Director's Message

The curricular reforms suggested in the Modern Language Association (MLA) executive report, “Foreign Languages and Higher Education,” (http://www.mla.org/report) indicate that the role of applied linguists in modern language departments should be highly valued. Yet, this is not the state of affairs in many language departments. Applied linguists are begrudgingly recognized as necessary (maybe, even desirable) for language coordination duties and the teaching of methodology classes that are so needed by graduate student instructors, but their research pursuits are considered to be somehow less worthy than the accomplishments of their literary counterparts in the department. The research that goes into producing quality pedagogical materials is frequently disregarded at the time of promotion as being only a small part of the overall teaching activities.

Digital work is frequently viewed with skepticism as well. Given that reality, it is refreshing to see the 2008 MLA conference offer for the first time a workshop on evaluating digital materials in the humanities, which definitely includes an inquiry into the research portfolio typical of applied linguists. Half the registrants for the workshop are evaluators (chairs and tenured faculty), and the other half are candidates.

The Consortium is also indirectly inserting itself into the promotion fray by launching in January 2009, a refereed electronic journal with the simple title L2, a publication that will welcome research on non-native language in all its forms: communicative, literary, and cultural. It welcomes contributions that build bridges between theory and practice and that draw on relevant fields in the humanities and the social sciences. Under the expert guidance of Claire Kramsch, our first editor, we aim to provide a publishing outlet for all L2 professionals, especially those currently working in the UC system, as well as graduate students (see article on page 3).

In the arena of applied research, the Consortium is also sponsoring a second language policy colloquium, “World Language Proficiency in a California Context,” hosted by UC Berkeley and the Berkeley Language Center on February 6-7, 2009. Three panels focus on: higher education and the MLA report; the K-16 environment; and the public arena. The papers will be published electronically through the California Digital Library repository. Our intent is to help inform public educational policy in the state of California. The Honorable Barbara Bodine, former U.S. ambassador to Yemen, will be give the keynote address.

These are just some of the activities that UC applied linguists and the Consortium are involved in. The intellectual content is rigorous as well as useful to our society and needs to be recognized as such by our colleagues in the language departments at the time of promotion if the profession intends to realize the goals stated in the MLA report. Lofty goals without incentives only rarely cause institutions to change their work culture and, in this case, reform their curricula.

The rigorous intellectual content of research by applied linguists must be recognized by our language and literature departments.
Consortium Launches Distinguished Lecture Series

At its spring 2008 meeting, the Steering Committee voted to fund a “Distinguished Lecture Series” on a trial basis for two years. These lectures will be distributed to UC campuses via telecast or podcast.

Inaugural Lecture at UC Irvine
Alison Phipps
Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies
University of Glasgow

March 5, 2009
3:00-5:00 pm

Additional information may be found in “Campus Reports” on page 9.

In Appreciation
The Consortium thanks the following outgoing Steering Committee members for their service
Eva Diaz, EAP
Racha el-Omari, Santa Barbara

Grants Program Call for Proposals

Deadline: February 17, 2009
Notification: Mid-March 2009

Tenure of Grant:
July 1, 2009–June 30, 2010

Check website for application forms and information
http://uccllt.ucdavis.edu/grants.cfm
The Consortium and the Berkeley Language Center Found New Journal

Contributed by Claire Kramsch, Professor of German and Education at UC Berkeley and Founding Director of the Berkeley Language Center, Editor-in-chief of L2

L2 is a fully refereed, interdisciplinary journal that aims to promote the research and the practice of language learning and teaching. It publishes articles in English on all aspects of applied linguistics broadly conceived, i.e., second language acquisition, second language pedagogy, bilingualism and multilingualism, language and technology, curriculum development and teacher training, testing and evaluation.

The name of the journal, L2, is intended to signify not only a language other than the native language, but also the fact that what unites the teaching of language, literature and culture within language departments is precisely the second language in all its forms: communicative, literary, and cultural. It thus invites explorations of the relationship between the teaching of language and the teaching of literature and culture, and between applied linguistic research and literary scholarship within foreign language and literature departments. It welcomes contributions that build bridges between theory and practice, and that draw on relevant fields in the humanities and the social sciences.

The eventual home of the e-journal is at http://repositories.cdlib.org/uccllt/l2 which is not active at this time.

Details and Registration: http://uccllt.ucdavis.edu
UCSC Humanities Dean Wins International Award

By Scott Rappaport

Georges Van Den Abbeele, dean of humanities at the University of California, Santa Cruz, has been awarded the 2008 Blaise Pascal Medal for Social Sciences by the European Academy of Sciences.

Van Den Abbeele is one of six 2008 medal winners; the other honorees include professors from France, Italy, Germany, and the UK in the fields of physics, biology and life sciences, mathematics, material science, and computer science.

The European Academy of Sciences is a nonprofit, non-governmental, independent organization of distinguished scholars and engineers engaged in research and development of advanced technologies. The Blaise Pascal Medal was established in 2003 to recognize an outstanding and demonstrated personal contribution to science and technology and the promotion of excellence in research and education.

The academy is based in Belgium and will hold an awards ceremony at the Palace of Academies on November 7. Van Den Abbeele said he intends to travel to Brussels to accept the medal.

“I am very honored and thrilled,” said Van Den Abbeele. “Receiving this honor in Belgium has particular resonance for me since I was born there.”

Van Den Abbeele was selected for the honor “in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the rethinking of human and social studies in a contemporary context, including philosophy, anthropology and the impact of cognitive studies on the ‘digital divide.’” He was also recognized for his original research on comparative francophone cultures and on the history of the idea of Europe.

A scholar of French literature and philosophy with a wide expertise in public humanities programs and education, Van Den Abbeele became dean of humanities at UC Santa Cruz in 2006. Prior to that, he spent 15 years at UC Davis, where he was a professor of French and Italian, as well as director of the Davis Humanities Institute and the Pacific Regional Humanities Center. From 1999 to 2007, Van Den Abbeele also served as president of the Western Humanities Alliance, a growing consortium of 23 West Coast universities.

Consortium Grant Supports Film Project at the Berkeley Language Center

Contributed by Mark Kaiser, Associate Director of the BLC, and the Principal Investigator of this project

For the past eighteen months the Berkeley Language Center (BLC) has been engaged in the development of an Internet-based Library of Foreign Language Film Clips that is now in phase one of deployment at UC Berkeley and will be made available to language instructors at the other UC campuses in spring 2009.

In summer 2007, a BLC programmer began designing the hardware and network requirements of a system that would serve, simultaneously, multiple streams of video across the internet. The film project began with Russian, and the experiment proved crucial in establishing our eventual approach.

With a view to what instructors would find beneficial in the teaching of language and culture, we created a flexible, controlled vocabulary to serve as guidelines for clipping segments of films and tagging the selections for various categories that would be useful in enhancing language instruction. The primary purpose of the dialog tags, i.e., tags in the target language reflecting the spoken language in the clips, is to provide scaffolding for students struggling to comprehend the language in the clips. The tags include all the language of the clips except for the most frequently repeated words (personal and demonstrative pronouns; common adverbs, etc). Each language retains a record of its decisions on how to handle the tagging on our WIKI pages for the project. (http://dcrf-dev.berkeley.edu/blcwiki-dev/index.php/Library_of_Foreign_Language_Film_Clips).

With a new blueprint for tagging and a completed database and web interface, the project moved into high gear in the summer of 2008. Based on our revised model, the Consortium awarded the BLC a grant that allowed us to hire graduate students from UCB and UCLA in Slavic, as well as in Spanish and French. The BLC also hired taggers for Japanese and Arabic. As a result we now have 685 published clips in Russian, 831 in French, 180 in Spanish, and 149 in Japanese. Work is now also being done on German and Finnish, with Korean and Chinese on the horizon.

The extension of the service to the other UC campuses will be a two-step process: 1) administrators on each UC campus will be given access to the BLC list of films used in creating clips and will indicate which films are owned by the campus and are accessible to language teaching faculty, and 2) language instructors will register with the BLC site and will have access to the clips from those films so indicated by the campus administrators. Detailed instructions will be provided by the BLC in early 2009.
For the first time in over ten years, faculty, staff, and students from across the University of California system came together to discuss how technology is being used to enhance teaching and learning. The conference was held at UC Davis on June 20-21, 2008 and included presentations, panels, and discussions that spanned a range of technologies, academic disciplines, campuses and educational objectives.

Included in the plenary sessions were presentations by Annelie Rugg (Interim Director, Center for Digital Humanities, UCLA) on Sharing Language Instruction Across the UC System: How it works and why we need it, and UC Language Consortium Director Robert Blake on Can Students Learn Foreign Languages Online?. Slides from, and video of, these presentations can be found online at: http://trc.ucdavis.edu/uc21st/proceedings/list.html.

In the post-conference evaluations, participants cited as most useful the opportunity to gain a better understanding of today’s students, how to reach them, and how they prefer to use technology to communicate and socialize. Participants also valued the opportunity to hear about specific applications of technology that they or their campuses might be able to adopt.

A volunteer task force is planning the next conference for 2010.
On April 25–27, 2008, the Consortium held its 4th Biennial Conference on Theoretical & Pedagogical Perspectives on the UC Santa Barbara campus. 121 participants attended from fifteen institutions. Professor Rod Ellis from the University of Auckland presented the keynote address *Corrective Feedback in Theory, Research and Practice*. Professor Ellis also gave a post-conference workshop *The Methodology of Task-based Teaching*.

The following is an excerpt from Betty Guthrie’s thank you message to the Steering Committee for the honor of having the Consortium award named for her.

My initiative to interest UC language people in a consortium was motivated by self-preservation... and the certainty that many other language faculty shared my sense of isolation in departments of literature. I craved a space where language teachers could share our passion for language and language teaching, be validated in our commitment to this field, and enjoy the intellectual stimulation of discussion and debate among colleagues. What grew out of our initial meetings and proposal went far beyond what I had imagined — as evidenced by the record attendance at last weekend’s conference, the quality of the papers we heard, and the lively discussions surrounding the presentations. And of course there have been the summer workshops, the development of new materials, the multi-campus working groups, the colloquium at Berkeley... and on and on. The Consortium has become an important voice for language study within UC and nationally, thanks to stellar leadership from Robert Blake and to the commitment and energy of the steering committee.

**Rod Ellis Recommends:**

The Consortium thanks Jenny Nadaner, UC Davis graduate student for providing this reference.
The UC Language Consortium held its annual summer workshop in Davis last June 29 – July 1. The workshop entitled “Cognitive Grammar and Language Teaching” began with a plenary presentation by Michel Achard, Professor of Linguistics at Rice University. Additional speakers included Diana Lysinger, UC Davis, Kyoko Masuda, Georgia Institute of Technology and Eve Zyzik, Michigan State University. Forty participants from 11 different campuses represented the languages of Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Farsi, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi/Urdu, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. The highlight of the workshop was held on the last day where participants used material learned from the workshop to teach a grammar lesson in their respective language using Cognitive Grammar. We saw some great teaching.
The Berkeley Language Center has been funded as the new host institution for the East Bay Foreign Language Project, one of eight regional sites of the California Foreign Language Project, whose goals are to strengthen academic content knowledge, develop teacher leadership, provide service to low-performing schools, support and maintain teacher networks, and to support evaluation efforts. Mark Kaiser is the acting director.

The Department of Linguistics begins its 2008-09 colloquia series on Wednesday, October 22, with a guest lecture by Bonny Norton (Professor and Distinguished University Scholar, Department of Language and Literacy Education, University of British Columbia, Canada). Dr. Norton's talk is entitled “On Identity and Investment in Language Learning.”

As part of the Second Language Acquisition Institute's 2008-09 lecture series, Jamal Abedi (Professor of Education in the School of Education, UC Davis) will give a talk on Thursday, November 13, on issues regarding state testing and the assessment of English language learners.

Robert Bayley (Professor, Department of Linguistics) has been appointed Chair of the Designated Emphasis and Graduate Academic Certificate in Second Language Acquisition and will serve in this capacity until 2011. The Designated Emphasis provides doctoral students in Anthropology, Comparative Literature, Education, French, German, Native-American Studies, Psychology, and Spanish with both a theoretical and practical knowledge of language acquisition and technologically-based language instruction. The Graduate Academic Certificate is designed for doctoral students with a commitment to gaining competence in the theory and practice of language acquisition and who want that officially recognized but for whom their degree program or discipline requires a different intellectual focus for the dissertation.

Robert Blake (Professor, Department of Spanish; Director, UC Consortium for Language Learning and Teaching) has been appointed by Chancellor Vanderhoef to a 3-year term as Chair of the Graduate Group in Linguistics.
Betty Guthrie, director of the French Language Program at UCI, was honored with the 2008 UCI Humanities Faculty Teaching Award. This award is given annually to recognize outstanding teaching and other contributions inside and outside the classroom. Guthrie was selected to receive the award for her superlative teaching record, innovative curricular development, TA training in the Department of French and Italian, as well as for her long years of service to the department, the UCI School of Humanities, and the UC system.

Glenn Levine, Associate Professor of German, director of the German Language Program at UCI, and UCCLLT Steering Committee member, was this year's School of Humanities honoree at the Celebration of Teaching Awards. These awards are presented by the UCI Division of Undergraduate Education, the Council on Student Experience, and the Teaching, Learning and Technology Center.

A Global Leadership Certificate Program has been launched through a coordinated, campus-wide effort. With the goal of facilitating global leadership skills and knowledge, the program articulates and coordinates existing resources, programs, organizations, and sources of expertise on the campus. Of central importance to the program are study abroad and meaningful engagement with other cultures. Though second-language proficiency is not a requirement of the certificate program, one larger goal of the program’s steering committee is to encourage and provide the impetus to pursue advanced studies of a language other than English. Additional information is posted at http://www.cie.ucir.edu/glp/.

The School of Humanities will offer the full two-year, lower-division curriculum Arabic, Persian, and Hebrew beginning with Fall 2008.

The Consortium will launch an innovative Distinguished Lecture Series beginning in 2009. The inaugural lecture will be held at UC Irvine on March 5th from 3:00-5:00 pm. In order to benefit the largest possible number of language professionals in the UC, the lecture will be simultaneously podcast to several other UCs. This will allow language faculty and graduate students from around the UC to both hear and see the lecture, as well as respond with questions and engage in the discussion. A video recording of the lecture will then also be available on the Consortium website.

The invited speaker for the event is Alison Phipps, Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies, and director of the new Research Centre for Studies in Faith, Culture and Education at the University of Glasgow where she is also Associate Dean (Postgraduate) and teaches modern languages, comparative literature, anthropology and intercultural education. Her books include Acting Identities (2000), Contemporary German Cultural Studies (ed. 2002), Modern Languages: Learning and Teaching in an Intercultural Field (2004) with Mike Gonzalez, Critical Pedagogy: Political Approaches to Languages and Intercultural Communication (ed. 2004) with Manuela Guillerme, Tourism and Intercultural Exchange (2005) with Gavin Jack, and most recently Learning the Arts of Linguistic Survival: Tourism, Language and Life (2007). She has published widely in the field of modern languages, tourism and intercultural studies and European anthropology as well as in the field of Higher Education Studies. She co-edits the journal Tourism and Cultural Change and the book series Languages, Intercultural Communication and Education. She is also the editor of the journal Arts and Humanities in Higher Education. From 1999–2004 she was chair of the International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication (IALIC) and is now special advisor to the British Council for Intercultural Education.

A UCLA Collaboration is one of eleven projects receiving funds in 2008 from the U.S. Department of Education International Research and Studies program. Project team members are: Yasin Alkhalesi, (Arabic, Iraqi Arabic), Michael Cooperson, (UCLA, Egyptian Arabic), Latifeh Hagigi (UCLA, Persian), Mustapha Kamal (U of Illinois, Chicago, Moroccan Arabic), Natalie Khazaal (Carleton College, Levantine Arabic), Guliz Kuruoglu, (UCLA, Turkish). Entitled Listen and Learn, this project is connected to the mainstream middle school and high school instructional program in social studies, history, and language arts. The two-year mission is to create, test, pilot, and disseminate modules for four Arabic dialects—Egyptian, Iraqi, Levantine, Moroccan, and for Persian and Turkish. Authentic verbiage and articulation will be provided by heritage speakers in their teens from the Los Angeles metropolitan region.

The Heritage Language Journal (www.heralgelanguages.org) published a special issue on Russian as a Heritage Language in June, 2008. The issue (Volume 6, Number 1) was guest edited by David Andrews at Georgetown University.

—continued
The African Languages Program offered two African languages in the 2007-08 academic year: Yoruba (beginning and intermediate) and Swahili (beginning, intermediate and advanced), with Yoruba funded by a UISFL grant from the Department of Education. In Summer 2008, beginning Tigrinya, Igbo, and Swahili were taught intensively. In Fall 2008, beginning Zulu is being taught via distance learning for the first time, with Berkeley sending and UCLA receiving. Dr. Katrina Daly Thompson, who was Professor of Residence in Linguistics, has assumed a new position as Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics, but continues to coordinate the African languages program.

The UCLA Center for World Languages

- conducted intensive summer programs in Arabic, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Estonian, Persian, Romanian, Russian, Swahili and Tigrinya. Student scholarships were awarded with funds from the UC Consortium.
- offered a summer class in Russian and one in Persian for high school heritage speakers. The Russian class was a project of the UCLA Russian Flagship Program, and the Persian class was funded with a Startalk grant.
- director Olga Kagan is a member of an international team of scholars and instructors writing a Russian language textbook for pre-college heritage speakers. The textbook project is supported by a grant from the foundation “Russkiy Mir” (Russian World) (http://russkiymir.org), established by the Russian government to promote Russian language instruction.
- has a new website (www.international.ucla.edu/languages) that offers podcasts, including an interview with Olga Kagan (“What is a Heritage Language?”). The website was designed by the UCLA International Institute’s Scott Gruber and Oliver Chien.

The National Heritage Language Resource Center

- hosted a workshop, Connecting Your Classroom to the Heritage Language Community, on May 16-17. The workshop, directed by Terrence Wiley (Arizona State University) focused on U.S. language communities, community-based curricula, and data gathering. The Consortium provided funding for UC faculty to participate.
- held its second annual Research Institute at Harvard University from June 23–27. Institute presenters discussed current research with participants, who represented heritage languages and communities from across the country. Maria Polinsky (Harvard University) was the institute director. The Consortium provided funds for UC faculty to participate.

SAN DIEGO

Two new deans have been appointed.

Jeffrey Elman, Division of Social Sciences. An internationally recognized linguist and cognitive scientist, he will oversee the Department of Linguistics, and the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies. Press release:
http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/thisweek/2008/07/21_jeffrey_elman.asp

Seth Lerer, Division of Arts and Humanities. He will oversee the Department of Literature and the Chinese Studies and Japanese Studies programs. Press release:
http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/arts/06-08SethLerer.asp

SANTA BARBARA

InField (the Institute on Field Linguistics and Language Documentation) took place from June 23–August 1, 2008 and was an opportunity for linguists, graduate students in linguistics, and native speakers of minority languages to receive training in a range of skills needed to document, maintain, and/or revitalize minority languages.

UCSB will host a system-wide workshop, Vox California: Cultural Meanings of Linguistic Diversity, which will be held on April 3 and 4, 2009. For more information, contact any one of the organizers: Mary Bucholtz (bucholtz@linguistics.ucsb.edu), Samy Alim (halim@ucla.edu), Patricia Baquedano-López (pbl@berkeley.edu), or Inés Casillas (casillas@chicst.ucsb.edu).
**SANTA BARBARA** –continued

Three Ph.D. students completed their degrees with the added emphasis in Applied Linguistics.

**SANTA CRUZ**

The Humanities Division at UC Santa Cruz is very proud to announce the following two appointments in the Language Program.

Professor Shigeko Okamoto received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1985. She was the coordinator of the Japanese Language Program and the Linguistics Graduate Program at California State University, Fresno. She is a leading scholar on Japanese socio-linguistics, language and gender, language and culture, discourse analysis, semantics/pragmatics, language pedagogy. Her most recent book is *Japanese Language, Gender and Ideology: Cultural Models and Real People*, Oxford University Press, 2004. Professor Okamoto will chair the Language Program. Her teaching background includes all levels of Japanese language, Japanese Language and Culture, General Linguistics, English Grammar, Bilingualism, Sociolinguistics, Discourse Analysis, and courses on Japanese Gender Roles. She has received grants from the National Endowment of the Humanities to study content-based instruction in Japanese.

Assistant Professor Eve Zyzik received her Ph.D. in Spanish Linguistics from the University of California, Davis, in 2004. Her dissertation is entitled: *Encoding meaning with polyfunctional forms: The acquisition of clitics in L2 Spanish*. She specializes in Second Language Acquisition. She has held a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Michigan State University. She has taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and she has trained, mentored, and supervised first year Teaching Assistants.

These are the first of several “ladder-rank” appointments that will be made to the Language program to help build the research, graduate training, and administrative components for what has long been recognized to be an outstanding undergraduate teaching program. Our ambition is to establish a fully operative foreign languages department on a par with what is in place at other UC campuses.

*The Language Learning and Teaching Research Unit ([http://language.ucsc.edu/](http://language.ucsc.edu/)) is funded by the UCSC Institute for Humanities Research and coordinated by M. Victoria González Pagani. The unit offers an agenda of activities and a colloquium series. Speakers during spring 2008 were SC faculty members Angela Elsey and William Nickell, and UC Berkeley’s Rick Kern. Glenn Levine (UC Irvine) and Olga Kagan (UCLA) are scheduled to present in 2009.*

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**NHLRC National Heritage Language Resource Center**

**International Conference on Heritage Languages**

**October 23–25, 2009**

**Covel Commons, UCLA**

A call for proposals will be issued in January 2009
Under the direction of Professor Robert Blake (UC Davis), The UC Consortium for Language Learning & Teaching is a systemwide initiative designed to make the most effective use of UC's vast linguistic resources and expertise at a time when foreign language enrollments are increasing dramatically. The consortium fosters collaboration among and across the language programs at the UC campuses with an eye to increasing student access to language study through a combination of the best classroom practices, technological enhancements, and EAP programs.

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