Interfaces and Interactions in Linguistic Theories

October 30 – November 1, 2009
The University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

Friday Afternoon, October 30
McClelland 123

12:00-1:00	**Registration**

1:00-1:15   **Welcome from the ALC Organizing Committee**

SESSION 1: PHONOLOGY, PHONETICS, AND MORPHOPHONOLOGY
Moderator: Jeffrey Berry

1:15-1:45   **Zhaleh Feizollahi**
A modular approach to the phonetics-phonology interface
of stop voicing contrasts: evidence of incomplete and
complete voicing

1:45-2:15   **Greg Key**
Between morphophonology and morphosyntax: the strange
case of a Turkish causative

2:15-2:45   **Colin Gorrie**
Initial consonant mutation: an epiphenomenon?

ଔ **Break** ଔ

Moderator: Michael Hammond

3:00-4:30   **Andrew Wedel, University of Arizona**
Feedback stabilization of category distinctions

ଔଔ
**There will be a small reception in the
Communications Building (see campus map in the
program or follow the crowd) following this session.**
ଔଔ

Saturday morning, October 31
Integrated Learning Center (ILC) 141

9:00-9:30   **Registration**

Moderator: Natasha Warner

9:30-11:00   **Harald Baayen, University of Alberta**
There is more to prime than meets the eye.
Co-authored paper with Petar Milin, Dusica Filipovic-Durdevic, and Peter Hendrix

✂ Break ✂

SESSION 2: POSTER SESSION: 11:15am-12:00pm
Moderator: Jessamyn Schertz

Jinyoung Kim and Jongbok Kim
English "it is that" construction: a corpus-based approach

Jeffrey Berry
The phonetics-speech technology interface: how theory and application can work together

Hui-Ling Yang
The loss of negative features in interrogatives: interactions between minimalism and grammaticalization

Sunjing Ji
An interface study between corpus linguistics and syntax acquisition

✂ Lunch ✂

Please join us Saturday night beginning at 7:00pm for a Halloween party hosted by Adam Ussishkin and Andy Wedel at **228 S. 4th Ave**. Costumes are encouraged but certainly not required.

Directions: from campus, go west on University Boulevard to Euclid Avenue, and turn left on Euclid. At Broadway, make a right, and after it turns into Congress, turn left at the light at S. 5th Ave. Go two blocks, make a left on 12th St. Then make a right turn on South 4th Ave. 228 is halfway down the block on the right.

Saturday afternoon, October 31
Parallel Sessions, Integrated Learning Center 141 and 129

	SESSION 3: SYNTAX AND MORPHOLOGY ILC 141 Moderator: Megan Stone	SESSION 4: COGNITIVE SCIENCE AND LINGUISTICS ILC 129 Moderator: Amy LaCross
2:00-2:30	**Carrie Gillon and Hui-Ling Yang** Southern Min post-verbal negation	**CANCELLED DUE TO ILLNESS: John Ryan:** Competing theories for the cross-linguistic manifestations of early verb morphology in young children
2:30-3:00	**Jeffrey Punske** On nominal arguments	**Jerry T. Ball** Projecting grammatical feature nominals: Cognitive Theory Computational Model
3:00-3:30	**Deniz Tat** APs as reduced relatives in varieties of Turkic	**Mary Freiman and Jerry Ball** Improving the reading rate of Double-R-language
	❧ Break ❧	❧ Break ❧
4:00-4:30	**Tatyana Slobodchikoff** Syncretism and allomorphy in Hopi number	**Roula Skaf** Relativization in Aramaic-Syriac
4:30-5:00	**Rodrigo Gutiérrez Bravo and Jorge Monforte** SVO and disharmonic word order in Yucatec Maya	**Alan Hogue** Two kinds of optimization and their significance for theories of grammar

Sunday morning, November 1
Integrated Learning Center (ILC) 141

9:00-9:30   **Registration**

Moderator: Heidi Harley

9:30-11:00   **María Luisa Zubizarreta, University of Southern California**
The interface between syntax, prosody, and information structure: what we can learn from L2 speech

ഔ **Break** ൠ

SESSION 5: SEMANTICS, PRAGMATICS, AND SYNTAX
Moderator: Jeffrey Punske

11:15-11:45   **Masanori Deguchi**
The contrastive reading of Japanese –wa and the role of information structure

11:45-12:15   **Kyeongmin Kim and Jongbok Kim**
A Functor treatment of "such": a corpus-based approach

ഔ **Break** ൠ

12:30-1:00   **Katy McKinney-Bock**
Adjective ordering restrictions: exploring relevant semantic notions for syntactic ordering

1:00-1:30   **Megan Stone**
Idioms and domains of interpretation

Invited Speaker Abstracts

Harald Baayen: There is more to prime than meets the eye

The role of orthographic, morphological and semantic similarity in the masked priming paradigm was investigated in a study of the processing of case-inflected nouns in Serbian. A self-paced sentence reading experiment, combined with masked primes for target words, followed by a control experiment with words presented in isolation, revealed that at the short prime duration of 50 ms, effects of semantic similarity and effects of morphological paradigmatics are present, in addition to the standardly observed effects of orthographic similarity. The experimental results were modelled successfully by combining the compound cue theory of Ratcliff and McKoon (1988) with a discriminative learning model using the equilibrium equations of the Rescorla-Wagner model (Danks, 2003). Results argue against generative models of morphology critically assuming sparse lexicons (Halle & Marantz, 1993; Pinker, 1997). Results also challenge the hypothesis that the early stages of visual information uptake are dominated exclusively by morpho-orthographic processing (Rastle & Davise, 2008). Conversely, Word and Paradigm morphology (Blevins, 2003) is supported, as well as exemplar-based models of linguistic processing (Daelemans & Bosch, 2005) and the Bayesian Reader model (Norris & Kinoshita, 2008).
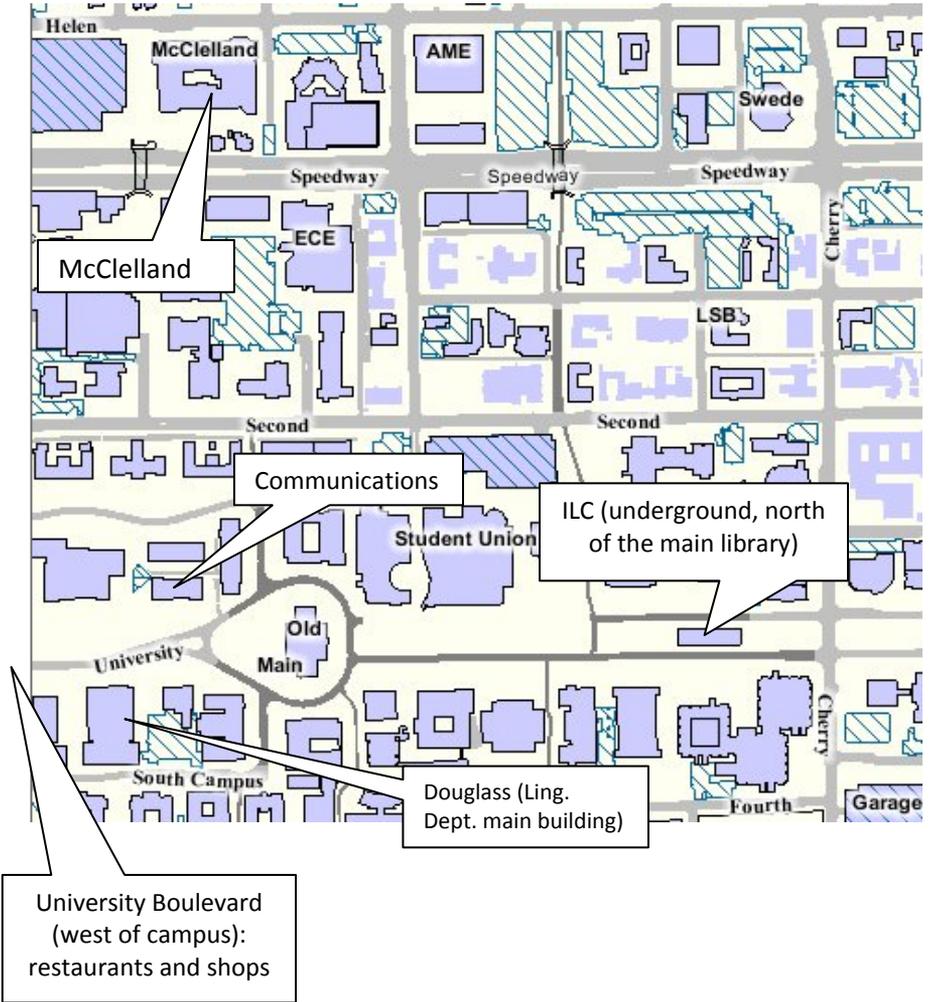
Andrew Wedel: Feedback stabilization of category distinctions

In previous work I have argued that pressures to maintain contrast between lexical categories (e.g. words) can indirectly promote contrast maintenance between sublexical sound categories (e.g. phonemes; Blevins and Wedel 2009). Here, I discuss how category learning, perception and production behaviors may contribute to category stability even in the absence of significant communicative function. The existence of categorial distinctions has been shown to suppress perceived difference within a category and (possibly) expand it near category boundaries (e.g., Kuhl 1991, Goldstone 2001). As a result, not only do we tend to group similar things into the same category, but things in the same category are in turn perceived to be more similar. This sets the stage for a potential feedback loop between (i) learning a category and (ii) the behavior providing evidence for that category for subsequent learners. This type of feedback loop itself has the potential to stabilize category distinctions against noise over generations of learners - even for category distinctions that are not highly functional.

María Luisa Zubizarreta: The interface between syntax, prosody, and information structure

In the first part of this talk, I will outline my view of the interaction between syntax, certain aspects of prosody, and information structure. In doing so, I will be comparing English and Spanish, two languages that are similar in certain respects and different in others. I will be claiming that not all differences are of the same nature: some are deeply rooted in grammar while others are more of a stylistic difference. In the second part of the talk, I will argue that L2 speech (through the acquisition timing of the different aspects of prosody) can provide evidence for such a view.

The University of Arizona Campus

The Arizona Linguistics Circle Annual Meeting is organized by the graduate students in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Arizona.