

Minutes of a Meeting of the Department of Linguistics, November 27, 2009

Present: Jack Chambers, Richard Compton, Elizabeth Cowper, Derek Denis, Elan Dresher (Chair), Elaine Gold (Undergraduate Coordinator), Atiqah Hachimi, Daphna Heller, Michela Ippolito, Alana Johns, Alexei Kochetov, Diane Massam, Naomi Nagy, Kenji Oda, Keren Rice (minutes), Sali Tagliamonte (Graduate Coordinator)

Regrets: Annick Morin, Ana Pérez-Leroux

Guest: Carol Robb

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2009, were circulated and posted on the Chair's Page: <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~dresher/grad/>. Thanks to Alana for doing the minutes. The minutes were approved.

2. Service standards training

Carol Robb, Assistant Dean and Director, Human Resources, Faculty of Arts and Science, presented on Customer Service Standard, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), which is coming into effect in January 2010. The University of Toronto is committed to providing an equitable and inclusive environment with full participation of all members of the community, working to identify, remove, and reduce barriers to learning, teaching, and working. Non-compliance can result in large fines.

A brochure was distributed. It defines a disability (physical disability, condition of mental impairment or developmental disability, learning disability, mental disorder), discusses disclosure, gives information about legislation and policies, and provides suggestions of accommodation tips for meetings and events.

Various offices deal with related issues: Accessibility Services for students; Carol Robb is the Faculty of Arts and Science divisional officer; the Office of Health and Well-Being for staff and faculty, Ombudsperson; the AODA officer for concerns of staff, faculty, and the public www.aoda.utoronto.ca. Carol Robb was thanked for the presentation.

3. Chair's report (Elan)

3.1. Academic planning

The faculty held a special meeting to discuss our academic plan on November 3. The meeting produced notes to be incorporated into our planning document. A draft will be circulated soon. There will be meetings with graduate and undergraduate students to discuss the plan.

3.2. Relocation

Bill has been in close touch with Kovit (Infrastructure Office) about details of our move. The schedule for the move was announced by email: labs on December 14, faculty on December 15, administration on December 16. Drawings of offices are available from Bill.

We have reserved room 521 in Sidney Smith for Friday December 18 from 9:30–5:00. This room can be booked in the morning by any research group or other unit in the department that might want a room that day, and we can use it in the afternoon, if people want, to meet to discuss anything relating to the move.

People raised issues around keys and equipment. A keypad or fob was promised for the phonetics lab, but at this point keys are being offered. The general sense is that fobs would be preferred.

3.3. Curriculum Renewal Initiatives Fund (CRIF)

The department put in a proposal, “Corpora in the Classroom.” This was a cooperative venture. Thanks to the following who were involved in preparing the proposal: Jack, Elaine, Daphna, Alana, Alexei, Diane, Naomi, Keren, and especially Sali, who did the main writing.

3.4. Next semester schedules

The schedule for department meetings next semester is (rooms TBA):

January 15, 1:30; February 12, 2:10; March 26, 2:10; May 7, 1:30.

The schedule for the Friday research groups has also been set. Groups will meet in SS 521. Representatives for each group are responsible for posting their schedules on the department calendar. The representatives are:

LVC:	Cathleen Waters
Phonology/phonetics:	Yoonjung Kang
Psycholinguistics:	Daphna Heller
Syntax/semantics:	Julie Goncharev

3.5. Study Languages Conference

Cristina, Diane, and Elan will participate in an event for high school students on December 8.

3.6. Next year

Planning for the next academic year (teaching assignments, budget, academic administration, possible CLTA) is underway.

3.7. Report from CPAD (Council of Chairs, Principals, Academic Directors) meeting

The University of Toronto is strengthening ties with the University of Tokyo.

In 2010-2011 classes will begin on a Monday. The schedule for the end of the term seems to involve an optional Wednesday to make up a Monday.

The new CUPE 3903 unit 3 agreement involves some major changes, including: a new category of Sessional Lecturer 3 for those with a minimum of three years at the SL 2 level and who have taught an average of two or more full course equivalents each year; and a new category for long-term SL 1's.

All postings for CUPE 3903 unit 3 positions must be vetted by Jane Linley of the Faculty of Arts and Science before being posted.

3.8. Department Party

Our term-end, year-end, building-end party will be held next week, Friday December 4, at 3:30 p.m. The party is a joint venture of SLUGS and the Department. There will be holiday music, everyone is invited to participate if they want to.

4. Report of the Undergraduate Coordinator (Elaine)

4.1. Final exams

Students with exam conflicts and missed exams should be told to notify their registrar. The first chance to write deferred exams from this term is during Reading Week.

4.2. Grades

Grade sheets will be distributed soon.

When final grades are turned in, also turn in a file showing clearly the breakdown of the grades, and what each component is worth.

Grades are due one week after the final exam or January 5 if the university is closed in the week following the exam.

4.3. Winter courses

Instructors should have ordered their textbooks and started preparing their syllabi.

Applications for an instructor to teach the second half of LIN204 are due December 2.

There is a Slavic course taught by Christina Kramer offered starting in January that might be of interest:

SLA380H1. Language, Politics and Identity

Examines the multi-faceted nature of languages by comparing issues of language contact and conflict in the former Soviet Union and in Central and Southeastern Europe. Explores issues such as language standards, language rights, language conflict, and linguistic identity.

4.4. HUM 199 in 2010-2011

Elaine, Alana, Diane, and Naomi are scheduled to teach HUM199 in 2010-1011.

4.5. Curriculum Renewal

All programs must be reevaluated to satisfy the requirements of Curriculum Renewal. This process will begin in the new year. Some areas for review: prerequisites for a course, year level of a course, number of hours per week, frequency a course is offered, need for new courses.

4.6. High School Gifted Program Conference – February 18

Faculty interested in participating in the high school gifted program conference in February should follow up by contacting Celeste Francis.

4.7. **flaut**

Keren will give a flaut talk in February; Elan will speak in May on linguistic tools for dating books in the Bible.

5. **Report of the Graduate Coordinator (Sali)**

5.1. **Graduate applications**

There are currently 60 graduate applications in progress; Bill thinks that will be over 100 applications this year.

5.2. **Forum**

The Masters students have completed their second forum presentations. The schedule for the second term will be sent out soon.

5.3. **MA advisors**

There will be a meeting on MA advisors on December 4, 1:30-3:30, BL 312.

6. **Reports of committees**

6.1. **Arts and Science representative (Alana)**

The last meeting was cancelled.

6.2. **Campus Liaison, UTSC (Yoonjung)**

The movie *The Linguists* was screened at UTSC in early November; Alana and Keren attended the screening and answered questions about the movie.

6.3. **Cognitive Science Program (Elan)**

The Department is investing in keeping the program going.

6.4. **Curriculum (Elaine)**

The committee will be busy next term with curriculum renewal work.

6.5. **Equipment**

The need for appropriate locks for equipment was stressed.

6.6. **Guest Speaker and Tri-campus atelier (Alana)**

Guest speaker Vincenzo Moscati (U Siena) will speak on “Early null objects: Pronominal phi-features and saving strategies in language development” following the meeting.

January 22: Jeff Good (SUNY Buffalo), “How to become a Kwa noun.”

6.7. **PTR review committee**

The PTR review committee will review the scoring system for PTR. The committee membership is: Michela, Diane, and Ron; Diane volunteered to serve as chair.

6.8. Research (Michela)

The SIG budget has not been announced yet.

6.9. TWPL (Richard)

A volume is nearing completion.

6.10. Website/blog/newsletter (Naomi)

Send input to our new departmental blog: utlinguistics.blogpost@blogger.com. Some things are already posted.

There will be a rotating student moderator.

There was some discussion about whether the blog could/should be packaged as a newsletter.

Should there be a department photographer?

7. Graduate students (LGCU) (Derek)

A series of skills workshops is being organized. A Latex workshop was held in November and another one will take place in December.

Derek is working with Greg Wilson of psychology to give a mini course on programming in Python and Matlab. The first class was held this week, and the course will go on through March. Nine linguistics students are participating.

The University of Toronto has requested to host NEL in 2011 or 2012.

Graduate students are not happy with the key situation, and would prefer a fob system.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.