

In Memoriam
JONATHAN MARLER DALBY
September 3, 1946 – September 14, 2016

Jonathan M. Dalby, Associate Professor Emeritus of Communication Sciences and Disorders, passed away on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. Jonathan was born in San Diego, California and soon after his birth the family moved to Utah. Following his high school graduation he enlisted in the Army serving in Vietnam. Returning home he earned his Bachelor's in 1971 and Master's in 1974 from Utah State University with majors in English Literature and English Language. Upon graduating with his Master's, Jonathan became an ESL Instructor, at the Institute Bourguiba des Langues Vivantes, in Tunis, Tunisia while serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer. The following year Jonathan continued his work by earning an Indiana University International Program Peace Corps Fellowship. For the next two years Jonathan received a National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship. The study of language was keenly developed during this period of his life, particularly the acoustic and phonological differences in languages and accents. He returned to the United States to earn a second master's degree from Indiana University in Linguistics in 1979. Continuing on with his study for a Ph.D., Jonathan worked as a Research Assistant in the Phonetics Laboratory at Indiana University. While writing his dissertation, he was the Coordinator of the Adult ESL Program, for Rochester, Minnesota Public Schools earning his Ph.D. in 1984. Jonathan was fluent in French and he studied German, Arabic, Hausa.

Following completion of his education, Jonathan became a Research Fellow for the Center for Speech Technology Research at the University at Edinburgh, Scotland for four years. He returned to Bloomington, Indiana as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Linguistics. During this time in Bloomington, he worked with colleagues to develop tests and software for speech analysis where he became the Research and Development Manager and Senior Scientist for their company, Communication Disorders Technology, Inc. Jonathan joined the IPFW Audiology and Speech Sciences Department in 2003 as a Visiting Assistant Professor and became an Assistant Professor in 2004. Jonathan was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate professor in 2010 becoming department chair in fall 2011.

His numerous research articles and grants centered on the following topics: acoustic and articulatory phonetics and speech perception; automatic speech recognition; computer-based speech and language training systems for people with hearing impairment, and intelligibility of foreign-accented speech. Jonathan and his colleagues at Communication Disorders Technology developed a hearing screening system that could be given over regular phone lines as advertised in recent *AARP* magazines. Jonathan also served as a grant reviewer for the National Institutes of Health. He was a member of the Acoustical Society of America.

Jonathan enjoyed his home and yard by planting beautiful, unusual trees and looking for the rare birds that would come to his feeders. As a gourmet cook, he coupled his meals with his own wines and his love of classical and jazz music. He delighted in giving his homemade wine away

as gifts. Raised in Utah, hiking the desert with his dogs and friends was one of us favorite places to go. Watching professional tennis, IU basketball and the Big Bang Theory provided entertainment for him.

It was at IPFW that Jonathan found his vocation and passion for teaching undergraduate students. He entertained them with various acoustical noises and instruments to demonstrate principles. He recruited students to assist him with his research to isolate factors that interfere with the intelligibility of foreign-accented speech. Jonathan enjoyed teaching phonetics from his linguistic background to make sure students understood not only how to correctly record speech sounds but to understand the phonetic, phonological and acoustic principles involved. Students commented on his compassion and kindness toward them when they struggled with difficult acoustical concepts. Mostly students and colleagues fondly remember him for his quick wit and funny sayings as well as his white socks and sandals that he wore even in the winter. He will be greatly missed.

Jonathan is survived by his five sisters and two brothers who live in Utah, Arizona and Oregon.