

ERICA J. BENSON

English Department

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Linguistics. Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages. College of Arts and Letters. Michigan State University. 2003

M.A. in Linguistics. Linguistics Program. College of Arts and Sciences. University of South Carolina. 1992

Graduate Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language. Linguistics Program. College of Arts and Sciences. University of South Carolina. 1990

B.A. in German. Department of World Languages. College of Arts and Sciences. University of South Florida. 1988

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS POST PH.D.

8/2015-present Professor. English Department. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

1/2015-present Chair. English Department. UW-Eau Claire

6/2014-12/2014 Interim Chair. English Department. UW-Eau Claire

8/2011-5/2014 Director of Undergraduate Studies. English Department. UW-Eau Claire

8/2009-8/2014 Associate Professor. English Department. UW-Eau Claire

8/2003-8/2009 Assistant Professor. English Department. UW-Eau Claire

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS***Department Chair—Selected Responsibilities and Accomplishments****Description of English Department:*

45 faculty/staff (31 tenure-track/tenured faculty, 2 office staff, and ca. 12 instructional academic staff) across two campuses.

6 undergraduate majors, 5 minors, and 3 certificate programs in 5 emphasis areas—creative writing; critical studies in literatures, cultures, and film; linguistics; rhetorics of science, technology, and culture; and English teaching.

2 MA programs—literature and textual interpretation and writing—and a dual BA-MA track.

Nationally recognized first-year writing program (aka the Blugold Seminar), which serves to meet UWEC's University Writing Requirement.

Since Fall 2018, the department has been spread across 2 campus: UW-Eau Claire and UW-Eau Claire – Barron County.

The department currently has over 300 majors and 50 minors and offers over 220 courses each year.

Hiring and Recruitment:

Directly hired 5 tenure-track faculty, 5 Visiting Assistant Professors in Writing, 8 new instructional academic staff, and 1 office staff (note: there was a two-year hiring freeze while I was chair); increased efforts to diversify hiring pools resulting in 2 tenure-track assistant professors and 1 Visiting Assistant Professor from underrepresented groups.

Curricular Initiatives and Assessment:

Created and implemented a dual BA-MA degree program, the first of its kind at UWEC, to allow high-achieving English majors to earn BA and MA degrees in 5 years.

Led a multi-year review of the English Department's undergraduate program and course array that resulted in changing the frequency of course offerings, revisions to major and minor requirements, creating certificate programs, developing and promoting new course-delivery models (including large sections of 100-level courses as well as hybrid and on-line courses), designing and implementing a new placement model for first-year composition courses (that reduced resources by 15% while maintaining small class sizes), and revising the departmental honors program with more honors project options.

Coordinated department assessment efforts at the course, emphasis, and department level, including initiating assessment plans for the MA programs, submitting annual assessment reports on for all programs, etc.

Facilitated and expanded annual assessment of the first-year writing program via review of student portfolios.

Student-Centered Leadership:

Keep students informed about events and opportunities in English through bi-weekly emails.

Collaborate with student organizations to create a welcoming environment in the English Department through, for example, creating student study/lounge space in the department library with a microwave, fridge, water kettle, snacks, etc.; opening up meeting rooms for student use; and hanging student art in the hallways.

Display student publications and award-winning works in a glass display case across from faculty publications.

Nominate students for opportunities and awards, for example, the McNair program, undergraduate and graduate awards and scholarship, Master's Thesis.

Maintain ties with students once they graduate through regular department newsletters, notices about events, invitations to join annual alumni panels, and nominations for Alumni Association awards, which have been awarded to two English Department graduates since I have been chair.

Budget, Grants, and Fundraising:

Oversee the English Department budget of \$2.3 million in a variety of accounts/funds.

Awarded over \$1.2 million in funding (\$302,380/year) through UWEC's Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition grant program to support first-year writing program, 2015-2019.

Awarded \$48,000 in funding from an internal grant program to support the English Department Internship program, 2015-2019.

Awarded Chancellor's Guideposts Initiatives internal grant for College of Arts and Sciences Career Readiness and Internship Initiative with Dr. Pam Forman, Sociology, and Staci Heidtke, Career Services.

Obtained grant funding from the College of Arts and Sciences to support annual writing program assessment.

Assisted the UWEC Foundation in fundraising, which has resulted in a 40% increase in scholarship funds awarded to students with the development of 3 new scholarships, and thousands of dollars in new donations.

Communication and Outreach:

Coordinate department communication strategy in collaboration with the Director of Undergraduate Studies in English involving traditional media, social media, department newsletter, and website revisions, including for example, bi-weekly emails and to keep department members—students, faculty, staff—informed of upcoming events, student organizations, internship opportunities, course offerings, scholarships, etc.

Organize and secure funding for events in collaboration with colleagues and English Fest, our events-planning student organization, often in collaboration with campus and community partners, for example, Tessa Fontaine, author of *A Memoir in Death-Defying Acts*, in collaboration with the Chippewa Valley Book Festival and the Chippewa Valley Writers Guild; Crystal Laura, associate professor of educational leadership and co-director of the Center for Urban Education and Research at Chicago State University and author of *Being Bad: My Baby Brother and the School to Prison Pipeline*, with co-organizer Christina Berchini and co-sponsors Education Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UWEC Foundation; Ryan Berg, author of *No House to Call My Home*, a Minnesota Book Award winner, with co-organizer Blake Westerlund and co-sponsor Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; annual alumni panels; and many other events.

Worked with ad hoc department committee and Integrated Marketing and Communications to overhaul all department webpages.

Created an internship position responsible for contributing fresh content to the department website.

Facilitate work with local community organizations through our internship program, co-sponsored events, faculty/staff research and professional activities, and student organizations, for example, the Chippewa Valley Writers Guild, the Chippewa Valley Book Festival, American Association of University Women, Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement, the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Beaver Creek Reserve, the Chippewa Valley LGBTQ+ Resource Center, and many more.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

Organize and secure funding for events promoting equity, diversity and inclusion, in collaboration with colleagues and English Fest, our events-planning student organization, for example, Crystal Laura, associate professor of educational leadership and co-director of the Center for Urban Education and Research at Chicago State University and author of *Being Bad: My Baby Brother and the School to Prison Pipeline*; Ryan Berg, author of *No House to Call My Home*. James Loewen, author of *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, *Sundown Towns*, and other books on race in America.

Diversified recruitment efforts and hired faculty/staff from underrepresented groups. The English Department at UWEC is more diverse now than it has ever been.

Supported English Department Personnel Committee in developing EDI language in personnel reviews a year before it was mandated.

Co-led a collaborative initiative of students and faculty to create a language policy encouraging the use of gender-neutral language especially when gender is irrelevant.

Created a welcoming environment of inclusion in the English Department through, for example, featured web stories, images on websites, classrooms, and in departments, and outreach.

Faculty/Staff Support:

Provide professional-development support and mentoring for faculty/staff by, for example, securing funding for and collaborating with the Director of the Writing Program to offer annual professional development for first-year writing; actively supporting faculty/staff in applying for internal and external grants that have resulted in dozens of hours of reassignment time for scholarly and creative activity and thousands of dollars for research and travel; providing instructional academic staff support in their search for a tenure-track position by, e.g., offering workshops and one-on-one consultations for cover letters and other materials, providing opportunities to practice job talks and interviews, helping arrange course coverage for campus visits; mentoring new faculty and staff through regular meetings (both individual and group) and creating a climate of mentorship.

Work with colleagues to streamline processes and procedures to make more efficient use of faculty/staff time and resources through, for example, organizing materials on the shared hard drive to make finding documents easier; developing eforms (e.g., English Departmental Honors, Academic Apprenticeship in English, Thesis credit) for common paper-based and approval-laden processes; creating guides for locating and completing common department and university eforms; having office staff gather and assemble assessment data for review by faculty.

Include on each department meeting agenda a list of “shout outs” to acknowledge the scholarly, creative, teaching, and service-related achievements of faculty/staff.

Regularly nominate faculty/staff for college and university awards. Since I’ve been chair 5 English Department faculty/staff have been awarded University Excellence awards and 2 faculty have won College awards. I wrote or co-wrote all but one of these nominations.

International Engagement:

Provide support for faculty/staff teaching abroad and creating international research and immersion experiences for students in China, England, India, Jamaica, Nicaragua, and Thailand.

Worked with the Center for International Education developing study abroad programs, determining course equivalencies, hosting international students and scholars, advising students in 1-2-1 program.

Director of Undergraduate Studies—Selected Responsibilities and Accomplishments

- Created the English Ambassadors Program in Fall 2011. Ambassadors assist with recruitment and orientation activities (e.g., Majors Fair, meeting with visiting students), serve as student representatives to the English Curriculum Committee, and advise the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Department Chair on issues important to students.
- Coordinated English Department's recruitment activities and undergraduate advising efforts (including advisor assignments, training of advisors, advising materials).
- Developed a department communications strategy (including the creation of biweekly e-mails to students and faculty, regular postings on social media) and created the English Department Intern Program for support.
- Developed and implemented an annual advising survey for English majors and minors and an annual exit survey for graduating English majors.
- Streamlined the application process for all English Department scholarships and oversaw the application, selection, and awards processes for all scholarships and awards in the department.
- Redesigned the English Awards ceremony as an end-of-year celebration, which has allowed for greater participation by our student organizations and increased attendance by students, alums, faculty/staff, and donors.
- Transformed English Fest and served as advisor Fall 2012-Spring 2014—English Fest, the student group that organized a week-long celebration of English Studies with the same name, had for some years been struggling, under an unsustainable model requiring vast student, faculty, department, and financial resources. Working with a dedicated group of students, we created a much more sustainable model that has resulted in greater student participation in the student organization, higher attendance at English Fest events, more department involvement in the choice of events, and a co-advisor model with a two-year rotation that pairs an experienced faculty advisor with a new faculty advisor.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Benson, Erica J. forthcoming. Language perception and the city. Review of *Cityscapes and Perceptual Dialectology: Global Perspectives on Non-Linguists' Knowledge of the Dialect Landscape* by Jennifer Cramer and Chris Montgomery, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton. *American Speech*.
- Evans, Betsy E., Erica J. Benson, and James N. Stanford (eds.). 2018. *Language Regard: Methods, Variation, and Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Benson, Erica J. and Megan L. Risdal. 2018. Variation in language attitudes: Sociolinguistic receptivity and acceptability of linguistic features. In Betsy Evans et al. (eds.) *Language Regard: Methods, Variation and Change*, 80-95. Cambridge University Press.
- Benson, Erica J., Theresa Kemp, Angela Pirlott, Casey Coughlin, Quinn Forss, and Laura Becherer. 2013. Developing a Non-Sexist/Non-Gendered Language Policy at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. *Feminist Teacher* 23(3). 230-247.
- Benson, Erica J. 2012. *Need* + prepositional adverb in the Midland: Another feature needs in. *Journal of English Linguistics* 40(3).224-255. doi:10.1177/0075424211418977. (17% acceptance rate for that year per editor)
- Benson, Erica J., Michael J. Fox and Jared Balkman. 2011. *The bag that Scott bought*: The low vowels in northwest Wisconsin. *American Speech* 86(3).271-311. (40% acceptance rate for that year per editor)
- Benson, Erica J. 2009. *Everyone Wants In*: *want* + prepositional adverb in the Midland and Beyond. *Journal of English Linguistics*. 37(1).28-60. (22% acceptance rate for that year per editor)
- Benson, Erica J. 2005. Folk perceptions of dialects in Ohio. *Language Diversity in Michigan and Ohio: Towards Two State Linguistic Profiles*, ed. by Brian Joseph, Carol G. Preston, and Dennis R. Preston. Ann Arbor: Caravan Books.

- Benson, Erica J. 2004. Review of *Sociolinguistics: A Resource Book for Students*, by Peter Stockwell. *British Association for Applied Linguistics News*. 76. 19-20.
- Benson, Erica J. 2003. Folk linguistic perceptions and the mapping of dialect boundaries. *American Speech* 78(3).307-330.
- Preston, Dennis R., Erica J. Benson, Betsy Evans, Daniel Flannery, Gregory Robinson, and Thor Sawin. 2003. Michigan Pronunciation. *The CD-ROM Atlas of Michigan*. Dept. of Geography, Michigan State University.
- Benson, Erica J. and Dennis R. Preston. 2002. I dialettologi incontrano la percezione: per farne che cosa? [Dialectologists meet perception: What's in it for them?] *Rivista Italiana di Dialettologi. Lingue dialetti società* XXVI.19-47.
- Benson, Erica J. 2001. The neglected early history of codeswitching in the United States. *Language & Communication* 21.23-36.
- Benson, Erica J. 2000. Angela Carter. *A Readers' Companion to the Short Story in English*, ed. by Erin Fallon, et al. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Publishing Group.

ACADEMIC (REFEREED) CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Benson, Erica J. and Anneli Williams. 2017. Crossing the line: Effect of boundary representation in perceptual dialectology. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation*. Madison, WI. 11/2017
- Benson, Erica J., Betsy E. Evans, and James N. Stanford. 2016. Organized and chaired panel. Language Regard: Methods, Variation, and Change. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation*. Vancouver, British Columbia. 11/2016
- Benson, Erica J. and Betsy E. Evans. 2016. Introduction to Language Regard: Methods, Variation, and Change. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation*. Vancouver, British Columbia. 11/2016
- Risdal, Megan L. and Erica J. Benson. 2014. The Individual as a source of variation in language attitudes. *Linguistic Society of America*. Minneapolis. 1/2014
- Benson, Erica J. and Megan L. Risdal. 2013. Assessing sociolinguistic receptivity among native speakers of English. *American Dialect Society, Midwest Region*. Milwaukee. 11/2013
- Benson, Erica J., Laura Becherer, Casey Coughlin, Quinn Forss, Theresa Kemp, and Angela Pirlott. 2013. Developing a non-sexist/non-gendered language policy at UW-Eau Claire. 37th Wisconsin Women's Studies and 8th LGBTQ Studies Conference: Knowledge in the Making in Women's, Gender, and LGBTQ Studies. Madison. 10/2013
- Risdal, Megan L. and Erica J. Benson. 2012. Variation in language attitudes: sociolinguistic receptivity and acceptability of linguistic forms. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 41. Bloomington. 10/2012
- Benson, Erica J. and Megan L. Risdal. 2012. Investigating sociolinguistic receptivity. *Sociolinguistics Symposium* 19. Berlin. 8/2012
- Benson, Erica J., Jared Balkman, and Michael J. Fox. 2010. *Hegel haggles for a hawk*: Low vowels on the move in Eau Claire Wisconsin. *American Dialect Society, Midwest Region*. Chicago. 11/2010
- Benson, Erica J. 2010. Peeves in a pod: The value of language pet peeves for linguists. *Language Attitudes and Popular Linguistics area of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association*. St. Louis. 3/2010
- Benson, Erica J. 2008. *Want in the club?* Understanding *need/want* + prepositional phrase constructions. *American Dialect Society, Midwest Region*. Minneapolis. 11/2008
- Benson, Erica J. 2008. Language attitudes, dialect geography, and language change in Wisconsin. *Language Attitudes and Popular Linguistics area of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association*. San Francisco. 3/2008

- Benson, Erica J. 2007. Experiences with faculty-undergraduate collaboration in dialectology. Special Session on Teaching. American Dialect Society. Anaheim. 1/2007
- Benson, Erica J. 2006. The relationship between stylistic and social variation: the case of *need/want* + prepositional adverb. Sociolinguistics Symposium 16. Limerick, Ireland. 7/2006
- Benson, Erica J. 2006. *Need by, down, in, off, out?* American Dialect Society. Albuquerque. 1/2006
- Benson, Erica J. 2005. *Need out* of the Midland dialect debate? American Dialect Society, Midwest Region. Milwaukee. 11/2005
- Hahn, James and Erica J. Benson. 2005. Folk linguistics and sound change in Wisconsin. American Dialect Society, Midwest Region. Milwaukee. 11/2005
- Benson, Erica J. 2004. True regional standard forms? *Need/want* + prepositional phrase. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 33. Ann Arbor. Poster. 10/2004
- Benson, Erica J. 2004. Teaching about dialects in large classes. Special Session on Teaching Panel: Pedagogical Approaches to Attitudes toward American Dialects. American Dialect Society. Boston. 1/2004
- Benson, Erica J. 2003. American dialects and ESL instruction. Wisconsin Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (WI TESOL), Eau Claire. 10/2003
- Benson, Erica J. 2003. *Need in? Want out?* American Dialect Society. Atlanta. 1/2003
- Benson, Erica J. 2002. What the folk have to say about dialect boundaries. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 31. Stanford. Poster. 10/2002
- Benson, Erica J. 2001. Spatial fiche or special fish? A preliminary analysis of a regional dialect feature. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 30. Raleigh, NC. 10/2001
- Benson, Erica J. 2001. Folk perceptions of dialect varieties in Ohio. Center for Great Lakes Culture. A State Linguistic Profile Conference, Ohio State University. 5/2001
- Benson, Erica J. 2000. Early studies of codeswitching in the United States. North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences. Chicago. 1/2000
- Benson, Erica J. 1998. The use of foreign languages in advertisements in German print media. Sociolinguistics Symposium 12. London. 4/1998

OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

- Benson, Erica J. Rise of linguistic prescriptivism in English. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. 9/26/2016
- Benson, Erica J. Cultural History of the English Language. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. 9/19/2016
- Benson, Erica J. Community outreach. UW-System Linguistics Workshop. UW-La Crosse. 5/2/2015
- Watson, Shevaun, Alan Benson, and Erica J. Benson. Rethinking plagiarism. College of Education and Human Sciences. UWEC. 3/6/2015
- Watson, Shevaun and Erica J. Benson. Turnitin implementation at UW-Eau Claire: issues & considerations. College of Arts and Sciences Chairs Council. UWEC. 9/25/2014
- Benson, Erica J., Casey Coughlin, Laura Becherer, and Theresa Kemp, and Angela Pirlott. Live on-air interview on developing a non-sexist/non-gendered language policy at UWEC with Judy Clark. WEAU TV13. 4/26/2013
- Benson, Erica J. American English Dialects. Blugold Beginnings Workshops—3 presentations. 4/25/2012
- Benson, Erica J. Language Myth: Double negatives are illogical. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 9/23/2011
- Benson, Erica J. Language Myth: Television makes people sound the same. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 9/22/2011

- Benson, Erica J. Dialect study has lots of practical applications anymore. Boyd School Salon. Eau Claire. 1/30/2010
- Benson, Erica J. English Word Studies. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 3/2/2009
- Benson, Erica J. *The dog needs out a lot anymore*: Defining dialect areas on the United States. UWEC Faculty Forum. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. 2/25/2009
- Hall, Joan Houston, Eric Raimy, and Erica J. Benson. 'Skansin English: Public Forum on Wisconsin Englishes. Appleton Public Library. Appleton, WI. 5/29/2008
- Salmons, Joe, Luanne von Schneidemesser, and Erica J. Benson. 'Skansin English: Public Forum on Wisconsin Englishes. La Crosse Public Library. La Crosse, WI. 4/26/2008
- Raimy, Eric and Erica J. Benson. Grammatical variation and perceptual dialectology. Wisconsin Englishes. University of Wisconsin. Podcast. Rec. 4/18/2008
- Interview with John W. Davis, Jr. WLSU-WPR La Crosse. Airdate: 4/25/2008
- Benson, Erica J. Writing successful scholarship and grant applications. Panel discussion organized by Dr. Theresa Kemp. English Department. UWEC. 11/16/2007
- Benson, Erica J. A Cultural History of the English Language. Session 3: Wisconsin Dialects. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 9/26/2007
- Benson, Erica J. A Cultural History of the English Language. Session 2: Vocabulary. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 9/19/2007
- Benson, Erica J. A Cultural History of the English Language. Session 1: Historical Timeline. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. L.E. Phillips Senior Center. 9/12/2007
- Purnell, Thomas, Eric Raimy, Luanne von Schneidemesser, and Erica J. Benson. 'Skansin English: Public Forum on Wisconsin Englishes. University of Wisconsin-Marathon County, Wausau, WI. 10/17/2007
- Purnell, Thomas, Joseph Salmons, Luanne von Schneidemesser, and Erica J. Benson. 'Skansin English: Public Forum on Wisconsin Englishes. Watertown Public Library, Watertown, WI. 6/21/2007
- Live on-air interview on Wisconsin dialects with Judy Clark. News 13 Today. WEAU TV13. 12/20/2006
- Interview with Joe Fryer for News Extra Feature entitled "Minnesota/Wisconsin: Our Evolving Dialects." KARE 11. Minneapolis/St. Paul. Original airdate: 11/27/2006
<http://www.kare11.com/news/investigative/extras/extras_article.aspx?storyid=140255>
- Benson, Erica J. Linguistics Website Project. Technology Innovation for Education (TIE) Learning Community 2006-07 Meeting. Learning and Technology Services. Network for Excellence in Teaching. 11/16/2006
- Interview with Steve Roisum entitled "Wisconsin Dialects Are Changing." WLSU-WPR La Crosse. 10/10/2006 <<http://www.wpr.org/news/archives/0610.cfm>>
- Interview with John Hartzell for Associated Press article on Wisconsin dialects. Article with various titles in several regional newspapers. 9/2006
- Benson, Erica J. Demonstration of Interactive Linguistics Website. Teaching and Learning Symposium. Network for Excellence in Teaching. UWEC. 8/28/2006
- Hall, Joan Houston, Thomas Purnell, Joseph Salmons, and Erica J. Benson. 'Skansin English: Public Forum on Wisconsin Englishes. Plaza Hotel & Suites, Eau Claire. 3/27/2006
- Interview with Dan Lea for local news story on Wisconsin Englishes Public Forum. WAYY/WAXX Radio. 3/2006
- Benson, Erica J. Middle English Syntax: ENGL 452: Chaucer. Dr. Jan Stirm. UWEC. 2/17/2006
- Benson, Erica J. Language Variation: Dialects. HNRS 301: Language: Mirror of the Mind. Dr. Anne Utschig. UWEC. 9/29/2005

Benson, Erica J. Fun With Our Native Tongues: 4-part series. L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Eau Claire. 3/7-4/4/2005

On-air interview with Kathy Stahl. Spectrum West. WUEC. Eau Claire. 2/24/2005

Benson, Erica J. Jamaican creole and literature. ENGL 779: Post-Colonial Shakespeare. Dr. Theresa Kemp. UWEC. 10/21/2004

STUDENT-FACULTY RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

- Khan, Anna and Erica J. Benson. Investigating Language Perceptions in the Upper Midwest with Geographic Information Systems. Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (Summer 2018) and Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2017-18). Poster Presentation at UWEC's Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (5/2018)
- Krawczyk, Lisa and Erica J. Benson. The past tense morpheme with a focus on the elegies of Anne Bradstreet. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2016-17). Poster Presentation at UWEC's Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (5/2017)
- Relford, Makenzie and Erica J. Benson. Linguistic links in murderer manifestos. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (Fall 2016). Poster Presentation at UWEC's Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (5/2017)
- Williams, Anneli and Erica J. Benson. Investigating Language Perceptions in the Upper Midwest with Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (Fall 2016). Oral Presentation at Provost's Honors Symposium (5/2017)
- Koopmans, Clare, Robin Jungwirth, Erica J. Benson, and Lynsey Wolter. Removing the linguistic security blanket: uncovering linguistic prejudices. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2013-14). Poster Presentation at UWEC's Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (5/2014)
- Ryan, Jacklyn and Erica J. Benson. The Case for "Be All" in the Midwest: A Study of Quotative Verb Use and Users' Awareness and Attitudes. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2013-14). Oral Presentation at Provost's Honors Symposium (5/2014)
- Benson, Erica J., Casey Coughlin, Quinn Forss, Laura Becherer, Theresa Kemp, and Angela Pirlott. Developing a non-sexist/non-gendered language policy at UW-Eau Claire. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2012-13) and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (Summer 2012). Oral Presentation at UWEC's English Fest at Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative (5/2013)
- Gauer, Brittany and Erica J. Benson. *I can has rules?: A syntactic analysis of Lolspeak*. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (5/2011)
- Hagen, Paula and Erica J. Benson. Imperative constructions in English. Poster Presentations at UWEC Student Research Day (5/2011) and UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (4/2011)
- Risdal, Megan L. and Erica J. Benson. *I'ma Tell you 'bout 'I'ma'*: A sociolinguistic and syntactic analysis of the reduced form of 'I'm gonna'. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (Spring 2011). Poster Presentations at and UWEC Student Research Day (5/2011) and UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (4/2011).
- Fox, Michael J. and Erica J. Benson. *I live in Altoona, don'tcha know*: The back vowels /u/ and /o/ in Wisconsin. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2010-11). Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (5/2011)
- Fox, Michael J. and Erica J. Benson. *The bag that Scott bought*: The low vowels afoot in Wisconsin English. Oral Presentation at UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (4/2010) and Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2010)

- Kramer, Joshua and Erica J. Benson. Caution: High levels of emotional investment in the public view of language. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2009-10). Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2010)
- Merry, Anna and Erica J. Benson. *Oh, the pain of the over-used apostrophe!*: A linguistic analysis of pet peeves in writing. Blugold Fellow. Poster Presentations at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2010) and UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (4/2010)
- Sommer, Heather and Erica J. Benson. The influence of African-American English (AAE) discourse styles on the slam poetry of non-AAE-speaking performers. McNair Scholar Project. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2010)
- Merry, Anna and Erica J. Benson. Attitudes toward language variation and the liberal arts. Blugold Fellow. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2009)
- Paules, Gregory and Erica J. Benson. *I need out because he wants in the house*: The subject pronoun in *need* and *want* phrasal constructions. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2008-09). Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2009)
- Benson, Erica J., Kyla Bressler, Bridget Brevik, and Heather Sommer. Dialects Research Team: Grammatical Variation in Wisconsin. Roundtable Presentation at English Fest (5/2007) and 3 Poster Presentations at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2007)
- Balkman, Jared and Erica J. Benson. Verging on Merging or niftily shifting? The low back vowels of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2007) and Oral Presentation at UW-System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (4/2007)
- Benson, Erica J., Jared Balkman, Jenna Cushing-Leubner, Moriah Koehler, Anna Moehagen, Jen Peterson. Language Variation and Change in West Central Wisconsin. Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant (AY2005-06). 3 Poster Presentations at UWEC Student Research Day (4/2006)
- Goss, Tammy and Erica J. Benson. Silent service: Specialized submariner speech from WWII to present. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (5/2006)
- Hahn, James and Erica J. Benson. Folk linguistics and sound change in Wisconsin. Blugold Fellow. Poster Presentation at UWEC Student Research Day (5/2006) and Wisconsin English: a folk linguistic perspective. Oral Presentation at English Fest (5/2004)

COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES TAUGHT

Introductory English Linguistics	Topics Structure of English: Phonetics & Phonology
Seminar in Linguistic Research: American Dialects	Topics Language in Society: Early Modern English
Seminar in Linguistic Research: Language & Gender	Topics Language in Society: American Dialects
Busting Language Myths	Introduction to College Writing
Introduction to English Morphology (Word Studies)	Studies in Theory & Culture: Linguistics
The History of the English Language	ESL/EFL Teaching Methodology
Topics Structure of English: Syntax	ESL/EFL Various Courses

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- EDI Tier 2: Human Diversity Forum. UWEC. 12/13/2018
- EDI Tier 2: Language Revitalization in the Ho-Chunk Nation workshop. UWEC. 11/8/2018
- EDI Tier 2: Eliminating Non-Inclusive Language Toward Native Americans workshop. UWEC. 10/16/2018

EDI Tier 2: *The Hate U Give*. Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning book group. UWEC. Fall 2018
 EDI Tier 1: Diversity: Inclusion in the Modern Workplace (EDU) online training. EVERFI. 12/2017
 Campus Security Authority online training. UWEC D2L. 12/2017 and 11/2018
 Chairs/Directors Discussion Group. Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. UWEC. Fall 2017
 Intersections: Preventing Harassment and Sexual Violence (EDU-US) online training. EVERFI. 5/2017
 Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences 2015 Seminar for Department Chairs. 2/19-21/2015
 Connecting your Work to LEAP Wisconsin: A Faculty Collaboratives Conference. Madison, WI. 9/24-25, 2015
 Chair's Council. College of Arts and Sciences. UWEC. 9/2014-present
 Summer Professional Development for Chairs. College of Arts and Sciences. UWEC. 7/2014

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AWARDS AND GRANTS

External Grants & Awards

Wisconsin Humanities Council Major Grant. Wisconsin Englishes. With PIs Joseph Salmons and Thomas Purnell, UW Madison; and others. 2/2007
 Wisconsin Humanities Council Minor Grant. Wisconsin Englishes. With PIs Joseph Salmons and Thomas Purnell, UW Madison; and others. 2/2006
 American Dialect Society: Presidential Honorary Fellow. 1/2002
 Linguistic Society of America: Linguistic Institute Fellow. 6/1999

Selected Internal Grants & Awards

University Research and Creative Activity Grant. Edit Collected Volume: *Language Regard*. UWEC. Fall 2016
 Student Engagement Learning Community. Fostering student engagement in ENGL 321 Topics in the Structure of English. Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. UWEC. 5/2012-12/2012
 Duyfhuizen Professorship in English. English Department and UWEC Foundation. AY 2011-12
 O.W.L. (Older, Wiser Learners) Award. Office of Nontraditional Students. 4/2009
 Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates Grant with Michael J. Fox. Vowel variation in the Chippewa Valley. UWEC. Summer 2009
 Sabbatical: Attitudes toward intralinguistic diversity in liberal arts education. UWEC. AY 2009-10
 University Research and Creative Activity Grant. Grammatical Variation in the Upper Midwest. UWEC. Fall 2007
 Golden Key International Honour Society Honorary Member. UWEC Chapter. 10/2006
 "Big Fish Award" for Outstanding Teaching. Sigma Tau Delta. UWEC Chapter. 5/2006
 Technology Innovation for Education (TIE) Fellow. Teaching and Learning Technology Development Center. UWEC. Spring 2005
 Elizabeth Morris Library Outreach Award. English Department. UWEC. 5/2004

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT SERVICE

University-Wide Initiatives

Faculty Workload Taskforce. Academic Affairs. UWEC. 2018-19

Co-team lead on College of Arts and Sciences Career Readiness and Internship Initiative. Chancellor's Guideposts Initiatives. UWEC. 2017-18

Liberal Education Pilot for K2-Social Sciences Outcome and Rubric, CETL. UWEC. Spring 2014

Transfer Student Degree Audit Analysis. Provost's Initiative. UWEC. Winter 2013

Transcript & Degree Audit Analysis. Provost's Initiative. UWEC. Summer 2011 and Summer 2014

Baccalaureate Portfolio Reading. University Assessment Committee. UWEC. Summer 2007

Selected University & College of Arts and Sciences Committees/Service

University Forum Series Committee. UWEC. 2017-present

Faculty Complaint, Grievance, and Termination Review Committee. UWEC. 2016-present, Vice Chair, 2018-19

Mentor to Visiting Scholars. Faculty Development & Cultural Immersion Program for Kansai Gaidai University, College of Education and Human Sciences. UWEC. 9/2010, 2/2013, and 2/2014

Faculty Awards Committee. UWEC. 8/2010-5/2013

Reviewer of Faculty/Student Collaborative Grants, Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates, and International Fellows Program. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. UWEC. 7/2010-7/2013

Institutional Review Board. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. UWEC. 8/2008-5/2012

Nominating Committee. College of Arts and Sciences. UWEC. 8/2008-5/2009

Selected English Department Committees & Service

Faculty Advisor. English Fest. 8/2012-5/2014

Curriculum Committee. 8/2005-5/2007, 8/2011-5/2014 (Chair, 8/2012-8/2013)

Ad Hoc Assessment Committee. 10/2012-12/2014

Chair Advisory Committee. 8/2011-present

Schedules Committee. 8/2010-present (Chair, 8/2011-8/2012)

Department Personnel Committee. 8/2010-5/2014

Graduate Executive Committee. 8/2008-5/2009

Committee on Committees. 8/2007-5/2009 (Chair, 8/2008-5/2009)

Long-Range Planning Committee. 8/2006-5/2008.

Composition Committee. 8/2004-5/2006

Search Committees

Search Committee (Chair), Visiting Assistant Professor in Writing, Summer 2016 (1), 2017 (1), 2018 (3);

Search Committee (Chair), English Education, 2013-14

Search Committee (Chair), English Education (2 positions), 2010-11

Search Committee, English Department Chair (Internal Search), 10/2010-2/2011

Search Committee (Chair), Linguistics, 2007-08

Search Committee, Spanish Linguistics: 1-year position, Foreign Languages, 6-7/2007

Search Committee, Director of Composition, 2004-05

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

American Dialect Society Nominating Committee. 1/2017-present

Editorial Advisory Committee for *American Speech*. 1/2014-12/2016, 1/2017-present

Referee Abstracts for Linguistic Society of America Annual Meetings, American Dialect Society Annual Conference, and New Ways of Analyzing Variation Annual Conference

Referee article manuscripts for *American Speech* (16 since 2013); *Feminist Teacher* (1 since 2012), *Language in Society* (1 since 2015), and *Journal of Linguistic Geography* (1 since 2016)

Reviewed *The Greek and Latin Roots of English*, fourth edition, for Rowman Littlefield Press. 5/2013

Refereed book manuscript *Language Matters in Wisconsin* for The University of Wisconsin Press. 4/2012

American Dialect Society. Midwest Region. Secretary, 11/2010-11/2013

ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Dialect Society

Linguistic Society of America

North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences