CANADIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

Saturday, May 29, 2010

1.0 Introductions

King introduced the members of the executive committee.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

It was MOVED (Balcom) and SECONDED (Carroll) to approve the agenda. Motion PASSED.

3.0 Approval of 2009 Minutes

It was MOVED (Cowper) and SECONDED (Shaw) to approve the 2009 minutes. Motion PASSED.

4.0 President's Remarks (R. King)

King began with a discussion of some of the initiatives taken by the Association, as well as questions about where the Association needs to act in the short term, as well as the long term.

1. SSHRC has proposed changes to the funding programs. The key elements that will be changes are the role of the track record, the external evaluation and the composition of the evaluation committee. The CLA sent a letter to SSHRC stressing the importance of the external review process and the difficulty in getting private funding. King thanked those members who contributed to the letter and those who wrote directly to SSHRC. Rose asked if other associations had responded, but we don't know. Carroll asked if there is any proposed assessment of the changes – will SSHRC evaluate them in the short term? King suggested that all members should contact their research officers to get answers to these questions. We also need to think about repackaging our research to make it appeal to committees. Chambers noted that the linguistics department at the University of Toronto also sent a letter that made similar points but wondered if these responses are too spread out. King noted that we might have expected FedCan to take a leadership role, but they have not done so. Libben pointed out that there was a public consultation with SSHRC during Congress (on Tuesday).

2. New technologies –King began by thanking Daniel Currie Hall for updating the website and to Yvan Rose for maintaining the listserv. She discussed the database of Canadian linguists created by Gary. She invited the membership to think about what to do with the website, in particular to be part of an ad-hoc IT committee. Libben and Martineau will head the working group. King also brought up the issue of donating money to the Association. Roberge looked into putting a Paypal button on the website, which would be very easy to use. Paypal is a good system with a good track record. Jensen asked if the Association could issue tax receipts, but because we are not a

charitable institution, this is not possible. King remarked that it is difficult to get charitable status and that the Association has decided not to pursue that route. Hall asked where Paypal stores its information and noted that it could be subject to the Patriot Act.

There is also the question of whether or not the Journal will continue to produce print journals. Rose remarked that the Journal takes most of our revenue, that he prefers electronic journals, and that the Journal management (UTPress) is problematic. Cummins replied that we are considering whether or not the Journal should only be online as well as our relationship with UTPress. If we cut ties with UTPress, we would need to restructure our membership. UTPress manages our membership – if we no longer work with them we would need to manage it ourselves. Cowper asked about the status of back issues and whether or not the electronic archives will remain accessible. There is some reluctance to moving to a completely online model for precisely these reasons. Paul noted that we would not have more money if we moved to online production only because we would still need to pay for typesetting. King resumed the discussion by underlining that there are two distinct issues: whether or not to move to an online only system and whether or not to continue working with UTPress.

3. Prix national d'excellence 2010

Libben presented the first Canadian Linguistic Association National Achievement Award to Jack Chambers. Libben made a short speech, describing the many and varied accomplishments of Jack Chambers, not only in the realm of research, but also in community outreach, academic service, and jazz. King presented Chambers with a plaque.

5.0   New Business

6.0   Reports

      6.1   Report of the Treasurer* (C. Dyck)

See attached. It was MOVED (Hall) and SECONDED (Heap) to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion PASSED.

      6.2   Report of the Secretary (I. Paul)

See attached. During the meeting some questions were raised about the subscription process. For example, why is it not possible to renew for multiple years or to check one's membership status online. If we have to log in, we should be able to check our status. It was also pointed out that membership levels are dropping and that more students should be encourage to join the Association.

      6.3   Report of the Editor of the Canadian Journal of Linguistics* (S. Cummins)

See attached. It was MOVED (Dyck) and SECONDED (Dufresne) to approve the Editor's report. Motion PASSED.
Cummins noted that the Journal is in a period of steady production; if you submit an article now, it will be published within 12-18 months. She strongly encouraged members to submit articles. She was asked about the time from submission to decision and answered that reviewers are given 4 weeks, but that some take longer. The typical timeline is about 3 months

6.4   Report of the Chair of the Nominating Committee* (G. Libben)

See attached. It was MOVED (Cowper) and SECONDED (Hall) to close nominations. Motion PASSED.

6.5   Report of the Chair of the Program Committee (G. Van Herk)

See attached.

6.6   Report on the Student Paper Contest (L. Saxon)

See attached.

6.7   Report on the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (E. Mathieu)

Mathieu noted that the discussions at FedCan covered the same topics as in previous years (e.g. Open Access).

6.8   Report from the Prize Committee (G. Libben)

See attached.

6.9   Report of the Advisor on Aboriginal Languages (P. Shaw)

See attached. Shaw noted that there has been no response to the letter that the CLA sent in support of Bill S-237.

7.0   Other Business

Carroll discussed the Vanier doctoral scholarship. She served on the adjudication committee and noted that there were very few application in linguistics. She also pointed out that this scholarship is open to international students and can be used as a tool for recruitment. Nominators need to prepare the application package carefully, in particular the letters. The committee is interdisciplinary.
Balcom reminded members of the lunch.
Heap announced that the Methods conference in 2011 will be held at the University of Western Ontario.
King thanked Libben for his work as President and presented him with a gift.

8.0   Adjournment

It was MOVED (Heap) and SECONDED (Carroll) to adjourn. Motion CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

CANADIAN LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Selection Committee consisted of:

Luc Baronian (Université du Québec à Chicoutimi)
Susanne Carroll (University of Calgary)
France Martineau (University of Ottawa)
and me (Gary Libben (University of Calgary))

The call for nominations was emailed to all members on February 19, 2010. The deadline for receipt of nominations was April 1.

The award was open to all members of the Canadian Linguistics Association.

The 2010 winner is Jack Chambers.

CANADIAN LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The National Achievement Awards are presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of linguistics and who have earned distinction for themselves and the Canadian Linguistics community.

Eligibility

Open to all members of the Canadian Linguistics Association.

Frequency

As nominations warrant. No individual may be awarded the prize more than once.

Criteria:

The following criteria will be used in the selection of award winners:
- Leadership in linguistics in Canada
- Substantial and distinguished contributions to language research over a significant period.
- Innovation in research and dissemination.
- Impact on practice, policy, and the broader community.
- Effectiveness in communication and popularization beyond academia

Nominations:

- The deadline for Nominations is April 1, 2010.
- Nominations should be sent electronically to: Gary Libben <glibben@ucalgary.ca>
- The choice of the recipient will be made by the Selection Committee in April, 2010.

- The winner of the award will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Linguistics Association.

Nomination Package

1. Letter of nomination. The letter (maximum 4 pages) should outline the significance, benefits or impacts of the nominee's achievements as they relate to several of these categories:
    - Leadership in linguistics in Canada
    - Substantial and distinguished contributions to language research over a significant period.
    - Effectiveness in communication and knowledge translation
    - Innovation in research and dissemination.
    - Impact on practice, policy, and the broader community.
    - Other appropriate contributions.
2. The nominee's curriculum vitae, including a list of his or her publications.

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE LINGUISTIQUE
PRIX NATIONAUX D'EXCELLENCE

Les prix nationaux d'excellence sont décernés à des individus qui ont contribué à l'édification de la science linguistique et, se faisant, ont acquis une renommée tout en rehaussant l'image de la communauté linguistique canadienne.

Éligibilité
Toute personne membre de l'Association canadienne de linguistique est éligible.

Fréquence
Selon les dossiers présentés. Une personne ne peut être lauréate de ce prix qu'une fois.

Critères
Les critères suivants serviront à la sélection des lauréat.e.s :
- Leadership en linguistique reconnu au Canada
- Contributions pertinentes et méritoires à la recherche linguistique durant une période significative
- Innovation dans la recherche et la diffusion
- Influence perceptible sur la pratique, les mesures politiques et la collectivité
- Efficacité dans la communication et la vulgarisation de la science au-delà du milieu académique

Nomination
- La date limite de dépôt des candidatures est le 1er avril 2010
- Les dossiers de candidature seront envoyés électroniquement à : Gary Libben <glibben@ucalgary.ca>
- Le choix du/ de la lauréat.e sera effectué par un comité de sélection en avril 2010
- Le/ la lauréat.e sera annoncé.e au Congrès annuel de l'Association canadienne de linguistique

Contenu du dossier de candidature

1. Une lettre de nomination. La lettre ne peut excéder quatre pages et devra indiquer les mérites du/ de la candidat.e. dont notamment :
   - Du leadership en linguistique au Canada
   - Les contributions importantes et méritoires à la recherche linguistique durant une période significative
   - L'efficacité dans la médiatisation et l'application des connaissances
   - L'innovation dans la recherche et la diffusion
   - L'influence perceptible sur la pratique, les mesures politiques et la collectivité
   - D'autres contributions appropriées
2. Le curriculum vitae du/de la candidat.e contenant la liste de ses publications.

Membership/Subscription Report
Current CJL Subscriptions by Category and Region (May 17, 2010)

	Regular	Student	Life	Family	Comp	Inst	Exch	Abs	Total	2009	2008	2007	2006
AB	6	12	1	0	0	1	0	1	21	32	33	25	36
BC	14	14	0	0	0	2	0	0	30	63	79	40	66
MB	6	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	11	11	12	10	10
NB	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	5	10	10	8	11
NL	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	10	11	6	7
NS	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	6	5	4	4
ON	49	39	3	1	3	7	0	0	102	139	137	100	180
PE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
QC	17	19	4	0	0	10	0	0	50	67	62	50	76
SK	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	4	4	6
YT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
SUBTTL	**102**	**88**	**11**	**1**	**3**	**28**	**0**	**1**	**234**	342	353	249	398
USA	13	7	0	0	1	86	1	1	**109**	156	145	115	219
OTHER	8	3	1	0	2	65	0	3	**82**	106	96	52	133
TOTAL	**123**	**98**	**12**	**1**	**6**	**179**	**1**	**5**	**425**				
2009	154	178	13	1	5	245	3	5		604			
2008	161	180	14		7	228		4			594		
2007	128	107	14		6	161		0				416	
2006	183	197	15		9	346		0					750

Summary
- Most institutional subscriptions are in US
- Canadian subscriptions are about 43% regular members, 37% student members
- Regionally, about 44% in Ontario, 21% in Quebec, 13% in BC, 9% in Alberta
- Significant decrease in membership from BC (lowest levels in many years)
- "Comp" = complimentary copies, "Exch" = exchange, "Abs" = abstracting

Comparison with 2009 levels
- Large decrease (30%) overall and decrease in institutional subscriptions – reasons?
- The folks at UTPress couldn't see any reasons behind the drop other than people forgetting to renew.

Thanks to Sandra Cumming at University of Toronto Press for the numbers

Another point: it's not at all clear to me that our CLA mailing list is up to date. From what I understand, new members are supposed to send Yvan Rose their email address. But I don't think this is explicitly stated anywhere. So there is a real disconnect between the mailing list and our actual membership. Do we care? It is fixable?

Report on the 2009 Constitutional Ballot

There were two propositions (given below):

Proposition 1. That Article 8 of the Constitution be amended as follows, where deleted terms are ~~struck out~~ and revised terms are *italicized*.

8. TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
b. The Treasurer *and* the Secretary ~~and the Editor of the journal of the Association~~ shall be elected to serve for five years, and may serve more than one consecutive term in their respective positions. *The term of office of the Editor of the journal of the Association shall be three years. The Co-Editor shall be elected for a term of three years and shall succeed to the editorship at the expiration of the Editor's term of office. Whenever possible, the Co-Editor will represent the official language other than that of the Editor. The terms of office of the Editor and the Co-Editor shall not be renewed.*

Proposition 2. That Article 11 of the Constitution be amended as follows, where deleted terms are ~~struck out~~ and revised terms are *italicized*.

11. THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL shall be responsible for the contents of the journal of the Association. *The Editor shall name a Book Review Editor, a Squibs Editor, and an Editorial board to assist in the conduct of journal affairs.* ~~The Editor shall name an Assistant Editor representing the official language other than that of the Editor. The Editor shall name an Editorial board to assist in the conduct of journal affairs.~~

The vote took place via SurveyMonkey: members in good standing (according to the UTPress data) were sent an email message with a link to the online survey. The ballot was sent out on November 15, 2009, with votes due on December 14, 2009.

57 votes were received from CLA members in good standing.
Proposition 1: ACCEPTED 54:3
Proposition 2: ACCEPTED 54:3

The results of the votes were announced over the ACL-CLA list on December 21. No one voiced any concerns about the voting procedure, but I have two worries. First, I personally sent out the email messages in batches (about 5 addressees per message). This was inefficient, but I also wonder if some messages ended up being caught in a spam filter. We have no way of knowing. Second (but this is less worrisome), in principle people could vote more than once. I checked the IP address of each voter (no repeats), but it would be easy to vote from a different computer. Given the nature of the vote, it strikes me as unlikely that anyone would bother.

—Submitted by Ileana Paul, CLA Secretary

Rapport sur le scrutin constitutionnel 2009

Il y avait deux amendements (voir ci-bas) :

Proposition 1. Que l'article 8 des Statuts soit amendé de la façon suivante (les parties effacées sont ~~barrées~~ et les parties ajoutées sont en *italiques*) :

8. DURÉE DES MANDATS DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION
b. La Trésorière (ou le Trésorier) *et* le/la Secrétaire~~, et la Rédactrice (ou le Rédacteur) de la revue de l'Association~~ sont élu(e)s pour un mandat de cinq ans et sont rééligibles à leur poste respectif. *Le mandat de la Directrice (ou du Directeur) de la revue de l'Association est de trois ans. Le Co-directeur (ou la Co-directrice) est élu(e) pour un mandat de trois ans et succédera à la Direction à la fin du mandat du Directeur (ou de la Directrice). Dans la mesure du possible la Co-directrice (ou le Co-directeur) représentera la langue officielle autre que celle de la Directrice (ou du Directeur). Les mandats respectifs du Directeur (ou de la Directrice) et du Co-directeur (ou de la Co-directrice) sont non renouvelables.*

Explication: Dans la mesure où les carrières académiques sont de plus en plus exigeantes et parce que l'équipe de rédaction d'une revue savante doit jouer un rôle important de mentorat et de promotion de la recherche, le Conseil d'administration recommande que l'équipe de rédaction soit restructurée suivant la proposition 1. La nouvelle structure devrait permettre une meilleure continuité lors des changements à la rédaction.

Proposition 2. Que l'article 11 des Statuts soit amendé de la façon suivante (les parties effacées sont ~~barrées~~ et les parties ajoutées sont en *italiques*) :

11. RÉDACTRICE (ou RÉDACTEUR) DE LA REVUE - La Directrice (ou le Directeur) de la revue de l'Association est responsable du contenu de la revue de l'Association. Il/elle doit désigner *un Rédacteur (ou une Rédactrice) des comptes rendus, un Rédacteur (ou une Rédactrice) des notules et* ~~un Rédacteur (ou une Rédactrice) adjoint(e) qui représentera la langue officielle autre que celle qu'il/elle représente lui/elle-même. La Rédactrice (ou le Rédacteur) constituera~~ un Comité de rédaction qui l'aidera à gérer les affaires de la revue.

Explication: Dans la mesure où les carrières académiques sont de plus en plus exigeantes et parce que l'équipe de rédaction d'une revue savante doit jouer un rôle important de mentorat et de promotion de la recherche, le Conseil d'administration recommande que l'équipe de rédaction soit restructurée suivant la proposition 1. La nouvelle structure devrait permettre une meilleure continuité lors des changements à la rédaction.

Ileana Paul, secrétaire de l'ACL

Canadian Journal of Linguistics / Revue canadienne de linguistique
2010-2011 Budget forecast / Prévision budgétaire 2010 - 2011

REVENUE / REVENU

CLA transfer / transfert ACL		15 000.00
SSHRC grant / Subvention CRSH		20 550.00
CJL revenue / Revenu RCL		
- Exchange $US subscriptions / Change abonnements $US	1 000.00	
- Single copies / Exemplaires à l'unité	500.00	
- Royalties / Redevances	20 000.00	
Subtotal CJL revenue / Total partiel – Revenu RCL		21 500.00
Previous balance / Solde reporté		-5 161.63
Total revenue / Total - revenu		**51 888.37**

EXPENDITURES / DÉPENSES

CJL Salaries / Rémunération RCL		13 200.00
CPC Typesetting / Composition		10 000.00
UTP Expenditures / Dépenses UTP		
- UTP Printing / Impression	8 000.00	
- UTP Mailing / Envois	4 500.00	
- UTP Subscription management / Gestion abonnements	7 000.00	
- UTP Journal management / Gestion revue	5 550.00	
-UTP Varia	1 000.00	
Subtotal / Total partiel UTP vol. 55		26 050.00
Other expenses / Autres dépenses		500.00
Total – expenditures / Total - dépenses		**49 750.00**
Balance / Solde		**2 138.37**

Canadian Journal of Linguistics / Revue canadienne de linguistique
Statement of revenue and expenses / État des résultats
Fiscal year ending March 31, 2010 / Exercice clos le 31 mars 2010

REVENUE / REVENU

Canadian Linguistics Association /Association canadienne de linguistique
-annual transfer / transfert annuel   10 000.00

SSHRC grant / Subvention du CRSH   21 050.00

 Work-study programme / *Emploi-Études*
-contribution Quebec education ministry / MÉQ   450.00
-contribution ULaval   450.00

Contribution Dép. de langues, linguistique et traduction (Ulaval)
-computer / ordinateur   500.00
-internet   43.20

Subtotal external revenue / Total partiel - revenu externe   32 493.20

Exchange $US subscriptions / Change abonnements $US
-Issue 54:1
-Issue 54:2   1 286.11
-Issue 54:3   188.82
Subtotal subscription revenue / Total partiel - revenu d'abonnements   1474.93

Single copies / Exemplaires à l'unité
-Issue 54:1   800.86
-Issue 54:2   45.00
-Issue 54:3   36.38
Subtotal single issue revenue / Total partiel – revenu exemplaires
                                                                                           882.24

Royalties / Redevances   19 164.10

Previous balance / Solde reporté   -13 955.91

Total revenue / Total - revenu   **40 058.56**

Canadian Journal of Linguistics / Revue canadienne de linguistique
Statement of revenue and expenses / État des résultats
Fiscal year ending March 31, 2010 / Exercice clos le 31 mars 2010

EXPENDITURES / DÉPENSES

CJL Salaries / Rémunération RCL
-May/ mai   500.00
-June-Dec / juin-décembre   4 319.43
-Jan-Mar / janvier-mars   1 926.85
Subtotal salaries / Total partiel - rémunération   6 746.28

CPC Typesetting / Composition
-54: 1   3 626.51
-54: 2   3 905.90
-54: 3   2 942.30
Subtotal typepesetting / Total partiel - composition   10 474.71

UTP Printing / Impression
-54: 1   4 099.05
-54: 2   2 963.50
-54: 3   2 560.00
Subtotal printing / Total partiel - impression   9 622.55

UTP Mailing / Envois
-54: 1   2 044.49
-54: 2   1 481.79
-54: 3   1 395.93
Subtotal mailings / Total partiel - envois   4 922.21

UTP Management / Gestion
-UTP Subscription management / Gestion abonnements   6 574.82
-UTP Journal management / Gestion revue   5 550.00
-UTP Promotion   500.00
Subtotal UTP Management / Total partiel – Gestion UTP   12 624.82

Varia
-Shipping / Envois   270.90
-Computer / Informatique   515.52
-Internet   43.20
Subtotal varia / Total partiel - varia   829.62

Total expenditures / Total - dépenses   **45 220.19**

Balance / Solde   **-5 161.63**

Association Canadienne de Linguistique
Rapport du Comité des candidatures
2009-2010

1. Membres du comité

Les membres du comité des candidatures étaient Jila Ghomeshi, Yvan Rose et Gary Libben (président).

2. Remerciements aux membres sortants

- *Yvan Rose*   Comité des candidatures
- *Lisa Matthewson*   Comité de programme
- *Lucie Ménard*   Membre associée
- *Leslie Saxon*   Membre associée

3. Candidatures

Les membres du comité ont le plaisir de présenter les candidatures suivantes aux membres de l'assemblée:

- Comité des candidatures (2010-2012): *Gunnar Hansson* (UBC)
- Comité de programmme (2010-2014): *Elizabeth Ritter* (Calgary)
- Membre associé   (2010-2012): *Jeffrey Steele* (Toronto)
- Membre associé (2010-2011): *Yvan Rose* (Memorial)[1]
- Co-directeur, RCL (2010-2013): *Éric Mathieu* (Ottawa)

Gary Libben
Président, Comité des candidatures
Mai 2010

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[1] Après l'Assemblée générale, Yvan Rose a été remplacé par Darin Flynn (Calgary).

Canadian Linguistic Association
Nominating Committee Report
2008/2009

1. Composition of the Committee

The members of the Nominations Committee were Jila Ghomeshi, Yvan Rose and Gary Libben (Chair).

2. Thanks to Outgoing Members

- *Yvan Rose*   Nominating committee
- *Lisa Matthewson*   Program committee
- *Lucie Ménard*   Member-at-large
- *Leslie Saxon*   Member-at-large

3. Nominations

The committee would like to propose the following nominations to the membership:

- Nominating committee (2010-2012): *Gunnar Hansson* (UBC)
- Program committee (2010-2014): *Elizabeth Ritter* (Calgary)
- Member-at-large (2010-2012): *Jeffrey Steele* (Toronto)
- Member-at-large (2010-2011): *Yvan Rose* (Memorial)[2]
- Co-editor, CJL (2010-2013): *Éric Mathieu* (Ottawa)

Submitted by,

Gary Libben
Chair, Nominating Committee
May 2010

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[2] After the AGM, Yvan Rose was replaced by Darin Flynn (Calgary).

Programme committee report, CLA 2010
Gerard Van Herk, committee chair

1. **Acceptance rate**
a. by subdiscipline

subdiscipline	submitted	accepted	% accept	posters	% presentation
discourse analysis	4	1	25	1	0
general	4	3	75	3	0
historical	4	3	75	1	50
language acquisition (1st)	9	9	100	3	67
morphology	13	10	77	2	62
neurolinguistics	2	2	100	0	100
phonology	14	14	100	6	57
pragmatics	2	2	100	0	100
psycholinguistics	5	5	100	2	60
phonetics	7	7	100	1	88
second language acquisition	11	11	100	2	88
semantics	10	10	100	3	70
sociolinguistics	10	9	90	6	30
syntax	30	29	97	13	53
total	**125**	**115**	**92**	**43**	**58**

Generally, papers in phonetics, second language acquisition, neurolinguistics, and pragmatics scored high; papers in discourse analysis, general linguistics, historical linguistics, and sociolinguistics scored low. This is a similar pattern to past years.

b. by year

Year	Locale	Submitted	Accepted	% accepted
2010	Concordia	125	115	92
2009	Carleton	Not available		
2008	British Columbia	174	157	90
2007	Saskatchewan	101	90	89
2006	York	116	102	88
2005	Western Ontario	111	96	87
2004	Manitoba	85	75	88
2003	Dalhousie	101	83	82
2002	Toronto	110	94	85
2001	Laval	67	58	87

We had a slightly higher overall acceptance rate this year.

2. **Technical problems** with submissions
a. The options for indicating paper type and student status on the abstract submission site were not set up properly. This can be fixed for next year by tweaking the EasyAbs site.

b. Many people didn't receive their email acceptances (presumably because they were spam filtered). This can be fixed for next year by including an acceptance date in the Call For Papers, after which date people will be encouraged to email the programme committee chair if they haven't heard from us.

c. There are discrepancies between the pdf and online Calls For Papers. These documents will be edited to match.

3. **Reviewer overload.** Most committee members reviewed most papers, leading to a heavy load. We intend to address this by reviewing only in our major subfields (which is how things used to work). This will lead to fewer reviews per paper (minimum of 2). We encourage people submitting papers to be very clear about their paper's subfield, to ensure suitable review.

4. **Posters**. Since moving from a 4-day to 3-day conference, we have encouraged people (especially senior linguists) to give posters, leaving presentation slots open for students. This year, we noted an unwillingness to choose "poster" (20 submissions) or "poster or presentation" (17 submissions), compared to previous years. We believe this is partly due to awkward or cramped presentation spaces for the last few conferences, which was not an issue this year. We dealt with this issue by offering many lower-scoring "presentation only" requesters a poster slot, and we had a high acceptance rate for this. This process may need to continue. We believe posters might be a more appealing choice if people propose themed poster sessions, which could be more rewarding for participants.

The committee chair would like to thank committee members Luc Baronian, Lisa Matthewson, Laura Sabourin, and James Walker for their work and advice, as well as Daniel Currie Hall, Yvan Rose, Leslie Saxon, and Denis Liakin for their contributions and patience.

Report on the Student Competition (Oral Presentations and Posters)
2009 Meeting of the CLA, Ottawa

Julie Auger, Indiana University, Member-at-large
Monique Dufresne, Queen's University

1.   This year's competition:
- 19 oral presentations
- 9 posters
- 3 last minute withdrawals in the poster sessions
- 3 evaluations per paper
- 16 evaluators: Julie Auger, Michael Barrie, Laura Colantoni, Elizabeth Cowper, Daniel Currie Hall, Monique Dufresne, Veena Dwivedi, Helen Goodluck, Carmen Leblanc, Diane Massam, Ileana Paul, Yves Roberge, Hotze Rullman, Laura Sabourin, Annie Tremblay, Mireille Tremblay
- 5-6 papers/evaluator
- The Program committee provided a list of conference participants who were willing to evaluate papers
- Final recommendation of the committee:

This year, the award for the best oral paper goes to Elizabeth Ferch from the University of British Columbia. Her paper, entitled "Number and quantification in Shona", proposes a semantic analysis of an original problem in Bantu grammar. Her analysis offers a strikingly elegant explanation for what at first appeared to be a mysterious interaction between number and scope.

Given how difficult it was to choose a winner among a number of excellent presentations, the committee agreed that the excellence of two more papers should be recognized through honorable mentions. Viktor Kharlamov, from the University of Ottawa, delivered a paper entitled "Speakers' Notion of the syllable: The role of statistical factors in onset wellformedness". The paper, which raises the usually-ignored question of the relation between speakers' judgments and the nature of linguistic competence, represented a happy combination of theory and experiment and was presented with great clarity and confidence. Bethany MacLeod, from the University of Toronto, presented a paper entitled "Gwhat did you say?" Epenthetic velars in Costa Rican Spanish". This paper, which makes an important contribution to the phonetics/phonology interface, constitutes an excellent example of how the study of borrowings and second-language phonology can benefit from a strong methodology.

The award for the best poster goes to Darcie Blainey, from the University of Tulane, for her paper entitled "Schwa behaviour in formal and informal speech in the French of Ville Platte, Louisiana". Members of the committee were impressed with the clarity and the structure of her poster, with the ease with which she discussed her research, and with the poise with which she handled questions and comments.

2.   Due to the unavailability of the member-at-large who was supposed to organize the competition for the best oral presentation, the format that was used last year for the two student competitions had to be modified. The following changes were made:

A. Help was sought outside of the executive committee. In spite of her numerous responsibilities, Monique Dufresne generously agreed to step in and help with the logistics of the two contests.

B. Rather than splitting the list of volunteers that had been provided by Mireille Tremblay, Julie Auger assigned evaluators for the two kinds of presentations. This ensured that there were no conflicts in the schedule of one evaluator.

C. As a result, four evaluators evaluated only oral communications, one evaluated only posters, and eleven evaluated both posters and oral communications.

D. The two co-organizers worked together for both contests.

E. While this solution made sense for practical reasons, we do not recommend it for future contests. We estimate that rankings are more meaningful if they are based on larger numbers of papers. Given that the criteria for evaluating the two types of papers differ, evaluators were asked to provide separate rankings. As a result, some rankings were based on comparisons of only two or three papers. One evaluator was asked to rank only one student poster. Consequently, it would be best to have members of the committee focus their attention on only one type of paper.

3. Once again, we did not have any difficulty recruiting enough volunteers to have three evaluators per paper. Given the large number of volunteers, it was possible to assign no more than 6 papers per evaluator, thus making their task quite manageable. We thank the committee members for their generosity, their flexibility (even though we tried to take into account research specialization in attributing papers, some members of the committee were asked to evaluate papers that were quite remote from their areas of expertise), and for the seriousness with which they accomplished their task. Without their help, these contests could not be held.

4. Two issues have arisen with respect to these contests that will be addressed in the near future.

A. The current rules exclude from the competition any student paper that is co-authored with a faculty member. Given the prevalence of joint work that involves professors in some domains (e.g., psycholinguistics), it is felt that some students may be unfairly excluded. We will try to see if criteria concerning such presentations could be established that would allow joint papers in which a student does the majority of the work to be admissible.

B. Daniel Currie Hall, our webmaster, pointed out that no guidelines are available for the preparation and the evaluation of posters and that the current guidelines for oral presentations do not take into account the fact that many presenters now use PowerPoint and do not provide handouts. Ileana Paul has asked those of us who have recently run these competitions and Lucie Ménard, the new Member-at-large, to develop such criteria and update the guidelines for oral presentations.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Auger and Monique Dufresne

1. Google Group

A Google Group entitled "First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Language Committee of the CLA" is established, with Carrie Dyck functioning as the monitor, and 47 members.

CLA/ACL Members can visit this group at:
 http://groups.google.com/group/FNIM-languages-CLA/

To post to this group, send email to FNIM-languages-CLA@googlegroups.com

2. Circulation of summary of proposed Bill S-237

On Jun 17, 2009, a message was circulated and posted advising CLA/ACL members that the Honourable Senator Joyal, P.C. had put forward a bill entitled "An Act for the advancement of the aboriginal languages of Canada and to recognize and respect aboriginal language rights".

A Summary of Bill S-237 is posted on the Google Group site.
The full text of the Private Senator Public Bill S-237 is available
athttp://www2.parl.gc.ca/senatebills/BillsOther.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&

CLA/ACL members were encouraged to contact their local MP, as well as Senator Serge Joyal, to express support for this Bill.

As well, comments were solicited as input for a letter to be submitted on behalf of the CLA/ACL in support of the Bill.

3. Letter of Support for Bill S-237

A Letter of Support for Bill S-237, drafted by Patricia A. Shaw and Carrie Dyck, and then approved by the CLA/ACL Executive, was sent on June 21, 2009 (National Aboriginal Day)

from: Ruth King, President CLA/ACL
        Patricia A. Shaw, Advisor on Aboriginal Languages, CLA/ACL
        Carrie Dyck, Treasurer, CLA/ACL
to: The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada
        The Honourable Senator Serge Joyal, The Senate of Canada
        The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

The content of the letter is attached, and is posted on the Google Group site.
As of May 27, 2010, the Bill had not yet had a Second Reading.

Report respectfully submitted by,

Patricia A. Shaw