

ELECTRONIC ACTION ITEMS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (MAY – DECEMBER 2020)

*With corrections to item #7 as of Dec 28, 2020*

1. New Associate Editor of *Language*:

Lisa Cheng (<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/lisa-cheng/>), Professor of Linguistics and incoming Director of Leiden University Centre for Linguistics. Professor Cheng's broad expertise, including areas such as comparative syntax, the interactions between syntax and semantics, syntax and prosody, as well as syntax and processing, make her a valuable addition to the *Language* editorial team. With the confirmation of this nomination, the *Language* editorial team for 2021 will be complete.

Approved: 8 in favor, Tue, 12/15/2020

2. Additional Co-Chairs, CELP & COZIL

Wilson de Lima Silva (University of Arizona) as Junior Co-chair of the Committee on Endangered Languages and their Preservation (CELP)

Chris VanderStouwe (Boise State University) as Junior Co-chair of the Committee on LGBTQ+[Z] Issues in Linguistics (COZIL).

Approved: 10 in favor, Tue, 12/15/2020

**3A. Social Media Committee Charge and Responsibilities**

A revised charge based on feedback was posted for approval.

Suggested additions:

Consulting with CEDL and other parties on egregious external social media posts (= external news stories in major media\_ about sometimes/often stigmatized languages and dialects, E.g., African American English, Gullah, Chicano English, Hawaiian Creole (Pidgin), Jamaican Creole (Patwa), and Louisiana Creole.

8 votes in favor (with status of amendment unclear) 14 December 2020

**3B. Revised Public Relations Committee Charge and Responsibilities; Slate of Nominees for New Chair**

The proposed revisions were approved, with 9 votes in favor, as of 9 Dec 2020; based on concerns about specific nominees, the slate was referred to CoCDA for further consideration.

#### 4. **Approval of Chairs of Open Committees**

- the **Ethics Committee** has proposed Jeff Good (University at Buffalo) to serve as Chair in 2021
- the **Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics** has proposed Lauren Squires (The Ohio State University) to serve as Junior Co-chair (alongside current Junior Co-chair Shenika Hankerson, who will serve as Senior Co-chair next year)
- the **Committee on LGBTQ+[Z] Issues in Linguistics** has proposed Archie Crowley (University of South Carolina) to serve as Chair in 2021
- the **Linguistics in the School Curriculum Committee** has proposed Amy L. Plackowski (Hudson (Massachusetts) High School) to serve as Junior Co-chair in 2021 (along side current Junior Co-chair Nicoleta Bateman, who will serve as Senior Co-chair next year).

Further discussion needed: Student chairs

#### 5. **Two new endowed awards:**

Lifetime LSA member Robert Vago (Queens College and The Graduate Center, CUNY) wishes to endow two new awards that would honor Victoria Fromkin and Morris Halle.

With 9 votes in favor and none opposed, this action item is approved. 11/30/2020

#### 6. **Excellence in Community Linguistics Award**

The recipient is Chikari Tisso who distinguishes himself for his long-term commitment, immense contribution, successful collaboration with linguists and high respect by the community.

Chikari Tisso has been selected as the recipient for this year's Excellence in Community Linguistics Award due to his almost four-decade long "immense, zealous, relentless and selfless contribution" to document the Karbi language and culture, a Sino-Tibetan language spoken in central Northeast India. The duration and breadth of his efforts, his strong and ongoing relationships with a team of linguist partners and academic institutions, as well as the high respect held for him by his community, have resulted in an impressive number of publications and the recent support by the Firebird Foundation. He has driven the projects he has been involved in and is known to be a "dedicated, hardworking and genuine activist to promote the Karbi language and literature" with an "immense knowledge of Karbi oral history, linguistic traditions, and cultural practices" in addition to being "a respected mentor to the local youth and students".

Eight votes in favor of this award and none in opposition, 11/23/2020

#### 7. **Language Associate Editor Nominations**

Two of the Language Associate Editors are stepping down at the end of 2020 after having served 3 or 4 years in this position:

- (i) Historical Linguistics: David Willis, University of Oxford
- (ii) Phonetics/Phonology: Khalil Iskarous, University of South California

To fill these positions:

- (i) Historical Linguistics: Graeme Trousdale, University of Edinburgh
- (ii) Phonetics/Phonology: Meredith Tamminga, University of Pennsylvania

The current Book Review Editor, Lauren Squires (Ohio State U) is stepping down at the end of 2020 after having served 3 years in this position. To fill this position, Jessi Grieser (U of TN Knoxville).

Nine votes in favor of these nomination and none in opposition, 11/16/2020

**8. Bloomfield Book Committee Award Recommendation**

John H. Esling, Scott R. Moisik, Allison Benner and Lise Crevier-Buchmann, *Voice Quality: The Laryngeal Articulator Model* (Cambridge U Press)

Eight of you having voted in favor; 11/16/2020

**9. Proposal for Social Media: posted 11/03/2020**

Goals and Objectives of the LSA's Social Media Program

The LSA's current Strategic Plan and an earlier Strategic Communications Plan, both adopted by the Executive Committee, place strong emphasis on educating and informing the interested lay public about linguistic research and related aspects of linguistic inquiry. The LSA's social media program is a key element of this plan, and has built a large following (43K on Facebook and 28K on twitter) by posting a range of items about language and linguistics in the news.

A prior question is whether a presence is even needed that does more than just make announcements of LSA business. If social media posts were restricted to just such announcements and did not further offer "Language/Linguistics in the News" sorts of posts, there would be little or no cause for concern. However, there are good reasons for thinking that the newsy posts are potentially useful; in particular, if done right, they can be a way of drawing positive attention to the Society, making the Society's presence better known to a wide audience of followers, and they can serve a useful educational function. The plans proposed here presume that there is value to such posts and thus a value to finding the best way to vet them properly before posting.

**10. Approval of COZIL Pronoun Statement:**

After discussion, this document was returned to COZIL with a request that it be cut back and more sharply focused.

**11. Policy on Confidentiality**

Electronic deliberations of the LSA Executive Committee (EC), via the private online discussion group, email list serves or similar electronic conduits for communication, are restricted to those

explicitly included on any distribution lists or permission lists. Postings to any channel of this type are not to be shared outside the group for any reason without the express permission of the entire group.

The deliberations of the EC while in Executive Session are also restricted to those explicitly invited to participate in such deliberations. For this reason, no minutes are taken during these sessions. Any decisions made in Executive Session must be ratified in open session and recorded in the minutes. Once the minutes have been reviewed and approved by the EC, they are posted to the members-only area of the LSA website for information purposes and as part of the official LSA archive.

With 8 votes in favor and one ambiguous, approved on 11/03/2020

## **12. Community Dialogue Event**

Proposal was approved and the Event was held on 26 October 2020.

## **13. Matching Campaign for LSA Open Access Publications Fund**

SA Member Heidi Harley has generously offered to donate up to \$5000 to the LSA's Open Access Publications Fund. She would like to handle this as a matching contribution and have the LSA invite its members to make qualifying donations to the Fund. We discussed the timeline for this.

Alyson concluded the vote by noting: Although the discussion did not yield precise votes in favor, there seemed to be a general consensus in support of the recommendations with some provisos. 09/24/2020

Update: Alyson has circled back to Heidi and we will discuss this with her in February.

## **14. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of 15 September 2020**

With 7 votes in favor and none opposed, approved on 24 September 2020.

## **15. The 2021 Annual Meeting**

We discussed holding the 2021 meeting online in our meeting of 15 September. This decision was finalized when the San Francisco Marriott decided to refund our deposit and It was announced to our membership on 18 September 2020.

16. We discussed the matter of the **Annual Awards** online, with discussion finalized in our 15 September meeting Conclusions:

- direct the Baker Award Committee to consider nominations this year.
- ask the Dayton family if they would be okay with giving a cash stipend for the Dayton Award this year even though in-person travel will not be involved.
- for the Student Abstract Awards, plan to offer complimentary registrations for the (virtual) Annual Meeting.

- all awardees will receive an awards certificate, and the awards will be duly publicized, but apart from any exceptions mentioned above there will be no payment.

**17. Approval of July meeting minutes**

9 votes in favor and none opposed, the minutes are approved with a handful of typographical errors corrected. 26 August 2020

**18 Approval of new publication, *Proceedings of the conference on Experiments in Linguistic Meaning*.**

The proposal is spearheaded by two linguists from Penn, Florian Schwarz and Anna Papafragou. With 8 votes in favor and none opposed, this action item is approved on 26 August 2020.

**19 LSA Crisis Communications Plan**

With 8 votes in favor and none opposed, this action item is approved. 04 August 2020

**20 Tom Roeper to be added to LSA Media Experts Database**

There was a discussion of adding Roeper to the Media Experts Database that ran from July 2-23, 2020, with general consensus that Roeper could be added as an expert on language acquisition. We have subsequently pulled the Database from the website so this item is moot.

**21 Approval of a Special Interest Group (SIG) on the Scholarly Teaching of Linguistics**

Approved with seven votes in favor, and no dissent or further discussion, 29 June 2020

**22 Approval of changes to FAPPM**

Approved with 7 votes in favor and none opposed, 01 June 2020

**23 Expanded LSA Statement on COVID 19**

Approved, with 8 votes in favor, amended to avoid the term *lockdown*, and none opposed. Fri, 05/29/2020

**24 Follow-up steps for LBA issues**

8 people weighed in favorably, giving a green light to move forward. 21 May 2020

**25 Slate of Named Professors for LSA Institute**

Hale: Nora England (1st choice); Lisa Mathewson (2nd choice)  
Fillmore: Veneeta Dayal (1st choice); Beth Levin (2nd choice)  
Collitz: Adita Lahiri (1st choice); Claire Bowerman (2nd choice)  
Sapir: Janet Fodor (1st choice); David Pesetsky (2nd choice)

With 7 votes in favor of conditional approval, and none opposed, the slate is approved. The Institute Directors have been informed that there should not be more than one named professor from Yale for this cycle. They have agreed to avoid this outcome. 29 May 2020.

**26 Donation Program for Members Experiencing Financial Hardship**

A new fundraising campaign to encourage members who are able to do so to contribute to the LSA in order to help pay for the dues of members who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

Approved, with 7 votes in favor, 21 May 2020

**27 Memo to the membership on the Current Budget Situation**

The memo was sent to membership on 17 September 2020, with the draft having been edited and approved by the EC in online discussion that ran from September 1-9, 2020.

**Email Votes handled outside the Organic Group**

1. LSA Endorsement of Statement on the Value of Civic Science

Approved unanimously via objections-only vote, 28 May 2020

2. Statement on Racial Justice

Approved unanimously, 3 June 2020

- 3A. Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Professional Responsibility

Approved unanimously, 8 July 2020

- 3B. Update to Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Professional Responsibility

Approved unanimously, 17 July 2020

4. Appointment of Laura McPherson as co-Editor of Phonological Data and Analysis, renewal of terms for Megan Crowhurst and Matt Gordon.

Approved unanimously, 14 July 2020

5. Appointment of Task Force on Media Resources and Task Force on Professional Conduct, including slate of members for each.

Approved unanimously, 27 July 2020



## Report of the Task Force on Procedures for Evaluating Professional Conduct

The Task Force published and distributed a survey to gather information and opinions about the current state of professional conduct among linguists, and possible interventions in the case of misconduct. A summary of the 366 responses to this survey appears in an appendix to this report.

The concerns that emerged in the survey almost all involve power relations. We emphasize that the effects of power inequalities are intensified by the extreme vulnerability of younger linguists in the current academic economy. The LSA's goal of supporting the field of Linguistics, therefore, entails above all providing serious and sustained support for students and early career linguists. To this end, we recommend a set of measures to ensure the maintenance of professional conduct by raising awareness, providing support, and directly addressing problems as they arise.

1. **Members' Advocate:** The Executive Committee should designate a person knowledgeable about the LSA to be available throughout the year to respond to questions or concerns from members who need help navigating the organization. In cases where those concerns are not informational but involve some kind of misconduct, the Advocate will refer the member to the Safe Space Group.
2. **Safe Space Group:** The Executive Committee should constitute a group of senior<sup>1</sup> linguists to serve as a resource for people who feel they have been the target of misconduct. We recommend that a certain number of members of this committee be selected on the basis of nominations from junior LSA members. Its functions will be:
  - a. Providing confidential support, advice and resources, but not direct intervention.
  - b. Maintaining a confidential record of the situations that arise, reporting regularly to the Executive Committee and the membership on the patterns that emerge.
  - c. Referring any events that they consider egregious to the Executive Committee for potential action. Survey respondents, especially younger, more vulnerable respondents, overwhelmingly support the need for sanctions in such cases. Recognizing that scholarly societies do not have the means to pursue some kinds of sanctions in a just and legal manner<sup>2</sup>, we recommend that in each case the Executive Committee appoint a small *ad hoc* committee of some of its members, with perhaps additional appointees, to determine appropriate action.
  - d. Designating at least one senior linguist (where possible a member of the Safe Space Committee) to be present at LSA functions, including Institutes. This person will be available to deal with problems as they arise and report all developments to the Safe Space Committee.
3. **Measures to maintain a constructive atmosphere at LSA events include:**

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<sup>1</sup> We define senior linguists as those who are sufficiently secure in their careers to be able to take justified actions without fear of reprisal. We define junior linguists as all others.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., the [recent statement](#) by the American Anthropological Association.



- a. Reminding people at the beginning of all LSA events to read, and abide by, the LSA code of conduct.
  - b. Designating a Safe Space representative (see 2d).
  - c. Providing session chairs with a script to read at the beginning of the question period, instructing questioners to give their names and setting out norms for asking questions in a constructive manner.
- 4. Promote constructive, non-abusive reviews:** Survey respondents of all ages complained of abusive, even *ad hominem*, reviews of journal submissions and grant applications. We recommend that:
- a. The editors of *Language* and possibly other LSA journals, determine the role of editors in these cases, and develop guidelines for guaranteeing constructive reviews.
  - b. The LSA then reach out to the editors of other Linguistics journals to consider the same measures.
  - c. The LSA organize workshops and/or webinars on how to write constructive reviews – not only of publication and grant submissions, but of routine student work as well.
  - d. In response to the confusion caused by differences between lab and humanities cultures in the ordering of author names, we suggest that the editors of *Language* develop a formal policy to clarify author roles.
- 5. Organize regular workshops, trainings, and webinars** to promote conduct consistent with the values espoused by the LSA. Possible examples include:
- a. Best practices on social media.
  - b. Best practices in departmental governance.
  - c. Writing constructive reviews
  - d. Bystander intervention.
- 6. Provide support for finding jobs outside of academia:** Employment insecurity is a major contributor to anxieties felt by early career linguists. Linguistics departments can support students seeking academic jobs, but it is up to the LSA to provide support in the wider job market. We recommend that the Executive Committee, in consultation with the Linguistics Beyond Academia SIG, develop a range of activities to support linguists interested in non-academic jobs.
- 7. Launch a social media initiative:**
- a. Younger members engage intensively with social media. It is essential that the LSA shift social media from the periphery, finding ways to use social media for a broader discussion of linguistic-related topics.

Many of the problems arising from inequality are shared across fields, certainly across the humanities and social sciences. In addition to the above, we recommend that the LSA work with other organizations (e.g. COSSA) to examine and work on issues of power and its abuse that are not specific to Linguistics.

#### **Comments on the Civility Policy document.**

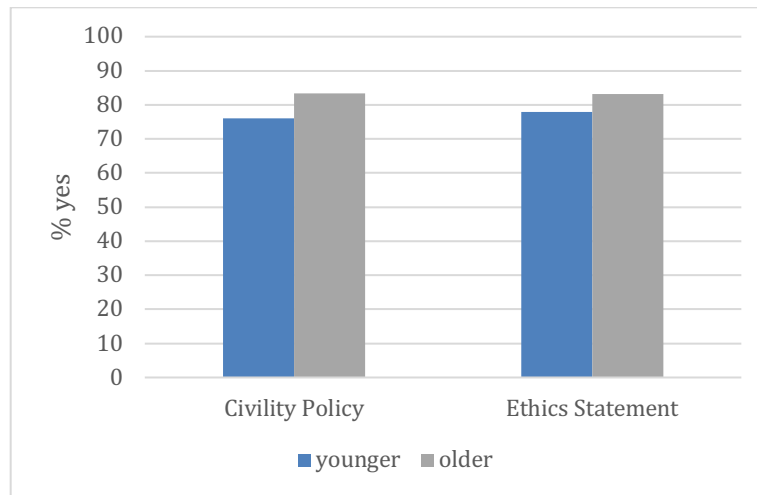
There is a good deal of objection to the use of the term *civility*. We recommend that this document be renamed, perhaps simply *Standards of Professional Conduct*. The statement should also be more aspirational, not focused exclusively on avoiding abuse. It should include a

statement about the need for sensitivity to power differentials, and the importance of defending academic freedom and freedom of speech. This coincides with additional requests that we be more specific about behavioral norms. Several people observed that our list of vulnerable people is incomplete. We recommend that any such list be replaced by “any aspect of a person’s identity or group membership”.

## Appendix: Survey Results by respondent age group (older = over 40).

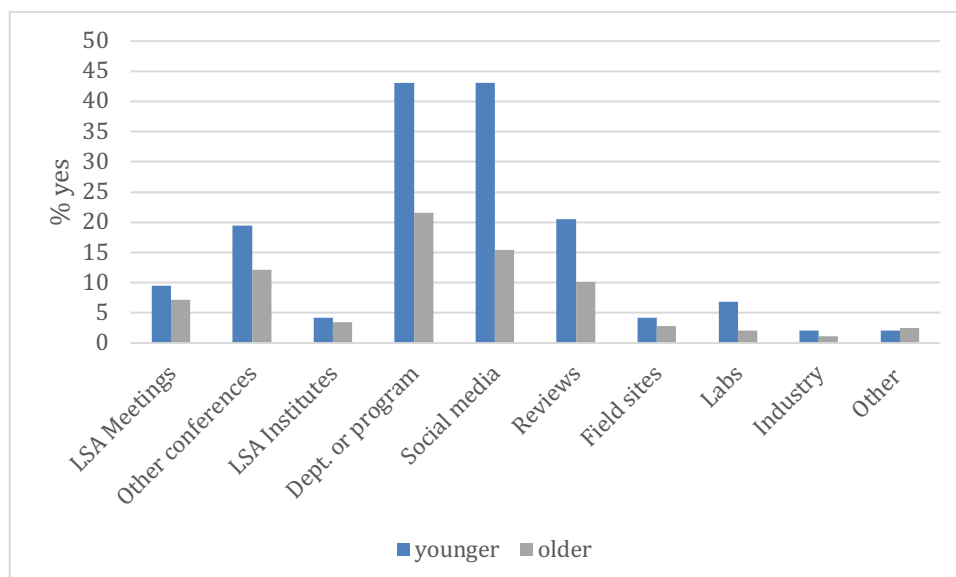
Unless indicated otherwise, percentages do not include null responses.

### Have you read the LSA's Civility Policy? Ethics Statement?



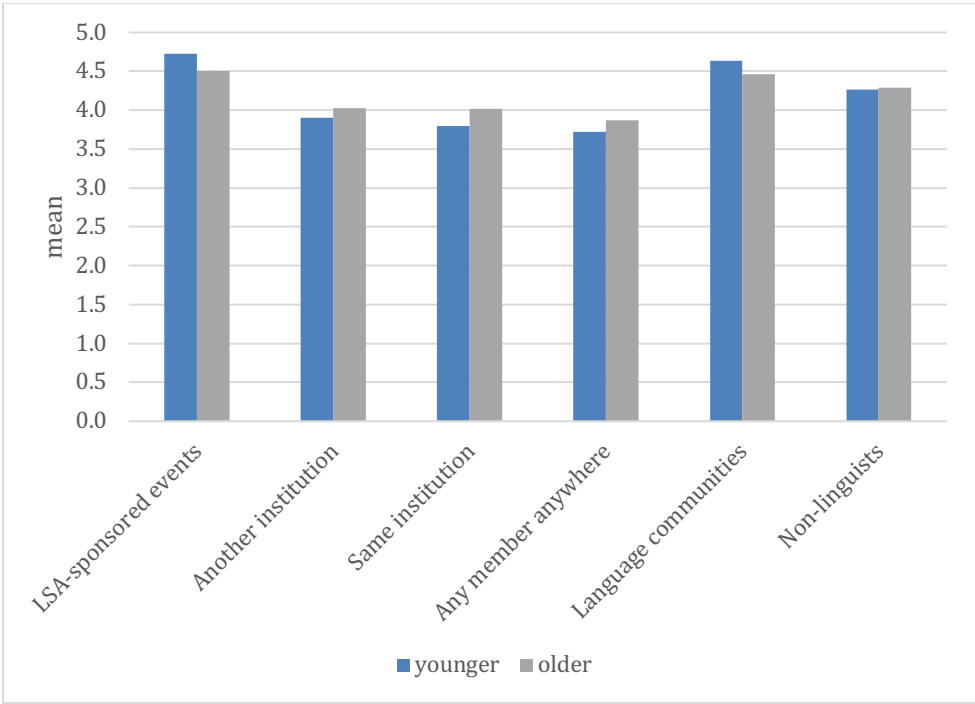
### Have you personally experienced or witnessed uncivil/unethical behavior in your professional life in any of the following settings? Please select all that apply:

- LSA Annual Meetings
- Other scholarly conferences
- LSA Institutes
- Your department or program
- Social media
- Reviews
- Field sites
- Labs
- Industrial workplaces
- Other



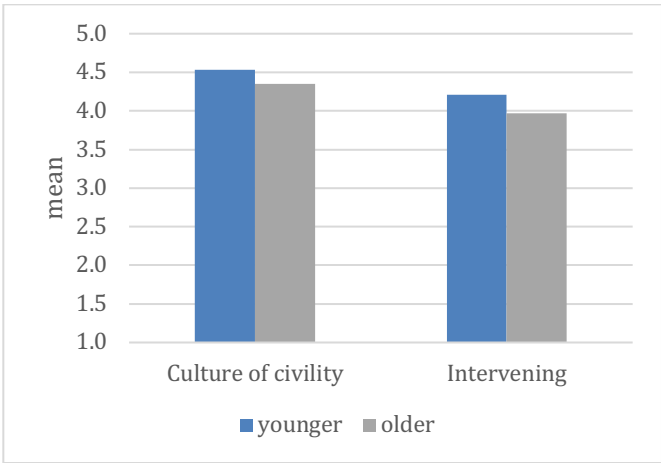
The LSA’s Civility Policy as currently construed applies only to LSA and LSA-sponsored meetings and events. In which contexts do you think it is important for LSA Civility and Ethics Policies to apply? (Mean by age group on a scale from 1 (not at all important) to 5 (extremely important)):

- At LSA-sponsored events
- For issues that arise between a linguist and an individual at the same institution
- For issues that arise between a linguist and an individual at another institution
- To any member anywhere
- Between members of language communities and professional linguists
- In other circumstances where linguists interact with non-linguists in a professional capacity



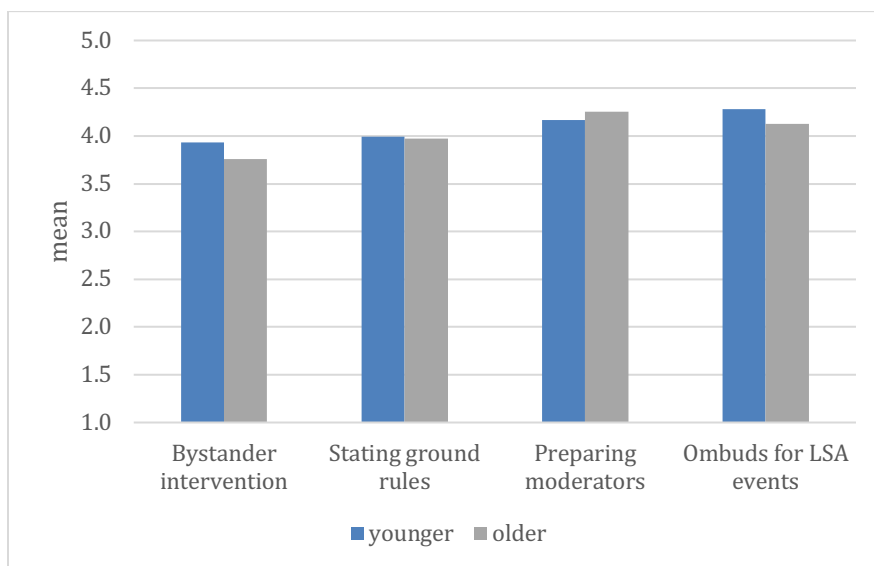
The following questions are about LSA events. (Mean by age group on a scale from 1 (not at all important) to 5 (extremely important)):

- How important is it for the LSA to focus on prevention by creating a culture of civility?
- How important is it for the LSA to focus on intervening in cases of incivility?



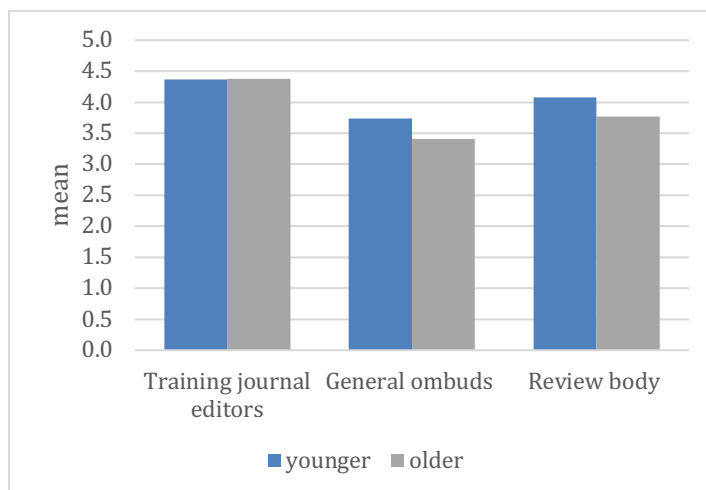
**How effective do you think the following methods of intervention might be in addressing issues of incivility at a meeting/session/institute? (Mean by age group on a scale from 1 (not at all effective) to 5 (extremely effective)):**

- Creating a culture of bystander intervention through training
- Stating ground rules at the start of the meeting/session/institute
- Preparing moderators/panelists/instructors with talking points in case of an incident
- Instituting ombuds (i.e., an individual or set of individuals who can receive complaints and help informally resolve them) for LSA-sponsored activities



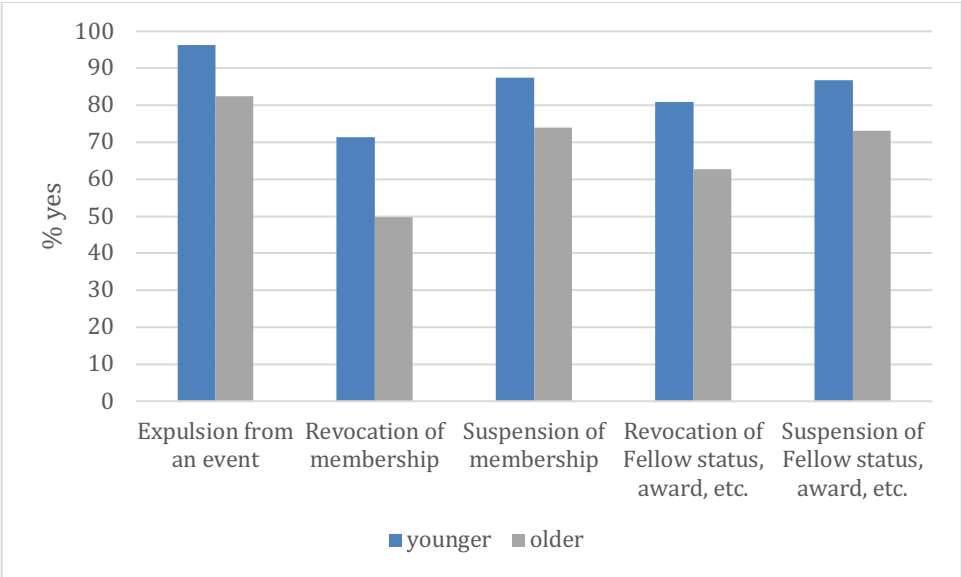
**How effective do you think the following methods of intervention might be in addressing issues of incivility in other professional contexts? (Mean by age group on a scale from 1 (not at all effective) to 5 (extremely effective)):**

- Training journal editors to intervene if a reviewer's comments are uncivil
- Instituting a general ombuds for matters relevant to linguists' professional lives outside of LSA-sponsored activities
- Instituting a review body with the power to recommend sanctions against members found to have engaged in significant instances of unethical or uncivil behavior



Recognizing that there may be practical or legal limits to what the LSA can do, what types of formal sanctions do you think might be appropriate for addressing uncivil behavior? (Percent of 'yes' responses by age group):

- Expulsion from an event
- Revoking membership
- Suspending membership
- Revoking Fellow status, awards, etc.
- Suspending Fellow status, awards, etc.

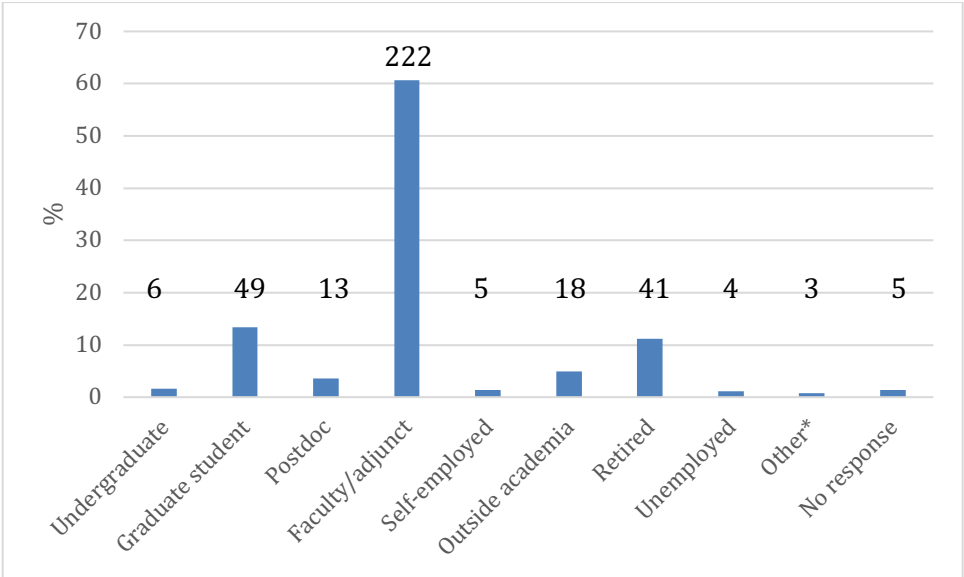


# Respondent Demographics

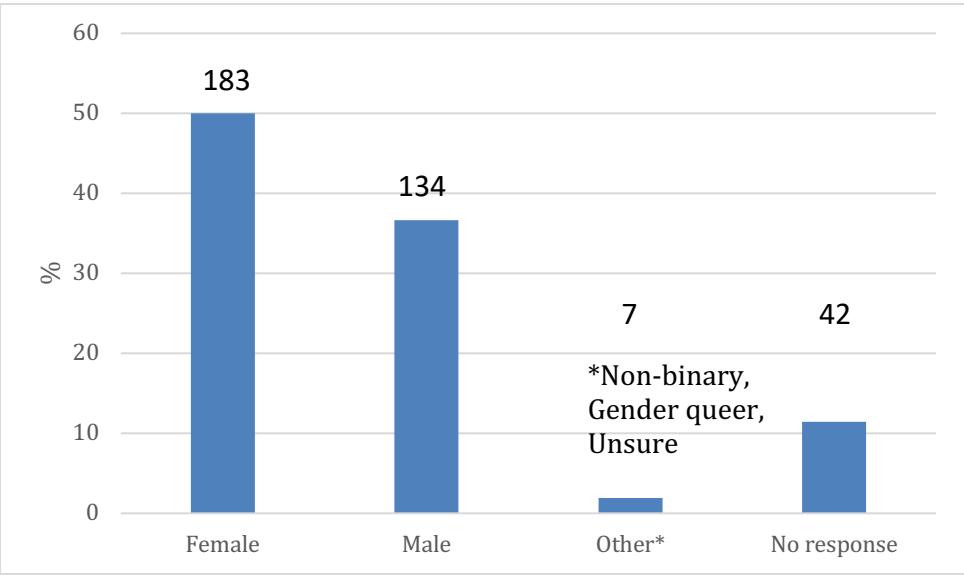
So we can be sure we’re serving a diversity of interests, please provide some information about yourself.

What is your primary status? (Percent of all respondents + totals):

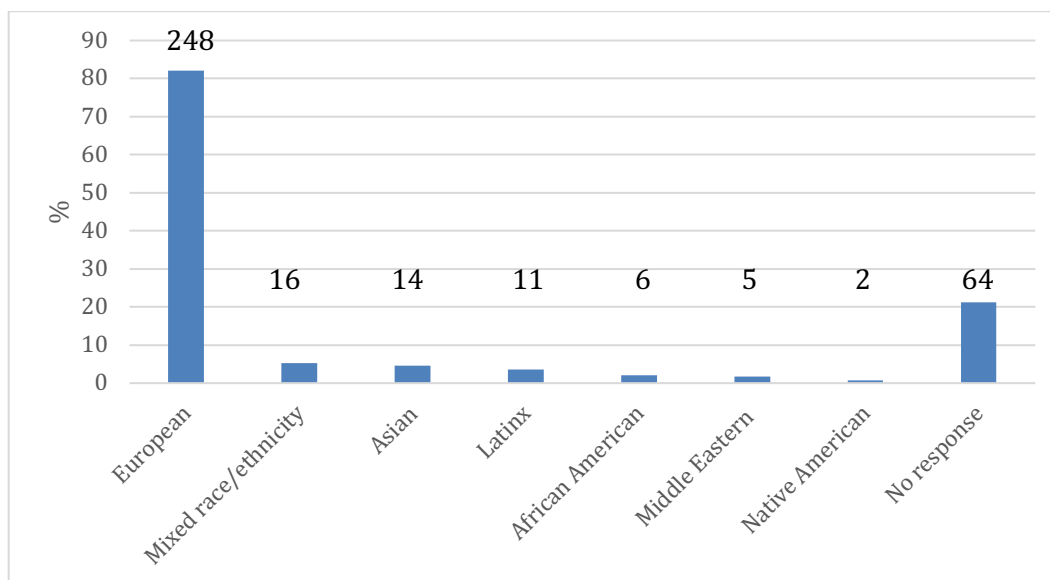
- undergraduate
- graduate student
- postdoc
- faculty or adjunct
- self-employed
- employed as a linguist outside of academia
- retired
- unemployed
- other



Your gender. (Text entry. Percent of all respondents + totals):

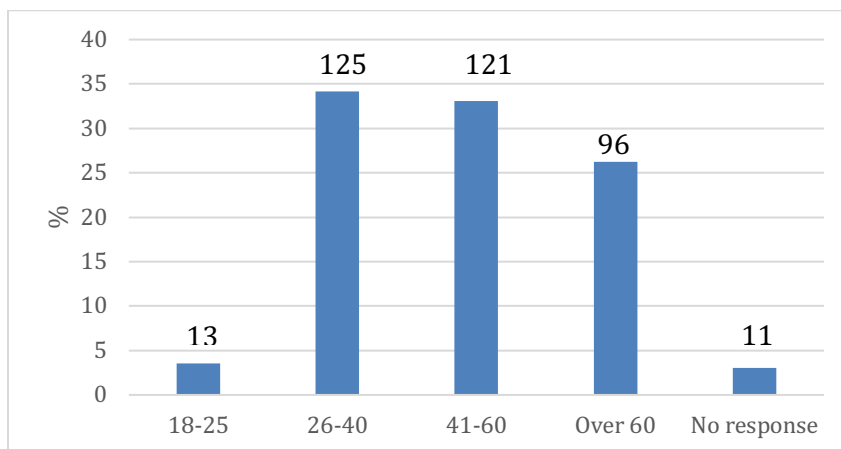


**Your races/ethnicities. (Text entry. Percent of all respondents + totals):**



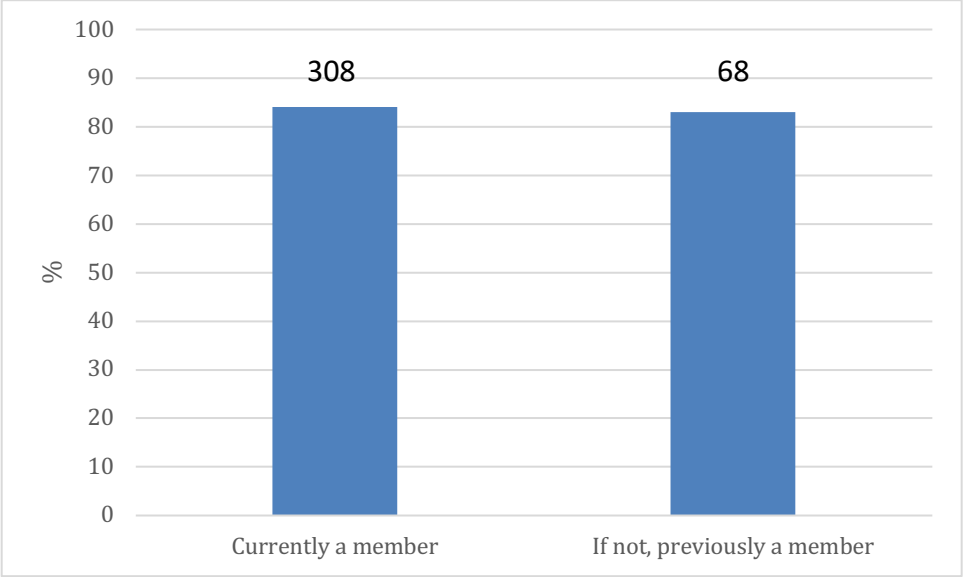
**Your age range. (% of all respondents + totals):**

- 18-25
- 26-40
- 41-60
- Over 60





Are you currently a member of the LSA? If you are not currently a member, have you been a member of the LSA in the past? (Percent of 'yes' responses + totals)



## **I. Amendment for the Establishment of a Parliamentary-Ombud**

### **SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:**

This amendment reorganizes the long vacant position of Parliamentarian as both an advisor to the Executive Committee on administrative and procedural matters and as an ombudsperson for the general membership of the society.

### **MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:**

In the past, Presidents appointed Parliamentarians to assist with the organization of the annual Business Meeting. However, the position has long been left vacant and is now ostensibly defunct. This amendment reorganizes the position of Parliamentarian to act as both an administrative advisor to the Executive Committee and as an Ombudsperson to the general membership. This reorganization seeks to solve several problems: (1) general unbiased access to administrative knowledge and expertise by the membership, (2) an initial point of contact for complaints against administrative bodies or persons within the society, and (3) an observer to ensure that the LSA's administrative bodies follow proper procedures or standard practices and policies (e.g., to make sure the EC does not make unilateral decisions it does not have the privilege to make without a vote by the general membership or that such decisions are at least communicated clearly to the general membership). By design, the Parliamentarian would act as a universal reference for the business of the LSA and could direct members to appropriate resources and/or take appropriate actions on their behalf, if necessary.

### **FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:**

**~~Delete from §1 of Bylaws Pursuant to Article VI: The President may appoint a Parliamentarian for the Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Business Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with procedures determined by the Executive Committee and announced in the Annual Meeting Handbook.~~**

**Add §5 to Bylaws Pursuant to Article III: There shall be a Parliamentarian who shall serve as both the administrative advisory to the Executive Committee and as the ombudsperson to the general membership of the society. The Parliamentarian shall be entitled to participate in meetings of the Executive Committee without vote and shall assist in the organization of the Annual Business Meeting upon request of the President. They shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee for election by the general membership and shall serve a term of five years. In their role as Ombudsperson, it shall be solely their**

*responsibility to investigate and mediate complaints made by members of the society against the administrative bodies and persons of the society.*

**Add** *“The Business Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with procedures determined by the Executive Committee and announced in the Annual Meeting Handbook.” to Article VI §1.*

## **II. Amendment for Calling a Constitutional Convention**

### **SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:**

This amendment creates a process by which a substantial number of members may propose a convention at which the constitution, bylaws, procedures, and policies of the society may be reviewed and revised. This would essentially make the path to change swift and direct.

### **MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:**

This amendment stipulates a process by which the general membership may direct the Executive Committee to organize a Constitutional Convention (a special meeting of the Society, see Article VI §2). This would allow for a last resort action if and when the society becomes substantially dysfunctional or ceases to operate in a manner consistent with its own mission and mandate. This amendment provides a fairly high bar for submitting the proposal (100 member signatories) but also demands a quick turn around with the option for either a virtual convention or physical convention in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. The convention would ostensibly follow the standard parliamentary procedure for such a meeting, although the EC would still retain the right, in cooperation with the Parliamentarian, to stipulate the procedures of the meetings so long as they are published well enough in advance of the meeting.

### **FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:**

**Add §2 to Article VIII:** *“In the case that the members of the society may wish to conduct a review of and substantially revise the constitution and bylaws of the Society, a Constitutional Convention may be proposed by a petition submitted and signed by one hundred members of the Society. A proposed Constitutional Convention will be submitted to the members for vote at the time of receipt of the petition. To become effective, a proposed Constitutional Convention must receive the approval of two-thirds of those members voting. If the proposal passes, the Executive Committee in equal cooperation with the Parliamentarian shall be obliged to organize a Constitutional Convention as a special meeting of the*

*Society either in conjunction with an Annual Meeting of the Society within two year's time or virtually within one year's time."*

### **III. Amendment to Separate the Offices of Secretary and Treasurer**

SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:

MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:

- a. Office of Secretary:
- b. Office of Treasurer:

FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:

- a. Removing Language Related to the Office of Secretary-Treasurer:

**Delete “~~and a Secretary-Treasurer~~” from the list of officers in Article III §1 and replace with “a Secretary, and a Treasurer”.**

**Delete “the Secretary-Treasurer” from Article III §1.1 and replace with “the Secretary, the Treasurer”.**

**Delete Article III §4:** “The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Secretary-Treasurer for additional terms of one year. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Society.”

**Amend reference to “Secretary-Treasurer” in §2 of the Bylaws to Article III to “the Secretary, the Treasurer”.**

**Delete §3 of the Bylaws on the Succession of Officers and replace with a new §3 reading** “If the office of the Secretary should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint on an acting basis a member of the Society who has served in that capacity until a search can be completed.” **and add a new §4 reading** ““If the office of the Treasurer should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint on an acting basis a member of the Society who has served in that capacity until a search can be completed.” **and renumber following sections.**

- b. Amendments Related to the Office of Secretary:

**Delete “~~are the responsibility of the Executive Committee~~” from Article VII §3 and replace it with “are the responsibility of the Secretary”.**

**Add new Article III §4:** *“The Secretary shall serve a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Secretary for additional terms of one year.”*

**Delete** *“The Secretary-Treasurer” from Article III §1.4 and replace with “The Secretary”.*

**Delete** *“the Secretary-Treasurer” from Article III §2.1 and replace with “the Secretary”.*

**Delete** *“Secretary-Treasurer” from §4 of Bylaws Pursuant to Article II and replace with “Secretary”.*

**Amend references to “Secretary-Treasurer” in §4 of the Bylaws to Article III to “Secretary”.**

**Amend references to “Secretary-Treasurer” in §2 of the Bylaws to Article IV to “Secretary”.**

**Amend reference to “Secretary-Treasurer” in §1 of the Bylaws pursuant to Article VIII to “Secretary”.**

c. Amendments Related to the Office of Treasurer:

**Add Article III §5:** *“The Treasurer shall serve a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Treasurer for additional terms of one year. The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Society.” And Renumber the following section to §6.*

**Amend references to “Secretary-Treasurer” in Article IV §4 to “Treasurer”.**

**Amend reference to “Secretary-Treasurer” in §1 of the Bylaws to Article V to “the Treasurer”.**

#### **IV. Amendment Increase Frequency and Transparency of EC Meetings**

**SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:**

This amendment seeks to change the formal policies and mechanisms of the Executive Committee’s meetings, as listed in the Constitution and Bylaws, to make them more transparent and accessible to the general membership. It also

eliminates minor obstacles to participation by members who would otherwise not have the right to speak at these meetings.

#### MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:

This amendment seeks to change the formal policies and mechanisms of the Executive Committee's meetings, as listed in the Constitution and Bylaws, to make them more transparent and accessible to the general membership by mandating an increase in the frequency of the meetings, moving responsibility for reporting the ongoings of the EC to the new Secretary position, and requiring virtual formats for meetings. It also eliminates a minor obstacle regarding who can invite people to speak at EC meetings: formerly, only the President could invite someone to participate in EC meetings; with this new language, any member of the EC can invite any member of the society to take part and participate (without vote) in EC meetings, even those that are more restricted (e.g., special meetings to discuss a complaint, someone presenting a new initiative or proposal for consideration, etc.).

#### FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:

**Delete** *“shall have at least one additional meeting each year” from Article IV §1.3 Regarding Executive Committee Meetings and replace with “shall have at least two additional meetings each year, of which the latter two must provide virtual formats for observation and participation by the membership of the Society”.*

**Amend Article IV §1.5 to read as** *“All acts of the Executive Committee must be reported to the Society. This shall be the responsibility of the Secretary.”*

**Amend the second sentence of §1 of Bylaws pursuant to Article II to read as** *“Any member of the Executive Committee may invite other appropriate individuals to attend and participate at the Executive Committee without vote.”*

## V. Amendment to Reorganize the Student Representative EC Position

#### SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:

This amendment reorganizes the Student Representative position on the EC by expanding it to three seats, in staggered three year terms, and by stipulating that student representatives must be nominated and elected by student members of the society.

#### MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:

For some time now, the student representative to the LSA's Executive Committee has not been nominated or elected by students. Rather, this position was filled by the Bloch Fellow, who is selected by an all non-student subcommittee of the Committee on Linguistic Institutes and Fellowships and who serves a two year term. This has not prevented the occasional student from serving on the Executive Committee as an Executive Committee Member, but such cases have been the exception to the rule. This amendment simply removes the Bloch Fellow from serving ex officio as the student representative to the EC, expands the positions to three student representatives serving staggered three year terms to account for the relative size of the LSA's student membership, and stipulates the process by which these representative may be nominated and elected solely by student members.

#### FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:

***Delete “a student member who serves for two years” and replace it with “three student members serving staggered three year terms” in Article IV §1***

***Delete §4 of Bylaws Pursuant to Article IV: “The Bloch Fellow, selected by the Committee on Linguistic Institutes and Fellowships, shall serve a two-year term as the student representative on the Executive Committee. The Bloch Fellow’s term begins at the spring meeting of the Executive Committee and runs for two years from that date. The Bloch Fellow shall also serve as a member of the Committee on Student Issues and Concerns (COSIAC) for the duration of the term of service on the Executive Committee.”***

***Add new §4 of Bylaws Pursuant to Article IV: “The student representatives to the Executive Committee must be nominated either by themselves, being in good-standing as a student member of the society, or by another student member of the society. They are to be elected by a vote of the student membership of the society.”***

## VI. Amendment to Change Nomination Process for VP/President-Elect

#### SIMPLIFIED SUMMARY:

This amendment expands the minimum required number of nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee for election to the position of VP/President-Elect from one candidate to two. This amendment seeks to make elections to the LSA Presidency more democratic.

#### MORE SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:

For some time, LSA elections have only ever included one nominee for the office of Vice President, ostensibly giving the membership no choice on who is elected to that position. The problem being that the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, appoints the Chair and members of the Nominating Committee, who then in turn are responsible for and directed to nominate only a single person to the position of Vice President/President-Elect, who then in turn appoints the new Chair and new members of the Nominating Committee, with approval of the Executive Committee, when they assume the position of President two years after their election. Therefore, this amendment seeks to make elections to the LSA Presidency more democratic at a minimum.

#### FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL:

***Amend the first sentence of Article IV §2.1 to read as “The Nominating Committee shall nominate two people for the position of Vice President and two for each vacant position on the Executive Committee.”***

### **LSA Constitution and Bylaws Marked for All Amendments Listed Above**

#### LSA Constitution

##### **Article I. Name and Object**

§1 This Society shall be known as the LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

§2 Its object shall be the advancement of the scientific study of language.

##### **Article II. Membership**

§1 There shall be the following classes of membership: regular, student, associate, life, and honorary members.

§2 Any person may become a member by payment of dues.

§3 Any member who has paid dues for fifty years will be granted a complimentary life membership in the Society, and is thereafter exempt from payment of dues.

§4 Any individual who is not a working linguist, or who has paid dues for twenty years and has retired from the regular exercise of the profession, is eligible for associate membership.

§5 Any scholar of international distinction, not resident in the United States, may be elected as an honorary member by the Society on recommendation of the Executive Committee.

§6 Only members may vote and hold office in the Society.



§7 All members shall be entitled to certain publications of the Society, including the journal *Language*.

§8 Members of the Society who have made distinguished contributions to the discipline may, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, be recognized as Fellows of the Society.

### Article III. Officers

§1 The elected officers shall be a President, a Vice President, ~~and a Secretary-Treasurer-a~~ *Secretary, and a Treasurer*. The Vice President shall have the additional title of President-Elect.

§2 The President shall serve for one year and shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Society, serve as chair of the Executive Committee, and appoint the Nominating, Program, Finance, Audit, Honorary Members and such other nonelective committees as may be required, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

§3 The Vice President shall serve for one year and shall perform the functions of the President in the latter's absence. The Vice President shall succeed to the presidency the following year.

~~§4 The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Secretary-Treasurer for additional terms of one year. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Society.~~

*§4 The Secretary shall serve a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Secretary for additional terms of one year.*

*§5 The Treasurer shall serve a term of five years, and report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may extend the term of the Treasurer for additional terms of one year. The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Society.*

§6 There shall be an Executive Director who is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Society. The Executive Director reports to the Executive Committee and is responsible for the Society's implementation of and adherence to policies and procedures.

### Article IV. Committees

§1. There shall be an Executive Committee, composed of the above officers; the immediate Past President; six members of the Society, two of the six being elected each year to serve for three years each; ~~a student member who serves for two years-~~ *three student members serving staggered three year terms*; and the Executive Director, who shall serve ex-officio without vote. The Executive Committee has ultimate responsibility and authority for all policy decisions.

1.1 The Executive Committee shall nominate ~~the Secretary-Treasurer-the~~ *Secretary, the Treasurer*, and the Editor of *Language* for election by the membership.

1.2 The Executive Committee shall nominate the Executive Director for appointment by the President.

1.3 The Executive Committee shall meet before the Annual Meeting of the Society and ~~shall have at least one additional meeting each year~~ *shall have at least two additional meetings each year*,

of which the latter two must provide virtual formats for observation and participation by the membership of the Society. The meetings of the Executive Committee, except for executive session, shall be open for observation, but without the right to speak or vote, to any member of the Society.

1.4 ~~The Secretary-Treasurer~~ The Secretary may ask the Executive Committee to vote upon specific questions by mail, postal or electronic, and shall do so at the request of any other member.

1.5 All acts of the Executive Committee must be reported to the Society. This shall be the responsibility of the Secretary.

§2 There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of seven members. Two members shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee each year to serve for three years. Each year the President shall appoint one of the two senior members as Chair. The immediate Past President shall serve ex-officio with vote as the seventh member.

2.1 The Nominating Committee shall nominate ~~one person~~ two people for the position of Vice President and two for each vacant position on the Executive Committee. A report from the Nominating Committee and the slate of nominees with statements from the candidates shall be sent to the members at least seven months in advance of the Annual Meeting. If six months before the Annual Meeting, ten or more members have separately and in writing nominated any additional individual member for any position, and that member agrees to be presented as a candidate for the position in question, then that name shall be added to the ballot submitted to the members. This ballot shall be sent not less than four months in advance of the Annual Meeting. A quorum shall consist of those replies which have been received by ~~the Secretary-Treasurer~~ the Secretary two months in advance of the date of the Annual Meeting.

§3 There shall be a Program Committee appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee, each member to serve for a period of three years. Each year the President shall appoint one of the senior members as Chair. The Program Committee shall have responsibility for the scholarly content of the Society's meetings and for recommending general policies on the form of the meetings to the Executive Committee for action.

§4 There shall be a Finance Committee composed of the ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~, who will serve as Chair, the President, Vice President/President-Elect, the immediate Past President, and the Executive Director, who shall serve ex-officio without vote. One additional person may be appointed to the committee by the ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ in consultation with the Finance Committee to serve as Investment Advisor. The Committee shall have the responsibility for recommending fiscal policy to the Executive Committee and for overseeing the financial affairs of the Society. The Committee shall meet at least twice each year in conjunction with the meetings of the Executive Committee.

§5 There shall be an Audit Committee composed of three members of the Society, serving staggered three-year terms, plus one member of the Executive Committee. Each year the President shall appoint the senior-most members as Chair, except that the Executive Committee member shall not be appointed as Chair. The Committee is charged with reviewing the Society's engagement letter with the firm selected to perform the annual audit, considering the draft financial report and management letter, and presenting a report to the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting.

## **Article V. Fiscal Policy**

§1 All funds of the Society not required for current expenditures shall be invested by the Executive Committee on the advice of the Finance Committee. There shall be an annual outside audit by a Certified Public Accountant.

## **Article VI. Meetings**

§1 There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Society, at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee. During the Annual Meeting, there shall be a Business Meeting, also at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee, for the purpose of hearing reports of the Officers, the Executive Committee, and others, and for considering such other business as may come before the Society. A quorum for matters brought before the Business Meeting shall consist of those members present at that meeting. *The Business Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with procedures determined by the Executive Committee and announced in the Annual Meeting Handbook.*

§2 The Executive Committee may call special meetings of the Society.

§3 Titles and abstracts of papers and posters to be presented before the Society must be submitted to the Program Committee beforehand, and the Committee's disposition of such abstracts, including a possible limitation of the time to be devoted to them, shall be final.

## **Article VII. Publications**

§1 There shall be an Editor and Co-Editor of *Language*. They shall report to the Executive Committee and be responsible for the editorial content and format of the journal. The Co-Editor shall be elected by the members of the Society for a three-year term in that role, followed by another three-year term as Editor. The Editor, in consultation with the Executive Committee, may appoint Associate Editors and a Review Editor. Approval of expenditures in connection with the publication of the journal is the responsibility of the Executive Committee.

§2 The journal *Semantics and Pragmatics* shall be governed by the Society under the following terms. The Executive Committee shall (i) appoint the Editor(s), who are responsible for the content, format, and presentation of the journal, for a seven-year term, which is renewable under mutual agreement and subject to periodic review by the Executive Committee; (ii) appoint Associate Editors for a term of three years, which is renewable at the discretion of the Executive Committee; (iii) appoint the five members of an Advisory Committee for a term of five years, which is renewable at the discretion of the Executive Committee; and (iv) determine the nature of the Society's financial support for operational expenses.

§3 Other publications, as determined by the Executive Committee, including electronic services, ~~are the responsibility of the Executive Committee~~ *are the responsibility of the Secretary.*

## **Article VIII. Amendments to the Constitution**

§1 Amendments to this constitution may be proposed on the basis of either (a) the support of two thirds of the Executive Committee, or (b) a petition submitted and signed by at least twenty-five members of the Society. Proposed amendments will be submitted to the members for vote at the time of the regular annual election of officers. To become effective, an amendment must receive the approval of two-thirds of those members voting on that amendment.

*§2 In the case that the members of the society may wish to conduct a review of and substantially revise the constitution and bylaws of the Society, a Constitutional Convention may be proposed by a petition submitted and signed by one hundred members of the Society. A proposed*

Constitutional Convention will be submitted to the members for vote at the time of receipt of the petition. To become effective, a proposed Constitutional Convention must receive the approval of two-thirds of those members voting. If the proposal passes, the Executive Committee in equal cooperation with the Parliamentarian shall be obliged to organize a Constitutional Convention as a special meeting of the Society either in conjunction with an Annual Meeting of the Society within two year's time or virtually within one year's time.

## LSA Bylaws

### Bylaws pursuant to Article II, MEMBERSHIP

§1 Any student enrolled in the regular academic year as a candidate for a degree in a recognized secondary school, college, or university may become a student member on payment of dues. Student membership in the Society requires that the individual submit verification of student status.

§2 Each regular, student, and emeritus member shall pay to the Society an annual fee as dues, in an amount fixed by the Executive Committee. If the annual dues are not received within the time prescribed, the member shall forfeit the rights of membership until payment is received; these rights shall be restored upon the payment of all dues and reinstatement fees.

§3 The total number of honorary members shall not exceed sixty, and not more than three may be elected in any one year. Honorary members shall be exempt from payment of annual dues.

§4 A member of the Society who has served as an elected officer (i.e. President or ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ ~~Secretary~~) or Editor of an LSA journal or as a (co)Director of a Linguistic Institute, shall be recognized as a Fellow upon conclusion of service in that office.

4.1 In addition, up to eight members may be recognized as Fellows each year by the at-large members of the Executive Committee, who are to select from among eligible individuals nominated by any member of the Society in good standing. Current members are eligible for election if they have at least four years of continuous membership at the time of their nomination. Nominations may be made to the Secretariat, which will issue a call each year and prepare a list of nominees for consideration.

4.2 No member of the Executive Committee will be eligible for election as a Fellow while serving on that Committee. Members who are Fellows may be nominated to serve as officers or on the Executive Committee.

§5 Normally, at least one author of any manuscript submitted to *Language* or of any abstract submitted to the Program Committee must be a member of the Society.

### Bylaws pursuant to Article III, OFFICERS

§1 The Editors of LSA journals shall be entitled to participate in meetings of the Executive Committee without vote. ~~The President~~ Any member of the Executive Committee may invite other appropriate individuals to attend and participate at the Executive Committee without vote.

§2 The responsibilities of the ~~Secretary~~-Treasurer include managing the Society's assets, identifying ways to enhance revenues and reduce expenses, budgeting revenues and expenses, establishing and maintaining sound business practices and internal controls, and authorizing and

reviewing expenses. In addition, the ~~Secretary~~-Treasurer shall be responsible for recommending to the Executive Committee policies and procedures regarding membership and membership services, investments, and multi-year budgeting. The ~~Secretary~~-Treasurer shall present an annual report to the Society, which shall be published by the Society.

§3 The Executive Director shall serve as the Chief Administrative Officer as an "at will" employee, and shall, under the direction of the Executive Committee, be responsible for the continuing operations of the Society. The Executive Director shall keep the records of the deliberations of the Society and the Executive Committee, execute the instructions of the Society, assist in the formulation of policies and projects for submission to the Society, serve as a spokesperson for the organization, and perform such other duties as the Executive Committee may direct.

§4 The Executive Committee shall undertake an annual review of the Executive Director, or more often if it determines that circumstances warrant. The ~~Secretary~~-~~Treasurer~~, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall appoint a review committee consisting the ~~Secretary~~-~~Treasurer~~ (Chair), a current member of the Executive Committee, and a member of the Society at large. The review committee will assess the accomplishments and anticipated performance of the Executive Director within the terms specified in the Society's "Job Description" for the position and any other annual performance goals as determined by the Executive Committee, and recommend to the Executive Committee any appropriate action and/or merit salary increases.

§5 There shall be a Parliamentarian who shall serve as both the administrative advisory to the Executive Committee and as the ombudsperson to the general membership of the society. The Parliamentarian shall be entitled to participate in meetings of the Executive Committee without vote and shall assist in the organization of the Annual Business Meeting upon request of the President. They shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee for election by the general membership and shall serve a term of five years. In their role as Ombudsperson, it shall be solely their responsibility to investigate and mediate complaints made by members of the society against the administrative bodies and persons of the society.

#### **Bylaws pursuant to Article IV, COMMITTEES**

§1 In addition to the committees specified in Article IV, the Executive Committee may establish standing and ad hoc committees as necessary to carry out the activities of the LSA. Committees may be open to any interested member of the Society, or may be restricted to membership by invitation only, at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The Chairs of all committees, and the members of restricted committees, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The appointments of Chairs will normally take place at the Spring meeting of the Executive Committee, with the term of the newly appointed Chair to begin the following January 1. Appointments of members of restricted committees will normally be completed by September 30, with terms of service to begin the following January 1. The duration of terms of service of Chair and members will be specified in the committee's charter. All terms of service will end at the close of the Annual Meeting following the last year of the term. Members of an open committee may join the committee at any time, for a multi-year term of service, renewable once at the agreement of the member and the Chair.

§2 In consultation with the Vice President, the immediate Past President, ~~the Secretary-Treasurer~~, ~~the Secretary~~, ~~the Treasurer~~, and the Nominating Committee, the President shall fill by an interim appointment any vacancy in the Executive Committee that may occur between Annual Meetings.

§3 In consultation with the Executive Committee, the President shall fill by an interim appointment any vacancy in the other Committees of the LSA that may occur between Annual Meetings.

~~§4 The Bloch Fellow, selected by the Committee on Linguistic Institutes and Fellowships, shall serve a two-year term as the student representative on the Executive Committee. The Bloch Fellow's term begins at the spring meeting of the Executive Committee and runs for two years from that date. The Bloch Fellow shall also serve as a member of the Committee on Student Issues and Concerns (COSIAC) for the duration of the term of service on the Executive Committee.~~

§4 The student representatives to the Executive Committee must be nominated either by themselves, being in good-standing as a student member of the society, or by another student member of the society. They are to be elected by a vote of the student membership of the society.

§5 All committee meetings of the Society, including the Executive Committee, are open to all members of the Society, without the right to speak or vote. In addition, the chair of any Committee may invite appropriate individuals to participate without vote in any meeting of that committee. Any committee may choose by majority vote to enter into executive session at any time.

§6 Members who accept committee appointments occasionally neither contribute to nor participate in committee activities. If a committee includes such members, the Committee Chair is empowered to ask those members to resign and the Committee Chair is asked to suggest replacements. If the Committee Chair has difficulty recommending a replacement, the Secretariat should be contacted. The Secretariat will maintain a database of members nominated to serve. Committee Chairs are asked to send the names of any inactive members who resign (or fail to respond to requests for resignation) along with the names of suggested replacements to the Secretariat which will in turn send this information to the Committee on Committee and Delegate Appointments for review. The recommendation will then be sent to the President for appointment.

#### **Bylaws pursuant to Article V, FISCAL POLICY**

§1 The ~~Secretary~~-Treasurer and the Executive Director shall review the Financial Policy and Procedures Manual on an annual basis and propose changes in financial policies and procedures to the Finance Committee.

§2 The Society will maintain at all times an insurance policy, in an amount to be determined by the Finance Committee, protecting it against losses arising from embezzlement or other malfeasance by any of the Society's Officers and staff.

#### **~~Bylaws pursuant to Article VI, MEETINGS~~**

~~§1 The President may appoint a Parliamentarian for the Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Business Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with procedures determined by the Executive Committee and announced in the Annual Meeting Handbook.~~

#### **Bylaws pursuant to Article VII, PUBLICATIONS**

§1 Associate Editors of LSA journals are nominated by the Editors and appointed by the Executive Committee for three-year terms in the usual case. Typically, appointments are staggered so as to ensure continuity of editorial oversight.

#### **Bylaws on succession of officers**

§1 If the office of President should, through any cause, become vacant, the Past President shall thereupon assume the duties of the President for the remainder of that term.

§2 If the office of Vice President/President-Elect should, through any cause, become vacant, the Nominating Committee shall organize a special election to fill that office.

~~§3 If the office of the Secretary-Treasurer should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint on an acting basis a member of the Society who has served in that capacity until a search can be completed.~~

§3 If the office of the Secretary should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint on an acting basis a member of the Society who has served in that capacity until a search can be completed.

§4 If the office of the Treasurer should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint on an acting basis a member of the Society who has served in that capacity until a search can be completed.

§4 If the office of the Editor of an LSA Journal should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint an interim Editor on an acting basis until a search can be completed.

§5 If the office of the Executive Director should, through any cause, become vacant, the President, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a member of the staff on an acting basis until a search can be completed.

#### **Bylaws pursuant to Article VIII, AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

§1 Any member of the Society may propose an amendment to the constitution or to the bylaws. The proposal must be submitted in writing or by electronic mail to the Secretary-Treasurer at least one month prior to the Spring meeting of the Executive Committee. Members are encouraged but not required to provide arguments in favor of the proposed amendment at the time of submission. The Executive Committee will consider the proposal at its Spring meeting. If the proposal receives a two-thirds favorable vote from the Executive Committee members present and voting, it will be submitted to the full membership for vote at the time of the regular election for officers.

§2 An amendment will also be submitted to a vote of the full membership if it is proposed in a petition signed by at least twenty-five members of the Society. Such a proposal, with the requisite signatures and favoring arguments attached, must be received at the LSA Secretariat office at least six months prior to the date of the Annual Meeting of the Society, and will be submitted to the full membership for vote at the time of the regular election for officers.

§3 Any amendment put to the membership for a vote, whether by Executive Committee action or by petition, will be posted on the LSA web site at the earliest possible time.

## Phonological Data and Analysis

### Status report, December 2020

PDA has published five articles during the period April 20 – December 20, 2020. One of the new articles is a data report that launches our “Puzzles and Problems” section, and another is a reply to one of the three primary articles. We have had seven new submissions since May, and have five older submissions at different stages of the publication process. We are currently planning a special, thematic issue for which we will solicit contributions on stress. We have begun to more actively promote the journal on social media and email lists distributed to linguists.

Megan J. Crowhurst  
Matthew K. Gordon  
Laura P. McPherson



# Linguistic Society of America Committee Report

**Date:** 27. December 2020

**Committee name:** Committee on AP Linguistics

**Committee charge:** This ad hoc Committee works with the College Board (CB) and U.S. high-school teachers to create a national AP Linguistics curriculum and exam.

**Committee chair:** Richard K. Larson (Stony Brook University)

**Committee members:**

Ian Connally (Paschal High School, Dallas-Fort Worth)  
Jeffrey Heinz (Stony Brook University)  
Beth Keyser (Superior MT Public Schools)  
Richard Larson (Stony Brook University)  
Jeff Lidz (University of Maryland)  
David Lightfoot (Georgetown University)  
Anne Lobeck (Western Washington University)  
Suzanne Loosen (Milwaukee School of Languages)  
Amy Plackowski (Hudson High School, Hudson, MA)  
Jeff Reaser (North Carolina State University)  
Lori Repetti (Stony Brook University)  
Donca Steriade (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)  
Christina Tortora (The Graduate Center, CUNY)  
Walt Wolfram (North Carolina State University)

*Executive Committee Liaison:* Brian Joseph

*Staff Liaison:* Alyson Reed

**Executive Summary:** APLC was less active in 2020 than in previous years due to the pandemic. But it continued to work on tasks supporting the long-term goal of presenting a successful AP course proposal to the College Board. At present APLC is focusing its efforts on creating AP Linguistics precursor courses in US High Schools. Key elements of this “High School Linguistics Initiative” include:

1. Identifying HSs & teachers interested in offering a HS linguistics course.
2. Identifying US Linguistics programs willing to partner with a local HS teacher in offering a HS linguistics course.
3. Providing training & support for teachers interested in offering a HS linguistics course, including workshops, curricula, texts, courses, etc.
4. Publicizing Linguistics to HS students and to the general public to create broader interest.

## **Accomplishments during this reporting period:**

### **RE: (1&2)**

In 2020 LSA and APLC Chair Richard Larson continued to receive a steady stream of email inquiries about the AP Linguistics from university & college faculty, graduate & undergraduate students, HS teachers & HS students. Many of these inquiries were expressions of general interest, but some inquired how to launch a linguistics course or linguistics club in a local school.

APLC member Anne Lobeck, together with LiSC chair Kristin Denham, maintain a list of US HSs that either have offered, or are currently offering, a HS Linguistics course. APLC's AP- Ling mailing list now comprises 170 individuals.

In Spring 2020, spearheaded by APLC member Brian Joseph, OSU's Department of Linguistics launched a HS Linguistics collaboration with Metro Early College School (MECS), a Community STEM School adjacent to the OSU campus. An intro linguistics course was co-taught at MECS by Carly Dickerson, a Ph.D. student in Linguistics, and Angy Bernthold, the foreign language teacher at MECS. Concurrently, the OSU Linguistics undergraduate organization (charmingly titled "Underlings") began and supported a HS Linguistics Club at MECS. The full OSU report can be access here.

<https://u.osu.edu/lxhs/materials/>

### **RE: (3)**

**Workshops:** Unlike in previous years, APLC was unable to organize workshops for HS teachers in 2020, either virtually or in person. This was the result of the COVID19 pandemic, which placed extraordinary time demands on educators across the country and imposed sharp limitations on in-person gatherings.

**Curricula:** APLC was able to continue work on its online curriculum guide project, initiated in 2019, which is intended to assist for HS teachers in planning and offering a HS course that will align with eventual AP Ling content standards. The guide will comprise content modules, each with a specification of themes, essential vocabulary, essential ideas, classroom, activities, assessments and resources. The modules were determined by a 2018 LSA LiHEC survey, which identified 9 key content areas covered by US college level intro courses:

- 5 "core" areas covered by virtually all such courses (Syntax, Morphology, Phonetics, Phonology, Semantics)
- 4 "high priority" areas covered by a large majority of such courses (Pragmatics, Sociolinguistics, Language Acquisition, Historical Linguistics).

APLC's work in the curricular area, together with reflection on the way the College Board designs its AP courses and the different subject matter backgrounds of US HS Linguistics teachers, has led to a substantial rethinking of the broader introductory linguistics curriculum, which is rapidly developing into a

separate new initiative by APLC members Richard Larson and David Lightfoot: “Rethinking Intro Linguistics”. Larson and Lightfoot hope to report on this initiative to APLC and the LSA EC soon. They believe their results will be of wide interest to the LSA membership.

**Book Series:** APLC members Lori Repetti and Richard Larson successfully launched a news book series through Oxford University Press: *Linguistics through Languages (LTL)*. *LTL* will be a series of compact free-standing introductions to linguistics, each using a different major world language as the primary language of illustration. The languages for which *LTL* volumes are being produced are the 8 languages for which there is currently either AP or A-levels courses and exams + Korean; i.e., Spanish, French, Italian, Latin, German, Russian, Mandarin, Japanese and Korean. *LTL* volumes are not “Introductions to the Linguistics of Language X” volumes. Rather they are introductions to linguistics, each using a different language to illustrate the key concepts.

The *LTL* series responds to requests APLC has received from World Language teachers interested in HS Linguistics, who want an introduction to the core analytical concepts of linguistics. *LTL* will introduce linguistics through the languages these teachers deal with day-to-day. Hopefully, the books will lead these teachers to incorporate linguistics into their language teaching and will assist them in teaching a HS linguistics course one day.

#### **RE: (4)**

**Summer Camp:** From 10-21.August 2020, Stony Brook University conducted a two-week Summer Youth Camp in Computational Linguistics Summer (SYCCL). SYCCL was offered through Stony Brook University’s Institute for Advanced Computational Sciences (IACS), which also oversees SBU’s NACLO program.

<https://calendar.stonybrook.edu/site/iacs/event/summer-youth-camp-for-computational-linguistics-syccl/>

Due to the pandemic, the camp was conducted online, and attracted 10 participants (5 from Long Island, 2 from MA, 1 from CT, 1 from NJ and 1 from NC). The program was highly successful and IACS intends to offer SYCCL next summer, probably in a virtual format.

SYCCL was inspired by OSU’s Summer Linguistics Institute for Youth Scholars (SLIYS), which recorded its best attended camp to date in summer 2020, with 70 students participating virtually. APLC hopes that other US university linguistics programs will consider hosting their own summer linguistics camps in the future.

**Book Series:** APLC members Richard Larson and Anne Lobeck, together with David Adger (Queen Mary College) are in the process of launching a new book series through Cambridge University Press: Cambridge Introductions to Language Science (CILS). CILS will be a series of compact brief, accessible introductions to some specific topic in the science of language outside of what would be covered in a standard HS introduction to linguistics course. Some titles

will address specific content areas, some will discuss the role of language science in the human world, some will be historical, some biographical. The model for the series is the Anchor Science Study Series, produced from 1960-70 and authored by eminent scientists with the goal of introducing young persons and lay readers to physical science. Candidate CILS titles include: *Language & Technology*, *Disorders of Language & Speech*, *Speech Recognition*, *Forensic Linguistics*, *The Mathematics of Language*, *Language and Artificial Intelligence*, *The Biology of Language*, *Reclaiming Lost Languages*, *Animal Communication*, *The Evolution of Human Language*, *The Multilingual Brain*, *The Science of Writing Systems*, *Gesture and Language*, *The Literate Brain*.

The editors have informal approval from CUP of the series proposal and are soliciting proposals for the first two series titles. We are very hopeful this series will stir the interest of young scholars and prove useful to teachers in supplementing a HS Intro Linguistics course.

**APLC Goals for 2021:** Continue and expand efforts in the HS Linguistics initiative in the areas identified above. Specifically:

1. Complete work on the on-line HS Linguistics Curriculum Guide and begin collection of accompanying resource materials for the website.
2. Increase HS Linguistics presentations by our teachers at national and regional teachers conferences, either in person or virtual.
3. Continue to identify US Linguistics programs willing to partner with local US HSs and provide support.
4. Expand teacher training and support opportunities through:
  - OUP's *Linguistics through Languages* series,
  - A possible grant to the NSF to develop on-line Introduction to Linguistics course for teachers to be available to K-12 teachers who are members of the LSA.
  - Exploration of state certification of HS teachers in Linguistics
5. Publicize the HS Linguistics Initiative more widely in the linguistics field through:
  - expanded corporate sponsorship to APLC's High School Linguistics project to include Microsoft and Amazon.
  - possible *LSA Teacher of the Year Awards* for our field's top Introduction to Linguistics teachers at undergrad and K-12 levels. The awards event would include a session in which winners give presentations sharing their materials and methods.
6. Begin development of measures to assess linguistic attitudes and "linguistic thinking," and how these change from the beginning of the year to the end for HS students enrolled in a linguistics course. (Amy Plackowski)

Linguistic Society of America  
Committee Report

Date: 21 December 2020

**Committee name:** Committee Advisory to Programs

**Committee charge:** The Advisory to Programs Committee is the initial point of contact within the Linguistic Society of America for linguistics departments and programs that seek the Society's help in dealing with adverse circumstances at their home institutions, most frequently arising in their relationships with their local administrations. Requests for assistance that come to the LSA staff or officers are referred to this committee for review and recommended action.

**Committee chair:** Lenore Grenoble

**Committee members:**

- Christopher T. Collins, New York University (2022)
- Emiliana Cruz, CIESAS-CDMX (2021)
- Mary Paster, Pomona College (2020)
- Staff liaison: Alyson Reed

**Executive Summary:** The Committee acts only on requests from departments or programs. We received no requests during this past year.

**Accomplishments** during this reporting period: *N/A*

**Goals for the remainder of the reporting period:** Secure nominees for any unfilled positions.

**Goals for the next year:** Respond to any requests from programs or departments. Continue to monitor the situation closely, in anticipation of fiscal crises in institutions of higher education due to the pandemic.

# Linguistic Society of America Committee Report

Date: **December 23, 2020**

Committee name: **Audit Committee**

Committee charge:

**The Audit Committee is charged with selecting the auditing firm to perform the annual LSA audit, reviewing the Society's engagement letter with the selected firm, considering the draft financial report and management letter, and presenting a report and recommendations to the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee at their meetings in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.**

Committee chair: **Carol Genetti**

Committee members: **Sandra Chung, Monica McCauley, Marlyse Baptista**

Executive Summary:

**The Audit Committee reviewed the financial documents and auditor's report and found them to be clear, consistent, understandable, and appropriate. We were pleased to see that the LSA finances are so well tracked. We recommend that the audit be presented to the finance committee.**

Accomplishments during this reporting period:

**Review of audit documents; meeting with Alyson Read and representative of auditing firm.**

Goals for the remainder of the reporting period: **None.**

Goals for the next year: **Continue with normal review of audit documents.**

Action Items (including specific requests for endorsements of approvals by the Executive Committee at its forthcoming meeting)

**We recommend that the finance committee forward the audit to the Executive Committee.**

**Report:**

**The Audit Committee was presented with the audit documents on Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup> and met on Monday the 21<sup>st</sup>. We also had the opportunity to view an informative YouTube webinar with Alyson Reed and Bill Ladusaw that provided an excellent overview of the Audit Committee's work.**

**The Independent Auditor's Report stated that "the financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Linguistic Society of America on September 30, 2021 and 2019." After reviewing the documents provided, the committee agreed with this assessment. A few questions were raised and answered. These included:**

- **The increase in the website as an asset; this was due to added functionality**
- **The increase in the accumulated depreciation and amortization; this was due to the changes in the website**
- **The loan from the U.S. government through the Paycheck Protection Program, which is split into both current and long-term liabilities (however, it is likely to be eventually forgiven)**

**Members also had questions about the overall financial state of the LSA, which was described as "dire." It was clear from the ensuing discussion that the Directorate has done extensive cost-cutting. A recommendation was that the LSA explain why unrestricted gifts would be especially welcome at this time.**

**Overall, it is clear that the LSA Directorate, working with Beth McMaster, have continued their excellent financial accounting practices and the committee voted unanimously to present the audit to the Finance Committee.**

C. L. BAKER AWARD COMMITTEE  
REPORT TO THE LSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 2020

In the report they submitted at the end of 2019, the Baker Award Committee (Jane Grimshaw of Rutgers University, Stephen Wechsler of the University of Texas at Austin, and James McCloskey of the University of California Santa Cruz) expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the process which led to the presentation of the first award at the Annual Meeting of January 2020. However, the report also addressed a serious concern:

*It is perhaps to be expected that in the initial year of the award the flow of nominations would be relatively slight. However we think that on the next occasion on which the award is to be made members of the committee should take a proactive role in spreading word about the award and in soliciting nominations – by writing to chairs in particular, announcing the award, stressing how straightforward the nomination process is, and encouraging them to consider nominating a colleague or encouraging others to submit a nomination.*

During 2020, the principal topic the committee had to consider was how to proceed towards the second award with this concern in mind. Discussions about that question began before the pandemic surged and continued as the seriousness of the crisis became more evident. We reported (via email to the directorate on May 12th 2020) that it was the sense of the committee that it would be, on the whole, advisable to run the second cycle of nomination and assessment in 2021 rather than in 2020. The committee revisited the question in September of 2020 (following a request from the LSA directorate) and reached the same conclusion, but with more conviction and clarity. That conclusion was reached on the basis of the following considerations:

- From the time of the earliest discussions (beginning in late 2018), it was unclear whether the Baker Prize should be awarded every year or every other year. Part of the remit to the first committee was to consider that question and offer some advice. Even in the absence of a pandemic, it was clear that there were both financial and operational reasons for considering or preferring the second option.
- One of the principal goals in all of the committee's discussions has been how to ensure that we have a strong pool of nominees to choose among. That is why we developed the plan (set out in our final report for 2019) to do large-scale outreach to departments and department-heads, starting, crucially, well before the nomination deadline, encouraging people to nominate strong candidates from among their colleagues. Our judgement in September was that there was no way to do that crucial preparatory work at that point in the year, especially in the context of the disruptions, distractions, and extra work that many are dealing with because of the pandemic.
- So both long-term structural considerations and short-term pandemic-related considerations played a role in leading the committee to their recommendation.

All members of the committee are willing to continue in the role and all look forward to bringing renewed energy and commitment to the solicitation and selection process in 2021.

James McCloskey (Chair),  
University of California, Santa Cruz



# **Linguistic Society of America Committee Report**

**Date:** 23 December 2020

**Committee name:** LSA Centennial Planning Committee

**Committee charge:**

To plan and assist with activities conducted during the observance of the LSA's Centennial in 2024, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Executive Committee.

**Committee chair:** Brian Joseph

**Committee members:**

Stephen Anderson, Molly Diesing, Alyson Reed (representing the LSA), David Robinson (representing the LSA), Margaret Thomas, Sally Thomason, Tracey Weldon-Stewart

**Executive Summary:**

The Committee has continued its work, though on a somewhat limited basis because of the attention to other more pressing matters for the LSA and for the world.

**Accomplishments during this reporting period:**

Until the pandemic hit and changed everything, 2020 was looking to be a good year for the Centennial Planning Committee. The LingStoryCorps initiative at the annual meeting in New Orleans was a great success, with about 40 new stories collected from a diverse group of people, and plans were being laid to make it a regular part of the annual meeting going forward. In principle, the slowing of activity in all sectors after March due to the Coronavirus might have meant more time to mobilize interested parties to record stories via phone calls and Zoom calls and the like, but the need to work on other more pressing business for the LSA derailed the Committee Chair's attention and having to adjust to a new way of working and living made it hard to maintain the momentum from the success of the annual meeting. We can try to re-start things in 2021, not at the virtual annual meeting but in a more concerted effort to collect impressions, stories, observations, and the like from LSA members.

Other developments with the Committee to report on included adding Stephen Anderson to the Committee; he volunteered and with his knowledge of the history of the field and his experience with the LSA, it was felt that he would be a valuable

addition to the roster; the Executive Committee approved him for the Committee in May.

We also learned definitively (though this may have been in 2019 – I honestly do not remember) that staging an event in 2024 or 2025 at the American Museum of Natural History in New York would be prohibitively expensive. So plans for some sort of event in connection with the annual meeting in New York in the centennial year then will have to be more creative.

Finally, the Committee supported the proposal to create an “In Honor Of” fund-raising campaign for the LSA (see <https://www.linguisticsociety.org/post/action-item-approval-new-fundraising-program>) as it seemed to be a campaign that could have a natural tie-in with Centennial events.

Despite the relative inactivity on the part of the Committee in 2020, we are fortunate in that there is still a lot of time before the Centennial and thus a lot of time in which to get this show going once again.

**Goals for the remainder of the reporting period:**

None

**Goals for the next year:**

- i. Convening a meeting of the Committee by no later than early Spring
- ii. Continuing with brainstorming up other plans for the Centennial
- iii. Working on re-starting and expanding the Story Corps initiative

**Action Items (including specific requests for endorsements of approvals by the Executive Committee at its forthcoming meeting)**

None

Respectfully submitted,

Brian D. Joseph  
Past-President, LSA  
Chair, LSA Centennial Planning Committee

# Linguistic Society of America Committee Report

**Date:** December 20, 2020

**Committee name:** Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics (CEDL)

**Committee charge:** Recognizing that some ethnic and racial minorities in the United States are significantly underrepresented in the linguistics workforce and in the membership of the LSA, and that it is in the interest of the field of linguistics and of American society to be enriched by the participation of all its ethnic groups, the LSA established a Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics. Its principal charges are:

1. Helps the Society and the profession identify, publicize, and implement ways of improving the recruitment, retention, and professional development of linguists from underrepresented ethnic minorities.
2. Makes recommendations to the Society and the profession concerning ways in which full equality of opportunity can be provided to all who seek to study, teach, or conduct research in linguistics.

The Society acknowledges the wide range of ways in which the term 'ethnic minority' may be interpreted. The Committee's work is directed to those groups which are clearly underrepresented at all levels in the linguistics workforce relative to their numbers in the US population. Such groups include African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Americans from a variety of Asian and Pacific Islander backgrounds. The activities of the Committee are not limited to any stipulated set of such groups but are aimed at increasing access to and diversity within the field on a broad basis.

## **Committee chairs:**

Tracey Weldon (University of South Carolina) – outgoing (2020)

Shenika Hankerson (University of Maryland) – continuing (2021)

Lauren Squires (The Ohio State University) – incoming (2021)

## **Committee members:**

Tracey Weldon, University of South Carolina, Senior Co-Chair	Sonja Lanehart, University of Arizona
Shenika Hankerson, University of Maryland, Junior Co-Chair	Cheng-Wei Lin, University of Michigan
Priscilla Adenuga, University of Frankfurt	Ayesha Malik, University of Texas at San Antonio
Anusha Anand, University of California, Santa Barbara	Christine Mallinson, University of Maryland Baltimore County
Sunny Ananth, University of Texas at Austin	Nicté Fuller Medina, University of Ottawa
Ibrahima Ba, University of Kansas	Deandre Miles-Hercules, University of California, Santa Barbara
Marlyse Baptista, University of Michigan	Sadat Mohammed, University of Ghana

Robert Bayley, University of California, Davis	Savithry Namboodiripad, University of Michigan
Misha Becker, University of North Carolina	Chandan Narayan, York University
Jennifer Bloomquist, Gettysburg College	Monica Nesbitt, Dartmouth College
Tynisha Brice, University of Pittsburgh	Rafael Orozco, Louisiana State University
Mónica Cabrera, Loyola Marymount University	Chu May Paing, University of Colorado
Kendra Calhoun, University of California, Santa Barbara	Alicia Parrish, New York University
Dominique Canning, University of Michigan	Charmaine Perry, California State University, Long Beach
William J. Carrasco, City University of New York	Sarah F. Phillips, New York University
Sherry Yong Chen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Maya Ravindranath, University of New Hampshire
Lauren Clemens, Harvard University	Stefanie Reed, University of California, San Diego
Tracy Conner, University of Massachusetts Amherst	John Rickford, Stanford University
Brianna Cornelius, University of South Carolina	Tom Roeper, University of Massachusetts
Laura Dille, Michigan State University	Christian Ruvalcaba, University of Arizona
Megan Danielle Figueroa, University of Arizona	Mario Saltarelli, University of Southern California
Sabriya Fisher, Wellesley College	Suttera Samonte, University of California, Irvine
Brenda G. Garcia Ortega, California State University, Fullerton	Pearl Shavzin, City University of New York
Joyhanna Garza, University of California, Santa Barbara	Nandi Sims, The Ohio State University
Lisa Green, University of Massachusetts Amherst	Arthur Spears, City University of New York
Jessi Grieser, University of Tennessee	Lauren Squires, The Ohio State University
Yunting Gu, University of Virginia	Meredith Tamminga, University of Pennsylvania
Samira Hassa, Manhattan College	Marie-Emmanuelle Tano (Pomona College)
Fabiola Henri, University of Kentucky	Shay Taylor, Gallaudet University
Lina Hou, University of California, Santa Barbara	Jamie Thomas, Santa Monica College
Lutfi Hussein, Mesa Community College	Joel Tillman, The University of Hong Kong
Ana Iraheta, University of Minnesota	Jonnita Torres, University of Colorado Boulder
Taylor Jones, University of Pennsylvania	Amelia Tseng, American University
Kareeda Kabir, Foothill College	Brent Woo, Eastern Michigan University
Susan Kalt, Roxbury Community College	Malcah Yaeger-Dror, University of Arizona
Sharon Klein, California State University, Northridge	André Zampaulo, California State University, Fullerton

### Executive Summary:

With the exception of the Awards and Nominations subcommittee, none of the standing subcommittees reported any activity during this reporting period. While COVID undoubtedly played a role in the lack of activity reported by the subcommittees, the larger committee is encouraged to consider whether this organizational structure is an effective way of operating going forward.

In spite of the challenges of the past year, CEDL was able to make progress on several fronts over the last few months, including the launching of a new CV database project, representation on two key LSA taskforces, the creation of a “members only” listserv, and the awarding of twenty-four CEDL registration grants.

### Accomplishments during this reporting period:

1. In conjunction with the LSA staff, CEDL launched the CV database project this past fall (<https://www.linguisticsociety.org/news/2020/03/17/lsa-launches-new-diversity-cv-database>). The primary goal of this project is to help search committees identify more diverse pools of applicants for job openings at their home institutions.
2. In light of a series of events this past summer that magnified the various racial/ethnic inequities in our society and in our discipline, CEDL convened a special meeting on **July 13th** to discuss how the organization might meet the demands of the moment. **Twenty-seven members** participated in the virtual meeting. Among the concerns expressed in this meeting were the following:
  - a. As an organization, how do we balance our commitment to “intellectual freedom and personal responsibility” with our expressed opposition to “racism, misogyny, and other forms of hate”?
  - b. What is the role of an LSA Fellow? Of a media expert? Are they seen as representing the views of the LSA? Of the field itself? (How) can we tease apart these perceptions/expectations?
  - c. What procedures are in place for revoking someone’s status as a Fellow or media expert? Note: If no standard procedures are in place, the Executive Committee (EC) is urged to establish some.
  - d. (How) can we protect graduate students, junior faculty, and other vulnerable scholars who take a public stance against powerful figures in the field from retaliation and alienation? What risk do CEDL members (and members of other committees) face in taking the lead on such polarizing issues? What protections, if any, can they be afforded?

A letter expressing these concerns was shared with the Executive Committee and a request was made that the CEDL co-chairs be appointed to the two LSA taskforces being set up to address these concerns. Both co-chairs have actively participated on these taskforces over the last several months. The reports of each taskforce are forthcoming.

3. Following a specially-held meeting on **October 19th** between members of the Executive Committee and the leadership of CEDL, COSWL, and COSIL to discuss some operational concerns, a CEDL “members-only” listserv ([lsa-cedl-membersonly@lsa.simplelists.com](mailto:lsa-cedl-membersonly@lsa.simplelists.com)) was set up to provide CEDL members a method of communicating with one another without the inclusion of the LSA leadership. The original CEDL listserv ([lsa-cedl@lsa.simplelists.com](mailto:lsa-cedl@lsa.simplelists.com)), which includes the LSA leadership representatives, will also remain active.
4. While the financial constraints of this past year did not permit the LSA to fund any CEDL initiatives, a generous donation made to CEDL this year allowed the

committee to award **twenty-four CEDL registration grants** to students attending the virtual LSA meeting this year. The awardees were selected by members of the Awards and Nominations subcommittee. The names of the awardees will be announced soon.

**Goals for the remainder of the reporting period:**

The 2021 LSA Black Linguists Dinner will be held virtually. A special thanks to Nicole Holliday for agreeing to serve as the new organizer this year. And a special thanks to Sonja Lanehart for her years of service in organizing this event.

**Goals for the next year:**

TBD at the upcoming LSA meeting

**Action Items (including specific requests for endorsements of approvals by the Executive Committee at its forthcoming meeting)**

TBD following the upcoming LSA meeting

Linguistic Society of America  
Committee Report

Date: 21 December 2020

**Committee name:** Finance Committee

**Committee charge:** The Committee shall have the responsibility for recommending fiscal policy to the Executive Committee and for overseeing the financial affairs of the Society. The Committee shall meet at least twice each year in conjunction with the meetings of the Executive Committee.

**Committee chair:** Lenore Grenoble

**Committee members:**

Brian Joseph  
Marianne Mithun  
Larry Horn  
John Baugh (incoming)  
Alyson Reed, ex officio

**Executive Summary:** The committee is scheduled to meet on December 29, preceding the January 2021 meeting of the EC, with all members in attendance. Carol Genetti, chair of the Audit Committee, is unable to attend but will provide a written report to accompany the audited FY20 Financial Statements. The primary goal of the meeting of the Finance Committee is to review the Society's proposed budget amendments for FY21.

**Accomplishments** during this reporting period: *Review of the budget, with decisions to make some cuts due to the projected budget deficit.*

**Goals for the remainder of the reporting period:** Continue to monitor the budget and explore ways to generate revenue.

**Budget Review:**

We have been closely monitoring the budget this fiscal year due to the financial crisis caused by the covid-19 pandemic. As a reminder, in reporting on the last fiscal year, we are reporting on the time period October 2019-September 2020.

- *Due to a major projected deficit for FY21, we authorized the following cuts:*

- Staff Benefits (pension, insurance, etc.): **Benefits were reinstated in December 2020 when we reassessed the budget**
- Committees
- Stipends and Honoraria (editorial, Secretary-Treasurer, Publications Advisor)
- Honors and Awards
- Memberships in Coalitions/Advocacy: COSSA, ACLS, NHA, JNCL
- Liability Insurance
- Sponsorship of North American Computational Linguistics Open Competition (NACLO)
- Further reductions by more than half were made to expense lines for the LSA websites, financial services, IT support, and other administrative functions.

For full details, see the Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The staff have prepared a set of proposed amendments to the FY21 budget, essentially consolidating the worst- and best-case scenario columns considered earlier this Summer into one single proposal. This is accompanied by data on the first two months of actual income and expenditures for FY21, along with year-end actuals for FY20. In the end, we finished FY20 with an operating deficit of approximately \$15K, which is in line with what we projected in the approved budget. This does not include the PPA loan, which is likely to be forgiven once the LSA submits its application early in 2021. This loan provided an important cash flow cushion to cover lost income from membership dues and meeting revenue which would normally accrue during the Summer and Fall. The staff budget proposal for FY21 includes a projected operating deficit of \$21K, but retains most of the cuts referenced above, with the exception of selected staff benefits, the intern stipend, and the CEDL registration awards.



# **LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

**DATE:** December 28, 2020

**COMMITTEE NAME:** Committee on LGBTQ+ [Z] Issues in Linguistics

### **COMMITTEE CHARGE:**

- To help the Society and the profession identify, publicize, and implement ways of improving the recruitment, retention, and professional development of LGBTQ+ linguists.
- To make recommendations to the Society and the profession concerning ways in which full equality of opportunity can be provided to all who seek to study, teach, or conduct linguistics research.
- To advocate for inclusive language and practices in the Society's statements and guidelines as well as at the Society's events.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Tyler Kibbey (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Tyler Kibbey, University of Kentucky  
Archie Crowley, University of South Carolina  
Chris VanderStouwe, Boise State University  
Rusty Barrett, University of Kentucky  
Nathan Sanders, University of Toronto  
Margaret Thomas, Boston College  
Claire Bower, Yale University  
Kelly H. Berkson, Indiana University  
Andries Coetzee, University of Michigan  
Jarrett Preston Champion Hopewell, University of Montana  
George Aaron Broadwell, University of Florida  
Evan D. Bradley, Penn State University  
Kyle Jerro, University of Essex  
Sonja Lanehart, University of Arizona  
Bryce McCleary, Oklahoma State University  
Samantha Cornelius, University of Texas Arlington  
Catherine Anderson, McMaster University  
Sarah Hercula, Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Canaan Breiss, UC Los Angeles  
Kirby Conrod, University of Washington  
Shane Taylor, San Diego State University  
Kira Hall, UC Boulder  
Sameer ud Dowla Khan, Reed College  
Miguel Cuevas-Alonso, University of Vigo

J. Inscoe, University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
Andrew Cheng, UC Irvine  
Adrian Ray Avalani, University of Chicago  
Kathryn Campbell-Kibler, Ohio State University  
Keith Langston, University of Georgia  
Samantha Prins, University of Montana  
Jorge Valdes Kroff, University of Florida  
Brent Woo, University of Washington  
Alicia Parrish, New York University  
Sunkulp Ananthanarayan, University of Texas at Austin  
Uri Horesh, University of Essex  
Tom Roberts, UC Santa Cruz  
Matthew Wagers, UC Santa Cruz  
Jillian Murphy, Northeastern Illinois University  
Mary-Caitlyn Valentinsson, Appalachian State University  
Robin Queen, University of Michigan  
Will Leben, Stanford  
Brett C. Nelson, University of Calgary  
Kathrik Durvasula, MSU  
Daniel Midgley, Talk the Talk, University of Western Australia  
Andrew Shibata, UC San Diego  
Anna Bax, UC Santa Barbara  
Simon L. Peters, UC Santa Barbara  
Carson Schütze, UC Los Angeles  
Dennis Storoshenko, University of Calgary

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Committee on LGBTQ+ [Z] Issues in Linguistics spent the greater part of 2020 building upon its foundational work in the years prior to its foundation, strengthening its membership pool and following up on several longstanding projects. This year was of course a difficult year by multiple accounts to begin the work of a new committee, but COZIL was able to successfully fulfill its responsibilities to the society and the membership through the maintenance of longstanding programs, advisement on issues of interest to COZIL's charge, and development of new initiatives that benefit both the LGBTQ+ linguistics community specifically as well as the discipline more widely. Building from our work this year, we have also attached five proposals/requests for the EC's consideration.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD:**

COZIL's major accomplishments this year include:

- The fulfillment of a longstanding initiative to develop a Language Guidelines Proposal for the Executive Committee, which is being reworked by the relevant subcommittee following feedback.

- Formalizing a liaison relationship with the Lavender Languages and Linguistics at the Florida Atlantic University and the Lavender Languages Conference held biennially in the United States.
- The collaborative development of a Summer workshop and webinar series at member institutions which saw a total of 600 live participants. \*Note: Preliminary exit survey data suggests indicates that the majority of participants were not members of the LSA but were members of the LGBTQ+ linguistics community. A report is being prepared for the Secretariat and should prove insightful.
- COZIL once again coordinated with the Secretariat for Pride Month programming via social media and web post creation.
- COZIL coordinated in the development of a series of LGBTQ+ History Month Posts which were unfortunately lost in the social media troubles that the LSA faced in the latter part of 2020.

### **GOALS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE REPORTING PERIOD:**

#### **GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR:**

COZIL is currently developing organized session proposal for the 2022 Annual Meeting of the LSA and is continuing to work towards to maintenance and development of longstanding projects including Pride Month and LGBTQ+ History Month social media posts and programming, improved recruitment of LGBTQ+ linguists to the society, and the furtherance of LGBTQ+ diversity within the society. Notably, next year will witness the first Lavender Languages and Linguistics Institute held in collaboration with COZIL, at which a number of LSA members have been invited to teach courses and at which COZIL will be organizing a half-day professionalization workshop for LGBTQ+ postgraduates. A number of initiatives for next year relate to the proposal below, and so depend on their reception, and are also dependent upon the due course of an ongoing amendment initiative. We also aim to work towards the improvement of LGBTQ+ membership data collection and the development of new programs consistent with our charge in collaboration with CEDL, COSWL, and Natives4Linguistics.

**ACTION ITEMS:** (including specific requests for endorsements of approvals by the Executive Committee at its forthcoming meeting)

### **I. INCOMING CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR NOMINATIONS**

- 1) The Committee on LGBTQ+ [Z] Issues in Linguistics (COZIL) requests the following change to its organizational structure regarding committee chairs and co-chairs. Specifically, COZIL proposes to move to having three (co-)Chairs in staggered three-year terms with each nominee serving as the Incoming Co-Chair, Chair, and Outgoing Co-Chair in the first, second, and third years of their

appointment respectively. COZIL also proposes that the Outgoing Co-Chair of each year should assume ex officio the LSA Delegate position to the Lavender Languages and Linguistics Institute and to the Lavender Languages Conference. With this tripartite structure, COZIL expects to secure a seamless continuity of leadership while maximizing workload distribution and committee internal communication. Aside from the following appointments newly consistent with this improved system, COZIL will submit Chair nominations consistent with this structure annually for three-year terms.

- a) With respect to the above proposal, COZIL nominates Tyler Kibbey (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) as Outgoing Co-Chair of COZIL for 2021.
- b) With respect to the above proposal, COZIL nominates Archie Crowley (University of South Carolina) as Chair of COZIL for 2021 and Outgoing Co-Chair of COZIL for 2022. With respect to their work for the committee during 2020, COZIL requests that Archie Crowley also be retroactively recognized by the Executive Committee as Incoming Co-Chair of COZIL for 2020.
- c) With respect to the above proposal, COZIL nominates Chris VanderStouwe (Boise State University) as Incoming Co-Chair of COZIL for 2021, Chair of COZIL for 2022, and Outgoing Co-Chair of COZIL for 2023.

## **II. AWARD AND AWARD COMMITTEE PROPOSAL**

- 1) In accordance with the Committee on LGBTQ+ [Z] Issues in Linguistics' charge - to aid the society and profession in the improved recruitment, retention, and professional development of LGBTQ+ linguists; to make recommendations to the Society and the profession concerning ways in which full equality of opportunity can be provided to all who seek to study, teach, or conduct linguistics research; and to advocate for inclusive practices at the Society's events - we submit a proposal for the creation of an annual award recognizing the scholarly contributions and achievements of LGBTQ+ linguists, named in honour of (likely the first) openly-gay LSA President Arnold Zwicky.
  - a) The Zwicky Award would recognize LGBTQ+ linguists who have made significant contributions to the discipline, the society, or the wider LGBTQ+ community through research, programming, activism, public service, or significant publications in LGBTQ+ linguistics, focusing on but not exclusive to work done in the prior year.
  - b) The establishment of an LGBTQ+ specific LSA award is patently mandated by COZIL's charge in that such improves the recruitment and retention of LGBTQ+ linguists in the society and profession through the explicit legitimization and elevation of their work and identity, constitutes an easily-implemented

recommendation to the Society and the profession concerning ways in which full equality of opportunity can be provided to all who seek to study, teach, or conduct linguistics research, and manifestly constitutes an inclusive practice which might be easily undertaken by the society to advance LGBTQ+ equality within the society and the discipline.

- 2) We concurrently propose the establishment of a Zwicky Award Committee to develop the criteria, submission-related materials, and fundraising initiative for the award, with the committee chair and members being appointed by the Executive Committee, upon the recommendation of COZIL, and made eligible for such an appointment by having previously served as COZIL Chair or EC Liaison. Given that COZIL was only recently founded, making the pool of eligible members incredibly small, we would like to recommend that the inaugural committee members be agreed upon as a separate matter. The Zwicky Award Committee would submit a nominee recommendation for the award to the Executive Committee for approval in advance of the annual meeting at which said award is presented.
  - a) Given the current financial situation of the LSA, we ask that the award be approved without an accompanying monetary award but also that the Zwicky Award Committee should be directed to revisit the possibility, internally and externally, for funding a monetary award supplement semi-annually.

### III. ONLINE-ONLY SECTION OF LANGUAGE

COZIL is writing to propose the establishment of a temporary online-only section of *Language* dedicated to LGBTQ+ Linguistics research. I will begin with the proposal itself, followed by its rationale and arguments in favour of the proposal.

On behalf of COZIL, I write to propose the establishment of a temporary online-only section of *Language* dedicated to LGBTQ+ Linguistics. The online-only section would be established for a 10 year period following its establishment and would have a senior and a junior co-editor. After an initial 10 year period, the continuation of the section should be reviewed with the following three outcomes, assuming it has fulfilled its primary mission, delineated below: (1) it should be renewed for another set period of time as an online-only section, (2) it should transition to being a separate and distinct journal on the topic of LGBTQ+ Linguistics, or (3) it should be dissolved. We propose that the first senior associate editor appointed be Jeremy Calder and that the junior associate editor be Lex Konnelly, with the former focusing on content and quality while the latter focuses on the day-to-day operations of the section. The mission and scope of the section would be to publish original, high quality scholarship in the area of LGBTQ+ linguistics research, broadly defined, including works concerning theory and methodology as well as practical case studies.

The rationale and arguments in favour of the proposal are as follows. First and foremost, there is no technical barrier to LGBTQ+ Linguistics research being published in *Language* except that no one working in LGBTQ+ Linguistics knows they are able to or otherwise believes it worthwhile to submit their research to *Language* on account of the journal's public, conservative reputation. The primary purpose of this proposal, for the

first 10 years of its establishment, is to alleviate this issue and rehabilitate the journal *Language* in the eyes of LGBTQ+ linguistics and linguists. While this type of scholarship could be included in *Language* presently, that fact does little to accommodate the issue concerning LGBTQ+ Linguistics researchers feeling that *Language* is not the right venue to submit their research to. A brief period in which a targeted online section would recruit such submissions to and explicitly build a space for such research at the journal would solve this issue in the most immediate sense. After its initial period of operation, the section could then be renewed for another set period of time or transition beyond the online-only section, either being properly subsumed by the journal or spinning off to create its own. The online only section would be in minimal competition with the handful of other journals already established on the subject, specifically the *Journal of Language and Sexuality* (John Benjamins), *Gender and Language* (Equinox), and *Women & Language* (MTU).

#### **IV. REQUEST FOR NOMINEE POOL CLARIFICATIONS**

- 1) The Committee on LGBTQ+ [Z] Issues in Linguistics (COZIL) would like to formally request that the Executive Committee and its Subcommittee on Committee and Delegate Appointments clarify the current state of closed or invitation only committees with respect to but not limited to nominee pools, nomination or invitation processes, required nominee qualifications, and whether or not such committees, including the Executive Committee and its Subcommittee on Committee and Delegate Appointments, seek recommendations from committees representing marginalized communities within the discipline (i.e. COZIL, CEDL, COSWL, & Natives4Linguistics) prior to new appointments or have established formally or informally any guidelines relevant to LGBTQ+ diversity within the administrative structure of the society.
- 2) COZIL requests the following, detailed clarifications for all closed and invitational committees, even those that may appear obvious to the interested member, preferably in the form of an holistic document that can be shared amongst committee chairs:
  - a) Nominating Committee
  - b) Program Committee
  - c) Finance Committee
  - d) Audit Committee
  - e) Advisory to Programs
  - f) Awards Committee
  - g) C.L. Baker Award Committee
  - h) Bloomfield Book Award Committee
  - i) Elizabeth Dayton Award Committee
  - j) Honorary Members Committee
  - k) Linguistics Institutes and Fellowships Committee & Fellowship Subcommittee
  - l) Local Arrangements Committee for the Annual Meeting

- m) Committee on Publications
  - n) Ethics Committee
  - o) AP Linguistics Committee
- 3) COZIL further recommends that the Executive Committee pursue the development of a policy whereby such closed and invitation-only committees are strongly encouraged to work with committees representing marginalized communities (i.e. COZIL, CEDL, COSWL, & Natives4Linguistics) to ensure that slates of nominees/invitees and new appointments are reflective of the discipline's diversity. Understandably, this may be more or less practical depending on the committee and its charges & responsibilities. COZIL requests that the Executive Committee and its Subcommittee on Committee and Delegate Appointments consider such a policy and report their discussion on such to the general membership in advance of the 2021 call for nominations.

## **V. LGBTQ+ STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM CONCEPT PROPOSAL**

In the discipline of Linguistics and within the LSA, members of the LGBTQ+ community are underrepresented. One of the best ways to strengthen this community's representation in the LSA is to support the attendance of LGBTQ+ student members at the Annual Meeting. To that end, COZIL proposes a Student Travel Grant program to parallel the CEDL Travel Grant program. The program would offer grants of \$500 to four students (grad or undergrad) each year, to offset the travel and accommodation expenses of attending the LSA Annual Meeting, so that the student members can become active in the LSA's work. This program would be modeled on and operate in parallel with the CEDL travel grant program.

### *Request*

COZIL requests that the Executive Committee consider our proposal in two stages:

1. Approve the creation of the COZIL Student Travel Grant program.
2. Fund the program with an initial recurring line item of \$2000/year (four awards at \$500 each)

We understand that it is an exceptionally challenging budget year for the LSA, which is why we've separated out request into two parts. If it should be impossible for the EC to fund the Travel Grant program, approving its existence would open the door for COZIL to engage in strategic fundraising efforts to fund the program outside of the LSA's annual budget.

# Linguistic Society of America Committee Report

Date: December 22, 2020

Committee name: Linguistics in Higher Education

Committee charge: (Please cut and paste from LSA Website)

- To advance linguistics education and training at U.S. colleges and universities.
- To promote the development and sustenance of linguistics programs and departments.
- To facilitate communications among and between the LSA and linguistics programs and departments on issues of mutual interest and concern.
- To consult as needed on the collection of data on faculty, students, graduates, and other pertinent information.
- To serve as a resource for those concerned about the diminution of linguistics programs and departments and about the incorporation of linguistic content into broader, interdisciplinary enterprises.
- To assist programs and departments with recruiting and retaining talented students, undergraduate majors and degree candidates.
- To highlight and address the unique needs of undergraduate programs and students.

Committee chair:

Lynn Burley, University of Central Arkansas (Senior Chair, 2020)

Lynn Santelmann, Portland State University (Junior Chair, 2020)

Committee members:

- Karen Adams, Arizona State University
- Mengistu Amberer, University of New South Wales
- Mark Aronoff, Stony Brook University
- Avery Elizabeth Baggett, The University of Kentucky
- Jon Bakos, Indiana State University
- Nicoletta Bateman, UC-San Marcos
- David Bowie, University of Alaska, Anchorage
- Evan Bradley, Penn State, Brandywine
- Ann Bunger, Indiana University
- Gaillynn Clements, UNC-School of the Arts and Duke University
- Elizabeth Bell Canon, Western Missouri University
- Wayne Cowart, University of Maine
- Catherine Davies, University of Alabama
- Kristin Denham, Western Washington University
- William Eggington, BYU



- Valentyna Filimonova, Indiana University
- Shenika Hankerson, University of Michigan
- Christina Higgins, University of Hawai'i
- Kazuko Hiramatsu, University of Michigan, Flint
- Anne Charity Hudley, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Maya Keshav, University of California Santa Barbara
- Sharon Klein, California State University, Northridge
- Sonja Launspach, Idaho State University
- Anne Lobeck, Western Washington University
- Michal Temkin Martinez, Boise State University
- Miranda McCarvel, Smith College
- Alex Motut, University of Toronto
- Rafael Orozco, Louisiana State University
- Marnie Petray-Covey, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
- Aisulu Raspayeva, Georgetown University
- Connor Rouillier, The Ohio State University
- Michael Rushforth, University of Texas at San Antonio
- Kathy Sands, SIL International
- Lynn Santelmann, Portland State University
- Tran Truong, University of Chicago
- Neal Whitman, The Ohio State University

#### Executive Summary:

One tele-meeting was held during this reporting period on Friday, November 19, 2020. Twelve members were present.

1. Approved Minutes from March 2020.
2. Discussed the LSA's Annual Meeting noting sessions, symposiums, and meetings of interest to LiHE members.
3. Gave an overview of the minicourse six members of LiHE will present at the LSA in January.
4. Updates on the LSA Summer Institute 2020 course to be taught by two LiHE members, on AP Linguistics, and the gathering of demographic data for our project.
5. Discussed the project to write guidelines for undergraduate linguistics degrees and what issues we would need to focus on.
6. Discussed ways in which LiHE can support online teaching of linguistics.

Accomplishments during this reporting period:

We have no accomplishments to report over this period except to say that all members managed to successfully complete the spring and fall semesters teaching remotely, which became everyone's focus this year.

Goals for the remainder of the reporting period:

Minicourse presenters met in December to fine-tune the course and will meet again on January 4<sup>th</sup> for a run-through. Delivery will be on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Schedule and advertise our annual meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Goals for the next year:

We will discuss goals for next year on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Action Items (including specific requests for endorsements of approvals by the Executive Committee at its forthcoming meeting)

None at this time.

Respectfully Submitted by Lynn Burley, Chair of LiHE

Linguistic Society of America  
Committee Report

Date: December 20, 2020

**Committee name:** Program Committee

**Committee charge:** The LSA Constitution, *Article IV, Section 3 states:*

The Program Committee shall have responsibility for the scholarly content of the Society's meetings and for recommending general policies on the form of the meetings to the Executive Committee for action.

*Article VI, Section 3 states:*

Titles and descriptions of papers to be read before the Society must be submitted to the Program Committee beforehand and its disposition of such papers, including a possible limitation of the time to be devoted to them, shall be final.

**Committee chair:** Ashwini Deo & Jelena Krivokapic (Senior Co-chairs)

**Committee members:**

Ruth Kramer, Georgetown University, Junior Co-chair (2021)  
Teresa Satterfield, University of Michigan, Junior Co-chair (2021)  
Ryan Bennett, UCSC, Incoming Junior Co-chair (2022)  
Tim Hunter, UCLA, Incoming Junior Co-chair (2022)  
Diane Brentari, University of Chicago (2020)  
Argyro Katsika, University of California, Santa Barbara (2021)  
Elena Koulidobrova, Central Connecticut State University (2022)  
Sonja Lanehart, University of Texas at San Antonio (2020)  
Emily Manetta, University of Vermont (2021)  
Alicia Parrish, New York University, Student member, (2021)  
Robert Podesva, Stanford University (2022)  
Joseph Sabbagh, University of Texas at Arlington (2021)  
Ivy Sichel, University of California, Santa Cruz (2021)  
Juliet Stanton, New York University (2021)

## **Executive Summary:**

### **Plenary Speakers**

The following plenary speakers were nominated by the PC and endorsed by the EC:

- M. Cecilia Columbi (University of California at Davis)
- Donka Farkas (University of California at Santa Cruz)
- Louis Goldstein (University of Southern California)

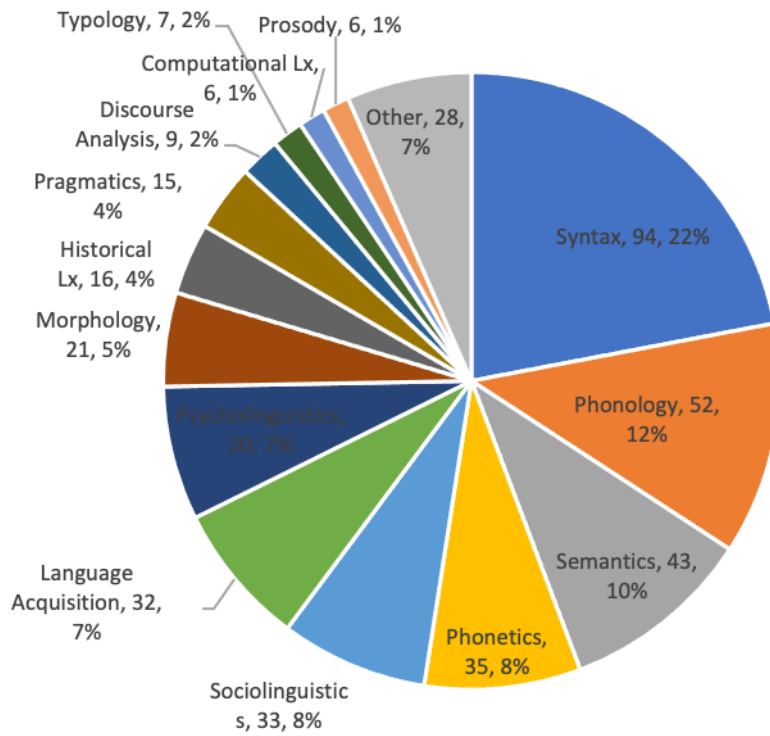
### **Review of papers and posters for the LSA Annual Meeting**

- i. The LSA sent out a call for abstracts with a deadline of June 25, 2020, 11:59PM, EDT
- ii. There was a call for reviewers to sign up for reviewing abstracts; the PC chairs also wrote to scholars in their own networks to encourage them to sign up as reviewers. A total of **212** subfield experts signed up to review abstracts in addition to the Program Committee members.
- iii. Recognizing the impact of the COVID19 pandemic on research projects, scholars were asked to submit additional context informing the PC/reviewers if their data collection had been adversely impacted by the pandemic.
- iv. Each abstract meeting submission guidelines was assigned to three reviewers with external reviewers evaluating a maximum of 15 abstracts.
- v. Ratings were normalized, averaged, and ranked.

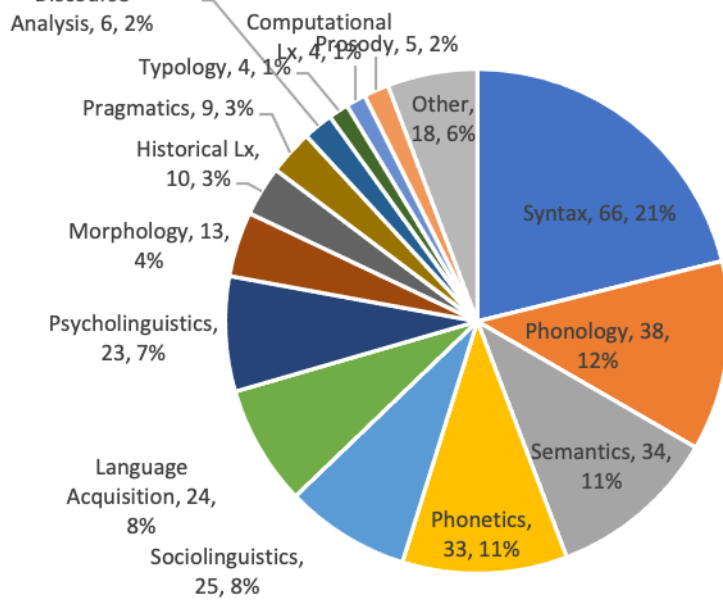
### **Submission details for the 2021 Meeting**

- i. We received a total for **427** abstracts. (cf. 533 submissions for New Orleans 2020; 786 for New York 2019). We believe that the number of submissions was lower this year due to the uncertainty and possibly anticipated financial stress caused by the pandemic.
- ii. **381** submissions were considered for papers and **361** for posters (many abstracts were considered for both formats).
- iii. **132** papers and **180** posters were accepted following the usual protocol, for acceptance rates of **35.2%** and **49.9%** percent respectively. The overall acceptance rate was **73.07%**, comparable to the acceptance rate for the New Orleans meeting in 2020.

Abstract submissions by subfield



Accepted abstracts by subfield



## **Selection of Organized Sessions**

- i. A call was sent out for organized session proposals with deadline of May 15 2020.
- ii. There was a total of **18** organized session proposal submissions, which were all evaluated by the Program Committee.
- iii. Each session was evaluated by three PC members and the senior chairs then read through all proposals.
- iv. **15 (16)** proposals were accepted for inclusion in the Annual Meeting Program for a total of 34.5 hours of programming time.

## **Minicourses**

The Program Committee co-chairs invited 4 proposals for minicourses.

- i. Methods in collaborative and community-centered language documentation (Eric Campbell, UCSB)
- ii. Neural Networks and Linguistic Structure: A Tutorial (Khalil Iskarous, USC)
- iii. Running Web-Based Experiments (Judith Degen and Sebastian Schuster, Stanford University)
- iv. Teaching Hybrid and Fully Online: Best Practices in Course Development and Delivery (led by Karen Adams, Arizona State University, and others)

## **Thoughts on the transition to virtual planning and the virtual meeting in 2021**

COVID19 posed unique challenges as we prepared for this year's meeting. The primary one was that the decision to hold the meeting virtually could not be made until October 2020. Additionally, while the abstract assignment and reviewing went relatively smoothly, the process of creating a program through virtual meetings led to many more wrinkles than we had anticipated. Assigning papers/posters to sessions became more complicated and the task of ensuring that all papers had been organized less transparent and more drawn out (in comparison to the very efficient in-person protocol that the PC has always had). This is just something to plan for in case the virtual format continues for next year.

The (completely unavoidable) delay in making the decision to transition to an in-person meeting meant that presenters felt uncertain about the arrangements they needed to make for potential travel as well as for presentation. It also led to a delay in determining the mode of presentation for talks and posters. The spreading of poster presentations across multiple thematic poster sessions rather than concentrating all posters in two plenary sessions, with time for individual "lightening-talks" is a format that we hope will work for this virtual meeting. We will be monitoring this particular part of the program closely to see what we can learn about the attendance and participation in these sessions (in case a virtual format needs to be adopted for future meetings).

## **Nominations to the PC for 2021-22**

The PC chairs nominated five new members to the Program Committee to replace the members whose terms end after the 2021 Annual Meeting; the nominations were approved by the Executive Committee.

### **Incoming junior PC chair 1:** Kristine Yu (UMass)

Yu is a phonetician and will cover the broad areas of phonetics, prosody, language learning and variation, modelling. She also has expertise in African American linguistics and Polynesian and Formosan languages.

### **Incoming junior PC chair 2:** Sarah Murray (Cornell)

Murray is a semanticist bringing in expertise in fieldwork, language documentation, and American Indigenous languages.

### **PC member 1:** Anna Babel (OSU)

Babel is a sociolinguist and a linguistic anthropologist. Her research focus is the relationship between language and social categories, particularly in settings of language contact such as Bolivia. She has expertise in the role of language in the construction of US and Latino/a/x identities.

### **PC member 2:** David Quinto-Pozos (UT Austin)

Quinto-Pozos is a sign linguist with interests in developmental signed language disorders, constructed action, language contact, signed-spoken language interpretation.

### **PC member 3:** Andrea Sims (OSU)

Sims is a theoretical morphologist with expertise in Slavic, typology, historical linguistics, and modeling.