

International Center for Intercultural Communication

Newsletter - October 2014

ESL training to target parents of children with special medical needs

ICIC and Family Voices Indiana (FVI), a local community organization, are co-recipients of a **Community Health Engagement Program** (CHEP) grant of nearly \$23,000 to apply academic research to address a community health issue. In the pilot project, “Targeted Language Instruction for Limited English Proficiency Latino Families of Infants with Special Needs,” ICIC and FVI will develop a program to teach health-related English to Spanish-speaking parents of infants with special medical needs.

ICIC will provide educational expertise in English for Specific Purposes (ESP). FVI serves parents of children with special health care needs. As project partners, ICIC and FVI will collaborate to develop a targeted English-language curriculum for parents with children

admitted to Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. *Full story at: <http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2014/09/icic-esp-grant.shtml>*

In addition to the CHEP grant, the ICIC/FVI project is also receiving support from the **Binational/Cross Cultural Health Enhancement Center** (BiCCHec) at IUPUI. This organization fosters multidisciplinary research collaborations addressing biological, cultural, historical, legal, behavioral and demographic issues that impact the health status of communities where Indiana Latinos are born and live. BiCCHec, with a commitment not only to research but also to teaching and service, develops and utilizes approaches and applications that are culturally relevant, practical, just, reciprocal, and always in partnership with communities.

IUPUI Admins Celebrate 20 years of Tsuda



IUPUI administrators are among those celebrating the 20-year partnership with Tsuda College students. Pictured with the 2014 students in the back row from the left are Reiko Yonogi, professor emeritus of Japanese Studies; Charles Bantz, chancellor, IUPUI, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Mary Althaus, professor, Tsuda College; Gil Latz, IUPUI associate vice chancellor for international affairs; William Blomquist, dean of the School of Liberal Arts; Ulla Connor, director, ICIC; and Theresa Kulczak, executive director, Japan-America Society of Indiana.

From The Director's Notebook

ICIC's fall semester is off to a great start. We received news that we were awarded a CHEP grant (see story above), and our feasibility study on linguistically tailored messaging has been accepted for publication in the journal, *Patient Preference and Adherence*. Meanwhile, André Buchenot has agreed to extend his term as ICIC's Scholar in Residence.

Last month, I attended the Applied Linguistics Association of Korea Conference to deliver a plenary on intercultural rhetoric and ESP/EAP Education. This month I traveled to Orlando, Fla., to deliver a talk on tailored messaging for the American Academy on Communication in Healthcare conference.

Happy holidays—and see you again next year!

Ulla M. Connor, Director,
International Center for
Intercultural Communication



Presentations and publications

ICIC Director **Ulla Connor** was invited to give a plenary on “Intercultural Rhetoric and EAP/ESP Education in Today’s Multicultural World” at the 2014 Applied Linguistics Association of Korea Conference on September 27.

Just published ... André Buchenot, Ana Traversa, Robert Skipworth Comer, and David Haggstrom co-authored, “An Alternative to Print-Centric Design for Online Health Literacy: The Redevelopment of a Cancer Information Portal” in the *Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet*, 18(4):1–19, 2014.

Rebecca Bartlett Ellis, Ulla Connor, and James Marshall have published “Development of patient-centric linguistically tailored psychoeducational messages to support nutrition and medication self-management in type 2 diabetes: a feasibility study” in the journal, *Patient Preference and Adherence*. Online at: www.dovepress.com/development-of-patient-centric-linguistically-tailored-psychoeducation-peer-reviewed-article-PPA.

ICIC is hosting a brown bag talk by Shelley Staples, Ph.D. in Second Language Studies/ESL at Purdue University. Dr. Staples will discuss her research using linguistic analysis of interview data to better understand international and U.S. nurses in patient interactions. Join us Thursday October 30, noon to 1 pm., at Cavanaugh Hall, Room 438.

ICIC Staff updates

Education assistant, **Angela Herrmann**, M.A., began work as ICIC’s graduate research assistant in August as she continues working toward her M.A. in English. She will continue in this position through December. Meanwhile, **Jennifer Hashem** joined ICIC as Education Intern. She plans to complete her B.A. in English in December.

*The **International Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC)** is a university-based research and service organization created in 1998 to enhance links between the city of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and cultures/nations throughout the world. ICIC strives for excellence in language and intercultural training in academic, professional, and other occupational contexts. The center is part of the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Visit the ICIC website at <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/icic/> or contact ICIC via e-mail at icic@iupui.edu.*

Research updates

Dr. Connor will contribute her linguistic expertise as a co-investigator on two NIH R01 grant applications submitted this fall.

The first study, **Oral Health Measures for Mexican-Americans: Linguistic and Statistical Methods** will investigate the reasons that behaviors promoting good oral health are not as well practiced in Mexican-American communities as in other communities. This will help to develop effective interventions to improve oral health among Mexican-Americans. **Gerardo Maupomé**, BDS, MSc, DDPH RCS(E), PhD, is the lead investigator on this proposal.

The second study, **SURvivorship Care Plan-PERsonal Health Record Intervention Trial (SUPER-IT)**, will evaluate the capacity of an interactive survivorship care plan (SCR) delivered through a web-based personal health record (PHR) to meet the needs of colorectal cancer survivors. **David Haggstrom**, MD, is the lead investigator on this proposal.

Education updates

ICIC has partnered with the IU School of Dentistry to develop an annual English for Specific Purposes (ESP) instructional module in intercultural communication for the International Dental Program (IDP). Now in its second year at IUPUI, the IDP was developed for internationally-trained dentists who wish to become licensed to practice in the United States.

ICIC’s ESP module is designed to include targeted phonological training, presentation skills, and culturally sensitive communication patterns to enhance dental residents’ interaction with faculty, peers, and patients.



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