

LiSC Minutes January 5, 2021
12:30-2:30, CST
Virtual Meeting

Outgoing 2020 chair: Mary Hudgens Henderson mhudgenshenderson@winona.edu
Junior chair (2021 chair): Nicoleta Bateman nbateman@csusm.edu
Incoming (2021) junior chair: Amy Plackowski aplackowski@hudson.k12.ma.us

In attendance: Mary Hudgens Henderson, Nicoleta Bateman, Brian Joseph, John Boyle, Lynn Burley, Amy Plackowski, Cristina Procaccino, Daniel Ginsberg, David Pippin, Ian Connally, Jeff Reaser, Jordan MacKenzie, Kees Koopman, Kristin Denham, Michal Temkin Martinez, Mike DeSalvo, Sergio Loza, Suzi Loosen, Yuliana Kenfield, Sharon Klein, L'Meese Greaney

Confirm addition of these new members: Yuliana Kenfield, Kees Koopman, Sergio Loza

1. Review of selected 2020 activities:

- NCTE 2020 update: because of COVID-19 and some miscommunication with NCTE, the panel had not been accepted initially; Mary contacted NCTE to inquire about this, and they approved the panel but it was too close to the meeting time, so we ended up canceling the panel for 2020.
- LiSC/AP Joint Organized Session for 2021
We present in this session the experiences of various groups with linguistics in high schools, showing different instances of how linguistics can be incorporated into high school instruction.

2. Collaboration opportunities:

2.1. Anthropology: announcement by Daniel Ginsburg: Anthropology Day, 2/18/2021

Annual celebration of what people do in Anth and the impact of the discipline in other areas; overlap with linguistics. Recurring themes; opportunity to reach out to academic anthropologists to do some outreach with local K-12 schools. Like Linguistics, Anthropology is a major of discovery for students (they don't encounter it until college, most of the time). Potential collaboration between Ling and Anth as we do outreach with schools. There will be a pep-rally this year as a kickoff.

<https://www.americananthro.org/anthroday>

<http://forms.americananthro.org/anthropology-day-registration/dginsberg@americananthro.org>

There is free AAA membership for K-12 educators this year

<http://forms.americananthro.org/k-12-trial-membership/>

- **High School students and ethnographic perspectives on language** (Fordham University):

Project to introduce high school students to ethnographic perspectives on language, in order to help students see and resist the ways that relationships of power shape language use. This spring, Ayala Fader is applying for Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research for funding for a workshop to do transformations of published pieces to make them accessible to high school students.

Next steps: forming an Advisory board & eventually to produce an open-access collection hosted by AAA of written pieces that summarize scholarly articles in accessible way for high school students

→ email Mary Hudgens Henderson if you are interested in being on the advisory board or helping with finished pieces before publication

3. LiSC collaboration mechanisms

- Organic Groups page on LSA website versus other options (shared Google folders)
 - *Cons:* Other members have had challenging experiences with the Organics Groups (you have to log in and go check; no notification system to know when there is something new).
 - *Pros:* history of conversations automatically archived by LSA, which is an important feature.
 - Perhaps we can use a blend: for collaborative work, use Google. And then post the documents on the Organics page.
 - Possible conversations we could have: discussions of Junior LSA; chair/junior chair duties; narrative of history of LiSC; other types of projects like this.
- We still don't have a good mechanism to have informal conversations, e.g. for new members who have questions about what we do, linguistics materials, etc.

There was some discussion about using Facebook, but not everyone has it, and some find it problematic for professional use.

We discussed using Slack as a communication platform, and David Pippin set this up as a trial:

https://join.slack.com/t/newworkspace-3aa2309/shared_invite/zt-kk05seh1-275slwX_QzOrlZxsNEvncw

Discord is another platform that students use for collaboration, and we could try that. It also uses channels and you can opt in/out for notifications.

4. Initiatives from 2020

4.1. Senior Chair and Junior Chair job duties and to-do list description draft

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mCZBF9Dv2HhTJYcLGXDA4T0wvoZTC5STe-oTnmizHAA/edit?usp=sharing>

- The committee members present voted on the listed duties
- Discussed and agreed to consider a mid-year LiSC meeting

- **Committee name change?**

- Charge: “The Committee explores and pursues ways in which the linguistics community can advance K-12 curriculum and instruction about language and linguistics.”
- Rationale for the change: “Language” could suggest that it is referring to world languages (there may be historical reasons for this name when it first started). Teachers searching for linguistics in school may bypass us if they misinterpret the name.
- *Language and Linguistics iSC* would be more inclusive, and maybe could also draw the attention of language teachers, who can play a key role. Might also do the same for teachers in general.
- *Linguistics and Language iSC* might be a better order for drawing attention.
- *Language and Linguistics* sounds better (shorter word first)
- *Linguistics iSC* also received lots of support (emphasizes focus)
→ Decided that the committee would vote on a candidate from among:
Linguistics in the School Curriculum
Linguistics and Language in the School Curriculum
Language and Linguistics in the School Curriculum

5. Maintaining connection to other committees:

AP Linguistics Committee
Linguistics in Higher Education committee
Scholarly Teaching

6. Initiatives for 2021

6.1. NCTE: November 18-21, Louisville (or virtual?). This year’s theme, Equity, Justice, and Antiracist teaching: <http://convention.ncte.org/2021-convention/>

6.2. Ad Hoc committee on LiSC History narrative

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kgBOuEk_ja2R_85b7X6uOkKG3MQxFRUjqTiO6fi3VGo/edit?usp=sharing

Volunteers: Kristin Denham; Sharon Klein; John Boyle will also help with info from NCTE; Jeff Reaser

Tasks for this Ad Hoc committee:

1. Work together to finish draft by January 2022
2. Paragraph format as opposed to bullet points. Goal = ~1-2 pages narrative description of LiSC’s history and achievements
3. Separate document list of abstracts for the NCTE/LSA Organized Sessions to compile for Chairs (keep separate from historical narrative) to know what the history has been

6.3. Junior LSA: Cristina Procaccino

- Would like to do something for students at next year's LSA and subsequent meetings; awards for students; poster panel for high school students; mini NACLO competition, etc. LSA is in DC next year, which makes it more convenient for Cristina.
- She has an idea for what this would look like for students at the LSA's Annual meeting (the link is a packet of an overview of what the weekend might look like for students at the junior LSA)
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xt5uCKAPDqIWQ57PhKwkSwMJDLO2QmxErc5sBBEc0S0/edit?usp=sharing>
- For student travel: she helps organize the Junior Classic League, and has experience in and could help with this.
- LiSC and LSA need to work together to promote this and support this endeavor; LiSC can be a liaison to the LSA for this
- From Daniel Ginsberg: High school students have a lot to say; it does a lot for them to be recognized by the discipline by having them participate in the annual meeting. Daniel relayed his own experience with student participants and their insightful contributions at an AAA event.
- SIG – LSA suggested this was a way to start this initiative
- Form Ad Hoc committee to work on this; reach out to other committees (APLC?). This is a form to sign up if you are interested:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelxk3hLa6mJwj2mE3D9NDdHOajSrTFWvhCRJM-jLsiuetmlw/viewform?usp=sf_link
Should be ready for January 2022 in Washington DC
→ Report back to Nicoleta & Amy on next steps for formation of JLISA

7. LiSC website on LSA

<https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/language-and-linguistics-k-12-education>

- Goal: Make it a landing point for people interested in incorporating linguistics into instruction; people need help finding the site. It also needs to be made more easily understandable (right now it is a list of resources).
- How can we get our site to appear high up in a Google search for High School Linguistics or middle school linguistics?
- Thinking something along these lines: "Thinking of teaching linguistics K-12? Here are some resources for you! This is what some people have done!" The LSA's Language in the School Curriculum Committee (LiSC) is pleased to recommend these selected resources for Language and Linguistics in K-12 Education...
 - Quality control
 - Organized for teachers
 - A place to start: what does a high school ling class look like? Collaborate with APLC
 - Middle school and high school resources

- Separate classes, vs embedding linguistics in other curriculum
- Links to articles/websites to those specific approaches, can get in touch with people. Post lesson plans. Examples. Materials. Syllabus. Resources. Lesson Plans. Webinar or mini-video! 5 minute linguist on teaching K-12 linguistics. As a tool for anti-racist education!
- Consider including the site created by James Zhang, senior at Ridge High School in Basking Ridge, New Jersey mylanguage.org
- Keeping in touch with teachers who try the materials

Volunteers: Nicoleta Bateman, Cristina Procaccino, and Amy Plackowski;

→ others who are interested let Nicoleta or Amy know (emails at the top of agenda)

8. Position statement on reading (instruction) and linguistics?

Podcast “What the Words Say” (EDUCATE/APM)

<https://www.apmreports.org/episode/2020/08/06/what-the-words-say>

Haskins Labs Resources

<http://haskinsglobal.org/resource-library/>

LAIP

<https://www.lainterventionproject.com/>

Reading Wars are ongoing; research shows that explicit teaching is crucial. The resources above are for use by non-specialists/non-linguists. Volunteers are needed to work with folks on NCTE, and various committees. Perhaps creating a position statement from linguistics re teaching reading? Sharon Klein could start working on a draft.

→ If you are interested in working on this initiative (which is roughly a linguistics-based initiative on teaching reading?), contact Sharon Klein.

Interested people: John Boyle, Kristin Denham, Amy Plackowski, Ian Connally (he could provide perspective on what his district is doing re literacy instruction).

It is important to have a position statement from LiSC on language, social justice, equity and what the role of linguistics is therein.

Amy Plackowski – NCTE has been focusing on antiracism, but not a lot on how language plays a role therein. We could get attention from NCTE with having this type of position statement from our committee, since it would address something that they are interested in. Would also provide another contact point aside from the NCTE meeting once a year.

9. Publishing opportunities for linguistics in education

- American Speech (Teaching American Speech – section on pedagogy)
- Teaching Linguistics section of Language
- Language and Linguistic Compass
- Language Awareness, <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rmla20/current>

- Teaching and Learning Anthropology (suggested by Daniel Ginsberg)