

JOSHUA MEYER

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jrmeyer.github.io



*I'm a PhD candidate passionate about machine learning and
open-source technologies for low-resource languages.*

EDUCATION

University of Arizona Ph.D. in Linguistics (focus: <i>computational linguistics</i>)	Expected 2018 <i>Tucson, AZ</i>
University of Arizona M.A. in Linguistics	May 2015 <i>Tucson, AZ</i>
Seton Hall University B.A. in Liberal Studies	May 2012 <i>South Orange, NJ</i>

WORK EXPERIENCE

Mozilla Machine Learning DeepSpeech Internship	October 2018 - April 2019
Various Companies Kaldi & ASR Consultant	2016 - 2018

OPEN SOURCE WORK

eSpeak NG: *Added Kyrgyz language support to existing open source speech synthesizer.*
<https://github.com/rhdunn/espeak/>

NVDA: *Added Kyrgyz language support to screen reading program for people with vision impairments.*
<https://github.com/JRMeyer/nvda>

Autotrace: *Added tongue contour vizualization tools and ported scripts to PyQt4.*
<https://github.com/JRMeyer/Autotrace>

Tutorials on Open Source Softwares: TensorFlow, Kaldi, CMU-Sphinx, Merlin, eSpeak NG, Praat.
<http://jrmeyer.github.io>

GRANTS & AWARDS

Chateaubriand STEM Fellowship €5,000	2016 <i>French Embassy to the United States of America</i>
GROW Travel Award \$5,000	2016 <i>National Science Foundation</i>
Graduate Research Fellowship <i>Approx. \$102,000 + \$36,000 (tuition)</i>	2015-2018 <i>National Science Foundation</i>
Visiting Research Fellowship \$5,000	August 2013 - March 2014 <i>Central Asian Studies Institute, American University of Central Asia</i>
Regents Scholarship \$111,140 (<i>tuition</i>)	August 2008 - May 2012 <i>Seton Hall University</i>

RESEARCH

CNRS-LIMSI <i>Visiting Researcher</i> DNN acoustic model adaptation and RNN text augmentation techniques	July 2016 - July 2017 <i>Orsay, France</i>
American University of Central Asia <i>Visiting Research Scholar</i> Created a spoken corpus of the Kyrgyz language	June 2015 - August 2015 <i>Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan</i>
Arizona Phonological Imaging Lab <i>Research Assistant</i> Developed software to process ultrasonic images	Spring 2015 <i>Tucson, AZ</i>
American University of Central Asia <i>Visiting Research Fellow</i> Conducted acoustic-phonetic and phonological research	August 2013 - March 2014 <i>Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan</i>
Language Acquisition Research Center at Hunter CUNY <i>Research Assistant</i> Transcribed spontaneous speech; Aided in website construction	November 2011 - August 2012 <i>New York, NY</i>
KIT/NYU MEG Lab at NYU <i>Research Assistant</i> Aided in data analysis and processing	May 2012 - August 2012 <i>New York, NY</i>

PUBLICATIONS

(Forthcoming) Meyer, Joshua, and Kloehn, Nick, and Carnie, Andrew. **The Field is not the Lab, and the Lab is not the Field.** *Perspectives on Language and Linguistics: Community-Based Research*. Edited by Shannon Bischoff and Carmen Jany. *Mouton De Gruyter*

(2018) Bekmurzaev, Nurbek, and Lottholz, Philipp, and Meyer, Joshua. **Navigating the safety implications of doing research and being researched in Kyrgyzstan: cooperation, networks and framing.** *Central Asian Survey*, 37:1, 100-118, DOI: 10.1080/02634937.2017.1419165

(2017) Meyer, Joshua. **Development of a Kyrgyz Speech Synthesizer: A Demonstration of the Ossian Frontend and Merlin Neural Network Speech Synthesis Toolkit.** *Proceedings of The 5th International Conference on Computer Processing of Turkic Languages*, Vol. 1, 130-136.

(2016) Lottholz, Philipp, and Meyer, Joshua. **Friend or Foreign Agent? On the Limits of Field Research in Post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan.** *Exeter Central Asian Studies Network*.

PRESENTATIONS

Unsupervised Task Discovery for Multi-Task Acoustic Modeling. Machine Learning in Speech and Language Processing Workshop. [Poster] [Paper] 2018, Hyderabad

Language Technologies in Central Asia: A Survey. Joint ESCAS-CESS Conference at the American University of Central Asia. 2017, Bishkek

w/ Quam, Carolyn, and Bever, Thomas **Phonological processing in Kyrgyz-Russian bilinguals.** The Miniconference on Metrical Structure: Acquisition and processing. 2014, Utrecht

The Kyrgyzstan corpus project: Building a language resource unique to Kyrgyzstan and available to all. CASI Public Seminar at the American University of Central Asia. 2014, Bishkek

Now you hear it, now you dont: Phonological processing in Kyrgyz-Russian bilinguals. CASI Public Seminar at the American University of Central Asia. 2013, Bishkek

Psycholinguistics: Thinking about language differently. Lecture conducted at The Plattform at Werkstatttraum. 2013, Berlin

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Computer Languages	Python, Bash, MATLAB, Perl, R
Other	Kaldi, TensorFlow, Linux, Amazon Web Services, git & GitHub