

**THE CANADIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**5:00 p.m. — Monday, June 2, 2003**

**Room 240, Life Science Centre, Dalhousie University**

**PRESENT:**

John Archibald (Calgary; Co-Chair), Glyne Piggott (McGill; Co-Chair), Martha McGinnis (Calgary; Recording Secretary), Peter Avery (York), Parth Bhatt (Toronto), Jonathan Bobaljik (McGill), Julie Brittain (Memorial), Henrietta Cedergren (UQAM), Marie-Hélène Côté (Ottawa), Elizabeth Cowper (Toronto), Sarah Cummins (Laval), Monique Dufresne (UQAM), Dana Geber (Ottawa), Elaine Gold (Toronto/Queen's), Daniel Hall (Toronto), David Heap (Western), Marguerite MacKenzie (Memorial), Emmanuel Nikiema (Toronto), Charlotte Reinholtz (Queen's), Yves Roberge (Toronto), Yvan Rose (Memorial), Sheila Scott (Ottawa), Patricia Shaw (UBC), Daniela Stojanović (McGill), Christine Tellier (Montréal), Lisa Travis (McGill), Douglas Wharram (Memorial), Martina Wiltschko (UBC), Susi Wurmbrand (McGill).

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Neil Wick (York), Donald Fisher (CFHSS), Paul Ledwell (CFHSS).

**1.0 INTRODUCTIONS**

The members of the CLA Executive, the Recording Secretary, and two CFHSS representatives were introduced.

**2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was **MOVED** by Bhatt and **SECONDED** by Heap that the agenda be approved. Motion **CARRIED**.

**3.0 Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences** (D. Fisher, Vice-President, Research Dissemination; P. Ledwell, Executive Director)

Last year's postcard campaign for graduate fellowships was successful. The federal government is funding 4 000 new graduate fellowships per year (2 000 MA, 2 000 PhD), for a total of \$500 million; 60% of these will go to Humanities and Social Sciences. The Master's fellowship is for one year; the doctoral fellowship is for three years at \$35 000 per year. Conference participants are encouraged to send this year's postcard about SSHRC funding to Industry Minister Allan Rock and to their local MP. SSHRC approval rates are only 40% for standard research grants, while NSERC approves 72%. CFHSS is also working on an endowment campaign, and a public relations campaign for the Humanities and Social Sciences. It is conducting a survey to learn more about member associations.

The 2004 Congress will be at the University of Manitoba from May 29 – June 6. The CLA dates are May 29 – June 1. Congress 2005: University of Western Ontario; 2006: York University; 2007: University of Saskatchewan; 2008: University of British Columbia.

#### **4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was MOVED by Shaw and SECONDED by Rose that the minutes of the 2002 CLA meeting be approved. Motion CARRIED.

#### **5.0 PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (J. Archibald)**

*2001 minutes:* The minutes of the 2001 AGM have been approved and posted on the web.

*Thanks:* Thanks to outgoing committee members Pat Shaw (Member-at-Large), Anne Rochette (editor of the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*), Jila Ghomeshi (Nominating Committee member), and Lydia White (Program Committee member). Thanks also to Raymond Mopoho (local Dalhousie representative), Glyne Piggott (organizer of the Round Table on Linguistics in the Undergraduate Curriculum), Martina Wiltschko (organizer of the Aboriginal Languages Committee business meeting), Pat Balcom (CLA-CAAL liaison and co-organizer of joint CLA-CAAL session), Éliane Lebel (translator), Yvan Rose (editor of newsletter), Daniel Currie Hall (webmaster), Peter Avery (organizer of Outstanding Student Paper Competition), and Sophie Burelle and Stanca Somesfalean (editors of 2002 Proceedings).

*Joint session of CLA-CAAL:* Archibald announced the joint CLA-CAAL session, featuring a talk by Shana Poplack, and encouraged members to attend.

*SSHRC:* Congratulations to the CLA members who received SSHRC grants. At least nineteen CLA members received Standard Research Grants — about \$2.3 million research dollars in total.

*CLA Proceedings:* UQAM has generously taken on the task of publishing the Proceedings. The 2002 Proceedings are being edited by Sophie Burelle and Stanca Somesfalean, and will be available on CD only. Cummins felt that the Proceedings deadlines should take the CLA conference dates into account. Bhatt noted that the French and English versions of the style sheet were slightly different. Archibald responded that next time a template will be available for authors to download.

*Canadian Institutes for Health Research:* Archibald has written to CIHR president Alan Bernstein to ensure that Linguistics applications are evaluated fairly. There is no Linguistics representative on the CIHR adjudication committee.

*Ethics panel:* The CLA has submitted names of linguists for nomination to the Tri-Council Ethics panel.

#### **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

##### **6.1 Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws (J. Archibald & M. MacKenzie)**

Members voted unanimously to approve amendments to split the position of Secretary-Treasurer into two positions, Secretary and Treasurer (35 e-mail votes).

## **6.2 Archives (M. MacKenzie)**

MacKenzie received 21 boxes from previous Secretary-Treasurer. Culling of duplicate copies and disposal of old equipment has reduced the number of boxes to six. These will stay at Memorial University, unless anyone wants to borrow them for the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the journal. The archives include a nearly complete set of CJL volumes; a request will be sent out for contributions to fill the gaps.

Cummins asked whether the archives will stay permanently at Memorial, or move with the Treasurer position. MacKenzie responded that as Memorial has storage space, ideally the next Treasurer will also be from Memorial.

## **7.0 REPORTS**

### **7.1 Report of the Secretary-Treasurer (M. MacKenzie)**

See attached report. In 2002, CLA received about \$25 700 from CJL subscriptions and membership, and returned \$20 000 to CJL, leaving \$5 700 to run the association. SSHRC provided a travel grant. There was a small accidental overpayment of travel support. CLA conference expenses were about \$3 000, including photocopying, mailing, translation, catering, and travel; catering alone now uses up the conference registration fees. The Executive will consider raising *conference* fees for regular members next year. It was **MOVED** by Gold and **SECONDED** by Reinholz that the Secretary-Treasurer's report be approved. Motion **CARRIED**.

### **7.2 Report of the Editor of the Canadian Journal of Linguistics (presented by J. Archibald)**

See attached report. The financial report reflects increased activity within calendar year. 2002 issues are out, and the first two issues for 2003 are ready. The remaining issues for 2003 will be a combined thematic issue, edited by Heather Goad and Yvan Rose. CJL is now a supporting publisher on the Linguist List, which could increase submission rates. Thanks to Marie-Claude Boivin for her work on the index, CJL website, and Linguist List.

### **7.3 Report of the Chair of the Nominating Committee (H. Cedergren)**

The committee received a long list of nominees, and also considered the list from last year. The nominations are as follows:

*Member-at-Large* (2-year position): Carrie Dyck, Memorial University (to replace Pat Shaw)

*Member, Nominating Committee* (2-year position): Ileana Paul, University of Western Ontario (to replace Jila Ghomeshi)

*Member, Program Committee* (4-year position): Sali Tagliamonte, University of Toronto (to replace Lydia White).

No student member was nominated. The Nominating Committee will draft terms of reference for this position. The Executive has also nominated:

*Secretary* (5-year position): Martha McGinnis, University of Calgary (new position).

It was **MOVED** by Roberge and **SECONDED** by Hall that the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee and Executive be approved. Motion **CARRIED**.

#### **7.4 Report of the Chair of the Program Committee (C. Tellier)**

See attached report. The acceptance rate was lower this year, though the same standards were applied. There were some problems with electronic submission of CLA abstracts, but none were too serious. Thanks to Daniel Currie Hall for his help with the web submission form, and especially to former Program Committee Chair, Diane Massam, for her advice.

#### **7.5 Report of the Chair of the Student Paper Contest Committee (P. Shaw)**

See attached report. Thanks to the committee members who evaluated the papers. The committee was impressed with the number (31) and quality of papers in the competition. The winners were Denis Liakin, Simone Conradie. Honourable Mentions: Marc Brunelle, Elissa Flagg, Ilana Mezhevich, and Rebecca Smollett. New guidelines suggest one winner and two Honourable Mentions. The committee plans to notify not only winning students, but also their Department Heads, and to announce winning entries on the CLA e-mail list, the Linguist List, and the CLA website.

#### **7.6 Report of the Chair of the Committee on Aboriginal Languages (M. Wiltschko)**

See attached report. The committee is still developing the Statement on Language Rights document. They would like more input from aboriginal communities, and legal advice.

Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins, Keren Rice, and some anthropologist colleagues have submitted a proposal to Tri-Council for funding to draft ethics guidelines for fieldwork. The request was submitted in May and has not yet received a response.

#### **7.7 Report of the CLA-CAAL Liaison (presented by J. Archibald)**

See attached report. The Presidents of the CLA and CAAL will be working on how to change or improve the collaboration between the two associations.

#### **7.8 Report of the Status of Women in Linguistics Committee (presented by D. Heap)**

CFHSS has produced a summary report on the status of women in academia. Pat Balcom and Sandra Clarke will report on the Career Paths questionnaire study before the end of 2003.

The committee meeting was short, with only four attendees. The committee is seeking a new role to play. Some issues include mentoring, the status of sessional instructors, and the promotion of linguistics through outreach to schools. Archibald stated that the Executive would be open to suggestions from the committee about a possible change in mandate. Gold and Travis suggested that the committee could work on the outreach issue, given the interest raised at the Round Table. Piggott offered to produce a statement reflecting the consensus of the Round Table, to circulate among the membership for feedback.

#### **8.0 OTHER BUSINESS**

Rose announced that the newsletter now goes out to about 360 recipients. He requested copies of departmental e-mail lists, to help keep track of addresses. McGinnis suggested that a request for updates be sent around in September.

## **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED by Cowper and SECONDED by Bobaljik that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

## Budget Report of the Secretary-Treasurer, April 1, 2002 – March 31, 2003

Month	Description	Amount	Amount
	<b>Closing balance March 31, 2002</b>		<b>59,690.91</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
May 02	U of T Press January-March 2002	11,653.26	0
May 02	SSHRC Travel grant 2002	4,860.00	0
May 02	Refund of operating float for Proceedings (U Ottawa)	2,500.00	0
July 02	U of T Press April-June 2002	3,294.00	0
July 02	GST rebate	436.70	0
July 02	U of T Press July-September 2002	1,509.00	0
September 02	HHSFC conference revenue	1,490.00	0
February 03	U of T Press September-December 2002	9,301.00	0
	<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>35,043.96</b>	<b>35,043.96</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			0
May 02	Transfer to UQAM for Canadian Journal of Linguistics	-20,000.00	0
May 02	Translation of minutes	-458.60	0
July 02	Program Committee expenses \$720 + 101.52+ 762.17	-1,583.69	0
July 02	Industry Canada registration fee	-30.00	0
August 02	Shipping of archives from UNB	-241.94	0
February 03	Transfer to UQAM for Canadian Journal of Linguistics	-20,000.00	0
February 03	Catering expenses Congress 2002	-981.12	0
March 03	Program Committee expenses	-181.25	0
2002	Travel - members	-5,490.97	0
July 2002	Travel - executive	-2,624.54	0
2002	Travel + expenses: Program Committee 466.21 + 919.13	-1,385.13	0
	<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>-52,977.24</b>	<b>-52,977.24</b>
	<b>Closing balance as of March 31, 2003</b>		<b>41,757.63</b>
	<b>Financial activity from April 1, 2003</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>			
April 03	U of T Press January-March 2003	13,689.00	
May 03	SSHRC Travel grant 2003	4,860.00	
<b>Expenses</b>			
April 03	Travel, Program Committee	-250.72	
April 03	Travel advance - Executive	-289.00	
April 03	CPIL \$300US + \$42 Cdn fee	-458.07	
May 03	Fedcan membership fee	-2,032.00	
May 03	Translation of minutes	-496.60	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15,022.61</b>	

## Current CJL Subscriptions by Category and Region

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF LINGUISTICS								28-May-03
	Regular	Student	Life	Comp	Institutions	Ind Mem	Total	- 2002 levels
<b>AB</b>	8	5	1	0	3	0	<b>17</b>	<i>+4</i>
<b>BC</b>	18	20	0	0	4	1	<b>43</b>	<i>+13</i>
<b>MB</b>	7	0	0	0	3	0	<b>10</b>	—
<b>NB</b>	5	0	0	0	4	0	<b>9</b>	—
<b>NF</b>	3	1	2	0	0	0	<b>6</b>	—
<b>NS</b>	2	1	0	0	3	0	<b>6</b>	<i>+1</i>
<b>ON</b>	54	50	3	5	18	0	<b>130</b>	<i>+18</i>
<b>PE</b>	1	0	0	0	1	0	<b>2</b>	<i>0</i>
<b>PQ</b>	28	23	7	0	12	0	<b>70</b>	<i>+21</i>
<b>SK</b>	4	0	0	0	2	0	<b>6</b>	—
<b>YT</b>	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>	—
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>300</b>	<i>+57</i>
<b>USA</b>	17	15	0	1	190	0	<b>223</b>	<i>+13</i>
<b>OTHER</b>	21	4	1	1	92	0	<b>119</b>	<i>+7</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>642</b>	<i>+77</i>
<i>- 2002 levels</i>	<i>+32</i>	<i>+37</i>	—	—	<i>+8</i>	—	<i>+77</i>	

### Summary

- Most subscriptions are in Canada: nearly 1/2 are regular members, 1/3 are student members
- Regionally, nearly 1/2 are in Ontario, nearly 1/4 are in Quebec
- US comparable to BC for numbers of individual subscribers
- Most institutional subscriptions are in US, also many in Other
- Only 1 non-member subscriber

### Comparison with 2002 levels

- No decreases in any region or category
- Increases in Alberta, BC, NS, Ontario, Quebec, and USA
- Regular subscriptions have increased by 23% in Canada and overall
- Student subscriptions have increased by 51% in Canada, 45% overall
- Institutional subscriptions have increased by 2% in Canada and overall

Thanks to Evelyn Holmberg at University of Toronto Press for the numbers.

— Submitted by Martha McGinnis, Recording Secretary

# *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*

## Report to the Annual General Meeting of the CLA June 2, 2003

### 1. Publication

Since the last annual meeting, the September-December issue of Volume 46 and all issues of Volume 47 have appeared. The March-June issue of 2003, a regular issue, is at the typesetting stage. The September-December issue will be a thematic issue on “Phonological Acquisition” (guest editors: Heather Goad and Yvan Rose).

Volume	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
Articles	12	8	12	13	8	10	7	6
Book reviews	33	41	28	15	56	11	16	25
Pages	468	420	504	476	428	372	313	302

### 2. Article submission

In 2002, 17 articles were submitted to the journal. Of these, 7 were accepted, 3 were returned to the authors for revision, and 7 were rejected. In 2003, we have received 14 new submissions so far.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Published	10	17	10	10	7	8	3	6
Rejected	10	7	14	12	6	15	10	7
Under revision								3
To appear							1	1
Total	20	24	24	22	13	23	14	17

### 3. Index

The last issue of the journal, issue 47(3/4), contains an index to the volumes 40 to 47. The index is divided into three parts: subject index, language index, and author index. The index nicely illustrates the wide variety of languages studied (from Abkhaz to Zulu!), as well as the richness of topics examined in the articles published during the past eight years. The indexing work was done by a team of students in linguistics at UQAM, under the direction of Marie-Claude Boivin. We would like to thank and congratulate Marie-Claude and the members of her team for carrying over this project, which involved the careful reading of 75 articles in order to identify the topics and languages under study.



#### **4. Financial report**

During the last financial year, ending on March 31, 2003, the overall revenue for the journal amounts to \$64,397.28 and the expenses are of \$59,767.22; the surplus of \$4,630.06 largely covers a few remaining bills for volume 47. The revenues were higher than usual since the transfer of funds from the CLA covered two years instead of one, but the expenses were also higher, since they covered two volumes rather than one and the index. The journal is doing well financially and should be in a good position for next year's SSHRC grant renewal.

#### **5. Acknowledgements**

This being my last report to the general meeting, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the various people who have made it possible to continue publishing the journal during the last ten years.

I would first like to thank the members of the editorial board: the past and current associate editors, Elizabeth Cowper, Michael Dobrovolsky, Donna Gerdts, Carole Paradis, Shana Poplack, Betsy Ritter, and Christine Tellier; and the current book review editor, Paul Pupier, as well as the past book review editors, Patricia Balcom and Gisèle Chevalier, and Jean-François Prunet. And for her quite exceptional contribution and her constant support during the last nine years, I would like to thank the co-editor of the journal, Heather Goad, who took part in every aspect of the editorship of this journal, often with not much turn-around time to help me out with some issue or other.

I would also like to thank a person whose work is absolutely crucial for the journal but is often unrecognized: our typesetter, Christina Thiele, who actually does a lot more than simply typesetting the journal. Christina has been involved with *CJL* for almost twenty years now, and you can read about her earlier work for the journal under Bill Cowan's editorship in the obituary she wrote to honour Bill's memory (*CJL* 46(3/4)).

Finally, I would like to thank the various members of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Linguistic Association for their support during the ten years of my editorship. Given the high turnover of this committee over a ten-year period, it would be hard for me to name them all here without forgetting a few names, but I would like to thank more particularly Jim Black, Marguerite MacKenzie and John Archibald for their past and current support.

Anne Rochette  
Editor,  
Canadian Journal of Linguistics

# Nominating Committee Report

## 1. Composition of the committee

The members of the Nominating Committee were Jila Ghomeshi, Manuel Espanol-Echevarria and the chair, Henrietta Cedergren.

## 2. Nominations

The committee requested names of potential nominees from the members of the Executive Council of the Association. In addition, nominees that were proposed the previous year to Keren Rice were also considered.

The committee has agreed upon the following nominations:

- Member-at-Large (2-year position): Carrie Dyck, Memorial University (to replace Patricia Shaw)
- Member, Nominating Committee (2-year position): Ileana Paul, University of Western Ontario (to replace Jila Ghomeshi)
- Member, Program Committee (4-year position): Sali Tagliamonte, University of Toronto (to replace Lydia White)

Submitted by,

Henrietta J. Cedergren  
Chair, Nominating Committee

## Report of the Program Committee

### 1. Abstract acceptance rate

The Program Committee received 101 abstracts; 18 abstracts were rejected, and 7 were withdrawn (= 76 talks). The tallies of previous years are as follows: 2002 (110/16/11 = 83 talks); 2001 (67/9/12 = 49 talks); 2000 (78/12/8 = 58 talks); 1999 (77/7/11 = 59 talks). The breakdown by area and acceptance rate is given in the table below:

Area	submitted	accepted	acceptance rate(%)
discourse analysis	1	0	0
pragmatics	0	--	
L1/L2 acquisition	13	11	84.6
morphology	4	3	75
phonetics	3	1	33.3
phonology	14	13	92.8
historical linguistics	6	5	83.3
psycholinguistics	5	3	60
semantics	10	9	90
sign language	0	--	
sociolinguistics	13	11	84.6
syntax	30	27	90
other	2	0	0
total	101	83	82.1

Acceptance rates of previous years: 2002 (85.4%); 2001 (86.5%); 2000 (84.6%); 1999 (90%).

### 2. Call for papers

The call for papers was posted on the CLA website and on the Linguist list. This posting was announced to CLA members by e-mail.

### 3. Meeting of the Program Committee

The Program Committee met in March in Montreal. Two members and the Chair of the Program Committee were present at the meeting.

### 4. Electronic submission of abstracts

The vast majority of abstracts were submitted by e-mail. A few small technical problems were overcome, in particular, for several submissions, the absence of the submission form (or a difficulty in filling in the Web forms).

## **5. Thanks**

The committee thanks Daniel Currie Hall, who posted the call for papers, the conference program and updates on the website. The special sessions of the conference were organized by Patricia Balcom (CLA/CAAL joint plenary session), and Glyne Piggott (Round Table). Thanks to the Atlantic Provinces Linguistic Association and the Halifax Interuniversity Program for the reception offered jointly to members of the CLA and CAAL. A very special thanks to Raymond Mopoho, who has acted as the local representative.

Réjean Canac-Marquis, Marie-Hélène Côté, David Heap, Christine Tellier (Chair) and Lydia White.

# CLA/ACL Student Paper Competition Committee Annual Report

## 1. Committee Membership

Pat Shaw (Chair), Rose-Marie Dechaine, Elaine Gold, David Heap, Myles Leitch, Martha McGinnis, Keren Rice, Lydia White (plus a few kind and unfortunately anonymous last-minute subs who generously devoted their time too!)

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to each of the above individuals for the time and care which they devoted to this initiative during last year's annual meeting. Each committee member attended quite a large number of student presentations, provided very thoughtful written commentary for each (see CLA/ACL Best Student Paper Evaluation Sheet), and then contributed to the final meeting where we discussed (at some length!) the relative merits of the several student communications which were deemed very worthy of recognition.

## 2. Student Paper Competition 2002

There were an unprecedented number of student papers at the 2002 Annual Meeting to adjudicate. Initially there were 38 papers which were eligible. Due to various cancellations and withdrawals from the competition, our committee ended up adjudicating a total of 31 papers.

Of these, several presentations were deemed excellent, and the committee had a difficult time establishing a relative ranking amongst them, since with all the parallel sessions it was inevitably a very small (usually 2) and totally complementary subset of the committee membership who had attended each talk. As well, certain committee members who were involved in supervising students' research didn't participate in those specific discussions due to conflict of interest. Further, it was often challenging to compare across the subfields of the discipline.

### 2.1. *Best Papers*

The committee came to clear agreement on a recommendation that two papers be considered to have tied for the highest ranking. These were (in alphabetical order):

- Simone Conradie. Parameter resetting in the second language acquisition of Afrikaans.
- Denis Liakin. [Spec, CP] et [Spec, FocP] - Deux positions de focus.

### 2.2. *Honorable Mention*

There were 4 other presentations that were also ranked very highly. In the interests of formally acknowledging the excellent performance of these students, as well as their enthusiastic participation in the CLA/ACL at this seminal stage of their professional development, the committee felt that it would be very fitting to award an "Honorable Mention" citation that they could include on their cv's, grant applications, etc. Questions were raised, however, as to whether this was maybe too many names to put forward. But then, there was no consensus on which name(s) to eliminate, or clear criteria by which to do so. Consequently, on behalf of the committee, the Chair forwarded the full slate of highly meritorious student papers on to the President with a recommendation to initiate a category of "Honorable Mention" for them. I am

very pleased to report that the CLA/ACL Executive unanimously supported this recommendation.

The students who earned “Honorable Mention” were (in alphabetical order):

- Marc Brunelle. Proclitic reduction in Quebecois French.
- Elissa Flagg. Adjacency and lowering in morphology: the case of English sentential negation.
- Ilana Mezhevich. Adjectives, genitives and argument structure.
- Rebecca Smollett. Latinate verbs and English particles: Why you can “mix up the ingredients” but not “combine them up”.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to commend these students for their outstanding level of excellence, and wish them the very best for their future.

### **3. Residual Issues for Discussion**

#### *3.1. Maximal number of Honourable Mentions*

Policy guidelines for a maximal number of Honourable Mentions to be awarded would be very helpful to future Committees.

#### *3.2. Official Notification*

The question was raised as to who the CLA/ACL should officially notify of the Award.

- Should the CLA/ACL simply notify the individual student(s), and leave it up to them to thank the people that they feel have been most influential to them?
- Or should the CLA/ACL also notify the student’s Research Supervisor?
- And/or, should the CLA/ACL also notify the student’s Department Head/Chair?

#### *3.3. Publicity for the Awards*

Various recommendations were made with respect to publicizing the Award:

- Distribute a message through our own ACL/CLA e-mail list.
- Post the results on the CLA/ACL website: author, title, and abstract.
- Keep a 2 or 3 year retrospective time depth on these awards posted.
- Post a note with authors and titles to the Linguist List.

The Committee will welcome guidance in these several respects.

Again, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to the committee members from last year’s competition for all their hard work, and I warmly welcome Peter Avery as the incoming Chair of this committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Shaw, Executive Member-at-Large  
Outgoing Chair, Student Paper Competition 2002

# Annual Report, CLA Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee

prepared by Martina Wiltschko and Susan Blake

## 1. Composition of the committee

The Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee currently consists of:

Martina Wiltschko (chair; [wmartina@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:wmartina@interchange.ubc.ca)),  
Susan Blake (representative; [blakesj@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:blakesj@interchange.ubc.ca)),  
Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (representative; [eczh@uvic.ca](mailto:eczh@uvic.ca)),  
Darin Howe (representative; [howed@ucalgary.ca](mailto:howed@ucalgary.ca)),  
Cory Sheedy (student representative; [sheedy@telus.net](mailto:sheedy@telus.net)).

Carrie Dyck ([cdyck@mun.ca](mailto:cdyck@mun.ca)) is still continuing to upgrade and maintain the web site, located at (<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~cdyck/ab.lang.html/clatocengfr.html>). There is also a new website in place, prepared by Darin Howe, which is available at ([www.fp.ucalgary.ca/aborlang](http://www.fp.ucalgary.ca/aborlang)).

## 2. Committee Activities in 2002-3

### 2.1. Subcommittee for the Language Rights Statement (Susan Blake & Martina Wiltschko)

Martina Wiltschko and Susan Blake have continued to revise the Language Rights Statement as originally drafted by André Bourcier and Carrie Dyck (see attached copy).

Even though at last year's meeting it was suggested that the Language Rights Statement be submitted at this year's meeting and be formally passed at the annual meeting, the present committee felt that there were a number of issues which should be dealt with before finalizing the document.

- i) There should be a clear consensus as to who the target of the document should be.
- ii) There should be significant consultation with First Nations peoples regarding this document. We feel that this is essential as the document is about First Nations peoples' rights. We have begun the consultation process with various community members within BC but have not yet received enough feedback.

We also recommend that other linguists working with native communities circulate the present document, and ask for feedback as the linguistic situation across Canada is diverse and this should be reflected in the document.

- iii) As there is considerable reference to Aboriginal language rights and Canadian law, we feel that it would be appropriate to seek some legal advice before finalizing this document. In consulting with the UBC Faculty of Law, we found that there was no faculty member at UBC who specializes in this area. We suggest that this issue be discussed at the 2003 meeting.

## 2.2. *Subcommittee on Ethics (Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins).*

Keren Rice and Sharon Roseman, an anthropologist from MUN, both of whom are on SSHRC Council, together with input from Ewa Czaykowska as representative of the CLA and Florence Piron (Anthropology, Université de Laval) as representative of CASCA (Canadian Anthropological Society) have submitted a proposal to the Tri-Council subcommittee on research and ethics in the Humanities and Social Sciences. “The purpose of the proposal is to secure funding to enable the CLA/ACL and CASCA to hire someone for one year to work on drafting guidelines for the kinds of fieldwork done by researchers such as anthropologists and linguists. A person (or persons) will be hired to work with the CLA/ACL and CASCA, under the guidance of the person in each association who is in charge of ethics. The person hired (henceforth the researcher) will (i) talk with scholars from across the country to gather their suggestions for ethical guidelines in their particular fields of research, (ii) talk with scholars across the country about the kinds of problems that they have had with their REBs, (iii) based on the input, prepare draft guidelines to be circulated to members of the associations, (iv) revise the guidelines as required” (quoted from the proposal).

The proposal was submitted the week of May 16. We are waiting for a response.

The subcommittee on Ethics is extremely grateful to both Keren Rice and Sharon Roseman for undertaking the task of writing and submitting the proposal and for their support.

### **3. Attachments**

- i) draft #2 Language Rights statement
- ii) minutes of the 2002 business meeting of the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft CLA Statement on Language Rights, May 2003

(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 over 300 people from institutions across Canada includes many of the leading experts on First Nations languages in Canada. In this statement, the CLA addresses some of the issues surrounding Aboriginal/First Nations languages in Canada, and advocates for the protection, maintenance, and revival of Aboriginal/First Nations languages.

1. First Nations peoples and their native languages predate the formation of Canada, and therefore all Canadians have a responsibility to actively support First Nations peoples' efforts in the maintenance and revitalization of their ancestral languages. In addition these languages, most of which are not spoken anywhere else in the world, are great intellectual and spiritual treasures of humanity.

2. In the words of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 1992:

*"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."*

3. Many past and present members of the CLA have devoted their professional lives to record and document First Nations languages in consultation with First Nations communities. This type of research has contributed significantly to i) the development of pedagogical materials for First Nations communities as well as to ii) our understanding of human language.

4. Most, if not all, First Nations languages are currently critically endangered. This is a direct result of deliberate government policy in the previous centuries. These policies were partly based on the uninformed biases of the day, which advocated that these languages were "inferior and lacking expressive power" compared to the dominant European languages. Linguists have shown that First Nations languages are equally developed systems of communication with equally rich structures and expressive power. Therefore, linguists have a special obligation to speak out against such uninformed biases, which are unfortunately still cited in the mainstream media.

5. *[this section is our attempt to reword §4 of previous document, which we felt was too weak]*  
The CLA recommends that the government and the people of Canada support First Nations peoples' rights to access land and natural resources, which in turn will enable them to access intellectual property, such as language and culture.

6. *[this section has to be written in consultation with a lawyer, who specializes in First Nations languages; yet to be found]*

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.*

7. The CLA urges that at a minimum, First Nations peoples should be guaranteed the following language rights:

- A. To maintain or revitalize their Aboriginal languages and, should they so desire, to pass them on to their children (for example by making First Nations languages part of the core school curriculum).
- B. That legislation be enacted to recognize and protect Aboriginal languages, not as artefacts of a distant past but as essential parts of contemporary vibrant cultures.
- C. That stable, long-term funding be provided to all First Nations peoples to maintain or revitalize their native languages (much like the Nunavut-Canada agreements, the North West Territories-Canada agreements and Yukon-Canada agreements on Native languages).

Prepared by the Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee of the Canadian Linguistic Association

Approved by \*\*\*

Ratified by \*\*\*

Date

## Report of the 2002 Aboriginal Languages Subcommittee meeting

1. The committee meeting was held at lunchtime on May 25, 2002. Present were Anne-Marie Baraby, Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins, Carrie Dyck, Alana Johns, Marguerite MacKenzie, Keren Rice, and Cory Sheedy.

2. We reviewed the minutes and activities of 2001-2, and discussed activities for 2002-3. (Former activities and future plans were previously circulated to you by e-mail). Special thanks to Ewa-Czaykowska Higgins, Alana Johns, and Marie-Odile Junker for their participation in the Panel on Ethics in Archiving and in Linguistic Fieldwork (which took place May 26 from 3:30 to 5:00).

3. We discussed the replacement executive, specifically the lack of a Francophone and Eastern representative. After the meeting, Marie-Odile Junker agreed to be the Francophone/Eastern Canada representative. Note that there is no formal role of 'Francophone/Eastern Canada representative'; in fact, the committee currently has no formal membership guidelines, or bylaws concerning its structure--something the new executive might wish to address).

4. The new executive of the committee includes:

Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins (ecz@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)

5. In addition, while the following people are not on the executive, they have agreed to work with the committee in the following capacities:

André Bourcier (abourcier@yukoncollege.yk.ca) has 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) will continue to upgrade and maintaining the web site, located at (<http://www.uccs.mun.ca/~cdyck/ab.lang.html/clatocengfr.html>), unless someone else wants the job.

6. Since only two representatives of the new executive was at the May 25, 2002 business meeting, we did not decide who would chair the committee and who would be in charge of the 'language rights statement' initiative. However, Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins has volunteered to be in charge of the 'Ethics' initiative.

Carrie agreed to facilitate an e-mail discussion with the new committee members to decide who will chair the new committee, and who will be in charge of the 'language rights statement' initiative. So here we go: I would like to suggest that Susan Blake and Martina Wiltschko take charge of the 'language rights statement' initiative (since they are both at UBC), and that Darin Howe chair the committee. Marie-Odile cannot be involved in either role, and I don't think that Cory, the student representative, should be either. However, these are just suggestions.

Meanwhile, could the new executive please e-mail me (copying to all other executive members) to discuss the roles of the committee members, preferably by Friday, June 7th?

Chairing the committee would involve keeping tabs on the ethics and language rights initiatives, and organizing next year's Aboriginal Languages panel or session.□The topic and format of the panel or session is entirely open.

Working on the Language Rights initiative would involve revising the current document (sent around earlier by e-mail), circulating it on e-mail to the CLA membership at large for feedback, and once the final statement has taken shape, submitting a notice of motion to the CLA executive, recommending that the statement be adopted by the association.

7.□Please send me any corrections to the minutes or other suggestions, and respond to the request in #6. (mailto:cdyck@mun.ca).□ will then make up a final report for 2001-2 and circulate it.

Sincerely,  
Carrie Dyck

## **Report of the CLA-CAAL liaison officer**

This has been another fruitful year for cooperation between the CLA and the CAAL. I would like to begin my report by thanking Hedy McGarrell, the new liaison officer for the CAAL. It has been a pleasure to work with her over the last year, and I think you will agree that it has been a productive collaboration. I would also like to thank the programme chairs (Christine Tellier and Martine Peters) and the local representatives (Raymond Mopoho and Maureen Sargent) for the two associations, as well as both association presidents.

### **1.0 Joint Session CLA-CAAL**

#### *1.1 Guest Speaker*

Arrangements have been finalized for a joint session of CAAL-CLA during the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences congress in Halifax. Shana Poplack will talk about her work on African Nova Scotian English. (An abstract of her planned talk is attached.) The topic of her talk reflects interests of members in both associations and is particularly relevant to the location of the congress this year. Through the cooperation of the programme committee, the session has been scheduled into a time slot that should enable members of both associations to attend. It is scheduled just before the Presidents' reception for the two associations, which should allow for a more informal meeting of the two associations. As some of Shana Poplack's study participants have expressed interest in attending the talk, a small number of tickets were prepared for them. We look forward to strong interest in and attendance at the joint session.

#### *1.2 Funding Request*

An application for funding support from the CFHSS under their "Programme for Aid for Interdisciplinary Outreach" was made. I am pleased to report that the CLA has been awarded \$600 (the amount for medium-sized associations). The amount will be transferred to the association once the session has been held and the CFHSS has received a report. This money will go towards travel expenses for the guest speaker.

#### *1.3 Exploration of Funding Opportunities*

Discussions with the CFHSS to explore additional means and funding opportunities for joint initiatives between the two associations are ongoing. However, the "Programme for Aid for Interdisciplinary Outreach" is currently the only funding option available through the CFHSS.

### **2.0 Other Joint Activities**

We raised the following question with the two association presidents: should members of one association who are registered for the Congress and their own association be able to attend talks at the other association without paying registration fees of the other association? They consulted with their respective Executives and decided not to pursue the issue.

### **3.0 Mandate of liaison officer**

In my report to the Executive last year, I suggested a mandate of two or three years for the liaison officer. I have now completed two years, and would therefore like to take this opportunity to inform the Search Committee that I will end my mandate in 2004.

### **4.0 The Future**

The CFHSS struck a task for to review the current work of scholarly associations and explore their future. They will be publishing a manual of best practices, and have sent out a questionnaire to all member associations. I attended a workshop on the topic at the meeting of the CFHSS in November 2002. The small associations in particular (but also medium-sized ones) said that assistance from the Federation for maintenance of their Websites, translation and other resources would be welcome. It was suggested that universities give time release to executive members.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Balcom  
Liaison officer for the CLA with the CAAL