

Betsy Sneller

Curriculum Vitae, May 2019

Learning & Development Lab
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Georgetown University
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Employment

2018 - Present **Georgetown University**
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Learning and Development Lab
Advisor: Elissa Newport

Education

PhD **University of Pennsylvania** Linguistics, 2018
Dissertation: “Mechanisms of Phonological Change”
Advisor: William Labov
MA **University of Essex** Sociolinguistics, 2012
BA **Calvin College** English Literature, Linguistics, 2010

Research and Teaching Interests: sociolinguistics, language variation and change, phonology, experimental sociolinguistics, experimental phonology.

Awards, recognition, honors & research support

2016–2018	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (#1628408)
2018	University of Pennsylvania IDEAL Council Award for Structural Improvements in Diversity and Inclusion
2017–2018	Critical Speaking Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2017	Student Abstract Bursary Prize, LAGB
2015–2017	SASgov Travel Grant
2013–2016	GAPSA Research Travel Award
2014	Best student paper prize, NWAV 43. With S. Fisher and H. Prichard.
2014	SAS Dean’s Travel Subvention Grant
2013	NSF EAPSI Summer Research Grant to New Zealand (#1308902).
2013	Joseph M. Bennet Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania.
2012–2017	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 5 years.
2011	Fulbright Postgraduate Fellowship to the University of Essex.

Publications

Submitted	Gareth Roberts and Betsy Sneller . Empirical foundations for an integrated study of language evolution.
In Press	Betsy Sneller . Phonological rule spreading across hostile lines: (TH)-fronting in Grays Ferry. <i>Language Variation and Change</i> .
2019	Betsy Sneller , Josef Fruehwald, and Charles Yang. Using the Tolerance Principle to predict phonological change. <i>Language Variation and Change</i> 31:1 1-20.
2019	Betsy Sneller . Allophonic systems as a variable within individual speakers. In Lightfoot, D. (Ed.). <i>Variable properties in language: Their nature and acquisition</i> . Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.
2018	Betsy Sneller and Gareth Roberts. Why some behaviors spread while others don't: A laboratory simulation of dialect contact. <i>Cognition</i> 170:298-311.
2016	William Labov, Sabriya Fisher, Duna Gylfadottir, Anita Henderson and Betsy Sneller . Competing Systems in Philadelphia Phonology. <i>Language Variation and Change</i> 28:3 273-305.
2014	Betsy Sneller . Using rate of change as a diagnostic of vowel phonologization. In Tuzzi, A., Benešová, M., and Macutek, J. (Eds.). <i>Recent Contributions to Quantitative Linguistics</i> . De Gruyter Mouton.

Proceedings

Submitted	Betsy Sneller . Where our Father are From: Place and Conflict in Sociolinguistic Borrowing. <i>University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics</i> 25.2.
2016	Betsy Sneller and Gareth Roberts. Alien species and alienable traits: An artificial language game investigating the spread of cultural variants between antagonistic groups. In Papafragou, A., Grodner, D., Mirman, D., and Trueswell, J.C. (Eds.). <i>Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society</i> . Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
2015	Sabriya Fisher, Hilary Prichard and Betsy Sneller . The apple doesnt fall far from the tree: Incremental change in Philadelphia families. <i>University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics</i> 21.2.
2015	Betsy Sneller and Sabriya Fisher. When GET got noticed: The emerging salience of GET-passives. <i>University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics</i> 20.1.
2014	Betsy Sneller . Antagonistic contact and inverse affiliation: Appropriation of (TH)-fronting by White speakers in South Philadelphia. <i>University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics</i> 20.2.

Invited Talks

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| 2019 | Linguistics Association of Great Britain. <i>Phonological change via probabilistic variation</i> . Queen Mary University London, Sept. 9-12. |
| 2019 | Stanford University. Social meaning and language change: A multifaceted approach. Job talk, Linguistics Department, Feb. 8 |
| 2019 | Stanford University. Agency, structure, and sound change: Locating the individual within the community. Job talk, Linguistics Department, Feb 7 |
| 2019 | Georgetown University. Phonological change through competing grammars. PhonLab Meeting, Jan 25. |
| 2015 | Michigan State University. The systematic incrementation of a phonological change in Philadelphia. MSU Sociolinguistics Talk, Feb. 5. |

Selected Conference Presentations

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| 2019 | Betsy Sneller. <i>Individuals in the crowd: The joint roles of agency and structure in sound change</i> . Paper accepted at UKLVC 12. London. |
| 2019 | Betsy Sneller and Gareth Roberts. <i>Indexicality, sociolinguistic awareness, and language change</i> . Paper accepted at UKLVC 12. London. |
| 2019 | Betsy Sneller. <i>The role of social network and social identity in language change</i> . Paper presented at LSA 93. New York City. |
| 2018 | Betsy Sneller. <i>Interracial conflict as a source of feature borrowing</i> . Paper presented at NWAV 47. New York City. |
| 2018 | Betsy Sneller and William Labov. <i>Does phonetic reversal lead to phonological reversal?</i> . Paper presented at NWAV 47. New York City. |
| 2018 | Gareth Roberts and Betsy Sneller. <i>How different kinds of social meaning affect the spread of linguistic variants: A laboratory-language approach</i> . Paper presented at Sociolinguistic, Psycholinguistic and Formal Perspectives on Meaning Conference. Paris. |
| 2018 | Betsy Sneller. <i>Using the Tolerance Principle as a diagnostic of phonological rules</i> . Poster presented at LSA 92. Salt Lake City. |
| 2017 | Betsy Sneller. <i>How abstract is your variable? Allophonic systems as an intraspeaker variable during phonological change</i> . Paper presented at NWAV 46. Madison, November 2nd. |
| 2017 | Betsy Sneller. <i>On the unobservability of structure: Perception of phonology vs. phonetics in experimental data</i> . Paper presented at LAGB 2017. Kent, September 2nd. |
| 2017 | Betsy Sneller. <i>Dialect contact in South Philadelphia: Indexing “street” with an outside variant</i> . Paper presented at UKLVC 11. Cardiff, August 30th. |

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- 2017 **Betsy Sneller.** *Intraspeaker competition of two allophonic subsystems.* Paper presented at LSA 91. Austin, Jan 8.
- 2017 Gareth Roberts and **Betsy Sneller.** *The role of indexicality in phonological feature adoption: A novel experimental approach.* Paper presented at LSA 91. Austin, Jan 8.
- 2016 **Betsy Sneller,** Josef Fruehwald, and Charles Yang. *The Nasal Invasion: Predicting systemic change in dialect contact.* Paper presented at NWAV 45. Vancouver, Nov 4.
- 2016 **Betsy Sneller** and Josef Fruehwald. *Evaluating the inevitability of phonological change: /ae/ in Philadelphia.* Paper presented at FWAV 3. New York, May 18.
- 2016 Josef Fruehwald and **Betsy Sneller.** *Simplicity versus data in phonological change.* Paper presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Manchester Phonology Meeting. May 28.
- 2016 **Betsy Sneller.** *Retention of two phonological subsystems in adult speakers.* Paper presented at BLS 42. Berkeley, Feb 6.
- 2015 William Labov, Sabriya Fisher, Duna Gylfadottir, Anita Henderson, Hilary Prichard and **Betsy Sneller.** *The re-organization of short-a systems in Philadelphia.* Paper presented at NWAV 44. Toronto, Oct 23.
- 2015 **Betsy Sneller** and Gareth Roberts. *Sociolinguistics in an alien language: A laboratory simulation of linguistic behavior in a South Philadelphia neighborhood.* Poster presented at NWAV 44. Toronto, Oct 23.
- 2015 **Betsy Sneller.** *A community divided: co-occurrence in salient feature shift.* Poster presented at UKLVC 10. York, Sep 2.
- 2015 **Betsy Sneller** and Sabriya Fisher. *The limits of the sociolinguistic monitor.* Paper presented at FWAV 2. Reykjavik, May 28.
- 2015 **Betsy Sneller** and Joel Wallenberg. *Allophonic emergence: three ways allophonic rules come to be.* Paper presented at FWAV 2. Reykjavik, May 28.
- 2015 Laura Walker, **Betsy Sneller** and Sabriya Fisher. *Untangling language attitudes from linguistic knowledge in self-reports of stigmatized speech.* Paper presented at PLC 39. Philadelphia, March 21.
- 2015 **Betsy Sneller.** *Phonotactics of (TH)-fronting in AAVE.* Paper presented at LSA 89. Portland, OR. Jan 11.
- 2015 William Labov, Sabriya Fisher, Anita Henderson, Hilary Prichard, and **Betsy Sneller.** *A systematic partition of the speech community: Short-a in Philadelphia.* Poster presented at LSA 89. Portland, OR. Jan 9.
- 2014 **Betsy Sneller.** *Phonotactic simplification in borrowed (TH)-fronting.* Paper presented at NWAV 43. Chicago, Oct 24.
- 2013 **Betsy Sneller.** *Hometown affiliation and language change.* Poster presented at UKLVC 9. Sheffield, Sep 3.

Teaching & Mentoring Experience

Spring 2018	LING 152: Instructor, <i>Language and Social Identity in the U.S.</i>
Fall 2017	LING 152: Instructor, <i>Language and Social Identity in the U.S.</i>
2016–2017	Undergraduate Research Mentor, NSF Project: <i>Mechanisms of Phonological Change</i> , PI: Meredith Tamminga and Betsy Sneller
2013–2015	Undergraduate Mentor, NSF project: <i>Influence of Higher Education on Local Phonology</i> , PI: William Labov
Summer 2015	Instructor, <i>Mini Course in R</i>
Fall 2014	LING 120: Teaching Assistant, <i>Speech Analysis</i> , Instructor: Tricia Irwin
Spring 2014	LING 102: Recitation Instructor, <i>Introduction to Sociolinguistics</i> , Instructor: Anita Henderson
Fall 2013	LING 001: Recitation Instructor, <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> , Instructor: Rolf Noyer

University Service

2017–2018	Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access and Leadership (IDEAL) Council Deputy
2017–2018	GAPSA representative on University Council
2017	Chair of Equity and Access, GAPSA
2017	Penn representative to Legislative Action Days in Washington, DC
2015–2018	Finance Committee, GAPSA
2016–2017	Chair, Student Confronting Racism and White Privilege

Departmental and Professional Service

2018–	Reviewer, Language Variation & Change
2016–2017	Volume Editor, Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 23.2
2015–2018	Reviewer, Penn Linguistics Conference
2014–2016	Co-President, Graduate Linguistics Society, University of Pennsylvania
2015	Student rep, Search Committee for tenure-track position in Linguistics
2013–2014	Chair, Penn Linguistics Conference 38
2012–2017	Editor, Penn Working Papers in Linguistics
2012–2013	Organizing committee, Penn Linguistics Colloquium 37
2012	Sociolinguistic Outreach at the Franklin Institute
2012–2013	Social Chair, Linguistics Lab at Penn
2012	Student committee, Essex Language and Asylum Research Conference

Languages

Intermediate	Spanish, French
Research	English, Dutch, Kurdish, Fur
Programming	R, Python, L ^A T _E X, Praat, CSS, HTML

References available upon request