

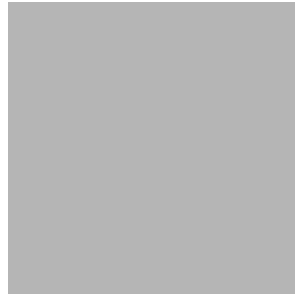
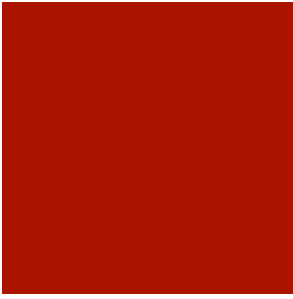
Language Sciences Pod



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**



Annual Activity Report, 2015



Thank you!

**Financial and other
material support has been
provided by:**

The Departments of Linguistics &
Psychology

The Office of Research

The Center for Cognitive and
Brain Sciences

The Buckeye Language Network

A College of Arts & Sciences
Targeted Investment in Excellence
(to Linguistics)

A Battelle Foundation
(BETHA) grant

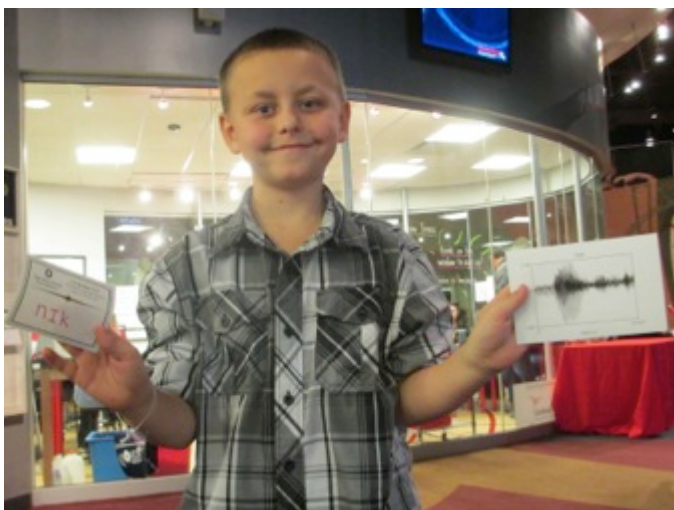
An OSU Engagement Impact grant

The National Science Foundation

Language Science

The scientific study of language
provides a unique
educational opportunity

The Language Sciences Research Lab takes advantage of people's natural interest in language to teach them more about how language works. We expand people's understanding about how they produce, perceive, learn and use language in different contexts. At the same time, we show how researchers use the tools of science to study language and allow them to experience these studies first-hand as research participants.



Innovating and Expanding

Over the past year, we have continued our innovative program of integrated research, education, and outreach. Our unique approach has captured national attention and established the Language Sciences Research Lab as a leader in the field. With financial support from the NSF, we have presented our efforts at two national conferences and are planning our first visit to AAAS Family Science Days. We have also expanded our efforts within COSI and beyond, drawing

in new faculty, new students, and new grant resources.

We are especially proud to be sponsoring an undergraduate club, the Podlings. Created by OSU students, this group is dedicated to promoting community among lab members and is engaged in expanding our outreach mission both within and beyond COSI. It reflects the special sense of excitement and commitment the lab generates, as well as its potential for long term growth.

Our Mission:

To inform and excite people about language



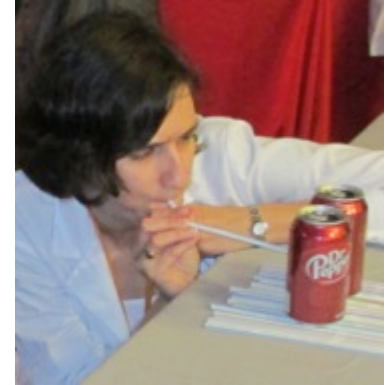
Research

Research faculty from six departments across campus worked with over 3000 COSI visitors as research participants in 2014. Results from our studies have been presented at premier academic conferences, such as the BU Conference on Language Development, and published in top journals, such as the *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.



Education

A formal evaluation of our “Informal Science Outreach” course found that the OSU students improved their public speaking and their comfort level in talking about science. In addition, 76% of the COSI visitors the students engaged with learned language facts from the interaction, and 95% of visitors felt the interaction enhanced their visit to COSI.



Outreach

We have expanded our program of interactive demonstrations, and now engage visitors about a greater variety of language phenomena than ever before. Our program of “Language Fairs” has brought research faculty to the COSI floor where they get first-hand experience with the public and develop new activities to reach the community.

Synergistic Activities

Over the past year, the Language Pod has extended its reach within COSI and beyond.



NSF Funded Summer Program

Executive committee members Campbell-Kibler and Wagner were awarded a National Science Foundation REU Site Grant to run a student summer program on language science research and outreach in 2015-2017.



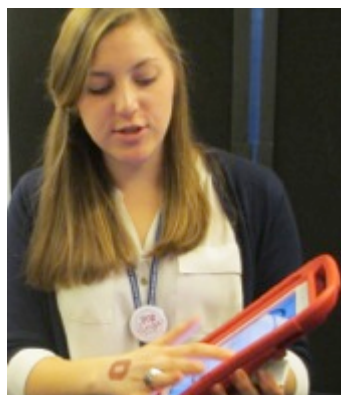
“Language Science for Everyone” Initiative

Our lab is a core member of an NSF-sponsored effort to promote public awareness and interest in language. Along with colleagues from other major universities, we are building a national language outreach network.



Language Merchandise for Sale

We reached out to COSI's store partner and COSI is now selling books on the scientific study of language, as well as various items bearing a classic icon of language acquisition research, the wug.



Outreach Internship Program

With funding from OSU's division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we are funding several students to engage in semester-long projects that help us engage the public about language.



Language Sciences Pod Executive Committee

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Kathryn Campbell-Kibler, Outreach Director

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Research Scientist, Department of Linguistics

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