

Linguistic Ethnography Forum
www.uklef.net

CONVENOR'S REPORT
to
BAAL Executive Committee
July 2009- July 2010

1. Introduction

2009-10 has been another successful year for UKLEF, with six well-attended events organized by a range of different UKLEF members across the UK and the launch of new ways to reach out to members of the LEF community in the UK and elsewhere (e-seminar, twitter). We've also introduced the BAAL budget form and guidelines for LEF event organizers, including colloquia at the BAAL Annual Conference.

2. Organisation

During 2009-10, the committee has been:

<i>Post</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Term</i>
Convenor	Dr Jeff Bezemer	j.bezemer@imperial.ac.uk	2009-11
Treasurer	Dr Fiona Copland	f.m.copland@aston.ac.uk	2008-10
Communications Secretary	Dr Tom Van Hout	tom.vanhout@gmail.com	2009-11
Meetings Coordinator	Dr Frances Giampapa	frances.giampapa@bristol.ac.uk	2008-10
Ordinary Member	Dr Massimiliano Spotti	m.spotti@uvt.nl	2008-10
Ordinary Member	Sara Shaw	sara.shaw@nuffieldtrust.org.uk	2009-11
Co-opted Member	Dr Janet Maybin	j.maybin@open.ac.uk	2009-10

3. Membership

Our email list (ling-ethnog@jiscmail.ac.uk) is counted as our membership. Membership now stands at 311, with 201 UK based members, 34 US and Canada based members and 10 more countries represented, mainly from mainland Europe, but also from Asia and Africa. All members have given their consent for their contact details and research interests to be published on our website, www.uklef.net. We hope that making this information publicly available will help bringing LE researchers together and foster debate.

4. Website and Social Networking

The UKLEF website provides up-to-date information about upcoming and past events, some background information about linguistic ethnography and the forum, and working papers presented at past UKLEF events. All reports from

the coordinating committee and minutes from the AGM can also be found on the site. Since 2010 the website is hosted externally, and the new URL is www.uklef.net. Visitors of the old URL, www.ling-ethnog.org.uk, will automatically be redirected to the new address. Since 2010 the Communications Secretary also maintains a UKLEF twitter account (<http://twitter.com/uklef>), providing relevant information to the UKLEF community and beyond. Its feeds can also be found on the UKLEF homepage.

5. Finance

As of 02/07/2010, our balance stands at £972.88

6. Meetings

AGM Meeting

UKLEF held its annual AGM meeting at the Explorations in Ethnography, Language and Communication Conference, Aston University, 11 September 2009.

Academic Meetings

- ***Linguistic Ethnography Track*** at the 2009 BAAL Annual Meeting in Newcastle on 5 Sept 2009, with contributions from M. Izon, D. Martin & J. Stokes, Z. Nikolaidou, C. Charalambous.
- ***Explorations in Ethnography, Language and Communication***, an interdisciplinary conference with 20 presentations in 3 tracks and two keynotes (by Jan Blommaert and Martin Hammersley), as well as three pre-conference data sessions. Aston University, 11 September 2009 (organizers: Fiona Copland, Sara Shaw and Julia Snell).
- ***Sociolinguistics and Linguistic Anthropology: A Trans-Atlantic Dialogue***, a seminar with Alessandro Duranti, Ben Rampton, Roxy Harris and Janet Maybin at King's College London, on 27 November 2009 (organizer: Ben Rampton)
- ***Historical Bodies and Historical Space***, an e-seminar based on a paper by Jan Blommaert and April Huong, held in February 2010. Invited discussants: Mark Allen Peterson and Adrian Blackledge. (organizer: Tom Van Hout)
- ***Teaching & Learning Linguistic Ethnography***, a seminar held at the University of Birmingham on 19 March 2010, funded by the ESRC Researcher Development Initiative on Ethnography, Language and Communication. Organizers/speakers: Jeff Bezemer; Adrian Blackledge; Angela Creese; Marilyn Martin-Jones; Adam Lefstein; Janet Maybin; Theresa Lillis; Ben Rampton; and Karin Tusting. Discussant: Frederick Erickson.

- ***Ethnographies of Academic Writing in a Global Context: The Politics of Style***, a seminar at the Open University, 16 July 2010 (organizer: Theresa Lillis).

Upcoming Meetings

- ***Linguistic Ethnography Track*** at the 2010 BAAL Annual Meeting in Aberdeen, 3-5 September 2010.
- ***Explorations in Ethnography, Language & Communication***, with keynotes from Charles Briggs and Carey Jewitt and four data sessions from Ben Rampton, Sara Collins, Angela Creese and Frances Rock. Aston University, 23-24 September 2010 (organizers: Fiona Copland, Sara Shaw, Julia Snell).
- ***Institutionally Regimented Responses to Superdiverse Sociolinguistic Realities***, seminar at Birkbeck College, 11 November 2010 (organizers: Massimiliano Spotti & Li Wei).

To help local organizers plan UKLEF events we have published a set of guidelines on the UKLEF website. The guidelines include a link to the BAAL SIG Events Budget Form.

6. E-seminar

In an attempt to foster online debate on the linguistic ethnography of language and communication, UKLEF has piloted an *e-seminar*. The event was open to all UKLEF members and was run on the JISCmail discussion list for 10 days, starting on 24 February. The seminar was based on a paper by Jan Blommaert and April Huang. Apart from the the author and the two invited discussants, 7 UKLEF members emailed their comments during the e-seminar. A transcript of the seminar was made available online and a short survey revealed that the e-seminar concept was well-received but that 10 days is too short. Plans for future e-seminars include a follow-up event to the ELC conference and a theoretical e-seminar on the notion of 'indexicality'.

7. Thanks

We are extremely grateful to the local organizers of UKLEF events. As ever, our identity as a BAAL Special Interest Group continues to be of considerable value, and we would like to thank the BAAL Executive for its ongoing support. A special word of thanks goes to Janet Maybin, who will be stepping down this year as a member of the UKLEF Coordinating Committee after many terms as ordinary and co-opted member.

Jeff Bezemer (Convenor)
1 July 2010