May Helena Plumb

University of Texas at Austin
Department of Linguistics
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305 E. 23rd St. STOP B5100
RLP 4.304 Dept of Linguistics
Austin, TX 78712

mayhplumb@utexas.edu
www.mayhplumb.com
@mayhplumb

Research Interests

Language documentation and description of Zapotec languages; philological study of Colonial Zapotec documents; community-engaged research; digital humanities

Education

In Progress	Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin
2016	B.A. in Linguistics, Haverford College Thesis: Conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

In Review	Broadwell, George Aaron, Moisés García Guzmán, Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, Felipe H. Lopez, **May Helena Plumb**, and Mike Zarafonetis. Digital scholarship and collaboration with stakeholding communities
2019	**Plumb, May Helena**. Conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 85 (2), pp. 213–245. DOI: 10.1086/701802

Fellowships and Awards

2019–2024	Graduate Research Fellowship (National Science Foundation).
2017–2022	Donald D. Harrington Doctoral Fellowship (Harrington Fellows Program, University of Texas at Austin).
2016	Best Descriptive Thesis; High Departmental Honors (Linguistics Department, Haverford College).

Research Grants

University of Texas at Austin

2019	Carlota Smith Fellowship (Linguistics Department). "Documentation of San Jerónimo Tlacochahuaya Zapotec", June 2019. $500.
2018	Joel Sherzer Research Grant (Center for Indigenous Languages of Latin America). "Beginning Fieldwork on Central Zapotec", June 2018. $500.

Haverford College

2016   Off-Campus Research Funding (Louis Green Fund). "Linguistics Field School Research Assistantship", June 2016. $1,275.

2015   Student Research Assistantship Grant (Hurford Center for the Humanities). "Ticha Project", May 2015–August 2015. $3,520.

2014   International Summer Research Internship Grant (Center for Peace and Global Citizenship). "Connecting the Zapotec People with their Ancestral Documents", July 2014. $2,700.

Conference Presentations & Workshops

2019   **Plumb, May Helena**. A modern Valley Zapotec translation of a Colonial Valley Zapotec text. Paper presented at the *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA) annual meeting, New York, NY.

2018   Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle (organizer/discussant), Janet Chávez Santiago (organizer), Felipe H. Lopez, Moisés García Guzmán, Yaneth Molina, **May Helena Plumb**, Xóchitl M. Flores-Marcial, and Arnauld Avendano. Twitter y las lenguas de Oaxaca. Panel discussion at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VIII: Antonio Peñafiel*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2017   **Plumb, May Helena**. Resumptive subject pronouns in Colonial Valley Zapotec relatives. Paper presented at the *Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA) VIII*, Austin, TX. DOI: [10.17613/M6SN0139X](10.17613/M6SN0139X)

2016   Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis, and **May Helena Plumb**. Humanidades digitales multilingual y multicultural: el caso de Ticha, un explorador digital de texto para el zapoteco colonial. Paper presented at the *Encontro de Humanidades Digitales*, Mexico City, Mexico. URL: www.academia.edu/28287127/

2016   Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis, and **May Helena Plumb**. Leyendo documentos coloniales en zapoteco del Valle. Workshop at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VII: Juan José Renón Monzón*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2016   Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis, and **May Helena Plumb**. Ticha, un explorador digital de texto para el zapoteco colonial: creando conexiones. Paper presented at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VII: Juan José Renón Monzón*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2015 **Plumb, May Helena**. The pragmatics of conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec. Paper presented at the *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA) annual meeting, Portland, OR. DOI: [10.17613/M6RH1H](10.17613/M6RH1H)

2014 **Plumb, May Helena**. La pragmática de las conjunciones en el zapteco colonial del Valle. Paper presented at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VI: Mario Molina Cruz*, Oaxaca City, Mexico. URL: www.academia.edu/6847558/

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS

ARCHIVAL DEPOSITS

Ongoing **Plumb, May Helena**. *Zapotec Collection of May Helena Plumb*. The Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America, http://ailla.utexas.org. Access: public. PID ailla:257460. URL: https://www.ailla.utexas.org/islandora/object/ailla:257460

DIGITAL DICTIONARIES

2019 Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Moisés García Guzmán, with Kathryn Goldberg, María Mercedes Méndez Morales, Benjamin Paul, **May Helena Plumb**, Chantel Reyes, and Cecilia G. Williamson. *Tlacochahuaya Zapotec Talking Dictionary*. Version 2.1. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: www.talkingdictionary.org/tlacochahuaya. Previously: Version 2.0 (2018); Version 1.0 (2016)

2017 Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Janet Chávez Santiago, with Kathryn Goldberg, Tess A. Harty, Nick Kalivoda, Sam Katz, Teresa Martínez Chavez, Javier A. Pina, **May Helena Plumb**, Diamond C. J. Ray, Cornelio Santos, and Jamie A. Thomas. *Teotitlán del Valle Zapotec Talking Dictionary*. Version 1.2. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: www.talkingdictionary.org/teotitlan. Previously: Version 1.1 (2016)

2016 Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Felipe H. Lopez, Pamela Munro, with Tess A. Harty, Sam Katz, Javier A. Pina, **May Helena Plumb**, Diamond C. J. Ray, and Cornelio Santos. *San Lucas Quiavini Zapotec Talking Dictionary*. Version 1.0. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: www.talkingdictionary.org/sanlucasquiavini

OTHER DIGITAL RESOURCES

2017 Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Claire Benham, Janet Chávez Santiago, Emily Drummond, James Arthur Faville, Avery A. King, Bridget Murray, Tristan Jacobo Pepin, **May Helena Plumb**, Mindy Renee Reutter, James T. Truitt, Christina Nicole Ulowetz, Mike Zarafonetis, and Ian Fisher. *Digital edition of Fray Leonardo Levanto's 1766* Cathecismo de la lengua Zaapoteca*, beta version*. Ticha Project. URL: https://ticha.haverford.edu/en/texts/levanto/

2016	Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, **May Helena Plumb**, and Mike Zarafonetis. *Ticha: a digital text explorer for Colonial Zapotec, first edition*. URL: http://ticha.haverford.edu
2015	**Plumb, May Helena** (with Brook Danielle Lillehaugen and various collaborators). *Ethnographic Interviews on Valley Zapotec*. Produced as part of the Linguistics Field School (NSF REU Site Grant #1461056). URL: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLExWnB1-dLglKaXMrKw0wBgxDcanrwvII

Teaching

2018–2019	University of Texas at Austin, Teaching Assistant - Introduction to Cognitive Science (LIN392, graduate, David I. Beaver) - Sign Languages & Signing Communities (LIN350, undergraduate, David Quinto-Pozos)
2016–2017	Substitute Teacher Service, Guest Teacher - Per diem substitute teaching in Philadelphia-area school districts

Research Positions

2019	Graduate Research Assistant. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin (Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America). Supervisor(s): Susan Kung
2013–2017	Research Assistant. Linguistics Department, Haverford College. Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen
2016	Student Coordinator. Oaxaca Site, Linguistics Field School, Tri-College Consortium (NSF REU Site Grant #1461056). Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, Theodore B. Fernald
2015	Student Researcher. Oaxaca Site, Linguistics Field School, Tri-College Consortium (NSF REU Site Grant #1461056). Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, K. David Harrison

Service

Conference organization

Organizer	Texas Linguistics Society, 2019
Reviewer	Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America, 2019
Moderator	Symposium About Language and Society, Austin, 2019; Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America, 2017

Departmental service, University of Texas at Austin

2017–	Web Maintenance (Associated Students of Linguistics)

Professional membership

2019–   Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

2014–   Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA)

2014–   The Philological Society

2009–2019 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

Professional Activities & Skills

Fieldwork

2018–2019 Documentation of San Jerónimo Tlacochahuaya Zapotec ([zab], Otomanguean). Oaxaca, Mexico; 10 weeks over 2 separate trips.
Outcomes: documentation recordings archived at AILLA; expansion of SJTZ Talking Dictionary.

2018   Field Methods Class: Southern Bolivian Quechua ([quh], Quechuan), with Anthony C. Woodbury and Gladys Camacho Rios. Austin, TX; 14 weeks.
Outcomes: recordings of elicitation and short texts, sketch grammar

2015, 2016 Linguistics Field School: Zapotec ([zap], Otomanguean), with Brook Danielle Lillehaugen. Oaxaca, Mexico; 2 weeks in 2015, 3 weeks in 2016.
Outcomes: Talking Dictionaries for three Zapotec languages, language arts workshops at Tlacolula high school, ethnographic interviews published online, ethnobotanical and toponymical field recordings, digitization of colonial Zapotec documents for Ticha Project.

2016   Language Structure Class: Windesi Wamesa ([wad], Austronesian), with Emily A. Gasser. Swarthmore, PA; 14 weeks.
Outcomes: preliminary analysis of parts of 1911 van Balen Bible translation

2014   Investigation of Colonial Zapotec documents. Oaxaca, Mexico; 4 weeks.
Outcomes: digitization of colonial-era Zapotec documents for Ticha Project; involvement of Zapotec people in their written history.

Languages

English (native); Spanish (proficient); Colonial Mexican Spanish (reading skills)

Computer proficiencies

Linguistic analysis software: Elan, Praat, Fieldworks Language Explorer (FLEx)

Markup languages: LaTeX, XML, HTML, Markdown, LilyPond

Other computer skills: Open Office, GSuite, Microsoft Office, Ubuntu, Git, R