

Diane Lillo-Martin (Linguistics)

UConn Humanities Institute Fellows' Public Talk
March 31, 2016 -- 4:30-6:00 PM
AUSTIN 301

“Sign Language Acquisition: Archiving and Sharing”



Documenting, preserving, and sharing cultural outputs can facilitate study as well as recognize and honor the human groups who are the sources. In the case of language, corpora are an invaluable source of data. For sign languages, corpora may include digitized video of signers; for research purposes, such video should be accompanied by annotations to permit machine readability. The data Lillo-Martin has collected include videos of Deaf, signing children who are acquiring American Sign Language (ASL) natively from their Deaf parents, along with detailed annotations of child and adult language use. In this presentation she will describe steps to establish a digital archive for the preservation and sharing of sign language data, and the current status of the project.

Diane Lillo-Martin is a Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Connecticut, where she has taught for almost 30 years and served as Department Head for 12½. She is affiliated with Haskins Laboratories and the CT Institute of Brain and Cognitive Sciences as well as the UConn Humanities Institute.