

## ICIC HOSTS FACULTY FROM VIETNAM FOR SEVEN-WEEK ENGLISH & TEACHING METHODOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM

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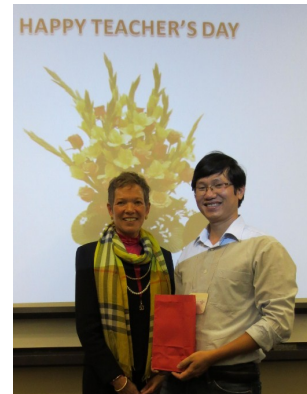
### INDIANA CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

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Thirty-three Vietnamese professors of mathematics and information technology recently completed a seven-week professional development training program at ICIC to help them use English as the language of instruction and assessment at the university level. The program included daily classes focused on using student-centered learning approaches to develop a series of lesson plans in English for use in Vietnam; along with guest lectures from IU School of Education and IU School of Informatics faculty and classroom visits at IUPUI, Ivy Tech Community College and Merle Sidener Gifted Academy School. The program concluded with small-group presentations in which the trainees identified the benefits of various student-centered teaching methods and approaches. Outcomes from the program included greater interest in and comfort with using student-centered methods in English for university-level content area instruction.

"This course is really useful for us" reported Dr. Danh Nam Nguyen, at Thai Nguyen University: College of Education. "We are impressed about some teaching methods that the instructors introduced us and the way IUPUI organized other extra-activities as well. We are grateful to MOET and IUPUI for providing us a chance to improve our English and enhance mathematics teaching strategies."

The program was part of the National Foreign Languages 2020 Project, funded by the Vietnam Ministry of Education & Training (MOET) to increase the



On Nov. 20, the trainees surprised ICIC instructors and ICIC Director Ulla Connor with a Teacher's Day celebration to honor the Vietnamese holiday

capacity of Vietnamese professors and students to operate at a high level of competency in the English language, said Gil Latz, associate vice chancellor for international affairs at IUPUI. "This is a project central to Vietnam's national educational development objectives as well as one that will raise awareness and opportunity for Indiana in Vietnam." "This program showcases the specific expertise we have at ICIC to help international faculty perfect their academic English skills," said Ulla Connor, director of ICIC and Chancellor's professor of English.

ICIC has hosted international faculty and government officials from Afghanistan, Mali and China in similar programs using its proven English for Specific Purposes (ESP) approach to language teaching. Additionally, ICIC provides group workshops and one-one-one training for international faculty and researchers at IUPUI.



Trainees at the farewell reception

## STAFF UPDATES AT ICIC

**Ana Traversa** joined ICIC as Research Coordinator in January 2013. Ms. Traversa is originally from Argentina. She did her graduate work in Rhetoric and Linguistics at UMass/Amherst and at Indiana U. of Pennsylvania and has vast teaching experience in a variety of areas, mainly ESP, EAP, Translation, and Language Teacher Education. For the past few years she also trained as an assessment developer and has worked in Healthcare Communication as a writer/editor, instructor, translator/interpreter, and consultant for a variety of institutions.

Ms. Traversa will be coordinating several upcoming external grant proposal submissions to support ICIC's linguistic research in

healthcare communication.

**Katarzyna Hryniuk**, Ph.D., has joined ICIC's staff as a Visiting Fulbright Scholar for the 2012-13 academic year. Dr. Hryniuk is from the University of Warsaw, in Poland, where she does research and teaching about Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP) in the Department of Anthropocentric Linguistics and Culturology. While at ICIC, she will be working on a research project entitled, "Creating Polish and English Texts in the Field of Linguistics: Reconstruction of Language Abilities."

"In this project, I will investigate what abilities are needed to create professional articles, and how those abilities are acquired. I'll also be examining the differences

in creating such texts in English and Polish and the language conventions used in writing for publication in Polish scientific journals and American ones," she said. Dr. Hryniuk's department in Warsaw specializes in teaching English for Specific Purposes and intercultural communication in much the same way that ICIC does, making it the perfect fit for her as she was searching for a potential host institution.

"I didn't expect that I would find such a perfect match," she said. Hryniuk added that ICIC Director Ulla Connor's books are well known in Poland, and she has used them as references for her own research articles. In addition to her writing and research responsibilities, Hryniuk will collaborate with

ICIC staff on its training and research projects, attend conferences, and prepare a talk for IUPUI faculty and staff. On January 24, 2013, Dr. Hryniuk will present her research at the ICIC Research Seminar series in Campus Center, room 309. Visit [http://events.iupui.edu/event/?event\\_id=7988](http://events.iupui.edu/event/?event_id=7988) for event details.

**Kate Dobson, MA**, has served as a Graduate Research Assistant at ICIC since August 2011. She will be leaving in February 2013 to complete a five-month teaching assignment at Peking University Health Science Center in China.

## APPLICATIONS FOR 2013 CIMINO AWARD ARE DUE FEBRUARY 1

The deadline for students to apply for the Joan and Larry Cimino Award for Excellence in Intercultural Communication is February 1, 2013.

The award is given each year to the best paper and/or thesis on intercultural communication submitted by a graduate student in the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts.

Larry Cimino, President of ProConsult, LLC., and a former Manager of Global Relations and Advocacy in Neuroscience for Eli Lilly & Company, is Chair of ICIC's Board of Advisors and has generously funded the scholarship program since 2005.

In 2012, the ICIC Selection Committee gave to the award to three outstanding

MA English, TESOL, students who represent some of the best and brightest of their program.

Kate Dobson and Jordan Gusich received the award for their joint paper, "The translation of an interview protocol for cross-cultural research" written for Ulla Connor's Fall 2011 W600 course called *Intercultural Discourse in Health Contexts*. This paper shows important considerations for adapting health literacy and medication adherence protocol in a linguistically and culturally relevant and valid manner for a Chinese audience.

Amanda Snell's thesis, "English for...": A Short-term Adult ESL Course Model for the Indianapolis Marion-

County Public Library," received an award in the thesis category. It addresses the importance of community-based programming to develop language and cultural

knowledge for specific purposes and provides a promising model to meet this community need.

Contact ICIC at (317) 274-2555 or [icic@iupui.edu](mailto:icic@iupui.edu) for more information, or submit a scholarship application online at: <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/scholarship/?dept=ENG>.



ICIC Director Ulla Connor and Larry Cimino with the 2012 Award winners: (from left) Kate Dobson, Jordan Gusich, and Amanda Snell

## ICIC DESIGNS BUSINESS TRAINING COURSE FOR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Alfredo Gilbon Rivera is originally from Mexico City and is now working in Indianapolis for an information technology company. He wanted to polish his English skills in order to communicate more effectively with his company's top leaders. "I need to talk to upper management and vice presidents," he said. "I am asked to make a lot of presentations for people and I wanted to prepare myself, to make better presentations."

Rivera signed up for a workshop at IUPUI on oral presentation skills designed specifically for international business and research professionals. The one-day workshop was sponsored by the **Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication** (ICIC), a language, intercultural research and training center that is part of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

Rivera liked the workshop so much that he asked workshop presenter Lauren Harvey, ICIC's Assistant Director of Training, to develop a class on business English skills for a group of his friends. "I wanted to work on pronunciation and vocabulary and I wanted to learn techniques to improve my language skills," he said. Harvey listened to Rivera's goals and developed a six-week program that met in the evenings after work.

"It was really cool," he said. "She put together a really good curriculum. I really liked it, and all of my friends joined." Two of

Rivera's friends from Mexico signed up, along with one from Argentina and another from India. "We all have different levels of accents. We all have different problems pronouncing (words)," he said.

The class focused on pronunciation, business vocabulary, writing and grammar, as well as making oral presentations. Honnor Orlando, an ICIC trainer and lecturer in the Department of English, taught the class. "Honor was just great," Rivera said. "She exceeded my expectations. She went above and beyond and explained how we can apply the information professionally. She had a very good approach."

Because he is working as a consultant for his company, Rivera had to pay for the class himself. However, he says it was well worth the expense.

"If you broke it down to the cost by the hour, it was really very affordable," he said.

Rivera says the class materials will serve as an ongoing resource allowing him to review and continue to improve his English skills in the future. Meanwhile, he says his friends all liked the class so much that they want to develop another one.

To find out how ICIC can design a course for your professional group, please contact us directly at (317) 274-2555 or [icic@iupui.edu](mailto:icic@iupui.edu).

## ICIC RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

ICIC has developed a research seminar series to share findings from its research collaborators. The series began in November 2012 with a session from Dr. YoungJu Chin, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies on *Understanding parental influences on Mexican-heritage youth substance use*.

The series will continue in spring 2013 with the following seminars from 11:30-12:30:

### January 24

Dr. Katarzyna Hryniuk, ICIC Visiting Fulbright Scholar  
*Writing for Publication in English—a comparative study of research articles in linguistics written by native speakers and Polish writers*  
Campus Center (CE) 309

### February 28

Dr. William Rozycki, Professor and Director  
Center for Language Research at the University of Aizu, Japan  
*Oral presentation training: Challenging accepted practice*  
Campus Center (CE) 309

### March 28

Dr. André Buchenot, Assistant Professor of English, IUPUI  
Emelie Buidling (EE) Education Conference Room  
334 N. Senate Ave

### April 25

Lauren Harvey, M Ed, ICIC Assistant Director of Training  
Emelie Buidling (EE) Education Conference Room  
334 N. Senate Ave

### ICIC's Mission Statement

The Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC) conducts internationally-recognized **research** on language and intercultural communication; provides practical **training** in language and culture for specific purposes that is informed by its research; and **applies** its expertise to benefit the wider community.

## ICIC HOSTS A RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM WOMEN'S COLLEGE IN JAPAN FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

A record number of students from Japan traveled to Indianapolis in summer 2012 for an intensive, three-week English language program that also taught them real-world lessons on women's leadership issues. The unique program is sponsored by the Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC) a language and cultural training center that is part of the IU School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis. ICIC developed the program nearly eighteen years ago, noted ICIC Director Ulla Connor. The program has proved so popular that ICIC is considering expanding it to other universities.

"Students like our program because it gives them a chance to practice their English skills in a very interactive, practical way. They stay with American homestay families in the area, and explore cultural activities in the afternoons. They also go on an overnight excursion to Chicago." "It allowed me to really



*Tsuda program participants explore IUPUI's campus after attending class*

experience life in America for the first time," she said Misa-ki Mochizuki. "Before I took the program, I didn't have confidence, especially in speaking English," she said.

The program gives the young women greater confidence in their English skills through hands-on, interactive activities both in the classroom and in the community.

"In Japan, we are passive in classes. Here, we could participate," noted one student. "I had many opportunities to use English class and it was exciting," said another.

Many classroom activities center on women's leadership issues. Female business, education and civic leaders share their insights on what it takes to be an effective leader, particularly in an intercultural environment. Diana Sims-Harris, Associate Director of the Office of Student Involvement at IUPUI, spoke to the students about leadership issues and how each person can be a leader in their own individual environment. "We talked about what leadership is and for many of the students, I think it was the first time that they thought of themselves as a

leader," she said. "We looked at it from a different perspective: Where are your strengths as an individual? We all have different strengths, but we can all affect positive change."

Students worked in groups to synthesize what they had learned, making formal presentations to the class at the end of the program. "I was nervous about having to do a presentation, but through this activity, I learned presentation skills," noted one student. "It was difficult to present," said another, "but it gave me confidence to speak in English."

Staying with local families gave students additional opportunities to practice their English and learn about American culture and family life. "My host family took me us many places," one student said. "It was very fun. They were very friendly." "Our host family treated us as if we were real daughters," said another.

Students also attended the Indiana State Fair and attended an Indiana Fever women's professional basketball game. A pizza party with IUPUI students was also one of the students' favorite activities. "In Japan, I don't have opportunities like this, so it was very fun," one student commented. "I had many opportunities to speak and write in English and to think about leadership and myself deeply," one student added.

For more information on the program, contact ICIC at: [icic@iupui.edu](mailto:icic@iupui.edu) or (317) 274-2555.



*Tsuda program participants enjoy touring Chicago*

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

- Skinner-MacDougall, D., Connor, U., & Johnstone, P.A.S. (2012). Comprehensibility of patient consent forms for radiation therapy of cervical cancer. *Gynecologic Oncology*, 125(3), 600-603.
- Connor, U., Antón, M., Goering, B., Lauten, K., Roach, P., Balunda, S., & Hayat, A. (2012). Listening to patients' voices: Linguistic indicators related to diabetes self-management. *Communication & Medicine*, 9(1), 1-12.
- Clark, C.M., Connor, U., Lauten, K., Mac Neill, R., & Sandy, R. (2012). A linguistic approach to improving self-care and compliance. *Journal for Patient Compliance*, 2(4), 20-22.
- Antón, M., Connor, U., Lauten, K., & Balunda, S. (2012). An intercultural analysis of sources of medical information in Spanish-speaking diabetes patients. *Rhetoric, Professional Communication, and Globalization: Special edition on culture and health communications*, 3(1), 140-161.
- Connor, U. (2012). Intercultural rhetoric and language of healthcare. In K. Aijmer & G. Andersen (Eds.), *Pragmatics of society. Handbooks of pragmatics, Vol. 5* (pp. 593-604), Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Connor, U., & Rozycki, W. (2012). ESP and intercultural rhetoric. In B. Paltridge & S. Starfield (Eds.), *The handbook of English for specific purposes* (pp. 427-444). UK: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Connor, U. (2012). Getting grants. In R. Kubota & Y. Sun (Eds.), *Demystifying career paths after graduate school: A guide for second language professionals in higher education* (pp. 141-150). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Connor, U., & Rozycki, W. (2012). Culture and language for specific purposes. In C. Chapelle (Ed.), *The encyclopedia of applied linguistics* (pp. 1-4). New York: John Wiley and Sons.

### PRESENTATIONS

**Lauren Harvey**, ICIC's Assistant Director for Training, presented at the Society for Intercultural Education, Training and Research (SIETAR-USA) Conference in Minneapolis on October 18. Her presentation, *Intercultural and linguistic training needs of International Medical Graduates (IMGs): A model for assessment and training*, highlighted ICIC's work with IMG's at the IU School of Medicine.

**Dr. Ulla Connor**, PhD, ICIC's Director, presented at the Verilogue Summit in Philadelphia on October 26. Her presentation illustrated her work on the role of linguistic indicators in healthcare adherence and was entitled *Listening to patients' voices: Improving adherence*.

**Dr. Ulla Connor** will present two sessions at the upcoming Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Conference in Dallas, TX, from March 20-23, 2013. She is an invited presenter in the *Successful Strategies for Navigating Professional Life in Higher Education* and the *Practical Ways to Use Intercultural Rhetoric in Teaching L2 Writing* workshops. Her presentations are entitled *Getting grants in higher education* and *A brief background of practical ways to teach IR*, respectively.

**Dr. Ulla Connor** will present two sessions at the upcoming Center for English Language Communication (CELC) Symposium in Singapore from May 27-29, 2013. As a keynote speaker, she will present her paper entitled *Intercultural rhetoric and ESP*, as well as a workshop entitled *Corpus-based text analysis for intercultural communication studies*.