

Curriculum Vitae Laura E. McPherson

Last updated: September 8, 2022

Dartmouth College
Department of Linguistics
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Positions

2020-present Associate Professor of Linguistics
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

2014-2020 Assistant Professor of Linguistics
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

Education

- 2014 Ph.D. in Linguistics; University of California, Los Angeles
Dissertation: *Replacive Grammatical Tone in the Dogon languages*
Committee: Bruce Hayes and Russell Schuh (Co-chairs), Kie Zuraw,
Anoop Mahajan, Larry Hyman (UC Berkeley)
- Fall 2011 Visiting student in linguistics at MIT
- 2011 MA in Linguistics; University of California, Los Angeles
Thesis: *Tonal Underspecification and Interpolation in Tommo So*
Committee: Bruce Hayes and Russell Schuh (Co-chairs), Patricia Keating
- 2008 BA, *summa cum laude* in Linguistics
with a minor in Japanese, Scripps College, Claremont, CA
Honors thesis: *A Descriptive and Theoretical Account of Luganda Verbal Morphology*
Advisor: Mary Paster

External grants and awards

- 2020 National Science Foundation CAREER: “Phonetic and phonological structure in musical surrogate languages”. Five year grant, 2020-2025.
- 2018 National Science Foundation – Documenting Endangered Languages, supplement to pilot a language acquisition study on Seenku (\$12,700)
- 2017 National Science Foundation – Documenting Endangered Languages. “A reference grammar and tonal documentation of Seenku, an endangered Mande language.” Three year grant 2017-2020.
- 2010-2013 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (\$30,000/year stipend, plus tuition)
- 2008-2009 Fulbright fellowship (Mali) (\$26,000)

Editorships and editorial boards

- 2020- Co-editor, *Phonological Data and Analysis*
- 2021- Editorial board, *Phonology*
- 2019- Editorial board, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*
- 2017- Editorial board, *Mandenkan*

Books

- 2020 McPherson, Laura. *A Grammar of Seenku*. Mouton Grammar Library 83. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- 2013 McPherson, Laura. *A Grammar of Tommo So*. Mouton Grammar Library 62. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- 2007 Boucquey, Thierry, Karina Flores, Julia Kramer, Laura McPherson, Maggie Pettit, Hana Silverstein and Emily Tjuanakis. *100 Games and Activities for the Introductory Foreign Language Classroom*. New York: Eye on Education.

Peer-reviewed articles

- 2021 Williams, Nicholas, Wilson de Silva, Laura McPherson, and Jeff Good. “COVID-19 and documentary linguistics: Some ways forward.” *Language*

Documentation and Description 20, 359-377.

- 2021 McPherson, Laura. Categoricity, variation, and gradience in Sambla balafon segmental encoding. *Frontiers in Communication* 6.
- 2021 McPherson Laura and Lucas James. Artistic adaptation of Seenku tone: Musical surrogates vs. vocal music. In Akinlabi et al. (eds.), *Celebrating 50 Years of ACAL: Selected Papers from the 50th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, 203-223. Berlin: Language Science Press.
- 2021 McPherson, Laura and Matthew Dryer. The tone system of Poko-Rawo (Skou). *Phonological Data and Analysis* 3.1: 1-32.
- 2020 McPherson, Laura. On latent nasals in Samogo. *Mandenkan* 63.
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. Musical adaptation as phonological evidence: Case studies from textsetting, rhyme, and musical surrogates. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 13.12: e12359.
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. Tone: the present state and future potential. *Language: Commentaries* 95.1: e188-e192. (Editor review)
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. Seenku argument-head tone sandhi: allomorph selection in a cyclic grammar. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 4.1, 22.
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. Illustration of Seenku. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*. doi:10.1017/S0025100318000312
- 2018 [2019] McPherson, Laura. The talking balafon of the Sambla: grammatical principles and documentary implications. *Anthropological Linguistics* 60.3: 255-294.
- 2018 McPherson, Laura and Kevin Ryan. Tone-tune association in Tommo So (Dogon) folk songs. *Language* 94.1: 119-156.
- 2017 McPherson, Laura. On (ir)realis in Seenku (Mande, Burkina Faso). In Jason Kandybowicz and Harold Torrence (eds.), *Africa's Endangered Languages: Documentary and Theoretical Approaches*, 297-320. Oxford University Press.
- 2017 McPherson, Laura. Morphosyntax of adjectives in Seenku [sos]. *Mandenkan* 57.
- 2017 McPherson, Laura. Multiple feature affixation in Seenku plural formation. *Morphology* 27.2: 217-252.
- 2017 McPherson, Laura. Tone features revisited: evidence from Seenku (Mande, Burkina Faso). In Doris Payne, Sara Pacchiarotti, and Mokaya Bosire

(eds.), *Diversity in African Languages: Selected Proceedings of the 46th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Berlin: Language Science Press: 5-21.

- 2016 McPherson, Laura and Bruce Hayes. Relating application rate to morphological structure: the case of Tommo So vowel harmony. *Phonology* 33.1: 125-167.
- 2016 McPherson, Laura. Cumulativity and ganging in the tonology of Awa suffixes. *Language: Phonological Analysis* 92.1: e38-e66.
- 2016 McPherson, Laura and Jeffrey Heath. Phrasal grammatical tone in the Dogon languages: the role of constraint interaction. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 34: 593-639.
- 2013 McPherson, Laura. The structural origins of tonal overlays in Tommo So (Dogon) compounds. *Journal of West African Languages* 40.1.
- 2013 Heath, Jeffrey and Laura McPherson. Tonosyntax and reference restriction in Dogon NPs. *Language* 89.2: 265-296.
- 2011 McPherson, Laura and Kirill Prokhorov. Structural correlates of 'liver' expressions in Dogon emotional vocabulary. In Gian Claudio Batic (ed.) *Encoding Emotions in African Languages*. LINCOM Europa: 38-55.
- 2009 Heath, Jeffrey and Laura McPherson. Cognitive set and lexicalization strategy in Dogon action verbs. *Anthropological Linguistics*. 51.1: 38-63.
- 2009 McPherson, Laura and Mary Paster. Evidence for the Mirror Principle and morphological templates in Luganda affix ordering. In *Selected Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics: Linguistic Research and Languages in Africa*, Akinloye Ojo and Lioba Moshi (eds.). Somerville: Cascadilla: 56-66.

Edited volumes and special issues

- 2022 (est.) With Florian Lionnet and Nik Rolle. Special issue of *Phonology* on grammatical tone.
- 2022 With Yoad Winter. Surrogate languages and the grammar of language-based music. *Frontiers in Communication: Language Sciences*.
- 2021 With Akinbiyi Akinlabi, Lee Bickmore, Michael Cahill, Michael Diercks, Laura Downing, James Essegbey, Katie Franich, and Sharon Rose. *Celebrating 50 Years of ACAL: Selected papers from the 50th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Language Science Press.

Book reviews

- 2020 *Syllable Weight in African Languages* edited by Paul Newman. *Phonology*.
- 2017 Review of *Phonologie et morphosyntaxe de dzuungoo de Samogohiri* by Paul Solomiac (Rüdiger Köppe Verlag 2014). *Manden Kan* 57.

Invited papers and book chapters

- 2023 (expected) With Gerald Eze. Avoiding danger with endangered messages: Igbo oja speech surrogacy in a time of crisis. *Multilingualism, identity, and language endangerment in Africa*. Springer.
- 2022 Word tone is epiphenomenal: A case study from Poko (Skou, PNG). In Haruo Kubozono, Junko Ito, and Armin Mester (eds.), *Prosody and Prosodic Interfaces*. Oxford University Press.
- 2019 Constructions and competitions in Dogon inflectional tone. In Margit Bowler, Philip Duncan, Travis Major, and Harold Torrence (eds.), *Schuhschrift: Papers in honor of Russell Schuh*, 101-121. eScholarship Publishing.

Summer schools

- 2022 "Tone: Processes and representations." African Linguistics School 6, Porto-Novo, Benin

Media writing/Public outreach

- 2022- *When Music Speaks*, podcast. <https://whenmusicspeaks.buzzsprout.com>
- 2017 "We can't stem the tide of language death." *LA Review of Books*.
<https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/we-cant-stem-the-tide-of-language-death>
- 2017 "Greater recognition of Africa's invisible female entrepreneurs needed."
Women's E-News.
<http://womensenews.org/2017/05/greater-recognition-needed-of-africas-invisible-female-entrepreneurs/>

Conference Proceedings (abstract review)

- 2022 McPherson, Laura, Don Daniels, and Caroline Hendy. “Lexical and grammatical tone in Wiru (Southern Highlands Province, PNG.” *Proceedings of the 1st Tone and Intonation conference, University of Southern Denmark*.
- 2019 Grabowski, Emily and Laura McPherson. “DAPPr: A (semi-)automated tool for pitch annotation.” In Calhoun et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne, Australia, 1704-1708*.
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. “Complexity, naturalness, and explanatory power: the case of Seenku argument-head tone sandhi.” In Stockwell et al. (eds) *Proceedings of the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 286-295. Somerville: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- 2019 McPherson, Laura. “The role of music in documenting phonological grammar: Two case studies from West Africa.” *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Phonology 2018*.
- 2018 McPherson, Laura. “Musical surrogate languages in the documentation of complex tone: the case of the Sambla balafon.” *Tonal Aspects of Language 2018*, Berlin.
- 2018 Grabowski, Emily and Laura McPherson. “ATLAS (Automated Tone Level Annotation System): A tonologist’s and documentarian’s toolkit.” *Tonal Aspects of Language 2018*, Berlin.
- 2016 McPherson, Laura. “Cyclic spell-out and the interaction of Seenku tonal processes.” *Tonal Aspects of Language 2016*, University of Buffalo.
- 2012 Kalin, Laura and Laura McPherson. Senaya (Neo-Aramaic): Structural PCC effects in progressives. In *Proceedings of the 30th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Nate Arnett and Ryan Bennett. Somerville: Cascadilla.
- 2012 McPherson, Laura. Underspecified tone in Tommo So (Dogon, Mali). In *Proceedings of the 29th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Jaehoon Choi et al. Somerville: Cascadilla: 169-177.

Plenary addresses

- April 2021 “Beyond talking drums: African languages in musical form.” Plenary address at the Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Florida, Gainesville.

October 2018 “The role of music in documenting phonological grammar: two cases studies from West Africa.” Plenary address at the Annual Meeting of Phonology, UC San Diego.

Invited talks and guest lectures

April 2022 “Musical surrogate languages.” Guest lecture in Introduction to Language and Linguistics, Princeton University, April 4, 2022.

February 2022 “Methodology for studying musical surrogate languages: A linguistic perspective.” Guest lecture in African Tone Systems, taught at CUNY by Dr. Kofi Agawu, February 17, 2022.

December 2021 “When music speaks: The linguistic structure of musical surrogate languages.” Colloquium speaker at the University of Leipzig, December 1, 2021.

April 2021 “Beyond talking drums: The linguistics of musical surrogate languages.” Colloquium speaker at University of Oregon, April 30, 2021.

March 2021 “Edges and (anti-)alignment in Poko: Why we need autosegmental representations.” Invited speaker at the Princeton Phonology Forum, March 19, 2021.

March 2021 Book launch for *Why Language Documentation Matters* by Shobhana Chelliah. Panel member. Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts, Delhi, India, March 12, 2021.

December 2020 “Linguistic study of musical surrogate languages.” Guest lecture at UC Santa Barbara, December 7, 2020.

November 2020 “Grammatical tone and its segmental correlates: Insights for analysis.” Colloquium speaker at IndoPhon, November 10, 2020.

October 2020 “Musical surrogate languages as wug testing.” Colloquium speaker at the University of Chicago, October 15, 2020.

October 2020 “Grammatical tone and its segmental correlates: Insights for analysis.” Colloquium speaker at Keio University/International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, October 1, 2020.

April 2020 Invited speaker at the Princeton Phonology Phorum. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

- April 2020 Colloquium speaker at University of Chicago. Cancelled due to Covid-19.
- March 2020 “Seenku argument-head tone sandhi: allomorph selection in a cyclic grammar.” Invited talk at Tromsø. Cancelled due to Covid-19.
- January 2020 “Speaking through music: The role of balafon surrogate speech in documentation and analysis of Seenku.” Invited speaker in *Reflections on the Impacts of DEL-funded Research Over Fifteen Years* Intellectual Merits Symposium at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, January 3, 2020.
- November 2019 “Decoding surrogate speech: Phonetic and phonemic levels in musical surrogate languages.” Colloquium speaker at U Mass Amherst, November 1, 2019.
- October 2019 “Decoding surrogate speech: Phonetic and phonemic levels in musical surrogate languages.” Colloquium speaker at NYU, October 4, 2019.
- May 2019 “Tonal adaptation across musical modality: A comparison of Sambla vocal music and speech surrogates.” Invited speaker at Language and Music Workshop, UMass Amherst, May 12, 2019.
- April 2019 “Tonal adaptation across musical modality: the case of Sambla vocal music and balafon speech.” Colloquium speaker at UC Santa Cruz, April 26, 2019.
- March 2019 “When language becomes music: the talking balafon of the Sambla.” Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Neurology Grand Rounds, March 8, 2019.
- November 2018 “The talking balafon of the Sambla.” Invited talk at Princeton University, November 12, 2019.
- October 2018 “Language-music connection: the talking xylophone of the Sambla.” Colloquium speaker at University of Delaware, October 19, 2018.
- October 2018 “Music and fieldwork: the case of the Sambla talking balafon”. Guest talk at Pomona College, October 8, 2018.
- March 2018 “Phonological structure in a musical surrogate language: the Sambla talking balafon.” Invited talk at UCLA, March 18, 2018.
- March 2018 “ATLAS (Automated Tone Level Annotation System): A computational toolkit for pitch annotation.” Invited talk at the University of Sydney, March 16, 2018.
- November 2017 “The talking balafon of the Sembla.” Invited talk at the Eastman School of Music/Rochester/Cornell/Buffalo Music Cognition Symposium, November 18,

2017.

- November 2017 “Seenku argument-head tone sandhi: phonology, morphosyntax, or both?” Colloquium at University of Rochester, November 17, 2017.
- November 2017 “Seenku argument-head tone sandhi: phonology, morphosyntax, or both?” Colloquium at University at Buffalo, November 15, 2017.
- November 2017 “The talking balafon of the Sembla.” Guest lecture in ANTH 50/MUSIC 17: The Poetics and Politics of Sounds and Words, Dartmouth College.
- April 2017 “The Sambla xylophone: music, language and identity.” Guest lecture in MUSIC 45: Afropop! Dartmouth College.
- February 2017 “Using tone to diagnose grammatical architecture: evidence from Seenku (Mande, Burkina Faso).” Colloquium at SUNY Stony Brook, February 17, 2017.
- October 2016 “Talking balafons: the musical language of the Sambla.” Talk at Brandeis University, October 14, 2016.
- April 2016 “The Sembla xylophone: Seenku phonology in a speech surrogate system.” Colloquium at Harvard University, April 29, 2016.
- March 2016 “Expériences de terrain.” Guest lecture in Linguistic Methods class at the University of New Caledonia, March 10, 2016.
- November 2015 “Constraint interaction and the role of spell-out in Dogon tonosyntax.” Colloquium at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, November 20, 2015.
- March 2015 “Plural formation in Seeku (Mande, Burkina Faso).” Colloquium at Boston University, March 4, 2015.
- February 2015 “Tonosyntax and relative clauses in Dogon.” Colloquium at Georgetown University, February 27, 2015.
- November 2014 “Phrasal phonology, restructured: the place of Dogon tonosyntax.” Workshop on Building Blocks. Universität Leipzig, DFG Graduate Programme Interaction of Grammatical Building Blocks, November 21-22, 2014.
- April 2014 “Tone-tone association in Tommo So folk songs.” Guest lecture in Language and Music, co-taught by Stephanie Shih and Jonah Katz at UC Berkeley.
- April 2014 “Variable vowel harmony in Tommo So.” Guest lecture in Graduate

Morphology, taught by Stephanie Shih at UC Berkeley.

- June 2013 “Tone-tune association in Tommo So (Dogon) folk songs.” Invited talk at the UC San Diego Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group.
- May 2013 “Tonal competition in the Dogon DP: a constraint-based approach to conflict resolution.” Invited talk at UC Berkeley.
- April 2013 “Tommo So Verbal Morphology.” Guest lecture in LGCS 109 Morphology, taught by Mary Paster at Pomona College.
- February 2012 “Le système tonal dans les langues dogons: emplois lexicaux et grammaticaux.” Cercle Linguistique Bamakois. SIL International, Bamako, Mali.
- December 2011 “Predicting the base in Tommo So noun-verb pairs.” Invited talk at the Harvard University GSAS Workshop: Language Universals and Linguistic Fieldwork.
- June 2010 “Tonosyntaxe nominale dans les langues dogons.” Cercle Linguistique Bamakois, SIL International, Bamako, Mali.

Presentations (abstract review)

- 2022 “The encoding of tone in musical surrogate languages: Instrumental constraints and structural influences.” Expression, Language, and Music. U Conn, August 20-22, 2022.
- 2022 With Michael Obiri-Yeboah. “Akan tone encoding across surrogate modalities.” 53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of California, San Diego, April 7-9, 2022.
- 2021 With Don Daniels and Caroline Hendy. “Lexical and grammatical tone in Wiru (Southern Highlands Province, PNG).” Tone and Intonation 2021, University of Southern Denmark, December 6-9, 2021.
- 2021 With Aaron Carter-Ényì and Jude Nwankwo. “Speech to Music: Analyzing cross-domain mappings in West Africa.” Workshop at the Society for Ethnomusicology, October 27-31, 2021.
- 2021 With Guhui Zhang. “Variable realization of high sonority nasal codas in Seenku: A maxent approach.” Annual Meeting on Phonology 2021, University of Toronto, October 1-3, 2021.
- 2021 With Ibrahima Cissé and Heavenly Zheng. “Acquisition of tone among Bambara speaking children.” ACAL52, University of Florida.

- 2021 With Lucas James. “(In)comprehensibility of musical surrogate speech: An interplay of form and function.” African Philosophies of Language, UCLA, February 17, 2021.
- 2020 With Ibrahima Cissé and Heavenly Zheng. “Acquisition of tone among Bambara speaking children.” ACAL51, Rutgers University. Cancelled due to Covid-19.
- 2020 With Lucas James. “Verbal tone in Town Nyanja: Morphological structure and the OCP.” ACAL51, Rutgers University. Cancelled due to Covid-19.
- 2019 With Emily Grabowski. “DAPPr: A (semi-)automated tool for pitch annotation.” International Congress on Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2019 “Weak nasal codas in Seenku: gradience, variation, and weak articulation.” Paper presented at the 50th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of British Columbia, May 24, 2019.
- 2019 With Lucas James. “Artistic adaptation of Seenku tone: musical surrogates vs. vocal music.” Paper presented at the 50th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of British Columbia, May 22, 2019.
- 2019 “Traditional music as a central pillar of language documentation: the case of the Sambla ‘talking balafon’.” Paper presented at the International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, February 28, 2019.
- 2018 “Musical surrogate languages in the documentation of complex tone: the case of the Sambla balafon.” Paper presented at Tonal Aspects of Language 2018, Berlin.
- 2018 With Emily Grabowski. “ATLAS (Automated Tone Level Annotation System): A tonologist’s and documentarian’s toolkit.” Paper presented at Tonal Aspects of Language 2018, Berlin.
- 2018 “Complexity, naturalness, and explanatory power: the case of Seenku argument-head tone sandhi.” 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, UCLA, April 20-22, 2018.
- 2017 With Emily Grabowski. “Automated tone level annotation in the documentation of New Caledonian tone.” The 9th workshop on Austronesian and Papuan Languages and Linguistics (APLL9), LACITO/INALCO, Paris, June 21-23, 2017.

- 2017 “Tonal inequalities in a four-tone language: the case of Seenku’s middle tones.” Paper presented at the 48th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Indiana University, March 30-April 2, 2017.
- 2017 With Emily Grabowski. “A semi-automated workflow for producing time-aligned intermediate tonal annotations.” Paper presented at the International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, March 2-5, 2017
- 2016 With Kevin Ryan. “Grammatical factors in Tommo So tone-tune mapping.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of Phonology, University of Southern California, October 21-24, 2016.
- 2016 “Cyclic spell-out of phrasal morphophonology: the case of Seenku possessive tone.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of Phonology, University of Southern California, October 21-24, 2016.
- 2016 “Cyclic spell-out and the interaction of Seenku tonal processes.” Paper presented at Tonal Aspects of Language, University of Buffalo, May 24-27, 2016.
- 2016 “Seenku phonology in the Sembla xylophone surrogate language.” Paper presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, January 7-10, 2016
- 2015 “Tonal compounding in Seenku (Mande, Burkina Faso)”. Paper presented at the 8th World Congress on African Linguistics. Kyoto University, August 21-24, 2015.
- 2015 “Word-level and phrase-level replacive tone: an implicational relationship.” Paper presented at Morphosyntactic Triggers of Tone: New Data and Theories, workshop held at University of Leipzig, June 12-14, 2015.
- 2015 “Tone features revisited: evidence from Seenku (Mande, Burkina Faso).” Paper presented at the 46th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. University of Oregon. March 26-28, 2015.
- 2014 “Le pluriel en Sembla.” Mandelang-4. Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso.
- 2014 “Hierarchical structure of Seeku verb paradigms.” 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. Kansas University.
- 2014 “A maxent model of tone-tune association in Tommo So songs.” 88th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Minneapolis, January 2-5, 2014.
- 2013 “Phrasal Construction Morphology: the case of Dogon replacive tone.”

American International Morphology Meeting, University of California San Diego, November 8-10, 2013.

- 2013 “Tonal competition in the Dogon DP: a constraint-based approach to conflict resolution.” 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics/Georgetown University Round Table, Georgetown University, March 8-10, 2013.
- 2013 “Dogon grammatical tone at the phonology-syntax interface.” 10th Old World Conference in Phonology, Boğaziçi University, January 16-19, 2013.
- 2012 “Relating application frequency to morphological distance: the case of Tommo So vowel harmony.” 20th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester, May 24-26, 2012. With Bruce Hayes.
- 2012 “Senaya (Neo-Aramaic): Structural PCC effects in progressives.” 30th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of California, Santa Cruz, April 13-15, 2012. With Laura Kalin.
- 2012 “Patterns and predictability in Tommo So noun-verb pairs.” 43rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Tulane University, March 14-17, 2012.
- 2011 “Towards a typology of grammatical tone.” Paper presented at the 9th annual meeting of the Association for Linguistic Typology, July 22-24, University of Hong Kong.
- 2011 “Structural correlates of tone and meaning in Tommo So compounds.” 42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, June 10-12, 2011.
- 2011 “Tonal underspecification and interpolation in Tommo So.” 29th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of Arizona, Tucson, April 22-24, 2011.
- 2011 “Morphological distance and optional harmony in Tommo-So.” 85th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Pittsburgh, January 6-9, 2011.
- 2010 “Dogon alienable and inalienable possessives: evidence for structure-sensitive grammatical tone in the DP.” 41st Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Toronto, May 6-8, 2010.
- 2009 “Sharing typology on the web: the Dogon Language Project” with Steve Moran. 8th meeting of the Association of Linguistic Typology, University of California, Berkeley, July 23-26, 2009.
- 2008 “Aspects of the Dogon lexicon” with Jeffrey Heath. 38th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics, Leiden University, Netherlands,

August 25-27 2008.

2008 “Evidence for the Mirror Principle and morphological templates in Luganda affix ordering” with Mary Paster. 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Georgia, Athens, April 17-20, 2008.

Teaching

Dartmouth College

Fall 2022 Linguistics 1: Introduction to Linguistics
Linguistics 11: Language in Africa
Spring 2022 Linguistics 11: The Language-Music Connection
Winter 2022 Linguistics 54: Language Documentation (in Hawai'i)
Summer 2021 Linguistics 1: Introduction to Linguistics
Linguistics 26: Morphology
Spring 2021 Linguistics 21: Phonology
Linguistics 80: Non-concatenative Morphology
Fall 2020 Linguistics 11: Language in Africa
Spring 2020 Linguistics 1: Introduction to Linguistics (2 sections)
Winter 2020 Linguistics 54: Language Documentation (in Auckland, New Zealand and Fiji)
Fall 2019 Linguistics 35: Field Methods (Town Nyanja)
Spring 2019 Linguistics 21: Phonology
Winter 2019 Linguistics 1: Introduction to Linguistics
Linguistics 26: Morphology
Fall 2018 Linguistics 11/College Courses/Music: The Language-Music Connection (co-taught with Ted Levin and Mamadou Diabate)
Winter 2018 Linguistics 54: Language Documentation (in Auckland, New Zealand and Samoa)
Spring 2017 Linguistics 80: Tone
Spring 2017 Linguistics 21: Phonology
Fall 2016 Linguistics 11: Language in Africa
Fall 2016 Linguistics 35: Field Methods (Ekegusii)
Spring 2016 Linguistics 1: Introduction to Linguistics (co-taught with Jim Stanford)
Spring 2016 Linguistics 20: Phonetics
Winter 2016 Linguistics 54: Language Documentation (in Auckland, New Zealand)
Fall 2015 Linguistics 35: Field Methods (Gulmancema)
Spring 2015 Linguistics 21: Phonology
Winter 2015 Linguistics 26: Morphology
Fall 2014 Linguistics 35: Field Methods (Mongolian)

UCLA

Summer 2012 Instructor for Linguistics 161: Documentary Linguistics
Spring 2012 T.A. for Linguistics 120A: Phonology

Fall 2010 T.A. for Linguistics 1: Introduction to Language

Fieldwork

2022-present Gbe (Benin) surrogate languages.

2021-present Akan (Ghana) surrogate languages. Collaborative work with Michael Obiri-Yeboah.

2021-present Wiru (Southern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea). Collaborative work with Don Daniels and Caroline Hendy.

2018-2019 Poko (Skou, Papua New Guinea); sub-contracted by Matthew Dryer to describe and analyze the tone system as part of NSF grant.

2016-present Nââ Kwényi (Melanesian, New Caledonia) and other related tonal languages; preliminary trip in March 2016, subsequent trip March-April 2018.

2012-present Seenku (Mande); carried out preliminary fieldwork in Burkina Faso in January 2012; subsequent trips August-September 2013, June-August 2015, June-September 2017, December 2018, and work with a native speaker consultant in New York City (2015-) and Vienna, Austria (2014-).

2010-2014 Senaya (Neo-Aramaic); with a consultant in Los Angeles. Collaborative work with Kevin Ryan and Laura Kalin.

2008-2012 Tommo So (Dogon); spent 2008-2009 in Mali on a Fulbright working on a grammar, dictionary, and texts. Subsequent field trips May-June 2010 and January-February 2012.

2011 Q'anjob'al (Mayan); field methods class at UCLA.

2007-2008 Luganda (Bantu); field methods class at Pomona College and subsequent work with consultants.

Internal grants and awards

2020 Gordon Russell 1955 Fellowship

2020 John M. Manley Huntington Award for Newly Tenured Faculty

2018 Leslie Humanities Lab (\$5000)

2017 Junior Faculty Fellowship, Dartmouth College

2017	Neukom CompX Faculty Grant (\$7870) for “Developing computational tools for tonal annotation in language documentation.”
2016	Leslie Center for the Humanities Project Grant (\$15,000) for “The talking xylophone of the Sembla”, a two-week project at Dartmouth involving three traditional Burkinabe musicians to research and present the Sembla xylophone surrogate language system.
2015	Provost’s Office Faculty International Travel Grant, to attend a workshop in Leipzig, Germany and carry out fieldwork on Seenku in Burkina Faso.
2015	Dickey Center Faculty Travel and Research Grant, to attend a conference in Kyoto, Japan and carry out fieldwork on Seenku in Burkina Faso.
2014-	Burke Award, Dartmouth College (\$12,500 research fund)
2013-2014	President’s Award, UCLA (\$10,000 stipend)
2013-2014	Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (\$20,000 stipend, plus tuition)
2009-2010	Chancellor’s Prize, UCLA (\$10,000 stipend)
2008	Phi Beta Kappa (Claremont chapter)
2008	Glass Linguistics Prize for best senior thesis, Pomona College (\$200)
2004-2008	James E. Scripps scholarship (merit-based scholarship providing half of tuition costs), Scripps College
2004-2008	Dean’s List, Scripps College

Professional memberships

Linguistic Society of America
 Association of Contemporary African Linguistics (executive committee member)
 Society of Women Geographers

Reviewing

Mandenkan
Natural Language and Linguistic Theory
Phonology
Langues et Linguistiques Africaines

National Science Foundation Documenting Endangered Languages
Endangered Languages Documentation Program
Language
Languages
Language Documentation and Conservation
Linguistic Typology
Studies in Language
Glossa
Language: Phonological Analysis
Phonology
Journal of Asian and African Studies
Journal of West African Languages
Journal of Psycholinguistic Research
Tonal Aspects of Language
Annual Conference on African Linguistics selected proceedings
Annual Meeting of Phonology
Generative Linguistics in the Old World
Northeastern Linguistic Society

Service

Linguistic Society of America program committee (2022-present)

Dartmouth College

2021-	Committee on Standards (COS)
2020-	Language Exemption Committee
2019-20	Society of Fellows Affiliated Faculty
2019	Committee on Off Campus Activities (COCA)
2016-	Committee on College Courses (COCO)
2015-	Faculty advisor to Phi Tau (Dartmouth College)
2014-	Manager of the Linguistics Lab (Dartmouth College)
2014-	Program in Linguistics and Cognitive Science Steering Committee (Dartmouth College)

UCLA

2010-2011	UCLA Admitted students open house committee
2010	UCLA Colloquium committee
2010	Organized and ran an African Linguistics Seminar at UCLA

Advising

2022	Sofia Lee, NSF-funded RA.
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2022 Zhuoxin Ma, NSF-funded RA.

2022 Sabrina Barton, NSF-funded RA.

2022 Antônio Jorge Medeiros Batista Silva, NSF-funded RA.

2022 Simon Lamontagne, NSF-funded RA.

2022 Alina Chadwick, NSF-funded RA.

2021-2022 Jasmine Li, Presidential Scholar.

2021 Yijing Feng, graduate student in Computer Science.

2021 Sarah Kay, NSF-funded RA.

2021 Hannah Spindler, Presidential Scholar.

2020-2021 Guhui Zhang, NSF-funded RA.

2020-2021 Lucas James, Senior Honors Thesis.

2020-2021 Muriel Ammon, Senior Fellowship.

2020-2021 Brandon Zhou, Stamps Scholar.

2020-2021 Sarah Wen, NSF-funded RA, Presidential Scholar.

2020 Catharine Herrera, NSF-funded RA.

2020 Lex Kang, NSF-funded RA.

2020 Mia Russo, NSF-funded RA.

2019-2020 Heavenly Zhang. Presidential Scholar.

2019 Emily Pommier, NSF-funded RA.

2019-2020 Guhui Zhang, NSF-funded RA.

2019 Lex Kang. Junior Research Scholar.

2019 Lucas James. Presidential Scholar.

2019 Katie McCabe. Sophomore Research Scholar.

2018-2019	Lucas James, NSF-funded RA
2018	Dat Vo, NSF-funded RA
2018	Emma Mazzuchi, NSF-funded RA
2018	Anne Furman, NSF-funded RA
2017-2020	Adeline Braverman, NSF-funded RA
2017-2018	Gabriel Zuckerberg. Sophomore Science Scholar.
2017-2018	Emily Grabowski, Neukom fellow.
2016-2017	Corinne Kasper. Senior Fellowship.
2016-2017	Maggie Baird. Senior thesis.
2016-2017	Emily Grabowski. Presidential Scholar.
2016-2017	Maggie Baird. Presidential Scholar.
2015-2016	Ksenia Ryzhova. Presidential Scholar.
2014-2015	Rebecca Schantz. Presidential Scholar

Dissertation committees

2020-	Blake Lehman. UCLA.
2019-2021	Jamilläh Rodriguez. <i>The syntax and phonology of grammatical tone in Copala Triqui</i> . University of Albany.
2018	Jude Awasom Nfromi. <i>Constraint interaction in Grassfields Bantu tone paradigms</i> . Leipzig University.
2017	Taylor Miller. <i>Polysynthetic languages at the interface: the role of syntax in deriving phonological structure</i> . University of Delaware.

Languages

English (native)
French (fluent)

Japanese (advanced)
Spanish (intermediate)
Tommo So (intermediate)
Seenku (beginning/intermediate)
Farsi (beginning/intermediate)
Thai (beginning)
Fulfulde (beginning)
Bambara/Dioula (beginning)
Senaya (beginning)
Hindi/Urdu (beginning)
German (beginning)