



CoLA Lowdown

A NOTE

From the Dean

"Unprecedented interest in the science and practice of gratitude is so welcome because this is what gives us the strength of character to make life better not only for ourselves but also for others. A 2015 article in . . . *Scientific American* reported that, out of 24 strengths, including such powerhouses as love, hope, kindness, and creativity, the single best predictor of good relationships and emotional wellbeing was gratitude." — *The Little Book of Gratitude* by Dr. Robert A. Emmons (2024)

I've been dabbling into some research lately about the power of gratitude in academic settings. Studies from across the humanities and social sciences suggest something we might have intuited all along: showing appreciation makes a real difference in how we work together and how we feel about our work. Teams that practice regular acknowledgment of each other's contributions tend to be more creative, more energized, and generally, happier in their professional lives.

Looking around at all you've accomplished this term – the thought-provoking discussions, the research and creative activity, the hours spent mentoring and supporting students – I'm struck by how fortunate we are to have such a dynamic community of scholars. Let's keep finding ways to acknowledge each other's work and build on the collaborative spirit that makes our college special.

College Calendars

[CoLA Events Calendar](#)

[CoLA Faculty & Staff Calendar](#)

College Committees

[CoLA Committees Webpage](#)

The CoLA Committees webpage lists all the committee meeting minutes.

College

Meetings

Directors meetings take place the second Thursday of every month at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408.

Undergraduate Program Coordinators meetings take place the fourth Tuesday of every month at 3pm, Dean's Conference room, Faner 2408.

Share Your News

Do you have news to add to an upcoming CoLA Lowdown? Submit [this form](#) to share news, events, awards, and more with the rest of the College.

Recent Accomplishments

Faculty

[Dr. Joseph A. Brown](#), Director, School of Africana Studies; Coordinator of Africana Studies program, will deliver the closing keynote address for the conference, "Seeking for a City: Academic Symposium on Black Catholic Liturgy & Culture." University of Dayton, November 22 - 24, 2024.

[Dr. Brittany Leach](#), Assistant Professor, Political Science and Sociology, has been awarded the 2024 Joann Paine Faculty Research Award, which was discussed at a panel of the recent recipients, and the donors of the endowed award, Dr. Dave Jones and Susan Jones. Past recipients at the panel were Associate Professor of Political Science Benjamin Bicker and Associate Professor of Sociology Rachel Whaley.

SIU hosted an international conference on **Xenolinguistics** featuring speakers from 3 different continents and over 100 attendees (both online and in person). The event celebrated authors featured in [Dr. Jeff Punske's](#) co-edited book, *Xenolinguistics: Towards a Science of Extraterrestrial Language* (2024).

[Dr. Shu-Ling Wu](#), Associate Professor, School of Languages & Linguistics, gave a Zoom talk entitled "Cultivating Industry Talents through Chinese for Specific Purposes Courses: Aviation and Business" to over 100 Chinese teachers

worldwide on November 8, 2024, hosted by the Beijing Language and Culture University Press.

Publications

Benjamin Bricker:

Benjamin Bricker and Scott Comparato. 2024. "Examining the Rise of Outside Actor Participation in Constitutional Court Decision Making." In *Constitutionalization of Politics in Comparative Perspective*, Paweł Laidler, Dariusz Stolicki, Lukasz Jakubiak, and Jacek Sokołowski (eds.) New York: Routledge. pp. 109-129.

Robert Frase:

Frase RT, Suitor JJ, Gilligan M, Stepniak C, Ogle D, Fingerman KL. Worrying Across the Generations: The Impact of Adult Grandchildren's Problems on Grandparents' Well-Being. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci*. 2024 Sep 13;79(11):gbae154. doi: 10.1093/geronb/gbae154

Michelle Freeman:

Freeman, Michelle. "‘No Comfort for This Mourning, and No Healing for This Pain’: Consolation, Lament, and Ethopoiia in the Pseudo-Dionysian *Epistle to Timothy on the Death of the Apostles Peter and Paul*." *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* (forthcoming, 2025)

Santiago Gualapuro:

Gualapuro Santiago. 2024. "Quantity Implicature interpretation in bilingual population: the case of Imbabura Kichwa." *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*. Speech and Language. Volume 18. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnhum.2024.1405373>

Gualapuro-Santiago. Challenges in Language Revitalization: An Insider Experience in Imbabura Kichwa. *Open Handbook on Linguistics Pedagogy*. Edited Volume. MIT Press. Boston, MA. Under Review. 2024

Gualapuro-Santiago and Adebayo Taofeeq. STEM nativization in Indigenous languages: An emerging form of participatory action research. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. (Under Review)

Shannon McCrocklin:

White, R.S. & McCrocklin, S. (2024). The effects of corrective feedback frequency on ESL pronunciation uptake, repair, and preference. *Proceedings of the 14th Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference*, (pp. 1-11). Purdue University, September 2023. <https://doi.org/10.31274/psllt.17321>

Darren Sherkat:

Sherkat, Darren E., Derek Lehman, and Nabil Bill Julkif. 2024. "Mooring Christian Nationalism: How Religious Institutions, Participation, and Beliefs Inform Christian Nationalism." *The Sociological Quarterly*. 65: 269-288

Sherkat, Darren E. 2024. "Becoming the Stupid Party: Religion and Cognitive and Educational Decline in the Republican Party." Paper presented at the annual

meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Chris Stantis:

Shipley O, Dabrowski AJ, Bowen GJ, Hayden B, Pauli JN, Jordan C, Cicero C, Semmens BX, Stantis C, et al. (2024) Design, development, and implementation of IsoBank: a centralized repository for isotopic data. PLOS One

Accepted, in press: Stantis C, Serna A, Verostick KV, Tipple B, Jefferson A, Bowen GJ. Isotopic Heterogeneity in U.S. Urban Water Supply Systems Reflects Climatic, Environmental, And Sociodemographic Factors: Implications for Forensic Identification. PLOS One

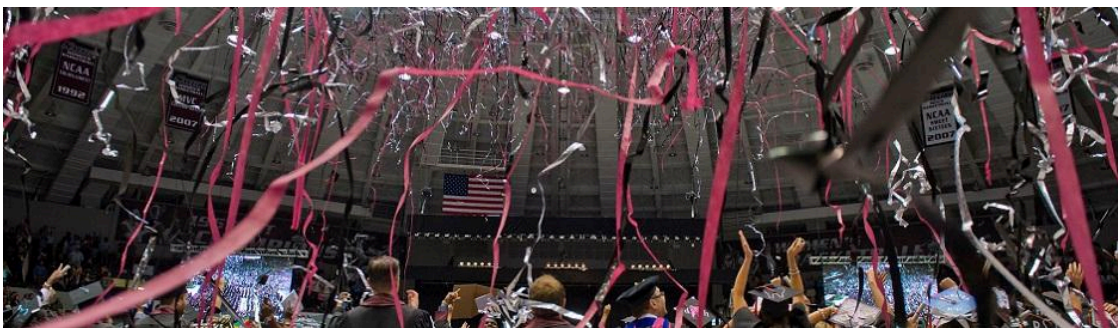
2024 Sept 27: C Stantis, R Harrod, MJ Wooler “Crowd-sourcing science: how you can help improve forensic methods of victim identification”. Alaska INBRE Network-wide Annual Research Conference, Talkeetna, Alaska.

Shu-Ling Wu:

Wu, S.-L., Wang, J., Zhao, Y., & Vukobrat, D. (in press and accepted). Aviation Language in English and Chinese. Beijing Language and Culture University Press.

Important Information

Preventing Harassment and Discrimination: Supervisors + Clery Act and Title IX - To be compliant with the new Title IX regulations, all employees must complete training before December 13, 2024. The supervisory version is assigned to all employees to meet content requirements. Employees should have received an email on Oct. 15 from Vector Solutions with training information. The link to the training is also available on the Office of Equity and Compliance website. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact equity@siu.edu.



Commencement will be held Saturday, December 14th, 10 am, at the Banterra Center. Faculty Information can be found [here](#).

Volunteers:

All members of the SIU community (students, faculty, staff, alumni) are invited to serve as Commencement volunteers. Volunteer may use our [Commencement Volunteer](#) page to sign up or get more information.

Faculty Involvement:

One of our continued goals is to increase faculty participation in Commencement. There are two ways for faculty to participate in Commencement (outside of those who are hooding doctoral students or serving in another special individual role).

1. Commencement Marshals – we have space for 12 marshals. Faculty or staff who wish to serve as marshals can fill out our online [Commencement Marshal](#) form. Graduate marshals will lead the processional of Master’s students into the ceremony; other marshals will assist with seating on the floor. All marshals will assist when students cross the stage, and during the recessional.
2. Faculty processional and section – Faculty who are not hooding doctoral students or serving as marshals may process in and be seated in the faculty section. The faculty section is the front/bottom rows of the padded chair seats closest to the floor. This section gives faculty a front-row seat to congratulate their students and engage in the ceremony. Faculty who wish to participate are asked to complete a brief (2 question) [Faculty Participation](#) form, to assist with planning. This is not a required registration, so if someone decides to participate last minute, they are welcome to show up.

Regalia:

All members of the platform party, marshals, and faculty processional must wear academic regalia. Folks who own regalia from their alma maters may wear it (SIU regalia is not required). Those who do not own regalia may rent from the University Bookstore. We also have a limited supply in our office, and they are welcome to contact us at events@siu.edu to inquire about borrowing regalia. Some Dean’s offices also have regalia on hand to borrow.

Upcoming Events

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Carbs and Caffeine

WEEK



**PANERA BAGELS, COFFEE,
FRUIT, SNACKS SERVED
EVERYDAY**

7:45AM- 2PM (OR UNTIL RUN OUT)

MONDAY- LARRY'S DONUTS
TUESDAY- LA UNICA BAKERY
WEDNESDAY- CINNAMON
ROLLS BY HEATHER'S
BAKESHOP



THURSDAY- CRISTAUDO'S
MINI PASTRIES
FRIDAY- COOKIES BY KOZY
CAKES



*PAINT PROJECTS
MONDAY-THURSDAY
10:00 AM-2:00 PM (OR
UNTIL RUN OUT)*



SECOND FLOOR OF FANER, WING C, ABOVE THE MUSEUM

