From the Director

Dear Alumni,

This fall marks an important point in the history of DEIL: the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Master of Arts in the Teaching of English as a Second Language at the University of Illinois. It began in 1965 and we are now celebrating its Silver Anniversary.

Over the past twenty-five years, the program has developed tremendously. It is now the third largest graduate program in the Humanities, and sixth largest in the University. Of course, the program has developed not only in size but in character. New faculty, changing student needs, and new developments in the field continually shape and re-shape the curriculum and experiences we offer. Today, the program is considered by many to be among the top two or three in the United States. You are a part of a rich tradition!

We have launched our 25th anniversary in two ways, with more special events to come. First, the Division held its first all-day faculty retreat at Allerton Park in September. This was a special time for us to reflect on our beginnings, share with each other about our current research and teaching interests, and brainstorm about DEIL in the '90s.

The second way we have recognized our 25 years is to establish the Peter Strevens Memorial Award. We will be telling you more about this award in future newsletters.

So at this time of reflection on our history, it has been particularly inspiring for us to hear from so many of you, our alumni. We are enthusiastic about DEILING YOU IN and about keeping in touch with you.

Sincerely,

Braj B. Kachru, Director

Faculty Update

This semester, we welcome three MASEL alumni to the faculty! Fred Davidson (MASEL 1981) joins us as an Assistant Professor. He received a Ph.D. in applied linguistics from UCLA in 1988, and has worked as a teacher and consultant in many places around the world. Fred will be DEIL's language testing expert, teaching EIL 360 (Principles of Language Testing) and overseeing the English Placement Test. He will also teach EIL 371 (Teaching Composition in the ESL Classroom) and EIL 487 (Computers and Language Research). Fred has also started DEIL Circle, in which students meet together to discuss current journal articles and research.

We also welcome Laurie Blakely (MASEL 1990) and Greta Levis (MASEL 1990), who are Teaching Associates in DEIL. Laurie and Greta, along with Laura Hahn, will teach courses and coordinate programs for the international teaching assistants on campus.

This semester we also bid farewell to Lubitsa Katz (MASEL 1975), who has shared her teaching and organizing talents with DEIL since the 1960's. Most recently, Lubitsa has worked on Issues and Developments in English and Applied Linguistics (IDEAL), as well as the DEIL Colloquium Series and a Division newsletter. We will certainly miss her contributions to the Division.

Numa Markee recently received an "Apple Seedlings" grant for computer support. This special award, sponsored by the U. of I. and the Apple Corporation, will be used to develop materials in HyperCard for his Communicative Language Teaching course. Two of his goals are to provide MA students with ways to impart self-directed learning and with models of non-traditional, learner-centered instruction. He will use computer technology to integrate the three components of his course: journal articles by professionals in applied linguistics, an academic journal kept by the students themselves, and modeling of different teaching approaches by the instructor. Numa will also use HyperCard to add two more components: sample syllabi, lessons and graphics, and audio and videotapes.

Congratulations are also in order for Molly Mack, who received an Arnold O. Beckman Research Award Board from the U. of I. for the academic year 1990 - 91. This award will be used to support two graduate student research assistants who will be working with her on four research projects. These include the following projects: (1) Speech production. This study was designed to determine the extent to which "infant" French-English bilinguals produce French and English as
monolingual speakers of French and English do. The phonetic dimensions under analysis are voice-onset time in word-initial stop consonants and voicing-conditioned duration in word-medial vowels. (2) Speech intelligibility. The objective of this study is to evaluate specific cross-dialectal and cross-language effects in various listening conditions. (3) Speech perception. This study is designed to determine the relationship between age at the onset of exposure to English as a second language and the manner in which subjects categorize English vowel stimuli. (4) Morpho-syntax. The objective of this study is to determine the relationship between age at the onset of exposure to English and subjects’ ability to indicate whether sentences are grammatical or ungrammatical. Results of the latter tests will be used to address the critical (or sensitive) period hypothesis for L2 acquisition.

Carol Browncombe Boggess (1977) is the Director of the Academic Enrichment Program and a member of the English Department (ESL teacher) at Mars Hill College, Mars Hill NC.

Ralph Lowrance (1977) left the field of ESL after eight years of teaching and advising. He is now a CPA for the accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche in Charlotte, NC.

Bob Erickson (1978) is an Associate Professor of English at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan.

Nancy Wiedeman Kienberger (1981) is living in a small village in the Alps near St. Moritz. She is working part-time as a translator for Swiss Bank Corporation, and teaching English at home.

Neil Heyen (1982) is teaching business English and communication skills at Sumikin-Intercom in Tokyo, Japan. He recently co-authored Ready for Business (Longman, 1990), a pre-intermediate level business English book. He passes on the word that he is working in a growing company with a need for full-time instructors.

Jan Moy (1983) writes that she is “working on English as a first language with her 3-1/2 year old, Alexander,” whom they adopted from Korea. She is living in Connecticut. Jan also sent us many updated addresses — thanks!

Tadashi Shiozawa (1984) is a lecturer at the Department of International Affairs at Chubu University in Nagoya, Japan. He keeps good track of other DEIL graduates in Japan! He also writes about how much he appreciates “those days with academically outstanding and humanly concerned teachers and good friends from all over the world.”

Satoru Ikeda (1985) is a member of the Institute for Multicultural Affairs in Tokyo, Japan, and is working on a project there. He writes that he was in Chicago this summer.

Jenny Derksen (1988) is teaching writing, speaking, and global skills classes in ESL at Cornell University. She also gave birth to her son, John, in November 1989. She writes, “Rich and I miss Illinois and all of you.”

Diane Eagle (1989) is a Fulbright Junior Lecturer in EFL at Cukurova University in Adana, Turkey. She says she “couldn’t have survived without” her coursework at the U. of I.

From the Editors

Dear DEIL Alumni,

It has been a tremendous thrill to receive such positive responses to DEILING YOU IN and our first endeavors to form a DEIL alumni network! We have enjoyed hearing from every one of you.

Thanks to you, we have been able to vastly improve our mailing list. As you might imagine, DEIL types can be hard to track down, so we truly appreciate your filling us in. And we strongly encourage you to continue to let us know of new addresses and new happenings in the lives of yourselves and other alumni with whom you keep in touch. Our work is never done to keep our files up to date, so we need your help!

Ideas for other features in the newsletter have come from you, and we plan to incorporate them in the future. If there is something or someone you would like to read about, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Laura Hahn, Editor

Wayne Dickerson, Consulting Editor
DEIL in Madrid

In 1986, DEIL established an internship program in Madrid, Spain. The internship operates under a three way agreement between the University of Illinois, the Fundación Internacional, and Complutense University. Under this agreement, DEIL sends three MATEESL students to Spain to teach English at the Fundación Internacional, and the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese (SIP) sends two graduate students to study in Madrid for five weeks in the summer. In return, DEIL agrees to accept two Spanish students sponsored by the Fundación Internacional and Complutense. And SIP provides those students with teaching assistantships. In addition, DEIL agrees to accept one member of the Faculty of English at the Fundación each year into our MATEESL curriculum and to provide that person with a teaching assistantship.

DEIL’s interns have the opportunity to stay at the Fundación Internacional for either one or two years. They can enroll in Independent Study (EIL 491) under the guidance of those professors and work in areas related to coursework that they have done at UIUC before going overseas.

There is a clear academic thrust of the overall internship experience: several of the interns have presented papers at regional and national meetings of Spanish TESOL.

In addition to the activities of the interns themselves, each year members of the DEIL faculty travel to Spain to provide academic guidance to the interns and to present workshops or papers to the Faculty of the Fundación Internacional.

During the first year of the program, DEIL had three interns: Sherrie Michos (1989), Diane Eagle (1989), and John Nelson (1990); and last year, we had six: Ann Berry, Anna Pelaez-Perez, Chris Olsen, Nina Skokut (1990), Debbie Barks, and Maureen Hogan. This year, three of these six came home, and Susie Seefeldt and David Malatesta went over to take their places. In addition, John Nelson and Nina Skokut have taken permanent positions on the faculty of the English Department of the Fundación Internacional. At the same time, DEIL will have its first two MA graduates who came to us through the exchange program from Spain: Marfa Martínez Azorín and Beatriz Rodríguez Courel.

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Fifth Annual International Conference on Pragmatics and Language Learning

April 4 - 6, 1991
at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Organized by
The Division of English as an International Language and its
Intensive English Institute

Keynote Speakers include:
Cheris Kramarae
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Deborah Tannen
Georgetown University

The focus of this conference will be on the interaction of pragmatics, discourse analysis, and conversational analysis with the learning of a second or foreign language - especially with regard to the learning or teaching of English.

Papers are invited
on any of the following or related topics:

1. the place of pragmatic competence in the overall competence of a second/foreign language learner
2. research into specific facets of English discourse
3. contrastive pragmatics/discourse analysis
4. integrating pragmatics into the language program

Papers should be 20 minutes long with 10 minutes for discussion.

Please submit three copies of a one-page abstract, together with a 3 x 5 card with the author's name, affiliation, address, phone number, and the title of the paper.

Lawrence F. Bouton and Yamuna Kachru (Conference Co-Chairs)
DIVISION OF ENGLISH AS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
707 South Mathews Avenue, 3070 Foreign Languages Building
Urbana, IL 61801

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Notification of acceptance sent by FAX or mail by December 17.
Pragmatics and Language Learning

Pragmatics and Language Learning consists of papers selected each year from those presented at the annual conference sponsored by the Division of English as an International Language and the Intensive English Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Its editors are Larry Bouton and Yamuna Kachru. The purpose of this monograph series is to serve as a forum for research into the pragmatics of the language learning process (especially English) and to encourage the interaction of scholars involved in pragmatics and in language pedagogy in a common effort to increase the level of communicative competence achieved in the language classroom. Individual papers may focus on any of the following or related topics: 1. the contributions of pragmatics to our understanding of what we mean by communicative competence; 2. research into specific facets of English discourse; 3. contrastive pragmatics; 4. analysis of the discourse patterns found in the language classroom.

Pragmatics and Language Learning is published each spring. Copies can be obtained at a cost of $8.00 each by writing to: Editors, Pragmatics and Language Learning, DEIL, 3070 Foreign Languages Building, 707 South Mathews, Urbana, Illinois 61801.