

A Tribute to John

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Though I didn't take any courses with John Esling, I can certainly say that I learned a great many things from him through various conversations on a wide range of topics, sometimes on a wide range of topics within the same conversation. I first worked directly with John when he was the Chair of the Curriculum Committee and I was proposing the addition of a new course: LING 325, Lexical Semantics. John helped me think through the implications of the new course on other courses and on the department's programs. I witnessed first-hand how he thought about curriculum and had to work hard to keep up with his ideas. When John was the Department Chair, he was very supportive of sessional lecturers, and, as someone who had made the choice of sessional teaching over a faculty position, I feel fortunate to have had John as my boss for 5 years. He was generous with his time and ideas, and I have good memories of conversations about teaching, research, language, and linguistics, and all sorts of topics in between. Thanks, John, for being such a fascinating individual and thanks, too, for the honey.