

DEIL *The Newsletter for Alumni* LING YOU IN



Fall

Division of English as an International Language

1993

DEIL opens multimedia LinguaCenter

Probably one of the most exciting things to happen in DEIL this past year has been the inauguration of its new LinguaCenter. Credit must go to many different sources for this spectacular achievement, including the Intensive English Institute for funding the \$168,000 multimedia lab; Tom Gould, Fred Davidson, and Doug Mills—all DEIL alumni—for dedicating so much of their time to making the lab a reality; and the Inauguration Organizing and Laboratory Installation Committees for not only helping with the set-up of the lab, but also with the organizing and planning of the lab's official opening. Among those attending the event were Dr. Larry Faulkner, Dean of the College of LAS, Dr. Steven Schomberg, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Director of Continuing Educa-

tion and Public Service, and Dr. Edward Sullivan, LAS Associate Dean. The LinguaCenter is in G-52 FLB, where the old listening lab was. About the only thing that is the same, however, is the location!

Following is a piece by David Porreca which ran in *Inside Illinois* shortly after the inauguration of the LinguaCenter.

By David Porreca
Inside Illinois Reporter

About 1.7 billion people around the world speak English, but how much do we really know about how people learn the language and how effective current teaching methods are?

Those are some of the questions that faculty and graduate students in the UI's Division of English as an International Language hope to answer with the help of a new

\$168,000 computer lab.

The lab, known as LinguaCenter, was unveiled Aug. 30 at the university's Foreign Languages Building. The facility is equipped with 22 Macintosh computers capable of running multimedia programs to help DEIL students improve their English skills.

The computer center replaces the division's old instructional lab, which consisted of 16 audio booths and tape players.

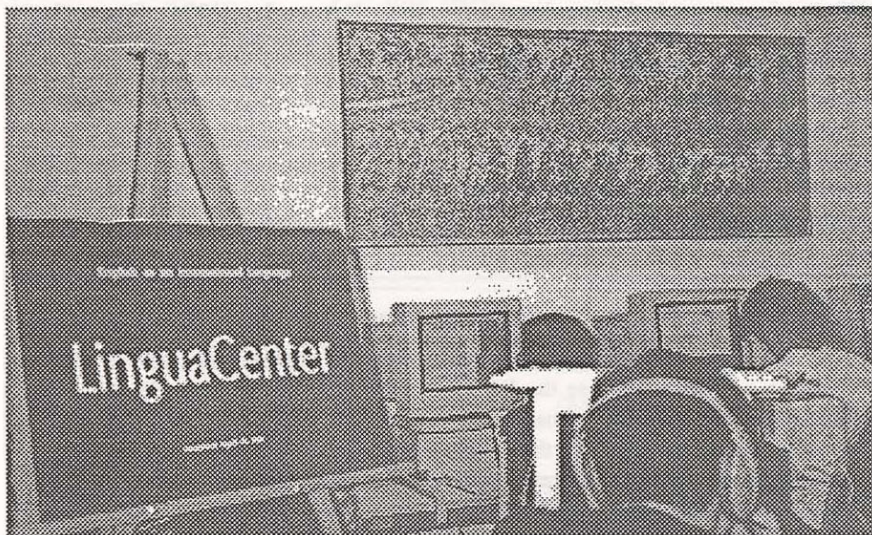
During the 1991-1992 academic year, 1,550 students were enrolled in the division's three academic programs: 834 students in English as a Second Language, 542 in the Intensive English Institute and 174 in the master's program in Teaching of English as a Second Language. These figures make DEIL the third largest program of its kind in the country, behind the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

English as a Second Language provides courses for students who must satisfy various English proficiency requirements, such as passing their English placement tests or demonstrating command of English to allow them to serve as teaching assistants.

The Intensive English Institute works with prospective college students (not necessarily intending to go to the UI) who need a crash course in English.

The master's program in Teaching of English as a Second Language prepares English teachers who want to work with students for whom English is not a native language.

(Continued on page 2)



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Inside this issue:

Director's Greetings.....2

Faculty Update.....2

Alumni Update.....3

Upcoming Conference.....4

From the Editors.....4



Greetings From The Director:

Dr. Eyamba G. Bokamba

Even though we are closing out the 1993 calendar year, the 1993-94 academic year is still young. And with this new year have come some new faces, a high-tech facility, and hints of a brighter future.

New faces: Of the five Teaching and Visiting Teaching Associates added to our faculty—all alumni—the IEI has had the good fortune to attract two, **Anna Kasten** (1985) and **Steven Lund** (1990). Another pair of talents are strengthening our program for International TAs, starting with **Barbara Bair** (1988), who joined our ranks last spring, and **Tom Heenan** (1978), new this fall. Finally, the job of coordinating ESL teaching assistants with Prof. Numa Markee is now in the capable hands of **Jane Nicholls** (1993).

Perhaps more important to you are the newcomers to the staff of this newsletter, **Portia Williams**, the Editor, and **Diane Eagle**, the Associate Editor. I want to introduce them to you.

Portia, who began the MATESL program this fall, is no stranger to print media, having served three years as a public affairs journalist for the *Air National Guard* and five years on the staff of *The Washington Post*. As the new editor, she trusts that you will help her with your ideas and suggestions. She says she looks forward to corresponding with you, and with a little luck, hopes to meet as many of you as possible as time goes on.

Diane (1989), a Visiting Teaching Associate in the IEI, spent five years abroad—two in Morocco, in the Peace Corps, one in Spain, in the DEIL Internship Program, and

(Continued on page 3)

Faculty Update

Professor Ayo Bamgbose joined us for the academic year 1993-94 as a George A. Miller Visiting Professor. Professor Bamgbose received his Ph.D. in 1963 from the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom. He retired in 1990 as a professor at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Professor Eyamba Bokamba was appointed to the TESOL Sociopolitical Concerns Committee at the 26th TESOL convention in Vancouver, Canada, for three years (1992-95). He also assumed the presidency of the National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages, headquartered in Washington, D.C., on June 11, 1993, after having served as vice-president for two years (May 1991-June 1993).

Professor Lawrence Bouton and **Professor Yamuna Kachru** organized a very successful and well-attended 7th Annual International Conference on Pragmatics & Language Learning, April 1-3, 1993.

Professor Yamuna Kachru chaired the panel on "South Asian Languages: Issues in Second Language Teaching: Hindi-Urdu and Punjabi," and the Parasession on The Teaching of Non-Western Languages in the American Context: Pragmatic Issues, April 2, 1993.

Professor Molly Mack will be listed in the 1993 issue of *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Education*, and *Who's Who Among Emerging Leaders in America*. During the last year, Prof. Mack was appointed chair of the SLATE Execu-

tive Committee, and appointed member of the Executive Committee of the Graduate College, of the Cognitive Science/Artificial Intelligence Committee, and of the Committee on Committees. She was re-appointed Speech Research Consultant for the MIT Lincoln Laboratory. Prof. Mack served as associate director of DEIL last academic year.

Ann Salzmann, Teaching Associate in the Intensive English Institute, and **Tom Gould** (1978), Associate Director of the Intensive English Institute, have taken over the teaching of EIL 311 and 312, which were previously taught by Pearl Goodman. Ann is teaching EIL 312, the practicum course, with **Nina Skokut** (1990) as her TA, and Tom is teaching EIL 311, the Methods and Materials course. We wish them the best of luck in training DEIL's future teachers.

The Intensive English Institute recently sent a panel up to Oak Brook, Chicago to present at the Fourth National Conference on the Training and Employment of Graduate Teaching Assistants. The title of the presentation was "The Role of TAs in the IEI." Those on the panel were **Tom Gould** (1978), **Ann Salzmann**, **Pam Fernandez** (1974), **Diane Eagle** (1989), **Lillian Kutz** (1990), and the following TAs in the IEI: **Tina Stone**, **Theresa Herman**, and **Dolly Nesbeitt**. Other DEIL alumni presenting papers at the conference were **Barb Bair** (1988), **Greta Levis** (1990), **John Levis** (1989), and **Laura Hahn** (1986).

LinguaCenter *(continued from page 1)*

While the division's students in the first two programs will use the lab to work on their English skills, many of the master's degree students and their professors will use the lab to analyze exactly what goes on when a person tries to learn English.

"People have been learning English for so long that we take the learning process for granted without actually comprehending what goes on," said **Eyamba G. Bokamba**, the director of the Division of English as an International Language. "This lab will permit us to

study the process and come up with conclusions about the strategies that learners use. Every keystroke that students make can be recorded. If you have a record, you can see how students are improving. Various structural processes can be deduced. It is this capability to collect such information that makes this lab exciting."

The laboratory makes available an impressive array of research and pedagogical applications—from routine interactive on-line lesson work, to projects involving the storage of large amounts of data and experiments in the processing of speech.

Alumni Update

Anne Berry (1988) is living in Madrid, Spain, and is teaching EFL at ACHNA, a private language school there.

Vicky Bolos (1993) and Jane Stanius (1993) are currently teaching in private language schools in Spain—Barcelona and Almeria respectively.

Kathy Bucher (1986) is married with two children, both girls, and is currently living in Urbana. She was recently elected to the Urbana School Board. Congratulations, Kathy!

Glenn D. Deckert (1970; PhD (Educ) 1978), after teaching in the Language Center of Hong Kong Baptist College for the past eight years, has accepted an offer to join the faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages and Bilingual Studies at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti. He is teaching courses in their MA program (TESL) and in their ESL program.

Sherril Michos (1989), after spending one year in Alexandria, Egypt, where she taught EFL, is back in her home state of New York, teaching ESL at several different locations in the New York City area.

Greta Muller Levjs (1990) and John Levjs (1989) are enjoying the learning of "English as a second language" of their new 2 1/2 year old daughter, Abigail Deesha, who was born in Pune, India. Greta is still working with international teaching assistants at the U. of I. and John is working on his dissertation for a Ph.D. in SLATE.

John Nelson (1990) is still in Madrid, Spain, teaching EFL at the International Institute. Maybe John and Anne Berry can get together for coffee every now and then!

Susie Seefelt-Lesieutre (1991) was recently married to Bernie Lesieutre in August of 1993, and they are now living in Boston, where Susie is teaching at both Northeastern and Harvard. In January of 1994 Susie will be teaching only at Harvard. Congratulations, Susie!

Cathy Wesolek (1989) and her husband, Jeff Stueve, are expecting their first child in May of 1994. Cathy is presently a Visiting Teaching Associate in the IEL. We wish you the best of luck with the baby!

In Memoriam:

Norma Robinson
1918-1993

Norma Robinson, former secretary for DEIL,
passed away on October 27, 1993.

Mrs. Robinson was an administrative secretary at the U of I for 20 years. She worked in DEIL for eight years, from 1975 to 1983.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Champaign Public Library.

Greetings (cont'd from pg 2)

two in Turkey, as a Fulbright Lecturer. Now "back home" in DEIL, she says, "As an alumna myself, I really enjoyed reading the newsletter while I was living in Turkey. Now I plan to enjoy producing it for you for a while."

High-Tech Facility: You must come see DEIL's showplace of language learning technology! Christened the *LinguaCenter*, thanks to the creativity of Prof. Fred Davidson, the facility is under the daily supervision of Mr. Doug Mills (Coordinator) and Mr. Rosli Hassan (Assistant Coordinator) and under the continuing direction of Mr. Tom Gould (IEI Associate Director) whose enthusiastic support has been the driving force behind the renovation. This facility is such a marvel that the editors have allotted space in this issue to tell you more about it. We are proud of what the forward-looking staff of the IEL have enabled us to do for IEL as well as ESL students on this campus.

Brighter future: For DEIL, the process of College-level evaluation continues for a while longer—until early next year. To guide us into the future, Dean Faulkner has authorized bringing to campus an external review committee of top scholars in our field to provide him with recommendations on what kind of unit we can be by the year 2000. We have high hopes and good reasons to be encouraged that the College will ultimately allow us to broaden our service to this growing profession. In anticipation of these developments, we are also revising all our curricula: MATESL, ESL and IEL. Stay tuned for new developments.

As this calendar year expires, let me wish you peace and happiness and a rewarding new year.

ALUMNI UPDATE FORM

Please return to: DEILing You In (address on back)

Name: _____ (Maiden) _____ Year of degree: _____

Address (Update if necessary): _____

Addresses of other DESL/DEIL graduates you know: _____

News (Use this space to tell us what you're doing, both on and off the job): _____

DEIL Prepares for Conferences

DEIL is gearing up for two conferences in 1994: Its 8th Annual International Conference on Pragmatics and Language Learning, and the first International Association of World Englishes (IAWE) Conference.

The Conference on Pragmatics and Language Learning and the accompanying Parasession on Pragmatic Research will be held at the Beckman Center and the Illini Union from March 31-April 2, 1994. The Parasession will begin on Thursday, March 31 and continue through Friday morning, with the conference itself starting Friday morning and running through Saturday afternoon.

At the Parasession, four plenary presentations are scheduled—two in the morning and two in the afternoon: Georgia Green will speak on data gathering and analysis, and Gabrielle Kasper will discuss research related to speech acts. Yamuna Kachru will talk about cross-cultural research and Ulla Connors about pragmatic research into written discourse.

The featured speaker Friday evening will be Bruce Fraser. His topic is the present state of research into pragmatics. Jerry Morgan and Pat Carrell will critique his presentation. Thursday evening and Friday morning, a series of panels will offer papers from various

perspectives concerning the same topics on which the plenary presentations were given.

The World Englishes conference, organized by The International Association for World Englishes in cooperation with DEIL, will also be held at the Illini Union March 31-April 2. The association seeks theoretical, methodological and pedagogical papers related to power, Ideology and English; standards and norms in world Englishes; world Englishes in the classroom; discourse strategies; speech acts and world Englishes; evaluation and testing in world Englishes; and creativity in World Englishes.

Special colloquia planned for the conference include, "Ideology, Politics and English" given by Marc Deneire and Jane Nicholls, "World Englishes in the Classroom" by Kimberly Brown and Sandra Tawake, "Discourse Strategies and Speech Acts in World Englishes" by Yamuna Kachru and Larry E. Smith, "The English-to-Pidgin Continuum" by Salikoko S. Mufwene, Englishization: Contact and Convergence by Braj B. Kachru, and "SLA Research and World Englishes" by Eyamba Bokamba.

For more information on both conferences, contact DEIL at the address below.

From the Editors

With our first edition of *DEILing You In*, we would like to send out an old plea. We know that all of you alumni are out there, doing great and glorious things, and we would really like to know about them. We would be most appreciative if you could send us your stories, even some pictures, and any updates on your lives. In addition to our Alumni Update column, we would like to begin featuring an alumna or alumna in each edition of *DEILing You In*, and the only way to do that is with your help.

Come on, all you English teachers! Sit down and write us about yourselves. We know that you've got excellent grammar, so take a few minutes to write us. We promise not to take our red pens to your work! This may be the opportunity you've been waiting for to get *your* fifteen minutes of fame!

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DEILing You In

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