



## Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all are keeping safe and well.

So much has changed in the months since our last *Words in the World Newsletter*. At the same time, I am struck by how periods such as these bring out the importance of community and our shared values. It is clear that in order to support the advancement of the next generation of research leaders, we need to prioritize opportunities for creativity, creating new knowledge, and translating that knowledge to serve the needs of our communities.

Certainly, the past months have highlighted the centrality of communication, our need to work together, and our need to train for the unexpected. It has been a pleasure for me to learn from others during our *Open Office Hours*, and to see the innovative new applications such as *WritLarge* developed in the Network. I am very excited to hear about the new work of trainees at our upcoming *Words in the World Online Conference*. I warmly invite you to encourage trainees within your institutions to submit an abstract at the beginning of August so that they can share their developing work at the online conference in October.

With very best wishes,

Gary Libben

## Good news and opportunities from across the network

Across our network we've all experienced, at minimum, a great upheaval of 2020 research plans. All of our in-person training and conference events have been postponed. This includes the 12th International Meeting on the Mental Lexicon which has been rescheduled to October 12-15, 2021. However, we have been encouraged to hear about how our colleagues have quickly adapted to a rapidly changing environment.

### *Open Office Hours*

We're humbled by the response we've received from our colleagues regarding our Open Office Hour activities. So far we've hosted 8 events with colleagues participating live from more than 15 countries! We are pleased to announce that the next Open Office Hour, *Incorporating Neuropsychological Tests into Experimental Research*, will be held on July 28 at 12 p.m. EST (GMT -4). For more information, visit <http://wordsintheworld.ca/home/open-office-hours/>.

If you are interested in hosting an Open Office Hour, we would be happy to hear from you!

### *WritLarge App Announcement*

The Reading Lab at McMaster University is happy to announce the launch of WritLarge (<https://akkyro.shinyapps.io/writlarge/>). This web-based application is designed to facilitate social mobility and relieve social isolation of

older individuals through story-telling, writing, and sharing. This tool will provide older adults with a virtual community and an outlet to voice their experiences and engage with other community members. WritLarge also serves as a research tool for documenting and analyzing experiences and testimonies of living through the COVID-19 pandemic. Feel free to try out the WritLarge app, spread the word about it and send us your feedback. For questions and comments contact Aki-Juhani Kyröläinen ([akkyro@gmail.com](mailto:akkyro@gmail.com)) or Victor Kuperman ([vickup@mcmaster.ca](mailto:vickup@mcmaster.ca)).

## *Postdoctoral Opportunity Announcement*

The Language and Communication Research Lab/McGill University and Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital-Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation and the Mental Lexicon Lab/CRIUGM and University of Montreal are offering a joint postdoctoral position for 1 year, with a possibility of a 1-year extension. The application deadline is August 1, 2020.

Prospective candidates are expected to conduct psycholinguistic and/or neurolinguistic original research not only in the lab, but also in real world environments. The postdoctoral fellow is expected to actively contribute to ongoing Words in the World research in the two labs and to be involved in lab and research centre activities across the two sites. Primary tasks include conceptualizing, designing, and conducting research projects, and preparing findings for publication.

For more information about the position and how to apply, view the full job posting on the Words in the World website: [postdoctoral research position](#).

## *Words in the World International Conference 2020*

We are looking forward to the virtual Words in the World (WoW) International Conference! This conference will offer a venue for the communication of ideas, intellectual exchange, and networking for trainees and others across the network.

This conference will take place online October 16-18, 2020 and will include scholarly presentations as well as discussion panels. The conference will strive to create presentation opportunities for trainees (e.g., undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, recent graduates and others). We encourage students and postdoctoral fellows from all over the world to present their in-progress or completed work at this conference and engage in conversations with their colleagues on academic and non-academic topics. Papers can, of course, include a mix of trainees and faculty members as authors.

Submissions are currently open. Read the full call for submissions [here](#) and the abstract guidelines [here](#).

Questions? You can contact the organizing committee at [wordsintheworldconference@gmail.com](mailto:wordsintheworldconference@gmail.com).

For more information about upcoming opportunities for involvement across the Words in the World network, visit our website at: <http://wordsintheworld.ca/announcements-updates/>.

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