

10 November 2010

## ANN SENGHAS

### A. Personal information

Name: Ann Senghas, PhD  
Rank: Associate Professor  
Citizenship: USA

Office: Department of Psychology  
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Barnard College  
3009 Broadway  
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### B. Degrees in Higher Education

1995 Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1990-1995  
Brain and Cognitive Sciences  
Dissertation: *Children's contribution to the birth of Nicaraguan Sign Language*  
Advisor: Steven Pinker

1986 A.B. Smith College, 1982-1986, *cum laude*  
Major: French      Minor: Psychology

### C. Additional Professional Training

Post Graduate Student, Linguistic Society of America Summer Linguistic Institute, 1991, 1995  
Focus: sign language linguistics, grammaticalization, gesture

Visiting Undergraduate Student, Université de Paris IV (Sorbonne), 1984-1985

### D. Professional Experience in Higher Education

BARNARD COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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2010-present    Department Chair, Department of Psychology, Barnard College.

2007-present    Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Barnard College.  
Teaching includes *Introduction to Psychology* (35 students), *Developmental Psychology* (40 students), *Developmental Psychology with Laboratory* (44 students), and a graduate seminar in *Language Development* (15 students). Directing research laboratory in language acquisition and language change, primarily studying the emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language.

1999-2007      Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Barnard College.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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2009 Visiting Scholar, Department of Psychology, Wellesley.  
Served as visiting faculty during the summer and fall semesters.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

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2008-2009 Visiting Scholar, Program in Deaf Studies, Boston University School of Education.  
Served as visiting faculty during a sabbatical academic year, primarily in the laboratory of Professor Marlon Kuntze.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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2003-2004 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Harvard University.  
Served as visiting faculty during a sabbatical academic year in the Laboratory for Developmental Studies in the Department of Psychology.

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

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1998-1999 Research staff member in the Language and Cognition research group, directed by Stephen Levinson, and in the Language Acquisition research group, directed by Wolfgang Klein, MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.  
Participated in ongoing cross-linguistic research projects on spatial reference, argument structure, and gesture, contributing own field data from research on Nicaraguan Sign Language.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

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1995-1998 Postdoctoral Fellow with Elissa Newport and Ted Supalla, Center for the Sciences of Language, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.  
Researched sign language acquisition and structure, in the context of language acquisition and creolization. Investigated the syntactic and morphological changes in the first two generations of Nicaraguan Sign Language, and grammatical structure in Nicaraguan adult homesign systems.

1997-1998 Instructor, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.  
Taught *Laboratory Methods in Development and Learning* and *Language Acquisition* courses at the undergraduate level.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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1990-1995 Ph.D. Student, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.  
Advisor: Steven Pinker.  
Studied psycholinguistics, language acquisition, and cognitive development.  
Wrote dissertation on the emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language.

Spring 1995 Teaching Assistant with Susan Carey and Gregg Solomon, *Cognitive Development*, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.  
Led one weekly recitation section of 15 students. Prepared and delivered lectures for language acquisition segment of the course.

Fall 1992 Teaching Assistant with Jeremy Wolfe, *Introduction to Psychology*, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.  
Led two weekly recitation sections of 15 students each.

Fall 1991 Teaching Assistant with Susan Carey, *Psychology of Gender*, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences. Assisted in selection of readings and development of syllabus. Led one weekly recitation section of 20 students.

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SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

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1989-1990 Research Assistant with Judy Kegl, Program in Linguistics. Studied early language structures appearing in an original sign language emerging among deaf children in Nicaragua. Included three months of field work in Managua, Nicaragua.

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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1986-1989 Research Assistant with Sandra Waxman, Department of Psychology. Coordinated research projects on children's conceptual and linguistic development. Assisted in experimental design, tested children in categorization and naming tasks. Conducted data analyses, supervised undergraduate assistants preparing stimuli and coding child responses.

1987-1989 Research Assistant with Peter C. Gordon, Department of Psychology. Researched the cognitive processes underlying speech recognition, particularly the effect of coarse-grained speech features. Prepared artificial and natural speech stimuli, analyzed language samples, supervised subject testing, performed statistical analyses.

1986-1987 Research Assistant with Kathleen McCartney, Department of Psychology. Collaborated in a longitudinal study on the bi-directionality of effects in language acquisition. Developed coding system for mother-child discourse, supervised undergraduate assistants coding discourse, conducted data analyses.

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WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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1986 Research Assistant with Virginia V. Valian, Department of Psychology. Researched the effect of negative evidence in language acquisition. Assisted in the development of a coding system for grammaticality and role of utterances, prepared stimuli for experiment on semantic roles and agency.

## F. Academic and Professional Honors

### Professional Honors

National Academies of Science and Engineering (NAS), *Frontiers of Science* Fellow, 2000

### Teaching and Mentoring Awards

Barnard Seniors of Color, Recognition of Faculty who made a Difference, 2002, 2005

NY Higher Education Opportunities Program (HEOP), Faculty Recognition, 2002

Angus MacDonald Award for Excellence in Teaching, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1993

## G. Current Membership in Professional Societies

American Association for the Advancement of Science

American Psychological Association

American Association of University Women

American Educational Research Association

Association for Psychological Science

International Society for Gesture Studies  
Jean Piaget Society  
Linguistic Society of America  
Sign Language Linguistics Society  
Society for Language Development

## H. Teaching and Supervising

### Courses taught

#### *Developmental Psychology*

Barnard College, Department of Psychology  
Fall 2010  
Spring 2010  
Spring 2007  
Spring 2006  
Spring 2005  
Spring 2003  
Spring 2002  
Spring 2001  
Spring 2000

#### *Developmental Psychology with Laboratory*

Barnard College, Department of Psychology  
Fall 2010  
Spring 2010  
Spring 2007  
Spring 2006  
Spring 2005  
Spring 2003  
Spring 2002  
Spring 2001  
Spring 2000

#### *Introduction to Psychology*

Barnard College, Department of Psychology  
Fall 2004  
Fall 2001  
Fall 2000  
Fall 1999

#### *Language Development*

Barnard College, Department of Psychology  
Fall 2004  
Fall 2001  
Fall 2000

#### *Graduate Seminar in Language Development*

Columbia University, Department of Psychology  
Fall 2002

#### *Language Acquisition*

University of Rochester, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences  
Spring 1998

#### *Laboratory in Development and Learning*

University of Rochester, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences  
Fall 1997

### **Independent Study and Thesis Supervision**

- 2008-2009 [sabbatical]
- 2007-2008 [family leave]  
Sarah Maria Hasbun, BC '08, combined major thesis supervision (Linguistics/Psychology) (year)
- 2006-2007 Tamar G. Baer, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Elizabeth Emory Davis, BC '07, combined major thesis supervision (Linguistics/ Anthropology) (year)  
Sarah Maria Hasbun, BC '08, combined major research project (Linguistics/ Psychology) (year)  
Sarah Maria Hasbun, BC '08, Tow Thesis Fellowship, Mellon-Mays Fellowship (summer)
- 2005-2006 Tamar G. Baer, independent study in Psychology (spring)  
Jenny Pick Sultan, BC '06, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Elizabeth Emory Davis, BC '07, combined major research project (Linguistics/ Anthropology) (spring, summer)  
Sarah Maria Hasbun, BC '08, combined major research project (Linguistics/ Psychology) (spring, summer)
- 2004-2005 Jenny Pick, BC '06, independent study in Psychology (spring)
- 2003-2004 Alina Engelman, Brown University '04, outside thesis advisor (year)
- 2002-2003 Emily Brodie, BC '03, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Lisa Kessler, BC '03, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Sarah Littman, BC '03, thesis in Psychology (year)  
Sarah Housman, BC'03, Centennial Scholar project mentor (year)  
Marisol Santos, NYU '04, New York Intercollegiate Partnership Program mentor (summer)
- 2001-2002 Sarah Littman, BC '03, Howard Hughes Fellowship project mentor (year)  
Dalya Ruch, BC '02, thesis in Linguistics (year)  
Danae Kesel, St. Lawrence '02, New York Sciences Education Program (NYSEP) intern (summer)  
Sarah Housman, BC'03, Centennial Scholar project mentor (spring)  
Elizabeth Housman, BC '03, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Sarah Housman, BC '03, independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Shira Katseff, SEAS '04 , independent study in Psychology (fall)  
Marisol Santos, NYU '04, New York Intercollegiate Partnership Program mentor (summer)  
Cynthia Yang, BC '02, independent study in Psychology (fall)
- 2000-2001 Joselyn Chavez, BC '02, Higher Education Opportunities Program (HEOP) student intern (year)

- Elisabeth Pilcher, BC '02, New York Sciences Education Program (NYSEP) intern (summer)  
 Penny Shima, BC '01, independent study in Psychology (spring)  
 Penny Shima, BC '01, independent study in Psychology (fall)
- 1999-2000 Neely Harburger, BC '00, independent study in Psychology (spring)  
 Neely Harburger, BC '00, independent study in Psychology (fall)

**Graduate Dissertation Committee Member**

- 2008 Joshua I. Davis, Department of Psychology, Columbia University  
 2006 Gina Feliciano, Teachers College, Columbia University  
 2005 Yi Hui Chen, Teachers College, Columbia University  
 2004 Jennie Pyers, Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley  
 2002 Kimberly Stender, Teachers College, Columbia University  
 2002 Georgene Feldman, Teachers College, Columbia University  
 2001 Kay Kitzen, Teachers College, Columbia University

**I. Publications and Creative Work**

**Manuscripts under review**

- Flaherty, M. and A. Senghas (under review). Numerosity and Number Signs in Deaf Nicaraguan Adults. (32 pp.)
- Senghas, A., J. J. Kim, and S. Pinker (under review). The plurals-in-compounds effect. (92 pp.)

**Professional Journals**

- Pyers, J. E., A. Shusterman, A. Senghas, E. Spelke, and K. Emmorey (2010). Spatial language supports spatial cognition: Evidence from learners of an emerging sign language. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*.
- Davis, J. I., A. Senghas, F. Brandt, and K. N. Ochsner (2010). The effects of BOTOX injections on emotional experience. *Emotion*.
- Davis, J.I., A. Senghas, and K.N. Ochsner (2009). How does facial feedback modulate emotional experience? *Journal of Research in Personality*, **43**, 822-829.
- Pyers, J. and A. Senghas (2009). Language promotes false-belief understanding: Evidence from a new sign language. *Psychological Science*, **20:7**, 805-812.
- Senghas, A. (2005). Language emergence: Clues from a new Bedouin sign language. *Current Biology*, **15:12**, 463-465.
- Senghas, A., S. Kita, and A. Özyürek (2005). Linguaggio e evoluzione: I bambini sordi del Nicaragua mostrano come nasce una lingua. *Darwin*, **2:8**, 88-96. [Includes Italian translation of Senghas et al. 2004, with additional text and graphics].
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Kita (2005). Language emergence *in vitro* or *in vivo*? Response to comment on "Children creating core properties of language: evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua" *Science*, **309**: 5731, 56.

- Senghas, A., S. Kita, and A. Özyürek (2004). Children creating core properties of language: evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua. *Science*, **305**: 5691, 1779-1782.
- Senghas, A. (2003). Intergenerational influence and ontogenetic development in the emergence of spatial grammar in Nicaraguan Sign Language. *Cognitive Development*, **18**, 511-531.
- Saffran, J. R., A. Senghas, and J. C. Trueswell (2001). The acquisition of language by children. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, **98**: **23**, 12874-12875. [authors listed alphabetically]
- Senghas, A. (2001). Spatial and temporal coding of Nicaraguan Sign Language in MediaTagger: Documenting three dimensions with a two-dimensional tool. *Sign Language and Linguistics*, **4**: **1/2**, 229-240. [update and revision of Senghas, 1999]
- Senghas, A., and M. Coppola (2001). Children creating language: How Nicaraguan Sign Language acquired a spatial grammar. *Psychological Science*, **12**, **4**: 323-328.
- Snyder, W., A. Senghas, and K. Inman (2001). Agreement morphology and the acquisition of noun-drop in Spanish. *Language Acquisition*, **9** (**2**): 157-173.
- Waxman, S. R., A. Senghas, and S. Benveniste (1997). A cross-linguistic examination of the noun-category bias: Its existence and specification in French- and Spanish-speaking preschool-aged children. *Cognitive Psychology*, **32**: 183-218.
- Senghas, A. (1995). Conventionalization in the first generation: a community acquires a language. *USD Journal of Contemporary Legal Issues*, **6**, Spring, 1995.
- Senghas, A. (1994). Nicaragua's lessons for language acquisition. *Signpost: The Journal of the International Sign Linguistics Association*, **7**:**1**, spring 1994.
- Waxman, S. R., and A. Senghas (1992). Relations among word meanings in early lexical development. *Developmental Psychology*, **28**: 862-873.

### **Book Chapters, Edited Volumes, and Reviewed Conference Proceedings**

- Senghas, A., and M. Coppola (in press). Getting to the point: How a simple gesture became a linguistic element in Nicaraguan signing. To appear in D.J. Napoli and G. Mathur (Eds.), *Deaf Around the World*. Oxford University Press.
- Coppola, M., and A. Senghas (2010). Deixis in an emerging sign language. In D. Brentari (Ed.), *Sign Languages: A Cambridge Language Survey*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (543-569).
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Goldin-Meadow (2010). The evolution of segmentation and sequencing: Evidence from homesign and Nicaraguan Sign Language. In *Evolang8: The Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on the Evolution of Language*.
- Coppola, M., and A. Senghas (2010). The path from point A to Point B: How gestures became language in Nicaraguan signing. In *Evolang8: The Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on the Evolution of Language*.
- Senghas, A. (2010). Reinventing the word. In B. Malt and P. Wolff (Eds.), *Words and the Mind: How Words Capture Human Experience*. Oxford University Press (16-28).

- Senghas, A. (2010). Sign Language. *World Book Encyclopedia*.
- Senghas, A., S. Kita, and A. Özyürek (2008). Children creating core properties of language: evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua. In K. Lindgren, D. DeLuca, B. Reynolds, and D. J. Napoli (Eds.), *Signs and Voices*. Washington DC: Gallaudet University Press. [Reprint of Senghas et al., 2004]
- Pyers, J. E., and A. Senghas (2007). Reported action in Nicaraguan and American Sign Languages: Emerging versus established systems. In P. Perniss, R. Pfau, and M. Steinbach, (Eds.), *Visible variation: Comparative studies on sign language structure*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Senghas, A., D. Roman, and S. Mavillapalli (2006). *Simplemente Único: Lo que la Comunidad Sorda de Nicaragua le Puede Enseñar al Mundo* [Simply Unique: What the Nicaraguan Deaf Community Can Teach the World]. London/Managua: Leonard Cheshire International.
- Senghas, A. (2006). ¿De dónde surgió el Idioma de Señas de Nicaragua? [Where did Nicaraguan Sign Language come from?] In A. Senghas, D. Roman, and S. Mavillapalli (Eds.), *Simplemente Único: Lo que la Comunidad Sorda de Nicaragua le Puede Enseñar al Mundo*. London/Managua: Leonard Cheshire International.
- Senghas, R. J., A. Senghas, and J. E. Pyers (2005). The emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language: Questions of development, acquisition, and evolution. In J. Langer, C. Milbrath, & S. T. Parker (Eds.), *Biology and Knowledge revisited: From neurogenesis to psychogenesis*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Kita (2002). Encoding motion events in an emerging sign language: From Nicaraguan gestures to Nicaraguan signs. In A. Baker, B. van den Bogaerde & O. Crasborn (Eds.) *Cross-linguistic perspectives in sign language research. Selected papers from TISLR 2000*. Hamburg: Signum Press.
- Senghas, A. (2000). The development of early spatial morphology in Nicaraguan Sign Language. In S. C. Howell, S. A. Fish, and T. Keith-Lucas, (Eds.), *BUCLD 24: Proceedings of the 24th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Boston: Cascadilla Press, 696-707.
- Senghas, A. (1999). Spatial and temporal coding of Nicaraguan Sign Language in MediaTagger: Documenting three dimensions with a two-dimensional tool. In E. Pizzuto and B. Bergman, (Eds.), *Intersign: Sign Linguistics and Data Exchange, Section on Morphosyntax: Text Corpora and Tagging*. European Science Foundation Scientific Network.
- Kegl, J., A. Senghas, and M. Coppola (1999). Creation through contact: Sign language emergence and sign language change in Nicaragua. In M. DeGraff, (Ed.), *Language Creation and Language Change: Creolization, Diachrony, and Development*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 179-237.
- Senghas, A., M. Coppola, E. L. Newport, and T. Supalla (1997). Argument structure in Nicaraguan Sign Language: The emergence of grammatical devices. In E. Hughes, M. Hughes, and A. Greenhill (Eds.), *BUCLD 21: Proceedings of the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Boston: Cascadilla Press, 550-561.



- Snyder, W., and A. Senghas (1997). Agreement morphology and the acquisition of noun-drop in Spanish. In E. Hughes, M. Hughes, and A. Greenhill (Eds.), *BUCLD 21: Proceedings of the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Boston: Cascadilla Press, 584-591.
- Senghas, A. (1995). The development of Nicaraguan Sign Language via the language acquisition process. In D. MacLaughlin & S. McEwen (Eds.), *BUCLD 19: Proceedings of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Boston: Cascadilla Press, 543-552.
- Kegl, J., and A. Senghas (1993). The birth of a language: The case of Idioma de Signos Nicaragüense. In Ferreira-Brito, L. (Ed.), *Proceedings of the II Congresso Latino-Americano de Bilingüismo para Surdos: Língua Oral - Língua de Sinais*, UFRJ Faculdade de Letras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, September, 1993.

### **Book Reviews**

- Senghas, A. (2003). Review of "Language, Cognition, and the Brain: Insights from Sign Language Research" by Karen Emmorey. *Sign Language and Linguistics*, 6:1, 105-110.

### **Reports**

- Senghas, A. (1995). Children's contribution to the birth of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Ph.D. dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Distributed by MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.

### **Conference Posters**

- Pyers, J. E., A. Senghas, and A. Kocab (2009). The emergence of referential shift in a new sign language in Nicaragua: The role of cognition in the development of grammar. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Denver, CO, April 2009.
- Pyers, J. E., A. Shusterman, A. Senghas, and K. Emmorey (2007). Does spatial language guide spatial representation? Evidence from Nicaraguan Sign Language. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Boston, MA, March 2007.
- Davis, J. I., A. Senghas, and K. Ochsner (2007). What role do facial expressions play in emotional experience? Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Social and Personality Psychology, Memphis, TN, January 2007.
- Rabagliati, H., K. J. Fernandes, A. Senghas, S. P. Johnson, and G. F. Marcus (2006). Is rule-learning specific to language or speech? Poster presented at the Thirty-first Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD31), Boston, MA, November 2006.
- Pyers, J. E. and A. Senghas (2004). Perceiving, knowing, and "seeing": The emergence of mental-state verbs in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Poster presented at the Eighth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR8), Barcelona, Spain, September 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2000). Differences between first- and second-cohort Nicaraguan signers in communicating location and orientation. Poster presented at the Seventh International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR7), Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, July 2000.

- Senghas, A. (1995). The birth of Nicaraguan Sign Language: The emergence of verb inflection. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA, April 1995.
- Senghas, A., J. Kegl, R. J. Senghas, and M. Coppola (1994). Sign language emergence and sign language change: children's contribution to the birth of a language. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting for the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Boston, MA, January 1994.
- Senghas, A., J. Kegl, and R. J. Senghas (1993). The role of language acquisition processes in the emergence of a new sign language. Poster presented at Designs of Nature: The Sixth Annual Graduate and Postdoctoral Mini-symposium, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, November 1993.

### **Keynote Addresses and Invited Lectures**

- Senghas, A. (2010). From gestures to grammar – How learners created Nicaraguan Sign Language. Keynote address. To be delivered at the Child Language Seminar, City University, London, June 25, 2010.
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Goldin-Meadow (2010). The evolution of segmentation and sequencing: Evidence from homesign and Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Eighth International Conference on the Evolution of Language (Evolang8), Utrecht, the Netherlands, April 16, 2010.
- Senghas, A. (2009). Nicaraguan Sign Language: A new fossil record of age-of-acquisition effects. Keynote address at the symposium Multiple Perspectives on the Critical Period for Language, Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, June 5, 2009.
- Senghas, A. (2004) ¿Por qué estudiar lenguas de señas? Lo que nos pueden enseñar. Inaugural lecture at the opening of the Masters Program in Sign Language at the University of Seville, Spain, October 4, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2001). From symbols to syntax: the creation of a new language by deaf children. Invited lecture at the Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC., April, 2001.
- Senghas, A. (2000). From symbols to syntax: the creation of a new language by deaf children. Invited lecture at the Twelfth Annual Frontiers of Science Symposium, the National Academy of Sciences, Irvine, CA, November, 2000.

### **Presentations at Conferences and Meetings**

- Senghas, A. (2010). The emergence and evolution of Nicaraguan number signs. Delivered at the Nijmegen Gesture Centre Spring Workshop: Language Evolution in Our Hand, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, April 19, 2010.
- Coppola, M., and A. Senghas (2010). The path from point A to Point B: How gestures became language in Nicaraguan signing. Delivered (by M.C.) at the Eighth International Conference on the Evolution of Language (Evolang8), Utrecht, the Netherlands, April 16, 2010.
- Senghas, A. (2009). The Emergence and Evolution of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered in the symposium Languages without Ancestors, at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Chicago, IL, February 2009.

- Senghas, A., and S. Katseff (2008). Competing forces behind the form of Nicaraguan Sign Language number signs. Delivered at the SignTyp Conference, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, June 26-28, 2008.
- Senghas, A., and M. Coppola (2008). Getting to the point: The development of a linguistic device in Nicaraguan signing. Delivered at the Around the Deaf World Conference, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, February 29-March 1, 2008.
- Flaherty, M., and A. Senghas (2007). Numerosity and number signs in Deaf Nicaraguan adults. Delivered at the Thirty-second Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD32), Boston, MA, November, 2007.
- Shusterman, A., J. E. Pyers, A. Senghas, K. Emmorey, and E. Spelke (2007). Does spatial language guide spatial representation? Evidence from Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered (by A. Shusterman) at the Fifth Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS V), Santa Fe, NM, October 26-27, 2007.
- Davis, J. I., A. Senghas, and K. Ochsner (2007). Emotion regulation through changes to facial expression. Delivered (by J. D.) at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society, Budapest, Hungary, March 7-10, 2007.
- Senghas, A. (2007). The emergence of structure in Nicaraguan Sign Language: Carving up space and time. Delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Visionary Establishment (LOVE), Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, February 8-9, 2007.
- Senghas, A. (2006). Identifying arguments in Nicaraguan Sign Language: The roots of noun-verb agreement. Delivered at the Workshop on Language Emergence, Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center, Bellagio Italy, October 4-9, 2006.
- Senghas, A. (2006). Nicaraguan Sign Language: An introduction to the language, the community, and the data. Delivered at the Workshop on Language Emergence, Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center, Bellagio Italy, October 4-9, 2006.
- Senghas, A. (2005). The roots of verb agreement in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Summer Institute Workshop on The Analysis of Verb Agreement in Sign Languages, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, August 6-7, 2005.
- Senghas, A. (2005). Competing coreference devices in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Congress of the International Association for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), Berlin, Germany, July 2005.
- Katseff, S., and A. Senghas (2004). Effects of acquisition on the Nicaraguan Sign Language number lexicon. Delivered at the Twenty-ninth Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD29), Boston, MA, November, 2004.

- Senghas, A., and S. Littman (2004). Segmentation in the expression of motion events in co-speech gesture, Nicaraguan Sign Language (NSL) and Spanish Sign Language (LSE). Delivered at the Eighth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR8), Barcelona, Spain, September 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004). Children's role in the emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered in the symposium on Language Birth, at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Seattle, WA, February 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2003). Emerging spatial devices in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Conference on Spatial Language and Spatial Cognition, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, September 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2003). The differentiation of grammatical elements in Nicaraguan Sign Language over historical and ontogenetic developmental timelines. Delivered at the Project for Explaining the Origin of Humans, UCSD, October 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2003). From gesture to grammar: how children are creating Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Tampa, FL, April 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2002). From gestures to sign language in the encoding of motion events. Delivered at the International Congress for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), Madison, WI, July 2002.
- Senghas, A. (2002). The emergence of compositional structure in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Evolution of Language Conference, Cambridge, MA, March 2002.
- Senghas, A. (2001). The emergence of grammatical devices for indicating location and orientation in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Twenty-sixth Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD26), November, 2001.
- Senghas, A. (2001). The effect of stages of language acquisition on the development of Nicaraguan Sign Language: How minds mold a language. Delivered in an invited symposium at the Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Berkeley, CA, May, 2001.
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Kita (2000). Encoding motion events in an emerging sign language: From Nicaraguan gestures to Nicaraguan signs. Delivered at the Seventh International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR7), Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, July, 2000.
- Senghas, A. (2000) Evolution of grammar: The grammaticization of Nicaraguan Sign Language by sequential iterations of native acquisition. Delivered at the Evolution of Language Conference, Paris, France, April 4-6, 2000.
- Senghas, A. (1999). The Development of Early Spatial Morphology in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Twenty-fourth Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD24), November, 1999.

- Senghas, A. (1999). Spatial and temporal coding of Nicaraguan Sign Language in MediaTagger: Documenting three dimensions with a two-dimensional tool. Delivered at the Workshop on Morphosyntax: Text corpora and tagging. Intersign: Sign Linguistics and Data Exchange, European Science Foundation Scientific Network. Certosa di Pontignano, Siena, Italy, March 12-15, 1999.
- Coppola, M., E. L. Newport, T. Supalla, and A. Senghas (1998). Aspect and number marking in family-based gesture systems in Nicaragua. Delivered at the Sixth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR6), Gallaudet University, Washington, DC., November, 1998.
- Coppola, M., A. Senghas, E. L. Newport, and T. Supalla (1997). The emergence of grammar: Evidence from family-based sign systems in Nicaragua. Delivered at the Twenty-second Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD22), Boston, MA.
- Senghas, A., M. Coppola, E. L. Newport, and T. Supalla (1996). Argument structure in Nicaraguan Sign Language: The emergence of grammatical devices. Delivered at the Twenty-first Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD21), November, 1996.
- Snyder, W., and A. Senghas (1996). Agreement morphology and the acquisition of noun-drop in Spanish. Delivered at the Twenty-first Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD21), November, 1996.
- Senghas, A. (1996). The Creolization of Agreement in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Delivered at the Fifth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR5), Université de Québec à Montréal, Montreal, Quebec, September, 1996.
- Senghas, A. (1994). The development of Nicaraguan Sign Language via the language acquisition process. Delivered at the Nineteenth Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD19), November, 1994.
- Senghas, R. J., J. Kegl, and A. Senghas (1994). Creation through contact: The development of a Nicaraguan Deaf community and the nativization of its language. Delivered at the 2nd International Conference on Deaf History, Hamburg, Germany, October, 1994.
- Senghas, A. (1994). Conventionalization in the first generation: A community acquires a language. Delivered at the Conference on the Crisis of Text, Institute for Law and Systems Research, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA, August, 1994.
- Kegl, J., and A. Senghas (1993). The birth of a language: The case of Idioma de Signos Nicaragüense. Delivered at the II Congresso Latino-Americano de Bilingüismo para Surdos: Língua Oral - Língua de Sinais, UFRJ Faculdade de Letras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, September, 1993.
- Senghas, A., J. J. Kim, S. Pinker, and C. Collins (1991). Plurals-inside-compounds: Morphological constraints and their implications for acquisition. Delivered at the Sixteenth Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD16), October, 1991.

Kegl, J., and A. Senghas (1991). Cross-linguistic comparison via the elicitation of controlled narratives: verbal constructions in Nicaraguan Sign Language and American Sign Language. Delivered (by A. S.) at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Chicago, IL, January, 1991.

Waxman, S. R., and A. Senghas (1990). Relations among word meanings in early lexical development. Delivered at the International Conference of Infancy Studies (ICIS), Montreal, Quebec, April, 1990.

### **Professional Presentations in Nicaragua**

Senghas, A. (2005). La Pégola Roundtable: An interdisciplinary workshop on research related to deafness in Nicaragua. Conference organizer and facilitator. Granada, Nicaragua, January 3-8, 2005.

Senghas, A., M. Coppola, A. Engelman, M. Flaherty, J. Kegl, L. Polich, J. Pyers. R. J. Senghas (2005). The Nicaraguan Deaf community and its language: A history for educators, policymakers and public service providers, Centro Cultural Nicaraguense-Norteamericano, Managua, Nicaragua, January 13, 2005.

Senghas, A., M. Coppola, M. Flaherty, J. Kegl, L. Polich, J. Pyers. R. J. Senghas (2005). The world is watching: History of the Deaf community and Deaf education in Nicaragua, 1946-present. Biblioteca Roberto Incer Barquero del Banco Central, Managua, Nicaragua, January 11, 2005.

Senghas, A. (1999). The changing structure of Nicaraguan Sign Language: Implications for the education of deaf children. Invited lecture, Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports (MECD), Managua, Nicaragua, June 1999.

Senghas, A. (1996). The emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language in Managua: An overview. Invited lecture, Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Costa Atlántica (Center for Research and Development of the Atlantic Coast), Managua, Nicaragua, January 1996.

Kegl, J., A. Senghas, and R. J. Senghas (1993). The birth and development of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited talk and seminar given to all instructors in Deaf Education at the Ministry of Education, Managua, Nicaragua, August 3-5, 1993.

### **Invited Colloquia and Speaker Series**

Senghas, A. (2010). Social scaffolding for language genesis: Why Nicaraguan Sign Language emerged when, where, and how it did. Invited lecture, Workshop on Meaning: Language and Socio-cultural Processes, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University, March 31, 2010.

Senghas, A. and A. J. Martin. (2010). How children are creating Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, LaGuardia Community College, February 18, 2010.

Senghas, A. (2010). A documentary film screening and discussion: *Voices From El Sayed*. Discussant, University Seminar on Disability Studies, and Social Work Film Society, Columbia University, February 4, 2010.

Senghas, A. (2009) The emergence and evolution of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Psychology of Language, Department of Psychology, Wellesley College, May 4, 2009.

- Coppola, M. and A. Senghas. (2008). How space becomes language: The evolution of the point in Nicaraguan signing. INS and OUTS of Spatial Language Conference, Spatial Language and Intelligence Center, Chicago, IL.
- Senghas, A. (2008) The acquisition of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Seminar in Language Acquisition, Department of Psychology, Wellesley College, November 18, 2008.
- Senghas, A. (2007). The impact of successive cohorts of learners on a language. Invited lecture, Department of Linguistics, University of Southern Maine, October 2, 2007.
- Senghas, A. (2005) The Emergence of Spatial and Temporal Differentiation in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Colloquium Series on Mechanisms of Language and Conceptual Representation and Development, Program in Biopsychology, Hunter College, City University of New York (CUNY), March 3, 2005.
- Senghas, A. (2004) Spatial and Temporal Differentiation in Nicaraguan Sign Language: The Emergence of Structure. Invited lecture, Linguistics Colloquium Series, New York University, October 29, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004) Spatial and Temporal Differentiation in Nicaraguan Sign Language: The Emergence of Structure. Invited lecture, University Seminar 681: Language and Cognition, Columbia University, October 28, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004). Desde el símbolo a la sintaxis: Observando el nacimiento del Idioma de Señas de Nicaragua. Morning workshop in the opening conference of the Master's Program in Sign Language at the University of Seville, Spain, October 4, 2004.
- Senghas, A., and S. Littman (2004). Segmentation in the expression of motion events in co-speech gesture, Nicaraguan Sign Language (NSL) and Spanish Sign Language (LSE). Invited lecture, Department of Linguistics, Gallaudet University, September 23, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004) Linguistic and social factors in the emergence of a new language: The case of NSL. Invited lecture, Series on Language Creation and Input, Center for Human Development, University of California, San Diego, May 28, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004) How children turn gesture into grammar: Spatial and temporal segmentation in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Department of Psychology, Wellesley College, April 21, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2004) How children turn gesture into grammar: Spatial and temporal segmentation in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Cognition, Brain, and Behavior Research Seminar, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, February 4, 2004.
- Senghas, A. (2003). From gestures to grammar: How children are creating Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Institute for Research in Cognitive Science (IRCS) Colloquium Series, University of Pennsylvania, December 2003.

- Senghas, A. (2003). The differentiation of grammatical elements in Nicaraguan Sign Language over historical and ontogenetic developmental timelines. Invited lecture, Speaker Series, Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), November 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2003). How learning creates language: Evidence from the emergence of Nicaraguan Sign Language, Invited lecture, Laboratory for Developmental Studies, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, October 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2003). From gesture to grammar: how children are creating Nicaraguan Sign Language. Colloquium on Language and the Brain, University of Wisconsin, Madison, February 2003.
- Senghas, A. (2002). The emergence of grammatical devices for indicating location and orientation in Nicaraguan Sign Language, Invited Lecture, Workshop of the Sign Language Research Group, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, December 2002.
- Senghas, A. (2002). From gesture to grammar: how children are creating Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Colloquium Series of the Center for the Study of Human Development, Brown University, October 2002.
- Senghas, A. (2002). From gesture to grammar: The emergence of structure in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Seminar in Sign Language Research, Department of Cognitive Science, University of California, San Diego, October 2002.
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Kita (2002). Encoding motion events in an emerging sign language: From Nicaraguan gestures to Nicaraguan signs. Invited lecture, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, January 2002.
- Senghas, A., A. Özyürek, and S. Kita (2002). The emergence of devices for indicating location and orientation in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, January 2002.
- Senghas, A. (2001). From symbols to syntax: How children created Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Cognitive and Linguistic Sciences Colloquium Series, Wellesley College, November 2001.
- Senghas, A. (2001). From gestures to morphemes: the emergence of grammar in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Developmental Psychology Speaker Series, University of Connecticut, November 2001.
- Senghas, A., and J. E. Pyers (2001). Does linguistic complexity affect cognitive development? Evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua. Invited lecture, Psychology Colloquium Series, Smith College, April 2001.
- Senghas, A. (2001). From Symbols to Syntax: How Nicaraguan Sign Language Acquired a Spatial Grammar, Invited lecture, CUNY Linguistics Colloquium, Graduate Center of City University of New York, March 2001.
- Senghas, A. (2000). From Symbols to Syntax: How Nicaraguan Sign Language Acquired a Spatial Grammar. Invited lecture, Language Acquisition, Modeling, and Processing speaker series, Rutgers University, December 2000.



- Senghas, A. (2000). How learning shapes a language: Spatial constructions in the second cohort of Nicaraguan signers. Invited presentation, The La Jolla Initiative on Explaining the Origins of Humans, La Jolla, CA, November 2000.
- Senghas, A. (2000). Sciences within the Liberal Arts Curriculum. Panel Discussant, Through the Lens of a Seven Sisters Education: The Seven Sisters Conference, Vassar College, March 24-26, 2000.
- Senghas, A. (2000). Emergence and convergence in a growing grammar: The birth of Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, SUNY Stonybrook Linguistics Colloquium, February 2000.
- Senghas, A. (1999). The emergence of spatial morphology in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Invited lecture, Sign Language and Deaf Studies, City University, London, April 1999.
- Senghas, A. (1998). The emergence of grammatical structure via the language acquisition process in Nicaraguan Sign Language. Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics Luncheon Series Lecture, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, May 1998.
- Senghas, A. (1996). The emergence of structure in a new language: The verb phrase in Nicaraguan Sign. Invited lecture, University of Connecticut Lunchtime Talk Series in Psycholinguistics, Department of Linguistics, Storrs, CT, October 1996.
- Senghas, A. (1995). The birth of Nicaraguan Sign Language: The emergence of noun agreement. Yale University Linguistics Colloquium Series, New Haven, CT, November 1995.
- Senghas, A. (1995). Language acquisition. Two guest lectures in an undergraduate course on Child Development, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- Senghas, A. (1994). The development of Nicaraguan Sign Language via the language acquisition process: The emergence of verb inflection. Psychology Colloquium Series at Smith College, Northampton, MA, December 1994.
- Bickerton, D., and A. Senghas (1994). The birth of languages: Historical and psycholinguistic studies converge. MIT Cognitive Science Center Colloquium Series, September 1994.