

CALL FOR PAPERS

52nd Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society
APRIL 21–23, 2016, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The Chicago Linguistic Society invites abstracts in any area of current research on the human language faculty, to include phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, historical linguistics, and sociolinguistics, as well as allied fields in the cognitive and social sciences. Accepted participants will be allotted 20 minutes to present and 10 minutes to answer questions. We particularly encourage submissions relevant to this year's proposed special topics, detailed below.

INVITED SPEAKERS

Edith Aldridge	University of Washington
Hans Boas	The University of Texas at Austin
Anastasia Giannakidou	The University of Chicago
Caroline Heycock	The University of Edinburgh
Andrew Nevins	University College London
Henriette de Swart	Universiteit Utrecht
Sarah Thomason	University of Michigan
Ming Xiang	The University of Chicago

SPECIAL TOPICS

Negation and Polarity Negation is a universal property of natural language, and creates a complex area of study where morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics and logic meet. Negative polarity, likewise, has enjoyed considerable attention in the past 30 years, with lots of important generalizations emerging from intense cross linguistic work. We invite submissions addressing aspects of negation and polarity, including: (a) the nature and formal characterization of polarity items, negative quantifiers, and n-words; (b) the status of expletive negation; and (c) the relation between explicit and implicit negations. Theoretical as well as experimental approaches are welcome, as well as data from a variety of languages.

Language Endangerment: Causes and Interventions The study of language endangerment lies at the intersection of numerous areas of research, including (but not limited

to): language policy, language attitudes and ideology, and language shift. We welcome all submissions that explore the root causes of endangerment, as well as those that attend to the methodologies of documentation and revitalization. We are also interested in submissions that evaluate how best to treat data from endangered languages in established theoretical frameworks.

Language Change Knowledge of how languages have changed over time can contribute much to our understanding of synchronic systems. We therefore urge submissions grounded in a diachronic perspective, which may include linguistic reconstruction, methods in modeling change, historical linguistics, linguistic typology, sociolinguistic approaches to change, language variation, and language contact. Submissions that engage new methodologies of reconstruction, or the reconstruction of understudied languages and families, are especially encouraged.

Features and Metafeatures Formal linguists from a variety of subfields have long endeavored to decompose grammatical categories into atomic, context-free features. The features that characterize categories such as person, number, and gender appear to exhibit ‘metafeatures’: they may be binary or privative in their valence; marked or unmarked in their values; dominant or dominated in their positions within hierarchies; recursive or nonrecursive in their application. Certain categories appear to resist degradation into abstract primitives, to include noun classes, social deixis, and perhaps case. We wish to attract submissions that examine: (a) the architecture of morphosyntactic (meta)features (e.g., filters, geometries, valencies); (b) the limits of featural reductionism; (c) the syntactic, semantic, and/or cognitive consequences of particular feature systems.

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

Abstracts will be evaluated by both external and internal reviewers. Submissions that fail to comply with any of the following guidelines will be automatically rejected.

- (1) Submit abstracts in PDF format with the filename PaperTitle.pdf.
- (2) Include the paper title and keywords (i.e., CLS session title, linguistic subfield(s), language(s)/language family) within the abstract.
- (3) Limit abstracts to two letter-sized or A4 pages in length, inclusive of data and references. Use one-inch margins and a font size no smaller than 11 points. Incorporate data into the main text of the abstract, not on a separate page.
- (4) Anonymize submissions by not including author name(s) in the abstract or filename. If necessary, remove author name(s) from the document properties of the PDF file.
- (5) Use the EasyChair platform (<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=cls52>) for the submission of abstracts.
- (6) Restrict submissions to one individual and one joint abstract per author, or two joint abstracts per author.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission deadline: January 3, 2016, by 11:59 PM CST
Notification: February 23, 2016
Conference dates: April 21–23, 2016

Please write to clsfiftytwo@gmail.com for general inquiries. Abstract submission shall proceed only via EasyChair; please do not make any submissions to this address. Visit our website at <http://chicagolinguisticsociety.org/>.