

# Daniel F. Suslak

# Curriculum Vitae

Department of Anthropology  
Indiana University  
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## EDUCATION

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2005 Joint Ph.D. Anthropology & Linguistics, University of Chicago  
1996 M.A. Anthropology, University of Chicago  
1993 B.A. Linguistics, Reed College (Portland, Oregon)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Youth & adolescence, indigenous youth, socialization  
Sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, morphosyntactic typology, ethnopoetics  
Mixe-Zoquean languages, Mesoamerica

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2005-pres Indiana University Department of Anthropology. Associate Professor (July 2011 - present); Assistant Professor (2005-2011); Affiliated faculty with the IU Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies; Adjunct faculty in the IU Latino Studies program (2007-pres).

2011-pres Director, Minority Languages & Cultures Program, Indiana University Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies.

2006-2011 Language Coordinator, Minority Languages & Cultures Program, Indiana University Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies.

2003-2006 Archivist for Professor Emeritus Norman McQuown, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago.

2002 University of Virginia. Visiting Lecturer, Department of Anthropology

1997-2003 Teaching Assistant/Lector, Department of Linguistics and Committee on Latin American Studies, University of Chicago.

1996-pres Research Associate, Project for the Documentation of the Languages of Mesoamerica.

## GRANTS AND HONORS

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- 2011 IU CLACS Faculty Travel Grant.
- 2009 Indiana University Trustees' Teaching Award.
- 2009 IU Overseas Conference Fund Travel Grant.
- 2007 Distinguished Paper Award for the best publication in *Cultural Studies of Science Education* in 2007 (first author: Alandeom Oliveira, with Troy Sadler)
- 2006 IU Short Term Faculty Exchange Program with CIESAS (Mexico)
- 2006 College Arts & Humanities Institute (Indiana University), Conference Grant: "Acting on Indigenous Rights, Acting out Indigenous Rites: A Forum on Minority Languages and Cultures in Latin America."
- 2006 Overseas Studies Program Development Grant (Indiana University): "Heritage & Cultural Diversity in Oaxaca, Mexico."
- 2005 Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (Indiana University)
- 2000-01 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Research Grant.
- 1993-97 Dean's Fellowship, Division of Social Sciences, University of Chicago.  
Century Fellowship, University of Chicago.
- 1993 Phi Beta Kappa.
- 1989-93 President's Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship, Reed College.
- 1988-89 National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Reed College.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2011 Ayapan echoes: Linguistic persistence and loss in Tabasco, Mexico. *American Anthropologist* 113(4):569-81.
- 2010 Battered Spanish, eloquent Mixe: form and function of Mixe difrasismos. *Anthropological Linguistics* 52(1):80-103.
- 2009 The Sociolinguistic Problem of Generations. *Language & Communication* 29 (3):199-209.
- 2007 Alandeom W. Oliveira, Troy D. Sadler, and Daniel F. Suslak. The linguistic construction of expert identity in professor–student discussions of science. *Cultural Studies of Science Education* 2:119-150.
- 2007 Alandeom W. Oliveira, Troy D. Sadler, and Daniel F. Suslak. Forum: the linguistic construction of expert identity in professor–student discussions of science (reply to commentary by Gordon Wells & Neil Mercer). *Cultural Studies of Science Education* 2:165-170.
- 2004 The Story of Ö: Orthography and Cultural Politics in the Mixe Highlands. *Pragmatics* 13(4):551-563.

**Book Chapter**

- 2000 "The Woman and the Hawk": A Guayabaleño Story. In Kay Sammons, Joel Sherzer, eds. *Translating Native Latin American Verbal Art: Ethnopoetics and Ethnography of Speaking*. The Smithsonian Series of Studies in Native American Literatures. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press.

**Peer-Reviewed Proceedings**

- 1998 "The burning old woman": Zoque explanations of the eruption of Volcán Chichonal. *Proceedings from SALSA V — Symposium about Language and Society, Austin*. Austin: Texas Linguistics Forum, University of Texas.
- 1997 Chiasmus and role-reversal in a Guayabal Zoque folktale. *Proceedings from SALSA IV — Symposium about Language and Society, Austin*. Austin: Texas Linguistics Forum, University of Texas.
- 1996 (with L.A. Lane and J. Denton). The validity and reliability of phonetic transcription for sociolinguistics and dialectology. *Proceedings from SALSA III — Symposium about Language and Society - Austin*. Austin: Texas Linguistics Forum, University of Texas.

**Solicited Reviews**

- 2009 *Shamans, Witches and Maya Priests: Native Religion and Ritual in Highland Guatemala* by Krystyna Deuss. 2007. London: Guatemalan Maya Centre. *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews*.
- 2000 *Talking Heads: Language, Metalanguage and the Semiotics of Subjectivity* by Benjamin Lee. *American Ethnologist* 27(1):229-30.

**Other Publications and Manuscripts**

- under rev. *Diccionario Analítico del Ayapaneco*. México: INALI.
- n.d. *An Analytical Dictionary of Ayapanec Gulf Zoquean*. Boulder, CO: University of Colorado Press.
- n.d. *One Mouth One Gut: Totontepecano Language & Culture*. Book manuscript.
- n.d. The Chontalification of Ayapanec Gulf Zoquean. To be submitted to the *International Journal of American Linguistics*.
- 2005 The Future of Totontepecano Mixe: Youth and Language in the Mixe Highlands. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Chicago Departments of Anthropology & Linguistics, Chicago, Illinois. Committee: Michael Silverstein (chair), Susan Gal, Amy Dahlstrom, William Hanks (UC Berkeley).
- 2002 A Grammatical Sketch of Totontepecano Mixe (Anyükojmit Ayùük). Project for the Documentation of the Languages of Mesoamerica (PDLMA) Working Paper, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA/CIESAS-Mexico.

- 1996 (with L.A. Lane, J. Denton and R. Knippen). Reaching criterion in phonetic transcription: validity and reliability of non-native speakers. D.S. Embick and M. Meyerhoff (eds.). *Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, vol. 3(1). Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Dept. of Linguistics.
- 1996 "The Old Woman Who Burns": Zoque Myth and Moral Order. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, University of Chicago Department of Anthropology, Chicago, Illinois. Readers: Michael Silverstein, William Hanks
- 1996 Bald Assertions: on language and politics in Guayabal. *Chicago Anthropology Exchange* 13 (Spring):46-61.

## LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

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(invited lectures are marked with an asterisk)

- 2011 The Voice of the Cloudforest: Mixe Ethnopoetic Consciousness. To be presented at the 110th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. November 18, 2011.
- \*2011 Chronicle of a Language Death Foretold. University of Michigan Linguistic Anthropology Lab, Ann Arbor, Michigan, September 29, 2011.
- \*2011 My Precious Governor: Scandalous Language in Contemporary Mexican Politics. LinguaGenesis Workshop, Brown University Department of Anthropology, Providence, Rhode Island, May 20, 2011.
- \*2010 El Ayapaneco (Nuumte Oote), un idioma Mixe-Zoqueano: Sus características principales y estado actual. Presented at the Coloquio Internacional: Tendencias de la Investigación Antropológica e Historica en Tabasco, Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico, December 1, 2010.
- 2010 The Guardians of Tabascan Culture. Presented at the 109th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 17, 2010.
- 2010 Una Boca una Barriga: Difrasmos Anyükojmit. Presented at the IV Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas "Thomas C. Smith-Stark." Oaxaca, México. April 16-18, 2010.
- 2009 The Grandparent Effect in the Sierra Mixe. Presented at the 108th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 5, 2009.
- \*2009 Talking about my Generation: The Language of Adolescence in the Sierra Mixe. Invited lecture presented at the Eastern Illinois University Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Charleston, Illinois, September 18, 2009.
- 2009 Ayapan Echoes: Language Death in the Media Spotlight. Presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> International Latin American Studies Association Congress, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11-14, 2009.
- 2009 (with Serafin Coronel-Molina) Report on the First Biennial Symposium on Teaching Indigenous Languages of Latin America (STILLA). Presented at the Title VI 50th Anniversary Conference, Washington DC, March 19-21, 2009.

- \*2008 La importancia de Anyükojmit Ayöök (Mixe Totontepecano). Centro Cultural Kong Oy, Totontepec, Villa de Morelos, Mixes, Oaxaca, September 19, 2008.
- \*2008 Ecos del ayapaneco. Una lengua mixe-zoque de Tabasco en muy alto riesgo de extinción. Biblioteca Burgoa, Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, Mexico, May 30, 2008.
- \*2008 Ayapan Echoes: Linguistic Persistence & Loss in Tabasco, Mexico. Keynote Address at the 2008 Graduate Student Conference, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Indiana University, March 1, 2008.
- 2007 (with Alandeom Oliveira). Analyzing Language, Interaction and Outcomes in an Inquiry-Based Classroom. Presented at the 2007 Indiana University Science Education Symposium, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, March 23, 2007.
- 2007 "Pinche bola de ratas": Scandalous Language in Contemporary Mexico. Presented at Obscenity: An Interdisciplinary Discussion, The Obermann Center for Advanced Studies in the Humanities 2007 Symposium, Iowa City, Iowa, March 3, 2007.
- 2006 "Que asquerosidad es esto": Scandalous Language and Linguistic Scandals in Contemporary Mexico. Presented at the 105nd annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, San Jose California, November 18, 2006.
- 2006 Indigenous Youth and Indigenous Languages in Oaxaca and Beyond. CLACS-Latino Studies Brown Bag Series, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, April 14, 2006.
- 2006 (with Jorge Tino). Lenguas mesoamericanas: ritos y retos. Presented at "Acting on Indigenous Rights, Acting out Indigenous Rites": An International Forum on Indigenous Rights and Cultural Expression in Latin America. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, April 6, 2006.
- 2006 Indigenous youth and the future of indigenous language use. Presented at the XI Simposio Interamericano de Investigación Etnográfica en Educación, Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 21, 2006.
- 2005 The sociolinguistic problem of generations. Presented at the 104nd annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Washington, DC.
- \*2005 El desarrollo del Mixe Totontepecano... y su futuro. Biblioteca Burgoa. Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, Mexico. December 16, 2005.
- 2005 The Lengueros of Ayapa. Presented at the 2005 Workshop on American Indian Languages (WAIL), Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2005 Migration, mountains, and Mixe senses of place. Presented at the 2005 American Ethnological Society Meetings, San Diego, CA.
- 2003 The social life of slang in the Sierra Mixe. Presented at the 102nd annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2002 The Story of Ö: Orthography and Cultural Politics in the Mixe Highlands. Presented at the 101st annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2002 Totontepecano youth and the sociolinguistic problem of generations. Paper presented at the Semiotics: Culture in Context Workshop. University of Chicago, Dept. of Anthropology, Chicago, IL, November 11, 2002.

- \*2002 Young people's Mixe: Language change and generational difference in an indigenous Mexican language community. Presented at the University of South Carolina Dept. of Anthropology Colloquium, Columbia, SC, May 3, 2002.
- 2002 "A Certain Manly Beauty": Mixe-Spanish language contact. Presented at the University of Virginia linguistic anthropology workshop, Charlottesville, VA, March 19, 2002.
- 2001 From *Ně'm* to *Něviinm*: Totontepecano Mixe humor and migration. Presented at the 100th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2000 *Tukpum tuk'üü'v*: pure Mixe, battered Spanish and incipient bilingualism in retrospect. Paper presented at the 2nd annual Chicago-Michigan linguistic anthropology conference, Chicago, IL.
- 1999 *Pu' ti!* On the spread of the dismissive particle *pu'* in Totontepecano Mixe. Paper presented at the first annual Chicago-Michigan linguistic anthropology conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 1998 Toward an ethnohistory of Mixe-Spanish communication. Paper presented at the 97th annual American Anthropological Association meetings, Philadelphia, PA.
- 1997 "The burning old woman": Zoque explanations of the eruption of Volcán Chichonal. Presented at the 3rd annual Symposium about Language and Society, Austin (SALSA). Austin, TX.

#### CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS

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- 2012 Co-organizer and Chair for a session entitled "Linguistic Legacies and Expectations." To be held at the 2012 Latin American Studies Association Congress, San Francisco, CA, May 23-26. Proposal accepted on October 15, 2011.
- 2011 Chair and discussant for session entitled, "Mediating Culture: Language, Religion and Public Opinion," for the 5th Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Association Symposium, Indiana University, Bloomington, February 25, 2011.
- 2011 Discussant & Participant. LinguaGenesis Workshop, Brown University Department of Anthropology, Providence, Rhode Island, May 20-21, 2011.
- 2010 Panelist. Roundtable Discussion: "Saving the Lore" Version 2.0?: Sustainability, Heritage Studies, Cultural Preservation and Development. Held at the 109th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 19, 2010.
- 2010 Moderator and chair for session entitled "Lenguas Mixe-Zoque." IV Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas "Thomas C. Smith-Stark." Oaxaca, México. April 16-18, 2010.
- 2010 Chair and discussant for session entitled, "The Words We Use," for the 4th Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Association Symposium, Indiana University, Bloomington, February 19-20, 2010.
- 2009 Panel chair for session entitled "Intergenerational Language Negotiations" for the 108th annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 5, 2009.

- 2008 Panel chair & discussant at the first Symposium on the Teaching of Indigenous Languages of Latin America (STILLA), Bloomington, Indiana, August 14, 2008.
- 2007 Invited Speaker—"Can frenemies become colleagues? Managing professional friendships and rivalries." Preparing Future Faculty Conference, Indiana University. February 9, 2007.
- 2006 Invited response to paper by Mary Bucholtz (University of California, Santa Barbara), entitled "Guey: Slang, affiliation, and masculinity among Latino migrant teenagers." At Honorification and Enregisterment in Discursive Practice: A Conference in Honor of Susan U. Philips. University of Chicago, June 6-7, 2006.
- 2006 Invited participant in the Working Session on Language Variation, University of Maryland Center for the Advanced Study of Language, April 14, 2006.
- 2006 Conference co-organizer—Acting on Indigenous Rights/Acting out Indigenous Rites, Indiana University, Bloomington, April 6-7, 2006.
- 2006 Panel Co-organizer—"Bad Language" for 105th annual AAA Meeting, San Jose, CA. December 2006 (with Jillian Cavanaugh) 2001 Panel Co-organizer—"Linguistic anthropological perspectives on joking and identity" for 100th annual AAA Meeting, Washington, DC. December 2001 (with Jennifer Dickinson).
- 1998 Panel Co-organizer—"Divided eloquence: indigenous communicative strategies and irreducible ambiguities in colonial Mesoamerica" for 97<sup>th</sup> annual AAA Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. November 1998 (with David Tavarez).
- 1997-98 Workshop Coordinator—The Language and Society Workshop. Sponsored by the Council for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Chicago.
- 1996-97 Co-founder of the Workshop on the Anthropology of Latin America. Sponsored by the Council for the Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Chicago.

## FIELD RESEARCH

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Ayapaneco dictionary project (Tabasco, Mexico). Dates: June 2004-Dec 2004, June 2005, July 2007, August 2008, July 2009. Funded by the Project for the Documentation of the Languages of Mesamerica (PDLMA).

Totontepecano Mixe language and culture (Oaxaca, Mexico). Dates: Aug 1998, Aug 1999, Jan 2000-April 2001, Aug 2002, July 2005. 2000-2001 field research was funded by Wenner-Gren Foundation Gr. # 6639. 2005 research was funded by an Indiana University summer faculty fellowship.

Totontepecano Mixe. Research conducted under the auspices of the Project for the Documentation of the Languages of Mesamerica (PDLMA), Terence Kaufman & John Justeson, PIs. Dates: June-July 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003.

Chiapas Zoque (Chiapas, Mexico). Dates: June-Aug 1991, June-July 1992, June-July 1994. Summer 1991 work was partially funded by the Max Planck Institute, Berlin.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Manuscript reviews for American Anthropologist (fall 2005); American Ethnologist (fall 2007, spring 2009, fall 2009, spring 2011); Anthropology & Education Quarterly (fall 2010, spring 2011); IULC Working Papers (spring 2008); International Journal of Applied Linguistics (spring 2009); Journal of Linguistic Anthropology (summer 2008, fall 2009, spring 2010); Language & Communication (spring 2006); Language & Society (fall 2005, spring 2006); Language Sciences (summer 2010); Memorias del Coloquio Belmar (spring 2006, 1 chapter); Memorias del Coloquio Fernandez de Miranda (summer 2010, 2 chapters)

Fellowship selection: Indiana University International Enhancement Grant (2006-2008); Indiana University Latin American Fellowship selection committee (2007-2008); Indiana University Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies Academic Year and Summer FLAS fellowships (2006-2008); Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship reviewer (Dec 2010- Jan 2011; Dec 2011-Jan 2012); IU OVPIA Internal Exchange Program with CIESAS (Mexico) and UCR (Costa Rica) (Nov 2011)

Grant Reviews: Outside review of two NSF-NEH Documenting Endangered Languages grant (fall 2008 & fall 2010); Outside review of two grant applications for the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP), administered by the School of Oriental & African Studies in London (summer 2010)

Recent Departmental and University Service: IU COLL Academic Fairness Committee (2011-2012); IU CLACS Steering Committee (2010-pres); Chair of Anthropology Communications Committee (2010-2012), Director, Oaxacan Heritage & Diversity Program Faculty Director (2009-2010), Graduate Admission Committee (2005, 2011-2012), Salary & Advancement Committee (2005-2007, 2010-2011); Graduate Review Committee (2006-2008), Undergraduate Affairs Committee (2009-2010)

### Public Outreach

- Interviews with TV Azteca (July 2007), Reuters news service (July 2007), el Milenio Newspaper (December 2010), The Guardian UK newspaper (April 2011), Notimex (April 2011), Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (April 2011), Newstalk Radio Ireland (April 2011), McClatchy Newspapers (April 2011) about Ayapaneco language documentation project and endangered Mexican languages.
- Led two day-long sessions for the "Scientific Modeling for Inquiring Teachers Network" (SMITN) in which I worked with 24 K-6 level science teachers in the Monroe County Community School Corporation on how to analyze/improve classroom discourse.
- Radio interview about political crisis in Oaxaca on WFHB Radio, Bloomington, Indiana, (August 2006).
- Radio interview about Mixe research, Radio Plantón, Oaxaca City (December 2005).



## STUDENT SUPERVISION

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### Doctoral Committee Chair

- Evelyn Dean-Olmsted (Anthropology), Fall 2011

### Doctoral Committee Member

- Carol Subiño Sullivan (Anthropology), Fall 2011
- Gregory Newall (Hispanic Linguistics), Fall 2011
- Noemi Waldheubel (Anthropology), Fall 2010
- Sarah Vander Zanden (Education), Fall 2010
- Polly Spiegel (Anthropology), Spring 2009
- Alandeom Oliveira (Science Education), Summer 2008

### Master's Committees

- Ingrid Fichtenburg (Anthropology), Fall 2010
- Philip Wagner (AAADS), Spring 2008
- Rachel Gonzalez (Folklore), Fall 2007; (Anthropology), Spring 2008
- Kaileah Christie (Latin American Studies), Fall 2006

### Bachelor's Degree Honors Thesis Committees

- Erika Heidewald (IMP), defended senior project in Fall 2009, advisor
- Olga Liapis-Muzzy (Intl. Studies) defended honor's thesis in Fall 2007, advisor
- Philip Shelton (Intl. Studies) defended honor's thesis in Spring 2007, reader

### Mexican Graduate Students/Native Speakers of Mixe

- Juventino Santiago Jiménez, MA in lingüística indoamericana, CIESAS, México, Summer 2010, external reader
- Godofredo Santiago Gervasio, MA in lingüística indoamericana, CIESAS, México, Spring 2008, external reader

## COURSES TAUGHT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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### Indiana University. Department of Anthropology

- Documenting Endangered Languages (graduate seminar)
- Ethnography of Communication (graduate seminar)
- Language & Culture (graduate seminar)
- Language & Culture (undergraduate lecture)
- Bad Language
- Endangered Languages in the Americas
- Mesoamerican Languages
- Language, Law, & Gender
- Culture & Society (Intro to Sociocultural Anthropology)
- The Anthropology of Youth & Adolescence
- Peoples of Mexico
- Heritage & Cultural Diversity in Oaxaca, Mexico (summer field course)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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The American Anthropological Association (AAA)

The Linguistics Society of America (LSA)

The American Ethnological Society (AES)

The Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA)

The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA)

**LANGUAGES** Spanish (fluent), Mixe (fair), French (basic), Aymara (basic)