

SECOL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2008

Official Newsletter of the Southeastern Conference on Linguistics

Forty Years Young!

1. **UPCOMING CONFERENCE SPRING 2009**

The upcoming conference (SECOL 76) will be hosted in New Orleans, Louisiana, at Tulane University, on Wednesday through Friday, April 8 - 10, 2009. The conference theme is *Language, Politics, and Law*. The complete call for papers can be found at www.secol.org. At this conference we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of SECOL.

Please use this website to update your membership dues and/or join SECOL. You must be a member before you can submit a proposal to the conference. Abstracts must arrive by December 15, 2008. You will be notified when your abstract is received, and final acceptance will be sent by January 15, 2009.

SECOL owes a great deal of thanks to Nathalie Dajko (timbits25@yahoo.ca) of Tulane who stepped in to offer this venue. One of the first challenges was finding hotel rooms in New Orleans during the dates that SECOL typically meets; this was difficult due to still existent post-Katrina issues. New Orleans is a fantastic venue for a conference, but is beginning to fill back up, hence the reason for the meeting being held a bit earlier in the week than is usual.

We're looking forward to seeing you, and we anticipate an incredible meeting in the Crescent City in April, 2009. Please see the website (www.secol.org) for complete information on hotel accommodations.

2. **SPRING 2008 CONFERENCE**

A thousand thanks to host Dr. Bethany Dumas, everyone involved with SECOL LXXV, and the University of Tennessee for hosting a wonderful Spring 2008 meeting. The theme was *Language in Institutional Settings*, and there was indeed quite a bit of language in this institutional setting. The business meeting resolution reproduced below echoes the gratitude of many SECOL members for successfully hosting this conference.

3. **BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **Resolutions (created by Robin Sabino)**

Whereas the following have served with dedication, be it resolved that SECOL expresses its gratitude to:

--Dr. Bethany Dumas and the University of Tennessee for planning and preparing the Spring, 2008, meeting so as to make it professional, enjoyable, and trouble-free;

- Dr. Susan North, lecturer in English, the University of Tennessee;
- Judith Welch, Administrative Assistant in the Department of English, University of Tennessee;
- Dr. Ilona Elki, chair of Linguistics;
- The following conference sponsors:
 - The John C. Hodges Better English Fund of the Department of English
 - The Linguistics Program
 - The Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures
 - The Department of Classics
- The Knoxville Hilton (special thanks to Fran Owen, Director of Sales, and Becky Vidal, Catering manager);
- Dr. Patti-Davis-Wiley, Eileen Galang, Susan Scriven de Dragon, Chritine Carroll;
- to the SECOL executive committee and program committee members;
- to all attending members and presenters

B. Minutes

The venue, potential dates, and theme were established for SECOL 76, as was who would create the call for papers. The issue of the duties of the local hosts was brought up; it was later resolved via e-mail that the Vice President should play a major role in working with the local hosts to create the program. Nominations were submitted for a variety of slots on the various committees (please see the website www.secol.org/officers.html to view the names of the current officers and the various committees.). Awards in honor of Bob Bernstein and Steve Gross were established. Robin Sabino suggested a round-table to be held in the summer of 2008 to discuss SECOL issues; the group did not pursue this item. It was announced that there were no submissions for the Reza Ordoubadian award from student papers from the Spring 2007 in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

4. AWARDS

Congratulations to all past award winners, and please be aware that SECOL has established several other awards to honor longtime members. The items below are reproduced from the call for papers - all of which are, of course, available at www.secol.org.

REZA ORDOUBADIAN AWARD

Student members of SECOL are reminded of the annual Reza Ordoubadian Award. This is a cash award and three-year membership in SECOL for the paper presented by a student at the previous year's SECOL meeting deemed best by a selection committee. To be considered, an electronic copy of the paper transmitted by e-mail as a PDF file (or three hard copies by regular mail) should be sent to Dr. Megan E. Melancon with a cover letter requesting consideration. **THE DEADLINE FOR THE 2008 ROA COMPETITION (for papers that were presented at SECOL 75, in April, 2008, in Knoxville, TN) is January 12, 2009.**

(Looking ahead, the deadline for the 2009 ROA Competition will be January 11, 2010.)

TWO ADDITIONAL PRIZES WILL BE OFFERED THIS YEAR

The Bernstein Award

The Bernstein Award of \$100.00 for the best paper on Language and Politics is open to all SECOL members. To be considered, an electronic copy of the full paper transmitted by e-mail as a PDF file (or three hard copies by regular mail) should be sent to Dr. Megan E. Melancon with a cover letter requesting consideration. Your letter should contain contact information. The deadline for submission of the full paper is **January 12, 2009**.

The Steve Gross Award

This year SECOL will also offer a one-time, \$100 award for the best paper on Language Contact, Pidgins, Creoles, Code Switching, or L1 Attrition in honor of Dr. Steve Gross. This award is open to all SECOL members. To be considered, an electronic copy of the full paper transmitted by e-mail as a PDF file (or three hard copies by regular mail) should be sent to Dr. Megan E. Melancon with a cover letter requesting consideration. Your letter must contain contact information. The deadline for submission of the full paper is **January 12, 2009**.

5. SOUTHERN JOURNAL OF LINGUISTICS

Dr. Felice Coles (fcoles@olemiss.edu) has asked for papers, reviewers, and books to be submitted for review for the SECOL journal. In addition, she has issued the following call:

“As the 40th anniversary of SECOL approaches, a special issue of the Southern Journal of Linguistics will be devoted to this momentous occasion. Our president, Allison Burkette, has christened the issue ‘The Retrospectacular’. Life members and newcomers alike are welcome to submit manuscripts and book reviews to commemorate this anniversary. Please contact Felice Coles, Editor, at fcoles@olemiss.edu for more information”.

6. TIDBITS

- A. Urge your students to apply for the **awards** listed above.
- B. Consider sending in **articles, reviews, and books** to the journal (see above for contact information).
- C. Remember to **renew your membership** before sending in your abstract.
- D. Send copies of **job advertisements** (to be posted on the SECOL website) to Robin Sabino at sabinro@auburn.edu.
- E. Inform your graduate students about the upcoming **TALGS** (TESOL/Applied Linguistic Graduate Students) conference at East Carolina University. Organized

- by the Linguistics and TESOL graduate students and faculty, TALGS is aimed at providing a serious yet relaxed environment for graduate students and professionals working in a variety of applied linguistics fields and TESL/TEFL to present their work and receive feedback. See the website at www.ecu.edu/English/linuisticsTESL, or contact Lida Cope at copel@ecu.edu.
- F. Students who read papers at the Knoxville, TN, Spring, 2008, conference need to send their submissions to megan.melancon@gcsu.edu for consideration for the **ROA**.
 - G. If you have **pictures** from any recent conferences, please send them to Robin Sabino (sabinro@auburn.edu). She can work her web magic and include them in the website.
 - H. Please contact Michael Picone (picone@ua.edu) about **SAADS** (South Atlantic Region of the American Dialect Society) information for both the upcoming SECOL conference and future conferences.
 - I. **Agenda items** for the spring 2009 meeting should be sent to megan.melancon@gcsu.edu. As of this moment, we have a proposal to buy an LCD projector in order to save money by owning our own instead of 'renting' one from the venues in which the conference is held. Please add to this list!

7. **YOUR NAME COULD BE HERE!**

Please send in tidbits, issues, concerns, etc. to be published in this newsletter to megan.melancon@gcsu.edu.