

The SLAT Communicator

The official SLAT Newsletter
August 2024

*Welcome * Celebrate * Connect * Gratitude * Network*

The start of a new academic year is always an exciting time of reconnecting with students, colleagues, and friends. We hope you will find many threads of connections in this newsletter, connecting you to our SLAT Community. For those of you in Tucson, mark your calendars to join us for our annual SLAT Community Meet & Greet on Friday, September 6 at 3:30 pm in Harvill 305.



The new academic year means a new cohort of SLAT majors. We want to send out a very warm Tucson welcome to our new SLAT 2024 Cohort: **Bernard Cassie, Nena Choi, Sara Matsumura,** and **Caroline Scheuer Neves**. Learn more about them in this newsletter (and meet them at the Meet & Greet, if not before). With this new cohort, we now have 35 SLAT major students and 20 SLAT minor students in our community, together with our many faculty, alumni, and fearless staff.

Throughout this issue, you will also find lots of SLAT Community news to celebrate: awards, publications, presentations, graduations, and promotions of our students, alumni, and faculty. With this issue, we are proud to celebrate 4 new dissertation completers! Take a moment to reach out and congratulate each other!

Connecting people is at the heart of SLAT. One of the amazing ways SLAT connects people across the years is through meetings at conferences and, of course, online. In this issue, read about how our students, alumni, and faculty gave papers and presentations at conferences throughout the globe.

(Cont'd next page)

Catch up with many of our SLAT students, faculty, and alumni at our events (in person and Zoom) this year at <https://slat.arizona.edu/events>. And watch for news about our SLAT Alumni Circles. These are concentrations of SLAT alumni in similar geographic locations across the globe. We challenge everyone to find their SLAT Circle and band together for coffee, tea, and revolutionary collaborative teaching and research projects in your area (and to send us pictures!).

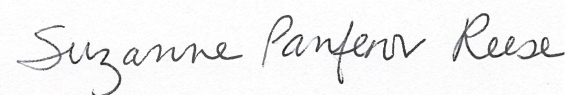
Gratitude is a gift that keeps on giving. We want to express our gratitude to the SLAT Executive Council faculty members - **Drs. Chris Tardy, Dwight Atkinson, Mahmoud Azaz, Betul Czerkowski, Julieta Fernandez, Mike Hammond, Robert Henderson, Hayriye Kayi-Aydar, Liudmila Klimanova, and Tania Leal**. They all help advise and lead the SLAT program. And as my term as Chair of SLAT comes to an end in June 2025, this coming year they'll have their sleeves rolled up as the program embarks on the quest for the next SLAT Chair, and for completing our Academic Program Review. Extra thanks to the Executive Council members who rotated off in June 2024: **Dr. Janet Nicol**, and student representative **Wei Xu**. An in turn, we celebrate our newest student representative, **Angus Leydic**, and give our continued thanks to ongoing

student representative, **Lincoln Bain**. You can follow the hard work of SLAT ExCo this year at <https://slat.arizona.edu/people/executive-council>.

Networking is super important to our SLAT grads as they dive into an unpredictable workforce. Many will go off to work as professors, researchers, language program directors, content developers, and in so many other flavors of careers related to language learning and assessment, students and teaching, culture, refugee resettlement, and even digital creation. Staying connected is a vital way to connect grads with opportunities for research, internships, and job placement. We want to remind you of ways to connect: through the [SLAT website](#), our [LinkedIn group](#), the [UA Alumni Network](#), and of course, our new SLAT Circles.

Let's ring in the 2024-2025 academic new year! Celebrate our accomplishments and connect with the SLAT Community!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Panferov Reese". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light-colored, slightly textured rectangular background.

Suzanne Panferov Reese, Ph.D.
Chair, SLAT

Save the dates & Updates:

SLAT COMMUNITY MEET & GREET:

September 6, 2024
3:30 PM

Tentative location: Harvill 305
(Location will be confirmed
within a week of the event.)

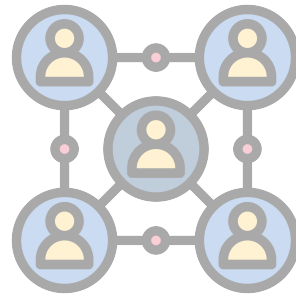
Refreshments & light snacks will
be offered.

We'd love to see you there!

Find an updated list of
fellowships and scholarships
now at the [SLAT website](#).



Check out our [events page](#) to see
more upcoming events!



ANNUAL SLAT FACULTY MEETING:

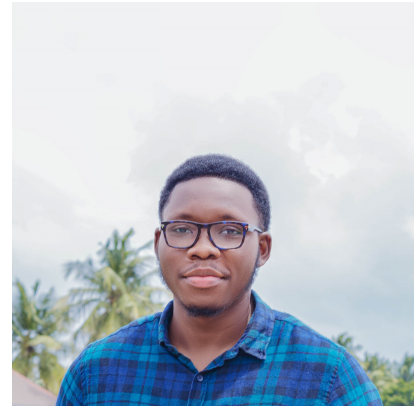
The annual SLAT Faculty Meeting will take place on September 16, 2024 at 3:30pm on Zoom. All SLAT faculty members are invited to attend to get updates about the program and to ask the SLAT chair any questions they may have. The Zoom link will be sent out once the semester begins.



Welcome to our 2024-2025 cohort!

Bernard Cassie

Bernard Brefo Cassie comes from Ghana, West Africa, and holds a M.A. in TESL from the University of Arizona and a B.A. in English and Political Science from the University of Ghana, and is a recipient of the 2024-2025 University Fellowship. He has taught first-year writing classes at both universities. His research interests include corpus linguistics, technology-enhanced language learning, and second language writing. In his free time, Bernard enjoys watching basketball and taking walks.



Nena Choi

Nena Choi holds a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics from Texas Tech University and Bachelor's degrees in English Literature, English Education, and Psychology. She has extensive experience as a Korean instructor at the Defense Critical Language and Culture Program (DCLCP) at the University of Montana, where she taught both Korean and North Korean language and culture. Furthermore, she brings nearly seven years of experience as an English teacher at secondary schools in South Korea. Her research interests are centered on resettlement, language, and culture of North Korean defectors, as well as identity, communicative competence from a pragmatic perspective, and intercultural competence. In her Korean language classes, she has implemented project-based learning using K-dramas and K-pop, and has creatively integrated acting, singing, and dancing into her Korean cultural lessons.

Welcome our 2024-2025 cohort!

Sara Matsumura

Sara Matsumura recently graduated from Arizona State University with a Master's in Spanish Linguistics and a focus on SLA. As a Japanese heritage learner and L2 speaker in Hawai'i's diverse cultural and linguistic environment, she developed a keen interest in studying language acquisition both inside and outside the classroom.



Her current research interests include instructed second language acquisition, pedagogy, classroom-based research, and interactional competence. She enjoys teaching beginner to intermediate-level Spanish courses, integrating TBLT and activities that promote communicative competence to help her students feel confident and motivated to use their language skills in real-life interactions.

In her free time, you can find her doing hot yoga, visiting restaurants/cafes, reading, and traveling.



Caroline Scheuer Neves

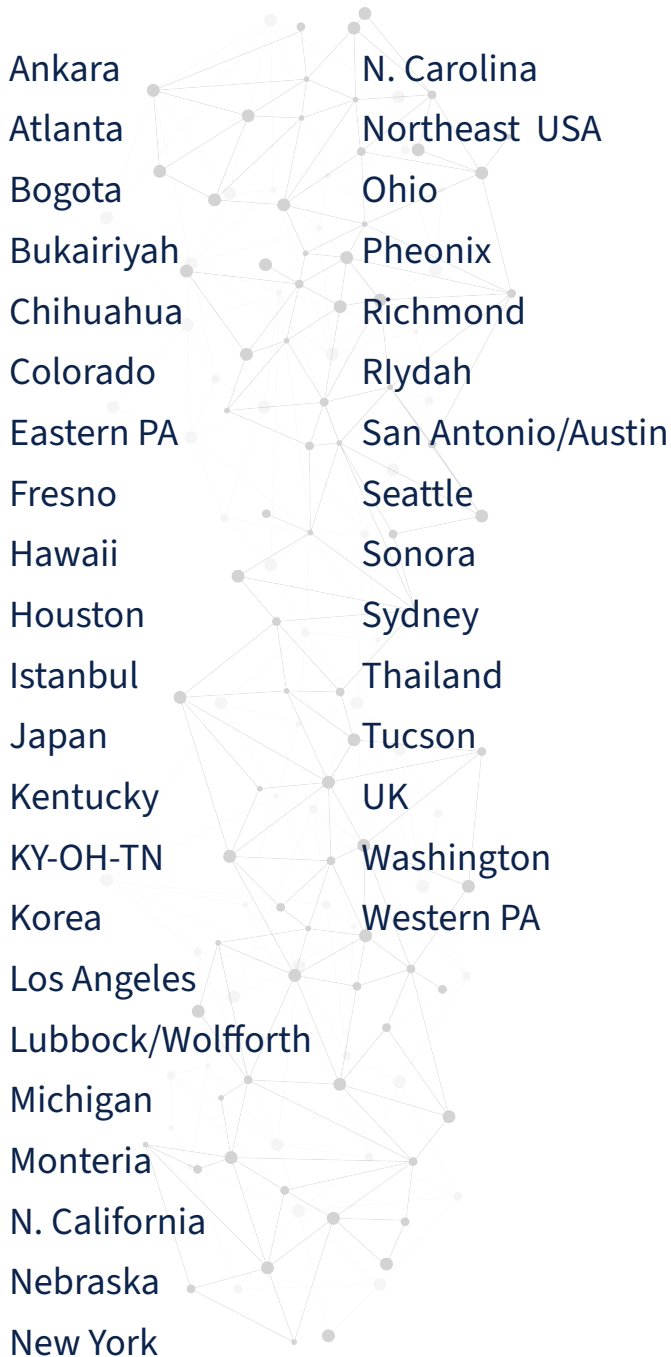
Caroline Scheuer Neves is originally from Brazil and holds a Bachelor's degree in Language and Literature Teaching and a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil).

She has over a decade of experience teaching Portuguese as an additional language. Her Portuguese journey began in the Program of Portuguese for Foreigners at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul during her undergrad studies. She then participated in the More Doctors for Brazil Program, where she had the opportunity to go to Cuba and teach Portuguese to Cuban doctors preparing to work in Brazil. Following this experience, Caroline was a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at the University of Arkansas. For the past four and a half years, she has taught at the University of Cape Town in South Africa as part of the Brazilian Lectureship Program.

Outside of the classroom, Caroline is more of an introvert. While she cherishes her quiet time, she also enjoys meeting new people and making connections. She has a passion for food and always looks forward to trying new dishes. While Brazilian food holds a special place in her heart, she also enjoys exploring other cuisines.

SLAT Alumni Circles

SLAT Alumni Circles Can Be Found In:



As a new initiative to bring SLAT graduates together for collaboration, networking, and forming friendships, we have created a SLAT Alumni Circles program! SLAT has identified alumni who live near each other in geographic areas and provided contact info for those who are interested in meeting.

We believe in the power of SLAT connections. Meet each other when settling into a new town, firing up a research project, or just simply cheering each other on. Keep those SLAT links going!

In addition to the email about joining the Alumni Circles program, you can find your fellow alumni on the [SLAT website](#) and on the [SLAT group on LinkedIn](#).

***If you would like to get involved, please
email GIDP-SLAT@arizona.edu***

Congratulations to our newest Alumni!

AY 2023-2024



Congratulations to the newest SLAT graduates! **Valentina Vinokurova**, **Hyeonah Kang**, and **Mariana Centanin Bertho** all walked in the Spring 2024 College of Humanities Convocation. Valentina was hooded by her advisor, Dr. Beatrice Dupuy, Hyeonah was hooded by her advisor, Dr. Janet Nicol, and Mariana was hooded by her advisor, Dr. Shelley Staples. **David Lozada Gomez** (advisor Dr. Peter Ecke) also graduated this year but was not in Tucson for the Convocation.

Welcome to our new visiting scholars!

- **Emma Caputo**, doctoral student from the University of Barcelona, Spain (Faculty Liaison: Dr. Jon Reinhardt), arriving Fall 2024
- **Jonna Kassner**, doctoral student from Leuphana University Lueneburg, Germany (Faculty Liaison: Dr. Jon Reinhardt), tentatively arriving Spring 2025
- **Jessica Knuth**, doctoral student from the University of Wuppertal, Germany (Faculty Liaison: Dr. Hayriye Kayi-Aydar), arriving Fall 2024
- **Dr. Binmei Liu**, Nankai University, China (Faculty Liaison: Dr. Wenhao Diao), arriving Fall 2024
- **Pardis Sharifpour**, doctoral student from Allameh Tabataba'i University of Iran (Faculty Liaison: Dr. Hayriye Kayi-Aydar), tentatively arriving Spring 2025



SLAT Student News: Awards, Honors, Presentations, and Updates:

Mourad Abdennebi won a 2024 NFMLTA NCOLCTL Dissertation Research Award and a GPSC Research Grant in Spring 2024.

Dilara Avci presented a poster at the GDP Student Research Showcase in December 2023.

Lincoln Bain won a Bilinski Fellowship for 2024-2025, and was named the 2024 recipient of the Robert A. Fischer Outstanding Graduate Student Award from CALICO.

Mukaddes Coban Postaci presented her paper, titled "The role of audio feedback in the graduate level academic writing" at the Symposium on Second Language Writing in November 2023. She will present her paper, titled "Navigating the Intersection of Election Alliances and the Law on Women's Protection: A Stance Analysis of Turkish Politicians' Tweets and Statements" at the 21st AILA World Congress in August 2024.

Maryah Converse was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, and will be doing dissertation fieldwork in Jordan throughout 2025. Maryah also received a 2024 CMES Internship and Research Experience Award Grant, which she used for fieldwork in Jordan during Summer 2024.

Anh Dang won a SBSRI Dissertation Research Grant in Spring 2024 and a GPSC Research Grant. She also started working as the Writing Across Curriculum (WAC) Graduate Associate for the University's Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology (UCATT). This year, Anh hosted a Designing Corpus-Based Materials Workshop for L2 writing teachers. She also facilitated the AY 23-24 CROW Fellows Program with Dr. Shelley Staples and Dr. Randi Reppen and the Faculty Learning Community with Dr. Aimee Mapes on Serving Multilingual Students as Writers. Anh co-coordinated the WAC Symposium and the WAC Faculty Fellows Program with Dr. Aimee Mapes and Dr. Emily Jo Schwaller.

Asya Gorlova received the Spring 2024 College of Humanities Outstanding GAT Award.

Giulia Negretto won a GPSC Research Grant in Spring 2024.

Issam Rian won a SBSRI Dissertation Research Grant and a GPSC Research Grant in Spring 2024.

SLAT Student News: Awards, Honors, Presentations, and Updates:

Kate Shea won a Bilinski Fellowship for 2024-2025.

Onur Ural won the Department of English's Graduate Student Research Fund Award and a GPSC Research Grant in Spring 2024. He also presented at the Literacy Research Association Conference in November 2023, and has been teaching Multimodal Web Design at CESL.

Hui Wang won a Tilly Warnock Fellowship Award in Summer 2024, and a GPSC Group Travel Grant in Spring 2024.

Wei Xu won the Best Poster Award for Pre-doctoral Research Grant during SBSRI's Research Showcase in Fall 2024, and she received a Scholars for the Dream Travel Award to attend the College Composition and Communication Conference.



SLAT Student Publications

Avci, D. Implementing Critical Language Pedagogy: 3 Ideas that Second Language Writing Teachers Can Explore. *TESOL Second Language Writing Newsletter*. May 2, 2024.

Gou, H. (2024). [Review of the book *Language teachers studying abroad: Identities, emotions and disruptions*, by G. Barkhuizen]. *System*, 121, 296. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.system.2024.103267>.

Yaylali, A., Albrecht, S., Smith, K., & **Shea, K.** (in press). Mentoring graduate writing through to the PhD: Narratives of writing productivity in social and institutional spaces. *Studies in Graduate and Postdoctoral Education*.

Shea, K. (2024). Developing evaluative standards for English Medium Instruction in Transnational Higher Education Partnerships. In Mahalingappa, L. & Kayi-Aydar, H. (Eds.) *Contemporary Perspectives on English as a Medium of Instruction Around the Globe*. Information Age Publishing.

Shea, K., Vu, T., & Sokol, G. (2024). Instructor positioning as participants in a transnational EMI program. *Journal of English-Medium Instruction*. 3(1). 30-47. <https://doi.org/10.1075/jemi.22017.she>

SLAT Alumni Awards, Honors, Presentations and Updates

Dr. Asma Alsaahil (2016) received two research grants from the Deanship of Scientific Research at Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University, and one research grant from The Arab Observatory for Translation.

Dr. Hope Anderson (2016) started her own company, [Teaching Solved](#), and has been presenting and exhibiting at language teacher conferences throughout the U.S. to help get resources into the hands of teachers.

Dr. Karen Barto (2015) recently completed an English Language Specialist project for the U.S. Department of State, offering professional development in English medium instruction to professors from Taiwan in a collaboration between the U.S. Embassy, National Taichung University of Education (NTCU), and nearby universities as part of the Taiwanese government's BEST bilingual initiative. Karen also designed and taught a series of online training sessions and authored a written guide to effective English medium instruction.

Dr. Teresa Bell (2001) was appointed as the new President of the Utah Foreign Language Association (UFLA), which supports teachers across Utah as they teach foreign languages.

Dr. Tahnee Bucher (2021) was promoted to Assessment Innovation and Alignment Manager at Michigan Language Assessment.

Dr. Cynthia Ducar (2006) was promoted to Full Professor of Spanish in the Department of World Languages & Cultures at Bowling Green State University.

Dr. Federico Fabbri (2023) began a new job in July 2024 at the University of Michigan, as the Director of the Elementary Language Program in Romance Languages, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Dr. Rachel Floyd (2023) was elected as the French Section Head for the Board of Directors of the American Association of University Supervisors, Coordinators, and Directors of Language Programs.

Dr. Senta Goertler (2006) was promoted to Full Professor of Second Language Studies and German at Michigan State University.

SLAT Alumni Awards, Honors, Presentations, and Updates

Dr. Claudia Kost (2004) was promoted to Full Professor of German and Applied Linguistics at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Rachel Kraut (2016) was elected to the National Board of Directors for EnglishUSA, and she'll be serving as an At-Large Director through June 2026.

Dr. Kyoko Masuda (2002) was promoted to Full Professor of Linguistics and Japanese at Georgia Institute of Technology, in the School of Modern Languages.

Dr. Tamara MC (2014) received an Arizona Commission on the Arts Research and Development Grant.

Dr. Steven Przymus (2016), along with one of his colleagues, was awarded a Maestro Program Recruitment Grant in 2023-2024, provided by the Forth Worth Education Partnership. He and a colleague also received an Erasmus+ Programme Grant for 2023-2026, funded by the European Union.



SLAT Alumni Publications

Alsahil, A. (2022). Behind the scenes: exploring learners' collaborative writing interactions and strategies. *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 1-30.

Alsahil, A. (2024). Exploring students' perceptions and affordances of Google docs-supported collaborative writing. *Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching*, 1-19.

Latif, M.M.A., Alsuhaibani, Z., & **Alsahil, A.** (2024). Matches and mismatches between Saudi university students' English writing feedback preferences and teachers' practices. *Assessing Writing*, 61, 100863.

Alsahil, A., Abdel Latif, M.M., & Alsuhaibani, Z. (2024). Exploring EFL learner engagement with different teacher feedback modes. *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 1-29.

SLAT Alumni Publications

Masuda, K., Ohta, A., & Tsujihara, R. (2025). *Concept-based Language Instruction: Usage-based Linguistics and Sociocultural Theory in Teaching.* London & New York: Routledge.

Przymus, S.D. (2024). *American Education Mythologies: A Remythification of the Public Language of U.S. Schools,* Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

<https://www.cambridgescholars.com/product/978-1-5275-5622-5>

Przymus, S.D. & Mendoza M.E. (2024). Easy de traducir: Geomapping Spanish Billboards across Forth Worth, Texas. *Bilingual Review/Revisa Bilingue.*

Przymus, S.D., Solmaz, O., Cal y Mayor Turbull, A., Rodriguez Rosales, M.E., & Dominguez, A.M. (2024). Leveraging glocal linguistic landscapes to raise preservice teacher candidates' critical language awareness: Pitfalls and potential from three international telecollaboration projects. *Journal of Multilingual Theories and Practices.*

Przymus, S.D. & Mendoza, M.E. (2024). "I saw the sign": Increasing inclusivity with multimodal, community-based literacy practices. *Literacy Today.*

Przymus, S.D. & Faggella-Luby, M. (2023). The Magic of Insider Autores y Escritores: Youth Story Tellers as Authors in a Rural Mexican Community-Based Summer Program. *Journal of Literacy Innovation, 8(2), 5-31.*

*2023 Journal of Literacy Innovation "Article of the Year"

Przymus, S.D., Weinberg, N., Mendoza, M.E., Ekpe, L., Daly, G., Huddleston, G., & Hernandez, F. (2024). Becoming a Maestro: How Identity, Experiences, and Preparation Shape Those Who Have the Courage to Lead On. *TCU Digital Repository.*

Przymus, S.D., Mendoza, M., & Sorrells, A. (Accepted 2024). This bridge we call disability: Intersectional considerations of race, ethnicity, language, and disability via an Anzalduan lens. *Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of Social Justice.*

Przymus, S.D. and Solmaz, O. (Accepted 2024). Bridging borders and educational contexts with LL-based language/cultural learning resources and methods. In D. Gorter and J. Cenoz (Eds.), *Handbook of Linguistic Landscapes and Multilingualism,* Wiley-Blackwell.

SLAT Faculty Awards, Honors, and Presentations

Dr. Mahmoud Azaz (Home Department: MENAS) was named the Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) beginning in January 2024, and he is the recipient of the Scholar of the Year SBS Faculty Award. Dr. Azaz was also elected as the Executive Director the Arabic Linguistics Society (ALS) in North America.

Dr. Ana Carvalho (Home Department: Spanish & Portuguese) received the Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award from the University of Arizona Graduate College. Dr. Carvalho also received a University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Grant for the project Bilingual Voice in the U.S. - Mexico Borderlands Phase 2: Preserving, Expanding & Elaborating Sociolinguistics Collections.

Dr. Jill Castek (Home Department: TLS) was appointed to the editorial team for the Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy (JAAL) for the 2024-2028 term.

Dr. Betul Czerkowski (Home Unit: CAST) received the College of Applied Science and Technology's 2024 Outstanding Faculty Award.

Dr. Wenhao Diao (Home Department: EAS) was appointed the Interim Head of the Department of East Asian Studies. Dr. Diao also received a National Security Agency STARTALK grant for the second time, to fund the project Chinese Pathways in Arizona: Food and Sustainable Cities.

Dr. Peter Ecke (Home Department: German Studies) received a NEH Grant for research and revising an undergraduate course on multilingualism.

Dr. Samira Farwaneh (Home Department: MENAS), focuses in her research on Arabic phonology, morphology, and sociolinguistics. Her paper "Vowel Hiatus Resolution in Arabic" will appear in Volume 58 of *Al-'Arabiyya*, the official journal of the American Association of the Teachers of Arabic (AATA), published by Georgetown University Press.

Dr. Sandiway Fong (Home Department: Linguistics) taught a workshop on Algebraic Models of Generative Linguistics at Caltech University.

Dr. Lillian Gorman (Home Department: Spanish & Portuguese) was named one of the 2024-2025 Fellows for the Digital Borderlands in the Classroom Faculty Fellowship Program and Summer Institute.

SLAT Faculty Awards, Honors, and Presentations

Dr. Heidi Harley (Home Department: Linguistics) was elected as Vice President/President-Elect of the Linguistic Society of America. Dr. Harley, along with collaborator Raffaella Folli, gave a talk at the NOCroDeP conference at Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany.

Dr. Kim Jones (Home Units: College of Humanities and EAS) received an Institute for International Learning Grant for a Project Global Officer - Language Training Center Program.

Dr. Hayriye Kayi-Aydar (Home Department: English) received the University of Arizona Mentoring Future Scholars Award.

Dr. Vicky Lai (Home Department: Psychology) received the 2023 College of Science Distinguished Mentoring Award. She is also the recipient of the University of Arizona RII Core Facilities Pilot Program Fund for 2024-2025, for a fMRI study on metaphor embodiment.

Dr. Feng-Hsi Liu (Home Department: EAS) received a grant from the Taiwan Academy of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles, to be used for the Taiwan Huayu Bilingual Exchanges of Selected Talent (BEST) Program.

Dr. Cecile McKee (Professor Emerita, Home Department: Linguistics) won the Linguistic, Language, and the Public Award from the Linguistic Society of America.

Dr. Sheilah Nicholas (Home Department: TLS) was selected as a 2024 American Educational Research Association Fellow. AERA recognizes exceptional contributions to education research.

Dr. Janet Nicol (Home Department: Linguistics) was interviewed by The University of Arizona News about the benefits for International Mother Language Day, in an article titled [Deeper Empathy is Only One Benefit of Being Multilingual](#).

Dr. Suzanne Panferov Reese (Home Department: PAH) was named as the Director of the Critical Languages Program at the University of Arizona.

Dr. Kathy Short (Home Department: TLS) received the University of Arizona Outstanding Faculty Award.

SLAT Faculty Awards, Honors, and Presentations

Dr. Miquel Simonet (Home Department: Spanish & Portuguese) received the Chatfield Outstanding Tenured Researcher Award.

Dr. Shelley Staples (Home Department: English) was invited to the International Doctoral Summer School in Applied Linguistics and TESOL at the University of Malta. While there, she gave a research talk as well as a workshop for the Center for English Language Proficiency. Dr. Staples also gave invited talks for Michigan State University and the European Association of Language Teachers for Healthcare (EALTHY).

Dr. Chantelle Warner (Home Units: College of Humanities and German Studies) was appointed the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the College of Humanities.

Dr. Natasha Warner (Home Department: Linguistics) gave a talk in June 2024 at Sophia University in Japan on the topic of *Using vowel quality to find word boundaries: Metrical segmentation across dialects*. Dr. Warner also gave a talk in June 2024 at Nagoya University on the topic of *"Native and Non-native Listeners' Use of Information in Parsing Ambiguous Casual Speech: 'He was like' or 'He's like'?"*

Dr. Sunyoung Yang (Home Department: EAS) received the Chatfield Outstanding Untenured Researcher Award.

Dr. Ofelia Zepeda (Home Department: Linguistics) won the 2024 Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Award. Dr. Zepeda was also the recipient of the University of Arizona Women of Impact Award.



Promotions and Tenure



SLAT is pleased to announce that 10 of our wonderful faculty members have received promotions.

- Dr. Mahmoud Azaz has been promoted to Full Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Lillian Gorman has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Robert Henderson has been promoted to Full Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Liudmila Klimanova has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Kris Knisely has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Vicky Lai has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Janice McGregor has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Shelley Staples has been promoted to Full Professor with tenure.
- Dr. Eddy White has been promoted to Full Professor of Practice.
- Dr. Sunyoung Yang has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

SLAT Faculty Publications

Azaz, M. (2024). *Instructed Second Language Acquisition of Arabic: Contextualized Input, Output, and Conversational Form-Focused Instruction of Agreement Asymmetries*. Routledge.

Azaz, M. & Mohamed, A. (2025). *El-Mumtaaz: Contemporary Beginning Egyptian Arabic*. Georgetown University Press.

Ansarifar, A., Shahriari, H., **Staples, S.**, Ghazanfari, M. (2024). Linguistic variation in two written academic sub-registers: A multi-dimensional analysis. *Spanish Journal of Applied Linguistics*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1075/resla.22052.ans>

Biber, D., Larrson, T., Hancock, G.R., Reppen, R., **Staples, S.**, & Gray B. (2024). Comparing theory-based models of grammatical complexity in student writing. *International Journal of Learner Corpus Research*.

Goulart, L. & **Staples, S.** (2023). Multidimensional analysis. In M. Kessler & C. Polio (Eds.). *Conducting genre-based research in applied linguistics* (pp. 127-148). Routledge.



SLAT Collaborative Awards, Honors, and Presentations

Drs. **Shelley Staples, Ana Carvalho, Julieta Fernandez, and Chris Tardy**, along with Dr. Cassidy Reis (Spanish & Portuguese) and Dr. Shelley Rodrigo (English) are the recipients of the CUES Spanning Boundaries Challenge Grant, which will fund a two year project on A linguistically responsive Teaching Assistant (TA) training model. More information about this project and the CUES Spanning Boundaries Challenge can be found here:

<https://cues.arizona.edu/2024-cues-spanning-boundaries-challenge-0>

Drs. **Natasha Warner, Robert Henderson, Sheilah Nicholas, Heidi Harley, and Ofelia Zepeda**, along with their colleagues and students, presented at, taught at, or participated in the [Institute of Collaborative Language Research \(CoLang\)](#). CoLang took place throughout June 2024, and was co-hosted by ASU, AILDI, and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa community. CoLang takes place every 2 years, bringing together the leading academics, community scholars, and indigenous language activists in order to provide leading-edge training in language documentation, revitalization, and collaborative practices.

SLAT Collaborative Awards, Honors, and Presentations

Drs. Ofelia Zepeda, Sheilah Nicholas, and Aresta Tsosie-Paddock received a 5-year grant from the Department of Education to fund the new West Region Native American Language Resource Center. This center is one of only four designated by the U.S. Department of Education to lead a collective effort to empower tribal communities across the country to revitalize and maintain their languages. More information about the center can be found here: <https://news.arizona.edu/news/new-center-help-lead-national-indigenous-language-revitalization-efforts>

SLAT Faculty Dr. **Shelley Staples** and SLAT Alumni **Dr. Mariana Centanin Bertho** and **Dr. Valentina Vinokurova** gave an invited talk for the Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research (CALPER), titled *Modeling learner corpus-based instruction: Examples from less commonly taught languages*. (Co-sponsored by CERCLL.)

SLAT Students **Anh Dang** and **Hui Wang** co-presented a poster at the GIDP Student Research Showcase in December 2023.

SLAT Alum **Dr. Jaime Mejia Mayorga**, SLAT Students **Anh Dang** and **Hui Wang**, and their colleague Sean Chadwick (Department of English) presented at the 2024 AAAL Conference. The title of their presentation was *"Why bother with writing?" Graduate Students' Experiences and Reflections with Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Partnership*.

SLAT Faculty **Dr. Shelley Staples** and SLAT Students **Hui Wang, Bernard Cassie, Alona Kladieva,** and **Anh Dang**, along with their colleague Samuel Gnaore (Department of English) presented at the 2023 Symposium on Second Language Writing. The title of their presentation was *Gamifying corpus-based materials for second language writing classes*.

SLAT Students **Hui Wang** and **Anh Dang** presented at the 2024 AAAL Conference. The title of their presentation was *ChatGPT in Language Education: Seeing ChatGPT Through Universities' Policies and Guidances*.

SLAT Collaborative Awards, Honors, and Presentations

SLAT Faculty **Dr. Wenhao Diao** and SLAT Student **Hongni Gou** co-presented at the 2024 AAAL Conference as part of an invited colloquium titled "Critical race approaches and language studies from international perspectives". Their presentation was on the topic "Everyday raciolinguistic tensions within the Global South: Nigerian students learning Mandarin in China".

SLAT Students **Anh Dang** and **Hui Wang**, along with their colleague Dr. Emily Jo Schwaller (UCATT), presented at the Spring 2024 Writing Program Teaching Symposium in Tucson, AZ. The title of their presentation was Leveraging AI at Our Institutions and Beyond: Policies, Guidelines, and the Continued Conversation.

SLAT Collaborative Publications

Kayi-Aydar, H., Steadman, A., & Shea, K. (2023). *Narratives of TESOL Professionals: Experiences Navigating the Doctoral Program*. Information Age Publishing.

Staples, S., Dang, A., & Wang, H. (2023). Learner Corpora in Corpus-Informed Instruction: Moving Toward an Asset- and Genre-Based Model. *TESOL Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tesq.3293>

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More News From SLAT and Partners

Congratulations to **Debbie Shon Buhler**, Senior Program Coordinator of SLAT, who won the Graduate College's Graduate Program Coordinator Outstanding Contributions Award, and was a recipient of the University of Arizona Staff Award for Excellence.

Congratulations to **Kate Mackay**, Associate Director of **CERCLL**, who was a recipient of the University of Arizona Staff Award for Excellence.

Dr. Robert Cote (SLAT 2014) retired as the Director of **CESL** after 4 years. We wish him the best of luck in his next chapter!

CESL is pleased to welcome new Director, **Dr. Lawrence N. Berlin**. Dr. Berlin holds a Ph.D. in SLAT from the University of Arizona and a M.A. in Foreign Languages from West Virginia University. His previous work experience includes serving at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago as a Professor of TESOL, English Language Program Coordinator, Chair of the Department of Anthropology, Linguistics, Philosophy, and TESOL, directing International Programs, and founding and directing the School for the Advancement of English Language Learning. In addition, he has served as the Academic Director of Languages at EAFIT University in Medellin, Colombia, as an English Language Specialist in Dhaka, Bangladesh and as an independent consulting professor.

The **Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS)** at the University of Arizona hosted its very first STARTALK Chinese Language Summer Residential Camp on the University campus in Summer 2024. The federally funded project, entitled Environmental Sustainability: A STARTALK Chinese Immersion in the Sonoran Desert, was supported by the National Security Agency. **Dr. Wenhao Diao**, CEAS co-Director, was Project Director of this year's STARTALK Camp.

The SLAT Program is incredibly grateful to **Dr. Linda Waugh** for her continuous support of SLAT student research projects. Thank you, Dr. Waugh!

A special thank you to SLAT Student Angus Leydic for formatting and helping create this year's SLAT Newsletter.

Thank you to all the SLAT faculty, alumni, and students who participated in SLAT colloquia, webinars, and workshops this past year. Our program would not be as great as it is without you.

Stay Connected Through Our Shared Experiences

The connections and friendships we've made in our doctoral programs are with people who have similar interests, experiences and mindsets as you. There are times that they may be the only people that can relate with you on a certain topic or even memory. Whether you graduated in the 90s or just this year, we can all relive our memories of our first conference presentation, staying up late to turn in a term paper or maybe make the final edits to your dissertation, or needing a moment to relax and taking reprieve in Tucson's bountiful nature. Keeping these memories, and the spirit of camaraderie alive is what makes us a community. We hope that you will connect with us in our various ways!

SLAT has collaborated with the UA Alumni Services to maintain strong relationships with our alumni. Join the [BearDown Network](#) to connect with SLAT alumni who can mentor you in a variety of ways!



Consider joining a SLAT Alumni Circle Program! You can use the [link here](#) to tell us how to contact you and what area you live in. There just might be a SLAT alumni around the corner!

Visit the **Journal of Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (JSLAT)**! To view the past, present, and future editions of the student-run publication, [click here](#).



Check out the [SLAT LinkedIn page](#)!

Thank you to our campus partners!



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