

LSA 2009
Minutes of the LiSC Committee Meeting
Saturday January 10, 2009

Present: Jean Ann, Wayne O'Neil, Lori Levin, Dragomir R. Radev, Jeff Reaser, Carolyn Adger, Kristin Denham, David Bowie, Rebecca Wheeler, John Boyle, Anne Lobeck, Sharon Klein, Michal Temkin Martinez

1. Meeting was called to order by Tom Payne at 8:00 am. Tom reminded the committee and affiliates of what it is concerned with by reading the charge to the committee from the LSA. Tom passed around copies of the report he wrote on behalf of LiSC for 2008.
2. Reports of activities of the past year (2008) were heard:
 - a) Kristin Denham reported on the Western Washington University's *Linguistics in Education* Workshop. She invited us- and all interested linguists and teachers- to this year's workshop to be held in Bellingham, Washington June 24-26, 2009. Workshop is free!
 - b) Lori Levin explained why the North American Computational Linguistics Organization (NACLO) is so named- the use of the word "computational" is an effective strategy to attract students to the field. She introduced Dragomir Radev who passed around NACLO's 2009 handbook. NACLO is enjoying huge support from high school students around the country!
 - c) Jean Ann reported about a session at the November 2008 NCTE Conference in San Antonio which was run by our NCTE colleagues Jerrie Scott, Chris Iddings, Laurie Katz and Latoya Hardman as well as the LSA/LiSC members Jean Ann, Bruce Peng and David Brown. Committee members and affiliates stressed the importance of this sort of collaboration with NCTE. Conversations about a joint grant LSA/NCTE continue.
 - d) Kristin Denham reported on the TeachLing Website where lessons involving linguistics are posted. It is an onerous task to keep this website updated, and attendees suggested that the LSA technology committee might be able to help find a way to develop and maintain this website.
 - e) Wayne O'Neil reported on collaboration with a Malden High School ESL teacher who has training in Applied Linguistics. The teacher sought out Wayne (and Maya Honda) to work together to teach the ESL kids!

f) Jeff Reaser is working on an 18 month grant working with middle school teachers on linguistic inquiry. They presented at conferences.

g) Rebecca Wheeler just finished a one-year grant blending English and physics.

3. We conflated our discussion of emergent literacy and language study/awareness and the possible panel topics for next year's LSA Annual Meeting. (Items 3 and 4 on the Agenda prepared by Tom Payne).

Sharon Klein suggested we get people like Ken Pugh at Haskins Laboratory and Maryanne Wolfe at Tufts, who are taking more experimental approaches to questions about language, to do a panel.

Anne Lobeck suggested that we do a panel on the results that linguists who have been working in schools have seen. What have we (or others) been able to make happen as a result of our work on linguistics in the schools?

Jeff Reaser noted that many disciplines have gotten into schools and been very successful- why not linguistics? In NCATE's documents, the language linguists want to see is there—for example, NCATE talks about “Englishes” as opposed to “English.”

Extra curricular clubs are being established in high schools as a result of NACLO and other things.

James Sledd's work from the 1960s used a metaphor of education as a three-legged stool—schools have knocked out the language leg, and we have to get it back.

Lori Levin asked for a sub-committee of LiSC to be convened to investigate how to support the administration of NACLO. LiSC decided to establish a task force to figure out what to ask LSA for in terms of this.

4. As far as committee membership, LiSC elected Michal Temkin Martinez to replace the outgoing student member of the LiSC committee. Rebecca Wheeler will replace Tami Kaplan whose term is also up.

A chair will be needed for the LiSC committee for January 2010. Nominations (including self-nominations) can be made to Tom Payne by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 am.

These minutes were taken by Jean Ann