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DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES
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EDUCATION:

Aug. 2001 Ph.D. Spanish Linguistics (Interdisciplinary program English and Spanish departments) – University of Houston (Houston, TX).
Dec. 1996 M.A. Spanish Linguistics – University of Houston (Houston, TX).
Dec. 1994 B.A. Spanish and French – University of Houston (Houston, TX).

EMPLOYMENT AND

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:

Aug. 2007 University of Houston (Houston, TX) – Associate Professor of Spanish
to present Linguistics and Interim Chair of the Dept. of Hispanic Studies.
2005-2007 University of Houston (Houston, TX) – Assistant Chair of Modern and Classical
Languages and Director of Spanish Undergraduate Studies.
2001-2007 University of Houston (Houston, TX) – Assistant Professor of Spanish and
Director of Heritage Language Education.
1997-2001 North Harris College (Houston, TX) – Professor of Spanish (Spanish Honors
Program; Language Curriculum Team Member; implemented new Spanish
courses for Hispanic Heritage Learners and Spanish for Business).

TEACHING AND

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Heritage Language Education, Second Language Acquisition, and Sociolinguistics with an emphasis on U.S. Spanish.

COURSES TAUGHT:

UNDERGRADUATE

- Intro to Spanish Linguistics (University of Houston)
- Spanish Grammar Review (University of Houston)
- Spanish Phonetics and Phonology (University of Houston, University of Salamanca - Spain)
- Spanish Grammar for Teachers (University of Houston)
- Written Comm. for Hispanic Heritage Learners (University of Houston)
- Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Learners I and II (University of Houston)
- Beginning Spanish I and II (UH, North Harris College)
- Intermediate Spanish I and II (North Harris College)
- Spanish for Spanish Speakers (North Harris College)
- Spanish for Business (North Harris College)

GRADUATE

- Historical Grammar (University of Houston)
- Teaching Spanish to Spanish Speakers (University of Houston)
- Spanish Grammar for Teachers (University of Houston – combined 4000/6000 levels)
- Research in Heritage Language Education (University of Houston)
- Research in Spanish SLA (University of Houston)
- Teaching Spanish for Acquisition (University of Houston)

PUBLICATIONS:**I. BOOKS**

2005 *Spanish and Heritage Language Education in the United States: Struggling with hypotheticals*. Madrid / Frankfurt: Iberoamericana Libros – Vervuert.

REVIEWS OF THE BOOK:

Porras, Jorge. (Sonoma State University, CA). 2008. In the *International Multilingual Research Journal* 2, 11-116.

Vigil, Neddy A. (University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM). 2006. In the *Southwest Journal of Linguistics* 25 (2), 163-167.

Velleman, Barry L. (Marquette University Milwaukee, WI). 2006. In *Revista Internacional de Lingüística Iberoamericana* IV 2 (8), 221 – 224.

II. ARTICLES / BOOK CHAPTERS**PUBLISHED ARTICLES (** REFERRED)**

- 2008 ** “La prueba de decisión léxica como herramienta para ubicar al estudiante bilingüe en los programas universitarios de español” (submitted).
- 2006 ** “Language Placement Exams for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Learning from Students' Mistakes.” *Foreign Language Annals* 39:4, 595 – 604.
- 2006 ** “La enseñanza del español como lengua de herencia: Un curso de preparación para docentes.” *Revista Iberoamericana de Lingüística* 1, 31 – 50.
- 2005 ** “El lugar de la variación lingüística en la enseñanza de una segunda lengua.” Co-Author: M. J. Gutiérrez. *Contextos Multiculturales* 3, 28-33.
- 2003 ** “El (denominado) *Spanglish* en Estados Unidos: polémicas y realidades.” *Revista Internacional Lingüística Iberoamericana* 2, 185 – 204.
- 2000 ** “Expresiones de modalidad en una situación de contacto: ‘Deber (de)’ vs.’ Tener que’ en el español hablado en Houston.” *Southwest Journal of Linguistics* 19:2, 19-30.

- 1999 ** "Discurso directo vs. discurso indirecto en el español hablado en Houston." *The Bilingual Review* 24:3, 217-229.

PUBLISHED BOOK-CHAPTERS (REFERRED)**

- 2006 ** "Incorporating Linguistic Variation into the Classroom." Co-Author: M. J. Gutiérrez. Chapter in Salaberry, R. & Lafford, B. (eds.), *The Art of Teaching Spanish: Second Language Acquisition, from Research to Praxis*, 173 – 192. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown U.P.
- 2006 ** "Spanish / English Interaction in U.S. Hispanic Heritage Learners' Writing." Chapter in Mar-Molinero, C. & Steward, M. (eds.), *Globalization and language in the Spanish-speaking world: Macro and micro perspectives*, 76 – 93. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2005 ** "La Adquisición del Dialecto Estándar: Un estudio longitudinal del discurso hipotético en el Español de los Estados Unidos." In Ortiz López, L. & Lacorte, M. (eds.), *Contactos y contextos lingüísticos: El español en los Estados Unidos y en contacto con otras lenguas*, 161 – 172. Madrid: Iberoamericana. (Selected Proceedings: 18th National Conference on Spanish in the U.S. at the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR)
- 2003 ** "La enseñanza del español a los hispanohablantes bilingües y su efecto en la producción oral." Co-Author: N. Ariana Mrak. In Roca, A. & Colombi, C. (eds.), *Mi Lengua: Spanish as a Heritage in the United States, Research and Practice*, 198 - 212. Washington D.C.: Georgetown UP.
- 2003 "La adquisición de un segundo dialecto: el español estándar en una situación de contacto." In Perera, J. (ed.), *Plurilingüisme i educació: els reptes del segle XXI: Ensenyar llengües en la diversitat y per a la diversitat*, 365-372. Barcelona: Institut de Ciències de l'Educació, Universitat de Barcelona. (Selected Proceedings: XIII Seminario Lenguas y Educación at the University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.)

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- Analysis of a lexical decision test from 330 students. Collaborating with TIMES (Texas Institute for Measurement, Evaluation and Statistics) researchers to create a model for this type of vocabulary assessment tool.
- During the Fall of 2007, collected data (17 classes; over 300 students) to conduct a lexical availability study; compiled bibliography and applied for access as a researcher for the DISPOLEX project based at the University of Salamanca, Spain.

CONFERENCES / PRESENTATIONS:

I. INVITED

- Feb. 2008 "Developing an Online Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish." 2008 Faculty Showcase: Teaching for the New Milenium. UH, Houston, TX.

- Feb. 2008 "An Online Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish." TIMES (Texas Institute for Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics Research Colloquia) UH, Houston, TX.
- Sept. 2005 "El aprendizaje del sistema verbal: estudio comparativo entre estudiantes de español como lengua de herencia y como segunda lengua." University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.
- Aug. 2005 Workshop on "Teaching Spanish to Heritage Learners". Presented at North Harris College, Houston – TX to area teachers and college professors (Aug. 27th, 2005 – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM).
- Feb. 2005 "Spanish / English Interaction in U.S. Hispanic Heritage Learners' Writing." Linguistics Colloquium - Rice University, Houston, TX.
- Oct. 2001 "Hypothetical Discourse in a Contact Situation: The Acquisition of the Standard Variety by Heritage Speakers of Spanish in the United States." Pacific Second Language Research Forum - Colloquium on Current Research in Second Dialect Acquisition at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

III. PRESENTED

- Mar. 2008 "Creating a Computerized Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Preliminary Results from the Pilot Test." AAAL 2008. Washington, D.C. (Co-presented with Encarna Bermejo and Flavia Belpoliti).
- Nov. 2007 "Developing an Online Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Challenges and Payoffs." Hispanic Linguistic Symposium, San Antonio, TX. (Co-presented with Flavia Belpoliti and Encarna Bermejo)
- April 2007 "Using Lexical Decision Tests as a Placement Tool for Early and Late Spanish/English Bilinguals." American Association of Applied Linguistics, Mesa, CA. (Co-presented with Carlos Ramírez).
- Mar. 2007 "La prueba de decisión léxica como herramienta para ubicar al estudiante bilingüe en los programas universitarios de español." 21th Spanish in the US / Spanish in Contact Conference, Arlington, VA. (Co-presented with Carlos Ramírez).
- April 2006 "El español del hablante de herencia antes del aprendizaje formal: Un análisis descriptivo del habla y la escritura." El español en sociedad / Spanish in Society Conference. University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK.
- Mar. 2006 "The Spanish of Hispanic heritage speakers from Houston before formal instruction: A descriptive analysis of oral and written data." 2006 GURT (Georgetown University Round Table on Language and Linguistics: Endangered and Minority Languages and Language Varieties) – Poster presentation, Washington, D.C..
- Mar. 2005 "El español de los Estados Unidos: La presencia del inglés en la escritura de estudiantes bilingües." 20th Conference of Spanish in the U.S. and Spanish in Contact with Other Languages. Chicago, IL.

- May 2004 “El español en Estados Unidos: ¿hacia una gramaticalización del cambio de códigos?” Second UK Symposium of Hispanic Linguistics – University of Southampton, UK.
- April 2004 “Spanish / English Interaction in Heritage Learners’ Writing.” American Association of Applied Linguistics – Portland, OR.
- Dec. 2002 “Language Placement Exams for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Learning from Students’ *Mistakes*.” Paper presented at the MLA Annual Convention, New York.
- Oct. 2002 “SLA vs. SDA.: A Study of the Expression of Hypotheticality in Spanish.” Poster presentation at the 2nd National Conference on Heritage Languages in America, Tysons Corner, VA.
- June 2002 “La adquisición de un segundo dialecto: el español estándar en una situación de contacto.” Paper presented at the XXIII Seminario Lenguas y Educación at the University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.
- April 2002 “The Acquisition of the Standard Dialect by Heritage Learners of Spanish in the US: A Longitudinal Study of Hypothetical Discourse.” Paper presented at the 18th National Conference on Spanish in the United States at the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR.
- March 1999 “Heritage Language Education and Non-Monitored Oral Production in Spanish.” Paper selected to be presented at the “17th National Conference on Spanish in the United States” at Florida International University, Miami.
- Dec. 1999 “Heritage Learners of Spanish: An Exploratory Empirical Study of Standard Dialect Acquisition.” Paper presented at the Language and Society Division of the MLA Convention – Chicago, IL.
- Feb. 1998 “Modal expressions in a contact situation.” Paper presented at the 16th National Conference on Spanish in the United States” at the Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

HONORS, AWARDS:

- Program Developmental Award – Educational Technology and Outreach, UH, to support development for the Ph.D. program offered to UTPA students (2008/2010: \$ 48,678)
- Funding for development of placement/credit and exit exams for students of Spanish – UH (2006), \$25,350 (Principal investigator).
- New Faculty Research Grant – UH (2004), \$5,000.
- Technology grant / Curriculum Development Award - Educational Technology and Outreach, UH (2003), \$2,750.
- University of Houston - Teaching Fellow (1995/1996).
- Recipient of 1996 Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award - Kingwood College.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

2008	<i>Second Heritage Language Summer Institute: Developing a Research Base for the Heritage Field.</i> Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. June 23-27.
2007	Attended the “Changing the Face of Spanish Education Workshop” sponsored by Wiley (New Orleans, LA - April 2007)
2005	“Hybrid’ Course: Design and Delivery” – CLASS IDT Workshop.
2004	Nominated and attended 2004 COW (CampusNet Online Workshop) – UH System Distance Education.
2003	WebCT Training Workshop - UH Dept. of Educational Technology and Outreach.
2003	Spring Innovate Teaching Expo - UH Dept. of Educational Technology and Outreach.
2002	Dept. of Educational Technology and Outreach: Teaching Innovation Workshop. UH - Language Acquisition Center.
2001	ACTFL’s Modified Oral Proficiency Interview (MOPI) Tester Training Workshop.
2000	Workshop on statistical analysis, 29 th NWAV Conference, East Lansing, MI.
1999	Workshop on teaching courses in Business Spanish, Montgomery College, TX.

SERVICE:

- Interim Chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies (Fall 2007 to present)
- Director of Spanish Undergraduate Studies and Assistant Chair of MCL (Fall 2005 – Fall 2007)
- Helped develop a cooperative Ph.D. program with the University of Texas, Pan American (2007)
- Member – MCL Chair Advisory Committee (Fall 2005 to Fall 2007).
- Coordinated the Instructional effectiveness report for MCL for the SACS accreditation (2006/2007)
- Developed the Spanish Heritage Initiative with the School of Law (Spring 2006)
- Member Dissertation Committees
 - Completed: Alejandra Balestra (2002), Angela Pedrana, Ed.D. (2004), Tonya Wolford (2005), Luisa Kluger (2006).
 - In progress (projected completion 2008): Ana Hnat, Sonia Dupre, Jennifer Ayres, Susan Norman, Flavia Belpoliti, Encarna Bermejo.
- Director – Masters’ Thesis (Patricia Gubitosi, 2004).
- Director – Heritage Language Program (2001 to present).
- Member MCL Scholarship Committee (2003).
- Member Search Committee – Linguistics position (2002); Language Lab. Director (2003), Coordinator Spanish Basic Language Program (2005), Language Lab. Director (2008), Linguistics position (2008), Dept. Chair (2008).
- Member Undergraduate Studies Committee (2003 to 2006).
- Director UH Study Abroad Program – Salamanca, Spain (Summer 2002).
- Member Scholarship Committee - Institute of Hispanic Culture of Houston (2003 to 2006).

EDITING AND REVIEWING (2007):

Abstract reviewer for the 2007 Annual conference of the American Association of Applied Linguistics (Mesa, California)

Reviewer of a manuscript for *Ikala: revista de lenguaje y cultura*, Medellín – Colombia (Spring 2007).

Reviewer of a manuscript for *Foreign Language Annals* (Summer 2007).

External Reviewer for a tenure and promotion case. University of California, Irvine (Summer 2007).

Reviewer of a manuscript for *Foreign Language Annals* (Fall 2007).

Reviewer of a manuscript for *Ikala: revista de lenguaje y cultura*, Medellín – Colombia (Fall 2007).

Reviewer of a manuscript for an edited volume of selected papers from the XXI Conference on Spanish in the US. (Fall 2007)

Member of the Scientific Committee of *Ikala: revista de lenguaje y cultura*, Medellín – Colombia.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- Member of the following organizations: AATSP, ACTLF, MLA, LASSO, and ALFAL.

LANGUAGE**SKILLS:**

English, Spanish, French, Croatian.

PERSONAL DATA:

Citizenship: USA

Birthplace: Argentina

Married, three daughters.