

CURRICULUM VITA

VIDA SAMIAN

College of Arts and Humanities
California State University, Fresno
Fresno, CA 93740

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles, 1983
- Master of Arts in Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles, 1974
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles, 1968

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Syntax
- First and Second Language Acquisition
- Sociolinguistics
- Language Area: Indo-Iranian

Ph.D. Dissertation: *Structure of Phrasal Categories in Persian: An X-bar Analysis*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- July 04 Dean, *ad interim*, College of Arts and Humanities, California State University, Fresno.
- 1994-04 Associate Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, California State University, Fresno. Responsible for providing support to the Dean in all administrative and academic aspects of the operation of the College; specifically in charge of distance learning, special programs, outreach to the community and K-12, grants and development, and all curricular matters. Regularly taught one course in Linguistics (25%).
- Fall 1997 Acting Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, California State University, Fresno. Served as acting dean during the sabbatical leave of Dean Luis Costa, Summer and Fall 1997; provided leadership and budgetary planning during a particularly difficult budget year, worked closely with the chairs of the nine departments in the college and with the council of deans; addressed all personnel and operational issues; continued previous projects in general

Humanities
nine education, outreach, and grants and research; provided leadership to special programs, the London Semester, the University Press, the Arts and Advisory Board, and the technology component of the college with especially designed computer labs.

- 1989-1993 Chair, Linguistics Department, California State University, Fresno. Provided leadership to a large department (18 faculty positions) with many ancillary programs. In addition to graduate and undergraduate programs in general and applied linguistics, the department offered an English as a second language program for English language learners, an English language institute for non-matriculated international students, teacher education programs such as CLAD and BCLAD, and other special programs; During my tenure as chair, we expanded collaboration with the School of Education; developed and offered especially scheduled degree programs for overseas teachers from Taiwan and for year-round teachers in the Fresno county; assumed leadership of the Western Conference on Linguistics and began publication of the conference proceedings, now in its fourteenth volume.
- 1984-1993 Professor, Linguistics Department, CSU, Fresno.
1984 Lecturer; 1986 Assistant Professor; 1988 Associate Professor.
Selected Courses Taught: Syntax (Undergraduate and graduate levels)
General Linguistics, Grammar of English, Structure of English, Sociolinguistics, Language and Gender, Second Language Acquisition, First Language Acquisition, TESOL Methodology, Linguistics and Reading.

SELECTED PROJECTS, COMMITTEES, & LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

- September 2004 University Strategic Planning Committee to review milestone reports and coordinates the next round of strategic planning 05-06.
- Fall 2004 International Studies Advisory Board. Advisory board to the Associate VP of the Division of Continuing and Global Education
- 2000-04 Founding member of University High School. Currently chair of its Board of Directors.
- 2000-Present Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute Planning and Steering Committee
- 1996-Present President's Commission on Teacher Education
- 1994-Present Arts and Humanities Advisory Board
- 2000-2001 University Strategic Planning (Phase II), Chair of the task force on Faculty Issues and Goals.
- 2003-Present Student Success Taskforce
- 1999-2001 College of Arts and Humanities Strategic Planning (Phase II), Task force to develop phase II strategic plan for the College.
- **1998-04 University High School.** Served as one of the founding members to develop a

small, college preparatory charter high school on the Fresno State campus with Music as a common experience. The school graduated its first class in June 04 and has ranked among the top 6 schools statewide.

- **1999-03 California Academic Preparation Initiative (CAPI), English program,** Coordinated the English component of the project, working with 8 regional high schools with the highest percentage of students needing remediation. The project expanded in the with the establishment of literacy centers at three schools, and ELL program for juniors at two schools and an EPT preparation course for seniors at all eight schools. Six faculty members from English and Linguistics, six part-time instructors and two emeriti faculty have been involved in the project.
- **1998-99, Outcome-based Assessment Team:** Participated in a five-member campus team in the Wharton Leadership Seminar *Leading Organizational Change* to design an outcome based assessment plan for the campus; the team's work was coordinated by the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, building a grass roots campaign to move all academic programs to an outcome-based assessment model. In the span of two years, all academic programs began outcome based assessment plans.
- **1998-2005, CSU Summer Arts Program:** Participated in the development of the proposal leading to the selection of Fresno State as the site for the CSU Summer Arts program (1999-2003); in summer of 2000, the program broke an all time record in average number of students per class and audience participation. In 1994, the School successfully hosted the California Summer School for the Arts (CSSA), an intensive summer arts program for high school students normally hosted at Cal Arts.
- **1995-present, Fresno County Academic Decathlon Liaison, and Coordinator of the College Credit Option:** In collaboration with Fresno County Office of Education, the School of Arts and Humanities hosts the Fresno County Academic Decathlon, offering a number of workshops to assist participating high school teams prepare for the competition.
- **1996-present, College Connection Program:** An early admission program for eligible high school seniors and juniors designed to enable college ready high school students to take three to six units of university credit from a selected list of lower division courses. In 1997, approximately 250 students from 12 different high schools participated in a course titled *Conversations on American Pluralism and Identity*.
- **Young Humanities Scholars Program:** A three year program of study for eligible high school students involving 18 units of course work at the University and leading to a certificate of completion recognized by a number of honors programs. Implementation will begin in Fall 1999..
- **1994-present, Arts & Humanities Advisory Board:** The college advisory board has been reorganized to include a number of prominent personalities and alumni with humanistic and art advocacy interests. The new board has incorporated fundraising and outreach as part of its mission;
- **1997-2002, Human Resources Sexual Harassment Investigative team:** received training in mediation and case investigation to serve on an eight-person resource team for conducting investigations of sexual harassment complaints received by the university; to-date served on two cases.

- **1994, Committee for Merger of Graphic & Interior Design** with Art Department: Represented the School in negotiating the successful merger of the Graphic and Interior Design programs, previously in the School of Agricultural Sciences, with the Art Department. The new Department of Art and Design houses all visual art programs.

SELECTED GRANTS & AWARDS

- **National Science Foundation, *A Parametric Analysis of Persian***, 1989-91, CO-PI with J. Heny, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
A study of variations in headedness, Pro-drop, and Wh-parameters in Persian within Chomsky's Principles and Parameters framework, using first and second language acquisition evidence from inter-language and transfer phenomena.
- **National Endowment for the Humanities, *Fresno Conversations on American Pluralism and Identity***, Project Director, 1996-98, \$50,000.
A series of dialogues on race, class, and gender held throughout Fresno, followed by small cross cultural clusters where an intimate conversation on pluralism and identity could be held and attitudes toward differences and similarities could be carefully examined. In collaboration with over twenty educational and cultural organizations in the region, including Fresno County Libraries, Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Arte Americas, the African American Museum, Fresno City College, Centro La Familia, Fresno Center for Nonviolence, Fresno Metro Ministry, Stone Soup Project, the Hmong Women Association
- **California Council for the Humanities, *Democracy in America: Tocqueville Reading Discussion Series***, Project Director, 1997, \$10,000.
A series of reading discussions on Tocqueville's Democracy in America, informed by humanities scholars in three different venues. Reading discussions were followed by a Chautauqua presentation on Tocqueville by historian Dr. Johnson. In collaboration with Fresno County Public Libraries, Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Arte Americas, L'Alliance Francaise of Fresno, and Fresno Art Museum
- **California Reading and Literature Project (CRLP), Fresno/Central Valley Regional Site**, Principle Investigator, Jan 1998-2001, \$430,000, and continuing:
CRLP implementation proposal approved for a three-year funding cycle with emphasis on early literacy and issues related to the English language learners; the new project provides training in AB1086 and incorporates a Southeast Asian and Spanish component in addition to the K-3 early literacy and the traditional K-U literature component. Two institutes, one in K-U and the other in Spanish were implemented in the Summer of 1998.
- **National Endowment for the Humanities planning grant, *Schools for the New Millennium: A Humanities Magnet Program***, Principal Investigator, 1998-99, \$30,000.
Partnership with Bullard High School to develop a major technology initiative for an integrated humanities curriculum leading to the establishment of a magnet program for the humanities at Bullard. The planning grant focused on the development of an

interdisciplinary humanities curriculum around selected themes of The Immigrant Experience, The Hispanic World, and Steinbeck's California.

- **Department of Education planning grant, *Music Academy***, PI, 1998-99, \$30,000
Planning grant for the development of a charter high school at the University with a strong focus in music performance and a rigorous foundation in the humanities and sciences. In partnership with the Fresno County Office of Education, the planning grant provides funding support for the development of the Charter petition and the support network to assist the Charter approval process.
- **Department of Education Implementation grant, *University High School***, PI, 1999-00, \$149,500. Funding to support the first year of development and implementation of University High School, a college preparatory charter high school established on the campus of CSU Fresno.
- **National Endowment for the Humanities Implementation grant, "*Crossing Academic Borders*" *Schools for the New Millennium***, Project Director, 1999-04, \$185,000.
Partnership with Bullard High School to establish a magnet program for the humanities at Bullard. The implementation grant focuses on the development of an interdisciplinary humanities curriculum around selected themes of the immigrant experience, the Hispanic world, and Steinbeck's California. The program was completed in June 2004.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- "Subjectless Constructions in Persian," in *Clever and Right: Papers in Honor of Joseph Emonds*. Mouton, Amsterdam. Projected publication date 2005.
- *Clever and Right: Papers in Honor of Joseph Emonds*. Co-editors with S. Karimi and W. Wilkins. Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin. Projected publication date 2005.
- *Perspectives in Linguistics*. Co-editor. Indian Institute of Language Studies. New Delhi. 2003.
- "The Ezafe Construction: Some Implications for X-bar Theory," in *Persian Studies in North America*, Mehdi Marashi (ed), Iranbooks, 1994, pp. 17-42.
- "Three cases of Restructuring in Persian," in *Proceedings of the Western Conference on Linguistics*, 1992, pp. 191-204.
- "A Note on Prepositions in Persian," in *Proceedings of the Western Conference on Linguistics*, 1990, pp. 300-310.
- Series Editor, WECOL Proceedings, Vols 1-14, California State University Fresno, 1989-04.
- Reviewer for Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, Spring 1998 Volume
- Reviewer for Canadian Journal of Linguistics, Fall 2000.
- Numerous presentation and guest lectures on related topics in linguistics and Iranian studies at universities, Linguistics Society of America's annual conferences and WECOL

regional conferences.