

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE CANADIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

5:15 p.m., Sunday, May 26, 2002, Brennan Hall 200, University of Toronto

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henrietta Cedergren (UQAM; Co-Chair), John Archibald (Calgary; Co-Chair), Martha McGinnis (Calgary; Recording Secretary), Patricia Balcom (Moncton), Anne-Marie Brousseau (Toronto), Elizabeth Cowper (Toronto), Sarah Cummins (Laval), Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (UVic), Rose-Marie Déchaine (UBC), Carrie Dyck (Memorial), Daniel Currie Hall (Toronto), David Heap (Western), Gerard van Herk (Ottawa), Paul Hopkins, John T. Jensen (Ottawa), Margaret Stong Jensen (Ottawa), Alana Johns (Toronto), Marie-Odile Junker (Carleton), Ruth King (York), Myles Leitch (Toronto/SIL), Marguerite MacKenzie (Memorial), France Martineau (Ottawa), Diane Massam (Toronto), François Poiré (Western), Paul Pupier (UQAM), Keren Rice (Toronto), Anne Rochette (UQAM), Patricia Shaw (UBC), Danijela Stojanović (Ottawa), Marie-Thérèse Vinet (Sherbrooke), James Walker (York).

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Neil Wick (Toronto), Denise Pelletier (HSSFC), Jacqueline Wright (HSSFC).

1.0 Introductions

The members of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA) and the Recording Secretary were introduced.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

It was MOVED by Cowper and SECONDED by Rice that the agenda be approved.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Photocopies were unavailable, so minutes of last year's meeting will be posted on the web for approval.

4.0 President's report (Cedergren)

Thanks: Thanks to the local representatives Anne-Marie Brousseau and Emmanuel Nikiema — as well as to Peter Reich, the Chair of the University of Toronto's Linguistics Department, for hosting a departmental lunch. Thanks to outgoing committee members Keren Rice (Past President), Diane Massam (Chair of the Program Committee), Sarah Cummins (Member-at-large), Daniel Valois (member of the Nomination Committee), and Darlene Lacharité and Betsy Ritter (members of the Program Committee). Thanks also to those who helped organize the 2002 meeting, Pat Balcom (joint sessions with Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics), Carrie Dyck and Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (panel on the ethics of language archiving and fieldwork) and John Archibald (roundtable on the past, present and future of the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*), as well as to Yvan Rose (newsletter) and Daniel Currie Hall (website).

University of Toronto Press (UTP): The Executive plans to put together a list of concerns about UTP to discuss with them this year.

Fees: Subscription and membership fees will remain the same for 2002-2003.

Constitutional amendments: CLA members voted on two amendments by mail-in ballot (attached). Of 229 members contacted, 35 voted. Both motions were CARRIED (34 for, 1 against).

Upcoming meetings: The 2003 meeting will be held at Dalhousie University. The Chair of Dalhousie's French Department, Raymond Mopoho, has kindly agreed to be the CLA's local representative. The 2004 meeting will be held at the University of Manitoba.

5.0 Report of the Secretary-Treasurer (MacKenzie)

A copy of the report is attached. The CLA continues to take in what it spends. A cushion of about \$10 000 will remain after pending and upcoming expenses. It was MOVED by Heap and SECONDED by Shaw that the Report of the Secretary-Treasurer be approved.

6.0 Report of the Editor of the Canadian Journal of Linguistics (Rochette)

A copy of the report is attached. It was MOVED by Rice and SECONDED by Junker that the Report of the Editor of CJL be approved. Rochette was presented with a gift in thanks for her two terms as Editor of CJL.

7.0 Report of the Chair of the Nominating Committee (Rice)

This year the Nominating Committee requested names of potential nominees from both the Executive Council and the CLA membership. All names submitted were either nominated or passed on to Cedergren, incoming Chair of the Nominating Committee. Rochette's term does not end until 2003, but a new editor of CJL has been nominated, whose term may begin in 2003 or sooner. The committee presented the following slate:

- Editor of CJL (5-year position): Rose-Marie Déchaine, UBC (to replace Anne Rochette)
- Member-at-Large (2-year position): Peter Avery, York University (to replace Sarah Cummins)
- Member, Program Committee (two 4-year positions): Marie-Hélène Côté, University of Ottawa; David Heap, Western University (to replace Darlene Lacharité and Betsy Ritter)
- Member, Nominating Committee (2-year position): Manuel Español Echevarria, Laval University (to replace Daniel Valois)
- Chair, Program Committee (3-year position): Christine Tellier, University of Montreal (to replace Diane Massam)
- Vice-President, President-Elect (2-year position): Glyne Piggott, McGill University (to replace John Archibald)

It was MOVED by Rochette and SECONDED by Shaw that Déchaine's nomination be approved. Cowper rose on a point of order and proposed that the nominations be closed. It was so MOVED by Brousseau and SECONDED by Massam. CARRIED unanimously.

8.0 Report of the Chair of the Program Committee (Massam)

A copy of the report is attached. Massam was presented with a gift in thanks for her work as Program Chair.

9.0 Report of Chair of the Aboriginal Languages Committee (Dyck)

A copy of the report is attached. Thanks to outgoing members Carrie Dyck (Chair), David Beck, Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins, and André Bourcier for their work. Incoming members are Darin Howe (Calgary), Susan Blake (UBC), Martina Wiltschko (UBC), and student member Cory Sheedy (Calgary).

The committee will post the *CLA Statement on Language Rights* on the website for endorsement when it is ready. Dyck thanked Czaykowska-Higgins, Junker, and Johns for their participation in the panel on the ethics of language archiving and fieldwork.

10.0 Report of CLA-CAAL Liaison (Balcom)

A copy of the report is attached. Many thanks to Balcom for her work on this committee.

11.0 Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Linguistic Association

Recent CLA Proceedings are available at two for the price of one. Thanks to Van Herk for his work as Editor of the Proceedings. The University of Alberta is considering taking over the Proceedings. Archibald invited anyone else interested to contact him. Walker had offered to investigate the possibility of an electronic format, but the new editors will need to be involved in this decision.

12.0 Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada (Denise Pelletier, Vice-President of External Communications, HSSFC)

[Presented before item 9.0 due to the arrival of HSSFC representatives.] HSSFC is changing its name to *Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences* (CFHSS), in French *Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines* (FCSH). HSSFC is building an endowment and asks members for contributions. For matching funds, the number of contributors matters more than the size of contributions. Members are asked to send in postcards included in the Congress registration package.

The 2003 CLA meeting will be held at Dalhousie University from May 28-31. Subsequent Congresses will be at University of Manitoba (2004), University of Western Ontario (2005), York University (2006), and University of Saskatchewan (2007).

Thanks to Junker for her work as the CLA's representative to HSSFC.

13.0 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Campaign (Rice)

A copy of the report is attached. Rice noted that few SSHRC research grants were awarded this year, because some were very large. She suggested applying to *Initiatives in the New Economy* for larger grants, since these come from a separate budget.

Cowper asked why SSHRC says it funds about 40-42% of applications, since only 29% of Linguistics applications were successful. Rice clarified that the 40% figure relates to budget dollars, not number of applications. If fewer than 40% of applications were approved, this means approved budgets were larger than average. The criteria for determining the Linguistics envelope are unclear. Rice suggested writing to Marc Renaud (President) or Ned Ellis (a Vice-President), rather than to Mathieu Ravignat (Linguistics Program Officer).

Heap asked why SSHRC does not cut the budgets of grant applications to allow more applications to succeed. Rice replied that student funding is rarely cut, and constitutes the bulk of most budgets. Massam asked about reducing the ceiling amount for budgets, currently \$250 000 for Standard Research Grants. Rice said there has been some discussion of a new grant category with a ceiling of \$20 000. Also, SSHRC is seeking a way to ensure that the same project does not receive funding from multiple sources, rather than each source funding a different component of the project. Rice noted that there is no separate quota for applications in the junior scholars category. However, evaluators consider senior and junior scholars separately, then integrate them.

Heap asked whether the Linguistics community wants a few large projects supported, or many smaller ones. Cedergren noted that SSHRC's Linguistics category also includes communication disorders and other areas involving costly experimental work. Déchaine noted that hi-tech applications could also go to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC). Cowper added that NSERC has a higher acceptance rate (60%-70%). Rice encouraged concerned members to write to SSHRC. Massam asked whether the Executive should also do so. It was MOVED by Heap and SECONDED by Cowper that the Executive write to SSHRC on behalf of the CLA.

14.0 Other Business

Constitutional amendments: The Executive will designate a selection procedure for the new Student Representative. It will also send out a mail-in ballot on a proposal to split the position of Secretary-Treasurer into two positions, Treasurer and Secretary.

Promotion of linguistics: The Executive solicits ideas about how to promote linguistics to the general public.

Academic career paths in linguistics: Sandra Clarke would like volunteers to help finalize the analysis of the data she collected (see report attached). Please contact her directly.

Tri-Council policy statement on research involving humans: Rice will attend a meeting on May 29 and report to the Executive by e-mail.

Cedergren was presented with a gift in thanks for her work as president of the CLA.

It was MOVED by Walker and SECONDED by Massam that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Montréal, March 26, 2002

Dear colleagues,

Adjoined you will find copies of two proposals of amendment to the Constitution of the Canadian Linguistic Association Inc. and a voting ballot. These proposals have been the object of discussions by the members of the Executive Council for a certain time. They are of different types:

The first proposal intends to correct an oversight that was made during the writing and the adoption of the new Constitution and bylaws of the Association. It concerns the official definition of the term of office of the Chairperson of the Program Committee.

The second proposal has been motivated by a desire on the part of the members of the Executive Council to have student members participate in the decision making bodies of the Association. It became clear that as a decision making body of the Association, the Executive Council is responsible for making decisions that concern all members of the Association, including student members. However, student members are absent from the Executive Council. In order to guarantee that student members be represented, it has been proposed that a student member be part of the Executive Council.

We encourage you to participate in this important process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marguerite McKenzie, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Linguistic Association at mmackenz@morgan.ucs.mun.ca. For more information about the Canadian Linguistics Association, you should consult the web site at <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~cla-acl/>.

Respectfully yours,
Henrietta J. Cedergren
President
Canadian Linguistics Association Inc.

VOTING BALLOT

PART 1 - INFORMATION CONCERNING VOTING RIGHTS

WHO MAY VOTE

Only Association members in good standing may vote. As a member in good standing, you have received this ballot.

VOTING PROCEDURE

The Secretary-Treasurer presides over the voting.

VOTING PERIOD

Votes must be cast no later than one month from the mailing date of the ballots.

RESULTS

To be adopted, an amendment must be approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast. An adopted amendment shall take effect immediately.

PART 2 - PROPOSALS

FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Article 8 of the Constitution defines the TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. Paragraph (a) concerns the term of office of the President and Vice-President, paragraph (b) concerns the term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer and the Editor of the Journal of the Association, and paragraph (c) concerns the term of office of the Members-at-large. The Executive Council examined article 8 and found that it failed to define the term of office of the Chairperson of the Program Committee, and recommended that the article be modified so that there be explicit mention of the term of office of the Chairperson of the Program Committee.

"IT IS PROPOSED THAT article 8 of the Constitution be amended as follows:

(4) The Chairperson of the Program Committee shall be elected to serve for three years, and may serve a second consecutive term."

SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Executive Council is charged with conducting the affairs of the Association, and an important number of decisions involve issues of interest to student members. The Executive Council recommends that a student member be appointed to the Council.

"IT IS PROPOSED THAT article 7 of the Constitution which defines the Composition of the Executive Council be amended as follows:

The Executive Council shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the immediate Past-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor of the journal of the Association, the Chairperson of the Program Committee, two Members-at-large, *and a student member.*"

and

"IT IS PROPOSED THAT article 8 of the Constitution which defines the TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL be amended as follows:

(5) The student member shall be appointed by the Executive Council to serve for a term of two years, and shall not be eligible to serve a second term."

VOTING BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1 - concerning the term of office of the Chairperson of the Program Committee

FOR _____ AGAINST _____

PROPOSITION 2 - concerning the appointment of a student member to the Executive Council

FOR _____ AGAINST _____

Votes should be sent, no later than April 26, 2002, by return e-mail or regular mail to:

Marguerite McKenzie
Secretary-Treasurer
Canadian Linguistic Association
Department of Linguistics
Memorial University, St. John's, New Foundland
A1B 3X9
e-mail: mmackenz@morgan.ucs.mun.ca

Report of the Treasurer of the CLA, April 1, 2001 – March 31, 2002

Month	Description	Amount	Amount
	Closing balance March 31, 2001	40,259.65	40,259.65
Revenue			
May 01	U of T press January - March 2001	4,956.24	
May 01	SSHRC Travel grant 2001	4,860.00	
August 01	U of T press April - June 2001	7,860.00	
October 01	HHSFC conference revenue \$980-135.16	844.84	
November 01	U of T Press July - September	2,640.00	
March 02	U of T Press October - December	10,098.89	
	Total revenue	31,259.97	31,259.97
Expenses			
June 01	Translation of letters	173.25	
June 01	Travel – executive	1,584.37	
June 01	Coffee breaks at Laval meetings	798.34	
June 01	Translation	45.00	
August 01	Travel – membership and executive	5,170.67	
September 01	Receiver General – Industry Canada fee, 2 years @ \$30.	60.00	
November 01	CIPL membership \$300 US	477.06	
November 01	Bank charge re above	42.00	
March 02	Travel advance – executive	881.02	
March 02	HSSFC membership fee	2,032.00	
March 02	Travel advance for Executive meeting Toronto	565.00	
	Total expenses	11,828.71	-11,828.71
	Closing balance March 31, 2002		59,690.91

Fiscal Year 2002-03			
	Opening balance April 1, 2002		59,690.91
Revenue May 02	U of T Press January - March 2001	11,653.26	
Revenue May 02	SSHRC Travel grant 2002	4,860.00	
Expense May 02	Transfer to UQAM for Canadian Journal of Linguistics	-20,000.00	
Expense May 02	Translation of minutes	-458.60	
	Subtotal	-3,945.34	-3,945.34
	Current balance as of May 24, 2002		55,745.57

CJL Subscriptions by Region

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF LINGUISTICS

04-Jun-02

	Regular	Student	Life	Comp	Institutions	Ind Mem only	Total
AB	7	4	1	0	1	0	13
BC	13	12	0	0	4	1	30
MB	6	1	0	0	3	0	10
NB	5	0	0	0	4	0	9
NF	3	0	2	0	1	0	6
NS	1	1	0	0	3	0	5
ON	46	38	3	5	20	0	112
PE	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
PQ	20	10	7	0	12	0	49
SK	4	0	0	0	2	0	6
YT	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
SUBTOTAL	106	67	13	5	51	1	243
USA	13	12	0	1	184	0	210
OTHER	17	4	1	1	89	0	112
TOTAL	136	83	14	7	324	1	565

Canadian Journal of Linguistics

Report to the Annual General Meeting of the CLA
May 26, 2001

Since the last annual meeting, Volume 45 and the first two issues (a double issue) of Volume 46 have appeared. The September-December issue of Volume 46 will be sent to the publisher next week and the March-June issue of 2002 is at the type-setting stage.

	Vol. 40	Vol. 41	Vol. 42	Vol. 43	Vol. 44	Vol. 45	Vol. 46
Articles	12	8	12	13	8	10	7
Book reviews	33	41	28	15	56	11	11
No of pages	468	420	504	476	428	372	

In 2001, 14 articles were submitted to the journal. Of these, 3 were accepted, 3 were returned to the authors for revision, and 8 were rejected. In 2002, we have received so far 8 new submissions. A new thematic issue on "Phonological Acquisition" (guest editors: Heather Goad and Yvan Rose) has just been proposed. The submissions would be due at the end of the summer and the date of publication would be 2003.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Published	10	17	10	10	7	8	
Rejected	10	7	14	12	6	15	8
Under revision							3
Under review							
To appear							3
Total	20	24	24	22	13	23	14

The journal was awarded a grant renewal from SSHRC at the last triennial competition for the Aid to Research and Transfer Journals. The journal received an overall appreciation of 90.5%, and was qualified as one of the leading scholarly journals in its field in Canada. The committee concluded that the quality of the articles is excellent and that the editorial management is solid. It also commented, however, that the journal could be doing much more internationally by being more ambitious in its dissemination abroad and its solicitation of articles from abroad.

Anne Rochette
Editor, *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. *Abstract Acceptance Rate*

110 abstracts were received by the Committee; 16 abstracts were rejected; 11 abstracts were withdrawn (=83 talks). Previous year's figures were (2001) 67/9/12(= 49 talks) (2000) 78/12/8 (= 58 talks) and (1999) 77/7/11 (= 59 talks) (1998 96/12/5 (= 79 talks). The distribution and acceptance rate by area are as follows:

area	accepted	submitted	acceptance rate (%)
discourse analysis	1	2	50
pragmatics	1	2	50
L1/L2 acquisition	7	8	88
morphology	5	5	100
phonetics	2	2	100
phonology	19	21	90
psycholinguistics	0	1	0
semantics	10	10	100
sign language	0	0	-
sociolinguistics	15	20	75
syntax	30	30	100
other/no area stated	4	9	44
total	94	110	86

2. *The Call for Papers* was posted on the CLA web site, and on Linguist List. Members were alerted by email about the posting.

3. *Meeting* The Committee met this year in Toronto. There were two members and the chair at the meeting.

4. *The electronic submission of abstracts* was successful this year. There were few technical problems

5. *Posting on the CLA's Web site* The preliminary version of the program was posted on the Web site and members were alerted by email about the posting.

6. *Thematic Sessions*. We posted a Call for special sessions. Three were submitted, and two were selected, but for different reasons, neither was developed. The new chair of the programme committee might want to develop guidelines about how to deal with special sessions.

7. *Acknowledgements*. Nicole Rosen was the Program Assistant. Daniel Currie Hall posted the call for papers and the program on the Web site. Special sessions at the conference were organized by Patricia Balcom (joint sessions with CAAL/ACLA) Carrie Dyck and Ewa Czaykowska Higgins (Aboriginal committee), and John Archibald (Round Table). Special thanks to Anne Marie Brousseau and Emmanuel Nikiema (local representatives) and The Dept. of Linguistics, U. of T. for the Lunch on Tuesday. Thanks also to Elan Drescher for his help with powerpoint presentations.

Rejean Canac-Marquis, Darlene LaCharité, Diane Massam (Chair), Betsy Ritter, and Lydia White

Annual Report, CLA Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee

prepared by Carrie Dyck

Composition of the committee

The Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee currently consists of Carrie Dyck (Chair), David Beck (representative), Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (representative), and André Bourcier (student representative). Starting in May 2002, the new committee members will be as follows. Undecided roles will be negotiated via e-mail discussion following the May 2002 meeting.

Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (eczh@uvic.ca); in charge of the 'Ethics' initiative.

Darin Howe (howed@ucalgary.ca); role not yet determined

Susan Blake (blakesj@interchange.ubc.ca); role not yet determined

Martina Wiltschko (wmartina@interchange.ubc.ca); role not yet determined

Marie-Odile Junker (mojunker@ccs.carleton.ca); advisory role

Cory Sheedy, University of Calgary (sheedy@telus.net); student representative, advisory role

André Bourcier (abourcier@yukoncollege.yk.ca) has also offered to participate in discussions of issues. He has been very helpful in providing feedback on the Language Rights statement that we are currently formulating.

Carrie Dyck (cdyck@mun.ca) is willing to continue upgrading and maintaining the web site, located at (<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~cdyck/ab.lang.html/clatocengfr.html>), unless someone else wants the job.

Committee Activities in 2001-2

At the May 26, 2001 business meeting of the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee, four recommendations were made:

- to improve the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee website (Carrie Dyck)
- to compile a list of contacts in order to create an information network to link up Aboriginal language researchers with language groups needing research (André Bourcier, Marie-Odile Junker)
- to draft a language rights statement (all committee members)
- to draft an ethics statement (all committee members)

Resultant to this meeting, the following activities have been pursued:

André Bourcier and Carrie Dyck have worked on a draft Language Rights statement. The committee will likely submit a notice of motion to accept the statement before the 2003 CLA annual meeting.

Carrie Dyck and Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins organized a panel about Ethics in Fieldwork for the 2002 CLA annual meeting. This panel begins another project, which is to draft an Ethics statement for the CLA.

While the CLA has allocated \$500.00 per year to this and other CLA subcommittees, no funds were used in 2001-2002. Carrie Dyck had suggested using some of the funds for website

development at the May 26, 2001 business meeting of the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee. However, there was mixed reaction to the idea of using the funds for the website, and the consensus was to not spend any money until further e-mail discussions took place, and such discussions did not occur.

Attachments

- draft Language Rights statement
- minutes of the May 26, 2001 business meeting of the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee

Draft CLA Statement on Language Rights, Feb. 2002

(XX and comments in brackets are material to be filled in or dealt with.)

The Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA), which was founded in 1955, has as its aim the promotion of the study of languages and linguistics in Canada. The CLA's membership of approximately XX people and XX institutions includes many of the leading experts on Aboriginal languages in Canada. In this statement, the CLA addresses some of the issues surrounding Aboriginal languages in Canada, and advocates for the protection, maintenance, and revival of Aboriginal languages.

1. Some XX Aboriginal language families and XX Aboriginal languages predate the formation of Canada. The Aboriginal languages in Canada are a unique part of Canadian heritage; many of them are not spoken anywhere else in the world. Furthermore, the traditions, world views, and expressive power of Aboriginal languages constitute one of the great intellectual and spiritual treasures of humanity. [partly cribbed from Zepeda and Hill 1991; FNCCEC web site].
2. First Nations peoples believe that "The Aboriginal Languages were given by the Creator as an integral part of life. Embodied in Aboriginal languages is our unique relationship to the Creator, our attitudes, beliefs, values, and the fundamental notion of what is truth. Aboriginal language is an asset to one's own education, formal and informal. Aboriginal language contributes to greater pride in the history and culture of the community; greater involvement and interest of parents in the education of their children, and greater respect for Elders. Language is the principal means by which culture is accumulated, shared and transmitted from generation to generation. The key to identity and retention of culture is one's ancestral language." 1992 AFN statement.
3. Many past and present members of the CLA have devoted their professional lives to documenting and analyzing Aboriginal languages in Canada. Linguists believe that Aboriginal languages are fully developed systems of communication with rich structures and expressive power, [cribbed from LSA website], and that the study of Aboriginal languages provides insight into the properties underlying human language.
4. The social environment of First Nations in Canada is changing rapidly. Although most Nations have been able to maintain their Ancestral language in their communities for the last 500 years, the political turmoil created by the recognition of First Nations ancestral rights in the Canadian Constitution and the negotiations surrounding the establishment of a land-base for each First Nation have created even more pressure on First Nation languages. Canadians have a responsibility to accompany the First Nations of Canada and help them to the best of their ability in their effort to maintain their languages in their new social structures.
5. Add in discussion of how Aboriginal language rights are recognized in Canadian law. *This might be difficult. Art. 35 of the Constitution recognize Ancestral rights (to be defined) but language laws are a provincial jurisdiction. The AFN has been pushing a Native languages law for some years but I'm not sure they can achieve something with it. There's also some distinctions that are difficult to capture. for example, The Yukon Territory doesn't have a language law but has an obligation to teach Native Languages in the Education Act. Nunavut and NWT are in the process of reviewing their Official Languages Act and it is difficult at this point to know how things will evolve. La Charte does recognize some Native Languages but it is not clear if all the languages have the same status (on one hand Inuktitut and Cree, covered by JBA, and Mohawk or Mi'kmaq on the other hand). Putting this situation in a compact form seems difficult and slippery to me but somebody else might have a better grasp of these issues.*
6. The CLA urges that at a minimum, First Nations peoples in Canada should be guaranteed the following linguistic right:

A. To maintain or revitalize their Aboriginal languages and, should they so desire, to pass them on to their children.

Furthermore, the CLA urges:

B. That legislation be enacted to recognize and protect Aboriginal languages, not as artefacts of a distant past but as essential parts of the contemporary tapestry of Canadian languages.

C. That stable, long-term funding be provided to enable First Nations peoples to maintain or revitalize Aboriginal languages. *It might be a good idea to recognize the funding already given (Nunavut-Canada agreements, NWT-Canada agreements and Yukon-Canada agreements on Native Languages at least and there might be something at the provincial levels). Of course it is not enough ... but let's not be ungrateful!*

Prepared by the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee of the Canadian Linguistic Association

Approved by ***

Ratified by ***

Date

Minutes of the May 26, 2001 meeting of the CLA Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee

Present: Anne-Marie Baraby, André Bourcier Carrie Dyck (Chair), Marie-Odile Junker, Marguerite MacKenzie, Keren Rice.

A. Executive of the Subcommittee: Carrie to remain Chair for one more year; looking for another member to replace outgoing Kevin Russell. Suggestions for new members for next year included Leslie Saxon (U Vic), Sally Rice (U Alberta) or members of her CURA grant. The current executive includes:

- *Carrie Dyck (Chair; 1 year remaining)
- *David Beck (representative; 1 year remaining)
- *André Bourcier (student representative; 1 year remaining)

I also send correspondence to John O'Meara (Lakehead U.), and he occasionally advises.

B. We began to discuss the minutes of the 2000 meeting of the Aboriginal Languages subcommittee; this meeting took place in Edmonton. At that meeting, one of the main recommendations was to work on the AbLangs website (<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~cdyck/ab.lang.html/clatocengfr.html>) in order to reach out to the community more effectively.

Carrie Dyck gratefully acknowledges that the CLA executive committee has committed to provide \$500.00 per year to the subcommittee; the CLA executive also provided an additional \$500.00 per year for seed funding. Originally, it was intended that the funding would go towards developing the website to make it more attractive for an external funding proposal. However, the consensus of the meeting was that the money should not be spent until further e-mail discussion had taken place.

André Bourcier suggested an information network to link up Aboriginal language researchers with language groups needing research. He also suggested adding URLs of researchers working on Aboriginal Languages to the website.

André Bourcier and Marie-Odile Junker will collaborate to compile a list of contacts to organizations such as the AFN.

The idea of a book that would make a statement by Canadian language activists was discussed. This would replace the idea of a special journal issue of the CJL. A book, (or, new suggestion: possibly a special journal edition of *Linguistica Atlantica*) is a likely future project but not for the coming year.

Keren Rice lead discussion on two types of support for Aboriginal language activism: 1) letter-writing on specific issues, which can be coordinated through the CLA e-mail list, etc., and 2) formulating two types of statements, a linguistic rights statement and an ethics statement for fieldwork.

The consensus emerging from the meeting was to do the following:

* to get the CLA executive to charge the committee to propose a Canadian linguistic rights statement. Our committee would then give notice of the statement and circulate it in preparation for the next AGM.

* to also work on an ethics statement for fieldwork in particular.

*procedurally, this is to take place by having an internal consultant group via e-mail, followed by more extensive discussion via the CLA e-mail list.

**Report to CLA Executive by Patricia Balcom, CLA-CAAL Liaison
Toronto, May 24, 2002.**

First of all I would like to say how very much I enjoyed working with Anne-Marie Baraby, my counterpart for the CAAL, over the last year. Unfortunately she will not be able to continue next year because she wants to concentrate on finishing her doctoral dissertation. I would also like to thank Diane Massam for her “précieuse collaboration”. She responded quickly and efficiently to all of my requests, and I am pleased with the way the CLA/CAAL joint session is presented in the programme.

The following are points which Henrietta Cedergren asked me to address, as well as issues I thought it important to raise:

- 1) Joint activity. Anne-Marie and I organized a round table entitled “Language and Identity/Langue et Identité” which will be held on May 26 from 9 to 12. We received funding from the Interdisciplinary Outreach Programme of the HSSFC, for which we are grateful.
- 2) Mandate of liaison officers. I would suggest a mandate of two or three years, possibly the same as members at large. The mandates of the representatives for the two associations should be staggered so that there is always a more experienced person on the committee.
- 3) Programme.
 - i. First of all, I fully understand concerns about there being a commitment to a three-hour block every year. Given the theme of the Congress this year, as well as the varied research interests of the members of both associations, it seemed the most appropriate format. However, it is certainly possible that the structure of past activities, for example one guest speaker with a reception following, will be repeated in the future.
 - ii. Another issue regarding the programme is the possibility of synchronizing them. As it stands now, sessions do not begin or end at the same time, making it difficult for members to move to activities between associations. (I am fully aware of the possible logistical problems involved in this.)
- 4) Combined memberships. Currently, a regular membership in the CAAL is \$55 and in the CLA \$45, while conference fees are \$25 and \$15 respectively. Since most membership money goes towards publication of the journals of the associations, I'm not sure they should be combined. What I think might be worth exploring is a combined conference fee.
- 5) Shared research areas. The areas where there is the most overlap between the associations are sociolinguistics, aboriginal languages and L2 acquisition/learning. According to the CLA Programme Committee report last year, at the 2001 conference there were 8 in sociolinguistics and 4 in L2 acquisition out of a total of 58. I did a rough count of the CAAL's programme for 2002: there were 8 in sociolinguistics and 5 in

acquisition/psycholinguistics out of a total of 81. (I don't have statistics for presentations on aboriginal languages.).

- 6) As I write this report I don't know whether sharing expenses for refreshments at breaks was successful. This matter should be discussed after the Congress.
- 7) Other joint activities. Early on in the conference planning there was some discussion by the on-site organizers of the two organizations about a joint social activity, and the CAAL recently sent out a message to CLA members inviting them to dinner at a French restaurant. This is a good idea, but it would be difficult for people not on site to organize. Should this be a suggested responsibility of the on-site organizers if they wish to do so?

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Balcom

SSHRC campaign

May 2002

In Marc Renaud's April letter reporting on the March meeting of SSHRC Council (available on the SSHRC web site), he laid out the budgetary crisis that SSHRC currently faces. He says in that letter '... in the collective interests of the research community and the country, the Board has decided to gamble [by risking a significant budgetary over-commitment in future years to keep the new tide of research energy, ingenuity and innovation rising].' Given this scenario, the report urges every colleague to 'treat it as a personal responsibility to address the seriousness of the situation by doing any or all of the following: • convey, concretely, to members of Parliament and others in the non-academic community what social sciences and humanities research contributes to the creation of Canadians' wealth and quality of life; • explain how the serious, chronic under-funding of social sciences and humanities research and students damages Canada's ability to adjust to the economic and social challenges that will only intensify in the wake of 9-11 and increasing globalization; • answer the government's call to help identify –during the upcoming national consultation process – what Canada must do to become a leading innovator in both economic and social terms.'

Here are some points regarding SSHRC funding (from a draft of a SSHRC document):

- SSHRC's mandate is broad, including the traditional humanities and social science disciplines as well as administration/business, fine and creative arts and law. SSHRC is the only funding agency with such a wide spectrum of research/scholarly interests.
- The research community involved with SSHRC comprises some 18,000 and 40,000 students enrolled in research training at the masters and doctoral level.
- SSHRC is 'up against the wall' in its ability to respond to the legitimate needs of a changing research community and research environment. In the absence of major incremental funding, SSHRC will have to cancel one or more major programs, setting back the work of the past five years.
- Increasingly new researchers in the SSH are involved in sponsored research. Young faculty now apply in greater numbers. SSHRC forecasts that, within 5 years, it will be called upon to support at least 50% of its community through some form of direct support.
- SSHRC is having to apply an unduly high standard of quality 'cut-off' in what grants it funds that compromise opportunities for vulnerable groups. Many projects rated as strong and meritorious by the peer review system are denied funds. This has a particularly deleterious effect on new scholars, researchers from small institutions and researchers from provinces that do not have a strong research infrastructure and critical mass in research.
- SSHRC has a number of serious gaps in its program portfolio (e.g., support for masters level study; support for undergraduate experience in research; prizes and prestige awards for outstanding achievement in research; career awards; targeted chairs)
- SSHRC has not had the financial or staff capacity to develop program mechanisms for support of emerging areas of research activity (e.g., new media studies).

- The stipends for student support at the doctoral and post-doctoral level are not competitive with other funding agencies. Most grants are not large enough to support a graduate student.
- There is an increasing use of quantitative data in research. The humanities are increasingly interested in using research infrastructure obtained through CFI (UBC museum, humanities computing, historical data), but will require SSHRC funds to ensure a research return on the investment.
- Research is making a difference at the community level. CURA
- Research leadership and collaborations. Major Collaborative Research Initiatives
- New targeted thrusts. Areas of particular importance for the development of policy-relevant research outputs and capability
- Interdisciplinary. There is a growth in interdisciplinarity both across SSHRC and across all scientific endeavours.

SSHRC asks that we:

- write letters – with your own stories of a) important things that are happening in your research area today and b) the impact of the lack of funds
- talk with your local MP to communicate the importance and social return on the research that is going on
- mobilize others to do the same (researchers, associations, universities)

Note that SSHRC is really asking that we write letters outlining personal experiences. They suggest that each person should write about their own needs, the needs of their discipline or their university, as they believe that this will be more effective than form letters (but do mail in the cards to Allan Rock, Minister of Industry, and your local MP that you received at registration).

[submitted by Keren Rice]

**Update on the CLA “Academic Career Paths in Linguistics” Questionnaire
May 2002
Sandra Clarke, Memorial University**

The 1996 Canadian Linguistic Association’s “Academic Career Paths in Linguistics” Questionnaire was adapted from a questionnaire designed by the LSA, and covered a range of topics relating to the career paths of Canadian linguists (e.g. working life, financial support, mentoring and personal support). It was completed in 1996-7 by 110 Canadian linguists, 71 of whom (65%) were female, and 39 (35%) male. It was subsequently analysed via the computerized questionnaire analysis package WinSurvey, and reanalysed via the Statistical Program for the Social Sciences (SPSS), by Sandra Clarke, who reported on results at the 1997 meeting of the (apparently now defunct) CLA Committee on the Status of Women, held at the Learned’s at Memorial University. The questionnaire was completed primarily by linguists affiliated with Linguistics departments (70%), although 14% were employed by French departments, and 5% by departments of English. Responses were obtained from linguists representing all regions of the country, as well as from a small number working or studying elsewhere; 37% of the total respondents came from Ontario universities, with another 20% from Quebec. 60% of those who completed the questionnaire were over 40 years of age (this figure rose to 72% for males). Of the 110 respondents, 27 were Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows; some 74% of the faculty respondents were tenured, the majority holding the rank of associate or full professor; and only six respondents declared themselves contractual appointees.

While the questionnaire contains an under-representation of male linguists, and quite probably of younger faculty as well, it does provide good regional representation. While Sandra Clarke has produced a general summary of the quantitative results, volunteers are needed to help co-author a final article. This will involve balancing the quantitative results with the qualitative comments also elicited in the questionnaire, and, more importantly, placing and interpreting these results within the broader framework of the situation of women in Canadian (possibly North American) academia. The results of the individual questionnaires will also have to be compared with results that have emerged from the (considerably shorter) departmental version of the questionnaire, which was administered between 1996 and approximately 1998-9, and analysed by David Heap of the University of Western Ontario.