

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### *Academic Appointments*

2025 – Present	<b>Professor Emerita</b> , Brian Lamb School of Communication Purdue University
2015 – 2024	<b>Professor</b> , Brian Lamb School of Communication Purdue University
2017 – 2022	<b>Associate Head</b> , Brian Lamb School of Communication Purdue University
2012 - 2016	<b>Director</b> , Linguistics Program School of Interdisciplinary Studies, Purdue University
2004 - 2015	<b>Associate Professor</b> Brian Lamb School of Communication, Purdue University
Summer 2006	<b>Visiting Professor</b> Hokusei Gakuen University Sapporo, Japan
1998 - 2004	<b>Assistant Professor</b> Purdue University, Department of Communication & Faculty Affiliate, Interdisciplinary Linguistics Program
1997 - 1998	<b>Lecturer</b> (Writing Program) University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Business
1995 - 1997	<b>Lecturer</b> University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of English
Summer 1995	<b>Lecturer</b> Beloit College, Department of Linguistics

### *Awards and Honors*

- 2022 **Top Poster Award, Purdue Autism Research Center.** *Conversational processing in the broad autism phenotype (BAP): Reduced neural sensitivity to subtle distinctions in duration of inter-speaker pauses.* Neo, W. S., Roberts, F., Yamamoto, M., Kelleher, B., & Foti, D.
- 2014 **Distinguished Article Award**, National Communication Association, Family Communication Division, in recognition of the 2008 paper *Mothers' trait verbal*

*aggressiveness as a predictor of maternal and child behavior during play-time interactions.* Wilson, S., Roberts, F., Rack, J., & Delaney, J.

- 2013 **Top Paper Award**, Southern States Communication Association, Division of Applied Communication (Louisville, KY). *Communicating Empathy and Bad News in the Post-Surgical Context: Insights from a Training Program in the Second Year of Surgical Residency* (with Gettings, Torbeck, & Helft)
- 2012 **Top Paper Award**, National Communication Association, Division of Language & Social Interaction (Orlando, FL). *An examination of morality in medical visits that address chronic pain* (with Kramer).
- 2011 **Selected** as 1 of 2 recipients campus-wide by Office of Purdue's Vice President for Research to attend Indiana University Poynter Center 4-day workshop on teaching research ethics.
- 2009 **Visiting Fellow**, Purdue University Center for Behavioral and Social Sciences.
- 2001 **Teach for Tomorrow**, Purdue University, for developing writing across curricula.
- 1994 **Award of Merit** from University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center for "dedicated service and outstanding contributions to research and education programs."

## RESEARCH

### *Published Work*

#### a. Books

Roberts, F.D. (1999). *Talking about treatment*. Oxford University Press.  
Reviewed in *Social Science & Medicine; Language; Health Communication; Journal of Sociolinguistics*.

#### b. Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals and Proceedings

Bandi-Rao, S., Lurie Starr, R., Ang, G., Roberts, F. Kang Kwong, L. Kang Kwong (2025): Perceptions of inter-turn silence after requests in standard and colloquial Singapore English, *Asian Englishes*, DOI: 10.1080/13488678.2025.2517496

Lizarazo, D.M., Tamayo, R.M., Roberts, F. (2023). Native and foreign English language processing: the influence of emotions and word frequency. *Profile: Issues in Teachers' Professional Development*.

Neo, Wei Siong, Roberts, F., Yamamoto, M., Kelleher, B. and Foti, D. (2021). Could you explain this study to me? ... Sure.: Conversational pauses are less salient in broad autism phenotype. *International Society for Psychophysiological Research*. (Proceedings Published in Vol 58, No. S1)

Foti, D. & Roberts, F. (2016). The neural dynamics of speech perception: Dissociable networks for processing linguistic content and monitoring speaker turn-taking. *Brain & Language*, 63–71. [Q1 Experimental & Cognitive Psychology]

Roberts, F. & Norris, A.M. (2016). Gendered expectations for “agreeableness” in response to requests and opinions. *Communication Research Reports*, 33:1, 16-23 [Q2 Social Sciences]

Roberts, F., Gettings, P., Torbeck, L., Helft, P. (2015). Reflection on Adverse Event Disclosure in the Postsurgical Hospital Context. *Journal of Surgical Education*, 72(4), 767-770 [Q1 Surgery; Q1 Education]

Owlett, J. S., Richards, K. A., Defreese, J. D., Wilson, S. R., & Roberts, F. D. (2015). Privacy Management in the Military Family during Deployment: Adolescents’ Perspectives. *Journal of Family Communication*, 15(2), 141-158. [Q2 Communication]

Roberts, F. & Francis, A.L. (2013). Identifying a temporal threshold of tolerance for silent gaps after requests. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 133, EL 471-477. [Q1 Acoustics & Ultrasonics]

Roberts, F. Margutti, P., Takano, S. (2011). Judgments concerning the valence of inter-turn silence across speakers of American English, Italian, and Japanese. *Discourse Processes*, 48, 331-354. [Q1 Social Sciences]

Polite, E.J., Leonard, L.B., Roberts, F. (2011). The Use of definite and indefinite articles by children with specific language impairment. *International Journal of Speech- Language Pathology*, 13, 291-300. [Q2 Speech & Hearing]

Balog, H., Roberts, F., & Snow, D. (2009). Discourse and intonation development in the first-word period. *Enfance*, 3, 293-304. [Q4 Social Sciences]

Roberts, F. & Cimasko, T. (2008). Evaluating ESL: Making sense of university professors' responses to second language writing. *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 17, 125-143. [Q1 Language & Linguistics]

Wilson, S., Roberts, F., Rack, J., & Delaney, J. (2008). Mothers’ trait verbal aggressiveness as a predictor of maternal and child behavior during play-time interactions. *Human Communication Research*, 34, 392–422. [Q1 Communication]

Roberts, F., Francis, A.L., & Morgan, M. (2006). The interaction of silence and prosodic cues in listener perception of ‘trouble’ in interaction. *Speech Communication*, 48, 1079-1093. [Q2 Computer Science & Signal Processing]

Balog, H. & Roberts, F. (2004). Perception of utterance relatedness during the first-word period. *Journal of Child Language*, 31, 837-854. [Q1 Language & Linguistics]

Roberts, F. (2004). Speaking to and for animals in a veterinary clinic: A practice for managing interpersonal interactions. *Research on Language and Social Interaction*, 37, 421-446. [Q1 Communication]

Roberts, F. & Robinson, J.D. (2004). Inter-observer agreement on >first-stage= conversation analytic transcriptions. *Human Communication Research*, 30, 376-410. [Q1 Communication]

Roberts, F. (2002). Qualitative differences among cancer clinical trial explanations. *Social Science & Medicine*, 55, 1947-1955. [Q1 Social Sciences/Health]

Mattson, M. & Roberts, F. (2001). Overcoming truth-telling as an obstacle to initiating safer sex: Clients and health practitioners discussing deception during HIV test counseling. *Health Communication*, 13, 343-362. [Q1 Communication & Health (Social Science)]

Roberts, F. (2001) Teaching research methods using a problem-based learning approach. *Communication Teacher*, 16(1): 6-8. [Q3 Communication]

Costello, B. & Roberts, F. (2001). Medical recommendations as joint social practice. *Health Communication*, 13, 241-260. [Q1 Communication & Health (Social Science)]

Gill, V.T., Halkowski, T., & Roberts, F. (2001). Accomplishing a request without making one: A single case analysis of a primary care visit. *Text*, 21, 55-81. [Q1 Language & Linguistics]

Roberts, F. (2000). The interactional construction of asymmetry: The medical agenda as a resource for delaying response to patient questions. *The Sociological Quarterly*, 41, 151-170. [Q1 Social & Political Science]

Reprinted in Wayne Beach (Ed.) *Handbook of Patient-Provider Interactions: Raising and Responding to Concerns about Life, Illness, and Disease*. Hampton Press.

Roberts, F.D., Newcomb, P.A., & Trentham, A. (1996). Self-reported stress and risk of breast cancer. *Cancer*, 77, 1089-1093. [Q1 Cancer Research/Oncology]

Rifkin, B.G. & Roberts, F.D. (1995). Error gravity research: A critical review. *Language Learning*, 45, 511-537. [Q1 Language & Linguistics]

Newcomb, P.A., Olsen, S.J., Roberts, F.D., Storer, B.E., & Love, R.R. (1995). Assessing breast self-examination. *Preventive Medicine*, 24, 255-258. [Q1 Medicine]

Roberts, F.D., Newcomb, P.A., & Fost, N. (1992). Perceived risks of participation in an epidemiologic study. *IRB: A Review of Human Subjects Research*, 15, 8-10. [Q1 Social Sciences]

c. Invited Chapters for Edited Volumes

Labadorf, B. & Roberts, F. (*in press*). Qualitative approaches to patient-provider communication. Ch. 64 in 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Oxford Textbook of Communication in Oncology and Palliative Care. Edited by David W. Kissane, Patricia Parker, Susie Wilkinson, Smita Banerjee, Barry Bultz, and Simon Noble. Oxford University Press.

Roberts, F. (2017). Qualitative approaches to clinician-patient communication. In Kissane, DW, Bultz, BD, Butow, PN, Bylund, CL, Noble, S., Wilkinson, S., Oxford Textbook of Communication in Oncology and Palliative Care (2nd edition). Oxford University Press, pp. 405 – 409.

Bauer, A. & Roberts, F. (2015). Veterinary-Client Interaction. In Karen Tracy (Ed.) *International Encyclopedia of Language & Social Interaction*. Wiley-Blackwell. (Online pages)

Roberts, F. (2015). Transcription. In Karen Tracy (Ed.) *International Encyclopedia of Language & Social Interaction*. Wiley-Blackwell. (Online pages)

Roberts, F. & Kramer, J. (2014). Request and refusal of opiates in the chronic pain context. In H. Hamilton & W. S. Chou (Eds.) *Handbook of Language and Health Communication*, pp. 477-489. New York, NY: Routledge.

Gill, V. T. & Roberts, F. (2012). Conversation Analysis in the Medical Context. In T. Stivers & J. Sidnell (Eds.) *Handbook of Conversation Analysis*. Blackwell-Wiley, 573-592.

Roberts, F. (2010). Qualitative approaches to clinician-patient communication In D.W. Kissane, B.D. Bultz, P. Butow, & I. Finlay (Eds.) *Handbook of Oncology and Palliative Care*, pp.695-705. Oxford University Press.

Wilson, S.R., Roberts, F., & Munz, E.A. (2010). Mother-child play: Collaboration or power struggle? In K. Galvin (Ed.), *Making connections: Readings in relational communication* (5th ed.), pp. 346-354. Cary, NC: Roxbury/Oxford University Press.

Roberts, F., Wilson, S., Delaney, J. & Rack, J. (2009). Interactional patterns as indicators of trait verbal aggressiveness. In D. Cahn (Ed.) *Communication Approaches to Family Violence*, pp. 155-178. Albany, NY: SUNY Press.

Roberts, F. (2008). Transcribing and Transcription. In W. Donsbach (Ed.) *International Encyclopedia of Communication*, Vol. XI., pp. 5161-5165. Oxford, UK & Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

*Competitive Papers Delivered at Professional Meetings (Roberts is first author unless otherwise noted; secondary or co-authors noted in parenthesis at the end of the citation.)*

Perceptions of Inter-Turn Pauses in Requests in Standard and Colloquial Singapore English. Presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics (co-authored with Shoba Bandi-Rao – CUNY and Rebecca Starr - National University of Singapore). April 2023

Sensitivity to Inter-speaker Gaps in the Broad Autism Phenotype. Presented at the International Pragmatics Association (co-authored with Wei Siong No, Dan Foti, Brigitte Kelherer, Mai Yamamoto, all of Purdue University). Brussels, Belgium. July 2023.

Like-Prefacing in the Organization of Repair. 17th International Pragmatics Conference (Virtual) International Pragmatics Association (IPrA). Virtual, June 2021. Prepared and presented by Robinson, J. (with Nodar, L.).

Neural activation during delayed response at TRPs: Effects of age and sex [Online Presentation]. National Communication Association Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN. Nov 2020 (with D. Foti.)

*Where could the mechanics of intersubjectivity meet cognitive processing?* International Conference on Conversation Analysis, Los Angeles, CA, June 2014.

Recycling topics and activities across dinner gatherings as a means for establishing social alignment through epistemic balance. National Communication Association, Washington, D.C., November 2013 (with E. Strong).

Communicating Empathy and Bad News in the Post-Surgical Context: Insights from a Training Program in the Second Year of Surgical Residency. Southern States Communication Association, Division of Applied Communication (Louisville, KY). (with Gettings, Torbeck, & Helft), April 2013

Timing and cognitive processing in a dyadic framework: What gaps in conversation can teach us. Poster presented at Midwest Cognitive Science Meeting, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, May 2013.

An examination of morality in medical visits that address chronic pain. National Communication Association, Division of Language & Social Interaction. 98th Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, November 2012.

Extending Communication Privacy Management Theory: Topic Avoidance and Privacy Rules in Military Adolescents' Experiences of Deployment. National Communication Association, Orlando, FL, November 2012. (J. Owlett, first author)

"My Friends Don't Understand How it Feels": Exploring Perceptions of Feeling Understood among Adolescents who have Experienced the Deployment of a Military Parent. International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL, July 2012 (S. Wilson, first author)

Requests, refusals, and the moral order in chronic pain primary care visits. American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 2011.

Application of conversation analysis to the study of verbal aggression for the improvement of a community parenting program. American Association of Applied Linguists, Chicago, IL, March 2011. (with S. Wilson.)

Do patients' self reported goals connect with their request narratives during clinic visits for chronic pain? International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Miami, FL, October 2009.

Qualitative Differences in Child Praise by Mothers High and Low in Child Abuse Potential. Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI, April, 2008 (with Munz, E. Delaney, J. & Wilson, S.R.).

Cross-linguistic comparison of listener perceptions of inter-turn silence: Confluence of grammar, culture, and turn-taking? National Communication Association, San Diego, CA, November 2008.

The interaction of inter-turn silence, sequence type, and prosody in American & Italian perceptions of trouble in interaction. American Association of Applied Linguistics, Washington, D.C. March 2008 (with Margutti, P.)

Inter-turn silence and prosody: Gender effects? National Communication Association. Chicago, IL. November 2007 (with Norris, A.)

The Interaction of silence and prosody in American and Japanese perceptions of trouble in Interaction. International Communication Association. San Francisco, CA. May 2007 (with Takano, S.)

A Qualitative Analysis of Mother-Child Play-Time Interactions Comparing Mothers High and Low in Trait Verbal Aggressiveness. National Communication Association, San Antonio, TX. 2006 (with Wilson, S.R., Delaney, J.E., and Rack, J.)

Inter-turn silence from 0-1200 ms. So what? National Communication Association, Boston, MA 2005 (with Francis, A.)

Caretaker moral character in the veterinary visit. International Association of Applied Linguistics, Madison, WI. 2005

"You bite?" Functionality of animal directed utterances in veterinary clinic visits. National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA. 2002

Reliability of transcription practices among professional conversation analysts. American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL. 2002

Determining criteria for utterance relatedness during the first-word-period. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Atlanta, GA. 2002 (delivered by Balog, H.L.)

"Nigel's cute too . . ." Form and functionality of animal directed utterances. Poster presented at 1st Annual Conference on the Human-Animal Bond, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI. 2001

"Not a car salesman but . . ." Persuading patients to enroll in clinical trials. National Communication Association, Seattle, WA. 2000

Rhetorical practices for >selling= an experimental cancer treatment. American Association of Applied Linguistics, Vancouver, BC. 2000

Doing the deed: Design & implementation of survey research for a Purdue client. Problem Based Learning Forum, Center for Instructional Excellence, Purdue. 2000

Overcoming truth-telling as an obstacle to initiating safer sex: Collaborative construction of deception in pre-HIV test counseling sessions. National Communication Association, Chicago, IL. 1999 (with Mattson, M.)

The patient's request as a progressively realized project: A case study. National Communication Association, Chicago, IL. 1999 (with Gill, V.T. & Halkowski, T.)

Medical recommendations as joint social practice. Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN. 1999 (with Costello, B.)

Patient requests for medical intervention. Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN. 1999 (with Gill V.T. & Halkowski, T.)

Interactional construction of patient-provider roles. International Conference on Communication in Health Care. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. 1998

A grammatical analysis of recommendations for breast cancer treatment. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Chicago, IL. 1996

Recommendations for breast cancer treatment: A conversational achievement. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Chicago, IL. 1996

A conversation analysis of recommendations for breast cancer treatment. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Long Beach, CA. 1995

Self-reported stress and risk of breast cancer. Society for Behavioral Medicine, San Diego, CA. 1995

Evaluation of ESL writing by UW professors. WITESOL (regional TESOL conference) Madison, WI. 1994

The effect of writer identity on faculty evaluation of ESL writing. Milwaukee Linguistics Symposium, Milwaukee, WI. 1993

## Research Funding

### a. Extramural Funding

2022    Wearable sensors for modeling and assessing non-technical skills in surgery (PI: D.Yu, Industrial Engineering); \$775,206.22.

2011    Clarian Health Partners funding award (#VFE-214) to Indiana University Medical Center for Ethical Communication Skills for Surgery Residents. (Felicia Roberts, subcontract Principal Investigator; \$18,000; April 2011 - Oct 2011)

### b. Internal Funding (only major awards included to save space)

- 2021 Social impairment of conversation in adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Clifford B. Kinley Trust (\$20,000). Funded May 2021 – May 2022. (F. Roberts, P.I.; Budget \$20,000)
- 2013 Enhancing Research for the Humanities and the Arts. \$48,026.20 (Alejandro Cuza, PI; Co-PIs: Czerwionka, L., Olson, D., Roberts, F.)
- 2011 Office of Purdue's Vice President for Research; funding to attend Poynter Center 4-day workshop on teaching research ethics at Indiana University, Bloomington.

## **TEACHING**

### Courses Taught at Purdue University

#### Undergraduate

1. Approaches to the Study of Interpersonal Communication (COM 212)
2. Essentials of Human Interaction (COM 412)
3. Gender Communication (COM 376)
4. Honors Section of Interpersonal Communication (COM 212H)
5. Presentational Speaking (COM 114)
6. Intercultural Communication (COM 303)
7. Relationship Communication (COM 372)
8. Internship & Research practicum for Interpersonal Comm majors (COM 498)
9. Research Methods (COM 304)
10. Sociolinguistics of African American English (COM 368)

#### Graduate

1. Communication Theory (COM 600)
2. Conversation Analysis (COM 682R)
3. Discourse Analysis (COM 590D)
4. Discourse in Medical Settings (COM 672S)
5. Ethical Issues in Bio-Medical Research (COM 590E)
6. Language and Gender (COM 612G)
7. Qualitative Methods in Communication Research (COM 585)
8. Sociolinguistics (COM 565)

## **ENGAGEMENT**

1. University Service (Purdue University)

Director, Purdue Linguistics Program (2012 – 2016)

*The program had 51 undergraduate majors, 63 minors, 20 graduate students, and 3 jointly appointed faculty. There were 28 affiliated faculty spanning the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Health &*

*Human Sciences, and Engineering. As Director, I managed goals in all areas of discovery, learning, and engagement. Primarily, I oversaw teaching quality and teaching assignments, curriculum issues, graduate student admissions, and any faculty or student issues that could interfere with accomplishment of program goals. I was also responsible for principled budget administration and appropriate allocation of funds for student and faculty travel and research needs.*

Communication Coach, School of Veterinary Medicine. Consulting on client communication issues (Fall 2014 – 2015); Dr. Lynn Guptill, coordinator.

#### 4. University Lectures (talks delivered at Purdue)

Invited Speaker, Grand Rounds, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University. *The art & science of diagnostic news delivery.* (October 2015).

Indiana University School of Medicine-West Lafayette center. *Empathy & Bad News Delivery in the immediate post-surgical context.* (April 2012).

Indiana University School of Medicine-West Lafayette center. *Ethical dilemmas in provider-patient interactions: Reflections on recommendations to deceive in HIV counseling for practicing safe sex* (April 2011).

Invited Speaker, Asian Studies Spring Colloquium. Purdue University *Japanese and American perceptions of silence as “trouble” in conversation.* (March 2008).

Invited Speaker, Grand Rounds, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University. *Talking about prognosis: Decision-making in the health context.* (March 2006).

Invited for AISEC-Purdue Cultural Preparation Seminar, *Communication Across Cultures* (April 2003).

Colloquium Presentation, Department of Communication, Purdue University. *“Nigel’s cute too” Functionality of animal-directed utterances.* (September 2001).

Department of Audiology & Speech Sciences, Purdue University. *Opportunities and pitfalls in the intake interview.* (March 1999).

#### 6. Community Service & Creative Projects

Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette, Arthur Miller’s “All My Sons” (Role of Sue Bayliss) (2011); Role of “Claire” (originally “Clarence”) in “It’s a Wonderful Life” (2013)

Commendation for “Exemplary Conduct Benefitting the State of Indiana” for engagement with Lafayette Adult Resource Academy (2011, 2012, 2014).

Minority Health Coalition of Tippecanoe County, Member of the Board (2000-2005).

Caring Paws, President of the Board. This group provides outreach through animal assisted activities to nursing homes, hospitals, and centers for developmentally disabled children and adults (2001- 2003; 2005-2006).

Presentation to Nursing students at St. Elizabeth Hospital: Communication, comfort, and health: Therapeutic benefits of the human-animal bond (March 2002).

Presentation to Lafayette Noon Optimists Club of Lafayette: Therapeutic benefits of the human-animal bond. (April 2002).

Judge for Optimists Club Oratorical Contest for boys and girl