



South Eastern Conference On Linguistics

SECOL 85: “Crossing Borders”

The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center

Blacksburg, Virginia

Virginia Tech (host)

General Business Meeting

Saturday, April 21, 2018

8:30 – 9:30 a.m., Solitude Meeting Room

Presiding: Ralf Thiede, President

I. Welcome: Ralf Thiede, President

II. Reza Ordoubadian Award: Catherine Davies, Executive Secretary

A series of reminders to student presenters at SECOL 2017 and their mentors resulted in 5 submissions from a range of orientations within linguistics, by the deadline of January 8, 2018. Davies announced that the selection committee was unanimous in choosing Marie Bissell’s paper, “A perceptual dialectology approach to evaluating language attitudes towards South-perceived speech in the United States,” for the Reza Ordoubadian Award. The winner receives a check for \$100, a year’s membership in SECOL, and submission of the paper to the *Southern Journal of Linguistics*. Because of the intimate group at the General Business Meeting, Davies made the announcement again right before the final plenary and presented a certificate to Marie Bissell. Because Razia A. Husain was present at the General Business Meeting, Davies presented two certificates to her for last year’s award (for her and for Taha M. Husain). Davies will encourage SECOL 2018 student presenters and their mentors to put their presentations into paper form and submit them for consideration before the early January 2019 deadline.

III. The SECOL Facebook Page: Ralf Thiede, President

Thiede showed a screen shot of the SECOL Facebook page and encouraged everyone to post photos. [Note: We discovered during the meeting that Christine Mallinson has administrative rights to the page, so we have been in touch with her to add additional Executive Committee members. Rachael Albritten has volunteered to be a social media chair for Facebook. Members who would like to be part of the social media efforts should let Catherine Davies know cdavies@ua.edu.]

IV. Officers: Ralf Thiede, President

A. Thiede presented a current list of the officers of SECOL. The website displays the terms of office. [Note: According to the Constitution, we need one more member of the Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please let Davies know cdavies@ua.edu .]

Executive Secretary: Catherine Davies, President: Ralf Thiede, Vice President: Philip Carter, Past President: Jennifer Cramer, Editor: Felice Coles, Treasurer: Paul Reed, At large: Rachael Albritten, At large: Ramón Escamilla, Ex officio: Conference host Katie Carmichael, Chair of Nominating Committee: Kirk Hazen, Nominating Committee Member: Paulina Bounds, Nominating Committee Member: Irina Shport

B. Elections

Thiede presented a slate for (1) the Executive Committee: Katie Carmichael and Justin White (conference host for 2019), and (2) Nominating Committee: Michael Picone. The slate was approved by voice vote.

V. Treasurer's Report: Paul Reed, with input remotely from Ben Torbert

Our finances are presently in stable health:

US Bank \$1,278.30

PayPal \$9,564.85

Regions \$110.00

Total \$10,953.15

Ben Torbert will send the checks for the Reza Ordoubadian Awards for last year, and Paul Reed will send the check for the award for this year from the new account that Reed has set up with RegionsBank, which has branches in all of the SECOL states. [Note: See the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for more details about the financing of the VT conference.]

VI. Future Conferences: Ralf Thiede, President

2019, hosted by Florida Atlantic University, local organizer Justin White, to be held near Boca Raton, in mid-April

2020, hosted by The University of Mississippi, local organizer Felice Coles, to be held at Oxford, at the end of March

2021?

VII. A New Home for the Journal: Felice Coles, Editor, and Ralf Thiede, President

The 10-year term of Felice Coles as Journal Editor will end in 2020. The new editor will (1) take office in 2020, (2) commit in 2019 and shadow the current editor for a year to ensure the smoothest possible transition, (3) work with subscribers, libraries, and EBSCO, (4) manage the journal's budget and mailing list. Past arrangements, concerning the necessary resources, with universities that have housed the journal have included (1) institutional support for mailing budget, (2) departmental support for a student aide and a course release, (3) shelving space to house archives, back issues.

VIII. Open Forum

- A. The sparse attendance at the morning business meeting prompted a discussion of how to attract more people to the business meeting in the future. A better name might include "Member(ship) Meeting" to make clear that it is for everyone who is a member. Better timing might include combining the meeting with lunch or Happy Hour (with food/drink motivation added). It was noted that in New Orleans the meeting preceded the evening plenary.
- B. Currently we don't have good ways of engaging members between meetings. Several ideas were proposed: (1) Meet-ups at other professional meetings, (2) SECOL-themed panels at other meetings (NWAV, ADS, other?), (3) Facebook through the SECOL page.
- C. Ideas for mentoring included: (1) for newcomers putting an indication on the badge and organizing a breakfast meeting with senior people paired with expertise; (2) making sure that we continue to have long breaks and long lunches to allow people to connect and talk.
- D. Professional development sessions were suggested (as at NWAV) on the morning of first day concerning methodology, etc. This would also get people there for the first session.
- E. There was also discussion of why people maintain memberships in their professional organizations: to present at conferences, to submit to the journal. We have these conditions in place.

IX. Resolution Thanking the Organizers and Sponsors of SECOL 85 at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia

Whereas SECOL LXXXV, at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, April 19-21, 2018, 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

Whereas the organizer accomplished extraordinary fundraising success in meeting the special local institutional requirements,

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the SouthEastern Conference on Linguistics extend thanks and sincere appreciation to the organizers, sponsors, and staffers of our 2018 annual conference:

Katie Carmichael, Abby Walker, Aarnes Gudmestad, and Joe Eska

Virginia Tech's Department of English; Humanities at Virginia Tech; the Moss Arts Center; the Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE); the Institute for Policy and Governance; the Office for Inclusion and Diversity; and the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures.

X. Adjournment: (Ralf Thiede, President)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 by Ralf Thiede.

Respectfully submitted: Catherine E. Davies (Secretary)