

# ICIC NEWSLETTER



Ulla  
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## UPTON AND CONNOR CHOSEN TO EDIT LINGUISTICS ENCYCLOPEDIA

Ulla Connor, Executive Director of ICIC, and Thomas Upton, Chair of the Department of English at IUPUI, have been selected as co-editors of the *Language for Specific Purposes* portion of a ground-breaking ten volume reference set. *The Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics* will be published by Wiley-Blackwell in 2011.

This comprehensive print and electronic international resource overviews the key areas in applied linguistics.

It will provide an authoritative reference widely accessible to the applied linguistics community, other researchers and professionals, as well as the general public. Contributions come from the world's most respected scholars and practitioners.

Linguistics-related work is an area of ever-growing international interest and this definitive reference work in applied linguistics will be invaluable.

## INTERNATIONAL FOOD SCIENTISTS ENHANCE ENGLISH SKILLS AT ICIC

University education in the United States, can help food scientists improve agricultural conditions in their home countries.

When limited English skills were a barrier keeping agricultural researchers and teachers from Mali and Afghanistan from higher learning, the Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC) offered targeted language training services to allow them to continue their education, and



Students from Mali: (from left) Ahamadou Aly, Mamadou Dembele, Fatima Cisse, Bandiougou Diawara

ultimately, improve their research and teaching capabilities.

This summer, language instructors at ICIC designed a customized language training program for four agricultural scientists from Mali who spoke limited English but

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### IR CONFERENCE

JUNE 11-12, 2010

AT GEORGIA  
STATE UNIVERSITY

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## ICIC HOSTS WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR STUDENTS FROM JAPAN

Twenty-six young women from Tsuda College in Tokyo did more than just improve their English skills at ICIC this past summer. They also honed their leadership skills at the three-week language-immersion program designed just for women, now in its fifteenth year in Indianapolis.

"The program draws upon women's leadership topics to facilitate reading, writing and speaking improvement," said ICIC Director Dr. Ulla Connor.

Prominent women leaders in the community spoke to the students about their experiences. The students stayed with families near campus and participated in local cultural events.

Eighteen-year-old Tsuda freshman Ayumi Manome said she had been to the



United States before but this was the first time she had visited Indiana.

"It was a good place to study English and improve," she said. She found people from Indianapolis, and her host family in particular, to be warm and friendly.

Improving her English was one of the main reasons Manome signed up for the program.

"I took English classes in Japan but they were in Japanese, so it was most helpful to learn

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## Sixth Conference on Intercultural Rhetoric to be held at Georgia State in June

The Sixth Conference on Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse will be held at Georgia State University in Atlanta on June 11 and 12, 2010.

This year's conference will focus on critical discourse analysis and corpus-based approaches to research on intercultural rhetoric.

Ulla Connor, Director of ICIC, is scheduled to be a plenary speaker at the conference. Other speakers will include Suresh Canagarajah, Eric Fringinal, and Guillaume Gentil.

More information on the conference is available at its website, [www.2.gsu.edu/~wwwes/alesl/conference/](http://www.2.gsu.edu/~wwwes/alesl/conference/).

## ICIC CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY



***Ulla Connor, Director of ICIC, is presented an award of recognition by Thom Upton, Chair, Department of English, IUPUI at ICIC's 10th anniversary celebration.***

Dr. William Plater, Director of International Community Development at IUPUI, was on hand March 31, 2009, for ICIC's 10th anniversary symposium. Plater was instrumental in ICIC's inception and remains a strong supporter of the center.

Dr. Angela McBride, Dean Emerita of the IU School of Nursing at IUPUI, (pictured at left) served as moderator of an engaging panel discussion entitled, "Language in Healthcare: Future Views." The event showcased ICIC's work in healthcare communication, and its collaboration both internationally, and across disciplines, in this field.

Other panelists included Dr. Richard Frankel, IU School of Medicine (also pictured); Dr. Heidi Hamilton, Georgetown University; Dr. Sandra Petronio, IUPUI; and Dr. Srikant Sarangi, Cardiff University in Wales.

## Japanese college students study leadership at ICIC *(continued)*

English *in English*,” she said. She said she also learned about American culture through the program.

“We were not just learning English,” she said. “I learned a lot of special business vocabulary words, particularly about women in business.”

As part of their class assignments, the students read about and interviewed local female leaders. They wrote reports and did oral presentations about what they were learning, working in

***“We were not just learning English. I learned a lot of special vocabulary words, particularly about women in business.”***

**—Japanese college student  
Ayumi Manome**



groups to produce portfolios about women’s leadership topics. They received three credits from their home college at the end of the program.

The speakers and her own research made an impact on Manome. “One of the presenters said you have to prepare for leadership. I have to have a vision, and work with other people,” she said.

“I studied Condoleezza Rice for my presentation,” she said. “She influenced me a lot. I think if I study hard, I can do anything. I would like to join the United Nations and help other countries with poor children... or maybe I can be president of Japan.”

## AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS AT ICIC *(continued)*

hoped to improve enough to continue their agricultural education in the United States.

“When I first came here in June and took the assessment test, I could understand the writing but I had problems speaking and listening. I have improved. Now we can have a discussion,” said Ahamadou Aly.

The students took several hours of structured classes at ICIC each day and eventually added regular IUPUI classes to their schedule. They lived with local host families, which was also an important part of the training program.

“It’s total language immersion because they are living with a family. It helps them learn the culture,” said

Lonni Kucik, a member of the program team at Purdue University that helped coordinate the program.

USAID is supporting the students’ education as part of the Sorghum, Millet and Other Grains Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP), in order to increase research capacity in Mali. Three of the students plan to continue their education at Purdue; two in agricultural economics and another in food science. A fourth student will study agronomy at Kansas State University.

This is the second group of agricultural students funded by USAID who have received training with ICIC. The first

group included thirteen college professors from Afghanistan.

After improving their English skills at ICIC for seven months, they moved on to Purdue, studying English, Agronomy and Agricultural Economics.

Kucik believes these students will play a key role in rebuilding their country’s higher education system when they return. But none of that would have been possible without their time at ICIC where their English skills improved enough for acceptance to U.S. university programs.

“It all depended on their English skills,” Kucik said.

## Recent and Upcoming Presentations & Publications

### Presentations

- Connor, U. (2009, March). *Managing and Implementing Standards-based ESL and Content Instruction*, Panel participant at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual TESOL Convention and Exhibits, Denver, CO.
- Connor, U. (2009, March). *Intercultural Rhetoric*. Paper presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), San Francisco, CA.
- Connor, U. (2009, March). *Changing needs in health communication to reach underserved populations*. Paper presented at the 10th Anniversary of ICIC Symposium "Language in health care: future views", Indianapolis, IN.
- López-Yunez, A., Antón, M., Balunda, S., Belz, J., Connor, U., Goering, E., Hayat, A., Lauten, K., Roach, P., & Wolf, J. (2009, March). *Intercultural negotiation and health literacy*. Paper presented at 13th Annual Conference of the National Hispanic Medical Association, Brooklyn, NY.
- Connor, U. (2009, June). *Intercultural rhetoric: Options and outcomes*. Keynote address presented at the Fifth Conference on Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Connor, U., Anton, M., Balunda, S., Belz, J., Goering, E., Hayat, A., Lauten, K., Roach, P., & Wolf, J. (2009, June). *Working toward a new model of health literacy*. Paper presented at the Communication, Medicine, & Ethics conference (COMET), Cardiff, Wales.
- Lauten, K., Connor, U., Antón, M., Balunda, S., Belz, J., Goering, E., Hayat, A., Roach, P., & Wolf, J. (2009, October). *An intercultural study in health literacy*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Miami.
- Lauten, K., Connor, U., Antón, M., Balunda, S., Belz, J., Goering, E., Hayat, A., Roach, P., & Wolf, J. (2009, October). *PLAIN Health Indicators -- improving adherence*. Poster presented at the Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Institutes of Medicine Roundtable on Health Literacy, Washington, DC.
- Khurana, P. & Orlando, H. (2009, October). *A novel teaching curriculum: American English Intonation Training for the International Medical Graduate*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Miami, FL.
- Khurana, P., Saxton, M.K., Orlando, H., & Griffith, D.A. (2009, October). *Study to evaluate the efficacy of training in American English intonation for international health care professionals*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Miami, FL.
- Connor, U., & Lauten, K. (2009, October). *Translating health literacy and adherence research into patient-centered programs*. Invited address at Eye for Pharma Patient Adherence and Engagement Summit, Philadelphia, PA.
- Connor, U. (2009, December). *Intercultural Rhetoric*. Invited speaker at the 2009 ESL Speaker Series, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.
- Connor, U., Cortes, V., Antón, M., Balunda, S., Belz, J., Goering, E., Hayat, A., Roach, P., & Wolf, J. (2010, March). *A corpus linguistic analysis of diabetes patients' health beliefs and actions*. Paper presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Connor, U. (2010, March). Luminary speaker, 44<sup>th</sup> Annual TESOL Convention and Exhibits, Boston, MA.
- Lauten, K. (2010, April). *Health literacy in Indiana -- a call to action*. Paper to be presented at the 2010 Indiana Joint National Public Health Week Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Goering, E., Connor, U., Antón, M., Balunda, S., Hayat, A., Lauten, K., Roach, P. (2010, April). *Listening to patients' voices: linguistic indicators of diabetes self-management*. Paper to be presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.

### Publications

- Garrido, M., (2009). *Interview with Ulla Connor*. In Culture, Language and Representation (pp. 185-192). Cultural Studies Journal of Universitat Jaume I.
- Connor, U. (2009, in press). Intercultural rhetoric and language of healthcare. In *Pragmatics of Society, Handbooks of Pragmatics*. Mouton de Gruyter.
- Steinberg, R., Connor, U., Goering, B., & Nagelhout, E. (2009, in press). Persuasion in fundraising letters: An interdisciplinary study, *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*.

## ICIC WELCOMES NEW OFFICE COORDINATOR

Camilla Butcher joined ICIC in May 2009 as the Office Coordinator.

She provides administrative support to staff and clients and performs financial and Human Resource operations. She also assists with training and international program coordination, and helps organize workshops and international visits.

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SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

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