

## **Minutes of a meeting of the Department of Linguistics, April 3, 2009**

Present: Susana Béjar, Elizabeth Cowper, Cristina Cuervo, Derek Denis, Elan Dresher (Chair), Elaine Gold, Isaac Gould, Daniel Hall, Simona Herdan, Alana Johns (minutes), Maria Kyriakaki, Beth MacLeod, Ana Pérez-Leroux, Sali Tagliamonte.

Regrets: Jack Chambers, Amar Dhillon, Yoonjung Kang, Naomi Nagy, Chandan Narayan, Keren Rice.

### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2009, have been posted on the Chair's Page: <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~dresher/grad/>. Thanks to Alana for doing the minutes. The year of the previous meeting should be changed to 2009. The minutes were approved.

### 2. Chair's Report (Elan Dresher)

#### 2.1 Faculty news

Michela Ippolito is back from maternity leave. We welcome her back.

The Department of Humanities at UTSC has a new position in Language and Culture, and Alejandro Paz has accepted this position at the rank of Assistant Professor. The position will be shared: undergraduate in IEE (Intersections, Exchanges, Encounters program), his graduate appointment will be in Linguistics. He will thus normally be able to teach one half-course in Linguistics at the graduate level per year. We understand that he will not teach a graduate course in 2009–10, but will start in 2010–11. Alejandro studies Latino labour migrants and their children in Israel as part of a larger rethinking of the relations between language and ethnicity in the production of a diasporic consciousness. He is currently a PhD candidate in Anthropology and Linguistics at the University of Chicago.

Jack Sidnell, a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology and Interim Vice Dean Graduate at UTM, is being cross-appointed to our graduate faculty. He would like to teach a graduate course every 2 or 3 years, other duties permitting, and is interested in making closer connections with our department. Jack works in the following areas: pidgins, creoles, language contact (field work on Guyanese and Vincentian Creoles); conversation analysis (editing the CA Handbook for the Blackwell Linguistics series with Tanya Stivers, and his own book overviewing the field is due out from Blackwell in late 2009); pragmatics ( deixis, presupposition, implicature, speech acts); and Anthropological Linguistics (methods, theories, current issues in documentation, endangerment, history of the fields of linguistics and anthropology, and variationist sociolinguistics). He has proposed a new course which will be conveyed to the Curriculum Committee.

We welcome Alejandro and Jack to our graduate faculty.

Our members have done very well in SSHRC Awards this year. Congratulations to Diane Massam, Naomi Nagy, Chandan Narayan, and to Mihaela Pirvulescu, Ana Pérez-Leroux, and Yves Roberge!

### 2.3. Psycholinguist search

Discussions with the Dean's office are still ongoing, and we still hope to make an offer shortly.

### 2.4. Space

In response to our reaction to the first proposal to move us to Sidney Smith Hall, Adrienne De Francesco, Assistant Dean and Director of the Office of Infrastructure Planning in the Faculty of Arts and Science, has proposed a revised plan that is quite a bit better. We are having a meeting immediately following this meeting to discuss the plan and our response.

## 3. Report of the Undergraduate Coordinator (Elaine Gold)

### 3.1 Exams and Final Grades

Grades for courses without final exams are due on Friday April 24 and grades for courses with exams are due 7 working days after the exam. This term there is no difference in deadlines for paper or electronic submission, but the assumption is that everyone in the department submits electronically.

Bill has sent out the forms for electronic submission and also the paper forms that contain the summary sheets. The summary sheets must be submitted on paper, even when the marks are submitted electronically. Please submit both at the same time - the electronic grades are not uploaded to ROSI until the summary sheets are received

### 3.2 Summer Courses

Simona Herdan and Chandan Narayan will be teaching Semantics and Acquisition, respectively. Ads were posted to CUPE 1 for instructors for the rest of the Summer courses, and offers have been made. Confirmed so far are:

LIN100Y1Y – Intro to Linguistics -	Richard Compton
LIN204H1S – English Grammar -	Tanya Slavin
LIN228H1S – Phonetics -	Nattaya Piriyawiboon
LIN351H1S – Sociolinguistics -	Bridget Jankowski

Ads have been posted for Summer TA positions and positions will be offered by mid April.

### 3.3 Outreach

March Break Open House: Thank you to Keren, Dylan, Amar, and LeAnn for running the Linguistics booth among the onslaught of high school students looking for Commerce.

### 3.4 Majors & Specialists Lunch

All undergraduates graduating with majors or specialists in Linguistics were invited to a celebratory lunch earlier today. About 10 of the 44 invited attended. Students appeared to like the idea of this event, even if they were unable to attend.

### 3.5 WIT

Our WIT proposal was successful and we were granted \$16,500. We will advertising soon for a Lead Writing TA. This TA will take part in a three day training session in June with

Lead Writing TAs from other departments and then will help train our LIN200 TAs in the fall and winter sessions to incorporate more writing instruction into tutorials.

### 3.6 Arts & Science Scholarship Reception

The Chair and the UG attended a reception on April 1 in honour of winners of Arts & Science scholarships. From our department, Derek Denis and Alexandra Motut were honorees who attended the reception.

### 3.7 LIN203 & LIN204

There have been continuing problems with the structure of LIN203 and LIN204, arising from their being large service courses with no tutorials. We must address these problems in the near future.

## 4. Report of the Graduate Coordinator (Sali Tagliamonte)

Graduate Admissions are ongoing. Currently:

PhD: 8 acceptances (7cda 1 visa)

1 visa decline

MA: 5 Domestic acceptances; 5 Visa acceptances

2 Domestic decline, 1 visa decline

## 5. Reports of committees

### 5.1 A & S Representative (Keren Rice)

There was considerable discussion of the upcoming vote on the flat rate for tuition, i.e. number of courses over 3 will not be relevant to rate of tuition. Keren has asked for our input and anyone who has a view should send it along to her. We ask that she vote as she thinks best, given the complex circumstances.

### 5.2 Equipment (Recording) (Beth MacLeod)

#### i. There have been some changes in booking the recording equipment/booth.

It is now done through Google calendars as a result of problems with WebCal (inability to edit/delete entries). The booking site is located at: <http://calendar.google.com>

Username: phonetics14

Password: phonetics

#### ii. Use of CRIF grant:

Funds from the CRIF grant have been spent on:

- a) Audio recording equipment – Zoom H4 recorders (5), Fostex FR-2 recorder (1) with case
- b) Microphones – Shure SM-10A headworn mics (2), Audio-Technica AT831b lavalier mic (1)
- c) Video recording equipment – Canon ZR950 camcorder with case and tripod

- d) Audio processing software (Sound Forge Audio Studio 9.0) and video processing software (Vegas Movie Studio DVD 8)
  - e) Associated cables and recording media
- The new equipment has been used extensively by the Field Methods and 4th Year Phonetics classes

### 5.3 Guest Speakers Committee (Alana Johns)

- i. David Adger will give a talk in the department at 3pm on May 13, 2009. The title of the talk is: Modelling intrapersonal variation: the case of variable subject agreement.
- ii. End of term party. Next week the end of term includes both the beginning of Passover and Good Friday. We are thinking of having the party on April 17. This is during the reading week for undergrads. SLUGS exec have agreed since there really does not seem to be any other option.

### 5.4 Graduate students (LGCU) (Maria Kyriakaki)

TWPL has just put out two volumes: a) the festschrift for Jack Chambers and b) a regular volume.

Graduate students have some concerns over computers and maintenance in the back room. The Computer Committee has not met this year are not sure of their responsibilities. EC suggest asking CHASS for help.

### 5.5 Undergraduate students (SLUGS) (Isaac Gould)

SLUGS's Tulcon was a great success and they thank their guest speakers. The department suggests that they write up a report for the department newsletters.

### 5.6 Reading Exam Committee (Cristina Cuervo)

The committee has been preparing. There will be 10 exams in May, 2009 – most in French, with one in Spanish, one in German.

There was no closed portion.