Letter from the Chair

The ELT Newsletter for Fall semester 2014 is full of introductions of new people working or serving in the department. We welcome each of them to our Department and to BYUH.

It also contains news of the accomplishments of some of our TESOL BA and TESOL ED graduates. We are proud of you all. Read about students recently completing graduate study, those starting new jobs or graduate study, and stars who have come back to BYUH to help out.

If you are interested, follow the links to more news about these former students:

- **Emily Sinkovich ('10)**. A Ke Alaka'i story about Emily—http://kealakai.byuh.edu/content/emily-sinkovich-lead-peacebuilding-program). Emily completed her master’s degree in cross-cultural conflict from the University of Oregon and is teaching classes for the Intercultural Peacebuilding Certificate for 1 year. We welcome Emily and her husband James back to BYUH.

- **Brent Laing ('12)**, A story in the BYU (Provo) Graduate Student news--https://graduatestudies.byu.edu/content/student-spotlight-brent-logan-laing


Aloha,

Ellen Bunker
Aloha Oe

Jae Song Lee Yamaguchi (‘08) recently completed her Master’s Degree in Linguistics at BYU Provo. While completing her thesis, she moved to Hawaii and taught in the English as an International Language program while her husband finished his degree. She is a talented linguist who speaks Korean natively, and English and Japanese with great skill. She was also a key writer and translation supervisor on a special project for the MTC which will help missionaries study grammar and language using gospel resources. To top this list of accomplishments, while in Hawaii she gave birth to their first child. Jae Song’s talent for writing materials has helped, and will continue to help, many students and missionaries study English. We will really miss Jae Song and her family as they move to Japan.

ELT Department Enjoys Service of Senior Missionaries

Elder Robert and Sister Candy Russell, who recently received their mission call to serve at BYUH, are returning to Hawaii after many years. Elder Russell’s first full-time university faculty job was teaching Japanese at the University of Hawaii-Manoa over 35 years ago.

Elder Russell is assigned to work in the ELT Department and with the Visitor Center missionaries who are learning English. Sister Russell is working at Campus Security, as well as assisting with devotionals and tutoring EIL students.

Elder Russell taught Japanese and linguistics at BYU in Provo for about 30 years before retiring in July, 2011. He graduated from the University of Utah with a BA in anthropology and linguistics, and from Harvard University with a PhD in linguistics. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a T-38 flight instructor between degrees and “moonlighted” as copilot of First Hawaiian Bank’s Learjet while at UH-Manoa. The Russells have five children, 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Both Elder and Sister Russell love working with their students and colleagues here at BYUH!
Luana Kotobalavu (‘91) recently earned her Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with English as a Second Language Specialization from American College of Education (ACE) in Indianapolis, Indiana. The courses for this degree were 100% online. Luana was able to complete the course work for the degree in 18 months (January 2013 to July 2014) by completing one course every five weeks. Her plans now are to use and apply her learning and to enroll in a two-year Masters or Doctoral program in Applied Linguistics.

Leola Moleni Solis (‘01) graduated from BYUH with a Bachelor’s degree in English Literature and a minor in TESOL. A year after she graduated she began teaching part-time for the EIL Department, and after five years, became a part-time teacher in the English Department as well. She was accepted into the MA TESOL program at Hawaii Pacific University (2012) and graduated with distinction two years later. At the end of that same year, she was hired on as full-time faculty in the ELT Department. This past holiday season, Leola had the opportunity to return home to Tonga after being away for 14 years. The visit home helped remind her of the mission of BYUH and the role the ELT Department plays in it. She is excited to be a part of this university, and a part of the ELT Department, and looks forward to fulfilling her role as a teacher to help students build their English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
We offer our congratulations to our new college dean, Mark Woltersberger! “Wolf”, as we affectionately call him, replaces John Bailey, who has served our College and our Department well for 6 years. At this time of transition, we want first of all to thank the outgoing Dean, John Bailey, for his thoughtful, pragmatic leadership. It was clear from the beginning that he understood his primary duties as Dean were to understand and advocate for the Departments of the College (Social Work, English Language Teaching & Learning, Education, and Religion). As we all know, the EIL program in particular is a many headed Hydra with a thousand moving parts (our enthusiasm forces us to mix our metaphors), and Dean Bailey spent many hours visiting us in our hallways in an effort to understand the program and its role in the overall mission of the University. Wolf commented that “John Bailey was a fabulous dean and set a high standard for all future deans of our college.” We wish him well in his return to full-time teaching in the Education Department.

Our new Dean, Mark Woltersberger, was hired to teach on our campus upon finishing his PhD in Second Language Teaching & Learning at the University of Auckland (New Zealand). He came highly recommended by his mentor, Prof. Rod Ellis and hasn’t disappointed. In the few short years he has taught here, Mark has served as the EIL Coordinator, TESL Reporter Editor, and for several years has been on the Executive Board of Hawaii TESOL. He has also shown an eagerness and ability to contribute to university-wide conversations on faculty in-servicing and new faculty orientation. On the subject of his new calling, Woltersberger said, “BYU-Hawaii never has a shortage of interesting projects or jobs to get involved in. Although this appointment is a bit intimidating, I am excited to jump in and get to work!” Woltersberger served his mission in the Japan Tokyo North Mission. He and his wife Rebecca, who is from New Zealand, have four children. We wish him all the best in his new responsibilities.
Mark James ('79) was invited in June by the Asia Area Presidency and the mission president to visit Mongolia and observe the ESL teaching prowess of the missionaries there, conduct a 2-day workshop, and make recommendations for further improvement and in-servicing. (In Mongolia, missionaries do not go on church visas, but are sponsored individually to teach ESL by various schools, orphanages, private institutes and agencies.) Among other things, his report recommended the calling of an experienced missionary couple to work full-time as the in-service coordinators. That couple recently spent 2 weeks on our campus and are now in Ulaanbaatar.

Mark later travelled to Kuching, Sarawak (island of Borneo) to present at the Asia TEFL Conference (August). The conference "brought together an amazing blend of Southeast Asian practitioners."

In addition to the conference, Mark was able to hike to the mountain border of Sarawak (Malaysia) and Kalimantan (Indonesia).
Amanda Wallace (‘88) attended and presented at the bi-annual Conference on Community Languages and ESOL (CLESOL) in July 2014. The conference was held this year at Victoria University of Wellington in Wellington, New Zealand, and presentations centered on the theme “Essentials for Learning and Teaching.”

The CLESOL conference uniquely combines the interests of community language teachers committed to maintaining the first languages of migrant and refugee groups in New Zealand and with ESOL teachers.

Approximately 500 were in attendance at the conference, and networking with delegates was valuable and insightful as well as a lot of fun, as Amanda commented, “Good food, good company, and good talk!”

Amanda’s presentation focused on “Creating a Dynamic English Language Listening/Speaking Peer Tutor Program.” Amanda reported that the presentation was well-attended with a productive question-and-answer period at the end of the presentation. “I really appreciated the opportunity to share some of our ELT Department’s unique and valuable contributions to the field of English language teaching and learning,” she said.

Janet Holmes, Emeritus Professor, Victoria University of Wellington, special speaker on “‘Oh what a beautiful morning!’: why sociopragmatics is essential in language learning.”

International children’s group getting ready to perform at the conference.
Two new EIL courses have been created to teach online, or rather as a hybrid course, which means that the students are on campus at BYUH and not studying at a distance. The new courses are EIL 353 Listening Fluency, which was developed and taught by Rebecca Wolfersberger, and EIL 393 Extensive Reading, developed and taught by Aubrey Bronson. Most of the course work for these courses is done through the campus learner management system (Canvas), along with a few face-to-face meetings are held during the semester.

The hybrid schedule gives flexibility in scheduling for teachers and students. Assisted by a TESOL intern “Mahana” Jeanne Arandia.

The English Exchange Evening was treated to a special event a Spelling Bee on Wednesday and Thursday, November 5-6, 2014. The EIL students were excited to practice the AWL (Academic Word List) and win prizes.

On each night, the last five students were awarded ice-cream coupons for the Seasider! Thanks and congratulations go to the winners from both night and to the TESOL students Juan, Amy and Evan who arranged and managed this first spelling competition.
A student asked:  

In the sentence "I fell asleep with the TV on" what is "on"? What part of speech?

Here's Grammar Guru reply: (I forwarded the question to him)

English verbs have three forms: eat, ate, eaten; write, wrote, written. The third form can be used in many ways, one of which is as PARTICIPLE. What's a participle? A word that looks like a verb but is used as an adjective, e.g., broken promise, fried chicken, running water.

Many verbs can be used as “two-word verbs” or “phrasal verbs”: A verb plus a particle, e.g., stand up, wash off, dry out. Is it possible that a two-word verb could also used the third form of the verb and be used as an adjective?

Larry turned on the light. (Verb)  
The light is turned on. (Adjective)

In my view, in your example using “turn on,” the word “turn” is always present in the deep structure, but deleted in the surface structure.

Therefore, by this reasoning, “the light is on” is really “the light is turned on.” On is a predicate adjective.

So… three grammar elements are in play: a participle (usually from the third form of the verb, or an –ing form), a two-word verb, and a particle-part of a two-word verb appearing with the original verb deleted in the surface structure.

That's my analysis…for what it's worth.

--Rick "The Grammar Guru" Nelson
The TESOL Society Internship Night was held November 14, 2014. The purpose of the activity was to provide ideas for TESOL students who will do their internship in the future by hearing about the experiences of students that have recently returned from their own internships. Thirteen students shared their internship experience, including ideas on the process of applying for internships. 59 students and three faculty members attended the event.
On December 4th, the ELT Department held the Annual TESOL Senior Poster Session. As usual, it was a great success. We wish to thank all those who helped with the judging and wish all our seniors good luck in submitting their proposal to the Hawaii TESOL Conference (February).
Congratulations Graduates

Ho Man Ellie Chang
Sung Hei Cheng
Bumjin Choi
Amy Dilg
Rachel Hicks
Eunyeong Jang
Dongwook Kang
Man Yee Lai
Po Yee Lee
Ye Ji Lee
Phillip Shing Fung Leung
Jeong Yeon Kim
Kit A. Nadado
Harrison Neil
Paige Nemrow
Saki Suyama
Kit Wa Tong
Angela Whisler
Yee Hang Wu
Kenta Yamaguchi
Sarah Sparks Campbell (’00) – “I live in Hong Kong with my husband and 3 fantastic kids. It’s an imperfectly perfect life. I'm still working at the University of Hong Kong School of Professional Learning (HKU SPACE) and was recently promoted and recognized for my work.”

Brent Green (’90) – just became (once again) a published author, along with Maureen Andrade (our former dept. chair), of Developing Academic Literacy Skills by Kendall Hunt Publishing Co. Brent also was recently appointed as the new Associate Dean of ESL for the Salt Lake Community College system. Keep up the good work, Brent!

Karen Iwamoto (’12) – “I’m currently living in Cebu City, Philippines working as an ESL teacher for Time River Design, Inc., a Japanese IT company. I handle English classes for Japanese students who come to Cebu to take a short IT course.” Karen’s article in the November issue of the Hawaii TESOL Newsletter was a winner!

Luana Kotobalavu (’97) teaches part time for our EIL program and just received her Master’s Degree (M.Ed C & I) from the American College of Education (ACE). How do you spell P-A-Y-A-I-S-E?

Brent Laing (’12) is enjoying the study of Forensic Linguistics in the M.A. Linguistics program at Provo. He’s studying how linguists can distinguish whether people are telling the truth or not through analysis of voice quality, syntactic choices, and several other variables. He was "spotlighted" by the BYU graduate Studies Office recently at https://graduatestudies.byu.edu/content/student-spotlight-brent-logan-laing . . . and we’re telling the truth!

Vicki Neal (’97) teaches at MTI College in Sacramento and just finished her M.A. TESOL at Sacramento State University. Congrats to you!

Jean-Pierre Rangassamy (’01) moved to the U.S. after teaching for over ten years in New Caledonia and just finished his M. Ed. degree in Curriculum and Instruction at American Intercontinental University. Our congratulations to him on this major milestone!

Jaehyun Seo (’07) stopped by our offices this month to say “hi” to all his fans. He and his wife were enjoying their honeymoon in Hawaii (Congratulations!). Jae’s test prep academy in Shanghai is starting to take off!

Stephen Templin (’94) just published his 4th novel (“Trident’s First Gleaming”) and has reached that magic moment when the author’s name is printed larger than the book’s title –a true sign of success!. Way to go, Stephen.

Alexis Young (’08) – dropped by the offices to say aloha. Alexis teaches in a private school in Arizona with fellow alum Sylvia Quintanilla. Alexis continues to make a difference in the world with her 1000shillings.com project, which raises money to microfinance enterprising women in Uganda and elsewhere.
Justin Wright (’07) – recently wrote an Android App on the 13 Articles of Faith. Available on Playstore!

Dongwook (Coy) Kim (’14) – is currently working as an English grammar teacher at a language institute in Korea. He is also creating a new vocabulary class for the institute. Best wishes with helping your students learn thousands of new words.