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Conference: 20 Years of Learner Corpus Research

Date: 15 to 17 September 2011
 Location: Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
 Contact: [Sylviane Granger](#)

Call Deadline: 27 December 2010

In September 2011 the Centre for English Corpus Linguistics of the University of Louvain will hold a conference entitled '20 years of Learner Corpus Research: Looking Back, Moving Ahead'. To mark the 20th anniversary of its creation, the Centre for English Corpus Linguistics of the University of Louvain is organizing a conference entitled '20 years of learner corpus research: looking back, moving ahead' in Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium) on 15-17 September 2011. Although twenty years after its emergence, it is too early to render a definitive assessment of the achievements in the field, it is time to take stock of the advances that have been made in methodology, theory, analysis and applications, and think up creative ways of moving the field forward. LCR2011 is meant to bring together all the researchers who collect, annotate, analyze computer learner corpora and/or use them to inform SLA theory or develop learner-corpus-informed tools (courseware, proficiency tests, automatic spell- and grammar-checkers, etc.).

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Conference: International Society for the Linguistics of English 2

Date: 17 to 21 June 2011
 Location: Boston, Massachusetts, USA
 Contact: [Eugene Green](#)

Call Deadline: 30 September 2010

The theme of the conference will be Methods Past and Current. Recent studies in corpus linguistics, varieties and typologies, dialects and Standard English, as well as pragmatics prompt examination of methods found conducive to promising results.

Workshop Proposals

The New England Committee invites workshop proposals that address approaches applicable to one or more fields of linguistic analysis. This call for proposals aims at continuing the tradition of excellence established in Freiburg, 2008. The workshops at ISLE1 had clear themes, almost all the talks offered complementing one another. For example, the workshop on Linguistic Methodology included approaches to corpora and text: techniques for compilation, quantitative analyses, lexical sampling, identifying phrasal units, and framing patterns of pragmatic exchange. The group of eight talks for this workshop also sparked many questions and ideas for further study across genres, dialects, varieties, both current and past. ISLE2 plans to offer a platform for on-going explorations in methodology, generated at ISLE1 or elsewhere.

[Read more...](#)

Book: The Oxford Handbook of Applied Linguistics

Systematically encompassing the major areas of applied linguistics, "The Oxford Handbook of Applied Linguistics" provides a panoramic and comprehensive look at this complex and vigorous field. (Now available in paperback)

Author: Robert B. Kaplan

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Podcast: Research Centre for Linguistic Typology

The Research Centre for Linguistic Typology at La Trobe University is proud to announce its own podcast on iTunesU.

In the future, we aim at making all talks given at RCLT freely available to the public through this channel, as long as speakers give permission.

At the moment, three are available for download:

- Prof. Randy LaPolla, 'Preserving Languages of the World'
- Prof. Christian Lehmann, 'Distance Iconicity'
- Prof. Christian Lehmann, 'The Function of Numeral Classifiers'

[iTunesU](#)

(Alternatively: Go to iTunesU in the iTunes store and search for 'Research Centre for Linguistic Typology')

Conference: American Association for Corpus Linguistics 2011

Date: 06 to 09 October 2011

Location: Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Contact: [Viviana Cortes](#)

AACL covers all aspects of corpus linguistics. The conference continues the tradition of previous conferences of the American Association for Corpus Linguistics and the American Association for Applied Corpus Linguistics. Previous meetings have been held at different universities in the United States and Canada since 1998, including University of Alberta (2009), Brigham Young.

Sub-fields covered by AACL 2010 include various perspectives on corpus-based research, corpus creation, corpus annotation, linguistic analyses of corpora, register/genre variation, lexicography, parallel corpora, tagging and parsing, software development, and the use of corpora in language learning and teaching.

The call for papers with information on submission of abstracts and proposals, reregistration, and conference schedules will be announced shortly.

[Read more...](#)

Conference: Interfaces III

Date: 05 to 08 May 2011

Location: Canterbury, Kent, United Kingdom

Contact: [Marina Kolokonte](#)

Call Deadline: 17 January 2011

This 3rd conference on linguistic interfaces follows two previous conferences on language boundaries, encouraging a broad spectrum of interests on interfaces: Lexical and Morphological Processes, Syntax- Semantics-Pragmatics, Psycholinguistics and Language Acquisition, Stylistics and Discourse Analysis, Language Variation and Change.

[Read more...](#)

Book: Languages in the Integrating World

The book is devoted to one particular aspect of a problem which is quite topical in these days: how the integration of today's world manifests itself in various languages. Integration is a reflection of relations between cultures, often additionally backed up by economical relations and also influenced by historical and political factors. Tendencies to disintegration parallely taking place can lead as far as to the constitution of new languages or to the revival of cultural languages.

Marie Kr?mová Trends of Sociolectal Integration and Disintegration: The Case of the Brno Sociolect - Peter Kosta The Problem of Language Minorities in the European Council - between Protection, Revitalization and Necessity of Saving Costs: The Example of the Sorbs/Wends in Germany - Anna Maria Perissutti The Friulian Language in Italy: Paths to a Value-Added Position - Susana Vilarchao Fragueiro A General Approach to the Situation of the Galician Language in Spain - Gra?yna Balowska Óndra ?ysohorsky and His Idea of the Lachian Language - Lilia Schürcks The Multi-Level Identity of Pomaks in Bulgaria as a Mirror of the Subtlety of Their Code-Switching.

Editor: Marie Kr?mová

[Read more...](#)**Research Tool: Prosody Research Tools**

We are pleased to announce the availability of two Praat script tools for conducting large-scale prosody research: PENTAtainer and ProsodyPro, both freely accessible.

1. [PENTAtainer](#)

An interactive script for automatic extraction of pitch targets for prosody synthesis. It is based on the qTA implementation of the PENTA model, and it allows users to:

- Automatically extract pitch target parameters (slope, height, strength)
- Resynthesize F0 contours based on the extracted parameters
- Specify target location and restrict direction of target slope
- Exhaustively process all wave files in a folder
- Perform the same f0 analyses as ProsodyPro (See below)
- Automatically collect extracted parameters from all sounds in a folder and save them in ensemble files for ease of further analysis and processing.

2. [ProsodyProf](#)

An interactive script for large-scale systematic prosody analysis. This is an updated version of its predecessor TimeNormalizeF0. Among its many features are the following:

- Semi-automatic extraction of F0 contours, allowing users to improve the accuracy of F0 tracking by rectifying vocal pulse marking
- Exhaustively process all wave files in a folder
- Automatically save time-normalized F0 and intensity contours for selected intervals
- Automatically save continuous F0 velocity contours for selected intervals
- Automatically save many prosodic measurements, including: maxf0, minf0, f0range, meanf0, mean intensity, duration, max velocity, final velocity, final f0 and mean intensity
- Automatically collect extracted contours and measurements from all sounds in a folder and save them in ensemble files for ease of further analysis and processing.

[Read more...](#)**Book: Probing Semantic Relations**

Semantic relations are at the core of any representational system, and are keys to enable the next generation of information processing systems with semantic and reasoning capabilities. Acquisition, description, and formalization of semantic relations are fundamentals in computer-based systems where natural language processing is required. Probing Semantic Relations provides a state of the art of current research trends in the area of knowledge extraction from text using linguistic patterns. First published as a Special Issue of Terminology 14:1 (2008), the current book emphasizes how definitional knowledge is conveyed by conceptual and semantic relations such as synonymy, causality, hypernymy (generic-specific), and meronymy (part-whole). Showing the difficulties and successes of pattern-based approaches, the book illustrates current and future challenges in knowledge acquisition from text.

This book provides new perspectives to researchers and practitioners in terminology, knowledge engineering, natural language processing, and semantics.

Editors: Alain Auger and Caroline Barrière

[Read more...](#)**Book: Grammatical Change**

This volume comprises a collection of papers on the theme of grammatical change that evolved out of a workshop sponsored by the Centre for Research on Language Change (The Australian National University). The papers extend the boundaries of what has been addressed under the label of 'grammatical change' by applying theories and models of grammatical change to new evidence; by illuminating the historical relationships between grammar and other levels of linguistics; and by extending the range of languages that have been examined from the perspective of grammatical change.

Languages discussed include Murriny Patha, Walpiri, Gurindji, Walmajarri, and Kayardild, Lardil, Yukulta, English, Dutch, German, Afrikaans, French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Slovenian, Albanian, Greek, Old Church Slavonic, Tocharian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Quechua, Basque, and Tok Pisin.

Editors: Rachel Hendery and Jennifer Hendrik

[Read more...](#)**Book: The Routledge Handbook of World Englishes**

The Routledge Handbook of World Englishes constitutes a comprehensive introduction to the study of world Englishes drawing on the expertise of leading authors within the field.

The handbook is structured in nine sections covering historical perspectives, core issues and topics and new debates which together provide a thorough overview of the field taking into account the new directions in which the discipline is heading.

Among the key themes covered are the development of English as a lingua franca among speakers for whom English is a common but not first language, the parallel development of English as a medium of instruction in educational institutions throughout the world and the role of English as the international language of scholarship and scholarly publishing, as well as the development of 'computer-mediated' Englishes, including 'cyberprose'. The handbook also includes a substantial introduction and conclusion from the editor.

The Routledge Handbook of World Englishes is the ideal resource for postgraduate students of applied linguistics as well as those in related degrees such as applied English language and TESOL/TEFL.

Author: Andy Kirkpatrick

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Book: New Adventures in Language and Interaction

In this book sixteen international scholars of language and social interaction describe their distinct frameworks of analysis. Taking conversation analysis and interactional sociolinguistics as their points of departure and investigating ordinary conversation as well as institutions such as health care, therapy, and city council meetings, they often incorporate gesture, prosody, and the listener's behavior in the analysis of talk. While some approaches are grounded in a critique of the major schools of interaction analysis, others integrate the interactionist perspective with ideas from fields such as systemic-functional linguistics, distributed cognition, and the sociology of knowledge. Each chapter combines a statement of the terms and methods of analysis with an exemplary analysis of a moment of interaction. *New Adventures in Language and Interaction* gives an excellent overview of the novelty and diversity of interaction-focused perspectives on language and of the heterogeneity of approaches that have evolved from the pioneering work of Sacks and Schegloff, Gumperz, and their co-workers.

Editor: Jürgen Streeck

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Book: The Routledge Sociolinguistics Reader

Both a companion to *Introducing Sociolinguistics*, Miriam Meyerhoff's bestselling textbook, and a stand-alone Reader in sociolinguistics, this collection includes both classic foundational readings and more recent innovative articles.

Intended to be highly user-friendly, *The Routledge Sociolinguistics Reader* includes substantial section introductions, annotated further reading, a reader's guide on how to use the book and an introductory chapter providing advice on how to undertake qualitative and quantitative research. This introduction is supplemented by exercises focusing on data handling and collection.

The Reader is divided into six sections and each section is thematically organised. Each reading is accessible to beginning students of sociolinguistics but the entire selection is assembled to also help advanced students focus on themes, principles and concepts that cut across different researchers' work. Beginning and advanced students are supported by Content Questions to assist understanding of essential features in the readings, and Concept Questions which help advanced students make connections across readings, apply theory to data, and critically engage with the readings. A companion website supports and connects the Reader and textbook with structured exercises, links to associated websites and video examples, plus an online glossary.

The Routledge Sociolinguistics Reader is essential reading for students on courses in sociolinguistics, language and society and language and variation.

Editors: Miriam Meyerhoff and Erik Schleeff

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Conference: Computational Linguistics and Intelligent Text Processing

Date: 19 to 26 February 2011

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Contact: [Alexander Gelbukh](#)

Call Deadline: 01 November 2010

A well-established international conference on all aspects of computational linguistics, natural language processing, and human language technology. Publication: LNCS: Springer Lecture Notes in Computer Science; poster session: special issue of a journal

Submission deadlines:

October 20: registration of tentative abstract,

November 1: uploading of full papers

(contact us for late submissions)

Topics: All topics related with computational linguistics, natural language processing, human

language technologies, information retrieval, etc.

[Read more...](#)

Conference: Quantitative Investigations in Theoretical Linguistics

Date: 28 to 31 March 2011

Location: Berlin, Germany

Contact: [Amir Zeldes](#)

Call Deadline: 15 November 2010

Quantitative Investigations in Theoretical Linguistics (QITL) offers a forum for researchers approaching problems in theoretical linguistics from a quantitative point of view. The conference offers a platform for diverse areas of linguistics, from phonology through morphology, syntax, semantics or pragmatics, in both corpus-based, psycholinguistic/experimental or computational methodologies approaching problems in grammar, first and second language acquisition, historical linguistics and more.

Quantitative models of linguistic phenomena have been increasingly informing linguistic theory by testing, confirming and falsifying linguists' hypotheses, and translating their insights into language based applications. Despite this, the divide between theoretical linguistics and empirical research remains substantial, with many theories being expressed in terms that are not conducive to data-based testing, and conversely, the appearance of a variety of data-based studies and applications with no adequate theory to frame and explain their results. Quantitative Investigations in Theoretical Linguistics (QITL) offers a forum for researchers who aim to bridge this gap from any linguistic discipline or methodology, and in particular, but not limited to:

- Quantitative corpus based studies
- Psycholinguistics
- Computational linguistics / NLP
- Historical linguistics
- Lexicography
- Second language acquisition / applied linguistics
- First language acquisition

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Book: The Interactional Organization of Academic Talk

This book provides interesting and critical insights into a common university practice, the academic office hour. Office hours are a discursive site for a variety of different issues, ranging from administrative matters to course-related and study-related concerns. The study offers both an ethnographic account of this speech event within the socio-cultural context of a German university as well as a more detailed analysis of the interactional organization of academic consultations. It draws on natural recordings of entire office hour interactions in order to show how participants' actions at different stages of the talk organize and accomplish the consultation. The analytical focus is set on the sequential activities teachers and students engage in as they conduct a consultation.

This includes, for instance, how participants open an office hour talk, how they establish an agenda, how they manage advice-giving, and how they close the consultation. As such, this book will be of practical use to students and faculty members as well as scholars from different disciplines who work in the areas of institutional talk and talk-in-interaction.

Author: Holger Limberg

[Read more...](#)

Book: The Early Days of Sociolinguistics: Memories and Reflections

This volume is a compendium of thirty-six articles by participants in the development of the field of sociolinguistics. Edited by Christina Bratt Paulston and G. Richard Tucker, themselves important contributors to the discipline, the volume provides an insider's perspective on the issues, both practical and theoretical, which motivated individuals and institutions to turn to a view of language as inextricably connected to society and culture.

This volume will be of interest not only to sociolinguists, but to sociologists, social psychologists, anthropological linguists, and others interested in applied linguistics. Moving a bit farther afield, it will also be of interest to historians of science for its breadth of coverage of the development of an increasingly important academic discipline and for the important data it provides regarding the academic research milieu, the zeitgeist, which spawned sociolinguistics as an area of inquiry.

Editors: Christina Bratt Paulston and G. Richard Tucker

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Book: Variation in Linguistic System

Tying together work on a number of languages and linguistic varieties in different locales, this book provides students and researchers with a convenient, unified overview of variationist

analysis in linguistics. Variation in Linguistic Systems takes a theoretical and quantitative approach to the study of variation in language, focusing on the role of language-internal constraints on variation and the relation of linguistic variation to linguistic theory. It introduces the basic concepts of variationist linguistics and includes key discussions on language change, language contact, the different types of variation, multivariate analysis with GoldVarb, and variation in sound and grammatical systems.

Here is an ideal textbook for an introductory course on variation, as well as a useful resource for scholars with some background in linguistics who are interested in the study of language variation and its relation to the wider field of linguistics.

Author: James A Walker

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Conference: LSSA Conference 2010

[Registration form](#)

[Draft programme of Conference](#)

Go to our [2010 conference page](#)

Workshop: Evidentials Fest

Date: 14 to 15 January 2011

Location: The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

Contact: [Judith Tonhauser](#)

Call Deadline: 01 November 2010

The Department of Linguistics at The Ohio State University is pleased to announce the Evidentials Fest, a workshop dedicated to evidentiality, to be held on January 14 and 15, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio. This event also constitutes the 8th Annual OSU Martin Luther King Day Linguistics Symposium.

The goal of the workshop is to bring together researchers working on evidentiality from descriptive, formal semantic, cross-linguistic and/or historical perspectives, with the goal of fostering a cross-disciplinary and cross-linguistic discussion of evidentials and evidential systems. The workshop will feature several local (OSU) speakers as well as several outside invited speakers (see the Call for Papers), and will also consist of additional paper and poster presentations solicited through a call for papers.

The Department of Linguistics at The Ohio State University is pleased to announce the Evidentials Fest, a workshop dedicated to evidentiality, to be held on January 14 and 15, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio. This event also constitutes the 8th Annual OSU Martin Luther King Day Linguistics Symposium.

Instructions for abstract submission

We invite abstracts for oral presentations (20 minute presentation plus 10 minute for discussion) or posters on any topic with relevance to evidentiality. Please indicate on the top of your abstract which format you would like to be considered for (i.e. presentation, poster, presentation + poster), as well as the title of the presentation/poster and the name(s) of the author(s).

Abstracts are not to exceed two pages in letter-size (8.5"x 11") paper, including examples and references, with 1" margins on all sides and 12pt font size. The abstract must be in PDF format.

Please submit your abstract by sending it to evidentials@ling.osu.edu by 11:59pm (EST) of November 1, 2010.

Important dates

- Submission deadline: November 1, 2010
- Notification of acceptance: November 15, 2010
- Workshop date: January 14 - 15, 2011

Book: The Discourse of Teaching Practice Feedback

In this book, Farr examines the spoken and written language of post-observation teaching-practice feedback on teacher education programs. To do so, she draws upon theories from discourse analysis, conversation analysis, and pragmatics to frame the analysis of feedback meetings and written tutor reports, which are then examined using comparative quantitative and qualitative corpus-based techniques. The overall aim is to determine the

defining characteristics of this genre, focusing especially on pragmatic factors, with the ultimate goal of investigating the salient aspects responsible for making feedback both effective and affective. Farr's research draws upon a spoken corpus of feedback interactions and a written corpus of tutor reports from language teacher education and is also strongly informed by data in the form of diary reflections and questionnaire responses from student teachers and questionnaire responses from the relevant tutors.

Author: Fiona B. Farr

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Book: Corpus Approaches to Evaluation

This book applies a set of corpus investigation techniques to the study of evaluation, or stance, or affect, in naturally-occurring discourse. Evaluative language indicates opinions, attitudes, and judgments. It is an important part of activities such as persuading someone that a particular viewpoint is correct, or in constructing knowledge from a different number of theories. This book argues that phraseology--regularities or patterns in language identifiable from corpus studies--is important to the study of evaluative language. It makes a number of more specific arguments: that modal meaning is expressed through particular phrases and not only through modal verbs; that figurative phrases are used to intensify evaluation; and that patterns of use may be exploited to achieve an automatic identification of evaluations. It also builds on the author's previous work in exploring how films and journalism use language and images to build knowledge from ideas.

Author: Susan Hunston

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Book: English Prepositions Explained

This completely revised and expanded edition of English Prepositions Explained (EPE), originally published in 1998, covers approximately 100 simple, compound, and phrasal English prepositions of space and time - with the focus being on short prepositions such as at, by, in, and on. Its target readership includes teachers of ESOL, pre-service translators and interpreters, undergraduates in English linguistics programs, studious advanced learners and users of English, and anyone who is inquisitive about the English language. The overall aim is to explain how and why meaning changes when one preposition is swapped for another in the same context. While retaining most of the structure of the original, this edition says more about more prepositions. It includes many more figures - virtually all new. The exposition draws on recent research, and is substantially founded on evidence from digitalized corpora, including frequency data. EPE gives information and insights that will not be found in dictionaries and grammar handbooks.

Author: Seth Lindstromberg

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Workshop: Reconstructing Syntax

Date: 25 to 30 July 2011

Location: Osaka, Japan

Contact: [Jóhanna Barðdal](#)

Historical-comparative reconstruction has traditionally been focused on lexical, morphological and phonological comparisons, while syntactic reconstruction has either been systematically left unattended, regarded as fruitless or uninteresting, or even rebuked (cf. Watkins 1964, Jeffers 1976, Lightfoot 1979, 2006, Harrison 2003, Pires & Thomason 2008, Mengden 2008, inter alia). The reason for this is that syntactic structures have been regarded as fundamentally different from, for instance, morphological structures, in several respects.

That is, syntactic structures are larger and more complex units than morphological units. Semantically they have not been regarded on par with morphological units either, in that their meaning is regarded as the sum of the meaning of the lexical parts that instantiate them, and because of this semantic compositionality they have not been regarded as being arbitrary form-meaning correspondences like words. It has also been argued in the literature that syntactic structures are not inherited in the same way as the vocabulary (Lightfoot 1979 and later work), that there is no cognate material to compare when comparing sentences across daughter languages (Jeffers 1976), that there is no regularity of syntactic change, as opposed to the regularity of phonological change (Lightfoot 2002, Pires & Thomason 2008), and that there is no arbitrariness found in syntax (Harrison 2003), all of which render syntactic reconstruction fundamentally different from phonological reconstruction.

Recent work within historical-comparative syntax takes issue with this view of syntactic reconstruction (Kikusawa 2003, Harris 2008, Bauern 2008, Barðdal & Eythórsson 2009, Barðdal 2010), arguing that the concepts of 'cognate status,' 'arbitrariness' and 'regularity' are non-problematic for syntactic reconstruction. This is so, first, because cognates are also found in syntax (Kikusawa 2003, Barðdal & Eythórsson 2009, Barðdal 2010). Second, because the arbitrariness requirement is simply not needed in syntax, as its role is first and foremost to aid in deciding on genetic relatedness, which is usually not an issue when doing

syntactic reconstruction (Harrison 2003, Barðdal & Eythórsson 2009, Barðdal 2010). And, third, because a) the sound laws are only regular by definition (Hoenigswald 1987), and b) the sound laws are basically stand-ins for a similarity metric when deciding upon cognate status (Harrison 2003).

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Roundtable: International Roundtables for the Semiotics of Law

Date: 11 to 13 November 2011

Location: Niterói/Rio de Janeiro ? Brazil, Brazil

Contact: [Anne Wagner](#)

Call Deadline: 15 May 2011

The 2011 roundtable will focus on the contribution of legal semiotics to discuss the different ways of thinking the 'legal' in a world's cultural diversity. Aware of the III World Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, held in Brazil in May 2010, that had the intention to rethink how to deal with tensions between cultures and promote trust and understanding between heterogeneous communities, the 11th Roundtable intend to put together scholars of legal semiotics to discuss the influences of cultural and linguistic diversity on the construction of meaning in national law and international law.

It is hoped that the papers will reflect the interdisciplinary nature of legal semiotics research as well as the challenges of working in the field. In this context, proposals from a wide variety of semiotic perspectives are invited. These might include but are not limited to papers on:

- The contribution of legal semiotics across cultures
- The problem of multilingualism
- Semiotics and comparative law
- Legal semiotics and the processes of normative integration
- Semiotics of international relations
- Semiotics and competition of languages in international relations
- Language, power and diplomacy
- Translating legal concepts across cultures: the case of contract terminology or case of land law terminology.
- The misuse of language in the judicial process, in legal adjudication
- The use of metaphors in legal language

Young researchers working in related areas are particularly encouraged to participate.

In the interest of a cohesive round table, prospective participants are requested to adhere to the theme as outlined in the call for papers.

Proposals in either English, Spanish, French or Portuguese (max 300 words) should be sent only by e-mail by 15 May 2011 to irsl2011@gmail.com, evandro.carvalho@gmail.com and to [Anne Wagner](#).

Journal: Lingua

Subtitle: Frequency and Language Development

Volume Number: 120

Issue Number: 11

Publisher: Elsevier Ltd

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Workshop: Australasian Ontology Workshop

Date: 07 December 2010
 Location: Adelaide, South Africa
 Contact: [Thomas Meyer](#)

Call Deadline: 24 September 2010

AOW 2010 is the sixth in a series of workshops on ontologies held in the Australasian region. The primary aim of the workshop is to bring together active researchers in the broad area of ontologies. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Ontology models and theories
- Ontologies and the Semantic Web
- Interoperability in ontologies
- Ontologies and Multi-agent systems
- Description logics for ontologies
- Reasoning with ontologies
- Ontology harvesting on the web
- Ontology of agents and actions
- Ontology visualisation
- Ontology engineering and management
- Ontology-based information extraction and retrieval
- Ontology merging, alignment and integration
- Web ontology languages
- Formal concept analysis and ontologies
- Ontologies for e-research
- Linking open data
- Significant ontology applications

The proceedings of all previous Australasian Ontology Workshops were published in the CRPIT Series and this will also be the case for AOW 2010.

Authors of the best papers will be invited to submit extended versions of their AOW 2010 papers as chapters in a forthcoming Springer book.

For the second year running, AOW 2010 will have a best paper award, with a prize of \$250(AUD) being awarded to the author(s) of the best paper.

Important Dates:

Paper submission deadline: 24 September 2010
 Notification of acceptance/rejection: 22 October 2010
 Camera-ready copies due: 12 November 2010
 AOW 2010: 7 December 2010

[Read more...](#)

Review: The Handbook of Educational Linguistics

This book is the 2010 paperback edition of 'The Handbook of Educational Linguistics' originally published in hardcover format in 2008 (not reviewed on LINGUIST at the time). It is an affordable, one-volume compendium that sums up the increasingly complex and multidisciplinary field of educational linguistics via focused yet processable articles written by an international group of experts. It addresses the broad spectrum of theoretical perspectives, essential themes, principal conclusions, and real world applications of educational linguistic research. It should be extremely helpful in the clarification and resolution of language education dilemmas world-wide that have resulted from the dialectical processes of globalization and linguistic diversification. It is directed at a well-educated, though diverse, audience, including school policymakers and curriculum developers, linguistic researchers, language teachers, and graduate students working in literacy campaigns, bilingual or bidialectal education programs, programs for the deaf, and language

resuscitation efforts.

Overall, Spolsky & Hult offer a varied and valuable treatment of key language questions faced by educators and government planners today. They allow a newcomer to get a sense of the breadth and depth of the field of educational linguistics, while providing veterans with useful summaries and analyses of past and current investigations. Graduate students and researchers will especially appreciate the extensive bibliographic sources listed at the end of each chapter, including Internet references, and the creative and potent suggestions for future research that is geared toward improving the linguistic experiences of speakers around the world.

Editors: Bernard Spolsky, and Francis M. Hult

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell

Conference: Middle and Modern English Corpus Linguistics 2011

Date: 26 to 29 August 2011

Location: Osaka, Japan

Contact: [Akinobu Tani](#)

Call Deadline: 18 February 2011

Middle and Modern English Corpus Linguistics 2011 will be held in Osaka, Japan 26-29 August 2011.

The conference will focus on corpus-based synchronic and diachronic studies of Middle and Modern English. We would particularly welcome papers which employ or respond to new diachronic corpora (such as the Time Corpus and the Corpus of Historical American English by Mark Davies), or which take a variationist approach to Present-day English (e.g. Twentieth-Century English: History, Variation and Standardization by Christian Mair).

The first MMECL, held in Innsbruck, Austria in 2009, was successful with more than 60 participants from all over the world. Its proceedings are now being edited for publication by Manfred Markus, Yoko Iyeiri, Reinhard Heuberger and Emil Chamson.

We cordially invite you to participate and to offer a presentation on historical English corpus linguistics from Middle English to Modern English. Given the relatively long period at issue, from 1100 to 2010, we would like to encourage broad topics, both in corpus compilation and exploitation.

Please submit your proposal for a paper (20 minutes plus 10 minutes discussion) in the form of 300-word abstract to the conference contact email address by 18 February 2011.

Decisions on the acceptance of proposals can be expected six weeks later.

The language of the conference is English. All abstracts should be in English.

[Read more...](#)

Conference: 47th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society

Date: 07 to 09 April 2011

Location: Chicago, IL, USA

Contact: [Carissa Abrego-Collier](#)

The 47th annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society will be held April 7-9, 2011 at the University of Chicago. The conference will include a parassession devoted to Experimental Methods in Linguistic Research in addition to a general session.

[Read more...](#)

Book: Case and Agreement from Fringe to Core

This book explores the view that impoverishment and Agree operations are part of a single grammatical component. The architecture set forth here gives rise to complex but highly systematic interactions between the two operations. This interaction is shown to provide a unified and general account of apparently diverse and unrelated instances of eccentric argument encoding that so far have remained elusive to a unified theoretical account. The proposed view of the grammatical architecture achieves an integration of these phenomena within better-studied languages and thus gives rise to a more general theory of case and agreement phenomena. The empirical evidence on the basis of which the proposal is developed draws from a wide range of typologically non-related languages, including Basque, Hindi, Icelandic, Itelmen, Marathi, Nez Perce, Niuean, Punjabi, Sahaptin, Selayarese, Yukaghir, and Yurok. The proposal has far-reaching consequences for the study of grammatical architecture, linguistic interfaces,

derivational locality in apparently non-local dependencies and the role of functional considerations in formal approaches to the human language faculty.
 Author: Stefan Keine

[Read more...](#)

Book: The Syntax of Nominalizations across Languages and Frameworks

The volume explores the syntax of nominalizations, focusing on deverbal and deadjectival nominalizations, but also discussing the syntax of genitives and the syntax of distinct readings of nominalizations. The volume investigates the morphology-syntax interface as well as the semantics-syntax interface in the domain of nominalizations. The theoretical frameworks include distributed morphology, and minimalist syntax. Data from a variety of languages are taken into consideration, e.g. Hebrew, Bulgarian, Serbian, French, Spanish, German and English.
 Editors: Artemis Alexiadou and Monika Rathert

[Read more...](#)

Conference: Youth Languages - Dynamics and Cultural Contexts

Date: 31 March to 02 April 2011
 Location: Freiburg, Germany
 Contact: [Christine Mertzlufft](#)

Since the 1970s, the linguistic analysis of youth languages has become a common subject within different areas of research of oral and written language use of adolescents. The analyses do not focus on an idealized speaker, but on interlocutors within their specific life-worlds. Using different speaking styles young people communicate various identities, memberships and situative affiliations. Critical lexicography, ethnography of communication, stilistics, socio-linguistics, semantics and recently also research related to computer-mediated communication constitute various strands of research on youth languages which will play a role at the conference in Freiburg 2011.

We welcome abstracts for papers that cover aspects within all areas of youth languages research. These include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Sociolects and cultural stylization
- Social networks
- Youth languages and media
- Youth languages in comparison
- Applied youth language research

Important dates:

- 10 October 2010: Deadline for Abstract Submission
- 10 November 2010: Notification of Acceptance
- 10 November - 5 January: Early Bird Registration
- 5 January - 5 March: Normal Registration
- 31 March - 2 April: Conference

A publication of selected papers is planned.

[Read more...](#)

Conference: Conference on the Linguistics of Contemporary English

Date: 19 to 23 July 2011
 Location: Osnabrueck, Germany
 Contact: [Alexander Bergs](#)

Call Deadline: 31 December 2010

The attention devoted to the linguistics of the English language has resulted in a broad body of work in diverse research traditions. The aim of the ICLCE conference is to encourage the cross-fertilisation of ideas between different frameworks and research traditions, all of which may address any aspect of the linguistics of English. Previous ICLCE conferences were held in Edinburgh (2005), Toulouse (2007) and London (2009) along the same lines. We aim for the Osnabrueck conference to build on the success of those events.

The attention devoted to the linguistics of the English language has resulted in a broad body of work in diverse research traditions. The aim of the ICLCE conference is to encourage the cross-fertilisation of ideas between different frameworks and research traditions, all of which may address any aspect of the linguistics of English. Previous ICLCE conferences were held in

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[Read more...](#)

Conference: International Society for the Linguistics of English 2

Date: 17 to 12 June 2011

Location: Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Contact: [Eugene Green](#)

Call Deadline: 30 September 2010

The theme of the conference will be Methods Past and Current.

The choice of the conference's theme stems from the widely shared view that methods of analysis involve at least the following related questions:

- How do methods of investigation take into account the data under study?
- In what ways do linguistic premises, perspectives, and models shape the methods to use?
- Which methods and models, developed in such disciplines as anthropology, cultural and demographic history, economics, psychology, and textual editing enhance linguistic analysis?
- Do current methods depart in significant ways from those typical of research in the past?

This is a reminder that the deadline for submission both of abstracts for individual papers and for workshop proposals at ISLE2 in Boston is drawing near. Everyone who gives a paper at ISLE2 is required to be a member of the Society. (Membership is also required for voting in the imminent election for officers.) For details of membership, which is free for students and modestly priced for others.

[Read more...](#)

Book: Fostering Language Teaching Efficiency through Cognitive

In contexts of instructed second language acquisition there is a need for teaching methods that are optimally efficient, i.e. teaching interventions that generate a maximal return on learners' and teachers' investment of time and effort. In the past couple of decades, many researchers have argued that insights from Cognitive Linguistics (CL) - when suitably translated for pedagogical purposes - can make a major contribution to fostering such language teaching efficiency. This collective volume assesses and supplements those CL proposals. The first part of the book positions CL-inspired language pedagogy vis-à-vis recent trends in mainstream applied linguistics and illustrates through several case studies that language-focused instruction (including CL-inspired instruction) is a useful - if not indispensable - complement to learner-autonomous, incidental acquisition. The second part demonstrates how CL research can help pedagogues identify hitherto neglected language elements that merit explicit targeting in second language instruction. The third part consists of contributions that put the pedagogical efficiency of several CL-inspired interventions to the test in classroom experiments. Additions to the currently available armoury of teaching methods are proposed. The kinds of target language items under examination in the book range from single words over multiword units to grammar patterns. Throughout, the volume illustrates how much pedagogy-oriented Cognitive Linguistics has matured in recent years.

Editors: Sabine De Knop, Frank Boers and Antoon De Rycker

Corpus: Historical America English (1810-2009)

We are pleased to announce the release of the 400 million word Corpus of Historical American English (1810-2009). The corpus has been funded by a generous grant from the US National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and it is freely available. COHA is the largest structured corpus of historical English, and it contains more than 100,000 texts from fiction, popular magazines, newspapers, and non-fiction books, with the same genre balance decade by decade from the 1810s-2000s.

COHA is also related to other large corpora that we have created or modified, including the 410 million word Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), the 100 million word TIME Magazine Corpus (1920s-2000s), the 100 million word British National Corpus (our architecture and interface), the 100 million word NEH-funded Corpus del Español (1200s-1900s), and the 45 million word NEH-funded Corpus do Português (1300s-1900s). COHA allows you to quickly and easily search the 400 million words of text from the 1810s-2000s to see how words, phrases and grammatical constructions have increased or decreased in frequency, how words have changed meaning over time, and how stylistic changes have taken place in the language. Users can see the overall (normalized) frequency by decade and year, as well as the frequency of each matching string, by decade.

The following are just a small sample of an unlimited number of queries, but they should give some idea of what the corpus can do. Lexical change: the rise and fall of words and phrases like

the following:

- (decrease since the 1800s): bosom, folly, grieved, bestow*, quaint, beautiful, fellow, sublime, lad, many a time, of no little, for (conj)
- (an increase and then decrease): mustn't, naughty, boyish, agog, toddle, far-out, famed, wangle, swell (adj), lousy
- (an increase to the present time): a lot of, unleash, sexual, calm down, screw up, freak out, mommy, skills, frustrating
- (words reflecting historical and cultural shifts): emancipation, steamship, telegraph, flapper*, fascist*, teenage*, communis*, global warming

Stylistic change (which gives the flavor of a different time period). Examples from the 1800s, which have decreased since then, are: [so ADJ as to V] (so good as to show me), [PRON be but] (they are but the last examples), [have quite V-ed] (until she had quite finished), [NOUN be that of] (her dress was that of a beggar), or [a most ADJ NOUN] (a most helpful child).

* Morphological change: which show how word roots, prefixes, and suffixes have been used over time, including comparisons between different periods, such as -heart- (1800s noble-hearted, 1900s heart-stopping), home- (1800s homebred, 1900s homeowner), or -able adjectives (1800s placable, 1900s predictable).

* Syntactic change (since the corpus is tagged and lemmatized), like [end up V-ing], [going to V], [V PRON into V-ing] (talked them into going), phrasal verbs with [up] (make up, show up), post-verbal negation with [need] (needn't mention), the 'get' passive (get hired), sentence-initial 'hopefully', and semi-modals like [need to] and [have to].

* Semantic change: how the meaning or usage of words have changed over time, by looking at changes in collocates (co-occurring words), like [sexual, gay, chip, engine, or web]. This can also signal cultural changes over time, such as nouns used with [woman] in the 1930s-50s compared to the 1960s-80s (fabrics, hips // liberation, abortion), or nouns used with [problem] in the 1810s-1920s compared to the 1920s-2000s (railway, trust // drugs, pollution).

* Lexical change (again): users can also have the corpus generate a list of words that were used more in one period than another, even when they don't know what the specified words might be. For example, the corpus can generate lists of verbs in the 1970s-2000s compared to the 1930s-1960s (download, recycle // effectuate, rebound), adjectives in the 1970s-2000s and the 1930s-1960s (online, affordable // leftist, communistic), or -ly adverbs in the 1900s and the 1800s (basically, reportedly // despondingly, sportively).

As can be seen, the corpus allows research on a wide range of phenomena in 400 million words of text from the last two centuries of American English. The corpus is freely available at <http://corpus.byu.edu/coha/>, and we invite you to use it for your research and teaching.

[Read more...](#)

Review: Corpus Linguistics and the Description of English

With 'Corpus Linguistics and the Description of English' Hans Lindquist offers another introductory book to corpus linguistics, but aims it specifically at "university students of English at intermediate to advanced levels who have a certain background in grammar and linguistics, but who have not had the opportunity to use computer corpora to any great extent" (xvi). He proposes that the book, especially certain sections of it, may also be of interest to students of literature. 'Corpus Linguistics and the Description of English' is comprised of ten chapters. Chapters 1-5 cover the basics, introducing corpus linguistics as a discipline, discussing its methods and explaining key terms, chapters 6-10 delve into more specific and different subject matters, ranging from corpus-based metaphor studies to the applications of corpora in sociolinguistics. Readers new to corpus linguistics would therefore benefit from reading the first section of the book, but might opt to peruse only chapters relevant to their studies from the second part. That said, chapters 6-10 provide a valuable overview of the different possibilities within corpus linguistics for anyone new to the field. All chapters are set up in an identical fashion and include, in addition to a discussion of the topic covered, a chapter summary, study questions, suggestions for further reading as well as online corpus exercises on the book's supplementary webpage.

'Corpus Linguistics and the Description of English' provides an introduction to the subject that is highly accessible for university students of English at different levels. The book meets the goals it sets for itself and is very much a hands-on guide with a multitude of sample studies and clear step-by-step instructions. Exercises in every chapter allow readers to check their understanding of concepts introduced and provide them with the opportunity to actually query corpora themselves. In terms of content, the book - a slim volume of no more than 219 pages -

manages to be surprisingly comprehensive, presenting a wide range of topics, including some options (OED as corpus, the web as corpus) that make it an updated introduction to a still evolving field.

Author: Hans Lindquist

Publisher: Edinburgh University Press

Book: Writing Readable Research

Like the sound of the proverbial tree falling in a forest with no human audience, research that is not ultimately published is 'unheard' and forever lost. Moreover, published research that is not reported well may not stand a chance in today's competitive academic world. Those whose first language is not English bear a double burden in trying to make themselves heard and understood.

Writing Readable Research tries to help users create texts that are easy to read, interesting, and dynamic, yet conform to current standards of English, to criteria of the fields of social science, and to conventions of society in general. This book gives attention to all the layers of scientific writing, from nitty-gritty problems in grammar and punctuation to sensitive interpersonal issues such as criticism of other authors and advancing one's own claims. It

can be used as part of a course or independently by students. Since the intended users of this textbook are novice writers, whether graduate students or new faculty members, the practical issues are spelled out. On the other hand, since these writers are also sophisticated scientists, the book addresses their need to understand the theoretical rationale and historical background for some of the guidelines.

Although Writing Readable Research concentrates on journal articles, it also provides valuable advice on the preparation of talks and posters for conferences, abstracts, and professional letters. Most of all, it is enhanced with a little humor, lots of authentic examples from published texts, and some challenging tasks for students to complete, presented in an easy-to-read layout.

Author: Beverly Lewin

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Review: From Polysemy to Semantic Change

This volume, edited by Martine Vanhove, is a collection of papers connected to a project carried out by the French CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) in 2002. The focus is on a typology of semantic associations, particularly polysemy, and the interrelated semantic changes, following a trend in lexical studies during these past years (Koptjevskaya Tamm et al., 2007). The book is divided into three parts: a state of the art report, theoretical and methodological issues, and a series of case studies.

Overall, this edited volume is a fine reader for those who are interested in applied linguistics and especially in language teaching and acquisition. The conclusions of the various analyses reveal it is possible to distinguish common features in semantic shifts in very diverse languages, from Indo-European languages to Sino-Tibetan languages, from African languages to Finno-Ugric, etc. The universal mechanisms underlying semantic change may be a helpful starting point for developing a method to improve lexical competence.

Editor: Martine Vanhove

Publisher: John Benjamins Publishing Company

Book: Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics

This best-selling dictionary is now in its 4th edition. Specifically written for students of language teaching and applied linguistics, it has become an indispensable resource for those engaged in courses in TEFL, TESOL, applied linguistics and introductory courses in general linguistics. Fully revised, this new edition includes over 350 new entries. Previous definitions have been revised or replaced in order to make this the most up-to-date and comprehensive dictionary available. Providing straightforward and accessible explanations of difficult terms and ideas in applied linguistics, this dictionary offers:

Nearly 3000 detailed entries, from subject areas such as teaching methodology, curriculum development, sociolinguistics, syntax and phonetics. Clear and accurate definitions which assume no prior knowledge of the subject matter helpful diagrams and tables cross references throughout, linking related subject areas for ease of reference, and helping to broaden students' knowledge.

Authors: Jack Richards and Richard W. Schmidt

[Read more...](#)

Book: Pragmatic Impairment

Pragmatics - the way we communicate using more than just language - is particularly problematic for people with speech disorders. Through an extensive analysis of how pragmatics can go wrong, this 2007 book not only provides a clinically useful account of pragmatic impairment, but it also throws light on how pragmatics functions in healthy individuals. Michael Perkins brings mainstream and clinical pragmatics together by showing that not only can our

understanding of pragmatics be aided by the study of pragmatic impairment, but that clinical and theoretical pragmatics are better served by treating pragmatic ability and disability within a single framework. It is a comprehensive book aimed primarily at linguists and psycholinguists rather than clinicians, and includes illustrative material on conditions such as autism and aphasia and a wide range of other communication disorders in both children and adults.

- An original account of verbal and non-verbal communication, focusing on people with speech disorders.

- Provides an overview of the research that has been carried out on a range of speech disorders in both children and adults.

- Essential for linguists, psychologists, cognitive neuroscientists and speech/language pathologists who wish to understand pragmatics from different perspectives.

Author: Michael Perkins

[Read more...](#)

Obituary: Michael K. Brame

I am writing to let you know that our colleague Michael K. Brame, Professor Emeritus of Linguistics at the University of Washington, Seattle passed away on August 16, 2010 and would like to share this sad news with the linguistic community. Mike received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1971 having Noam Chomsky his adviser.

Mike was a brilliant linguist, great colleague, and respected teacher as well as a beloved husband and father. The untimely loss of him is still hard to believe, and our heart goes out to the Brame family.

Book: Grammar

If you've ever wanted a quick and easy guide to verbs and adverbs, commas and apostrophes, clauses and prepositions, then this is a must-have book for you. Easing readers gently into the study of the structure of English, Grammar: A Pocket Guide covers common questions such as:

Is it "10 items or less" or "10 items or fewer"?

Should I say "If I were you" or "if I was you"?

Can you start a sentence with "And" or "Because"?

When do you use "whom"?

What is the difference between "lie" and "lay"?

Is it "I feel bad" or "I feel badly"?

Using examples from everyday speech and writing, this handy book "cracks the code" of off-putting grammatical jargon so that readers can enjoy learning how to think and talk about grammar. With practice exercises, a glossary, and suggestions for further reading, Grammar: A Pocket Guide is the perfect foundation for anyone wanting to improve his or her writing and communication.

Author: Susan A. Behrens

[Read more...](#)

Book: Analysing Sentences

This highly successful text has long been considered a standard introduction to the practical analysis of English sentence structure. As in previous editions, key concepts such as constituency, category and function are carefully explained as they are introduced. Tree diagrams are used throughout to help the reader visualise the hierarchical structure of sentences. The final chapter sets the analysis in the context of generative grammar.

In this third edition, Analysing Sentences has been thoroughly revised. It has an attractive new layout, more examples, clearer explanations and summaries of key points. A major change concerns the analysis of auxiliary verbs, which has been revised to bring it more in line with current thinking. Clear development from chapter to chapter, together with the author's accessible style, make this book suitable for readers with no previous experience of sentence analysis. A practical and reader-friendly text, it includes many in-text, end-of-chapter and further exercises, making it suitable for self-directed study as well as for taught courses.

Noel Burton-Roberts is Professor of English Language and Linguistics at Newcastle University. He is the author of *The Limits to Debate: a Revised Theory of Semantic Presupposition* (CUP, 1989), the editor of *Phonological Knowledge: Conceptual and Empirical Issues* (OUP, 2000) and *Pragmatics* (Palgrave, 2007), and the author of numerous articles on various aspects of linguistics and the English language.

Author: Noel Burton-Roberts

[Read more...](#)

Book: The Linguistic Theory of Numerals

Originally published in 1975, this was the first detailed linguistic study of natural language numeral systems. It draws on two quite different scholarly traditions. The first is carried on by anthropologists and others compiling and cataloguing data on the different counting-systems of the world. The second explores generative grammar, which analyses the universal features and the formal organisation of these numeral systems. Dr Hurford

is able to extend and modify the detailed theory of generative grammar by testing it against this material and discovering the rules, conventions and constraints which apply. He includes

separate chapters on the numeral systems of English, French, Mixtec, Hawaiian, Danish, Welsh and Yoruba; the book is therefore also a contribution to the grammars of these languages. The book is primarily intended for linguists, but there is an introduction to the relevant principles of generative grammar in the first chapter, to help make the work accessible also to anthropologists and mathematicians.
Author: James R. Hurford

[Read more...](#)

Linguistic Data: Virtual Linguistics Campus

The Virtual Linguistics Campus invites you to make use of the wealth of linguistics data, in particular its huge language index, which does not only display languages via arbitrary "pins" on a map but by means of associating languages with their speakers. The VLC uses structured language data, i.e. data that is cross-linguistically identical and allows cross-linguistic comparison. (see language index data sheets). Each individual entry of a language consists of:

- General information
- Details about the speaker with a greeting message
- Typological Details (with add. sounds, i.e. Russian palatalization, Chinese tone, Turkish vowel harmony etc.)
- Information about the writing system
- Morpho/Syntax: A fixed set of words, phrases and clauses (with interactive sound)
- The story the North wind and the Sun (with interactive sound)
- Info about the numerical system, plus the numbers 1 to 10 (with interactive sound)
- The monophthongs (with sounds and specials, e.g. mergers and shifts.)
- The diphthongs (if available)
- The consonantal system (with interactive sound)
- A free passage (with sound)
- Pictures (if delivered by speakers)
- Video material (linked with YouTube or private)
- Copyright Info

Note that most sound samples are coupled with phonetic transcription.

In addition to these, the VLC Language Index hosts about 300 further languages, many of them with full sound support, some of them highly endangered.

Special Features of the VLC Language Index:

- Cognate comparison
- Generation of vowel clouds
- Typological maps with feature search

To use the VLC Language Index create your FREE VLC-account. Currently ca. 4,000 users make constitute the VLC-community.

[Read more...](#)

Free Articles: Sociolinguistics Symposium 18 Article Collection

To tie in with the biennial Sociolinguistics Symposium which is taking place in Southampton this week, we've brought together a collection of journal articles which reflect some of the recurring themes of the conference.

The collection includes free online access to articles from several journals such as Critical Discourse Studies, Journal of Multilingual & Multicultural Development, and Language & Intercultural Communication.

[Read more...](#)

Review: The Phoneme

The book is about phonetics and phonology. The approach of the author can be described according to two main criteria: it has the phoneme as its main descriptive tool and it is thoroughly empirical as regards methodology. Jones considers phonology to be a section of phonetics, not a separate field. It differs from "(post)-generative" approaches which rely on the (Jakobsonian) feature as the main descriptive concept and different types of (SPE-inspired) axiomatic formalism to describe phonemes, features and (morpho-)phonology. It can be added that the phoneme is defined by Jones as a segment, a clipping in the chain of speech sounds, which also makes his approach different from that of Bloomfield. Some phrases like "we think we utter/hear" (§4) or "I consciously put [stress]" (§453) are also very far from Bloomfield's approach and American structuralism. In addition the segmental approach of Jones

implicitly rejects any notion of distinctive feature: "minimal distinctions" (Chapter VI) include segments, vowel length, tone, position of stress but do not include for example voice or aspiration. A fortiori Jones does not address issues of mark or markedness. In footnote 12 p.85 he states that a theory of the phoneme based on features "would have little practical value even if it could be worked into a consistent system". Jones has an approach to phonology extremely influenced by issues of alphabets and writing, which is probably due to his involvement in the IPA. Cf. p.253 and §27 p.264. In this framework the phoneme is a clipping which cannot be further analyzed. On the whole the book is densely packed with data and concrete discussions of phonetic phenomena and much less deals with issues of method and theory, which have to be inferred, whenever possible, from what

Jones states. Most examples are taken from (British) English, (Parisian) French, and less frequently German, Italian, sometimes Chinese (Pekingese or Cantonese) and miscellaneous other languages. Tswana is often used when discussing prosodic issues.

It is not possible to review all the data and discussions presented in the book. I will focus on the author's approach and its coherence, its avowed and actual relationships with contemporary approaches and the accuracy of some key assertions of the author. To begin with I tend to think that it would be highly desirable to publish an annotated edition of the original book, as was once done with Saussure's "Cours de linguistique générale" (CLG) between the 1916 and 1964 editions. On the whole I found the book interesting, entertaining, stimulating and at the same time disturbing. The reasons for these reactions will gradually appear below. There is a general problem throughout the book: most of the framework of the author is implicit and what is more, the real framework underlying many assertions and operations differs from the avowed framework.

Author: Daniel Jones

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Workshop: Beyond 'Ever' and 'Any': Challenging Theories of NPI Licensing

Date: 14 to 15 January 2011

Location: Goettingen, Germany

Contact: [Manfred Sailer](mailto:Manfred.Sailer)

Deadline for submission: 15 September 2010

Notification: 18 October 2010

Is polarity sensitivity a syntactic, semantic, or pragmatic phenomenon? Licensing theories in all three fields have reached a high level of sophistication. However, theories in the three fields compete rather than converge, which we take to indicate that the phenomenon has not as yet been fully understood. In this workshop, we propose to focus on under-researched NPIs, under-researched licensing contexts, and to challenge theories by empirical methods from corpus linguistics and psycholinguistics. The list of open issues includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Polarity items in non-assertive speech acts
- Polarity items with idiosyncratic licensing patterns
- Parasitic licensing
- Intervention effects
- NPIs in psycholinguistics and corpus linguistics
- Historical rise and fall of NPIs
- Patterns of use versus licensing conditions
- Verbal NPIs
- Comparison of approaches

Call For Papers

We invite papers for 30 min. talks (plus 15 min. discussion) that pertain to one or more of these questions, or offer other new insights in the phenomenon of polarity sensitivity. Abstracts should be anonymous and at most 2 pages in length. Please send your abstracts electronically in pdf- or doc-format to manfred.sailer@phil.uni-goettingen.de and include your name, affiliation and the title of the abstract in the body of the email. Submissions will be reviewed by two reviewers.

[Read more...](#)

WAT: Woordeboek op jou selfoon

Die ganse WAT het pas op 'n selfoon beskikbaar geword. Dit beteken dat die ekwivalent van bykans 9 000 gedrukte bladsye van die omvattendste Afrikaanse woordeboek in jou handpalm gehou kan word en op 'n skerm skaars groter as 'n vuurhoutjiedosie gelees kan word. Op die foto hierbo kan gesien word hoe die inskrywing by die woord replika op 'n selfoon sal vertoon. Die WAT op selfoon is egter heelwat meer as 'n replika van die gedrukte weergawe op 'n kleiner skaal. Elke inligtingssoort is in 'n verskillende kleur: die trefwoord in blou vetdruk, die woordsoort in pers, die definisie in swart, die voorbeeldsinne in groen, en so meer. Verskeie

gevorderde soektogte kan in 'n breukdeel van 'n sekonde uitgevoer word. In die lysie regs op die skerm verskyn die ander artikels in die woordeboek waarin die woord replika figureer, gewoonlik in die definisies van ander woorde.

Die WAT (A tot R) is reeds in gedrukte formaat, as 'n CD en op die internet beskikbaar. Vul slegs die aangehegte bestelvorm in om in te teken op die WAT vir selfoongebruik.

Toegang tot die Elektroniese WAT via jou selfoon beteken dus ook outomatiese toegang daartoe op jou rekenaar, en andersom, teen slegs R150 vir 12 maande.

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Book: Short Cuts

Our everyday lives are inevitably touched-and immeasurably enriched-by an extraordinary variety of miniature forms of verbal communication, from classified ads to street signs, and from yesterday's graffiti to tomorrow's headline. "Short Cuts" offers a well-researched and vibrantly written account of minimalist speech.

Authors: Alexander Humez, Nicholas Humez and Rob Flynn

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Book: Impoliteness in Interaction

This study concerns the nature of impoliteness in face-to-face spoken interaction. For more than three decades many pragmatic and sociolinguistic studies of interaction have considered politeness to be one central explanatory concept governing and underpinning face-to-face interaction. Politeness' "evil twin" impoliteness has been largely neglected until only very recently. This book, the first of its kind on the subject, considers the role that impoliteness has to play by drawing extracts from a range of discourse types (car parking disputes, army and police training, police-public interactions and kitchen discourse). The study considers the triggering of impoliteness; explores the dynamic progression of impolite exchanges, and examines the way in which such exchanges come to some form of resolution. 'Face' and the linguistic sophistication and manipulation of discursively expected norms to cause, or deflect impoliteness is also explored, as is the dynamic and sometimes hotly contested nature of an individual's socio-discoursal role.

Author: Derek Bousfield

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Review: Phonology in Perception

This volume is the fifteenth in the Phonology & Phonetics series from Mouton de Gruyter (now de Gruyter Mouton), a collection of nine papers that aim to contribute to "the interaction of phonology and phonetics within linguistics" (back-cover). The publisher acknowledges a 'tumultuous' relationship between phonology and phonetics, and seeks to engage both fields through academic dialogue afforded in this series. Though at first this particular volume appears to focus more on phonology, the theoretical assumptions contributors rely on is a pragmatic mix of knowledge from both phonetics and phonology. Reassuringly some very recognisable names have contributed to the nine chapters, including Ellen Broselow, Paul Boersma, and James McClelland. For me as a language teacher, this book provides some comfort for what some of us have felt might be true: that phonological knowledge assists in perception (p. 19, 60, 103; see Altenberg 2005, Celce-Murcia, Brinton and Goodwin 1994 p. 10), as opposed to the common assumption of many linguists that phonological behaviour was influenced by what was perceivable (back-cover). The editors aim to demonstrate this concept with these nine papers. Many of the contributors lean heavily on Optimality Theory as the basis of their work, as well as on Boersma's BiPhon model described in chapter two.

This collection makes clear how the perception process is not the same as nor simply the reverse of production. This volume elegantly demonstrates this, whilst also providing valuable new insights into speech perception. The BiPhon Model is the central element of this book, and forms the basis of some of the theoretical assumptions in some chapters. The BiPhon model includes phonetic principles within its design, and looks to cognitive science for some grounding.

Editors: Paul Boersma and Silke Hamann

Publisher: Mouton de Gruyter

Review: The Evolution of Language

The present book is intended as an introduction to the evolution of language, conceived of as the unique preserve of mankind. Fitch intends it to be a dispassionate exposition of the various theories advanced by various scholars and the data which supports or contradicts those views. The book consists of an introduction and four distinct sections of unequal length: "The lay of the Land: an overview of disciplines and data relevant to language evolution", "Meet the ancestors", "The Evolution of Speech", and finally "Evaluating phylogenetic models of language evolution".

This is an excellent book, which gives a detailed and precise account of the current state of the field, as well as historical background to both the central questions and different solutions which

have been proposed. The comparative perspective is wide ranging and always well-informed, if slightly optimistic on animal capacities: for instance, though there is no doubt that animals have categorical abilities -- indeed, it would be hard to imagine how they could be entirely deprived of them --, this does not mean that their conceptual abilities are in the human range and the existence of conceptual hierarchies seems fairly limited. (Apes seem to be the only candidates to date: see Vonk & MacDonald 2002, 2004.) Again, it seems slightly misleading to say that animals can have important vocabularies ("hundred of items" are mentioned more than once), when in fact the upper bound seems to be between 200 and 250 items, which is very far from, for instance, first-graders' lexicons (estimated at around 6000 words). Finally, though Fitch claims to maintain an aloof stance and not to push any theory, he clearly defends musical protolanguage theories, and some arguments given seem rather flimsy. Though no one disputes the existence of "formulaic" utterances in present day languages, this has nothing to say about the probability of a holistic/analytic transition given that obviously the transition in that case goes in the reverse direction: idioms or formulas are made up of discrete units which come in some phrases to lose their individual meaning, and this, if anything, illustrates an analytic/holistic transition. Nevertheless, the book is impressive thanks to its erudition, clarity and precise discussions of data, theories and arguments. It is a must for anyone interested in the evolution of language.
Author: W. Tecumseh Fitch

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Book: Reporting Talk

Reported speech, whereby we quote the words of others, is used in many different types of interaction. In this revealing study, a team of leading experts explore how reported speech is designed, the actions it is used to perform, and how it fits into the environments in which it is used. Using contemporary techniques of conversation analysis, the authors show how speech is reported in a wide range of contexts - including ordinary conversation, storytelling, news interviews, courtroom trials and medium-sitter interactions. Providing detailed analyses of reported speech in naturally occurring talk, the authors examine existing linguistic and sociological studies, and offer some insights into the phenomenon. Bringing together work from the most recent investigations in conversation analysis, this book will be invaluable to all those interested in the study of interaction, in particular how we report the speech of others, and the different forms this can take.

- Draws on investigations and techniques in conversation analysis
- Provides detailed analyses of reported speech in naturally occurring interaction
- Looks at reported speech in a wide range of contexts, and in three different languages.

Editor: Elizabeth Holt
Author: Rebecca Clift

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Review: The Role of Semantic, Pragmatic, and Discourse Factors in the Development of Case

Great efforts have been made to describe case systems throughout languages (Anderson, 1971, 1977; Agud, 1980; Blake, 1994; Butt, 2006, Corbett and Noonan, 2008, among many others). Contributions to this discussion usually focus on different aspects of case, such as case shape, semantics, or pragmatics, and they come from various theoretical perspectives. Jóhanna Barðdal and Shobhanna L. Chelliah's volume, built from papers presented at the 17th International Conference of Historical Linguistics (Madison, Wisconsin, 31 July to 5 August 2005), gathers some of those perspectives on case in an attempt to discuss the development of case systems from different angles. The various topics are almost exclusively presented from the historical perspective, but some articles also focus on contemporary data. The book starts with a comprehensive introduction by the editors, in which they present the structure of the volume and provide a summary of the papers. The volume consists of fifteen papers written by researchers from different areas of specialization. The papers are divided into five thematic sections: (a) semantically and aspectually motivated synchronic case variation, (b) discourse motivated subject marking, (c) reduction or expansion of case marker distribution, (d) case syncretism motivated by syntax, semantics, or language contact, and (e) case split motivated by pragmatics, metonymy, and subjectification.

The overall impression of the book is certainly positive. The book is a good source of (in some cases, extensive) historical description of case behaviour throughout different language families. The analyses presented are significant. Some papers, such as Noonan's, deserve particular attention, since they make important contributions to the general picture of case development on a wider perspective. Another example is Boas's paper, a valuable contribution to the study of syncretism, since it shows that the evolution of the phenomenon can be captured in a short period of time (it can even be attested even synchronically, see Carvalho, 2008). Case change, however, involves more than the change of case

shape. It also includes some other relationships within the clause. In all analyses of part III of the volume, for instance, case variation and change are not just considered changes of case shapes, as merely a morphological phenomenon, but also of semantically different forms. A usage-based account, ie. an account which "takes the frequency of constructions to be central to their status in the language system" (cf. Barðdal's paper, p. 138), sounds like a mere stipulation since it is based purely on description and has no sound explanatory basis. Considering the general scope of the volume, the inclusion of even more languages should have been contemplated. In fact, the volume propounds only a diachronic description of some case roles, but the "discussions of the consequences to changes in case systems and the mechanism whereby such changes are obtained" (Introduction, p. ix) demands a greater base. Thus, a more comprehensive description should bring along a more robust explanatory mechanism, which is missing in some analyses (e.g., the whole part 3 of the volume). In sum, however, this collection of papers is a very valuable contribution to the empirical study of the development of case across languages.
 Editors: Jóhanna Barðdal and Shobhanna L. Chelliah

Publisher: John Benjamins

Book: Investigations in Cognitive Grammar

This volume makes accessible a substantial range of recent research in Cognitive Grammar. From disparate sources, it brings together a dozen innovative papers, revised and integrated to form a coherent whole. This work continues the ongoing program of progressively articulating the theoretical framework and showing its descriptive application to varied grammatical phenomena.

A number of major topics are examined in depth through multiple chapters viewing them from different perspectives: grammatical constructions (their general nature, their metonymic basis, their role in grammaticization), nominal grounding (quantifiers, possessives, impersonal it), clausal grounding (its relation to nominal grounding, an epistemic account of tense, a systemic view of the English auxiliary), the "control cycle" (an abstract cognitive model with many linguistic manifestations), finite clauses (their internal structure and external grammar), and complex sentences (complementation, subordination, coordination). In each case the presentation builds from fundamentals and introduces the background needed for comprehension. At the same time, by bringing fresh approaches and new descriptive insights to classic problems, it represents a significant advance in understanding grammar and indicates future directions of theory and research in the Cognitive Grammar framework. The book is of great interest to students and practitioners of cognitive linguistics and to scholars in related areas.

Author: Ronald W. Langacker

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New Book series: Multilingualism and Diversity Management

This book series collects a wide range of scholarship on different, yet mutually complementary dimensions of multilingualism. It contains the main findings of a five-year integrated research project supported by the European Commission and brings together researchers from eighteen universities across the continent. The project, known under its acronym of DYLAN (Language Dynamics and Management of Diversity), examines the interconnections between social actors' representations of language and multilingualism, policies adopted by various organizations to deal with multilingualism, the role of context which shapes, but is also shaped by representations and policies regarding multilingualism, and actual language practices. These interconnections are explored on three types of terrain: private-sector companies, the political institutions of the European Union, and the sphere of education (with an emphasis on universities in bi- or trilingual settings). In addition, three major themes cutting across these different terrains are analysed, namely, efficiency and fairness in language choices, emerging language varieties, and the historical dimensions of multilingualism.

Subject classification:

Linguistics
 Applied linguistics
 Bilingualism
 Contact Linguistics
 Discourse studies
 Pragmatics

Editors: Anne-Claude Berthoud, François Grin, and Georges Lüdi

Publishing House: John Benjamins Publishing

Page last update: 27 September 2010