

Linguistic Society of America  
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

Friday, January 4, 2013 ~ 5:30 – 7:00pm  
Marriott Copley Place, Boston

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President, Keren Rice, at 5:40 pm.

Introductory Remarks

Dr. Rice welcomed the attendees and recognized all former Presidents of the LSA in attendance.

Report of Secretary-Treasurer

Paul Chapin offered highlights from his written report (which was published in the meeting handbook and is attached as Addendum A). He provided an update on the LSA's finances, membership numbers and related information. Dr. Chapin noted that it would be his last meeting in his current role, and presented his successor, Patrick Farrell, with a commemorative coin that had been passed down from previous Secretary-Treasurers of the LSA.

Report of 2012 Election Results

Dr. Chapin confirmed the results of the LSA election:

- Vice-President/President-elect: Joan Maling
- Executive Committee (At-Large): Ellen Broselow, Colin Phillips

In Memoriam

Dr. Chapin requested a moment of silence in memory of the following LSA members who passed away since the last Annual Meeting: Henry Honken; Aleksandr Evgenevich Kibrik; Bhadriraju Krishnamurti; Manfred Mayrhofer; Robert Stockwell; Maner Thorpe; Walburga von Raffler-Engel; Friedrich Francis Weingartner.

Publications Discussion

Dr. Rice made a formal presentation on recent changes to the LSA's publishing program and then led a discussion regarding those changes. Her presentation is attached in outline form as Addendum B. There was discussion of a wide range of aspects of the changes in the publication program including the rationale, the business model, open access models, and new sections of *Language*. Members posed a series of questions pertaining to the criteria and procedures associated with the establishment and retention of various sections of *Language*, free-standing journals of the LSA, and other forms of scholarly content to be published via the LSA website. There were also multiple questions about the business model underpinning the expansion of *Language*, the publication of new journal(s), and other scholarly content.

Approval of Honorary Members

The following individuals were recommended by the LSA Executive Committee to receive honorary life memberships in the LSA: Aditi Lahiri , Björn Lindblom, and Jacques Mehler.

The following citations were presented for the nominees:

## **LAHIRI**

Aditi Lahiri, Professor of Linguistics and first Chair of the Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics Faculty at Oxford University, is a remarkable polymath with a strong research profile in five areas: historical and comparative linguistics of Germanic, phonology, phonetics, psycholinguistics, and neurolinguistics. As noteworthy as the range of this research is its unified conception, which brings together traditional and innovative methodologies into a single research enterprise and vision of contemporary linguistics. She has played an important role in bringing this kind of linguistics to life not just in her own research, but also in her teaching, and especially through her sponsorship of international workshops and seminars over the years.

Professor Lahiri holds doctorate degrees from the University of Calcutta (Comparative Philology and Linguistics, 1979) and Brown University (Linguistics, 1982). Beginning with her Brown thesis, her research in historical/comparative linguistics includes novel accounts of analogical patterns and the phonology of word prosody (syllables, stress, and tone) in Germanic languages. She has been a leader in phonetics and laboratory phonology and in the experimental psycholinguistic testing of phonological and morphological representation, in addition to other topics. Central to Dr. Lahiri's research has been an interest in the mental representation of phonological features, viewed from both theoretical and psycholinguistic perspectives. Since about 2000 she has been investigating the nature of neurolinguistic representations and responses to various processing tasks.

A hallmark of Professor Lahiri's research activity has been extensive collaboration with a diverse group of scholars, and she has been instrumental in creating multidisciplinary communities of researchers, first as a Senior Research Scientist at the Max-Planck-Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, then as Professor and Chair in General Linguistics at the University of Konstanz, and more recently at Oxford.

Professor Lahiri has published dozens of articles and is the editor of *Analogy, Levelling, Markedness* (2000, Mouton de Gruyter). She was the main organizer of the annual meeting of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS), held at Konstanz in 1999. Professor Lahiri is a Fellow of the British Academy (2010), and recipient of the Professor Sukumar Sen Memorial Gold Medal from the Asiatic Society (2008), the Leibniz Prize awarded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (2000), and the Max Planck Research Prize for International Cooperation from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (1994).

## **LINDBLOM**

Björn Lindblom is an internationally renowned phonetician whose groundbreaking research underlies major directions of subsequent work in both phonetics and phonology. After receiving his doctorate from Lund University (1968), he became Director of the Phonetics

Laboratory at Stockholm University where, in 1973, the Swedish Research Council created a personal chair for him as Professor of Speech Physiology and Speech Perception.

Professor Lindblom's early work modeling coarticulation as undershoot showed how phonological processes can be given explanatory accounts, an approach that inspired much subsequent work, including the creation of the Articulatory Phonology model. His seminal paper with Liljencrantz on the structure of vowel systems introduced the Adaptive Dispersion hypothesis which guided later developments including research on child language acquisition, the origin of language, and loan phonology, as well as on the structure of phonological systems per se. In a steady stream of original research that has continued through the present, he has gone on to originate and develop methodologies that sought empirically-based phonetic explanations for sound inventories in the world's languages, and to further expand our understanding of coarticulation via modeling and advanced statistical techniques.

Professor Lindblom held an endowed chair (1989 – 1994) at the University of Texas, Austin, in addition to visiting appointments at M.I.T., Haskins Laboratories, and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford. He was a recipient of the 2011 Prize of Sweden's Royal Academy of Letters, and has received other honors and medals from universities in several European countries in addition to Sweden and the United States. During the 1990s, he served as President of the Permanent Council, International Council of Phonetic Sciences. Professor Lindblom's leadership and influence have continued unabated through his mentorship and collaborations with scholars internationally.

## **MEHLER**

Jacques Mehler has played a significant role in the origins and burgeoning of Linguistic and Cognitive Science over the past half-century. Born in Barcelona, Spain, and educated in Argentina and England, he earned his PhD at Harvard University in 1964, and has since been a leader across many areas of psycholinguistics and cognitive science.

Professor Mehler co-founded the journal *Cognition* (1972) and served as its Editor for almost 35 years. No less significantly, Professor Mehler is Research Emeritus Director of the Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, CNRS (France), and is currently the Director of the Language, Cognition, and Development Laboratories of the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA), Trieste, Italy. In all these roles, Professor Mehler has represented and heavily influenced psycholinguistic and cognitive science in Europe as well as America, and in more recent years has established important relations and joint research projects with cognitive scientists in Japan and elsewhere in Asia. He has been mentor and dissertation director to a generation of European linguistic and cognitive scientists of international reputation.

Professor Mehler's enormous editorial, teaching, and administrative responsibilities, over nearly half a century, have always co-existed with very significant and important research activity and accomplishment. His contributions include over 125 articles appearing in such prestigious journals as *Nature*, *Science*, and *PNAS*, among many others, including path-breaking

work demonstrating and explaining the discovery of linguistic units (word, syllable, phrase) from their complex encoding in the speech wave, in neonates and infants.

International recognition of Professor Mehler's substantial accomplishments include honorary doctorates from Université Libre de Bruxelles and Utrecht University, the Prix Fanny Emden (French Academy of Sciences), the Ipsen Foundation Prize, and the Mind and Brian Prize (Center for Cognitive Science, Torino, Italy). He was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2003 and of the Cognitive Science Society in 2006.

The honorary memberships of the three individuals cited above were approved.

### Resolutions of Thanks

A resolution was presented by Dr. Cathy O'Connor:

Whereas, the LSA relies on the efforts of numerous members and volunteers to organize the Annual Meeting and to conduct its work throughout the year.

Therefore, be it resolved that the following individuals be formally thanked for their contributions to the LSA:

The officers of the LSA, Keren Rice, Paul Chapin, Ellen Kaisse and Sandra Chung, for their leadership and service.

Scott Schwenter and Andrew Nevins, for leading the program committee in delivering another successful Annual Meeting.

Greg Carlson, Natsuko Tsujimura and Dieter Stein, for their editorial leadership of Language and eLanguage.

Linguistics faculty at Boston, Brandeis, Harvard, MIT and Northeastern Universities, for their assistance with recruiting volunteers to help staff the meeting, and also with the local logistics.

Shannyn Frazier, Volunteer Coordinator, for helping to recruit such an enthusiastic cadre of student volunteers.

All of the LSA's various committee chairs and members, as we work together to implement the LSA's ambitious strategic plan.

The sister societies of the LSA, for their contributions in making the Annual Meeting a more vibrant and dynamic gathering of linguists.

Robin Queen and Andries Coetzee at the University of Michigan, for organizing and planning the 2013 biennial Linguistic Institute.

The LSA Executive Committee, including those concluding their service at this meeting:  
Eric Potsdam, Maria Polinsky.

The Secretariat staff, Alyson Reed (Executive Director), David Robinson (Director of Membership and Meetings), and Rita Lewis (Executive Assistant), for their outstanding work.

A motion to endorse this resolution was approved by acclamation.

#### Induction of LSA Fellows

Dr. Rice presented the 2013 class of Fellows for induction: Edwin Battistella, Southern Oregon University; Ellen Broselow, Stony Brook University; Jane Hill, University of Arizona (in absentia); Hans Henrich Hock, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Johanna B. Nichols, University of California, Berkeley (in absentia); David Pesetsky, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dennis Preston, Oklahoma State University; Tom Roeper, University of Massachusetts; Deborah Tannen, Georgetown University

The Fellows were presented with certificates and rosettes by Dr. Rice.

#### New Business

There was no new business conducted.

#### Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Rice at 6:55 pm.

## Addendum A

### SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul G. Chapin, January 2013

I am pleased to present to the Society this report on the LSA's business activities during 2012.

#### Budget and Finance

LSA's financial position continues to be strong. For the Fiscal Year 2012, which ended on September 30, 2012, our operating budget projected a small surplus of under \$1,000, because of the one-time major expense of designing and erecting the new LSA website. As it turned out, even with payments for the website coming to nearly \$100,000, the actual surplus for the fiscal year was just under \$60,000. This puts us in good condition going forward to meet the new expenses associated with ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the website, and the transition to a new, expanded program of digital publications. Our current operating budget, for Fiscal Year 2013, which includes some of those expenses, projects a surplus of about \$70,000.

The Society's investment portfolio also performed well during the year, which was generally a strong year for the stock market. The total value of the portfolio as of September 30, 2012, was \$1,011,933, an increase of 11.54% over the value of \$907,235 on the same date in 2011. Since 2012 was not an Institute year, there were no significant withdrawals from the accounts over the past year.

LSA's budget documents and financial statements are available for inspection by any member. If you wish to see them, contact the Secretariat.

#### Membership

In last year's report I had to inform you of a significant decline in regular memberships, along with some immediate steps the Secretariat was taking to address the problem. The Secretariat's efforts have borne some fruit, in that the number of regular memberships has stayed essentially stable over the past year, with 1865 members as of November 16, 2012, compared to 1880 a year ago. Student memberships have fallen from 1361 to 1200, but this is normal in non-Institute years. Emeritus, honorary, and life memberships are all essentially at the same level, so the drop in student memberships led to an overall decline in individual memberships from 3935 to 3766, a loss of 4.3%.

With the Secretariat's continued efforts at member retention and renewal, our new enhanced website, and our expanded digital publications program, we hope in the coming years to see LSA individual memberships start to grow again.

Institutional subscriptions to print Language continue to decline significantly, from 1177 to 1040 over the past year. At the same time, our income from our online partners, Project MUSE and JSTOR, has continued to increase well beyond annual projections. This reflects the major shift in academic culture generally from print to digital media. We are optimistic that our newly expanded portfolio of online journals will lead to a growing presence in the world of scholarly digital publications, which may in turn generate increased income to the Society.

#### Election Results

On-line voting was open to all LSA members from September 1 to November 3, 2012. The votes cast resulted in the election of Joan Maling, Brandeis University, as Vice-President/President-Elect; Patrick Farrell, University of California at Davis, for a five-year term as Secretary-Treasurer; and Ellen Broselow, State University of New York at Stony Brook and Colin Phillips, University of Maryland, as members at large of the Executive Committee for three-year terms, all terms beginning January 2013.

#### In Memoriam

I regret to report the deaths of the following LSA members:

Henry Honken  
Aleksandr Evgenevich Kibrik  
Bhadriraju Krishnamurti  
Manfred Mayrhofer

Robert Stockwell  
Maner Thorpe  
Walburga von Raffler-Engel  
Friedrich Francis Weingartner

#### Appreciation

This is my final report to you as Secretary-Treasurer. It has been an eventful five years in the LSA, and it has been my privilege and my pleasure to be a part of it. The many people who have contributed their time, effort, resources, and intelligence toward helping the Society thrive are too numerous to name individually in this brief report, but all have my deep appreciation.

I do, however, have to remind you how lucky we are to have the staff that keeps the Secretariat, and the LSA, humming. Alyson Reed, David Robinson, and Rita Lewis devote their considerable skills and impressive energy to making our Society one that meets the needs and merits the praises of our members, and of the public at large as well.

It is also important to mention the dedicated service and collegiality of the officers and Executive Committee members who commit their time and expertise to sustaining and improving the LSA.

Finally, I would like to thank the membership of the LSA for electing me to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. It has been a highlight of my professional career, and leaves me with satisfaction and a multitude of happy memories.

## Addendum B

### Outline View of Keren Rice's slide presentation:

#### 2012 overview, with a focus on publications

- New LSA Website: <http://www.linguisticsociety.org/>
- Two plenary poster sessions (3 hours total)
- Excellence in Community Linguistics Award
  - outstanding contributions that individuals falling outside typical academic and professional linguistic spheres make that benefit their languages.

#### Publications

- The agreement around eLanguage expires at the end of 2013.
- eLanguage was established to move the LSA into the digital age.
- Was eLanguage the right way to continue?
- LSA Annual Meeting 2012
  - Move all publications directly under the LSA
- Consequences of decision
- What about the eLanguage co-journals?
  - Evaluate, with current editors, the status of each publication
  - Invite to be part of LSA publications as a section of *Language*
  - Invite to be part of LSA publications as an independent journal
  - Not invite to be part of LSA publications
- Continue Open Access, within a viable business model
- What has happened?
  - Some of the eLanguage co-journals will not continue with the LSA.
  - Some of the co-journals will be LSA publications, either as a section of *Language* or independent.
  - Other co-journals are still under discussion.
- Actions: New editorial set-up for *Language*
  - Editor: Greg Carlson
  - Executive Editor: Stan Dubinsky
  - Associate editors for general content, as before
  - Associate editors designated for some of the new sections
  - Actions: expansion of *Language*
- New on-line only publications as part of *Language* approved
  - *Language and Public Policy*
    - associate editors: Donna Christian, John Baugh
  - *Teaching Linguistics*
    - associate editors: Kazuko Hiramatsu, Anne Charity Hudley
  - *Phonological Analysis*
    - associate editors: Eric Bakovic, Matthew Gordon
  - *Perspectives: in the works*
- Understanding Open Access
  - Delayed open access (one year)

- \$400 article-processing charge if author wants immediate open access (on LSA website)
- Availability of materials
  - Project MUSE
  - Immediately available to LSA members on publication (as before)
  - One-year embargo for non members; then available to all, for free, on the LSA website
- What does it mean to be part of Language?
  - The new parts (Teaching Linguistics, Phonological Analysis, etc.) will be thematic sections of Language such as the current “Book Reviews” and “Discussion Notes.”
- A possible set up
  - New LSA journals
  - Semantics and Pragmatics
    - Independent LSA journal
    - Immediate open access, with no Article Processing Charge
    - This is an Open Access model with institutional subsidies.
    - The publication model will be evaluated regularly to ensure sustainability.
- Other eLanguage pieces
  - Book notices
  - Extended abstracts from LSA meeting
  - Archives/proceedings (BLS, SALT)

These will be migrated to the LSA website; decisions about how these will continue will be considered in the future
- For the future
  - Strategic Planning Committee
  - LSA publications fund?
  - Other new digital only content?
- Next year In Minneapolis
  - 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the LSA!