

UCSD linguist elected president of Linguistic Society of America

November 16, 1999

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UCSD LINGUIST ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA

David Perlmutter, a professor of linguistics at the University of California, San Diego, has been elected president of the Linguistic Society of America. This year, he has been serving as vice president of the Society. His term as president begins in January 2000.

Perlmutter is a renowned linguist who has published research on the structure of about 20 different European, Asian, and Native American languages, as well as American Sign Language (ASL), the language of deaf communities in the United States and most of Canada.

He is also widely known at UCSD for his popular course on "Sign Language and its Culture," which typically attracts standing room only crowds, and for his upper-division course on language morphology. Students have rated both courses among the 50 best courses at UCSD. Underscoring his prowess in the classroom, this year Perlmutter received the UCSD Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

As a graduate student at MIT in the late 1960s, Perlmutter studied under legendary linguist Noam Chomsky. He received his Ph. D. in linguistics from MIT and his B.A. from Harvard. Prior to joining the UCSD Department of Linguistics in 1977, Perlmutter held teaching positions at MIT and Brandeis University.

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