

IUPUI HOSTS INTERCULTURAL RHETORIC CONFERENCE IN INDIANAPOLIS

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INDIANA CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

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International researchers in the field of linguistics, intercultural communication, and second language acquisition will be in Indianapolis August 9-11 for a conference sponsored by the **Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC)**, part of the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

The **7th Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse Conference** will feature speakers from China, Egypt, Mexico, Brazil, Iran, Japan, Turkey, Spain, Russia, as well as the U.S., noted Ulla Connor, ICIC Director.

ICIC helped to establish the first Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse Conference in 2004. Since then, the conference has been held at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA, and at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI, in coordination with other universities, and has now returned to Indianapolis.

Noted linguist Diane Belcher, from Georgia State University, will deliver the opening plenary address on "What we need and don't need intercultural rhetoric for: A retrospective and prospective look at an evolving research area." A pre-conference workshop, on "Exploring corpus-based text analysis methodologies for intercultural communication studies" will be facilitated by Viviana Cortes.

Other highlighted sessions include



IUPUI'S Campus Center

"What language does global business speak? An overview of (B)ELF research in the European context"; "Intercultural Corporate Discourse in Annual Reports," "International Assessment of Language Competence: (How) Can it be Done?" and "Reflections on learning L2 Spanish: Agency and self-regulation markers in students' essays."

IUPUI Department of English Chair Thomas Upton, Professor of Spanish Marta Antón, English for Academic Purposes Program Director and Assistant Professor of English Estela Ene, Assistant Professor of English André Buchenot, and ICIC Visiting Scholars Xiaojun Zhang and Zhiqing Hu are also scheduled to give presentations during the conference, which is supported by the IUPUI Academic Affairs Conference Fund Award.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS LEARN THE ART OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Making oral presentations at scientific and academic conferences and meetings is a standard expectation for university researchers and instructors.

For non-native English speakers, giving oral presentations that are clear, concise, and understandable to the audience may be challenging because of intercultural differences in presentation formats and styles.

The Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC), a cultural training center that is part of the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, presented a workshop in March designed

to help international researchers enhance their oral presentation skills.

The engaging, interactive session provided guidance to non-native English speakers through individual practice and small group discussions to ensure clear oral communication in English. Participants learned about the key features of oral presentations related to lan-



Participants in ICIC's workshop on Oral Presentation Skills for International Researchers, held in March 2012 at IUPUI.

guage use and picked up tips on organizational structure, the use of visual aids, as well as oral enunciation and pronunciation.

Workshop presenters were

Ulla Connor, ICIC Director and Chancellor's Professor of English at IUPUI, and Lauren Harvey, ICIC's Assistant Director of Training.

This is the latest in an ongoing series of intercultural communication and language workshops ICIC has developed for international medical and science professionals and researchers. The goal of these workshops is to equip international participants with effective communication strategies and improve mutual understanding.

Please contact ICIC at icic@iupui.edu for information on future workshop offerings.

INDIVIDUALIZED WRITING ASSISTANCE FROM ICIC

HELPING INTERNATIONAL FACULTY PERFECT THEIR SKILLS FOR PUBLICATION

After twenty years traveling the world as a Japanese manufacturing company executive, Hisaya Kitaoka, Ph.D., found a new career he loved in Indianapolis, teaching international economics at Franklin College.

"Teaching is so rewarding," he said. "I wanted to come to a teaching institution and focus on teaching."

Kitaoka received glowing reviews for his classroom skills, but supervisors told him his writing needed improvement.

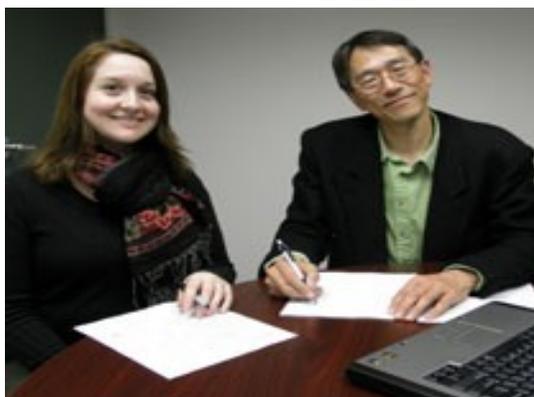
About the same time, an academic journal in his field flatly rejected a research paper Kitaoka had labored over for months. "They said, 'It's very good but we can't publish it as

is,'" he recalled. "They said, 'Your English is not very good. Please rewrite it.'"

Franklin College arranged for Kitaoka to receive individualized assistance on academic writing for publication from ICIC.

ICIC's Assistant Director for Training, Lauren Harvey, began meeting with him once a week. They dove into his research paper to see how they could improve it.

"It was important for him to understand the structural or-



ICIC Assistant Director of Training Lauren Harvey with Hisaya Kitaoka, Ph.D., an Economics Professor at Franklin College.

ganization of a research article and to include the expected rhetorical moves, or parts of a research article," Harvey said. Improving grammar was another component of training.

"We looked at grammar skills, using articles, prepositions, verb tense," Harvey said. "We worked together to review and make edits. It's not a

proofreading service. We want to improve their skills so that they will be able to use these structures on their own."

After working with Harvey for several months, Kitaoka resubmitted his research paper and it was finally accepted. "Our dean said this was great news," he said.

Kitaoka continues to meet with Harvey regularly and is currently working on another research paper. "Sometimes I make the same mistakes, but I am trying to improve," he said.

ICIC offers ongoing group and individualized training programs for international researchers, as well as health and business professionals. More information is available on our website at <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/icic/>.

ICIC PROVIDES INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

ICIC specializes in helping healthcare professionals communicate more effectively with diverse patients and colleagues, and is now offering two workshops for area healthcare systems targeting these important communication issues. The two-part workshop series can be scheduled on the same day or on different days and can be designed specifically for physicians, nurses or all hospital staff.

Session one focuses on **Cultural Issues in Healthcare Communication** and provides an overview of culturally-based

communication styles and beliefs associated with healthcare. In this engaging, hands-on workshop, participants will learn about cultural beliefs that impact healthcare interac-

"The workshops have already been presented at three Indiana hospitals. Feedback has been outstanding,"

— **Ulla Connor, PhD.,**
ICIC Director

tions and diverse patients and colleagues. The second session examines **Intercultural Aspects of Patient-Provider Communication** and addresses best practices for healthcare professionals when communicating with patients from diverse backgrounds.

Through clinical simulations and small group discussions, participants learn how the roles of patients and healthcare providers vary internationally, and learn ways to improve patients' health literacy while focusing on patient-centered communication techniques.

"The workshops have already been presented at three Indiana hospitals, including Columbus Regional Hospital, IU Health in Bloomington, and St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis, and feedback has been outstanding," noted ICIC Director Ulla Connor. All of the respondents to a post-workshop evaluation survey in Columbus

said the information in the workshop was clearly presented; 95 percent said the information would be useful to them at their work in the hospital.

The Joint Commission has recently updated requirements of its Hospital Accreditation Program to include **cultural competency, non-discrimination practices and health literacy**. These issues are ICIC's specific area of expertise, and they are all addressed by certified language trainers at this interactive, engaging workshop series.

CME accreditation is available upon request. For information, contact ICIC at (317) 274-2555 or icic@iupui.edu.

NEWS UPDATES FROM ICIC

Michelle Quirke, MS, recently joined ICIC as its Research Support Specialist. She has a wealth of experience at IUPUI working with research and finance management. She has also been an instructor for IUPUI's University College, designing and teaching sections of critical inquiry. She holds a Master of Science degree in Adult Continuing Education from IUPUI.

Kate Dobson is serving as a Research Assistant for ICIC, and has been essential in planning this year's Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse Conference. She is an MA candidate in English and TESOL at IUPUI.

lisa Sulasaari is working at ICIC this summer as an intern. She attends Åbo Akademi University in Turku, Finland, where she is pursuing a master's degree in English language and literature. The subject of her master's thesis is the Language of Wellness Tourism.

Dr. Katarzyna Hryniuk, Ph.D., from Warsaw, Poland, will be joining ICIC for a year as a Fulbright Scholar. Her Language for Specific Purposes (LSP) teaching and research experience will have great relevance to ICIC's work in this field.

The **Joan and Larry Cimino Awards for Excellence in Intercultural Communication** were presented in March. ICIC was pleased to award scholarships to three outstanding MA students for their

ICIC Assistant Director Kathryn Lauten (center) presented Cimino Awards to Kate Dobson and Amanda Snell. (Jordan Gusich was in China completing a teaching practicum, so Kate accepted the award on their behalf.



work in Intercultural Communication, thanks to the generosity of ICIC Board President Larry Cimino and his wife Joan. **Kate Dobson** and **Jordan Gusich** received the award for their joint paper, "The translation of an interview protocol for cross-cultural research." The paper shows important considerations for adapting health literacy and medication adherence protocol in a linguistically and culturally relevant manner for a Chinese audience. **Amanda Snell's** thesis, "English for...": A Short-term Adult ESL Course Model for the Indianapolis Marion-County Public Library," received the award in the thesis category. It addresses the importance of community-based programming to develop language and cultural knowledge for specific purposes and provides a promising model to meet this community need.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Connor, U. (2011). *Intercultural rhetoric in second language writing*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Upton, T., & Connor, U. (Eds.) (in press). *Language for Specific Purposes Section, The Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics*. New York: John Wiley and Sons.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters

- Rozycki, W., Connor, U., Pylitt, L., & Logio, L. (2011). Assessing cultural knowledge among international medical graduates. In B. Hoekje & S. Tipton (Eds.), *English language and the medical profession: Instructing and assessing the communication skills of international physicians* (pp. 111-132). Bingley, UK: Emerald Press.
- Connor, U. (2012). Intercultural rhetoric and language of healthcare. In K. Aijmer & G. Andersen (Eds.), *Pragmatics of society. Handbooks of pragmatics, Vol. 5* (pp. 593-604). Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Skinner-MacDougall, D., Connor, U., & Johnstone, P.A.S. (2012). Comprehensibility of patient consent forms for radiation therapy of cervical cancer. *Gynecologic Oncology*, 125 (3), 513-774.
- Connor, U. (in press). Corpus linguistics in intercultural rhetoric. In D. Belcher & G. Nelson (Eds.), *Readings in intercultural rhetoric*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Connor, U. (in press). Getting grants. In R. Kubota & Y. Sun (Eds.), *Demystifying career after graduate school: A guide for second language professionals in higher education*.
- Connor, U., & Rozycki, W. (in press). ESP and intercultural rhetoric. In B. Paltridge & S. Starfield (Eds.), *The handbook of English for specific purposes*. UK: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Connor, U., & Rozycki, W. (in press). Culture in LSP/ESP. In C. Chapelle (Ed), *The Encyclopedia of applied linguistics*. New York: John Wiley and Sons.

PRESENTATIONS

- Connor, U. (2011, August). *Culture in ESP/LSP*. Paper presented at the 16th World Congress of Applied Linguistics, Beijing, China.
- Antón, M. (2011, October). *Life-story narratives and agency in self-management of diabetes among Latinos*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Chicago, IL.
- Buchenot, A. (2011, October). *Intersections of Visual and Health Literacy*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Chicago, IL.
- Chou, S., Connor, U., & Lauten, K. (2011, October). *Navigating NIH grant mechanisms and writing persuasive proposals*. Workshop presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Chicago, IL.
- Connor, U. (2011, October). *Intercultural rhetoric in second language writing instruction*. Plenary speaker at the 2011 MIDTESOL Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Connor, U., & Lauten, K. (2011, October). *Patient engagement communication strategies*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Chicago, IL.
- Harvey, L. (2011, November). *Women's leadership development: Critical pedagogy in an English intensive program*. Workshop presented at the 2011 Indiana Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (INTESOL) Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Harvey, L. (2012, March). *Intercultural patient and healthcare provider communication*. Workshop presented at the 2012 Intercultural Management Institute (IMI) Annual Conference on Intercultural Relations, Washington DC.
- Antón, M., Connor, U., & Lauten, K. (2012, April). *Patient language and agency in Latino life story narratives*. Paper presented at the Pragmatics Festival, Bloomington, IN.
- Connor, U. (2012, April). *Intercultural Rhetoric and ESP*. Paper presented at the International Conference on English Education, Shih Chien University, Taipei, Taiwan.
- Connor, U., & Lauten, K. (2012, April). *Language of Healthcare*. Invited panel at the Pragmatics Festival, Bloomington, IN.
- Goering, E. (2012, April). *Metaphors as Mirrors into what it means to be diabetic: Patients' perspectives*. Paper presented at the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- Harvey, L. (2012, April). *Assessing cultural knowledge among international medical graduates*. Paper presented at the Pragmatics Festival, Bloomington, IN.
- Voight, S. (2012, April). *If it weren't for my wife: A narrative analysis of dialectical tensions in the relationships of people living with type II diabetes*. Poster presented at the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- Lauten, K., & Connor, U. (2012, May). *Understanding and improving health behaviors through patient talk: cancer survivorship*. Paper presented at the 8th Biennial Cancer, Culture and Literacy Conference, Clearwater, FL.