

Curriculum Vitae

**Kuniko Yasu Nielsen**

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**Research Interests** Phonetics, Phonetics/Phonology Interface, Psycholinguistics,  
Speech Production and Perception

**Education**

- Ph.D. Expected in spring 2008. University of California, Los Angeles  
(Linguistics)  
Thesis in progress: "The specificity of allophonic variability and its  
implications for accounts of speech perception and production."  
Committee Chair: Patricia Keating  
Committee Members: Bruce Hayes, Sun-Ah Jun, Jody Kreiman, Colin  
Wilson
- M.A. 2004. University of California, Los Angeles (Linguistics)  
Thesis Title: "Segmental Differences in the Visual Contribution to Speech  
Intelligibility."  
Committee Chair: Patricia Keating  
Committee Members: Bruce Hayes, Colin Wilson
- B.A. 1999. Ohio State University (Linguistics with distinction and Chinese)  
Summa Cum Laude  
Thesis: "A Cross-Language Study of classifying stops in Japanese and  
Chinese: The difference and its significance for second language  
acquisition."  
Committee Chair: Michael Broe

**Publications**

*Refereed Proceedings*

Nielsen, K. (2007) Implicit Phonetic Imitation is constrained by Phonemic Contrast.  
*Proceedings of the 16th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences,*  
Saarbrücken, Germany.

Nielsen, K. (2006) Specificity and Generalizability of Spontaneous Phonetic Imitation. *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Spoken Language Processing*, Pittsburgh, PA.

Nielsen, K. (2005) Generalization of phonetic imitation across place of articulation. *Proceedings of the ISCA Workshop on Plasticity in Speech Perception*, University College London, London, UK.

Nielsen, K. (2004) Segmental Differences in the Visual Contribution to Speech Intelligibility. *Proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Spoken Language Processing*, Jeju, Korea.

*Working Papers*

Nielsen, K. (2007) The Interaction between Spontaneous Imitation and Linguistic Knowledge. *UCLA Working Papers in Phonetics 105*. pp. 125-137.

Nielsen, K. (2005) Investigation of SLI Children's Semantic Knowledge through Intonation Patterns. *UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics no.13, Papers in Psycholinguistics 2*. pp. 76-86.

Nielsen, K. (2005) Kiche Intonation. *UCLA Working Papers in Phonetics 104*. pp. 45-60.

Nielsen, K. (2004) Segmental Differences in the Visual Contribution to Speech Intelligibility. *UCLA Working Paper in Phonetics 103*. pp. 106-147.

*Edited Volume*

Okabe, R and Nielsen, K. Eds. (2005) *UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics no.13, Papers in Psycholinguistics 2*. Department of Linguistics, UCLA.

*Submitted*

Nielsen, K. Specificity and abstractness of VOT imitation.

**Presentations**

May 2008 (with Colin Wilson) "A Bayesian Network Model of Multi-level Phonetic Imitation." Talk to be presented at the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. Los Angeles, CA.

January 2008 "Phonetic imitation of Japanese vowel devoicing." Talk presented at the 2008 LSA meeting. Chicago, IL.

August 2007 "Implicit phonetic imitation is constrained by phonemic contrast." Poster presented at the 16th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Saarbrücken, Germany.

- December 2006 "Acoustic phonetic variability and auditory word recognition by dyslexic and nondyslexic children" (with Patricia Keating, Frank Manis, and Jennifer Bruno). Poster presented at the 152<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Honolulu, HI.
- September 2006 "The specificity and abstractness of spontaneous phonetic imitation." Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Spoken Language Processing. Pittsburgh, PA.
- June 2006 "The specificity and abstractness of phonetic imitation." Poster presented at the 10th Conference on Laboratory Phonology. Paris, France.
- January 2006 "VOT imitation generalizes across phonemes and natural classes." Talk presented at the 2006 LSA meeting. Albuquerque, NM.
- November 2005 "The specificity and abstractness of phonetic imitation." Talk presented at RIKEN BSI Forum. Wako, Japan.
- October 2005 "The interaction between specificity and linguistic contrast." Poster presented at the 150<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Minneapolis, MN.
- June 2005 "Generalization of phonetic imitation across place of articulation." Poster presented at the ISCA Workshop on Plasticity in Speech Perception. London, UK.
- May 2005 "Generalization of the imitation effect within a natural class." Poster presented at the 149<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Vancouver, Canada.
- October 2004 "Segmental differences in the visual contribution to speech intelligibility." Poster presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Spoken Language Processing. Jeju, Korea.
- May 2004 "Segmental differences in the visual contribution to speech intelligibility." Poster presented at the 148<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. New York, NY.

### **Research Experience**

2003 Summer – 2007 Summer

Research Assistant, Prof. Patricia Keating

"Bases of Normal and Disordered Reading" (NIH grant HD29891, PI Frank Manis, USC)

Activities included stimuli selection and preparation for perception experiments (e.g., word identification, phoneme discrimination, tone detection, repetition-priming word recognition), developing experimental scripts in PsyScope and Matlab, and acoustical and statistical data analysis.

2003 Winter, Spring

Research Assistant, Prof. Patricia Keating

"KDI: Segmental and Prosodic Optical Phonetics for Human and Machine Speech Processing." (NSF grant 9996088, PI Lynne Bernstein, the House Ear Institute)

Activities included measurements of articulatory (EMA) and facial (Qualisys) movement, and acoustical and statistical data analysis.

### Teaching Experience

Linguistics 135: Neurolinguistics (UCLA)  
Teaching Fellow, with Prof. Susan Curtiss [Winter 2008]

Linguistics 1: Introduction to the Study of Language (UCLA)  
Teaching Fellow, with Dr. Felicia Lee [Fall 2007]

Linguistics 103: Introduction to General Phonetics (UCLA)  
Teaching Associate, with Prof. Kie Zuraw [Spring 2005]

Linguistics 104: Experimental Phonetics (UCLA)  
Teaching Associate, with Prof. Patricia Keating [Winter 2005]

Linguistics 1: Introduction to the Study of Language (UCLA)  
Teaching Associate, with Prof. Philippe Schlenker [Winter 2004]

Linguistics 20: Introduction to Linguistics (UCLA)  
Teaching Assistant, with Jason Riggle [Fall 2002]

### Awards

NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant (to Patricia Keating) (2006-2008)  
Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (2005-2006)  
Full tuition and fees grant, UCLA Linguistics Department (2000-2005)  
OSU Arts and Sciences Excellence in Scholarship Award (1999)

### Service

2006 Student representative on the Speech Perception Job Search Committee. Department of Linguistics, UCLA.

2004-2006 Linguistics Colloquium Committee. Department of Linguistics,  
UCLA.

## **Membership**

Acoustical Society of America  
Linguistic Society of America  
International Speech Communication Association

## **References**

Prof. Patricia A. Keating  
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Prof. Sun-Ah Jun  
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Prof. Bruce P. Hayes  
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