

Frances Fister-Stoga

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I grew up in a trilingual environment in the United States as well as in a bilingual city, Montreal, Canada. My first-hand experience with the benefits of multilingualism also came from my international teaching experience in three continents. Parallel to my focus on multilingualism has been the exploration of endangered languages and language revitalization. From 1992 to 2010 I was the sole American lecturer at the University of Tokyo which gave me the opportunity to study the situation of Ainu and Okinawan communities. During my directorship of the Linguapax Asia delegation in Japan, I promoted over six international symposia dealing with language rights, language learning, and linguistic heritage. Currently, my field of interest lies in the revitalization of Yiddish in Poland.

- Instituted the Asian (Japan) delegation of UNESCO's Linguapax Project (Barcelona, Spain):
<http://www.Linguapax-Asia.org>
- Guided the Asian delegation (Japan) as General Director from 2005-2011
- Organized symposia on various issues of language, linguistic diversity, and language rights (United Nations University, Embassy of Canada, Tokyo University)
- Advisory Board of Linguapax 2011 to present
- Certificate in Peace Education Professional Development, Columbia University, New York, USA
- Researcher in the revitalization of Yiddish: Shalom Foundation 2011 to present
- Visiting professor University of Warsaw Institute of Applied Linguistics 2011 to present

Educational Background:

- 9th International Seminar in Yiddish Language and Culture, Fundacja Shalom, Warsaw, Poland (2011)
- University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, Postgraduate Diploma in Research and Professional Studies in Education
- Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky, USA, MA (English and Teaching of Writing)
- Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, MA (Applied Linguistics)
- McGill University, Montreal, Canada, MA (English Literature) Dissertation: a stylistic comparison of Camus' *La Peste* and Defoe's *Journal of a Plague Year*
- Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada, MA (Education): focus on bilingual education and language immersion

- University of Massachusetts, Boston campus, USA (English and German):scholarship for one semester of study at the University of Freiburg, Germany

Selected Presentations:

- “Linguapax: Past and Present” Worldwide Forum on Education and Culture. Rome. Dec 3-5, 2009.
- “ESL Textbooks in the German National Socialist Era.” Linguapax Asia 2008 Symposium: Language and Propaganda. October 26, 2008. University of Tokyo, Japan
- “Alma Karlin Japan: Her Perspectives on Teaching Languages.” 13th International IATEFL Slovenia Annual Conference. September 22-24 2005. Ljubljana, Slovenia
- “The Colonial Uncolonial.” Symposium of Slovene Language and Culture. December 2, 2000. University of Tokyo, Japan.
- “Rakugo and Discourse: The Influence of Traditional Storytelling on EFL Textbooks Published in Japan.” AILA 12th World Congress of Applied Linguistics. August 1-6, 1999. Tokyo, Japan.

Selected Publications:

- Linguapax Asia: A Retrospective Edition of Language and Human Rights Issues
Collected Proceedings of Linguapax Asia Symposia 2004-2009.
- “Insects, Children and Forgiveness: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Japanese EFL Texts.”
Language Information Text 11 (2004): 121-140. “Plain Persuasion: John Woolman’s Rhetoric of
Equality.” *Language Information Text* 9 (2001-2002):29-39
- “The Study of English in Japan: Traditions and Tendencies.” *Studies in Foreign Language and
Learning* 1666. Prace Naukowe Uniwersytetu Slaskiego. Katowice, Poland (1998):223-231.