

Heather Willson

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POSITIONS HELD

2008-present Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics and English, Brigham Young University

EDUCATION

2008 Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles
Dissertation title: *Subject Positions in Marshallese*
Committee: Anoop Mahajan (Chair), Pamela Munro, Timothy Stowell, Alessandro Duranti, Mark Hale

2002 M.A. in English, concentration in Linguistics, Arizona State University
Thesis title: *The Marshallese Complementizer Phrase*
Committee: Elly vanGeldereren (Chair), Dawn Bates, Karen L. Adams

1996 B.A in English, Brigham Young University

PUBLICATIONS

- Willson, Heather. 2011. Marshallese initial *wh-* questions: a concealed cleft construction. *Proceedings of the 17th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*.
- Willson, Heather, Wendy Baker Smemoe, Jared August, Carmen Fenn, & Bradley B. Miller. 2011. Learning the Marshallese phonological system: The role of orthography. *Proceedings of the 17th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*.
- Willson, Heather. 2010. Passives and resultatives in Marshallese. *Oceanic Linguistics*. 49(1): 233-258.
- Willson, Heather. 2010. Passives and statives in Marshallese: Evidence for two types of “by phrases.” *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*. 16: Iss. 1, Article 25.
- Willson, Heather. 2008. Subject position and the Marshallese restructuring configuration. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*. 14: Iss. 1, Article 27.

Munro, Pamela, Virgil Lewis, and Nicole Gfroerer, with Marcus Smith, Andrew Byrd, Kevin Ryan, Kyle Wanberg, Heather Willson, and Jennifer Fischer. 2007. *Shaap Kaij?* Academic Publishing, UCLA.

Willson, Heather. 2007. Remnant movement and the position of the Marshallese question particle, in Khuong, Richa and Sinha (eds.) *The Fifth Asian GLOW: Conference Proceedings*, CIIL (Mysore) and FOSSSIL (New Delhi).

Willson, Heather. 2006. Restructuring and word order in Marshallese. ms, UCLA.

Willson, Heather. 2005. Marshallese yes/no questions and remnant movement. *UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics: Proceedings of the 12th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*. 12: 421-435.

Willson, Heather. 2004. Remnant movement and the Marshallese question particle. ms, UCLA.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Willson, Heather. 2010. Marshallese *wh*- questions as pseudoclefts. *Syntax of the World's Languages IV*, Lyon, France.

Willson, Heather. 2005. Remnant movement and the Marshallese question particle. *5th Asian GLOW*, Delhi, India.

NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Willson, Heather. 2011. Concealed pseudoclefts in Marshallese *wh*- questions. *WCCFL 29*, Tucson, AZ.

Willson, Heather. 2011. Marshallese *in* passives: evidence for the smuggling approach to passive. *18th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*, Boston, MA.

Baker Smemoe, Wendy, Heather Willson, Jared August, Carmen Fenn, & Bradley B. Miller. 2010. Learning the Marshallese phonological system: The role of orthography. *17th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*, Stony Brook, NY.

Willson, Heather. 2010. Marshallese initial *wh*- questions: a concealed cleft construction. *17th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*, Stony Brook, NY.

Willson, Heather. 2009. The Kiche morpheme *täq*: A non-phrase final pluralizer. *Linguistic Association of the Southwest Annual Meeting*, Provo, UT.

Willson, Heather. 2009. Passives and statives in Marshallese: Evidence for two types of *by* phrases. *33rd Penn Linguistics Colloquium*, Philadelphia, PA.

- Willson, Heather. 2008. Marshallese passives. (poster) *82nd meeting of the Linguistics Society of America*, Chicago, IL.
- Willson, Heather. 2007. Word order and restructuring in Marshallese. *37th Western Conference on Linguistics*, San Diego, CA.
- Willson, Heather. 2007. Subject position and the Marshallese restructuring configuration. *31st Penn Linguistics Colloquium*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Willson, Heather. 2007. Restructuring and subject position in Marshallese. *81st meeting of the Linguistics Society of America*, Anaheim, CA.
- Willson, Heather. 2006. Marshallese clause structure and subject agreement. *80th meeting of the Linguistics Society of America*, Albuquerque, NM.
- Willson, Heather. 2005. Marshallese yes/no questions and remnant movement. *12th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*, Los Angeles, CA.
- Willson, Heather. 2002. The Marshallese complementizer phrase. *Arizona State University Graduate Linguistics/TESL Symposium*, Tempe, AZ.
- Willson, Heather. 2001. Spatial Relationships in Marshallese. *Arizona State University Graduate Linguistics/TESL Symposium*, Tempe, AZ.

INVITED TALKS

- Willson, Heather. 2007. Restructuring and subject position in Marshallese. Arizona State University.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2010 | Linguistics 430 Learning Outcome Committee Chair |
| 2010 | Linguistics 430 Learning Outcome Committee Chair |
| 2009-present | Marshallese Language Expert, Syntactic Structures of the World's Languages, http://sswl.railsplayground.net |
| 2009-2010 | Linguistics Department Faculty Award Committee |
| 2008-present | Graduate Student Society Faculty advisor |
| 2005 | Organizing Committee Member, the 12 th Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association, UCLA |

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2011 ORCA Grant, Brigham Young University
Research advisor for Marco Mora Huizar, \$1500 award
- 2010 Mentoring Environment Grant, Brigham Young University
Granted \$20,000 for research project on Marshallese second language acquisition
- 2010 Humanities College Research Grant, Brigham Young University
Granted \$600 for research project on Marshallese *wh*- questions
- 2007-2008 Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA
- 2007 Quality of Graduate Education Fellowship, UCLA
Granted funds for fieldwork in the Marshall Islands
- 2007 Language Research Fellowship, UCLA
Granted funds for fieldwork in the Marshall Islands
- 2006 Lenart Graduate Travel Fellowship, UCLA
Granted funds for fieldwork in the Marshall Islands
- 2005 Linguistics Department LSA Fellowship, UCLA
- 2005 Language Research Fellowship, UCLA
Granted funds for fieldwork on Marshallese
- 2003 Summer Research Mentorship, with Prof. Anoop Mahajan, UCLA
- 2002-2003, '05-06 Pauley Foundation Fellowship, UCLA

UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Linguistics 330 *Introduction to Linguistics*
Linguistics 430 *Theoretical Syntax*
Linguistics 602 *Foundations: Structure*
English Language 325 *The Grammar of English*
English Language 223 *Introduction to English*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Linguistics 1 *Introduction to the Study of Language*. TA and Instructor
Linguistics 20 *Introduction to Linguistics*. TA and Instructor

Linguistics 110 *Introduction to Historical Linguistics*. TA
Linguistics 114 *American Indian Linguistics*. TA
Linguistics 120B *Syntax I*. TA
Linguistics 127 *Syntactic Typology and Universals*. TA
Linguistics 495 *College Teaching of Linguistics*. Instructor

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Instructor, Elite English Camp. Seoul, Korea
Instructor, Rio Salado College. Tempe, AZ
Instructor & Curriculum Designer, Hi.English.com. Tempe, AZ

FIELDWORK

Summer 2006, 2007, 2010: Research conducted on Marshallese in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, 2004-2006: Fieldwork on Kiche, Los Angeles, CA
2001-present: Fieldwork on Marshallese, Los Angeles, CA and Salt Lake City, UT
1996-1998: Missionary in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia (non-linguistic related)

THESIS COMMITTEES

READER

Workman, Jeremy. 2009. Topicalization in Malagasy: Effects of teaching Malagasy as a topic language. [M.A., Linguistics]