

# UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum

## Minutes of the AGM, Aston University

September 23, 2010

Time: 5-6pm

Present: Jeff Bezemer (Chair); Frances Giampapa (minutes); Janet Maybin; Fiona Copland, Sara Shaw; Julia Snell; Linday Comstock; Lian Madsen; Ben Rampton; Celia Roberts; Sarah Collins; Graham Hall; Joeline Tuck; Assim Abdul; Bernie O'Rourke; Frances Rock; Olga Solovova; Kamran Kahn; Seemaab Naseam; Jom;omg; Anu Muhonen; Tisa Retfalvi-Shar; Rieder.

1. **Apologies:** Massimiliano Spotti, Tom Van Hout, Julia Gillen.

**JB** proposes a slight change in the order of the agenda to have the voting for officer's posts to take place earlier.

2. **Minutes of 2009 AGM**

Accepted without amendments

3. **Matters Arising form the minutes**

None.

4. **Officer's reports**

- a. Convenor

JB reports on communication with BAAL; draft handbook outlining BAAL SIGs responsibilities and procedures has been approved by BAAL Executive Committee. It is understood that the handbook is a set of guidelines. BAAL members do not need to be charged a discounted rate for UKLEF events. It is a requirement to fill out a budget form and get that signed off by BAAL before advertising SIG events. FC comments on the design of the budget form. JB suggests for the UKLEF Coordinating Committee to discuss possible improvements to the form and pass these on to the BAAL treasurer.

- b. Treasurer

FC reports that currently UKLEF has just under £1000. Introduction of £5 levy for events hasn't been applied as events have been free and fully subsidised by external funders. The concern is to generate funds for the future. Discussion of flexibility with the levy; JB suggestion for a percentage. No suggestions from membership.

BR notes some RDI funds may be used for UKLEF and suggests to approach current RDI Birmingham team, which is also linked to UKLEF, to consider contributing. SShaw suggests that the Aston Conference surplus can be contributed to UKLEF.

c. Meetings Secretary

FG reports on the success of UKLEF meetings and seminars organized by members. The e-seminar organized by Tom Van Hout has received very positive feedback. The new guidelines for organizing meetings and BAAL colloquium are now available online. JB suggests to organize a BAAL colloquium for next year (2011 in Bristol, UWE). JB notes Spotti's suggestion to focus on LE and new media/Ethnography 2.0.

BR notes last minute addition to UKLEF events: "On communicability: Language, agency, and the production of failed patients in news coverage of health". A Workshop with Professor CHARLES BRIGGS (Berkeley). Wednesday 22 September 2010. 2pm-5pm. Organized by the Centre for Language Discourse and Communication (Ben Rampton), King's College London with the UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum (Janet Maybin).

Upcoming meetings November 11<sup>th</sup> Superdiversity seminar run by Li Wei and Max Spotti; Suggestion from TvH for more e-seminars, possible 3 per year; JB opens this suggestion to members; BR suggests three to be too many; S Shaw comments regarding the timing of e-seminars; JS suggests to have fewer events but longer discussion and feedback time.

d. Communications Secretary

JB reports on behalf of TvH. Membership stands at 320. New website address: [www.uklef.net](http://www.uklef.net). Twitter. New member introductions.

**5. Plans for 2010-2011**

- a. Academic Meetings – JB repeats the upcoming Superdiversity seminar at Birkbeck November 11<sup>th</sup>; Proposed e-seminar, maybe in late October, based on plenary talk from Aston Conference; SShaw Organizing committee of Aston Conference to hand over the organization of the conference to other (local/international) members.
- b. Publications – Angela Creese (2010). 'Linguistic Ethnography'. In *Research Methods in Linguistics*. Edited by Lia Litosseliti.
- c. Projects – JB reporting RDI run by King's College London and the Institute of Education has ended. The End of Award report will be circulated to the membership as soon as it has been approved by the ESRC. There is a new RDI run by UKLEF members based in Birmingham (Martin, Blackledge, Creese, Martin Jones and others) on researching multilingualism.

**6. Elections for the period Sept 2010-2012**

Current committee put themselves forward to serve another term:

- a. Treasurer – Fiona Copland
- b. Meetings Secretary – Frances Giampapa
- c. One ordinary member – Max Spotti

They are elected without a ballot.

JB announces that Julia Snell has been nominated to serve on the coordinating committee as co-opted member.

**AOB:** BR expresses sincere thanks to Janet Maybin, who is stepping down as member of the Coordinating Committee after nearly 10 years. JM acknowledges and expresses thanks and happy to see UKLEF alive and flourishing.