

Roslyn Cherie Burns

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- 2011-2016 University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D., Linguistics
Dissertation Title:
New World Mennonite Low German: An Investigation of Changes in Progress
Committee: Gary Holland (Chair), Keith Johnson, Thomas Shannon
- 2009-2011 University of California, Berkeley
M.A., Linguistics
- 2007 Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Lutherstadt-Wittenberg
Exchange, Landeskunde
- 2006 Universidad de la Rioja
Exchange, Filología Hispanica
- 2004-2008 Reed College
B.A., Linguistics

Employment

- 2022-2023 Yale University
Department of Linguistics
Consultant
- 2020-2022 Yale University
Department of Linguistics
Lecturer
- 2019-2020 Reed College
Department of Linguistics
Visiting Professor
- 2018-2019 University of Texas at Austin
Department of Germanic Languages and Literature
Fieldworker (Texas German Dialect Project)
- 2016-2018 University of California, Los Angeles
Department of Linguistics
Lecturer
- 2016-2011 University of California, Berkeley
Department of Linguistics
Graduate Student Instructor

Publications¹

- Under Review* Deriving Listener-Driven Sound Change in a Harmonic Grammar
- Under Review* Deriving Listener-Driven Sound Change in Exemplar Theory
- Accepted* *Labial-Velar Stop Place Identification in Igbo
with Jason Shaw ([link to paper](#))
Selected Proceedings of the 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics
- In Press* *Diagnosing Contact and Inheritance in Eastern Low German Velar Palatalization
Journal of Language Contact
- Submitted* Plautdietsch Traditional Dialects in a Trans-Regional Perspective
Gary Holland Memorial Volume
- 2023 *Balancing Social Determinism vs. Sound Change: The Case of Fang
Journal of Historical Linguistics DOI 10.1075/jhl.22012.bur
- 2023 Effect of vowel context on stop place identification in Yoruba
with Jason Shaw ([link to paper](#))
Proceedings of the International Conference on Phonetic Sciences
- 2022 *Mechanisms of sub-phonemic change in prescriptive bilingualism: The case of Mexican Plautdietsch
Glossa DOI: 10.16995/glossa.5744
- 2021 *Don't try this at home: The effects of recording devices and software on phonetic analysis
with Chelsea Sanker, Sarah Babinski, Claire Bowern, Marisha Evans, Jeremy Johns, Juyhae Kim, Slater S
Language
- 2021 *Contrasting Spaces in Plautdietsch Language Variation and Change
Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies 9(1): 1-26
- 2021 *Persistent Rules as Reanalysis and Extension
Diachronica 39(1): 39-87 <https://doi.org/10.1075/dia.19034.bur>
- 2021 *Modeling Gradient Processes in Polabian Vowel Chain Shifting and Blocking
Journal of Historical Linguistics 11(1):102-142
- 2020 Review of German Language, Cradle of Our Heritage: A Study of the Importance of the Pennsylvania
German Language and the Struggles in Maintaining It in a Modern English Environment.
Journal of Amish and Plains Anabaptist Studies 8(1):80-81

¹Publications with an asterisks are peer reviewed.

- 2019 Review of A Contrastive Grammar of Brazilian Pomeranian by Gertjan Postma
Invited book review for *Yearbook of German-American Studies* 54:340-341
- 2018 *Lechitic Vowel Developments in Eastern Low German
Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 25: 79-99
- 2016 *The Plautdietsch Vowel Shift Across Space and Time
Journal of Linguistic Geography 3(2): 79-94
- 2015 *Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: The First Berkeley Meeting
edited with Małgorzata Szajbel-Keck and Darya Kavitskaya
- 2013 *Abo Optional Anti-Agreement.
Selected Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics. 2013:130-140
- 2012 *Case-Gender Paradigms in North American Mennonite Low German.
Interdisciplinary Journal for Germanic Linguistics and Semiotic Analysis. 17(1):79-101.

Presentations

- 2023 Towards Quantifying Social Behavior in Language Contact
International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Sept 1-5
Heidelberg, Germany
- 2023 Labial-Velar Stop Place Identification in Yoruba
ICPhS, August 6-11
Prague, Czech Republic
- 2023 Labial-Velar Stop Place Identification in Igbo
54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, June 12-14
Storrs, Connecticut
- 2023 Listener-Driven Sound Change in Exemplar Theory
Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 32, May 19-21
Bloomington, Indiana
- 2023 Language Documentation in Germanic Linguistics
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 29, April 20-22
Banff, Alberta
- 2022 Deriving listener-driven sound change in a Harmonic Grammar
International Conference on Historical Linguistics 25, August 1-5
Oxford, England
- 2020 Phonetic Naturalness in Dialect Differentiation: A Case Study of Plautdietsch Palatal Plosives
94th Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, January 2-5
New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2019 Plural Formation and Variation in Plautdietsch: Prosody Meets Multiple Exponence
with Laura Catherine Smith
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 25
Iowa City, Iowa

- 2019 Graduated Dissimilation Effects in Agreement By Correspondence
93rd Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, January 3-6
New York, New York
- 2018 Phonological Enhancements and Blocking in Vowel Chain Shifts
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 24, May 11-12
State College, Pennsylvania
- 2018 Phonetic Gradience in Vowel Chain Shift Blocking
Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 27, May 4-6
Stanford, California
- 2017 Migration, Conservatism, and Identity among North American Mennonites
Approaches to Migration, Language and Identity, May 4-5
Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2016 Island Hopping: Dialects in the New World Plautdietsch Speech Archipelago
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 22, May 20-22
Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2016 Paradigm Internal vs External Motivations: The case of Ablaut Classes in Plautdietsch
With Reem Alattas
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 22, May 20-22
Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2016 Lechitic Vowel Developments of Posen Low German
Formal Approaches To Slavic Linguistics 25, May 13-15
Ithica, New York
- 2016 Feature Inheritance and Formal Patterning of Ablaut in Plautdietsch
Berkeley Germanic Round Table, April 1-2
Berkeley, California
- 2016 Mennonite Low German Dialect Diversification in the New World
Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Session: (Re)Living Language Change
Austin, Texas
- 2015 Umlaut or Unlaut: Plautdietsch Vowel Alternations
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 21
Provo, Utah
- 2015 Giving the Basket and Cultural Exchange. With Christine Vais
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 21
Provo, Utah
- 2013 In Search of the Missing Link: New and Old World Plautdietsch Long Vowel Innovations
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 19
Buffalo, New York
- 2013 Lost in Translation? An Analysis of Gothic Gender
9th Biennial Indiana University, Graduate Student Conference in Germanic Studies
Bloomington, Indiana

- 2012 The Vowel System of Mesoamerican Plautdietsch: A preliminary Analysis.
University of California, Berkeley: Phonology Forum
- 2012 Palatalization in Eastern Low German Dialects: Inheritance, Contact, or Endogenous?
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 18
Bloomington, Indiana
- 2012 Eastern German and the Slavic Connection: An Investigation of Consonant Palatalization
Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable
Berkeley, California
- 2012 Abo Optional Anti-Agreement
Annual Conference on African Linguistics 43
New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2011 OT in Historical Linguistics: An Account of the Plautdietsch Palatal Sound Shift
Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference 17
Austin, Texas
- 2011 A Phonological Sketch of Abo. With Stefanie Fauconnier
University of California, Berkeley: Phonology Forum
- 2010 Case-Gender Paradigms In North American Mennonite Low German
Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable
Berkeley, California

Teaching Experience

- Spring 2022 Linguistics 106: Illusions of Language
Yale University, Presidential Visiting Fellow
- Spring 2022 Linguistics 205: Introduction to Sociolinguistics
Yale University, Presidential Visiting Fellow
- Fall 2021 Linguistics 102, Sociology 104, Religious Studies 110: Language and Religion
Yale University, Presidential Visiting Fellow
- Spring 2021 Linguistics 232: Phonology 1
Yale University, Visiting Professor
- Spring 2021 Linguistics 220: General Phonetics
Yale University, Visiting Professor
- Fall 2020 Linguistics 341: Phonology at the Interfaces: Dispersion Theory
Yale University, Visiting Professor
- Fall 2020 Linguistics 117: Language in America
Yale University, Visiting Professor
- Fall 2019-Spring 2020 Linguistics 370: Thesis
Reed College, Visiting Professor

Spring 2020	Linguistics 334: Historical Linguistics Reed College, Visiting Professor
Spring 2020	Linguistics 212: Introduction to Language, Culture, and Sociolinguistics Reed College, Visiting Professor
Fall 2019	Linguistics 330: Contact Languages Reed College, Visiting Professor
Fall 2019	Linguistics 332: Dialects of English Reed College, Visiting Professor
Spring 2018	Linguistics 170: Sociolinguistics University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Spring 2018	Linguistics 120A: Introduction to Phonology University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Winter 2018	Linguistics 120A: Introduction to Phonology University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Winter 2018	Linguistics 165A: Phonology II University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Fall 2017	Linguistics 105: Introduction to Morphology University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Fall 2017	Linguistics 120A: Introduction to Phonology University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Spring 2017	Linguistics 165A: Phonology II University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Spring 2017	Linguistics 170: Sociolinguistics University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Winter 2016	Linguistics 110G: Historical Linguistics for Graduates University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Winter 2016	Linguistics 110: Historical Linguistics University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Winter 2016	Linguistics 20: Introduction to Linguistics University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Fall 2016	Linguistics 20: Introduction to Linguistics University of California, Los Angeles Lecturer
Spring 2016	Linguistics 5: Language and Linguistics Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Richard Rhodes
Fall 2015	Linguistics 130: Introduction to Comparative and Historical Linguistics Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Gary Holland

Spring 2015	Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Line Mikkelsen
Spring 2015	Linguistics 611: Graduate Introduction to Linguistics Patten University, Assistant Professor Department of Education
Fall 2014	Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Susanne Gahl
Summer 2014	Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science Acting Instructor and Instructor of Record
Fall 2013	German 1: Elementary German Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Nikolaus Euba
Spring 2013	Linguistics 115: Phonology and Morphology Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Larry Hyman
Fall 2012	Linguistics 5: Language and Linguistics Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Sarah Cutfield
Spring 2012	Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Line Mikkelsen
Fall 2011	Linguistics 130: Introduction to Comparative and Historical Linguistics. Graduate Student Instructor, Professor Gary Holland
Spring 2010	Linguistics 16: The English Vocabulary Graduate Student Reader, Professor Richard Rhodes


Projects

2023-Present	Diversi <i>PHY</i> : Shared Phonetics Teaching Resources Creator, Image Developer, Website Application Developer
2015-Present	The Sound Change Visualization Project Creator, Image Developer
2018-2019	Texas German Dialect Project; Plautdietsch Edition Fieldworker and Data Manager, PI Hans Boas
2012-2016	Mesoamerican Mennonite Low German Project Fieldworker and Data Manager, PI Gary Holland
2011-2013	Bulgarian as a Living Language Data Manager, PI Ronelle Alexander
2010-2011	Bankon (Abo) Documentation Project Fieldworker and Data Manager, PI Larry Hyman
2010-2011	Fresno Mennonite Low German Project Fieldworker and Data Manager , PI Lev Michael

Invited Presentations

- 2020 Pertinacity as Reanalysis and Extension
Invited by Maria Gouskova, New York University Phonetics and Experimental Phonology Lab
- 2018 The German Language in America Re-Visited: Mennonite Low German: Plautdietsch
Invited by: Marc Pierce, University of Texas Austin Department of Germanic Studies
- 2016 Plautdietsch Dialects in North America: Perspectives from Acoustic Fieldwork
Invited by: Dalton Reimer. Fresno Pacific Senior Professional Seminar.
- 2015 The Palatalization Puzzle of Eastern Low German
Invited by: Professor Thomas Shannon. Presentation to German 290
- 2014 Historical Linguistics: Language Areas and Zones
Invited by: Professor Susanne Gahl. Presentation to Linguistics 100
- 2013 Plautdietsch in Mexico: Language and Tradition
Palm Springs Retirement Center
- 2012 Historical Linguistics: The History of English.
Invited by: Professor Sarah Cutfield. Presentation to Linguistics 5.
- 2012 An Introduction to Grammatical Gender
Invited by: Professor Line Mikkelsen. Presentation to Linguistics 100.

Service

- 2014 – Present Founder of the *Sound Change Visualization Project*
- 2020 – Present Founder of *DiversiPHY: Shared Phonetics Teaching Resources*
- 2023 Reviewer for a proposed new edition of a Cambridge phonology textbook
- 2020 – 2023 Yale University Language Outreach Project
- 2019 Ostfriesische Landschaft (East Frisian Low German Cultural Association)
Dictionary Transcription Consultant
- 2017 WCCFL 36 Logo Designer
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- 2017 WCCFL 36 Abstract Committee Assistant
- 2017 Language Specialist Reviewer for edited volume *Varieties of German Worldwide*
- 2017 Historical Phonology Reviewer For *Russel Schu Fest Schift*

- 2016 Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference (Iceland) Abstract Reviewer
- 2013 – 2014 Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 23
Conference Organizer
- 2011-2012 University of California, Berkeley: Linguistics Colloquium
Student Organizer
- 2010-2011 Berkeley Linguistics Society Annual Conference 37
Conference Organizer
- 2010 University of California, Berkeley: Linguistics Colloquium
Student Organizer

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- 2021-2022 Presidential Visiting Fellow, Yale University
- 2013 Graduate Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley
- 2013 Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley
- 2009-2011 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UC Berkeley
- 2007 University Summer Course Grant, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst

Publications in Progress

Static Palatography and Sound Change in Progress

This work investigates the articulation of the Plautdietsch palatal plosive system by means of static palatography and linguography. Traditionally, Plautdietsch is divided into two dialects. One of the dialect features is the articulation of the palatal plosive series, yet to date, no research has analyzed how these segments are articulated. This work finds that the palatal plosive is not a stable dialect feature because the traditional forms themselves actually represent different stages of fronting which is a natural outcome of the process of palatalization. The dialect which lagged behind in fronting is currently in the process of catching up.

Outreach

- 2024 Developer, analysisit, and programmer for DiversiPHY's *American English Transcription Trainer*
Result: American English Transcription Trainer
- 2023 Artist contributor to the *Visualizing STEM* art show
- 2023 Artist, developer, and programmer for DiversiPHY's *American English Sound Bar*
Result: American English Sound Bar
- 2019 Language History columnist for the *Seminole Sentinel*
Supervisor Sam Holbrooks
- 2018 War, Hunting, Violence, and Maritime Metaphors in English
Chris Douridas, NPR Santa Monica (KCRW)

- 2018 African Influences in Global English
Kumari Devarajan, NPR Codeswitch
Result: Ready For A Linguistic Controversy? Say 'Mmhhh'
Featured by LSA and Language Log
- 2018 Historical Semantics of English
Pamerla Chelin, Independent Journalist
- 2016 Lindsay Lohan Sociolinguistic Analysis
Tim Kenneally, The Wrap
Result: Is Lindsay Lohan's Bizarre New Accent Real? An Expert Weighs In