



South Eastern Conference On Linguistics

SECOL 84: “Underrepresented and Minorized Linguistic Varieties in the Lowcountry and Beyond”

**The Beatty Center, 5 Liberty Street, Charleston
The College of Charleston (host)**

General Business Meeting

Saturday, March 11, 2017

11:00 – 12:00, Beatty Center 214

Presiding: Jennifer Cramer, President

I. Welcome and Introductions: Jennifer Cramer, President

Jennifer Cramer thanked the local host, Ricard Viñas de Puig, and the other members of the SECOL @ College of Charleston Committee, Liz Martinez Gibson and Laura Moses, for their hard work in arranging the meeting in Charleston. She welcomed in particular all of the graduate and undergraduate students who were participating in the conference, praised them for the quality of their work, and encouraged them to continue their participation in SECOL. She also encouraged them to submit their papers for consideration for the Reza Ordoubadian Award (which is a later topic on the agenda).

Resolution Thanking the Organizers and Sponsors of SECOL 84 in Charleston, South Carolina

Whereas SECOL LXXXIV, at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, on March 8-11, 2017, provided a well-ordered and well-equipped forum for high-quality papers,

Whereas the convention profited from good staffing and support throughout and offered a fine venue for academic exchange and collegial ambience, and

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the South Eastern Conference on Linguistics extend thanks and sincere appreciation to the organizers, sponsors, and staffers of our 2017 annual conference:

- Ricard Viñas de Puig, Liz Martinez Gibson, and Laura Moses (local organizers) and their students Matt Mossberg, Jasmin Graham, Kensley Burriss, Ashton Getchell, McCathern Painter, and Tiy Peterkin of the College of Charleston;

- the School of Languages, Cultures and World Affairs, the Linguistics Program, the Department of Hispanic Studies, the Avery Center, and the Office of Institutional Diversity at the College of Charleston (sponsors).

II. Business

A. Reza Ordoubadian Award

There were no submissions from the 2015 meeting, so a big effort was made to inform potential candidates and to encourage submissions. A series of reminders to student presenters at SECOL 2016 and their mentors resulted in 8 submissions from a range of orientations within linguistics, by the deadline of January 7, 2017. Davies will follow the same procedure for the next year. Because there had been no award given last year, the Executive Committee decided to make two awards this year to the top two papers from the compiled rankings of the Executive Committee members: (1) Razia A. Husain of North Carolina State University in collaboration with Taha M. Husain of the University of Kentucky for “Acoustic Measurement of Voiced Implosives: Evidence of Voiced Implosives in a U.S. Dialect,” and (2) Alyssia M. Miller of the University of Alabama for “Goal Setting in the Second Language Classroom and Its Implications for Second Language Acquisition.” Razia Husain and Taha Husain were present to receive the award, but Alyssia Miller was not. The winners will receive a check for \$100, a year’s membership in SECOL, and an invitation to publish the papers in the *Southern Journal of Linguistics*. Davies will look into creating an appropriate certificate that can be sent to the winners, and possibly presented in person to winners at the next ceremony. Student presenters are encouraged to submit written versions of their papers for consideration by January 7, 2018 to Catherine E. Davies, Secretary (cdavies@ua.edu). Cramer encouraged students who presented to apply and also made an appeal faculty who attended excellent papers at the conference to add to the encouragement.

B. Journal

Felice Coles reminded us that the journal has moved to PDF format for regular members, but hard copies are sent to libraries, life members, and authors. She added that if you have a special need she can be persuaded to provide a paper copy; email her with such requests. She also asked people to let her know if the PDF is blocked by their email servers as SPAM because of the way she sends the PDF in batches. Coles is looking for manuscripts, book reviews and evaluators. All members are welcome to submit previously unpublished work and to volunteer to read manuscripts. Coles emphasized the inclusive orientation of the journal, and the constructive and helpful nature of the reviews. She doesn’t like to reject submissions if at all possible and encouraged members to submit their work. Coles encouraged suggestions for special issues with guest editors (with Coles serving as the overall stylistic editor), and Mary Ziegler proposed a special issue on Gullah-Geechee. Ricard offered to contact the organizer of the Gullah-Geechee panel to see if she would be interested. We are now in volume 64, #2 of the journal. Coles again called

for book reviews. Mike Picone expressed appreciation to Felice Coles for the fantastic job that she has been doing as journal editor. He pointed out that the editorial process is efficient and quick and ensures speedy publication. Davies also pointed out that it was Coles who got the journal into libraries in digital format via EBSCOHOST.

C. Officers

1. Jennifer Cramer moves from President to Immediate Past President, Ralf Thiede moves from Vice President to President, Philip M. Carter (Florida International University) will become Vice President this year, and Paul Reed will take over from Ben Torbert as Treasurer. Rachael Albritten continues and Ramón Escamilla joins the Executive Committee as Members-at-Large. Ricard Viñas de Puig rotates off the Executive Committee and Katie Carmichael has been proposed by the Nominating Committee to join the Executive Committee as a non-voting member as upcoming local host for 2018.

2. Wilbur Bennett was thanked for his service as Webmaster. The Webmaster position will be jointly managed by the Treasurer (Reed) and the Secretary (Davies), who will consult with Wilbur Bennett as they get up to speed with WordPress. This makes sense since we have registration and membership through PayPal. Any web requests should be sent to Davies or Reed.

3. In term of the Nominating Committee, J. Daniel Hasty rotated off this year and the Nominating Committee has proposed Irina Shport to replace him. Kirk Hazen will serve until 2018, and Paulina Bounds until 2019.

4. According to the SECOL constitution (article III, 10), 5 SECOL members have the right to put another name in nomination, by means of petition to the secretary, by June 1. If none are put forward, the nominees will automatically be approved.

D. Future Hosts/Venues and Local Organizers for SECOL Meetings

2018—Virginia Tech in Blacksburg (Katie Carmichael): April 19-21

2019—Florida Atlantic in Boca Raton (Justin White)

2020—University of Mississippi in Oxford (Felice Coles)—but see below

There seem to be no conflicts with religious holidays. There was some discussion of coordination with the Appalachian Studies Association Conference in 2020 when it is hosted by the University of Kentucky. Cramer will be looking into this, and if it materializes then the University of Mississippi might move to 2021. Cramer encouraged members to think about hosting in 2021 and beyond. Cramer pointed out that Dennis Preston could host us because Oklahoma is part of the SECOL region. There was also discussion of the possibility of a future venue in the Caribbean

E. Issues for a Vote

1. Two years ago in Raleigh the possibility of eliminating the Nominating Committee was discussed, and during this past year the elimination of the Nominating Committee was put up for a vote by the membership. The result was taken as advisory rather than binding because of the very small response to the vote and some cogent objections relating to concentration of power. The Nominating Committee will continue to exist.
2. There was an online vote concerning raising membership dues, with a very low participation rate. The Executive Committee decided to bring the issue to a vote here at the General Business Meeting. A motion was made and seconded to raise dues from \$40 to \$50/year only for regular members and libraries. Discussion included the fact that it has been 20 years since the last increase in dues and that SECOL membership is very reasonable compared to other professional organizations. The increase would not apply to students to protect them. The increase helps to finance the use of PayPal, which truly streamlines membership and registration payments. It also goes toward payment to EBSCOHOST, which allows members to access the *Southern Journal of Linguistics* in library databases. There was discussion of justifying this by emphasizing the additional services that have been added, perhaps in an article in a future newsletter. We currently receive payment from 26 libraries. The motion passed to raise annual membership dues to \$50 for regular members and for libraries.

F. Other Business

1. Jennifer Cramer was thanked for her service as president of SECOL with a loud round of applause. Cramer said a few words about her pleasure in serving as president and her appreciation of SECOL.
2. Students present commented with appreciation on how constructive the comments had been on the papers during the conference. They asked about the timing of the call for papers and abstract submission and Cramer explained the typical timeframe and the need to have the actual submission deadline be at the end of the year or early in January for students who want to submit abstracts based on their fall course projects. Concern was expressed about receiving the call for papers as soon as possible and Cramer expressed confidence that the call will go out very early in the fall semester, since we already have the conference dates for 2018.
3. Cramer passed the imaginary gavel to the new president, Ralf Thiede. He raised the question of what sort of additional incentives we can create to entice people to join. There was discussion of how students can be drawn into more engagement with SECOL. Suggestions included internships, a social media committee, an expert database only for members, career advice, networking and mentoring to informally formalize the constructive feedback that students receive at their conference presentations, and practical pre-conference workshops (e.g., scripting for Praat,

transcription, statistics). Picone pointed out that networking at SECOL lays the foundation for a set of potential external reviewers for future tenure and promotion decisions.

4. Members were reminded that the University of Kentucky will host the LSA Summer Institute in 2017. If members attend as affiliates, then their registration fees pay for student scholarships.

III. Adjournment: (Jennifer Cramer)

The meeting was adjourned at noon by Jennifer Cramer.

Respectfully submitted: Catherine E. Davies (Secretary)