CALICO GRADUATE STUDENT SIG

Virtual CALICO Conference - June 2-6 2021

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A Message from the CALICO President to Graduate Students

Marta González-Lloret
CALICO President
2020-2021
Professor of Applied Linguistics, Dept of LLEA University of Hawai`i, at Mānoa

Dear graduate students,

I am Marta González-Lloret and I am the current CALICO President. I am a professor at the University of Hawaiʻi, Mānoa and have been part of the CALICO community for over 15 years. First, attending the conferences, then presenting, and a few years back I was part of the board for three years and a few years later became Vice-President and now President. Next year I will be Past-President, since it is a rotating position. I became part of CALICO because it was a community dedicated mainly to the uses of technology and language learning. I came from the fields of Applied Linguistics or Second Language Acquisition, while other members come from an education background or even an informational technology (IT) background. For me CALICO always felt like "home". The participants all have a passion for technology and for language learning (many different languages), and for research, materials development, and teaching. Moreover, they are extremely friendly and welcoming, and graduate students are always welcomed and encouraged to participate in all social activities. During these years, many of my colleagues have become dear friends, a type of "academic family", and attending the CALICO conference every year is for me, one of the highlights of my job. I hope you are able to join the next online conference because we will have amazing speakers, but even more, I hope you are able to attend the Seattle Conference in 2022 because that will give you the chance to meet and start forming your own academic family.

A Message from the Grad SIG Chair

Mery Díez-Ortega
Graduate Student SIG Chair 2020-2021, PhD candidate in Second Language Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

I would like to start by saying how much we wish academic life, and personal life, could go back to 'normal' so that we could meet in person and take full advantage of the opportunities that CALICO offers. This year has been challenging for grad students, and I think denying the struggle we are going through somewhat ignores the resilience and perseverance we are developing to stay motivated. A good way to look at the last year is to reflect and list all progress, as small as it may seem. When we look back, I hope we all realize how much we have accomplished. Here are a few reflections from our progress in the Grad SIG:

What has the SIG been up to?

Since our last meeting in June 2020, the Grad SIG has continued collaborating in different projects. Our main goal this year has been to support and grow our student community. We have been sharing resources, events, grants, jobs, and relevant sites on our Facebook and LinkedIn groups. We organized a panel in January on the topic of alternative careers to academia, suggested by a SIG member last June. In addition, as student members of CALICO, we continue to benefit from mentoring, making connections with scholars, discounts, workshops, writing book reviews, and much more. We are also finishing a research synthesis project that was started last year with the former chair, Kris Johnston, as a collaborative research network. Even though personal and professional circumstances have slown down this project, we will be presenting at the virtual CALICO conference in 2021.

A Message from the Grad SIG Co-Chairs

Yue Dong
Graduate Student SIG Co-Chair 2020-2021 PhD in Instructional Technology, Ohio University

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to Mery for her efforts this year. For most of us, it has been a year of unknowns and anxieties. However, it has been an honor and a pleasure for me to work with everyone in the Grad SIG. A few months ago, we hosted a successful online panel discussion on alternative career paths for CALL PhD students. And I thought this topic might be right in line with what everyone is thinking at this particular time: seeking changes and opportunities in the midst of a predicament.

I wish all CALL graduate students success during this special time, and I hope you will continue to follow the other projects of the CALICO Grad SIG.

Susanne DeVore
Graduate Student SIG Co-Chair 2020-2021 PhD candidate Second Language Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

It's been a privilege to work with Mery and the other co-chairs over the past semester! Although the last year has been unpredictable and challenging in many ways, it has also been a really interesting time to be involved in technology for language learning. I hope that everyone is surviving and managing! Despite the challenges, we've tried to make the most of it and to continue to build a community of graduate students with shared interests. All the best to everyone, and feel free to reach out if there are things that you'd like to see the Graduate SIG do in the future!

Denis Melik Tangiyev

Graduate Student SIG Co-Chair 2020-2021
MA in Second Language Studies, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa

It has been an absolute pleasure to get a chance to work with my fellow co-chairs. I love digging my toes deeper into our CALL community and getting to meet the people in our community through workshops, and soon through the CALICO conference! I look forward to finding more opportunities to be able to sit down, even virtually, and meet and discuss our various interest and seeing how we can continue to form these professional bonds and foster collaboration as we all continue throughout our professional and academic lives.

Resources for Graduate Students

Title	Link	Type
CALICO outstanding grad student award **Deadline coming up → February 26th**	http://calico.org/home/awards/	Award
Duolingo Research Grants	https://linguistlist.org/issues/31/31-435/	Award
Language Learning Doctoral Dissertation Research Grants	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/14679922/homepage/grant_programs.htm	Award
American Association of University Women	https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/	Award
ETS Small Grants for Doctoral Research in Second or Foreign Language Assessment	https://www.ets.org/toefl/grants/doctoral_research_grant_second_language	Award
ETS TOEFL Young Students Research Program – Graduate Student Research Grants	https://www.ets.org/toefl/grants/young_students_grad_student_research_grants/	Award
CALICO Conference	https://calico.org/calico-conference-2021/	Conference
IALLT	https://iallt.org/conferences/	Conference
EuroCall	https://www.eurocall-languages.org/conferences/current-conference	Conference

If you know of other grants, conferences, or useful resources please feel free to let us know so we can include them in the future.

Jewels of Wisdom from CALICO Members

Oksana Vorobel

Associate Professor at Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York.
Received her PhD from **Second Language Acquisition and Instructional Technology, University of South Florida**

I am delighted and honored to be featured in the *CALICO Graduate Student SIG Newsletter*. Since my graduation in 2013, I have been teaching ESL writing, linguistics, and language acquisition courses and focusing on Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL), digital literacies, and distance language education in my scholarly work. I joined CALICO in 2016. Since then, CALICO has become my professional home where I could turn to for support, collaboration, and new opportunities. Since 2016, I have attended and participated in all CALICO annual conferences. I have served as a Vice Chair and Chair of the CALICO Second Language Acquisition and Technology (SLAT) and Language Teaching and Learning Technologies (LTLT) SIGs. I am also a Book Review Editor of the *CALICO Journal*.

My advice for current CALICO graduate student members who work on their coursework would be to (1) never hesitate to ask for advice and guidance. Finding a mentor(s) is essential to your academic and professional growth; (2) plan and manage your time wisely. When choosing and developing a project for your course, it is best to complete it in the form of a presentation and/or a publication either at the end of the course or after it. This will allow you to share your work with others, to learn even more from your professors, and to build your CV; (3) be open to new ideas and reflect on your beliefs and biases. It is important to notice, value, and reflect on the moments when you learn new things that challenge your beliefs. At the dissertation stage of the doctoral studies, joining organizations such as CALICO and networking will provide support and resources for finishing a dissertation, finding a job, and growing further as a scholar after graduation. Belonging to a community of scholars is invaluable, and I highly encourage graduate students to join and actively participate in various events CALICO offers.

Frederik Cornillie

Research and valorization manager in educational technology at KU Leuven and imec
https://kulak.kuleuven.be/~u0037921/. *Received his PhD in Linguistics, KU Leuven, Belgium*

After graduating with a dissertation on the effectiveness of corrective feedback in digital games for language learning, I took up the role of research manager in the research group where I carried out my PhD work. Our team carries out interdisciplinary research on educational technology. My job entails defining the long-term strategy of the group with the four professors, searching for funding (i.e., grant writing) and partners (other research groups and companies) to carry out this strategy, managing research projects, and coaching our researchers. We are now a group of about 45 and collaborate with many partners, so this takes a lot of energy. I try to continue to be involved as much as possible in CALL, through research and innovation projects and through teaching: this energizes me most in my job.

CALICO is a space where you meet the people whose papers you read and can talk to them in a very congenial and lively atmosphere. Not only about the research passion you share but also about your professional goals. Developing a career in our field is not an easy task, and it can be helpful to seek advice from peers beyond your institution. CALICO brings together a community of seasoned researchers in CALL, both from academia and industry, who have gone through the questions and choices you may now be facing on your path. For me, joining CALICO has been key in figuring out what I want to do professionally, and in sticking to that plan. Also, interacting with colleagues and friends at CALICO has taught me that we as CALL researchers have a unique set of skills (in research and technology but also in terms of communication, collaboration, …) that can be valuable in many contexts. I'm always looking forward to our next gathering, physical or virtual!

Grad SIG Member Spotlight

We want to congratulate a few these SIG members for their accomplishments!

José Riera

PhD Candidate in Language, Literacy & Technology, College of Education, Washington State University, U.S.

Arnold Green Endowed Scholarship in Education, Laurence J. Peter Memorial Graduate Fellowship in Teacher Education, Douglas W. King Endowed Scholarship, and Viola Vestal Coulter Scholarship. He is "grateful to be part of the CALICO SIG community and the encouragement I receive from Dr. Joy Egbert to pursue my interest in CALL".

Read more about José's work and his recent chapter:

Riera, J.J. (2021). Semiotics Theory. In J. Egbert & M.F. Roe (eds.), Theoretical models for teaching and research (Chapter 16). Available from WSU Open Text

Maggie Berti

PhD Candidate in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, University of Arizona, U.S.

CALICO Robert A. Fischer Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

Maggie has recently published a chapter:

Berti, M. (2020). Best practices for online language teaching with 360-degree videos. In R.E. Ferdig, E. Baumgartner, R. Hartshorne, R. Kaplan-Rakowski, & C. Mouza (Eds.), *Teaching, technology, and teacher education during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Stories from the Field*. Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). https://www.learntechlib.org/p/216903/

Tricia Thrasher

PhD Candidate in the Department of French and Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, U.S.

The Language Learning Dissertation Grant & the Duolingo Dissertation Grant in Language Learning with Technology. Read more about Tricia's achievements here

Sha Liu

PhD Candidate in the School of Education, University of Bristol, U.K.

Duolingo English Test Doctoral Dissertation Research Award

https://blog.duolingo.com/doctoral-award-winners-2020/

Mery Díez-Ortega

PhD Candidate in the Department of Second Language Studies, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa, U.S.

Duolingo Dissertation Grant in Language Learning, featured in Duolingo's blog along with Tricia's grant.

Mery has also co-authored a paper that served as the pilot study to her dissertation:

González-Lloret, M., Díez-Ortega, M. & Payne, S. (2020). Gaming alone or together? L2 beginner-level gaming practices. *Perspectiva*, *38*(2), 1-21

If you want to be featured for your academic achievements in our next newsletter, please fill out this form or contact us at mdiez@hawaii.edu

Past Year in CALICO

This year, CALICO members were able to pick which workshops they wanted to attend from a grand list of 12. It was a week jam-packed with amazing and informative workshops. Members were able to come together from across the world to work together and learn from one another. Having the ability and opportunity to complete these workshops from an online platform allowed for different challenges to arise, but it also allowed us to eliminate the physical barrier of distance and to come together virtually.

Graduate students should always keep an eye out for discounted rates when registering for various workshops!

Below is a list of the variety of workshops offered in January. A full list of the workshops and a brief description of each can be found here.

- Strategic Instructional Design in Times of Emergency: Office 365 and Class Notebook
- Game Exploration, Game Design Frameworks, and Game Prototyping with Twine
- Fundamentals of Online Language Teaching
- A Corpus-based Language Pedagogy for EFL/ESL School Teachers
- Social Media to Further Connections and Communication in Remote Teaching
- Benefits and Challenges of Online Induction for Distance Language Learners
- ANVILL-LTI: Creating Spaces Where Speech Can Flourish
- Extensive TV Viewing: A Pedagogical Implementation in Real Language Classes
- Delivering Teacher Training Online: A Challenge Worth Pursuing
- Developing Chat Bots for Language Learning
- The Myths of Teaching Online
- Teaching Languages with Games: A Practice-based Workshop

Grad SIG Panel: Alternative Career Paths with a PhD in CALL

In January, the Grad SIG organized our first free virtual panel where we had almost 90 grad students registered. In the 75-minute discussion, Dr. Lisa Frumkes, Dr. Scott Payne, and Dr. Geoff LaFlair chatted about their experiences working in both academia and industry, building on each others' anecdotes and advice. One of the reasons for the success of this panel was the speakers' diverse experiences; they all worked at the intersection of language and technology but have varying research interests and jobs throughout their career. Another aspect that made this panel successful was the openness and honesty from the presenters about their experiences, which we don't always get at more formal events.

We have condensed the 75-minute discussion into a summary to be shared with those who could not attend. If you want to check the highlights, check this document. We recognize it was impossible to take notes of all useful details, so we recommend joining us in June for an ongoing discussion on this topic with new speakers. Even if your goal is to work at a university, hearing experiences for experts who have been on both sides is worth the time.

CALICO 2021 Virtual Conference

The CALICO 2021 conference will take place virtually from June 2nd to 6th. There is an amazing lineup of keynote speakers: Dr. Carol Chapelle, Dr. Dorothy Chun, Dr. Mohamed Abdel-Kader, Dr. Robert Godwin-Jones, Dr. Francesca Helm, Dr. Gillian Lord, Dr. Scott Payne, Dr. Steve Torne, and Dr. Robert O'Dowd. Besides paper presentations and workshops, the Grad SIG has organized a panel for graduate students, where we will discuss what to consider when applying for industry jobs, how to make your CV stronger, and pros and cons of working in industry versus academia. If you attended the last graduate panel in January, we hope to see you again! We will have new speakers sharing their experiences and new topics to discuss. If you missed our previous panel, check here for some of its highlights.
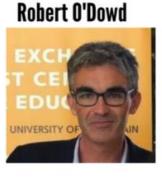
Registration is $75 for student members, with opportunities to volunteer for a waived fee. Check the CALICO website to register and learn more. Below, you will find information about the different ways the SIG will be involved in the conference. In CALICO 2022, we will organize the graduate social event as we do every year, don't miss it!

The Grad SIG at the CALICO 2021 Conference

Panel: Alternative Careers with a PhD in CALL

June 2nd, 12:25pm PTS

University teaching, publishing, attending conferences, and getting tenure are emphasized in our graduate programs. We know what to expect from this job market but, what if we are interested in other professional paths? What if a university job is not our goal or there simply aren't enough jobs in academia? What if we want to explore other alternatives? If you are wondering what working outside academia looks like and want to hear some tips, join us at this graduate panel on June 2nd. Three guest speakers with experience in both contexts will share their stories working outside academia after receiving their doctorate, including tips for industry job application. At the end, there will be some time to answer questions from the audience.

Panelists: TBD

What you can expect from this panel discussion:

1. Practical advice for job applications (e.g., CV, cover letter).
2. How academic skills can transfer to non-academic sectors.
3. A discussion on academic vs. non-academic employment
4. Opportunities to speak directly with members of the CALL community who have experience both working in the industry and academia

Collaborative Research Project: Emerging Technology & L2 Speaking Skills; A Research Synthesis.

June 5th, 12:05pm PTS

This presentation will discuss the findings of a research synthesis of CALL studies regarding the teaching and learning of L2 speaking skills using technology as part of a collaborative research initiative by the CALICO Graduate Student SIG. A review of previous research syntheses of CALL research

uncovered a general lack of empirical studies regarding the teaching of L2 speaking skills using technology (especially concerning languages other than English) (Wang & Vasquez, 2012; Lin, 2014, 2015).

For this paper, CALL studies published between 2010 and 2019 in five top CALL journals were analyzed. Each article was examined and coded based on aspects of oral production investigated, types of technology used, theoretical perspectives, the context and participants, and the methodological choices presented in the article. The findings will be discussed pointing at trends of these last 10 years and suggestions for future research directions in the domain of teaching and learning L2 speaking skills in CALL. This research synthesis has implications relevant to both researchers and practitioners.

Meeting for Graduate Student SIG Board Members

We will be hosting a meeting in June (TBD). At this meeting we will discuss potential new collaborative projects as well as transitioning leadership and accepting new participants as co-chair(s). To join the Graduate Student SIG please join our FB page and our LinkedIn page. If you would like to receive our newsletter and other important CALICO announcements, complete this form to get on our membership email list. See you soon!

Looking at the Bright Side: Pros and Cons of 2020

Not being able for everyone to meet at CALICO, seeing old friends, making new connections, getting feedback on our research in a supportive environment, and sharing our passion at social events are some of the irreplaceable experiences we missed in CALICO 2020. However, there is also a silver lining of virtual conferences and workshops. These events have become more accessible in a way, as more people are able to attend. 2020 has transformed conferences and now presenting and attending is more affordable, in comparison to face to face conferences. We don't have to choose anymore where our limited grad student funding will go. We can attend a talk taking place in Seattle, Japan, or Spain... within days from each other and from the comfort of our 'offices' (aka couches). It also seems like virtual conferences that have had more time to plan are building in more social, meet-n-greet opportunities. Another advantage is that the environment may be less stressful, especially with pre-recorded presentations. I know, it's not the same. But to stay positive, we can think how 2020 will make conferences more accessible, inclusive, and less stressful by providing a form of hybrid presentations and attendance. As much as we want to travel and meet again, there is always a bright side.

A last note

We want to thank everyone who attended our first virtual panel in January, and the people who gave us feedback; all of us learned from the whole experience, from planning to leading the discussion. We are especially grateful for the three panelists who dedicated their time to help grad students; **THANK YOU** Lisa, Geoff, and Scott for sharing your knowledge and experiences with everyone. We are also grateful to the CALICO board, who has been supportive of the Grad SIG initiatives and invited us to attend their board meetings. Last, I (Mery) want to thank Esther, Marta, Oksana, and Frederik for their help, and the board members in the SIG who are making each of these projects come through; Yue, Susanne, Denis, and José, THANK YOU!

Stay connected

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Stay Healthy
Stay Connected
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