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Welcome to New Orleans!

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Linguistic Society of America

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January 2, 2020

Dear 2020 Annual Meeting Attendees,

I am writing, as our [2020 Annual Meetings](#) begin, with some reminders to help you make the most of your time in New Orleans.

Weather

Check the local weather forecast [here](#), and remember to pack appropriately. The current forecast is mostly for highs in the low to mid 60's and lows in the mid 40's to mid 50's, with a chance of scattered thunderstorms Thursday and rain Friday.

Wifi

Annual Meeting attendees who are staying at the Hilton receive complimentary in-room Wifi -- instructions will be provided at check-in. The LSA has purchased wifi access in the meeting rooms: to log in, connect to the Hilton Meetings network and enter access code LSA2020.

Transportation

[Click here](#) for information about transportation from Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport to the Hilton New Orleans Riverside.

Program Changes

Click [here](#) for a current list of additions, withdrawals, and other late-breaking changes to the program.

Please note the following special activities taking place on Thursday:

Meeting Registration

Meeting Registration will take place in the The District (the foyer area outside the ballrooms on the third floor) from 1:00 to 7:00 PM.

Conversations with Student and Faculty Scholars of Color on Success in Navigating and Thriving in the Academy

River Room, 12:30 – 2:00 PM

Organizer: Fabiola Henri (University of Kentucky)

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The Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics (CEDL) will host its 3rd Scholars of Color Mentoring Roundtables event to discuss topics related to advancing the research and professional development of Linguists of Color in higher education. As research and blog posts have shown, academia can be a hostile, unwelcoming environment for scholars of color. With inadequate numbers of role models and mentors of color at all ranks, successfully navigating degree programs, tenure, and promotion can be very daunting and lonely. This LSA CEDL event will provide a space for student and faculty scholars of color to connect and engage in candid conversations on issues relevant to their success in navigating and thriving in the academy.

This year's roundtable topics will include: Addressing Micro-Aggressions, Navigating the Tenure-track Race, Considering Administration and Leadership, Politics of Critique and Mold-breaking, Public Scholarship at the Graduate Level, Navigating the Peer Review Process in Publishing Journal Articles and Books, Coping Strategies for Challenging Situations, and more.

How to LSA: The Annual Meeting for First-timers

3:00 - 3:45 PM in the Commerce Room

Not sure how the Annual Meeting works? What to do? Join student representative to the Program Committee Alicia Parrish (New York University), Laura Wagner (The Ohio State University), seasoned Annual Meeting pros, and other newcomers to get answers to your FAQ.

Welcome, Land Acknowledgment, and Opening Plenary

Join us at 7:00 in the St. Charles Ballroom for a welcome message from LSA President Brian D. Joseph, a Land Acknowledgment by Angela Comeaux (Mvskoke (Creek), Aniyunwiya (Cherokee), and Chahta (Choctaw)) a report from Executive Director Alyson Reed, and an opening plenary address by jessie little doe baird (Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project) on "The Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project: Nine Years On from We Still Live Here: Âs Nutayuneân"

International Year of Indigenous Languages Closing Event

Following the evening plenary talk, we'll cap the past year of International Year of Indigenous Languages activities with a special event in the River Room from 8:30 to 10:00 PM.

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Special Screening: Signing Black in America; The Story of Black ASL

Chart B, 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Chair: Walt Wolfram (North Carolina State University)

Signing Black in America is the first documentary to highlight the development and the status of Black American Sign Language (ASL). Based on extensive interviews with Black signers, linguistic experts, interpreters, natural conversations, and artistic performances by Black ASL users, it documents the development and description of this unique ethnic variety of ASL. Many of the same conditions that gave rise to the development of spoken African American language affected the trajectory of Black ASL—residential, educational, and social segregation along with the internal development of an autonomous cultural community indexing black identity. At the same time, deaf African Americans had contact with the spoken African American language community, borrowing sign language analogs of unique spoken-language African American expressions.

Following the presentation of the documentary, a panel discussion of the film will include co-producers Joseph Hill, Ceil Lucas, Carolyn McGaskill, and Danica Cullinan, along with executive producer Walt Wolfram

Other Meeting-related Information

- The [Annual Meeting Handbook](#) is online in .pdf form, with bookmarks.
- An online version of the LSA meeting schedule is available [here](#). LSA members who are logged in to our website can create a customized schedule of activities by clicking on the "Personal Schedule" tab. This feature is best used in conjunction with the [.pdf schedule](#), which offers more detailed descriptions..
- Information about local transportation, dining, culture, and nightlife is available [here](#). Attendees receive a 10 percent discount at hotel eateries on presentation of their attendee badge.
- Nursing mothers are welcome to breastfeed children anytime and anywhere during the Annual Meeting. The Trafalgar Room on the third floor is also set up as a nursing room, with chairs and a small refrigerator. Please ask any LSA staff member or volunteer if you have questions about the nursing room.
- The two restrooms across from the Durham Room on the third floor of the

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hotel, near the escalators, have been designated as gender neutral for the duration of the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

David Robinson
Director of Membership and Meetings

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