Forensic Linguistics Seminar
hosted by the *International Linguistic Association*

Friday, April 5, 2024
10:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)
on Zoom

Opening Plenary
Dr. Robert Leonard
Professor, Hofstra University

Forensic linguistics in the cause of justice:
Criminal Investigations, Threat Assessment, Counterterrorism,
and the Groundbreaking Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project

Dr. Leonard will discuss a variety of his cases that dealt with murder, kidnapping, extortion, false confessions, as well as civil cases defending Apple's trademarks. He will also discuss two Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project cases, including that of Melissa Lucio, where the Project's efforts helped to effect a stay of execution.

Rob Leonard is Professor of Linguistics. His clients include the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit, Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Director of National Intelligence, NYPD Detective Bureau Homicide Investigators Training Course, the British Secret Intelligence Service, MI-5, NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force, Apple, Facebook, and the Prime Minister of Canada. He is senior advisor to a new IARPA project of the Director of National Intelligence. The New Yorker magazine calls Leonard "One of the foremost language detectives in the country." TIME magazine deemed him (no kidding) the second smartest rock star in history, behind Brian May, guitarist of Queen, who is an Astrophysicist.
At Hofstra University, he heads
- the Graduate and BA-MA Programs in "Linguistics: Forensic Linguistics",
- the Institute for Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment and Strategic Analysis, and
- the Capital Case Innocence Project, where teams of students and faculty reanalyze language evidence—typically a confession, recorded conversation, interrogation, or testimony—crucial to a person's conviction and death sentence.

https://www.robertleonardassociates.com/
https://www.hofstra.edu/graduate/programs/liberal-arts-sciences/forensic-linguistics.html