

Rikker Dockum

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Department of Linguistics
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phonology • Phonetics • Lexical tone systems
Historical linguistics • Computational phylogenetics
Tai languages • Language documentation • Epigraphy
Inclusion in linguistics • Decolonizing linguistics

EDUCATION

- 2013–2019 Ph.D., M.Phil. and M.A. in Linguistics, Yale University: New Haven, CT
Dissertation: *The Tonal Comparative Method: Tai tone in historical perspective*
Committee: Claire Bowers (chair), Ryan Benett, Natalie Weber, Pittayawat Pittayaporn
- 2007 B.A. in Linguistics, cum laude with honors, Dartmouth College: Hanover, NH.
Honors thesis: *A Survey of Thai Monolingual Lexicography*. Advisor: David A. Peterson.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

FULL TIME

- 2019–Present Visiting Assistant Professor, Linguistics, Swarthmore College.
- 2007–2013 Project Manager and Research Associate, Center for Research in Computational Linguistics: Bangkok, Thailand.

PART TIME

- 2016–2018 Part-Time Acting Instructor, Linguistics, Yale University.
- 2013–2019 Research Assistant to Claire Bowers, Yale University. ‘Pama-Nyungan Reconstruction and the Prehistory of Australia.’ NSF grant BCS-0844550. ‘Language as a Window on Prehistory.’ NSF grant BCS-1423711.
- 2014–2015 Publications Assistant, Council on Southeast Asia Studies, Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale.
- 2005–2006 Research Assistant to David A. Peterson, Dartmouth College. ‘Chittagong Hill Tracts Linguistic Documentation.’ NSF grant BCS-0349021.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2024 **Rikker Dockum** and Caitlin M. Green. “Toward a big tent linguistics: Inclusion and the myth of the lone genius.” In Anne Charity Hudley, Christine Mallinson, and Mary Bucholtz (eds.) *Inclusion in Linguistics*, Oxford University Press.
[doi:10.1093/oso/9780197755303.003.0006](https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780197755303.003.0006)
- 2024 Claire Bowers and **Rikker Dockum**. “Decolonizing historical linguistics in the classroom and beyond.” In Anne Charity Hudley, Christine Mallinson, and Mary Bucholtz (eds.) *Decolonizing Linguistics*, Oxford University Press.
[doi:10.1093/oso/9780197755259.003.0011](https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780197755259.003.0011)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2023 Hadas Kotek, **Rikker Dockum** and David Q. Sun. "Gender bias and stereotypes in Large Language Models." Proceedings of ACM Collective Intelligence Conference 2023 (CI-23). Preprint: [arxiv:2308.14921](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.14921)
- 2022 Erich Round, **Rikker Dockum**, and Robin Ryder. "Evolution and trade-off dynamics of functional load." *Entropy* 24(4), 507. Special issue: Information-Theoretic Approaches to Explaining Linguistic Structure. [doi:10.3390/e24040507](https://doi.org/10.3390/e24040507)
- 2022 Doug Whalen, Christian DiCanio, **Rikker Dockum**. "Phonetic documentation in three collections: topics and evolution." *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*. [doi:10.1017/S0025100320000079](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025100320000079)
- 2021 Hadas Kotek, **Rikker Dockum**, Sarah Babinski, Chris Geissler. "Gender bias and stereotypes in linguistic example sentences." *Language* 97(4). [doi:10.1353/lan.0.0255](https://doi.org/10.1353/lan.0.0255)
- 2021 Hadas Kotek, **Rikker Dockum**, Sarah Babinski, Chris Geissler. "Gender stereotypes and inclusion in language teaching." *Babylonia* 1(1). babylonia.online/index.php/babylonia/article/view/46
- 2020 Catherine Sheard, Claire Bower, **Rikker Dockum**, Fiona M. Jordan. "Pama-Nyungan grandparent systems change with grandchildren, but not cross-cousin terms." *Evolutionary Human Sciences* vol. 2(e30). [doi:10.1017/ehs.2020.31](https://doi.org/10.1017/ehs.2020.31)
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum** and Claire Bower. "Swadesh lists are not long enough: Drawing phonological generalizations from limited data." *Language Documentation and Description* vol. 16: 35-54. [doi:10.25894/ldd112](https://doi.org/10.25894/ldd112)

PROCEEDINGS

- 2022 Itamar Kastner, Hadas Kotek, Anonymous, **Rikker Dockum**, Michael Dow, Maria Esipova, Caitlin M. Green, Elise Stickle, Todd Snider. "The Open Letter: Responses and recommendations." *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 7(1). [doi:10.3765/plsa.v7i1.5257](https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v7i1.5257)
- 2020 Hadas Kotek, Sarah Babinski, **Rikker Dockum**, Chris Geissler. "Gender representation in linguistic example sentences." *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 5(1). doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v5i1.4723
- 2019 Sarah Babinski, **Rikker Dockum**, Hunter Craft, Anelisa Fergus, Dolly Goldenberg, Claire Bower. "A Robin Hood approach to forced alignment." *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 4(1). [doi: 10.3765/plsa.v4i1.4468](https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v4i1.4468)
- 2018 **Rikker Dockum**. "Phylogeny in phonology: how Tai sound systems encode their past." In *Supplemental Proceedings of the Annual Meeting on Phonology 2017*. [doi:10.3765/amp.v5i0.4238](https://doi.org/10.3765/amp.v5i0.4238)
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum**. "Computational modeling of tone in language documentation: citation tones vs. running speech in Chindwin Khamti." In *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*. [doi:10.5281/zenodo.2575294](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2575294)

MANUSCRIPTS

- Unpub. Itamar Kastner, Hadas Kotek, Anonymous, **Rikker Dockum**, Michael Dow, Maria Esipova, Caitlin M. Green, Todd Snider. "Who speaks for us? Lessons from the Pinker letter." <https://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/005381>

- In prep. **Rikker Dockum.** “The Tonal Comparative Method: extending historical approaches to lexical tone.”
- In prep. **Rikker Dockum** and Pittayawat Pittayaporn. “Dating the emergence of phonemic length contrasts in *w- /æ/* and *-ə /ɔ/* in Standard Thai.”
- In prep. **Rikker Dockum.** “Computational phylogenetics with phonological traits: tonal and segmental evidence.”
- In prep. **Rikker Dockum.** “Tone documentation conventions: issues for synchrony and diachrony.”
- In prep. **Rikker Dockum.** “Old Khmer did not have numeral classifiers: evidence from the epigraphic corpus.”

EDITING

- In prep. Issue co-editor for a special *Diachronica* themed issue on tone diachrony (expected publication in early 2025)
- 2014 *Proceedings of the Workshop on the Sound Systems of Mexico and Central America: New Haven, CT.* Online publication. <http://ling.yale.edu/ssmca-proceedings/> (With Ryan Bennett, Emily Gasser, Dolly Goldenberg, Ryan Kasak, Patrick Patterson.)

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2020 Claire Bowerman and **Rikker Dockum.** Review of Robert Blust (2018). *101 Problems and Solutions in Historical Linguistics: A Workbook.* *Oceanic Linguistics* 58(2): 426-430. [doi:10.1353/ol.2019.0015](https://doi.org/10.1353/ol.2019.0015)
- 2018 **Rikker Dockum.** Review of Rint Sybesma (ed.) (2016). *The Encyclopedia of Chinese Languages and Linguistics.* *Journal of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society*, vol. 11.1. [doi: 10524/52423](https://doi.org/10.10524/52423)

PLANNED BOOK PROJECTS

- In prep. *Tai Khamti of the Upper Chindwin River Valley, Myanmar: Lexicon and Texts.* Principal fieldwork and analysis done. **Status:** Data gathered and initial analysis complete; prepping for submission as an *Asia-Pacific Linguistics* monograph.
- In prep. *The Linguistics of the Sukhothai Inscriptions: The Earliest Thai Texts.* **Status:** Principal research complete; texts transliterated and largely glossed; manuscript in outline stage.
- In prep. *The Lost Thai Dictionary of Eliza Grew Jones: Text and Commentary with Index of Modern Spellings.* **Status:** Full dictionary draft complete; under revision.

TEACHING

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

- 2024 *Decolonization & Inclusion in Linguistics* (designed and taught w/Nicté Fuller-Medina)
- 2020–2024 *Phonetics & Phonology* (7 times)
- 2021–2024 *Introduction to Language & Linguistics* (2 times)
- 2021–2024 *Senior Thesis Seminar* (2 times)
- 2022–2023 *Advanced Research Methods* (2 times)
- 2021–2023 *Field Methods* (3 times)

- 2019–2021 *Historical & Comparative Linguistics* (2 times)
 2022 *Structure of Thai* (1 time)
 2020 *Computational Linguistics* (1 time)
 2020 *Evolution of Language & Culture* (1 time)
 2020 *Morphology & the Lexicon* (1 time)

YALE UNIVERSITY (AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD)

- 2018 *Historical Linguistics* (Combined graduate/undergraduate course)
 Co-instructor: Claire Bowers
 2016 *Evolution of Language & Culture* (Combined graduate/undergraduate course)
 Co-instructor: Claire Bowers

YALE UNIVERSITY (AS GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOW)

- 2016 *Cognitive Science of Language*
 Instructor: Claire Moore-Cantwell
 2015 *Formal Foundations of Linguistic Theory* (Combined graduate/undergraduate)
 Instructor: Robert Frank

ADVISING AND SUPERVISION

DOCTORAL THESIS EXAMINER

- 2021 Jayden Macklin-Cordes, University of Queensland, Australia. Thesis: *Phonotactics in historical linguistics: Quantitative interrogation of a novel data source.* (External.)

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISING AND MENTORING

- 2024 Primary advisor on 6 thesis projects (in progress).
 2021 Momoka Keicho, Swarthmore 2021. Thesis: *Raciolinguistic socialization and subversion at a predominantly white institution.*
 2021 Claire Weeks, Bryn Mawr 2021. Thesis: *Machine Translation for Low-Resource Languages: a community-based participatory approach.*
 2021 Anna Thompson, Bryn Mawr 2021. Thesis: *Syntactic Parallelism and Structure in Kyrgyz Proverbs.*
 2021 Shaoni White, Swarthmore 2021. Thesis: *Modeling Comparatives in English Based On a Pragmatic Handling of the Sorites Paradox.*

ACADEMIC ADVISING

- 2021-Present Major and pre-major academic advising, Swarthmore College (around 30 students).

RESEARCH ADVISING

- 2020-Present Funded student summer research advising:
 2024 *Minimal wordlist size for a phonological profile: New evidence from Kra-Dai languages.* Kanyarin Boonkongchuen (Swarthmore).
 2023 *Equitable hiring practices in PhD-granting Linguistics Departments.* Michaela Richter (Haverford), Roma Sarathi (Bryn Mawr), Kit Briggs (Bryn Mawr).
 2023 *Development and change in the Tai pronominal system.* Qiyu Ark Lu and Kanyarin Boonkongchuen (Swarthmore).
 2023 *Documentation of the Memoni Language.* Sumami Chhotani (Swarthmore).

- 2022 *Documentation of the Rohingya Language*. Zakir Hossain and Mason Hartley (Swarthmore).
- 2022 *Using forced alignment software to study the phonetics of endangered Tai languages*. Qingyun Wang (Swarthmore).
- 2022 *Expanding the linguistic database of Tai Khamti folktales*. Bryce Bussert (Swarthmore).
- 2021 *Studying the history of Sino-Tibetan languages through phonotactics*. Yiyang Jiang (Swarthmore).
- 2021 *A linguistic database of Tai Khamti folktales of Myanmar*. Bryce Bussert (Swarthmore).
- 2020 *Reconstructing the family tree of Tai languages*. Qingyun Wang (Swarthmore).
- 2020 *Talking Dictionary of the Tai Khamti language*. Bryce Bussert (Swarthmore).
- 2020-2021 Faculty mentor to Eric Ma. Project: *Documenting the sound system of Tai Pao*. Advanced Research Mentorship program, Glastonbury High School, Glastonbury, CT.
- 2019-Present Research supervisor on Tai language documentation and digitization projects. Student Research Assistants: Bryce Bussert, Dylan Clairmont, Pablo Famodou, Em Groves, Yiyang Jiang, Lillian Leibovich, Ark Lu, Qingyun Wang, Emilia Pike-Acosta, Henry Nguyen, Nadia Rodriguez de Jesus, Niall Ferris Wayne.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2015-2019 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship – Linguistics. \$138,000.
- 2016 Quantitative Methods Spring School, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History: Jena, Germany. Fully funded participation.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2019-2024 Faculty Research Support Grants. Swarthmore College. \$14,600 in total.
- 2023 Engaged Scholarship Research Grant. *Documentation of the Memoni Language*. Lang Center for Civic & Social Responsibility, Swarthmore College. \$6,000.
- 2022 Engaged Scholarship Research Grant. *Documentation of the Rohingya Language*. Lang Center for Civic & Social Responsibility, Swarthmore College. \$10,400.
- 2017-2018 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale. Documenting Tai Khamti in Myanmar. \$15,000.
- 2015-2017 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant. Language documentation of Tai Khamti in Myanmar. BCS/DEL-1528386. \$12,000.
- 2014 Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. Tai Khamti Pilot Fieldwork. Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale. \$5,000.
- 2009 Fulbright Research Grant, U.S. Department of State. Host organization: National Research Council of Thailand. Topic: *The Sukhothai Inscriptions of Thailand*. \$18,000.
- 2005 Undergraduate thesis grant. Supporting fieldwork in Thailand. John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding. \$2,500.

AFFILIATED GRANTS AND PROJECTS

- 2018–Present Affiliated Researcher. *EVOTONE: The emergence and evolution of linguistic tone*. ERC 758605 (2018-2023), Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. James Kirby, PI. €1,481,154.

- 2021–Present Affiliated Researcher. *Accelerating Our Discovery of the Linguistic Past*. British Academy; Surrey Morphology Group. Erich Round, PI.
- 2014–Present Affiliated Researcher. *Asia-Pacific Linguistic Data Warehouse*. Center for Research in Computational Linguistics. A suite of datasets and tools for comparative linguistics. Doug Cooper, PI.
- 2018–2021 *Project on Gender Representation in Example Sentence and Syllabi (ProGRESS)*. Yale Women Faculty Forum Seed Grant. Hadas Kotek, project lead.
- 2010–2013 Greater Southeast Asia linguistic infrastructure pilot project. (Precursor to the *Asia-Pacific Linguistic Data Warehouse*.) Comprising sub-projects: 1. *Lexicon extraction*. Managed digitization of lexicons spanning scholarship throughout GSEA. 2. *Phoneme inventory compilation*. Extracted phoneme inventories; built datasets to enable computational phonemic and phonotactic analysis of raw lexical data. 3. *Phonemic normalization*. Defined rules for lexicon normalization, enabling reliable cross-linguistic comparison of lexical resources from varying regions, traditions, and eras.
- 2010–2012 Greater Southeast Asia epigraphic transliteration standardization project. Center for Research in Computational Linguistics, Bangkok. Duties: Developed proposed standard regional transliteration scheme for epigraphic study in GSEA; encompassed scripts for archaic variants of Khmer, Mon, Thai, Burmese, Lao, Malay, Javanese, Balinese, Cham, and Pyu.
- 2009–2012 *The Sukhothai Inscriptions of Thailand*. Fulbright grant project; subsequently extended under auspices of the National Research Council of Thailand. Produced the first full roman transliteration of the Sukhothai epigraphic corpus (13th-15th century); etymological tagging of Khmer, Pali and Sanskrit loanwords; detailed entity tagging with English glossing of dates, people, places, and things mentioned in the corpus.
- 2009–2011 *No More Data Silos: Interoperable Digital Resources in Title VI*. Development and promulgation of “best practices” for federally funded Title VI dictionary projects. U.S. Department of Education. Award P017A090335. \$509,694.
- 2007–2011 *The Southeast Asian Languages Library*. Managed digitization of dictionaries for 25 Southeast Asian languages. Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access (TICFIA), U.S. Department of Education. Award P337A050018.
- 2005–2006 1. Khumi [CNK]: Transcription and analysis of the field notes of David Peterson on the Khumi language of Bangladesh; 2. Marma [RMZ]: One-on-one elicitation, text recording, transcription and analysis of the Marma language of Bangladesh. NSF grant BCS-0349021.

DATASETS AND WEBSITES

- (in prep) TaiTone v1.0, public dataset for 1,000+ tone systems for languages in the Tai branch of the Kra-Dai language family.
- 2022 Dongmei Rao, Jason Shaw, **Rikker Dockum**. “Acoustic recordings of Zhongjiang Chinese non-coronal fricatives.” doi:10.17605/OSF.IO/MJH46
- 2018 Historical tone data for Tai languages. doi:10.5281/zenodo.1162386
- 2012–2013 *The Zorc Papers*. Digital collection of fieldwork by R. David Zorc on Austronesian languages. <http://sealang.net/archives/zorc>
- 2008–2013 Managed archival scanning and indexing at CRCL. Projects: 1. *Southeast Asian Linguistics Archive*: <http://sealang.net/sala>. 2. *Pacific Linguistics Publication Archive* 1964-2012:

- <http://sealang.net/archives/pl>. 3. Christian Bauer's *Ananda "Basement" Plaques*. <http://sealang.net/oldmon/ananda> 4. *NUSA - Linguistic Studies of the Languages of Indonesia 1975-2004*. Website: <http://sealang.net/nusa>
- 2007–2011 *The SEALang Library*. Digital dictionaries for Thai, Khmer, Lao, Burmese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Indonesian, Malay, Tetun, Mon, Javanese, Shan, Balinese, Buginese, Chavacano, Hiligaynon, Ilocano, Karen, Maranao, Maguindanao, Wa, and Waray. Website: <http://sealang.net/library>
- 2006–2011 *SEAlang Historical Dictionaries*. Digital editions of the earliest Thai dictionaries: Jones 1833, Caswell 1846, Bradley 1873, Michell 1892, Pallegoix 1896. Website: <http://sealang.net/dictionary>
- 2008 *SEAlang Thai Vocabulary*. Compiled and translated 200+ vocabulary lists. Website: <http://www.sealang.net/thai/vocabulary> (Sections 'Thai AWL' and 'SEAlang').
- 2007 *The SEALang Lab: Assistive Technology for Reading, Writing, and Vocabulary Acquisition in Complex-Script Languages*. Produced English translations for 43 graded Thai texts compiled by Mary Haas. Website: <http://www.sealang.net/lab> (section 'Graded bitexts', subsection 'Haas'). U.S. Dept. of Ed. IRS grant P017A060058.
- 2006–2007 *The SEALang Library Thai Bitext Corpus*. Sentence alignment of Thai-English bilingual text corpus comprising some 200 short stories, articles, and essays. U.S. Dept. of Ed. TICFIA grant P337A050018. Website: <http://www.sealang.net/thai/bitext.htm>
- 2006–2007 *The Jones Thai-English Dictionary*. Online version of the first Thai-English dictionary, ca. 1833. Website: <http://sealang.net/dictionary/jones>

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 "Gender bias and stereotypes in Large Language Models," Constellate. [Virtual]
- 2023 "Toward a Big Tent Linguistics." School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics, Newcastle University. 22 November 2023. [Virtual]
- 2023 "Which Came First, the Register or the Tone? Tonogenesis and the East Asian Voicing Shift." Phonetics Lab (Sam Tilsen, P.I.), Cornell University. 20 October 2023.
- 2023 "The East Asian Voicing Shift and the origins of tone and register." Historical Linguistics Group, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. 24 February 2023.
- 2023 "The East Asian Voicing Shift: Tonogenesis and future views of the past." Department of Linguistics, Yale University. 17 February 2023.
- 2023 "The linguist and the King of Siam: What a century-old letter teaches us about Thai phonology." Department of Eastern, Slavic, and German Studies, Boston College. 13 February 2023.
- 2023 "The linguist and the King of Siam: Yale in the history of Thai linguistics." Southeast Asia Studies Seminar, Yale University. 25 January 2023.
- 2023 "Yale in the early history of U.S. linguistics." Department of Linguistics, Yale University. 27 January 2023.
- 2022 "Toward a Big Tent Linguistics: Inclusion and the myth of the lone genius." Contact, Cognition, & Change Lab (Savithry Namboodiripad, P.I.), University of Michigan. 9 November 2022. [Virtual]

- 2022 “Meet the Authors: Gender Bias & Stereotypes in Linguistics Research and Teaching.” LSA Webinar, 28 January 2022.
- 2021 “Desegmental phonology and reconstructing lexical tone in Southeast Asia.” EVOTONE Lab (James Kirby, P.I.), University of Edinburgh, 17 December 2021. [Virtual]
- 2021 “The East Asian Voicing Shift, desegmental phonology, and tonal reconstruction in Southeast Asia.” School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. 8 December 2021. [Virtual]
- 2021 “Extending the comparative method to lexical tone: lessons from the Tai languages.” University of Melbourne, 19 November 2021. [Virtual]
- 2021 “The Tonal Comparative Method: classification and reconstruction in Southeast Asia.” Terrains, analyse et comparaison des langues (TACOL), LACITO, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris. 17 November 2021. [Virtual]
- 2021 “What Tai dialectology is teaching us about sound change in tonal languages.” Glasgow University Laboratory of Phonetics. 14 October 2021. [Virtual]
- 2020 “Constituent order in Tai Khamti: new data from Myanmar.” 2020 Asian Heritage Forum: Thai-Tai Language and Culture. A Commemoration of Prof. Dr. Khun Banchob Bandhmedha on Her 100th Birth Anniversary. Chulalongkorn University, 20 July 2020. [Virtual]
- 2020 “Evaluating claims about the Tai family tree using the Tonal Comparative Method.” 18th Spring Workshop on Linguistic Reconstruction, University of California, Berkeley. [Deferred for future date TBD due to COVID-19]
- 2018 “The Tonal Comparative Method: leveraging lexical tone in historical linguistics.” Annual Linguistics Homecoming Lecture. 23 October 2018, Dartmouth College.
- 2018 “Tonal recall: leveraging lexical tone to improve methods in historical linguistics.” Colloquium. 29 January 2018. University of California, Berkeley.

GUEST LECTURES

- 2021 “Fieldwork ethics” in *Field Methods* (Emily Gasser, instructor), Swarthmore College, April 2021.
- 2020 “Tone languages of Asia” in *Structures of Chinese* (Shizhe Huang, instructor), Haverford College, January 2020.
- 2019 “Fieldwork ethics” in *Field Methods* (Emily Gasser, instructor), Swarthmore College, March 2019.

CONFERENCE POSTERS

- 2021 **Rikker Dockum** and Ryan Gehrman. The East Asian Voicing Shift and its role in the origins of tone and register. 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2021). 7-10 January 2021. [Virtual]
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum**. The Tonal Comparative Method: Tracing Sound Change in Lexical Tone. 5th Workshop on Sound Change (WSC5). 21-23 June 2019, University of California, Davis.
- 2018 Sarah Babinski, **Rikker Dockum**, Hunter Craft, Anelisa Fergus, Dolly Goldenberg, Claire Bower. A Robin Hood approach to Forced Alignment. Experimental and

Theoretical Advances in Prosody 4 (ETAP4). 11-13 October 2018, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

- 2017 **Rikker Dockum**. Phylogeny in phonology: how Tai sound systems encode their past. Annual Meeting on Phonology 2017 (AMP 2017). 15-17 September 2017, New York University: New York, NY.

CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2025 **Rikker Dockum**. “A tone by any other name: 150 years of descriptions of Thai tones and implications for synchrony & diachrony.” 99th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2025). 9-12 January 2025, Philadelphia.
- 2025 **Rikker Dockum** and James Kirby. “TaiTone v1.0: Challenges in aggregating tonal data and new horizons for studying variation and change.” 99th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2025). 9-12 January 2025, Philadelphia.
- 2025 Kanyarin Boonkongchuen and **Rikker Dockum**. “Minimal wordlist size for a phonological profile: New evidence from Kra-Dai languages.” 99th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2025). 9-12 January 2025, Philadelphia.
- 2024 Invited panelist, “Talking Liberation: Decolonization and Inclusion in Linguistics Research, Teaching, & Faculty Life.” 98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2024). 4-7 January 2024, New York City.
- 2024 **Rikker Dockum**, Caitlin M. Green, Michaela Richter, Roma Sarathi, Katharine Briggs, & Savithry Namboodiripad. “Minding the Gap: Length of precarious employment increasing for tenure-track linguists over time.” 98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2024). 4-7 January 2024, New York City.
- 2024 **Rikker Dockum**, Qiyou Lu & Kanyarin Boonkongchuen. “Thai pronouns in diachronic perspective: Origins, change, and the Prestige Cycle.” 98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2024). 4-7 January 2024, New York City.
- 2023 Hadas Kotek, **Rikker Dockum** and David Q. Sun. “Gender bias and stereotypes in Large Language Models.” ACM Collective Intelligence Conference 2023 (CI-23). 6-9 November 2023, Delft, Netherlands.
- 2023 Cathryn Yang, James Kirby and **Rikker Dockum**. “Diachronic origins of complex contour tones in Tai.” 56th International Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics (ICSTLL56). 10-12 October 2023, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.
- 2023 Sandra Auderset, **Rikker Dockum**, and Ryan Gehrman. “Diachrony of Tone: Connecting the field.” 26th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL26), 4-8 September 2023, University of Heidelberg.
- 2023 **Rikker Dockum** and Catherine Qingyun Wang. “Quality vs. quantity: Contrast maintenance and tradeoff in Southwestern Tai vowels.” 26th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL26), 4-8 September 2023, University of Heidelberg.
- 2023 **Rikker Dockum** and Qiyou Lu. “Beyond the paradigm: Change and expansion in Thai pronominal reference.” 26th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL26), University of Heidelberg, 4-8 September 2023.
- 2023 Mark Alves and **Rikker Dockum**. “Etymological Research on Words for the Household in Greater Mainland Southeast Asia.” 32nd Meeting of the Southeast Asian

- Linguistics Society (SEALS32). 16-18 May 2023, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand. [Virtual]
- 2023 **Rikker Dockum** and Qingyun Catherine Wang. “Loss of contrastive vowel length in Tai Khamti and Southwestern Tai.” 32nd Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS32). 16-18 May 2023, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand. [Virtual]
- 2023 **Rikker Dockum** and Qiyu Lu. “Beyond the paradigm: Studying Thai pronominal change and expansion through 17-20th century pedagogical materials.” National Research Network in Historical Sociolinguistics (NARNiHS) Research Incubator 2023. 20-22 April 2023. [Virtual]
- 2022 **Rikker Dockum** and James Kirby. “Aggregating tone data for Tai languages: challenges and new horizons for studying tonal variation and change.” 7th New Ways of Analyzing Variation – Asia Pacific (NWAV-AP7). Chulalongkorn University, 14-16 December 2022.
- 2022 **Rikker Dockum** and Caitlin M. Green. “Toward a Big Tent Linguistics: Inclusion and the myth of the lone genius.” Panel: *Decolonialization and Inclusion in Linguistics: Setting the Framework for a Liberatory Linguistics*. New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50 (NWAV50). Stanford University, 13-15 October 2022.
- 2022 **Rikker Dockum**. “The dialexical set: a diagnostic tool for studying sound change.” 25th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL25), University of Oxford, 1-5 August 2022.
- 2022 Ryan Gehrman and **Rikker Dockum**. “Which Came First, the Register or the Tone? Tonogenesis and the East Asian Voicing Shift.” 25th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL25), University of Oxford, 1-5 August 2022.
- 2022 **Rikker Dockum**. “Stability and change in parental sibling kin terms in the Tai languages.” 31st Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS31). 18-20 May 2022, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.
- 2022 Ryan Gehrman and **Rikker Dockum**. “Relative timing of tonogenesis, registrogenesis, and the East Asian Voicing Shift.” 31st Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS31). 18-20 May 2022, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.
- 2022 Claire Bowerman and **Rikker Dockum**. “Decolonizing historical linguistics in the classroom and beyond.” 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022). 6-9 January 2022, Washington D.C. [Virtual]
- 2022 Itamar Kastner, Hadas Kotek, Anonymous, **Rikker Dockum**, Michael Dow, Maria Esipova, Caitlin M. Green, Elise Stickles, Todd Snider. “The Open Letter: Responses and recommendations.” 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022). 6-9 January 2022.
- 2021 Erich Round, **Rikker Dockum**, and Robin Ryder. “Historical dynamics of functional load: A trade-off relationship in Pama-Nyungan V+C.” Australian Linguistics Society, 7-9 December 2021, La Trobe University.
- 2021 Erich Round, **Rikker Dockum**, and Robin Ryder. “On the historical evolution and trade-off dynamics of functional load.” Fifth Edinburgh Symposium on Historical Phonology. 6-8 December 2021, University of Edinburgh.

- 2021 **Rikker Dockum.** “Opening a closed class: Sociolinguistic factors in the expansion of Thai pronominals.” 30th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society, fully online conference, June 2021 (SEALS30).
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum.** “Is Tone Phonologically Atomic? The Significance of Syllable Shape in Tone Diachrony.” 24th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL24), Australian National University, Canberra, July 2019.
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum.** “The Tonal Comparative Method: Leveraging lexical tone in historical linguistics.” 24th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL24), Australian National University, Canberra, July 2019.
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum** and Pittayawat Pittayaporn. “Dating the emergence of phonemic length contrasts in *u*-/æ/ and *-ŋ* /ɔ/ in Standard Thai.” 29th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS29). 27-29 May 2019, Tokyo, Japan.
- 2019 **Rikker Dockum.** “Lexical tone and the Comparative Method: Distinguishing innovation, retention, and chance resemblance.” 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019). 2-6 January 2019, New York City, NY.
- 2019 Sarah Babinski, **Rikker Dockum**, Dolly Goldenberg, Hunter Craft, Anelisa Fergus, Claire Bower. “A Robin Hood approach to Forced Alignment: English-trained algorithms and their use on Australian languages.” 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019). 2-6 January 2019, New York City, NY.
- 2018 Doug Whalen, Christian DiCanio, **Rikker Dockum.** “Phonetic documentation in the literature: Coverage rates for topics and languages.” 176th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA). 5-9 November 2018, Victoria, Canada.
- 2018 **Rikker Dockum.** “Basic word order in Tai Khamti: Language contact with Burmese.” 13th International Burma Studies Conference. 3-5 August 2018, Bangkok.
- 2018 **Rikker Dockum.** “Revisiting the Tai Khamti constituent order debate: New data from Myanmar.” 28th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS28). 17-19 May 2018, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
- 2018 **Rikker Dockum.** “Undocumented labor: How old fieldwork sheds new light on Tai tone system diversification.” 92nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2018). 4-7 January 2018, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum** and Claire Bower. “When enough is enough: Drawing linguistic generalizations from limited data.” 12th Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT 2017). 12-14 December 2017, Australian National University.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Tone system diversification: Data and trends from dialect surveys of Thailand.” Triggers of language change in the Language Sciences (XLanS 2017). 11-13 October 2017, Université Lumière Lyon 2: Lyon, France.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Wordlists for language documentation: Are we gathering too little data?” International Conference on Language Studies 2017 (iCLS 2017). 9-10 August 2017, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak: Kuching, Malaysia.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Class term doubling in Tai Khamti: Reanalysis, reinforcement, and sesquisyllables.” 27th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS27). 11-13 May 2017, Padang, Indonesia.

- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Prosodic context in computational modeling of tone: citation tones vs. running speech.” 43rd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS43). 3-5 February 2017, University of California, Berkeley: Berkeley, CA.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Double marking in Tai Khamti: Reanalysis and reinforcement.” Diachronic morphology: Theoretical, areal, and phylogenetic perspectives. 26-27 January 2017, University of Zurich: Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2017 **Rikker Dockum.** “Tone analysis in Tai Khamti: Computational models in language documentation.” 91st Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2017). 5-8 January 2017: Austin, TX.
- 2016 **Rikker Dockum.** “Tone analysis in Tai Khamti: Computational models in language documentation.” SYNC Graduate Linguistics Conference. 3 December 2016, CUNY Graduate Center: New York, NY.
- 2016 **Rikker Dockum.** “Numeral classifiers in areal perspective: Khmer and Thai 'syntactic borrowing' revisited.” Austroasiatic Syntax in Areal and Diachronic Perspective. Workshop of the Austroasiatic Working Group. September 5-7, 2016: Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 2016 **Rikker Dockum.** “Tone analysis in Southeast Asia: Computational modeling & traditional methods.” 26th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS26). 26-28 May 2016, Manila, Philippines.
- 2016 **Rikker Dockum.** “Tonal evidence in historical linguistics: genetic signal or typological noise?” 42nd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS42). 5-7 February 2016, University of California, Berkeley: Berkeley, CA.
- 2015 **Rikker Dockum.** “Sanskrit Loan Adaptation in Old Thai: Epigraphic Evidence from the Sukhothai Corpus.” 16th World Sanskrit Conference of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies (IASS). 28 June-2 July 2015: Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2015 **Rikker Dockum.** “A Tale of Two Khamtis: Language Classification in Southwestern Tai.” 25th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS25). 27-29 May 2015, Payap University: Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 2014 **Rikker Dockum.** “A Tale of Two Khamtis: Language Classification in Southwestern Tai.” SYNC Graduate Linguistics Conference. 6 December 2014, SUNY Stony Brook: Stony Brook, NY.
- 2013 **Rikker Dockum** and Doug Cooper. “Towards a Unified Digital Corpus of Southeast Asia's Earliest Writings.” SYNC Graduate Linguistics Conference. 7 December 2013, Yale University: New Haven, CT.
- 2013 **Rikker Dockum** and Doug Cooper. “Towards a Regional Convention for Epigraphic Transliteration of Southeast Asia's Brahmic Scripts.” 46th International Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics (ICSTLL46). 7-10 August 2013, Dartmouth College: Hanover, NH.
- 2008 Doug Cooper and **Rikker Dockum.** “Thai in Transition and the Thai Gigaword/Terabyte Web Corpus.” National Language Policy: Language Diversity for National Unity. 4-5 July 2008: Bangkok, Thailand. (With Doug Cooper.)
- 2007 **Rikker Dockum.** “From Lost to Online: A Digital eText + Image Edition of the First Thai-English Dictionary.” 17th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society

(SEALS17). 31 August-2 September 2007, University of Maryland, College Park: College Park, MD.

- 2006 **Rikker Dockum.** “Convergences in Khumi and Marma Morphosyntax.” 39th International Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics (ICSTLL39). 14-17 September 2006, University of Washington: Seattle, WA.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

GRANT REVIEW

- 2023 Grant review panelist, National Science Foundation.
2021 Grant review panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities.

PEER REVIEW

- Various (11 journals and 2 publishers) Language; Diachronica; Language & Linguistics Compass; Journal of Language Evolution; Language Dynamics and Change; Linguistics Vanguard; Language Documentation & Conservation; Journal of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society; Australian Journal of Linguistics; Canadian Journal of Linguistics; Interface Focus; Cambridge University Press; Oxford University Press.

EDITORIAL

- 2021–Present Editorial Board, *Advances in Historical Linguistics*. Open-access book series at Language Science Press.
2016–Present Editorial Board, *Journal of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society*.
2014–2015 Publications Assistant, Council on Southeast Asia Studies, Yale University.

OUTREACH & COMMITTEES

- 2022 Alumni panel for PhD students on the academic job market, Yale Linguistics Dept.
2020–Present Member, Committee on Endangered Languages and their Preservation (CELP), Linguistic Society of America.
2022–Present Member, Committee on Gender Equity in Linguistics (COGEL), Linguistic Society of America.
2020–Present Invited member, GLOCAL (The Global Council on Anthropological Linguistics), School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. <https://glocal.soas.ac.uk/>
2018– Linguistics Data Interest Group, Research Data Alliance.
2014–2019 Exam proctor and trainer, National Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO), for high schoolers in the New Haven, CT area.
2018 Panelist for Endangered Data Week, Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University.
2011 Invited expert, Road Map Committee, *Inscriptions of Thailand Research and Database Development Project*, Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre, Bangkok.

ADMISSIONS INTERVIEWING

- 2016–Present Dartmouth College alumni interviewer, Admissions Ambassador Program.

CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP, AND COLLOQUIUM ORGANIZATION

- 2024 Co-organizer. *Decolonization & Inclusion in Linguistics*. Public panel on the Oxford University Press volumes *Decolonizing Linguistics* and *Inclusion in Linguistics*, held at Swarthmore College, April 2024.

- 2023 Co-organizer. *The diachrony of tone: connecting the field*. Workshop at the 26th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL26), Heidelberg University, September 2023.
- 2019 Organizing Committee. Phonology in the Northeast 2019 (PhoNE 2019). 13 April 2019, Yale University.
- 2017 Organizing Committee. SYNC (Stonybrook, Yale, NYU, CUNY) Graduate Linguistics Conference. 9 December 2017, Yale University.
- 2015 Organizing Committee. Phonology in the Northeast 2015 (PhoNE 2015). 4 April 2015, Yale University.
- 2014–2015 Co-organizer. Linguistics Friday Lunch Talk Series. Yale University.
- 2014 Organizing Committee. Workshop on the Sound Systems of Mexico and Central America (SSMCA). 4-6 April 2014, Yale University.

LANGUAGE CONSULTING

- 2011 Consultation on Thai fortune telling manuscript, Houghton Library, Harvard University. <http://pds.lib.harvard.edu/pds/view/41261126>
- 2009–2010 Consultation on phonemic transcription, *Talking Thai–English–Thai Dictionary* by Benjawan Poomsan Becker and Chris Pirazzi. Paiboon Publishing, 2010. <https://www.paiboonpublishing.com/thai-english-talking-software-dictionary.html>

MEDIA

PRESS INTERVIEWS

- 2020 “Not ‘Thigh-land’: Thais amused at Trump's slip,” Reuters, 7 August. <https://www.reuters.com/article/thailand-trump-idINKCN2531FL>
- 2020 “How Thai language reinforces hierarchy and perpetuates social divides,” Thai Enquirer, 27 February. <https://www.thaienquirer.com/8487/how-thai-language-reinforces-hierarchy-and-perpetuates-social-divides>
- 2020 “World's largest linguistics database is getting too expensive for some researchers,” Science Insider, 10 February. <https://www.science.org/content/article/world-s-largest-linguistics-database-getting-too-expensive-some-researchers>

PODCAST INTERVIEWS

- 2022 “We Need to Talk About Grice,” *Because Language* episode 47, 20 February. <https://becauselanguage.com/47-we-need-to-talk-about-grice/>
- 2010-2020 Various episodes, *Bangkok Podcast* Thai language series. <https://www.bangkokpodcast.com/>

NEWSPAPER COLUMNS

- 2008-2009 “Thai 101.” Biweekly newspaper column in *The Phuket Gazette*.

OTHER PROJECTS

- 2011–2015 Founder, Project Gutenberg Thailand, an affiliate of Project Gutenberg. Crowdsourced digitization of public domain works in Thai and English relating to Thailand. Over ten thousand book pages digitized by volunteers. <http://gutenbergthai.org>

MEMBERSHIPS

LSA	Linguistic Society of America (since 2014)
ALT	Association for Linguistic Typology (since 2017)
CES	Cultural Evolution Society (since 2017)
SEALS	Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (since 2007)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Coding	R, Python, Praat, git, bash, command-line tools.
Other	Computational phylogenetics (assorted R packages, MrBayes, BEAST, SplitsTree, etc); Forced Alignment (MFA, p2fa); OCR for complex-script languages.

LANGUAGES

English	[ENG] First language.
Thai	[THA] Highly fluent speaker (speaking/listening/reading/writing) for 23 years.
Tai Khamti	[KHT] Fieldwork (2014–2018); intermediate (speaking/listening/reading).
Shan	[SHN] Intermediate (reading/listening).
Lao	[LAO] Intermediate (reading/listening).
Sanskrit	[SAN] Intermediate (reading; 3 semesters of graduate level study).
Pali	[PLI] Intermediate knowledge of roots/phonology, especially loans in Thai.
Khmer	[KHM] Intermediate knowledge of roots/phonology/syntax, especially epigraphic Khmer and contact with Thai.