

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### NAHAL AKBARI-SANEH

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#### Education

- 2009 Ph.D. in Second Language Teaching and Learning  
Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa, Canada.  
Dissertation Title: *Intercultural Rhetoric in Higher Education: The Case of Iranian Students' Textual Practices in North American Graduate Schools*
- 1999 M.A. in Applied Linguistics  
University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran.
- 1995 B.A. in English Language and Literature  
Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

#### Employment

- 2006- Current University of Maryland, College Park
- Director of Persian language programs and Research scholar since 2012, Assistant Clinical Professor of Pedagogy since 2015, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures (SLLC)
  - PI and Director of Federal Grants including Persian Flagship and Project Global Officer (GO) in Arabic and Persian
  - Academic Director of the Intensive Persian Summer Institute since 2012, Administrative Director of Arabic and Persian Intensive Summer Institute 2016-2018
  - Design, oversight, and teaching of Persian language courses for the Masters of Professional Studies in Persian (2006-2011) and Undergraduate Major/Minor in Persian Studies (2008-current)
  - Writing grants and project reports, oversight of learning outcomes, program deliverables and budgets, developing new partnerships, and representing the program as a leader in Persian language education to national and international audiences at conferences, workshops and other professional venues.
- 2001-2005 University of Ottawa, Canada  
Lecturer, Teacher Education MA Program, Faculty of Education
- 2001- 2005 Persian Language Instructor

Persian as an Additional Language, *FILIO* (Foreign Languages Institute of Ottawa, affiliated with the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

## Grants, Academic Honors and Awards

- **2020-2024**, PI/Director, Persian Flagship and Persian Capstone Immersion Program, Grant Amount: \$2,200,000.00 (\$550,000 per year), Granting Agency: NSEP/IIE.
- **2016-2020**, PI/Director, Persian Flagship and Persian Capstone Immersion Program, \$2,200,000.00 (\$550,000 per year), Granting Agency: NSEP/IIE.
- **2015-2020**, PI/Director, Project Global Officer (GO) in Arabic and Persian. Annual grant (\$300,000 to \$350,000 per year), Granting Agency: NSEP/IIE
- **2009**, Dissertation nominated for Best Doctoral Research in Humanities and Social Sciences Award, University of Ottawa, Canada.
- **2007**, Winner of best article published in the *Journal of Second Language Writing* in 2006 (co-authored with A. Abasi & B. Graves).

## Professional and Scholarly Activities

### Peer Reviewed Publications

**Akbari, N.** (2020). Second language assessment in Persian. In P. Shabani-Jadidi (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Persian Second Language Acquisition (456-468)*. New York: Routledge.

**Akbari, N.**, & Abasi, A. R. (2020). Second language reading in Persian. In P. Shabani-Jadidi (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Persian Second Language Acquisition (277-292)*. New York: Routledge.

**Abasi, A. R.**, & Akbari, N. (2014). What intercultural rhetoric is and isn't: A response to Li Xiaoming. *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 25, 114-115.

Abasi, A. R. & **Akbari, N.** (2013). The Discoursal Construction of Candidates in the Tenth Iranian Presidential Elections: An Appraisal Analysis of a Newspaper's Coverage. *Journal of Language & Politics*. 12, 4, 537-557.

Abasi, A. R., & **Akbari, N.** (2008). Are we encouraging patchwriting? Reconsidering the role of the pedagogical context in ESL student writers' transgressive intertextuality. *English for Specific Purposes*, 27, 267–284.

Abasi, A. R., **Akbari, N.**, & Graves, B. (2006). Discourse appropriation, construction of identities, and the complex issue of plagiarism: ESL students writing in graduate school. *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 15, 102–117.

### Conference Presentations:

**Akbari, N.** (2020, October). *Persian language pedagogy: Challenges and innovative responses*. Virtual panel hosted by the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

**Akbari, N.** (2020, August). *Integration of performance assessment into Persian curricula in higher education*. Paper accepted for presentation at the 13th Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, University of Salamanca, Spain (cancelled due to COVID-19).

**Akbari, N.** (2019, June). *Language and culture in long-term study abroad*. Invited Speaker at the 2019 Boren Convocation. Washington, DC.

**Akbari, N.** (2015, November). *What is "advancedness" in foreign language education? The case of Persian as an additional language*. Paper presented as part of a panel on approaches, curricula, and assessment tools for advanced Persian instruction. Annual conference of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) 2015, Denver, CO.

**Akbari, N.** (2014, November). *Content-Based instruction: Curricular planning in a sheltered model for advanced-level Persian*. Presentation at the pre-session panel of the Association of Teachers of Persian, MESA 2014, Washington DC.

**Akbari, N.** (2012, October). *Dissemination through developing Flagship Program logic models*. Presentation in plenary session on Disseminating the Flagship Model at the Language Flagship Results 2012, Hunter College, NY.

**Akbari, N.** & Abasi, A. R. (2012, June) *Expression of interpersonal meaning in writings of heritage and non-heritage advanced learners of Persian: An appraisal analysis*. Paper presented at the Sixth Heritage Language Research Institute, UCLA Center for World Languages, Los Angeles, CA.

Abasi, A.R., & **Akbari, N.** (June 2012). *Advanced-level American learners of Persian writing film critiques: An appraisal analytic case study*. Paper presented at the 2012 International Genre Conference "Rethinking Genre 20 Years Later", Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.

### Workshops:

- (2019, August), organized and hosted a three-day Professional Development Workshop for members of the American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP). University of Maryland, College Park.
- (2019, April). conducted a virtual workshop on content-based language instruction for American Councils (AC) Portuguese language faculty in Maputo, Mozambique
- (September 2010), conducted a three-day workshop on the communicative approach to the teaching of grammar for teachers of Persian at the American Councils for International Education (ACIE) overseas Persian program. Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- (April 2009), member of the organizing committee of a two-day roundtable on University-Community linkage in Persian pedagogy in the US, UMD.

- (May 2007), conducted a three-day professional development workshop on instructional materials development for university teachers of Persian, sponsored by the National Middle East Language Resource Centre (NMEELRC).

## Service

### Campus:

2016- 2017, ARHU Strategic Planning Subcommittee  
 2017, SLLC PTK Policies Committee  
 2018-2019, Campus Year of Immigration Community Engagement Committee  
 2019 Language House Measurable Outcomes Committee  
 2019-current, SLLC Initiatives Committee  
 2020, Chair of Search Committee, Project Manager for Arabic and Persian  
 2018, Chair of Search Committee, Administrative Director of Projects for Arabic and Persian  
 2016, Member of Search Committee, Persian Lecturer  
 2014, Member of Search Committee, Persian Visiting Assistant Professor

### Professional Training, Membership, and Activities in Language Assessment and Program Evaluation:

- ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Rater. Completed training for Persian and English, Rutgers University, New Brunswick (2008)
- Project Leader for Persian language programs, National Middle East Language Resource Center (NMEELRC), and University of Hawaii's Foreign Language Program Evaluation Project, funded by US Department of Education (2010-2014).
- Advisory Board Member, American Association for Teachers of Persian (2015-current)
- Member of External Review Committees: University of Oregon Chinese Flagship Program, University of Rhode Island Chinese Flagship Program, Indiana University Turkish and Chinese Flagship programs, Overseas Arabic Flagship Program in Meknes, Morocco (2014-2019)
- Invited External Reviewer: Persian Language Program at the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS), University of Arizona, Tucson (2017)
- Grant review panelist for Institute of International Education (IIE): Arabic Flagship, Portuguese Flagship, Korean Flagship, Language Training Centers (LTC), African Languages Flagships Initiative (AFLI)

## Languages

Persian (native), Kurdish (native), English (near native)  
 Arabic (MSA reading knowledge), French (limited reading knowledge)