University of Connecticut
Department of Linguistics
Department Head Search

Diane Lillo-Martin
Diversity Statement

Linguistics as a field recognizes and honors the diversity of languages used around the world (including both spoken and signed languages). It is our responsibility to support and uphold the speakers of these languages, with equal regard for the experiences and perspectives of all. Holding speakers in regard is not enough, however; we must work toward justice and equity in the roles that individuals play, and we have an obligation to promote inclusion of a wider range of language scholars.

In alignment with the CLAS Strategic Plan, Goal 1, there are ways in which our department must work to support a more diverse academic environment. We need to create a committee focused on issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion, proactively searching for ways to enhance our capacity and expand the ways in which we are diverse. This endeavor should include efforts at all levels, respecting the multiple intersecting domains of diversity representation. Working together, we will promote diversity and make our department welcoming and encouraging of multiple perspectives, particularly those of historically underrepresented and marginalized groups.