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Editor's Prologue to the 4th Volume

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EDITOR'S PROLOGUE
WELCOME TO THE 4TH VOLUME

Some experiments fail while others succeed. *Linguistic Portfolios (LP)* is a bold experiment that I conceived and implemented in 2012. It is an annual publication that highlights the best of the best of students' research in linguistics and related fields. I do publish some of my own articles in it as a way of leading by example. As of February 15, 2015, articles in *LP* have been downloaded 16,213 times, compared with 40,000 total downloads of the various publications in Saint Cloud State University's repository. In other words, over 40% of all downloads from SCSU's repository are from *LP*. Moreover, four of the ten most downloaded articles from SCSU's repository are from *LP*. *LP* authors are listed in the top ten searches in Google Scholar on linguistic related topics. Any search on the acoustics of vowel spaces, on the acquisition of prepositions by L2 writers of English, on the Game theory and language planning will invariably feature articles from *LP*. The scholarly impact of *LP* is undeniable! The success of *LP* also comes from the cast of competent associate editors who volunteer their time and talent. Meet the 2015 associate editors of Volume 4:

Jon Cotner: Jon is completing an MA in TESL/Applied Linguistics at St Cloud State University. His research area is Resolution Rules in Arabic and transfer issues in Arabic L2 composition. Jon spent a childhood year in Liberia where his father was a visiting scholar at the University of Liberia. He earned a BA in Philosophy and has since had careers as a mechanic for IBM; as a writer for Emerson Electric, Wells Fargo, Datacard, Lawson Software, and Pearson Education; as a trainer of HTML, software applications, and technical solutions; and as an independent contractor in associated capacities throughout Minnesota and the Upper Midwest. As a long-time transplant, Jon spends his downtime with either a hockey stick, an 8-pound maul, or a bicycle close at hand. Jon's current areas of interest include interlanguage dynamics and second language writing.

Kristen Thorn: Kristen grew up in New York state and graduated from Taylor University, IN, with a K-12 license in Art and Music Education. She taught Art and piano in Minnesota for 5 years and in Venezuela for 5 years. She then taught English in Venezuela, Mexico and Jordan for 17 years, mostly for personal and business communication, TOEFL iBT preparation, and intense private lessons. She speaks Spanish well and Arabic a bit. Kristen is completing her MA in TESL/Applied Linguistics. Her research area is Resumptive Pronouns and Somali L2 writing.

Volume 4 features several breathtaking articles on a wide variety of topics. We are pleased to welcome two articles from the University of Minnesota. *LP* is open to all students from Minnesota and neighboring states whose papers are innovative and of extremely high academic quality. The only requirement is that papers be recommended by the faculty member who taught the course or who supervised the research project. The deadline for submission is always **December 31st** of each year. *We are now accepting submissions for Volume 5, 2015*.

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