

# LASSO THE LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHWEST Newsletter

Volume 43, No.1

<https://lassoling.org/>

Spring 2024

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## THANK YOU, DENVER, FOR LASSO 2023!

For the second year in a row after the pandemic, we met in person in Denver, Colorado. We had a series of very engaging presentations and participated in much needed interactions with our colleagues. Dr. Glenn Martínez (University of Texas at San Antonio) delivered a thought provoking and captivating keynote address "Speaking from the Heart: Reflections on Teaching Spanish for Latino Health". Our 2023 LASSO President Dr. Rachel Showstack (Wichita State University) inspired and lead us in conversation "Addressing the Big Picture as A Community-Engaged Linguist".

We also announced the Helmut Esau Award. Sarah Lease (University of New Mexico) received the award for her work "A usage-based account of paregotic /e/ in 20<sup>th</sup> century New Mexican Spanish".

## CONGRATULATIONS, SARAH LEASE!

During our meeting, we proposed and discussed changes to our Constitution and Bylaws and we voted to authorize an e-mail vote for LASSOvians to ratify these changes. LASSO members voted unanimously to approve the revised Constitution and Bylaws. The most updated version can be found here: <https://lassoling.org/constitution/>

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## SEE YOU IN SAN ANTONIO IN THE FALL!

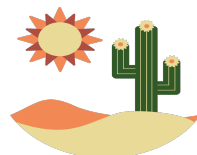
This coming fall we will meet in San Antonio, Texas! Our Annual Meeting will bring LASSOvians to University of Texas at San Antonio's Downtown Campus September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. José Esteban Hernández will join us from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley as our plenary speaker. The theme for our fall meeting is dialect contact, leveling, and change. We are excited to see the work LASSOvians will bring on these and the many linguistic phenomena we study!

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## FUTURE LASSO MEETINGS

LASSOvians who would like to host a future LASSO Conference should contact Executive Director Michelle F. Ramos Pellicia, [lasso.executive.director@gmail.com](mailto:lasso.executive.director@gmail.com) for more information.

Proposals may be presented at the Business Meeting. You do not have to be on the Executive or any other committee to present a proposal to host a LASSO Conference. If you are interested in hosting a conference, we encourage you to let us know!



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## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

**Alba Arias Álvarez** started a new position as Assistant Professor in Spanish and Linguistics, Department of English Language and Linguistics, & Department of Modern Languages at the University of Sussex, UK. She also has published the following:

Arias Álvarez, A. 2024. Asturian cider in Madrid? Linguistic identity and the multilingual signage of Asturian restaurants in Madrid, Spain, *International Journal of Multilingualism*, DOI: [10.1080/14790718.2023.2301537](https://doi.org/10.1080/14790718.2023.2301537)

Arias Álvarez, A. 2024. Linguistic landscapes of activism: the fight for a quality public healthcare in Madrid. *Journal of Language and Politics*.

Arias Álvarez, A. 2023. A Little Caribbean in Madrid: analysis of the Dominican identity in the public space. *Language and Migration* 15(1), pp. 105-131.

Arias Álvarez, A. & McAlister, I. 2024. Dude, obvio, ho!: A cross-linguistic pragmatic account of Asturian Spanish Ho and American English Dude. *Journal of Pragmatics* 221, pp. 105-119.

LASSOVians **Alba Arias Álvarez** and **Sheryl Bernardo-Hinesley** have two of their most recent work published:

Arias Álvarez, A. & Bernardo-Hinesley, S. 2023. Language Contact, Identity Building, and Attitudes Towards the Use of a Minoritized Language in the Public Space. *Linguistic Landscape. International Journal*.

Arias Álvarez, A. & Bernardo-Hinesley, S. 2023. Uncovering minority voices: the linguistic landscape of Mieres, Asturias. *Open Linguistics* 9(1), pp. 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1515/opli-2022-023>

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS ON THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

If you have published a book, other news to report about yourself, or if you would like to publicize an event that would be of interest to other LASSO members, please send a message to: Michelle F. Ramos Pellicia at [lasso.executive.director@gmail.com](mailto:lasso.executive.director@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

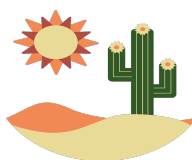
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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

There is no better time than the present time to renew your membership. If you prefer to renew by check, there is a Membership Renewal Form at the end of this newsletter that you can print and send. You can also renew your membership online:

<https://lassoling.org/membership/>

Membership in LASSO demonstrates commitment to the study of linguistics and provides scholars and students alike the opportunity to develop professional friendships, to obtain information about teaching and research, and to exchange ideas and network with each other. LASSO members receive two newsletters per year and two issues of the *International Journal of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest*. Presentation of papers at the annual LASSO conference is a privilege of membership, and only those who are LASSO members may have their work published in *IJLASSO*. Members in good standing may vote and hold office.



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## 2024 HELMUT ESAU AWARD

### DESCRIPTION

This award is named in honor of Helmut Esau, who was active in the early days of LASSO. Professor Esau died in an automobile accident shortly after he was elected to the LASSO presidency. His colleagues at the time established the Esau Award to commemorate his contributions to the Linguistic Association of the Southwest and the profession at large.

### ELIGIBILITY

Undergraduate and graduate student presenters can submit their revised, polished paper for consideration for the Helmut Esau Award for best student paper.

- To be an undergraduate or graduate student
- Presented a paper in the 2023 Annual Meeting
- Be the sole author of the paper or have co-authored it with other student(s).

Now is an excellent time to revise your paper!

### AWARD

The award is given to the best of all high-quality submissions received. Recipients of this prestigious accolade receive a \$400 cash award (more directions on our LASSO website <https://lassoling.org/conference/>).

### SUBMISSION

Submit your polished paper to this year's LASSO President, Dr. Patricia MacGregor-Mendoza ([pmacgreg@nmsu.edu](mailto:pmacgreg@nmsu.edu)). Papers must be submitted to the President by March 15", 2024.

In your email subject line, please write YOUR NAME -LASSO HELMUT ESAU AWARD. Please submit your paper and information in two separate documents as follows:

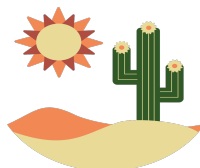
#### Information

1. Your name(s)
2. Title of your paper
3. School Affiliation
4. Contact e-mail
5. Paper Title

Before submitting, make sure to:

- Eliminate any references to you within the paper
- Omit the acknowledgments
- Use the preferred format: Language Style (see Language Style Sheet)
- Papers should not exceed 8,000 words including footnotes.

The award recipient will be announced in our LASSO Annual Meeting 2024.



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# 53<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHWEST (LASSO)

## CALL FOR PAPERS

LASSO, the Linguistic Association of the Southwest, invites abstract submissions for papers and group panels for its 53rd Annual Meeting to be held at the University of Texas at San Antonio Downtown Campus, on September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The Linguistic Association of the Southwest (LASSO) is a linguistics association in the United States whose purpose is the advancement of the scientific study of language. While many of our members study the languages of the southwestern United States, LASSO has an international focus; it draws its membership and includes linguistic scholarship from any language and any region in the world.

For this year's conference, we welcome papers in all areas of linguistic inquiry including, but not limited to, language variation and change, contact, planning and policy, attitudes and ideologies, syntax, morphology, phonetics, phonology, and teaching methodologies. This year's theme is dialect contact, leveling, and change. As such, we especially encourage submission of papers addressing these phenomena. Our plenary speaker is José Esteban Hernández (The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley).

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Abstracts may be written in English or Spanish. Presentations should be delivered in the same language as the abstract. Only one abstract as single author and a second as co-author will be accepted from any one individual.

Presentation time for papers will be 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion. Proposals for complete panels with multiple speakers are also welcome but must fit within a 90-minute time frame.

Abstracts should be 250-500 words, single-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font, and should summarize the main points and indicate key aspects of the data and methodology. Use of special fonts should be kept to a minimum. In general, omit the bibliography.

Submissions by graduate students are especially welcome. By presenting at LASSO, graduate students are eligible for the Helmut Esau Prize, which includes a \$400 award.

Participation in LASSO is a privilege of membership. This means that an individual must be a current member in order to present a paper and be listed in the conference program. You may fill out a membership form at the same time you register for the conference at [lassoling.org/membership/](https://lassoling.org/membership/).

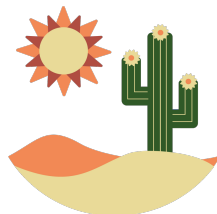
**Deadline for single-paper submissions:** May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Deadline for panel submissions:** May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Submissions open:** February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Abstract review period:** June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 - June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Submission link available in the Linguist List website here:** <https://easyabs.linguistlist.org/conference/lasso-53>



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## LASSO ACCOUNT: FEBRUARY-2024

**Start Balance: \$ 70164.47**

Memberships for 2023	\$3,085.00
Bank of America #8161	+\$70,164.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$73,249.47</b>

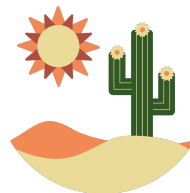
### Debits

Helmut Prize (Sarah Lease)	-\$400.00
Website domain 2023	-\$18.00
*Conference (UC Denver)	-\$2,776.00*
<b>Total</b>	<b>-\$3,194.00</b>

\* The \$2776 in expenditures for the 2023 meeting was to cover for hotel room reservations. The Executive Committee decided to do this one-time contribution because LASSO should support the coverage of unexpected expenses as we transition back from the pandemic. The Executive Committee carefully considered how the transition from COVID restrictions back to some sense of “normalcy” is impacting conference planning, including uncertainties and unknowns of transitioning and big events organizing.

While we, ideally, should be making money at the conference to sustain the event’s organizing, that was not the case last year. Given the concerns about setting a precedent, the Executive Director gathered the ideas on steps we can take as preventive measures. The safeguards are as follows:

- brainstorm strategies to keep these risks at a minimum,
- negotiate conference room rates,
- stay away from commitments with hotels on room reservations,
- identify other ways to lower the cost of lodging for conferences (e.g., recommending lower-rate hotels or organizing room sharing alternatives for students or folks on a tighter budget),
- track the number of people who chose to go to the hotels booked by our organization at the past two conferences and get a rough projection for the next event so that the participants cover the number of reserved rooms in the next conference,
- create a brief survey questionnaire to gauge the likelihood of each accepted conference presenter to stay in a conference hotel. The information could then be communicated to the local arrangements committee. The VicePresident can lead on this step as they are the Program Chair and has access to the contact info for presenters.



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# THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF THE LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHWEST

## NEWS ABOUT IJLASSO

Good news, LASSOvians!! The first online issue of the International Journal of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest (IJLASSO) has already been published. This is volume 42, but it is the first one in our open access format. Please, use the link to have access to the articles:

<https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/ijlasw/>

We are in the process of including past issues in the webpage.

## ABOUT IJLASSO

The International Journal of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest (ISSN 0737-4143) is published semiannually by the Linguistic Association of the Southwest.

## Aims & Scope

The journal publishes papers across a broad range of topics in linguistics, though research papers dealing with the languages of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico are especially encouraged. The journal also publishes scholarly reviews of the literature, book reviews, and occasional commentary on topics of concern to the journal's readership. Proposals for thematic issues and nominations for guest editors are invited.

## CALL FOR PAPERS!

Please, submit your papers to IJLASSO. The plan is to have a new issue for Fall 2024. Papers submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 will have a better chance to be included in the next issue.

## POLICIES AND GENERAL SUBMISSION RULES

All manuscripts and inquiries should be submitted:

<https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/ijlasw/>

**Note:** Authors need not be members of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest (LASSO) to submit their work for review, but authors of papers selected for publication must be LASSO members.

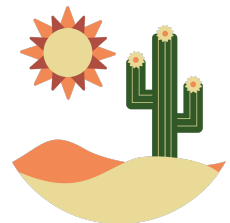
## INFORMATION FOR SUBSCRIBERS

Subscription to the International Journal of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest is a privilege of LASSO membership. Dues for individual memberships in the association are US\$75.00. Student memberships are US\$30.00 per calendar year, with proof of student status. Institutional memberships are US\$60.00 per calendar year. Life memberships are US\$600. The annual postage surcharge for non-U.S. addressees is US\$15.00.

To become a member of the association, visit LASSO's Membership webpage.

Inquiries concerning membership and subscription should be sent to the Treasurer:

Patricia Gubitosi, Treasurer  
Spanish and Portuguese Studies University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Email: [gubitosi@umass.edu](mailto:gubitosi@umass.edu)



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**LASSO 2023 Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**5 October 2023**

**Attendees:** Glenn Martínez, Rachel Showstack, Devin Jenkins, Daniel Villa, Alba Arías, Sheryl Bernardo-Hinesley, Mark Waltermire, Michelle R. Ramos Pellicia, Patricia Gubitosi, Patricia MacGregor-Mendoza, Jens Clegg

**1. Approval of minutes Executive Committee meeting Saturday, September 24th, 2022**

Approved agenda from newsletter (need to change year from Patricia Gubitosi's term as Treasurer to 2025)

**2. Vacant seats**

Katherine Christofferson's term ends, Rachel Showstack (Nominating Committee) nominating committee will be seeking nominations.

**3. Changes to LASSO's constitution and bylaws**

Michelle Ramos Pellicia sought input on how to seek votes on changes.

Discussion at this year's business meeting with opportunity to suggest amendments with at least 5 people signing on; vote to put ballot out; Voting may be conducted online. Suggestion to make vote Article by Article rather than line by line. When there are big changes to be discussed within one article those items might be separated. The changes largely reflect updating the constitution and bylaws with respect to defining roles and procedures.

**4. LASSO Conference for the next three years**

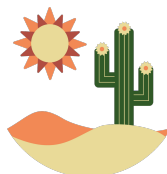
- a. UTSA in 2024 Glenn; program chair Mark Waltermire
- b. Wichita State in 2025 (Rachel Showstack) possibly in conjunction with a health studies conference

We also discussed the opportunity of offering conferences or sessions in conferences online to expand the grad students, help with costs, the trick for the program coordinator is to determine which/how many virtual slots there would be and how to work the technology to allow for those people to present. We might want to set aside slots for grad students as virtual.

Additionally, we need to work on identifying people who would like to serve as Executive Director of LASSO in 2025.

**6. Treasurer Report**

We are breaking even somewhat with our funds, but we need to raise revenue. Part of the changes to the constitution and bylaws will address raising membership fees. There is need to make sure that people whose names appear on the program need to pay membership fees even if they are not presenting. We need to make sure that we include this information in the call for papers.



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## 7. Local Arrangements Committee Report

We're here! Costs of the conference are high due to the campus constraints. Rooms cost \$2000; Hotel was a bit of a headache; required 80 nights booked, LASSO has to make up the difference. \$5300 collected in conference fees, cost of about \$7500 for allowing conference. Department will help out to defray some costs, LASSO will pick up some funds. Appx. 28 presenters are grad students.

## 8. Vice-President / Program Chair Report

Abstracts Submitted: 62

Abstracts Accepted: 60

Presentations originally scheduled of confirmed presenters: 51 +2 panels

Presentations currently scheduled (after withdrawals): 47 +2 panels

## 9. President Report

- a. Helmut Esau award went to Sarah Lease (University of New Mexico) "A usage-based account of paregogic /e/ in 20<sup>th</sup> century New Mexican Spanish".

## 10. Development Committee Report

### a. Call for Papers

1. It was shared with graduate programs in Hispanic Linguistics throughout the nation and the site LinguistList.

- i. Irene took charge of the central area of the US.
- ii. Claudia, the West coast, and
- iii. Irina, the East coast

### b. Webpage

1. The committee has successfully updated the website, sharing all the relevant information.

### c. Social Networks

1. The posting of events and announcements is regularly done on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

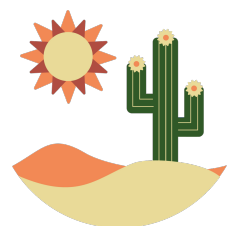
i. There are more engagements through Twitter and Facebook. Members retweet some of the posts. There are only a few engagements on LinkedIn and Instagram.

a. Fall 2023:

1. Twitter: 90 followers
2. Instagram: 62 followers
3. LinkedIn: 26 members
4. Facebook: 560 members

b. These are the accounts:

1. Twitter: <https://twitter.com/lassoling>
2. Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lassoling>
3. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2851787>
4. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/146699991466>





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c. Concerns and Ideas

1. There are a lot of spam posts on Facebook, and sometimes it is hard to erase them all, which may discourage members from engaging in the page.
2. It would be useful to maintain a list of contact people, institutions, etc. who regularly participate in LASSO so it is easier to spread the word about upcoming events, conferences, etc.

**11. New business**

- a. Special session to honor Wilfredo Valentín-Márquez - Michelle Ramos Pelliccia would like to propose doing a special session to honor him)

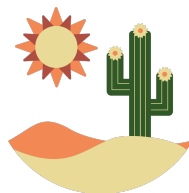
**13. Reminder: Business Meeting**

- a. Date: Saturday, October 7th  
b. Time -10:45am-11:45am  
c. Location: Student Commons 1401

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**LASSO 2023 Business Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
7 October 2023**

1. Agenda approved
2. Minutes of Executive meeting Wednesday, October 5th, 2023 - Approved
3. Vacant seats
  - a. Executive Committee – 1 vacant seat - Damián Vergara Wilson (2026) - Approved
  - b. Nominating Committee – 1 vacant seat – Daniela Narváez (2026) - Approved
4. LASSO Conference for the next three years
  - a. Proposals
    - i. 2024: UTSA; Glenn Martínez as local arrangements chair, Mark Waltermire as Program Chair – Approved
    - ii. 2025: Wichita State University (Planned)
    - iii. 2026: UNM (Tentatively, as long as Damián can get support)
5. Constitution and Bylaws
  - a. Discussion on changes to LASSO Constitution and bylaws to authorize an e-mail vote to make the changes
    - i. Members present reviewed and modified the proposed changes and approved sending the revisions to an electronic vote amongst the membership.



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Sincere **Thanks** are extended to those named below who contribute their time and talents as officers  
volunteers for the Linguistic Association of the Southwest.

**President**

Patricia MacGregor-Mendoza, New Mexico State University (2024)

**Past President**

Rachel Showstack, Wichita State University (2024)

**Vice President / Program Chair**

Mark Waltermire, New Mexico State University (2024)

**Executive Director**

Michelle F. Ramos Pellicia, California State University San Marcos (2025)

**Treasurer**

Patricia Gubitosi, University of Massachusetts Amherst (2025)

**Executive Committee**

Sheryl Bernardo Hinesley, Western Washington University (2025)

Damián Vergara Wilson, University of New Mexico (2026)

Israel Sanz-Sánchez, West Chester University (2024)

**Nominating Committee**

Alba Ariás Álvarez, Universidad de Alcalá (2025)

Daniela Narváez, University of Massachusetts Amherst (2026)

Jens Clegg, Purdue University Fort Wayne (2024)

**Local Organizing Committee for the 2024 Conference:** Michael Rushforth, Bridget Drinka,  
Stephanie Gonzalez

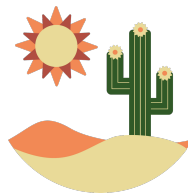
**Program Chair:** Glenn Martínez, University of Texas at San Antonio (2024)

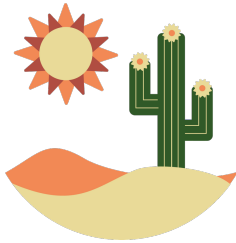
**Development Committee**

María Irene Moyna, Texas A&M (2025)

Claudia Matachana López, University of Massachusetts Amherst (2025)

Irina Lifszyc, University of Massachusetts Amherst (2025)





**LASSO** The Linguistic Association of the  
Southwest

**2024 Membership Application\_\_\_\_\_or Membership Renewal\_\_\_\_\_**  
(Please print)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Institutional Affiliation** (if not given above): \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** Home: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Office: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues:** Regular -- \$75 US \_\_\_\_\_  
Student/retired/unemployed -- \$30 US \_\_\_\_\_  
Institutional -- \$60 US \_\_\_\_\_

**Overseas postage surcharge:** \$15 annually \_\_\_\_\_

**Life membership:** \$600 US \_\_\_\_\_

**Tax-deductible contribution** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to "LASSO."** Your canceled check will be your receipt. Return this form with your remittance to:

Dr. Patricia Gubitosi, LASSO Treasurer  
422 Herter Hall  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
161 Presidents Dr  
Amherst, MA 01003

Visit our website at: <http://lassoling.org/>