph.D. in 1956, writing her dissertation “An East Cheremis Grammar” under the direction of Thomas Sebeok. Following her graduate studies, she spent a year at Haskins Laboratory where she worked on speech synthesis. She was the first person to pull together the relevant information on the acoustics of speech at that time, and wrote up a set of rules that could be utilized in order to produce speech. Her experience working with speech synthesis at Haskins later took her to Edinburgh for a year to assist with their development of a speech synthesis system somewhat different from that created at Haskins.

After a year at Haskins, Dr. Ingemann was invited to take up a tenure-track position at the University of Kansas at the invitation of Dean George Waggoner, who had become convinced of the value of linguistics during his time at IU. Dr. Ingemann served as Chair of the Linguistics Program at KU for ten years, and then as the first Chair of the Department of Linguistics, which she helped create in 1957. Among her other accomplishments while at KU, she was the first woman to head the university senate, was presiding officer of the University Council and Senate, and was active in the AAUP.

Although her original research interest was on Cheremis, the area in the Soviet Union where the language was spoken was closed to foreigners. So, she took up fieldwork in New Guinea, becoming the first person to do research on Ipili, which she carried out through the medium of Pidgin English. Lat-
Dr. Ingemann—Distinguished Alumni Award continued

Dr. Ingemann, she went to Monrovia, where she taught some courses at the university in Freetown and conducted some linguistic surveys.

Dr. Ingemann was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame. Her name graces the annual Frances Ingemann Lecture and the Frances Ingemann Linguistics scholarship. Current department chair, Allard Jongman, has been quoted as saying “The current department is to a large extent the fruit of her vision and persistence.” Although Dr. Ingemann retired in 2000, after a 43-year career, she remains active in linguistics.

Outside of linguistics, Dr. Ingemann is an avid Kansas City Royals baseball fan, holding season tickets since 1985. The Distinguished Alumni Lecture and reception were timed perfectly to end at 8 p.m., just minutes before the start of the Kansas City Royals’ ALCS game against the Baltimore Orioles. The Royals won the series and are, once again, headed to the World Series. We don’t doubt that Frances will be there to cheer them on.

We thank the Indiana University Linguistics Department for its permission to reprint this article from its fall 2014 newsletter.

Prof. Sheila Blumstein (Brown U.), about to be introduced by Prof. Jongman as the recipient of the Silver Medal in Speech Communication from the Acoustical Society of America, Indianapolis, Fall 2014.
Dr. Kelly Harper Berkson has joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Phonetics and Phonology at Indiana University. In 2013-14 she was a Visiting Lecturer in the department. She received her PhD in Linguistics from the University of Kansas in 2013. Pictures show her office and new phonetics lab.

Dr. Stephen Politzer-Ahles (KU PhD 2013), New York University, Abu Dhabi, returned to KU to present How the brain encodes features of Mandarin contour tones: Evidence from event-related potentials. He is pictured here with graduate students Maite Martinez-Garcia and Goun Lee at a reception following his presentation.
Why support Linguistic studies at KU?

By giving to Linguistics, you contribute to the continued development of Linguistic academic activities, outreach, lectures, seminars and research programs at KU and throughout the region.

Your donations will also aid in supporting student scholarships, faculty research, teaching awards, service awards, and overall improvement of the department.

To support Linguistics, please send your donation, clearly marked for the Department of Linguistics, to the following address:

Gift Processing Department
KU Endowment
PO Box 928
Lawrence, KS 66044-0928

or go to:
https://www.kuendowment.org/GiveNow/
and select LINGUISTICS as the destination of your donation.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Clifton Pye conducting fieldwork on Pame in Mexico, fall 2014.

2014 Donors—THANK YOU!

- Beverly M. Boyd
- Shannon L. Green
- Michael Henderson
- Frances Ingemann
- Brandon L. Johnson
- Allard Jongman & Joan Sereno
- Cornelia Paraskevas
- Kathleen Shea
- Michael Smith
- Gregory T. Stump
- Emily Tummons
- Yukihiro & Chutatip Yumitani