

LAGB Annual Meeting 2008: University of Essex

First Circular, Call for Papers

(and Call for Nominations for the LAGB student committee: see page 5)

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain will be held at the University of Essex, from 10th to 13th September. The local organisers will be **Sonja Eisenbeiss**, **Nancy Kula**, and **Bob Borsley**. The Meeting will last four days and will feature several special events, listed below.

Special events

1. The **Henry Sweet Lecture 2008** will be delivered by **Professor Paul Kiparsky** (Stanford University) on the evening of 10th September, title to be confirmed.
2. The **Linguistics Association Lecture 2008** will be delivered by **Professor Bernard Comrie** (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology) on 13th September, with the title 'Exploiting WALS: New Developments in Areal Typology'.
3. There will also be a Workshop entitled '**New perspectives on the phonological cycle**' related to **Paul Kiparsky's** Henry Sweet Lecture, on the afternoon of 10th August, featuring talks by **Ricardo Bermúdez-Otero** (Manchester), **Geert Booij** (Leiden), and **Sarah Collie** (Edinburgh).
4. There will also be a special themed session on 13th September, related to **Bernard Comrie's** Linguistics Association Lecture, with the title '**Language Contact**', for which **abstracts are now invited**. These should be submitted in the same way as abstracts for the general sessions, but should be clearly marked that they are intended for the special session. We welcome abstracts for this session which connect with the topic of Language Contact in any way.
5. There will be a **Language Tutorial** on **Archi**, given by Marina Chumakina, Dunstan Brown and Greville Corbett (University of Surrey).
6. There will be a session organised by the LAGB's **Education Committee** with the title "Foreign languages: changes at school (and university?). How changes in primary and secondary education will affect future undergraduates, and how universities can help." Speakers will include Ros Mitchell (Southampton) and Paul Rowlett (Salford). Further details will soon be made available on this website: www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/dick/ec/ecsessions.htm.

Deadline for abstracts: 4th April. For details of abstract submission, see below. Abstracts may be submitted either electronically or in hard copy, although electronic submission is preferred. Sets of abstracts may be submitted together for a themed session of your choice (for further details, see below).

Venue

The University of Essex is based in Wivenhoe Park on the south-eastern outskirts of Colchester and close to the picturesque village of Wivenhoe. Colchester claims to be the oldest town in Britain. It was mentioned by Pliny the Elder in AD 77 and was the first Roman capital of Britain. It was attacked and destroyed during Boudica's rebellion in AD 61, and sometime after the destruction, London became the capital. In 1648, during the English Civil War, the town was besieged by the Parliamentary army for eleven and a half weeks. Colchester Castle Museum, located in the Colchester Castle, includes among other things an extensive exhibit on Roman Colchester.

- Further local information will soon be available on the conference website: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/LAGB2008>

Accommodation

Rooms will be available in the immediate vicinity of the conference venue. Further details will be provided in the second circular.

Travel

Colchester is 56 miles northeast of London. It is connected to the capital by the A12 road and the Great Eastern Main Line. Stansted (London's third international airport) is just 45 minutes away by road via the A120 and A12. There is also an hourly bus service from Stansted Airport direct to the Colchester campus. The University is also 30 minutes by road from the port of Harwich (follow the A120). Basic location information can be found at: www.essex.ac.uk/about/find.html

Call for Papers

Both members and non-members are invited to offer papers for the Meeting. The LAGB welcomes submissions on any topic in the field of linguistics; papers are selected on their (perceived) merits, and not according to their subject matter or theoretical framework.

How and when to submit an abstract

Abstracts may be submitted *either* (i) by email *or* (ii) on paper by post. Electronic submission is preferred. Abstracts should be formatted as explained below – this is the same for both means of abstract submission.

(i) For **electronic** submissions: you will need to send an email with TWO attachments – one of the attached files should be an anonymous copy of the abstract (and should be named yoursurname-anon.pdf, or yoursurname-anon.doc, etc.), and the other should have your name, email address and affiliation, i.e. be CAMERA-READY (and should be named yoursurname-name.pdf, etc.). The abstracts should be sent in the format outlined below, and the email should be sent to the President (to THIS ADDRESS: lagb.abstracts@gmail.com). In the body of the email that you send the attachments with, you should include your address for correspondence (email and surface) and the title of the abstract. There should be only one name and address for correspondence, even if several authors are named on the abstract. The attached files should be in one of the following formats: pdf (preferred), or Word, or plain text. Any phonetic characters should either be embedded in a pdf file, or be in the Doulos SIL font, which can be downloaded for free from this site: <http://scripts.sil.org/DoulosSIL> download

(ii) For **paper** submissions: FIVE anonymous copies of the abstract, plus ONE with name and affiliation, i.e. CAMERA-READY, should be submitted, and should be sent in the format outlined below to the President by post (see address below). You should write your address for correspondence (email and surface) on the BACK of the camera-ready copy. (Even if several authors are named on the front, there should be only one name and address for correspondence.)

Papers for the programme are selected anonymously – only the President knows the name of the authors. If an abstract is accepted for the meeting, the camera-ready copy will be used to produce the abstracts booklet. All abstracts should be accompanied (in the email or a letter) by an account of **any** requirements for **audiovisual equipment**. While we will make every effort to provide such equipment, we cannot guarantee that it will be available. The normal length for papers delivered at LAGB meetings is 25 minutes (plus 15 minutes discussion).

All abstracts must arrive by or on ***4th April 2008***. The committee will plan the programme as soon as it has selected the abstracts, so please indicate **in the e-mail or on the separate sheet with your name and affiliation** if you cannot present your paper on any particular day in the conference. Please indicate **on the anonymous abstract** if your abstract is intended for the themed session on **Language Contact**.

Abstract format

Abstracts must be presented as follows: the complete, camera-ready abstract (i.e. the one containing your name and affiliation) must be no longer than ONE A4 page (or standard ‘American letter’ size if A4 paper is not available to you) with margins of at least 2.5cm on all sides. Only the first page of any abstract submitted will be considered – no appendices or pages for references can be accepted. If the formatting instructions are not followed the abstract may not be considered. You may use single spacing but type must be no smaller than 12 points. If the paper is accepted, the abstract will be inserted directly into the collection of abstracts given to participants, so the presentation should be clear and clean.

The following layout should be considered as standard:

(title) **Optimality and the Klingon vowel shift**

(speaker and email address) *Clark Kent* (clark@astro.mars.ac.mars)

(institution) Department of Astrology, Eastern Mars University

Content of abstracts

The following guidelines may be useful:

- You should clearly describe the paper’s general topic. The topic may be a problem of theory or analysis or set of data which have not previously been analysed.
- You should describe your treatment of the topic, and how it relates to previous work on the same topic. (When referring to previous work, it is enough to cite “Author (Date)” in the body of the abstract without giving full bibliographical details.) It is not acceptable simply to promise a solution.
- You should explain how you will justify your treatment, and cite crucial evidence – you must trust the committee (and other conference attendees) not to steal your ideas before you have presented them. If you are taking a stand on a controversial issue, summarise the arguments which lead you to take up this position.

Themed sessions

As well as individual abstracts, groups of speakers may submit a set of abstracts for a themed session (or panel) on any subject of their choice. Such groups will normally take up a whole session (ideal numbers of abstracts for such sessions might be 3, 4, 5 or 6). All the abstracts for such sessions will be considered together, as a group, and one contact for the whole session should be provided. Abstracts for such themed sessions should be submitted together, to the President, with the same format as specified for individual abstracts. Please contact the president directly if you have any questions about this.

Conference bursaries for postgraduate students and unwaged members

Up to fifteen bursaries are available for unsalaried members of the Association (e.g. PhD students). Preference will be given to those who are presenting a paper, but if there are not fifteen applications from those presenting papers, applications from non-presenting attenders will also be considered. Applications should be sent to the President, and must be received by the deadline for abstracts. If you are submitting an abstract and applying for a bursary, **BOTH SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TOGETHER** – if you are submitting your abstract electronically, you should include the application as another attachment to the message. If you are not submitting an abstract, but are eligible for a bursary, then you are still encouraged to apply (either in hard copy or by email, to the President, whose contact details are given below).

Applicants for bursaries must be members of the Association, although applications for membership may be submitted at the same time as applications for bursaries (applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Secretary, address below). The **application form** for the bursaries can be downloaded from the LAGB website from this address: <http://www.lagb.org.uk/sponsorships.htm>

The bursary normally covers the conference registration fee and travel within the UK, but not accommodation costs. Those presenting a paper will receive an additional amount of £40.00 as a contribution to other costs.

Communications with the membership

Website

The LAGB website can be found at www.lagb.org.uk

Mailing list

Details of the LAGB mailing list can be found here: www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/lagb.html

The list is to be used to disseminate circulars and other information that may be of interest to members and to consult members. You will be subscribed to the list by the membership secretary, but may ask to be unsubscribed, if you so choose. Messages sent to lagb@jiscmail.ac.uk will be distributed to the list, once they have been approved by a list moderator.

Changes of address

Members are reminded to send notification of changes of address to the Membership Secretary (for contact details see below). An institutional address is preferred.

Future Meetings

All meetings are held in late August / early September:

2009 University of Edinburgh (**50th anniversary meeting**) 6th-9th September 2009

2010 University of Leeds

2011 Your university here...?

The Meetings Secretary would very much like to receive offers of future venues, particularly from institutions which the LAGB has not previously visited, or has not visited for a while.

Nominations for speakers, workshops and language tutorials (language and/or speaker) at future meetings are also requested; all suggestions should be emailed to the Honorary Secretary. The nominations collected will be voted on by the membership at the Annual General Meeting, which is held as part of the Annual meeting.

The LAGB committee

President

Current term: 2005-2008

Professor Kersti Börjars,

Faculty of Humanities, School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures,
University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PL.

k.borjars@manchester.ac.uk [**NB:** for abstract submissions, use lagb.abstracts@gmail.com]

www.llc.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/lel/staff/kersti-borjars/

Honorary Secretary

Current term: 2007-2010

Dr David Willis,

Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages,
University of Cambridge, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA.

dwe2@cam.ac.uk

<http://people.pwf.cam.ac.uk/dwe2/>

Membership Secretary

Current term: 2007-2010

Dr Nikolas Gisborne,

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n.gisborne@ed.ac.uk

www.lel.ed.ac.uk/~ngisborn

Meetings Secretary

Current term: 2006-2009 (second term)

Dr Patrick Honeybone,

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patrick.honeybone@ed.ac.uk

www.lel.ed.ac.uk/homes/patrick/

Treasurer

Current term: 2006-2009

Dr Hans van de Koot,

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www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/hans/

Assistant Secretary

Current term: 2006-2009 (second term)

Dr Katarzyna M. Jaszczolt,

Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages,
University of Cambridge, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA.

kmj21@cam.ac.uk

www.cus.cam.ac.uk/~kmj21/

Nominations for the role of President

The President's current term of office ends this year, so nominations are requested for this position. The LAGB constitution allows committee members to serve for two consecutive terms and the current President has indicated that she is prepared to stand again, and the committee has thus nominated her for a second term. Further nominations are welcome, however, and any member may be nominated by any other member. Nominations should be sent to the Assistant Secretary by ****4th April 2008****.

Establishment of the LAGB Student Committee

At the 2007 AGM of the LAGB, it was decided that an LAGB Student Committee should be established. The committee should consist of 5 members, one of whom should be the Chair and in that role also a full member of the LAGB Committee as Student Representative.

To a certain extent, the Student Committee and the Student Representative will be able to shape their own remit and job description, but it must include the following tasks:

for the Student Committee:

- (i) to develop a procedure for distributing the money set aside for conference bursaries for PG conferences fairly;
- (ii) to encourage the organisers of these conferences to collaborate;
- (iii) to organise procedures for consulting student members as required.

for the Chair and Student Representative:

- (i) to be a full member of the LAGB Committee, this will include one committee meeting per year outside the annual general meeting and participation in abstract selection for the annual LAGB meetings.

The LAGB Student Committee will receive £200 annually to help fund the Committee members' attendance at the Annual LAGB Meeting. (It is recognised that this will not pay for all committee members to attend and it will be the decision of the Student Committee to decide how to distribute the money.) In addition to this, the Chair will have his/her travel to the LAGB Committee meetings paid for.

This arrangement will be for a three-year period in the first instance and will then be evaluated at the Business Meeting of the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations for the Student Committee are now solicited.

All student members of the LAGB (both undergraduate and postgraduate) are eligible. To register your interest, send an e-mail to the President (k.borjars@man.ac.uk) including your name, address and affiliation. Indicate clearly whether you are interested in both Chair and Ordinary member or only in one of these roles.

If there are more than five candidates, there will be an election in which all student members of the LAGB will have a vote. If a vote turns out to be needed, all candidates will be asked to submit a brief statement. If there are only five candidates but more than one candidate for Chair, the Student Committee will be asked to select a Chair within the group.

Nominations should be submitted to the President by 4th April 2008.