

Natasha R. Abner

Linguistics Department
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Interests

Sign languages, morpho-syntax, syntax-semantics interface, language development & emergence.

Employment

- 2017–present **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI.
Assistant Professor, Linguistics Department
Residential College (courtesy appointment, 2018–present)
Director, [Sign Language & Multi-Modal Communication Lab](#) ([Lab Tour Video](#))
Faculty Sponsor, [Language Across Modalities](#)
- 2014–2017 **Montclair State University**, Montclair, NJ.
Assistant Professor, Linguistics Department
- 2012–2014 **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL.
Postdoctoral Scholar, Goldin-Meadow Laboratory, Department of Psychology

Education

- 2007–2012 **PhD in Linguistics.**
University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA
- Fall 2010 **Visiting student.**
Département d'études cognitives
École normale supérieure
Paris, France
- 2001–2005 **BA in Linguistics, Summa Cum Laude.**
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Ann Arbor, MI

Theses

Dissertation

Title *There Once Was a Verb: The Predicative Core of Possessive and Nominalization Structures in American Sign Language*

Committee Hilda Koopman and Edward Stabler (chairs), Karen Emmorey, and Edward Keenan

◦ [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)

Master's Thesis

Title *Right Where You Belong: Right Peripheral WH-Elements and the WH-Question Paradigm in American Sign Language*

Committee Edward Stabler and Anoop Mahajan (chairs), and Pamela Munro

Honor's Thesis

Title *Resultatives Gone Minimal*

Advisors Acrisio Pires and Samuel Epstein

Grants & Awards

- 2020 [Best Paper in *Language*](#) *Linguistic Society of America*
- 2019 Certificate of Appreciation *University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns*
- 2019 Honored Instructor *University of Michigan Housing*
- 2018 New Initiative New Infrastructure (NINI) Grant (\$12,500) *University of Michigan.*
- 2016 Historic Relations Between Sign Languages:
Language Families or Iconic Similarities? *Fyssen Foundation*
o PI: Carlo Geraci (Institut Jean Nicod, CNRS, École normale supérieure)
- 2016 Summer Grant Proposal Development Award *Montclair State University*
- 2011–2012 Dissertation Year Fellowship *UCLA*
- 2010–2011 Charles E. and Sue K. Young Award *UCLA*
o Awarded annually to one student from the UCLA Humanities Division for exemplary achievement in scholarship, teaching, and University citizenship.
- 2010 Mellon Pre-Dissertation Fellowship *UCLA*
- 2009 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship *UCLA*
- 2009 Peter Ladefoged Research Grant *UCLA, Linguistics Department*
- 2008 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship *UCLA*
- 2007–2009 Cota Robles Fellowship *UCLA*
- 2005 Virginia Voss Award for Excellence in Academic Writing *University of Michigan*
- 2005 Outstanding Graduating Senior *University of Michigan, Linguistics Department*
- 2001–2005 James B. Angell Scholar *University of Michigan*

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

* indicates student co-author

- In press. Abner, N., S. Namboodiripad, E. Spaepen, and S. Goldin-Meadow. Emergent Morphology in Child Homesign: Evidence from Number Language. Forthcoming in *Language Learning and Development*.
- 2019 Abner, N., M. Flaherty, K. Stangl*, D. Brentari, and S. Goldin-Meadow. The Noun-Verb Distinction in Established and Emergent Sign Languages. *Language* 95(2), 230-267.
o Awarded [Best Paper in *Language*](#)

- 2018 Cooperrider, K., N. Abner, and S. Goldin-Meadow. [The Palm-Up Puzzle: Meanings and Origins of a Widespread Form in Gesture and Sign](#). *Frontiers in Communication* 3.23. doi: 10.3389/fcomm.2018.00023
2017. Abner, N. [What You See Is What You Get.Get: Surface Transparency and Ambiguity of Nominalizing Reduplication in American Sign Language](#). *Syntax* 20(4), 317-352.
- [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2015 Abner, N., K. Cooperrider, and S. Goldin-Meadow. [Gesture for Linguists: A Handy Primer](#). *Language and Linguistics Compass*, 9(11), 437–451.
- [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2013 Abner, N. [Gettin' Together a POSSe: The Primacy of Predication in ASL Possessives](#). *Sign Language & Linguistics* 16(2), 125–156
- [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)
 - Reprinted in *Signs and Structures: Formal Approaches to Sign Language Syntax*

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2021 Abner, N. [Determiner phrases — theoretical perspectives](#). In *Routledge Handbook of Theoretical and Experimental Sign Language Research*, Josep Quer, Roland Pfau, and Annika Herrmann (eds.), pp. 213–231.
- 2017 Abner, N. [Syntactic Categorization in Sign Languages](#). In *Handbook of Categorization in Cognitive Science (2nd edition)* (Henri Cohen and Claire Lefebvre, eds.), pp.549–566.
- [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#) [509 downloads as of February 2020]
 - Published version available via [ScienceDirect](#).
- 2017 Abner, N. and R. Wilbur. [Quantification in American Sign Language](#). In *Handbook of Quantifiers in Natural Language, Volume 2*, Denis Paperno and Edard Keenan (eds.), pp. 21–59
- [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#) [1015 downloads as of February 2020]
 - Published version available via [Springer](#).

Conference Proceedings

* indicates student co-author

- 2020 Abner, N., C. Geraci., S. Yu *, J. Lettieri *, J. Mertz *, A. Salgat *. [Getting the Upper Hand on Sign Language Families: Historical Analysis and Annotation Methods](#) . In *FEAST: Proceedings by the Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory Conference*, V. Kimmelman (ed.), pp. 17–29.
- 2018 Yu, S. *, C. Geraci, and N. Abner. [Sign Languages and the Online World: Online Dictionaries & Lexicostatistics](#). In *11th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2018)*, 4235–4240.

- 2018 Wilbur, R. B., N. Abner, S. Wood, and H. Koulidobrova. [When BEAT is ‘exceed’: Verbal comparison in American Sign Language](#). In *Proceedings of Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory*, 59–69.
- 2012 Abner, N. The Object of My POSSEsion. *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 30*, 21–31.
 ◦ [Available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2012 Graf, T. and N. Abner. Is Syntactic Binding Rational? *Proceedings of the 11th International Workshop on Tree Adjoining Grammars and Related Formalisms*.
 ◦ [Available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2011 Abner, N. WH-Words That Go Bump in the Right. *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 28*, 24–32.
 ◦ [Available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2011 Abner, N. Got Me A Plumb, Gonna Get Me A Scale. *Proceedings of Chicago Linguistics Society 47(1)*, 1–15.
 ◦ [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)

Other Academic Publications and Manuscripts

* indicates student co-author

- 2018 Miiller, E.* , A. Salgat* , and N. Abner. Review of Nominal Modification in Italian Sign Language. *Folia Linguistica* 52(2), 543–548.
- 2014 Abner, N. There Once Was a Verb: The Predicative Core of Possessive and Nominalization Structures in American Sign Language (Dissertation Abstract). *Sign Language & Linguistics* 17:1, 109–118.
- 2013 Abner, N. Sign Language: An international handbook (Book Review). *Sign Language & Linguistics* 16:2, 271–277.
- 2012 Abner, N. Nominal Possession in American Sign Language. *Extended Abstracts from the 2012 Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*.
- 2010 Abner, N. For Game Settings, Press Select. *UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics*.
 ◦ [Manuscript available on LingBuzz](#)
- 2009 Abner, N. and H. Burnett. On the So-Called “Determiners” of Tongan. Ms., UCLA.
- 2009 Abner, N. Phrasing and Prominence: Extracting Prosodic Information from the BU Radio Corpus. Ms., UCLA.
- 2008 Abner, N. and J. Bishop, eds. *WCCFL 27: Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*.

Peer-Reviewed Academic Presentations

* indicates student co-author

- 2021 Dipzinski, M.* and N. Abner. A Spoken-Word Poet's Gestural Guide to Creating a Queer World. To be presented at the 27th Annual Lavender Languages and Linguistics, San Francisco, CA.
- 2020 Abner, N., C. Geraci, S. Yu*, J. Lettieri*, J. Mertz*, A. Salgat*. Structural Phylogenetics and the Reconstruction of Sign Language History. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory, Paris, France.
- 2020 Motamedi, Y., K. Montemurro*, N. Abner, M. Flaherty, S. Kirby, S Goldin-Meadow. The Seeds of the Noun-Verb Distinction in the Manual Modality: The Role of Improvisation and Interaction. Accepted at EvoLang XIII (Evolution of Language International Conferences), Brussels, Belgium. Canceled due to COVID.
- 2020 Abner, N., C. Geraci, J. Mertz*, J. Lettieri*, S. Yu* A Handy Approach to Sign Language Relatedness. Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 Abner, N., C. Geraci, J. Mertz*, S. Yu*. Articulatory Evidence for Sign Language Typology and History. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research, University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.
- 2019 Abner, N., L. Lakusta, Y. Hussein*, R. Lotwisch*, E. Miiller*, A. Salgat*. Asymmetries in Spatial Communication: Evidence from Sources and Goals. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research, University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.
- 2019 Geraci, C., J. Mertz*, J. Lettieri*, S. Yu*, N. Abner. Typological and Historical relations across sign languages: The view from articulatory features. Phonetics and Phonology in Europe (PaPE 2019), University of Salento, Lecca, Italy.
- 2019 Abner, N., J. Mertz*, J. Lettieri*, S. Yu*, C. Geraci. Typological and Historical relations across sign languages: The view from articulatory features. Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 2019), University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.
- 2019 Abner, N., R. Lotwisch*, Y. Hussein*, L. Lakusta. From Speech to Gesture: Where Do We See Source-Goal Asymmetries? Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New York, NY.
- 2019 Geraci, C., J. Mertz*, S. Yu*, J. Lettieri*, N. Abner. Typological and Historical relations across sign languages: The view from articulatory features. 45th Generative Grammar Meeting (IGG45), University of Padua, Padua, Italy.
- 2018 Abner, N., C. Geraci, J. Lettieri*, and S. Yu*. Articulatory Relationships Across Sign Languages. International Society for Gesture Studies, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2018 Abner, N., R. Lotwisch*, Y. Hussein*, and L. Lakusta. Source-Goal Asymmetries: Where do they come from and what parts of communication do they get to? International Society for Gesture Studies, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2018 Yu, S., C. Geraci, and N. Abner. Sign Languages and the Online World Online Dictionaries & Lexicostatistics. 11th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference, Miyazaki, Japan.

- 2018 Abner, N., C. Geraci, J. Lettieri*, and S. Yu*. Typological and Historical relations across sign languages: The view from articulatory features. XIV AISV Conference, Bozen-Bolzano, Italy.
- 2018 King, R.* and N. Abner. Representation of Event Structure in the Manual Modality: Evidence for a Universal Mapping Bias. Workshop on the Emergence of Universals, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- 2018 King, R.* and N. Abner. Event Structure Markings in Sign Language and Gesture. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2017 King, R.* and N. Abner. Iconic Representation of Event Structure in ASL and Gesture. CLS-MPI Iconicity Focus Group Workshop. Center for Language Studies (Radboud University) & Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands.
- 2017 Abner, N., E. Koulidobrova, S. Wood, and R. B. Wilbur. Don't miss the BEAT!: Exceeds Comparatives in American Sign Language. Chicago Linguistics Society. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Abner, N. and E. Koulidobrova. When BEAT is *exceed*: Verbal Comparison in American Sign Language. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- 2016 Abner, N., R. King*, and M. Russoniello*. Representation of Event Semantics in Predicate Signs and Gestures. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Venice, Venice, Italy.
- 2016 Abner, N., S. Namboodiripad, E. Spaepen, and S. Goldin-Meadow. Child Hometowners Innovate Morphology: Evidence from Number Marking. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research. La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2016 Abner, N., M. Flaherty, K. Stangl*, D. Brentari, S. Goldin-Meadow. Distinguishing Objects and Actions in Hometown and Nicaraguan Sign Language: The Emergence of Lexical Categories. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research. La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2015 Abner, N., M. Flaherty, K. Stangl*, D. Brentari, S. Goldin-Meadow. Emergent Lexical Categories: Nouns and Verbs in Hometown and Nicaraguan Sign Language. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. Universitat Papeu Fabreu, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2015 Abner, N., K. Cooperrider, and S. Goldin-Meadow. Creating Meaning in the Palm of Your Hand. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Portland, OR.
- 2015 Abner, N., S. Namboodiripad, E. Spaepen, and S. Goldin-Meadow. Morphology in Child Hometown: Evidence from Number Marking. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Portland, OR.
- 2014 Abner, N. and K. Cooperrider. Pinning Down Palm-Ups. Presented at the 6th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. University of California, San Diego, CA.

- 2014 Two-By-Two: Ambiguity of Nominalizing Reduplication in American Sign Language. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Venice, Venice, Italy.
- 2014 Abner, N., S. Namboodiripad, E. Spaepen, and S. Goldin-Meadow. What Counts: Morphological Encoding of Number Information in Child Homesigners. Posted presented at Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Venice, Venice, Italy.
- 2013 Abner, N. Classifying Reduplicated Nominals in ASL. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 11. University College London, London, England.
- 2013 Abner, N. Interpreting Possessives in ASL: Nominal and Verbal Factors. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 11. University College London, London, England.
- 2013 Abner, N. Deriving Meaning in the VP and DP: The Case of Possessives in American Sign Language. Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Boston, MA.
- 2012 Graf, T. and N. Abner. Is Syntactic Binding Rational? TAG+11: The 11th International Workshop on Tree Adjoining Grammars and Related Formalisms. University Paris-Diderot, Paris, France.
- 2012 Abner, N. and T. Graf. Binding Complexity and the Status of Pronouns in English and ASL. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland.
- 2012 Abner, N. Getting Together a POSSE: The Primacy of Predication in ASL Possessives. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory. University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland.
- 2012 Abner, N. and T. Graf. The Complexity of Binding in English and ASL. Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 Abner, N. The Object of My POSSESSION. West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2012 Abner, N. Nominal Possession. Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Portland, OR.
- 2012 Daland, R. and N. Abner. Testing Prerequisites for Prosodic Bootstrapping. Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Portland, OR.
- 2011 Abner, N. On Being and Becoming P and *Plumb* P. 47th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2010 Abner, N. WH-Words That Go Bump On the Right. 28th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 Abner, N. Rightward WH-Movement as Clefting in American Sign Language. Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Baltimore, MD.
- 2010 Abner, N. and H. Burnett. Tongan Un-Ds: On the So-Called Tongan “Determiners”. Workshop on Syntax and Semantics 7. University of Nantes, Nantes, France.

- 2010 Abner, N. Rightward WH-Movement as Clefting in American Sign Language. Annual Meeting of the Michigan Linguistics Society. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

Invited Talks

* indicates student co-author

- 2020 With Ryan King*. Event Structure Markings in Sign Language and Gesture. University of Chicago, Department of Psychology.
2020. Panel Discussion: The Cognitive Science of Concepts: Contrasting Perspectives Across the Disciplines. Weinberg Symposium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Canceled due to COVID.
- 2019 Handmade Events. Linguistics Department Colloquium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
2018. Grammatical Categories in Established and Emergent Languages. Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI.
- 2018 The Emergence of Language in Deaf Communities. Friends of Linguistics, Linguistics Department, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.
- o [News coverage](#)
- 2018 Typological and Historical Relations Across Sign Languages. Invited Talk, Linguistics Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.
- 2017 Grammatical Categories in Established and Emergent Languages. Linguistics Colloquium, Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY.
- 2016 Language Emergence and the Gesture-(Sign) Language Continuum. Seminar in Meaning in Speech, Sign, and Gestures (Philippe Schlenker), NYU, New York, NY.
- 2016 Distinguished Categories: Structured Iconicity in Established and Emergent Sign Systems. LINGUAE Seminar in Linguistics. Institut Jean-Nicod, Département d'études cognitives, École normale supérieure, Paris, France
- 2016 American Sign Language: Patterns and Pressures of the Linguistic System. Seminar on the State of the Art of Sign Language Research. Institut Jean-Nicod, Département d'études cognitives, École normale supérieure, Paris, France
- 2016 Abner, N. Origins of Event Visibility. Purdue Workshop on Emerging Languages. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.
- 2015 WH-Questions in American Sign Language: The Not-So-Odds and Ends. Department of Linguistics, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore PA.
- 2014 What You See Is What You Get-Get: Reduplicated Nominals in American Sign Language. Linguistics Syntax Supper, City University of New York, New York, NY.
- 2013 Nominalization in American Sign Language: Evidence for Structure Dependence in Reduplication. Linguistics Colloquium, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI.

- 2013 Predicative Origins of Possessive Constructions in American Sign Language. Presented at the Workshop on Language, Cognition, and Computation. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2010 Questions at the Interface. Formal and Experimental Approaches to Sign Language in Paris. École normale supérieure, Paris, France.

Advising

University of Michigan - Research

- 2021–present Danuta Allen. B Advisor.
- 2021 Lynn Eickholt. *Exploring the Role of the Arcuate Fasciculus in Early Reading Development* (Undergraduate Thesis; High Honors). Reader
- 2020–present Yu-Chuan (Lucy) Chiang. B Advisor.
- 2019–present Akimenka, Aliaksei. B Advisor
- *Exceptional Case Marking clauses as derived achievements: a neo-constructivist approach*. Second reader.
- 2019–2021 Chia-Wen Lo. *Delta Oscillations in Language Comprehension*. Committee member.
- 2019–2020 Alice Hanlon. *Marginalized Communities and Environmental Disasters: The Flint Water Crisis and the Deaf Community in Flint, MI* (Undergraduate Thesis; High Honors). Advisor.
- [News coverage](#)
- 2019–2020 Lauren Nikolai. A Advisor.

University of Michigan - Other

- 2019–present Alumni Mentor, Residential College Mentorship Program
- 2019–present Faculty Advisor, Young Democratic Socialists of America

Université de Paris

- 2019 Charlotte Hauser. *Subordination in LSF: Nominal and sentential embedding*. Rapporteur, PhD Committee.

L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris, France)

- 2018 Mirko Santoro. *Compounds in sign languages: The case of Italian and French Sign Language*. Rapporteur, PhD Committee.

Linguistic Society of America

- 2019 Pop-Up Mentoring, Status of Women in Linguistics (COSWL)

Montclair State University - Program

- 2016–present Academic Advisor, Minor in American Sign Language
- 2014–present Faculty Advisor, American Sign Language Club
- 2014–present Academic Advisor, Undergraduate program in Linguistics

Montclair State University - Research

- 2017 Rebecca Lotwisch. *The Source-Goal Phenomenon in Speech and Gesture*.

2015 Gulnaz Gumerova. *The Acquisition of Russian Grammatical Gender*. Master's Research Project.

University of Chicago

2014 Jessica Goodman. *Development of the Palm-Up Gesture: The Influence of Child-Directed Speech*. Undergraduate Honors Thesis.

Teaching

University of Michigan

2018, 2020 Introduction to Syntax

2017, 2018, 2019 Deafness and Disability

2019 Gesture, Sign, and Speech (Capstone Seminar)

2018, 2019 Introduction to Linguistic Analysis

2017 Sign Language Linguistics

Webinars

2019 How to Submit an Abstract for the LSA Annual Meeting: Tips from LSA Staff and Program Committee, Linguistic Society of America

Guest Lectures

2018 Responsible Conduct of Research and Scholarship Training. Linguistics Department, University of Michigan

2017 Sign Language Typology. Languages of the World, Montclair State University

2016 Homesign and Emergent Sign Languages. Psycholinguistics, Montclair State University

2014 Sign Language Linguistics. Introduction to Linguistics, Macalester College

2014 Sign Language Variation and Change. Sociolinguistics, Macalester College

2013 Possessives. Structure of American Sign Language, University of Chicago

2012 Sign Language Syntax and Semantics. Introduction to Linguistics, University of Chicago.

2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 Sign Language Linguistics. Introduction to the Study of Language, UCLA

2011 Raising vs. Control. Syntactic Theory I (Graduate Level), UCLA

2010, 2011 Language Acquisition: What About Sign? Language Development, UCLA

2011 Verbal Structure in American Sign Language. Syntax II, UCLA

2010 Phonology of Signed Languages. Phonology II, UCLA

2009 Sign Language Linguistics. Language as a Window to the Mind, UCLA

Montclair State University

2016, 2017 Gesture, Sign, and Speech

2015, 2016, 2017 Semantics

2014, 2015, 2016 Language & Linguistics (Graduate Level)

2016 Syntax

2015, 2016 Introduction to General Linguistics

2014, 2015 Sign Language Linguistics

2014 Structure of American English

University of California, Los Angeles

2011, 2012 Structure & Culture of American Sign Language [Instructor]

2010, 2011 Syntax II [TA]

2010, 2011 Syntactic Theory II (Graduate Level) [Grader]

2011 Introduction to Linguistic Analysis [TA]

2010 Introduction to the Study of Language [TA]

2010 Introduction to the Study of Language [Instructor]

2009 Semantics [TA]

Outreach Activities

Media

2021 Widening the Lens: Teaching for Equity at Michigan. Center for Research on Learning and Teaching.

2019 [Articulatory Evidence for Sign Language Typology and History \(SIGNopsis\)](#)

Public Presentations

2020 [A Handy Approach to Sign Language Relatedness](#). Presented at Five Minute Linguist.

2019 With Robin Queen. If you're going to walk the walk, you've gotta talk the talk: Including language in DEI practices and initiatives. Presentation at 2019 University of Michigan Disability Community Month.

2018 The Emergence of Language in Deaf Communities. Friends of Linguistics, Linguistics Department, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

o [News coverage](#)

2018 Why do we love sign language so much for everyone but Deaf kids? Language-Matters Initiative, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2018 Critical Conversation = Encounters in Alterity (Invited Discussant), University of Michigan Initiative on Disability Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2018 Sign Languages & The Rights of Deaf Children. Pre-Speech and Hearing Club, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2018 "Radical Inclusion: Infrastructural Spaces by Design", Stalled! Non-Compliant Bodies (Invited Panelist). A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2010 Intra-Language Variability: Syntax fail? Undergraduate Linguistics Club, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

Public Writing

2020 [Letter in Support of MI's LEAD-K \(HB5836\) Legislation.](#)

2017 ["Statement Condemning HR 620 and Supporting the Disability Integration Act"](#)

2016 ["Sources for Authentic Portrayal of Life with Disability"](#)

2015 ["Remembering Other Dreams: \(Sign\) Language Access & Empowerment"](#)

Events

2021 [Loving our planet like we should love each other: Disability in the time of climate crisis.](#)

2018 [Sean Forbes: Public Performance & Community Discussion](#)

Service

Reviewing

Grants *National Science Foundation* (2 applications), *National Science Centre (Poland)*,

Journals *Cognitive Science* (1 manuscript), *Glossa* (1 manuscript), *Sign Language and Linguistics* (3 manuscripts), *Language* (3 manuscripts), *Semantics and Pragmatics* (1 manuscript), *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* (1 manuscript), *Lingua* (3 manuscripts), *Journal of Semantics* (1 manuscript), *Cognitive Linguistics* (1 manuscript), *Child Development* (1 manuscript)

Conferences *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research* (2019), *Generative Linguistics in the Old World* (2019, 2018), *Sinn und Bedeutung* (2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015), *West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics* (2018), *Chicago Linguistics Society* (2018, 2020), *Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory* (2018, 2020), *Evolution of Language* (2020, 2017, 2013), *Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* (2021, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014), *International Society for Gesture Studies* (2016), *Semantics and Linguistic Theory* (2015), *Incontro di Grammatica Generativa* (2012)

Edited *Three Streams of Generative Language Acquisition Research: Selected Papers from the 7th Meeting of Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition — North America, University of Illinois at Urbana, The Routledge Handbook of Theoretical and Experimental Sign Language Research*

University

University of Michigan

Winter 2021 Executive Committee, Linguistics Department

2021–present University Subcommittee on Intentional Recruitment of Students with Disabilities

2019–present Student Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Board, Office of the Provost

○ Recipient of the 11th Annual Distinguished Diversity Leaders Team Award

2018–present Council for Disability Concerns

- 2019–2020 Graduate Admissions Committee, Linguistics Department
- 2018–2019 Executive Committee, Linguistics Department
- 2017–2018 Graduate Committee, Linguistics Department
Montclair State University
- 2017 Moderator, Student Research Symposium
- 2015–2016 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Montclair State University
- 2014–2015 Separately Budgeted Research & Distinguished Scholar Committee, Montclair State University
- UCLA
- 2012 Search Committee, UCLA ASL Program
University of Michigan
- 2004–2005 Student Representative to the Undergraduate Committee, University of Michigan Linguistics
- Editorial**
- 2020-present Editorial Board, Sign Language & Linguistics
- Field**
- 2017–2020 Program Committee, Linguistics Society of America
- Other, Academic**
- 2016–present Coordinator, American Sign Language/US Partnership, www.spreadthesign.com
o [Collaboration Announcement](#)
- 2016 External PhD Reviewer, Brendan Costello. *Language and modality: Effects of the use of space in the agreement system of lengua de signos española (Spanish Sign Language)* University of Amsterdam & University of the Basque Country (Joint Degree).
- 2014 External PhD Reviewer, Lara Mantovan. *Nominal modification in Italian sign language (LIS)*. Ca'Foscari University of Venice.
- 2013 Sign Language Consultant. Fromkin, V., R. Rodman, and N. Hyams, eds. *Introduction to Language (10th Edition)*. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.
- 2008, 2012 Open House Committee, UCLA Linguistics
- 2011–2012 Volunteer ASL Instructor, UCLA Undergraduate American Sign Language Club
- 2008–2012 Graduate Student Desk Czar, UCLA Linguistics
- 2007–2008 Planning Committee, 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics
- Other, Non-Academic**
- 2012–present Board of Directors, Camp Looking Glass. Greenville, MS.
- o Camp Looking Glass is a not-for-profit organization in Greenville, MS, that provides free and accessible summer camp opportunities and year-round activities to individuals with disabilities. Our mission is to foster lifelong friendships between individuals with and without disabilities and to provide a space where all individuals are included and celebrated.

- Volunteer & Co-Director, 2006–*present*
- [Informational Video](#)
- 2019 Special Achievement Award, Greenville Arts Council
- 2019 Torchbearer, Mississippi Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities
- 2008–2012 Volunteer Tutor, School on Wheels. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2007–2011 Volunteer, The Cheshire Project. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2005–2007 Corps Member, Teach for America. Greenville, MS.

■ Membership

- Lifetime Membership Linguistic Society of America
- 2020–*present* Cognitive Science Society
- 2018–present International Society for Gesture Studies
- 2017–present American Association for the Advancement of Science
- 2009–present Sign Language Linguistics Society

■ Languages

- Natural English, American Sign Language, French, Spanish
- Fieldwork American Sign Language, Appalachian English, Idioma de Señas de Nicaragua, Langue des signes française, Nicaraguan Homesign, Tongan
- Formal L^AT_EX, Python, OCaml