

SOCIETY FOR LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Report on the 2013 Society for Linguistic Anthropology Business Meeting

Bonnie Urciuoli

The 2013 SLA Business Meeting took place 7:00–9:00 pm Friday November 22, at the Chicago AAA Annual Meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Jonathan Rosa presented the Treasurer's Report, reporting a rise in revenue for 2013, with further rises projected through 2015. He also reported an average membership of 755 for 2012–13 compared to an average of 739 in 2011–12.

Journal of Linguistic Anthropology Associate Editor Paul Garrett reported on Volume 23. 15 peer-reviewed articles were published in three issues (two print/online, one online). There were 68 article-length submissions and resubmissions. Of 43 article-length (re)submissions with editorial decisions, 15 were accepted (34.8%, although most acceptances were resubmissions, making the actual acceptance rate lower), 17 were revise-and-resubmits (39.5%), and 11 were rejected (25.6%). Submission to first editorial decision averaged 56 days, with no backlog. *JLA*'s impact factor, measured by Journal Citation Reports, remains higher than *Discourse and Society*, *Language and Communication*, and *Language in Society*. *JLA* is ranked 15th of 162 linguistics journals and 21st of 83 anthropology journals. *JLA* will soon be included in JSTOR under the same licensing agreement as other AAA journals.

Paul Kroskrity reported on two items from the Section Assembly. For the 2014 AAA meeting, all sessions will be submitted as single sessions, in the hopes of reducing conflict. It will still be possible to present double and even triple sessions if they are divided up into individual sessions that might be discontinuously scheduled and subject to different outcomes in terms of acceptance and rejection by the Program Committee. Also, sections will submit plans to AAA's CFPEP committee in July 2014, if sections want to be included in proposal to Wiley Blackwell and other publishers. Paul then noted that SLA will co-participate with AAAL at their spring meetings in Portland. Finally, he announced that SLA Board Members had voted positively on his proposal to create the SLA Award for Public Outreach and Community Service; a selection committee will be formed to develop application and evaluation procedures.

Norma Mendoza-Denton announced the award of the 2013 Sapir Book Prize to Paul Manning for *Semiotics of Drink and Drinking* (2012 Continuum Press). Jillian Cavanaugh announced the 2013 SLA student essay contest results. Undergraduate winners were Sarah Carlson (Wayne State U) for "Black Nerds in the Media: A Linguistic Analysis"; and Alice Yeh (UC Berkeley) for "Retrospective Re-creation: Latin sine fine and the Afterlife of a Classic." The judges were: Chris Ball, Hilary Dick, Robert Lawson and Keith Murphy. Graduate winners were Katherine Greenberg (Stanford U) for "Fractal Marginalization and Linguistic Style in Hill Country: How the Nor-Rel-Muk Indians mix local Englishes to construct authenticity" and Elise Kramer (U Chicago) for "Speaking for the Voiceless: Metaphors of Power and Agency in Political Discourse." The judges were: Michael Silverstein and Kira Hall.

Member-at-large Shalini Shankar reported on the revised charge for the AAA Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology (CMIA), especially its focus on increasing graduate and early career mentoring. She urged SLA members to have their minority students apply for the CMIA Minority Dissertation Fellowship.

Paja Faudree announced the 2013 election results: president-elect 2013–15, Bonnie Urciuoli; member-at-large 2013–15, Jim Wilce. Paja also announced two open SLA positions for the 2014 AAA elections: member-at-large and secretary-treasurer. Finally, she asked for volunteers for appointed positions, particularly for the Language and Social Justice Task Force three core members.

Adrienne Lo reported on initiatives and accomplishments of the CfHR Task Group/SLA Committee on Language and Social Justice. Accomplishments include "Professional Divides II," a roundtable on language and media practices organized by Colleen Cotter and Samuel Spies for journalists and anthropologists; and continuing work with the Census Bureau to find appropriate substitute terminology for "limited English proficient household," which replaced "linguistically isolated household." In addition, the committee played an active role in the April 2013 cessation of the use of the term "illegal immigrant" by the *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, and the *Associated Press Stylebook*. Jonathan Rosa announced new language and social justice initiatives, focusing on uses of Native American slurs in sports teams names, and on the influential and problematic "language gap" psychological studies linking the number of words to which pre-school children are exposed to school success. The group will organize public outreach projects addressing these issues in position papers and other outputs.

Hilary Parsons Dick reported on the SLA Presidential Conversation on Language and Mobility, organized by herself, Adrienne Lo and Jonathan Rosa, in concert with the AAA Public Education Initiative on Migration. Participants included Monica Heller, Bonnie McElhinny, Shalini Shankar, Rosina Marquez Reiter, Jan Blommaert and Susan Gal. The organizers stressed the importance of linguistic anthropological representation in AAA's Public Education Initiatives.

Section Program Committee editor Jocelyn Ahlers gave the AAA Program Chair report, reporting eleven submissions for invited sessions including two double panels and two roundtables. The Section Program Committee also submitted 38 volunteered panels, including seven double panels and seven panels formed from 54 volunteered papers. The committee forwarded 47 panels to the AAA program committee, of which 42 were accepted and scheduled. Thanks to Jocelyn and the committee for their hard work. The 2014 program chair is Judy Pine. Submitters for 2014 are urged to note that volunteered papers can only be submitted to AAA when formed into panels by the program committee, not always easy, so one better's one's chances of getting on the program by submitting volunteered panels.

Web Assistant Dave Paulson, working with Digital Content Editor Chad Nilep, gave the Digital Content Report. Paulson reports 200-400 views per day. Digital initiatives for 2014 include teaching resources and tools, and social media profiles co-ordinated with Facebook and Twitter, for contact with non-academics.

The meeting concluded with a few words from Paul Kroskrity as incoming SLA President, addressing the importance of continuing the Presidential Sessions and maintaining SLA participation in AAA initiatives.

Please send your comments, contributions, news and announcements to SLA Contributing Editors Aaron Ansell (aansell@vt.edu) or Susanne Unger (ungers@kenyon.edu).

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