

Professional Leave Report Cover Sheet

Name: Brian Agbayani

Department: Linguistics

College: Arts & Humanities

Leave taken: Sabbatical Difference in Pay Professional Leave without Pay

Time Period: Fall 2022

- Spring
- Academic Year
- Other

Your report will be sent to your Dean for your PAF and to the Library Archives.

Brian Agbayani
Dept. of Linguistics
March 31, 2023

Report of sabbatical activities, Fall 2022

As required by university policy, I am providing this report of my sabbatical activities during the Fall 2022 semester. The sabbatical leave was highly productive and valuable, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to advance three important research projects and to procure a grant during this release.

During the first half of the semester (approximately August to October), I was able to devote time to prepare and publish a paper with my co-author (Prof. Masao Ochi, Osaka University) entitled “Split Lexical Insertion in Parasitic Gap Constructions”, published in October 2022 in the international journal *Studia Linguistica*. Without the release time for research, I would not have been able to complete the revision work for the publication last semester. In fact, this paper will be featured in the Outstanding Faculty Publications event with the Fresno State Library in April 2023.

At the same time, I worked collaboratively with Prof. Ochi on an extension of our research project on the comparative syntax of English and Japanese. Our collaboration resulted in two paper presentations at the Western Conference on Linguistics here at Fresno State in November 2022 and at the Japanese/Korean Linguistics conference in Vancouver in March 2023. The release time for research resulted in a great leap forward in our research project. I gratefully acknowledge the Dean of Arts and Humanities, and the Department of Linguistics at CSU Fresno who funded my travel for this research presentation. These research activities culminated in an article submission to the journal *English Linguistic* (currently under review), and the development of a new manuscript (currently being prepared for review) which explores new issues on the topic of syntactic movement in English and Japanese to further our knowledge on the nature of linguistic variation.

Throughout the second half of the Fall 2022 semester (approximately October through December), I made significant progress on descriptive work on the syntax of Chukchansi Yokuts, working jointly with Prof. John Boyle (Fresno State) to fully map out the language’s system of clausal subordination and nominalization. We presented our work at the Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas meeting and at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting in January 2023. I also made significant progress on the documentation and description of elliptical (phrasal deletion) phenomena in Chukchansi. Through the field work and writing that I was able to conduct during the sabbatical, I was able to make some significant new discoveries on Chukchansi syntax.

I was also active in grant writing and was successful in procuring a grant during my sabbatical period. Through a joint initiative with colleagues Dr. Katherine Waselkov (College of Science and Math) and Dr. John Pryor (College of Social Sciences), we applied for and were awarded a CSU STEM-net grant (\$25,000) for our project titled

“Native Plants, Places and People in Central California: Linking STEM Education to Local Cultural and Linguistic Diversity”. The application was submitted in November 2022, and we were awarded the CSU STEM-net grant in January 2023 for a one-year project. This project involves the design of a transdisciplinary approach to STEM education through which our undergraduate students will use online natural history collection data to explore how native plant species' geographic distributions and flowering/fruiting patterns have changed over time, due to climate change and habitat changes in the Valley and surrounding foothills and mountains. Students will explore the cultural aspects of these same native plant species, including traditional indigenous names and geographic place names in the native toponymy of the areas where these species grow. I am the Linguistics co-PI for this portion of the project, managing development of the dictionary database.

Altogether, I had a very productive sabbatical release in Fall 2022.

Brian Agbayani



Department of Linguistics