

# FELICIA BISNATH

[fbisnath@umich.edu](mailto:fbisnath@umich.edu)

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## EDUCATION

- 2019-2024      **PhD in Linguistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**  
Advisors: dr. Savithry Namboodiripad & Dr. Natasha Abner
- 2016-2018      **rM.A. in Linguistics, University of Amsterdam (UvA)**  
Thesis: *wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community*  
Supervisors: Dr. Roland Pfau & Professor Enoch O. Aboh  
Available at: <http://www.scriptiesonline.uba.uva.nl/scriptie/658796>
- 2015-2016      **B.A. in Linguistics (Major), Speech and Language Pathology (Minor) (First Class Honours), University of the West Indies (UWI)**  
Thesis: *Higgins' Taxonomy of Copular Clauses in Trinidadian French Creole*  
Supervisor: Dr. Jo-Anne Ferreira
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## AWARDS

- 2018      **University of Amsterdam Horizon Fund**  
Travel grant to present at IGDAL 6 conference (University of Haifa, Israel) (€300.00)
- 2015-2016      **University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago**  
John Reinecke Memorial Prize for Linguistics  
Douglas Taylor Prize for Caribbean Linguistics  
Departmental Prize for Linguistics Research
- University of the West Indies Development and Endowment Fund Star Scholarship** (\$TT15,000.00, approximately \$US2,300.00)
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## PUBLICATIONS

- 2018      Felicia Bisnath & Silvia De Grandis. 2018. A Diachronic Study of Transparency in Sranan. *Linguistics in Amsterdam 11*(2). 179-210
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## PRESENTATIONS

- 2019      *Wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community* at  
(*upcoming*)      Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 13 (TISLR13) at the University of Hamburg, Germany. September 26-28th, 2019 (Poster)

- 2018 *Verb Types in Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language (TTSL)* at the International Conference for Graduate Students on Diverse Approaches to Linguistics 6 (IGDAL6) at the University of Haifa, Israel. 23 April, 2018
- 2017 *Quantifiers in NGT: A Corpus Study* at the T.W.I.S.T. Student Conference at the University of Leiden, The Netherlands. 21-22 April, 2017 (Poster)
- A Diachronic Study of Transparency in Sranan* with Silvia De Grandis at the 38th TABU Dag Conference at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands. 22-23 June, 2017 (Poster)
- 2016 *Higgins' Taxonomy of Copular Clauses in Trinidadian French Creole* at the 21st Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics (SCL) at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. August 1-6, 2016

## TEACHING

- Sep-Dec 2018 **University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago (Department of Modern Languages & Linguistics)**
- Part-Time Lecturer**, Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language II (LING2820)
  - Substitute tutor** (6 classes), Introduction to Language (LING 1005)
  - Guest lecturer** (Tuesday October 30th, 2018), Language Acquisition (LING 2101): "Sign Language Acquisition"

## OTHER ACADEMIC TRAINING

- Sep 2019  
(upcoming) **Doing Reproducible and Rigorous Science with Deaf Children, Deaf Communities, and Sign Languages: Challenges and Opportunities at the Department of Deaf Studies and Sign Language Interpreting, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany. 23 September, 2019.**  
Pre-conference meeting of TISLR13 aiming to move toward a set of Deaf-informed, community-appropriate, scientific best practices for Sign Language Linguistics and Deaf Studies.
- Jan 2018 **LOT Winter School 2018 at the Vrije University, Amsterdam. 8-19 January, 2018**  
Courses on the neurobiology of language, language evolution, phonetics and phonology and multilingualism

- May 2017*      **SIGN-HUB LABEX Summer School in Sign Language Linguistics in Gargnano. 8-12 May, 2017**  
Courses on sign language information structure, phonology and syntax
- Jul 2016*      **Research internship, Jamaican Language Unit, University of the West Indies, Mona**  
Supervisor: Prof. Hubert Devonish  
Content: Compilation of preliminary grammar of Aruban English Creole
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## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

- April 2016*      Orthographic transcription (English) of 2.8 hours of focus group data (3-5 participants) for the Centre for Language Learning, UWI, St. Augustine
- Oct-Nov 2018*      Orthographic transcription (English) of 15 hours of interview data
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## **SERVICE**

- 2016*      **President of the University of the West Indies Linguistics Society**
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## **RESEARCH SKILLS**

R, Eudico Linguistic Annotator (ELAN), Python for Data Science

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## **LANGUAGES**

English (native), Trinidadian English Creole (native), Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language (beginner)