

August 24, 2007  
Summer Issue

# Ling News

## Important days:

- TA Job Begins: August 23, 2007
- Department Orientation: August 24, 2007
- Fall Semester Begins: August 27, 2007

## Ling News

Editor:

Pei-Jung Kuo

Contributing Writers:

Natasha Fitzgibbons

Cynthia Zocca

Special Thanks to:

Catalina Ritton

William Snyder

Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut



*The Mirror Lake*

## A Welcome Letter to the First Years!

By Cynthia Zocca

Welcome (back)!

First of all, we would like to welcome the new first-year students Alex, Benjamin, Irina, Jelena, and Julio, and visiting scholar Lim Ik-Hee. Also, we would like to thank Prof. Diane Lillo-Martin for all her years of great work as head of the department and to welcome Prof. William Snyder, aka "Head Dude", as the new head.

By now, the new students have probably been overwhelmed with new information, so here is a little checklist for the Fall Semester:

- register for classes;
- find your NetID;
- get a meal plan (if you want to);
- pay your fee bill (you can request payroll deductions).

If you don't know how to do these things, ask your Mentor; he or she has to do all that too!

This now goes to all students: are you aware of all the services the university offers? Here are some:

- Student Recreation Services – we need a healthy body to support all the thinking involved in the program! You can use the gym, which is next to Gampel Pavilion,

and has treadmills, ellipticals, bikes, weight machines, free weights, racquetball courts, and a climbing center. You can also play basketball and volleyball. They also have a program called Bodywise, which offers classes like aerobics, yoga, and spinning. Keep an eye also for the Husky Excursions, which are short trips to go climbing, hiking, snowshoeing, etc.

- Student Health Services – you can treat your body as well as your mind there. You can see a nurse or doctor if you have a problem, and also have a physical exam to make sure everything is all right. They also have a Women's Clinic and an Allergy Clinic. If the work is driving you crazy, don't hesitate to contact Mental Health Services, where you can get counseling on coping with the stress and anxiety that academic life can generate.

- Homer Babbidge Library – here are some of the things they offer: electronic journals, interlibrary loan, converting articles or chapters to pdf, and, of course, lots of study space.

- Writing Center – if you're unsure of your writing skills, a tutor can help you polish them. It's great for native and non-native speakers of English.

See **Welcome Letter** page 2

## Welcome Letter *continued from page 1*

- Student Union – many services and lots of study areas. Some features: food court, hair salon, International Office, Graduate Students’ Lounge, movie theater.

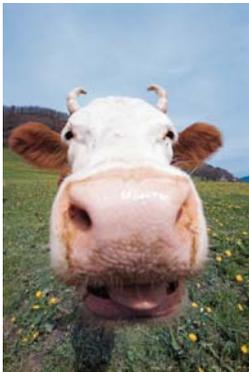
- Graduate Student Senate – it’s a student-body organization that can provide funds for several graduate activities, like for example our colloquium series. Every year we elect a student to be the Linguistics Senator.

- Wireless Internet – it’s available in many parts of campus like the Student Union, the library, the Co-op, and several other buildings. Unfortunately not Arjona, though. You can find more information about these services and others at the university’s

website. We will also talk about some of these things during the Tutoring sessions.

Finally, don’t miss the first Ling Club meeting of the year, on September 4th, at 1:15pm in room 307. We will say good-bye to our president Pei-Jung and (re-)elect a new one for the current academic year.

I hope we all have a great Fall semester!



*Welcome Back!*

## Registering for Classes: a Little Tutorial

By Cynthia Zocca

- [www.studentadmin.uconn.edu](http://www.studentadmin.uconn.edu) , set up a password using your PeopleSoft number (not NetID);

- Choose “Learner Services”, then “Academics”, then “Enroll in a Class”, then “Fall 2007”, then “Add Classes”

- It will ask for a “Class Nbr”, which is not LING XXX, it’s a different number that you can look up by clicking on the magnifier glass icon

- I’ve actually looked it up for you and

here are the numbers:

- LING 301 (Semantics I) – 3816
- LING 308 (Phonology I) – 3826
- LING 321 (Syntax I) – 3827
- LING 323 (Acquisition) – 8165

- Once you’ve added all the classes, click on Submit, and you are all set!

## Ling Mart

By Cynthia Zocca

Need something?  
Want to get rid of something?  
Here is your chance!

On Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, together with the Department Orientation, we’re having the Ling Mart: the Linguistics Department tag

sale!

Bring the stuff that you don't want anymore and sell it, trade it for something you want, or just give it away.

Everyone's invited. Don't miss this great community building opportunity.

## Ling Lunch

By **Natasha Fitzgibbons**

Hello everyone!

Let me remind you that you have an opportunity to make a Ling Lunch presentation. Everybody (including first year students and visiting scholars) is invited to present and attend the presentations.

LING LUNCH is an informal and friendly gathering where work in progress and half-worked out ideas can be presented, where students get feedback and ideas for further research, and where they can give practice talks for conferences. The time slot is TUE 12:15 - 13:15. The main purpose of Ling Lunch is to give students an opportunity to informally present their work. Some of the things that can be presented are generals in progress, master's theses, joint projects with students from other departments, practice

talks for conferences.

At this point, all the Tuesdays in the Fall are still available. To be more specific, we have one Tuesday in August, four Tuesdays in September, four Tuesdays in October, three in November, and one in December. Please contact me if you have any questions and/or would like to schedule your talk.

P.S. Yes, you can eat your lunch while listening to the talk.



*Present your work at Ling Lunch!*

## Where are Our Alumni?

### **Duk-Ho An**

Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Toronto

### **Inkie Chung**

Assistant Professor  
Department of English  
Central Connecticut State University

### **Miguel Rodríguez-Mondoñedo**

Assistant Professor of Spanish Linguistics  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
Indiana University

Congratulations!

## Colloquia Schedule

Fall 2007

**Colin Phillips** (Maryland)  
September 28

**Anna Szabolsci** (NYU)  
October 19

**Andrew Nevins** (Harvard)  
November 16

**Kyle Johnson** (UMass)  
December 7

Mark Your Calendar Now!

## How I Spent My Summer Vacation!

### Conference Presentations

Cheng, Johnny Hsu-Te. 2007. The Theory of Floating Quantifiers: Evidence from Mandarin Chinese. Paper presented in the Joint Conference of the 15<sup>th</sup> International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) and the 19<sup>th</sup> North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL), Columbia University, New York.

Hsieh, I-Ta Chris. 2007. Epistemic Force in mandarin Chinese. Paper presented in IACL 15 and NACCL 19, Columbia University, NY.

Wu, H.-H Iris, C.-A Arthur Wang, and I.-T Chris Hsieh. 2007. Epistemic Restriction in Mandarin VP-Ellipsis. Paper presented in IACL 15 and NACCL 19, Columbia University, NY.

Sawada Tsuyoshi. 2007. Adjectival Noun in Japanese as Noun without Case. Paper presented in 9<sup>th</sup> Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar. Kwangwoon University, Seoul, Korea.

Taguchi, Shigeki. 2007. On the Roles of Complementizers in Japanese. Paper presented in the 9<sup>th</sup> Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar. Kwangwoon University, Seoul, Korea.

### Departmental Presentations

Bastos, Ana. 2007. The Brazilian style of the multiple subject constructions. Paper presented at the Connecticut-Nanzan Joint Workshop on Minimalist Syntax. Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan.

Bernath, J. L. 2007. Agreement, Acquisition and Nativization in Sign Language. Paper presented at the UConn UMass Smith Language Acquisition Workshop, Storrs, CT.

Crawford, Jean. 2007. Acquisition of events, cause, and agency in Japanese: An experiment proposal. Paper presented at the UConn UMass Smith Language Acquisition Workshop, Storrs, CT.

Fitzgibbons, Natalia V. 2007. Freestanding Negative Concord Items in Russian. Paper presented at the Connecticut - Nanzan Joint Workshop on Minimalist Syntax. Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan.

Sawada Tsuyoshi. 2007. Da-Contraction and da-Deletion in Japanese. Paper presented at Ling Lunch, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

Sawada Tsuyoshi. 2007. Da-Deletion: Classification of Clause-Final Elements in Japanese. Paper presented at the Connecticut-Nanzan Joint Workshop on Minimalist Syntax. Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan.

Taguchi, Shigeki. 2007. Against the Null Complementizer Analysis of Japanese Relative Clauses. Paper presented at the Connecticut-Nanzan Joint Workshop on Minimalist Syntax. Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan.



*Yes, we do study during the summer!*

See **Student Accomplishment** page 5

## Student Accomplishment *continued from page 4*

### Publications

Bastos, Ana. Under review. The Brazilian style of the multiple subject constructions. *Nanzan Linguistics*, Special Issue 4.

Fitzgibbons, Natalia V. in review. A Close - Up of Russian N-Words. *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*

Fitzgibbons, Natalia. Submitted. Freestanding Negative Concord Items in Russian. *Nanzan Linguistics*, Special Issue 4.

Herdan, Simona. to appear. A superlative theory of amount relatives. Forthcoming in *Proceedings of WCCFL 26*, University of California, Berkeley, CA.

Kuo, Pei-Jung and Jen Ting. 2007. Light Verb, Heavy Verb and Verbal Noun in Mandarin Chinese. In *Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar: Locality and Minimalism*. p. 349-357.

Sawada Tsuyoshi. forthcoming. Da-Deletion: Classification of Clause-Final Elements in Japanese. *Nanzan Linguistics*, Special Issue 4.

Sawada Tsuyoshi. 2007. Adjectival Noun in Japanese as Noun without Case" In *proceedings of the 9th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar: Locality and Minimalism*. P. 405-423.

Taguchi, Shigeki. 2007. On the Roles of Complementizers in Japanese. In *the Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar: Locality and Minimalism*.

### Service: Conference Organization

Brenath, J. L. 2007. Organizer of the UConn UMass Smith Language Acquisition Workshop, Storrs, CT.

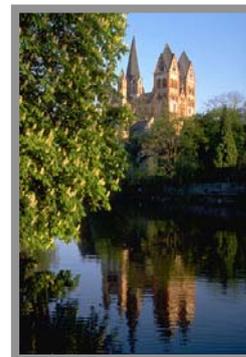
Crawford, Jean. 2007. Member of the Organizing Committee for *Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition North America 3 (2008)*, University of Connecticut.

Crawford, Jean. 2007. Member of the Organizing Committee for the *Acquisition of African Languages Conference 2008 (Communications Chair and Webmaster)*, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

## Faculty News

Professor **Arthur S. Abramson** attended the 16th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Saarbrücken, Germany, August 6 - 10, 2007. There he completed my 36th and final year as a member of the Permanent Council for the Organization of Congresses of Phonetic Sciences, which voted to have the next congress, four years from now, in Hong Kong, China.

Professor **Eva Bar-Shalom** spent the summer in Storrs with family mostly. She worked with Elena Zaretsky on a paper for the *International Journal of Bilingualism*, which was accepted pending revisions. She also wrote an abstract on aspect in Russian, which was accepted to the second meeting of the *Slavic Linguistics Society* in Berlin and another project with Elena, which was accepted as a poster presentation to BU.



*Did you spend your summer vacation here?*

## Faculty News *continued from page 5*

Professor **Jonathan Bobaljik** has the following highlights:

“I’ve spent the summer conducting an intensive case study of first language acquisition in a German-English bilingual age 2;3 to 2;6. I have observed that both English and German are equally garbled when spoken through a mouthful of peas. I’ve also learned that even at this age, children are able (and extremely willing) to correct adult L2 (German) speakers on matters of etiquette, pronunciation, and lexical choice. This particular child makes widespread use, in German, of an apparent functional morpheme [e:], which can be used as almost any type of functional element, including the copula and wh words. It remains to be determined whether this is a common property of German L1 or a borrowing from Canadian English. As a brief side experiment, we provided this child with a few days of exposure to a Greek-German-English child about one year younger, just to see what would happen (meanwhile, I managed to squeeze in a commentary at the Greek Syntax-Semantics Workshop at MIT). I suspect there were new words added to the German-English child’s vocabulary, but they were all Greek to me.”



Professor **Željko Bošković** had the Japan trip (the Connecticut-Nanzan Joint Workshop on Minimalist Syntax), a couple of weeks at the Montenegro seaside (though this was not linguistic-related), and a talk in Frankfurt in July, entitled NP or DP.

Professor **Diane Lillo-Martin** has the following highlights:

“I spent part of this summer moving into my new office – thanks, William, for taking over as head! I also spent time on research, reviewing, work with students, etc.

In July, I went to Köln, Germany for a workshop on Current Issues in Sign Language Research. This was a small group, and my co-author Ronice Quadros and I had good feedback on our presentation about the nature of verb agreement in sign languages. After a week in Köln, Ronice and I went to the area of Nancy, France, where we worked on a couple of joint papers (and ate lots of good food).

In August, I had some family time, including hosting my husband’s family, beauty in the mountains of Vermont, and visiting a host of potential colleges with my daughter.”



Professor **Jairo Nunes** had a publication of "The Copy Theory of Movement" (John Benjamins), edited by Norbert Corver and himself, including a chapter that Željko and he wrote ("The Copy Theory of Movement of the PF Side").

Professor **Nancy Ritter** has taught classes at Solomon Schechter Middle School - West Hartford. She continued on-going work as managing editor of The Linguistic Review journal (organizing issues, editing, liaison with publisher, overseeing special issues, planning coming years' issues)

## Faculty News *continued from page 6*

Professor **Yael Sharvit** has the following highlights:

Research:

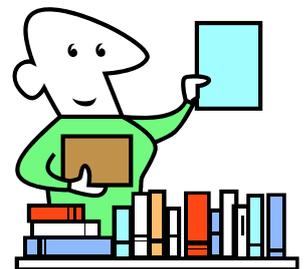
- Worked together with Jon on their joint WCCFL paper (Proceedings of WCCFL 2007): 'On the calculation of local implicatures'.
- Finished joint work with Elena Guerzoni (in press, *Linguistics & Philosophy*): 'A question of strength: on NPIs in interrogative clauses'.
- Finished a paper (in press) for a volume on Hebrew linguistics (*Generative Approaches to Hebrew Linguistics*): 'Bare minimizers'.
- Finished a paper (in press) for another volume on Hebrew linguistics (*Hebrew Generative Grammar*): 'Aspects of the semantics of tense in Modern Hebrew'.
- Still working on a paper on Free Indirect Discourse (under review, *L&P*): 'The puzzle of Free Indirect Discourse'.
- Still working on a paper on infinitival superlatives (for the *Handbook of Natural Language Semantics*): 'Infinitival relative clauses in superlative expressions'.

Studies:

- Two courses (at the Open University of Israel): Discrete Mathematics (which began in the spring and ended in the summer), and Introduction to Statistics and Probability (a summer course).

Professor **William Snyder** has the following highlights:

- Having his new book (*Child Language: The Parametric Approach*) published by Oxford University Press;
- Becoming the Linguistics Department Head at UConn;
- Submitting a grant proposal to NSF, requesting funding for the GALANA Conference that we will hold at UConn in 2008;
- Teaching at the LSA Linguistic Institute at Stanford University. There I taught both an intensive pre-session course ('Using CHILDES'), and a regular-session course ('The Parametric Approach to Child Language'). For the latter I used my new book as a textbook. I also had the opportunity to attend classes taught by other faculty at the Institute (e.g. Jim McCloskey, Joan Bresnan, Robert Kluender, Adele Goldberg, Mike Tomasello, Shalom Lappin, Alexander Clark). In a number of cases I was invited by these instructors to participate in class discussion as a representative of 'Chomskyan linguistics' (which was usually being attacked in these courses!).



Professor **Susi Wurmbrand** has the following highlights:

In May, she gave a talk, or rather a commentary, at the Workshop on Greek Syntax and Semantics, MIT, Cambridge, Mass. Each talk was followed by a commentary and she was invited to comment on Christina Sevdali's paper 'Control Into CPs: When Finiteness Doesn't Matter'.

In June, she gave a short lecture series at Nanzan University (Nagoya, Japan). The lectures were surrounding the UConn-Nanzan joint workshop on Minimalist syntax, where several students from our department gave (very nice!) presentations. The handout from her lectures can be downloaded from her web page

([http://wurmbrand.uconn.edu/Susi/Research\\_files/Nanzan.pdf](http://wurmbrand.uconn.edu/Susi/Research_files/Nanzan.pdf))

Then, she revised a squib which had been conditionally accepted to LI ("Nor: Neither disjunction nor paradox"); the revised version can be downloaded from LingBuzz:

<http://ling.auf.net/lingBuzz/000318>.

And, as usual, she has been working on various other projects (tense, scope) which will materialize into papers hopefully soon.

## Ling News

DEPARTMENT OF  
LINGUISTICS  
337 Mansfield Road  
Storrs, CT 06269

PHONE:  
(860) 486-4229

FAX:  
(860) 486-0197

WEBSITE:  
<http://linguistics.uconn.edu/>

## Linguistics Rules!

## Susi's Poem

In addition to the intellectual stimulation, one of the highlights of the trip to Japan for Susi was the following message she received in the hotel regarding her lost luggage:

**Rubrum Ohzan**  
**MESSAGE**

For : M \_\_\_\_\_ 様 Room No. \_\_\_\_\_ 号室

From : M \_\_\_\_\_ 様より

Date Time 07 06-22 18:34

Telephoned お電話がございました  
 Please call at お電話くださいませ

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Will call you again またお電話なさるとのことです  
 No particular message 特にご伝言はございません  
 You had a guest お客様がお見えになりました

Message **Susanne wurmbrand**

\_\_\_\_\_ For the telephone to exist from the  
\_\_\_\_\_ international airport (New Tokyo  
\_\_\_\_\_ International Airport) and to reach *king*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lbra mountain in the morning  
\_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow, it seems to send it.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### About the newsletter...

This is a preliminary version of the department newsletter. Since I am the only editor so far, I arranged everything under my own 'free will'. So if you have any suggestion or opinion about this newsletter, you can e-mail me directly. ☺

In order to ensure the quality of the newspaper, I suggest that we may hire a

native speaker of English as the chief editor. I will just be responsible for the electronic editing job.

Last, thanks to those who sent me the info presented here and thanks to William who helped me to proofread this newsletter.

Hope to see you in the next issue!