

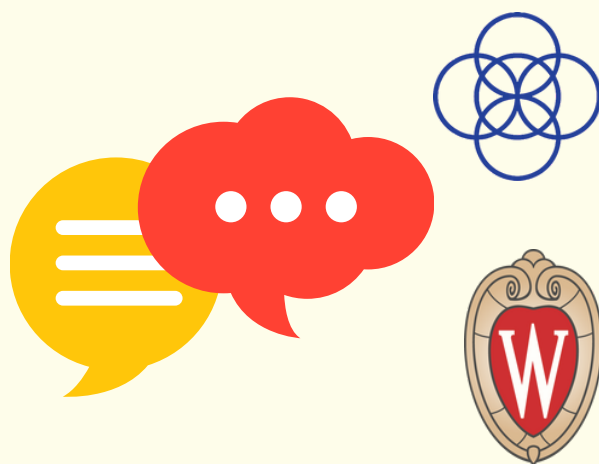
LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND BILINGUALISM LAB

NEWSLETTER**SUMMER 2025**

Welcome to the official LAB Lab Newsletter! We would like to start by thanking all of the families who have participated in our studies and continuously supported us. Continue reading to find out what we have been up to this Summer!

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MEET OUR SUMMER 2025 TEAM!

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LAB MANAGER and SLP



DAVE CURTIS

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CLARA MERKEL

DOCTORAL STUDENTS



EMMA LIBERSKY



CAITLYN SLAWNY



EMILY BAGAN



EMILY HANSEN



CHENELLE WALKER



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RESEARCH ASSISTANTS



EVELYN
ANTON



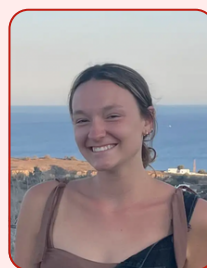
SARA
DONOSO



ABEA
FOBATE



DECLAN
HALLORAN



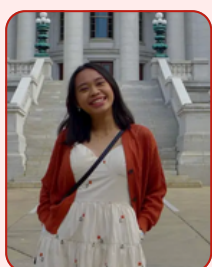
MADDIE
HAUENSTEIN



YANA
KRUTNYK



JAKE
LI



LEANNE
LOW



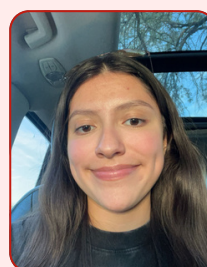
KATHARINE
MEYER



ZOE
NICKCHEN



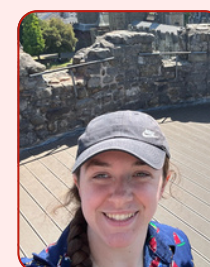
JANICE
PENG



LUPITA
PEREZ



NORA
SEVERSON



MAGGIE
THOMAS

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY DREAM BUS: SPANISH BILINGUAL STORY TIMES

This summer, the LAB Lab had the opportunity to accompany the Madison Public Library's Dream Bus during some of their stops. The Dream Bus is a mobile library that travels around Madison, making stops at community centers, apartment buildings, and schools. Offering library cards on-site and stocked with around 2,700 books, the Dream Bus increases access to library services for the Madison-area community and has something for everyone - children, teens, and adults, alike!

Ricardo Marroquín hosts the Dream Bus's Spanish Bilingual story times. He incorporates song and dance in his story times and welcomes families of all language backgrounds!

Click [here](#) to see where the Dream Bus is heading this Fall!



CENTRO HISPANO: MERCADITO



Janice, Clara, and Zoe point out a rainbow during Mercadito!

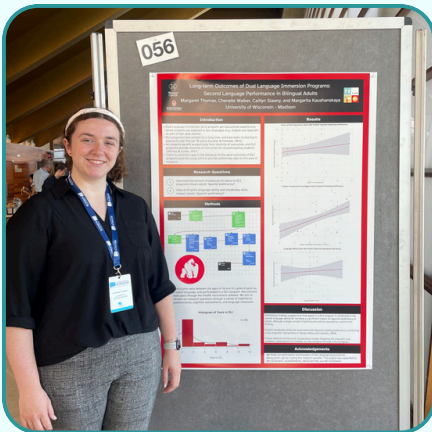
Every Thursday from May through October, Centro Hispano hosts Mercadito, a Latinx/e community gathering and market. There is fresh produce, delicious foods, music, games, and crafts, creating a welcoming and open space to celebrate cultural heritage and community. This summer, the LAB Lab participated in Mercadito where we had the opportunity to interact and engage with families in the community! We congratulate Centro Hispano in celebrating their 10th anniversary of Mercadito this year!

CONFERENCES

This summer, our research assistants and doctoral students had the opportunity to showcase their research, explore cutting-edge research, and connect with leading researchers in child language, child phonology, and bilingualism at the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders (SRCLD), the International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB), and the International Child Phonology Conference (ICPC).

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON BILINGUALISM (ISB)

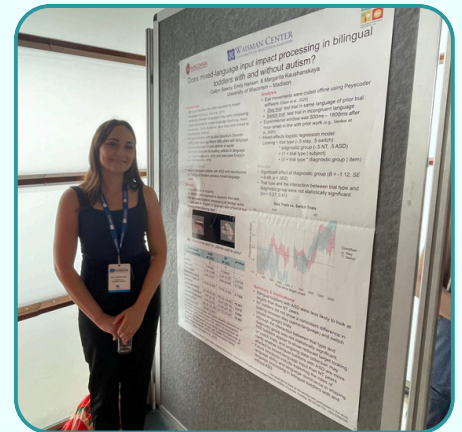
Some of our students took their work internationally to Donostia-San Sebastián, Spain, from June 9-13, 2025, for the International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB), a conference dedicated to research on bilingualism. Doctoral student Emily Hansen and research assistant Maggie Thomas presented posters, while doctoral student Emily Bagan delivered her first conference talk!



Maggie Thomas presents "Long-term Outcomes of Dual Language Immersion Programs: Second Language Performance in Bilingual Adults"



Lab member reunion in San Sebastián!



Emily Hansen presents "Does mixed-language input impact processing in bilingual toddlers with and without autism?"

INTERNATIONAL CHILD PHONOLOGY CONFERENCE (ICPC)



Emily Bagan presents "Bilingual English-Spanish Children's Voice Onset Time in Naturalistic Parent-Child Interactions"

On May 28-30, Emily Bagan was the first member of our lab to attend and present at ICPC in Budapest, Hungary. ICPC 2025 showcased research on children's speech sound development in typical and atypical contexts, bringing together work on monolingualism, bilingualism, multilingualism, second language acquisition, dialects, and under-researched languages.

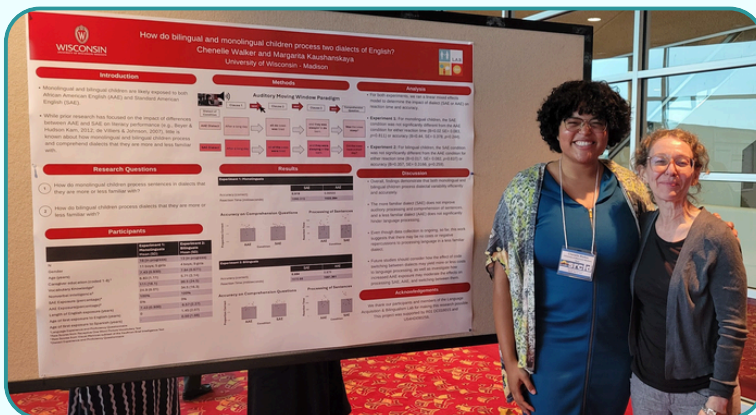
CONFERENCES

SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH IN CHILD LANGUAGE DISORDERS (SRCLD)

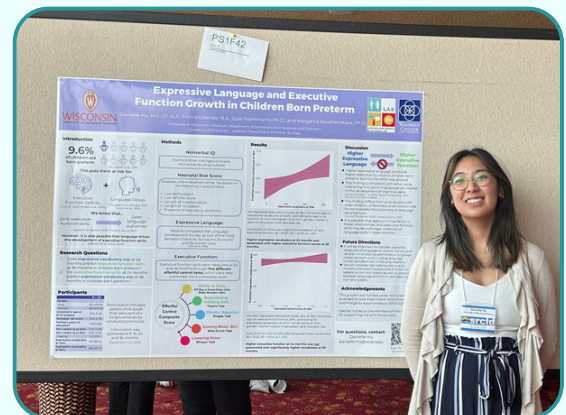
SRCLD was held on May 29-31, 2025 at the Monona Terrace in Madison, Wisconsin.

In keeping with its mission, the conference fostered an inviting atmosphere for interaction between distinguished scholars and students in child language disorders. The program included plenary presentations, panel discussions, short oral presentations, and poster sessions.

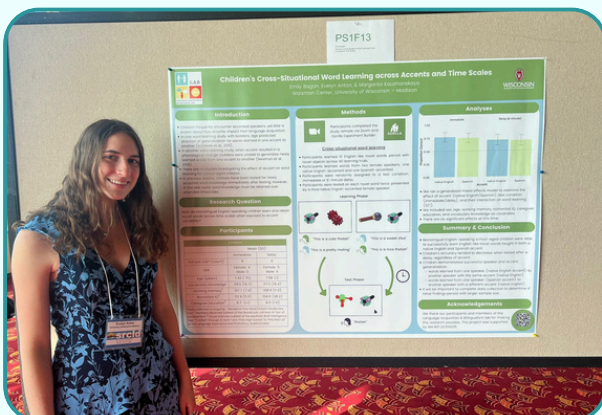
From our lab, Emma Libersky, Grace Whelan Tweedt, Emily Bagan, Chenelle Walker, Dani Hu, and Evelyn Anton presented their research concerning linguistic diversity within child language development.



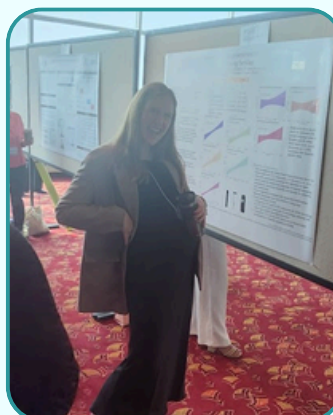
Chenelle Walker and Dr. Kaushanskaya present "How do bilingual and monolingual children process two dialects of English?"



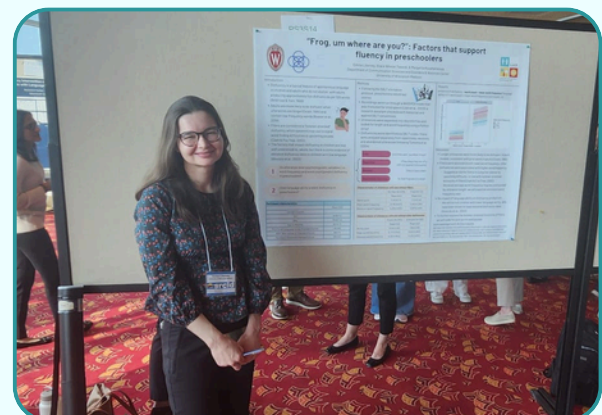
Danielle Hu presents "Expressive Language and Executive Function Growth in Children Born Preterm"



Evelyn Anton presents "Children's Cross-Situational Word Learning across Accents and Time Scales"



Caitlyn Slawny presents "Open-source tools for language environment analysis of Spanish-speaking families"



Emma Libersky presents "Frog, um where are you?: Factors that support fluency in preschoolers"

A special thanks to support from Margarita Kaushanskaya and Audra Sterling (NIDCD and NICHD, NIH, R13 DC001677) and the UW-Madison's Department of CSD.

JOURNAL CLUB

Each semester, our lab holds a regular journal club to discuss new research articles and professional development topics. This serves as an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to discuss topics of shared interest and develop their skills in reading, discussing, and presenting scientific articles.

Here, we highlight two summer meetings.



At our first summer meeting, PhD student Emma Libersky provided some tips on finding, reading, and presenting scientific articles.

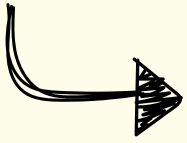
At our second meeting, summer visitors Abea Fobate, Janice Peng, and Jake Li led discussion on a recent article about how caregivers and their parents in five different countries interact during mealtimes.



SUMMER VISITOR SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEW: JANICE

Meet Janice!

Pomona College,
Claremont, California
Linguistics Major



What got you interested in the LAB Lab?

"I've been interested in bilingualism for a while, but mostly from a linguistics perspective (which is what I'm exposed to as a linguistics major). I found the LAB Lab on UW Madison's website and thought the work sounded super cool."

What projects were you working on this summer and what did you learn?

"I worked on both the ASD and late talker studies. I learned a lot about what research in this area (and in general) entails—the tools, the process, the collaboration, the patience and methodical work. I also was able to talk to various people with different positions in the lab and benefit from their experience and boundless insight, as they're further along in their careers. I've learned so much and I'm so grateful to everyone for sharing their knowledge!"

What was your favorite memory with the Lab?

"I have too many good memories from my two months here, it's hard to choose. One of my favorite memories is working a recruitment event with Clara involving heavy lifting, lucky numbers, talkative kids, and a battalion of construction vehicles that almost trapped us forever. Also, talking with coworkers during lunch."

What are you doing next?

"I'm going into my last year of undergrad, so it's thesis time! After this summer experience, I'm interested in creating a research project involving bilingualism and related topics. Post-graduation, I'd like to complete a Fulbright fellowship and maybe get my masters in speech-language pathology. The future is ripe with possibility!"

SUMMER VISITOR SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEW: JAKE

What got you interested in the LAB Lab?

"Raised by first-generation immigrant parents who had to learn English to navigate life in the U.S., I quickly realized the importance of bilingualism in creating opportunities. I experienced these benefits firsthand while taking school Spanish classes. I developed this deeper sense of cultural competence, and this newfound curiosity for language, combined with my prior background, aligned exceptionally with the LAB Lab's research goals and made us a perfect match."

What projects were you working on this summer and what did you learn?

"This summer, I worked on independent projects, including one about the impact of Spanish slang on language acquisition and one about the automation of SALT coding. In the end, I hope my project results can contribute insights and knowledge to the lab in return for the support the LAB lab has shown me. Additionally, I also worked on SALT coding for the lab's late talker grant. The lab has taught me essentially the entire process of language research, such as experimental protocols, recruitment, transcription, and data analysis. Ultimately, this guidance is why I am interested in pursuing this field and why my independent projects are possible."

Meet Jake!

Plano, Texas
Highschool Junior



What was your favorite memory with the Lab?

"My favorite memory with the lab was the journal clubs. As a high schooler, being allowed to converse, listen, and even co-present among erudite individuals in my field of interest at the journal clubs will always be an experience I remember."

What are you doing next?

"I hope to continue working on my independent projects virtually and staying involved in the lab, whether helping virtually with tasks or contributing ideas."

CURRENT RESEARCH

CHILD RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES!

We have a lot of studies going on this semester we are recruiting **children ages 2-9 years** who speak English, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin, Tagalog, Ukrainian, and African American English. Learn about how you child understands and uses language!

If you are interested in participating, please email us or fill out our Interest Form [here](https://redcap.link/lablab), redcap.link/lablab, or scan the QR code.



ADULT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES!

We are recruiting adults ages 18-40 that speak any languages!

If you are interested in participating, please call (608) 263-5764 or email uwbilingualism@waisman.wisc.edu.



**WE HOPE TO SEE
YOU SOON!**

THANK YOU!



Thank you all for your continued support! We are excited to see what the Fall brings, and we hope to see you at events or within the lab!

As always feel free to reach out to us by email, uwbilingualism@waisman.wisc.edu, or phone, (608) 263-5764.