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## LSA Update

News from the  
Linguistic Society of America

Update #115 - September 29, 2017

### LSA Executive Committee Response to Open Letter on Sexual Harassment

In response to an [open letter](#) [pdf] sent to the LSA by over 1000 members of the linguistics community last week, the LSA Executive Committee (pictured below) issued this [letter](#) outlining its plan to address the problem of sexual harassment and calling for a new Initiative on Fostering Civility in the Linguistics Community.



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## Last Call for LSA Awards, Honorary Member Nominations: October 1/2, 2017

Nominations for the LSA's Early Career Award; Excellence in Community Linguistics Award; Kenneth L. Hale Award; Linguistic Service Award; Linguistics, Language, and the Public Award; and Victoria A. Fromkin Lifetime Service Award are due at the beginning of October. In all cases except the Excellence in Community Linguistics Award a preliminary nomination is due October 1 and a final nomination October 2. For the Excellence in Community Linguistics Award only a final nomination, due October 2, is required. Click [here](#) for descriptions of the awards, lists of previous winners, and links to the nomination form.

October 1 is also the deadline to nominate new Honorary Members of the LSA. Honorary members are "foreign scholars of distinction in linguistic studies, not resident in the United States." For more information on Honorary Members, lists of current honorary members (for inspiration and to avoid duplication) and links to the nomination form, [click here](#).



2018 · SALT LAKE CITY



### 2018 Annual Meeting News

Mark your calendars now for the [LSA's 2018 Annual Meeting](#) at the Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah from January 4-7. Abstract notifications were sent September 11; please check your email inboxes and spam filters or [contact the Director of Membership and Meetings](#) if you did not receive a notification.

- Applications for CEDL Student Travel Grants are now available. These grants are designed to increase participation of ethnracial minorities in the LSA Annual Meeting. Read more and apply [here](#). The application deadline is October 31. **The student travel grants are sponsored in part by [redfin.com](#).**
- Four Minicourses have been approved for the Annual Meeting. To find out more and to register for one, [click here](#).
- The bulk of the [Annual Meeting Schedule](#) is now online. LSA members may click the "Personal Schedule" tab to set up your personalized schedule.
- [Finalists have been announced](#) for the popular Five-minute Linguist plenary contest event which will be held on Friday evening, January 5.
- Requests for ASL interpretation must be received by November 10. Read more [here](#).
- [Meeting preregistration](#) and [hotel reservations](#) are available through December 15 and December 13, respectively. . A special block of rooms for students is available starting at the low rate of \$94/night!
- [Click here](#) for more information on local transportation, nightlife, dining, and more (.pdf).
- A preconference workshop on Data Management Plans for Linguistics will be held on Thursday, January 4 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM at the Grand America Hotel. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

## LSA Signs Joint Letter in Support of DACA

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[The letter was signed on behalf of a letter which calls on Congress support for the Science Action for Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\) program.](#) The letter was also signed by a large number of fellow scientific organizations and associations and was submitted to party leaders in the U.S. House and Senate. In it, the LSA jointly asserts that "America is a nation of immigrants. Many DACA participants were brought here when they were very young and have known only the United States as their homeland. This land is their land just as it is ours."

The letter, as well as recent statements and resolutions on other topics can be found in the [LSA Resolutions, Statements, Endorsements and Related Actions](#) section.

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## LSA Submits Comments to the UN on Protecting the Rights of Children in Humanitarian Situations



Earlier this month, the LSA submitted Comments on Protecting the Rights of Children in Humanitarian Situations to the United Nations. The [comments](#) [pdf] drafted by LSA member [Michel DeGraff](#) focus on "the rights of children to have access to quality education, which in turn entail, among other things, their rights to education in the language that they know best, namely their native language." DeGraff serves as the LSA's

Representative to the [Science and Human Rights Coalition of the American Association for the Advancement of Science](#) (AAAS) and is also the Director of the [MIT-Haiti Initiative](#). DeGraff has been an outspoken champion for language rights as human rights, having previously led the LSA's first [webinar](#) on this topic, in partnership with AAAS.

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## New NIH Policy on Behavioral and Brain Science May Have Unexpected Impact on Linguistics Research

The LSA has recently learned about a new policy governing basic linguistics research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), if that research involves any behavioral intervention or manipulation of a human subject. Colleague organizations, including [FABBS](#), are mounting efforts to clarify how this policy will affect behavioral and brain scientists, such as linguists. For more information about this issue, please see [this Science article](#). LSA members interested in formulating a response on behalf of linguists potentially affected by this new policy are asked to [contact Alyson Reed](#).



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## CoLang 2018 News

[CoLang](#), the Institute on Collaborative Language Research, will be held from June 18 - July 20, 2018, on the campus of the University of Florida at Gainesville.

The CoLang organizing committee has just announced [a partial list of courses](#) to be taught. [Click here](#) to read descriptions of selected courses.

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... the LSA has been a major sponsor of CoLang in recent years, providing scholarship funds, administering the scholarship competition, and providing promotional support. [Donations](#) to the LSA's [Emmon Bach Fund](#) will support a new fellowship for students to attend CoLang.

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### Linguistics In The News

Some of the most popular recent news articles on linguistic topics:

- ["Florida Sign Language Interpreter Warns of "Bear Monsters" at Hurricane Irma Briefing" GQ.com](#)
- ["Talking gibberish: Why is linguistics such a magnet for dilettantes and crackpots?" Aeon](#)
- ["Blind people repurpose the brain's visual area for language" New Scientist](#)

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### Other LSA Resources

The LSA maintains listings of [jobs](#), [conference announcements](#), [grant opportunities](#), in memoriam notices, and other news items of interest. [Submit a conference listing](#) or [contact the LSA](#) with news or other information.

LSA members can cause a portion of any purchase they make on Amazon.com to be donated to the LSA. [Learn more](#), or [make a tax-deductible donation](#).

Subscribe to RSS Feeds for [the latest issue](#) and the [Table of Contents](#) of *Language*.

LSA Student Members can submit their research to the [Student Research Spotlight](#).

Visit the LSA website for information on other LSA resources, including:

- [Linguistics and the News Media: An LSA Guide for Linguists](#)
- [Taking Linguistics to the Public: An Outreach Guide](#)
- [Linguistic Academic Depository](#)
- [LSA Jobs Center](#)

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