

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee on Language in the School Curriculum

LSA 2006, Albuquerque

Saturday, January 7, 2006, 8:00 a.m.

Board E room

Co-chairs 2005 – Carol Lord (clord@csulb.edu), Kristin Denham (kristin.denham@wwu.edu)

Co-chairs 2006 – Kristin Denham (kristin.denham@wwu.edu), Catherine Rudin
(carudin1@wsc.edu)

In attendance:

Ed Battistella, Catherine Rudin, Kristin Denham, Jeffrey Reaser, Maya Honda, Wayne O'Neil, Tami Kaplan, Sandra Wright, Fred Field, Ray Jackendoff, Jordan Brewer, Carol Lord, Mary Buzan, John Boyle, Donna Christian, Bill Rutherford, Sharon Klein

1) Brief introductions by all in attendance.

2) Kristin Denham gave an update of 2005 activities:

- LiSC-sponsored workshop at LSA on Thursday, January 5 on K-12 Linguistics Materials. Presenters were Kristin Denham, Sharon Klein, Maya Honda and Wayne O'Neil, Anne Lobeck, and Thomas Payne. Organized by LiSC co-chairs Carol Lord and Kristin Denham
- LSA members were invited (via LiSC) to present at the NCTE conference in November, 2005 in Pittsburgh. Anne Curzan, Kristin Denham, Anne Lobeck, and Wayne O'Neil and David Pippin presented in this session, organized by Kristin Denham.
- A working group of NCTE and LSA members was held at the NCTE meeting, organized by Ray Jackendoff, Carolyn Adger, David Bloome (NCTE past president), and other members of NCTE's Commission on Language. The goal of this meeting was to discuss how to better integrate linguistics into the English/Language Arts curriculum and teacher education and to discuss possible partnerships in this enterprise. The result was that though NCTE is happy to collaborate with LSA on symposia and further strengthen ties between the organizations, they are not eager to step in as partners in such a project (initiated by linguists).
- Reports from liaisons to other organizations and committees:

Kristin Denham – liaison to NCTE's Commission on Language. She reported on the NCTE/LSA meeting held at NCTE. (Report of this meeting by Carolyn Adger is available.) We will also keep in touch with NCTE's Assembly for the Teaching of English Grammar.

Jeff Reaser – reported on the well-attended American Dialect Society panel at NCTE. Jeff will serve as the ADS liaison for LiSC.

Fred Field – liaison with Teachers for a New Era Carnegie Project – The Carnegie project involves grant to several universities to support improved teacher preparation, including training teachers in English Language Development (ELD). This is an opportunity for linguists to contribute materials to teacher preparation. Fred will continue to work with Education folks on his campus, which is one of the grantees.

Donna Christian – liaison with CAL and other organizations it is connected to having to do with ELL/ELD (TESOL and ACTFL)

Sharon Klein – liaison to LSA’s adhoc committee on the Virtual Museum of Linguistics and Language (VMLL). Sharon has a sabbatical during spring 2007 to work on the VMLL, a web installation/interactive site inspired by the video archives on the LSA website and by various interactive science museum sites, e.g. the Exploratorium.

John Boyle – liaison to LSA’s Committee on Endangered Languages and Their Preservation (CELP), especially as concerns their joint work on public outreach and awareness.

Liaison with AAAS? – Rebecca Wheeler has done this and if there is anyone who attends this (expensive) meeting regularly, it could be useful for LiSC to be in touch with him/her.

- Compendium/Member projects and activities – Kristin gave a brief history of the Compendium of Projects on Linguistics and its current version of “Description of some LiSC-related projects.” If anyone would like their LiSC-related projects included, please let Kristin know.

3) Discussion of plans and goals for 2007.

- Discussion of a **LiSC-sponsored organized session** at LSA 2007. There was agreement that we should do this, perhaps including NCTE members. A reminder will be sent out before the April 15 deadline for anyone interested in organizing and/or participating in the organized session. Kristin will investigate possible NCTE participants. A possible topic for this panel was suggested: Linguistics in Teacher Education.
- Discussion of **participation in November 2007 NCTE meeting**, panel on linguistics, if we are invited again. (Upon return from LSA, Kristin received the official invitation to participate from NCTE.) Those who expressed interest in participating: John Boyle, Fred Field, and Jeff Reaser.
- Discussion of **state standards involving language and linguistics**. Johanna Rubba reported (via email) that she and Margaret Dunn have worked on compiling language-arts standards from the 50 states. They have a document which comprises the relevant online documents she found for the first half of the 50 states, and she is working with Margaret on getting the other half together. The committee would be very interested in having this information.
- Discussion of **developing of a position paper for primary and secondary teachers** of what they need to know with respect to linguistics. Those who volunteered to be involved with this, the primary project of 2006, Carol Lord, Tami Kaplan, Sharon Klein, Maya Honda, and John Boyle.
- **Compendium/Member projects and activities** – Kristin gave a brief history of the Compendium of Projects on Linguistics. Kristin will investigate updating the web version of members’ and affiliates’ linguistics in education projects and making it more useful and user-friendly.

- It was mentioned that the new **NCATE (National Council for the Accreditation of Teachers) guidelines** have more linguistics in them the previously. We might investigate these new standards.

4) Reminder: Everyone is encouraged to submit paper on Linguistics in Education through the normal LSA channels, not just through the LiSC organized session, so that there could begin to be a regular session on Linguistics in Education.

Kristin Denham
January 2006