**British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL)**

**Corpus Linguistics Special Interest Group (CL SIG)**

**Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2014-15**

**Minutes**

1. Vander Viana (VV), the CL SIG Acting Convenor, introduced himself and welcomed all members to the AGM.
2. The CL SIG members present at the AGM were invited to introduce themselves.
3. The current CL SIG Committee structure was presented to members:
   1. Convenor: Bróna Murphy (on maternity leave)
   2. Acting Convenor: Vander Viana
   3. Communications Officer: Garry Plappert
   4. Meetings Secretary: Hilary Nesi
   5. Treasurer: Lise Fontaine
   6. Ordinary Members: Kat Gupta & Vander Viana
4. Apologies were noted from Bróna Murphy (BM), Lise Fontaine (LF) and Hilary Nesi (HN).
5. VV reported that the SIG had an extremely productive year event-wise: three events were organized (two in Coventry and one in Stirling), raising the SIG profile and attracting new members.
6. On behalf of LF, the CL SIG finances were presented. The actual CL SIG balance is £1,223.76, which is slightly higher than the one for the previous financial year.
7. There was some uncertainty about the CL SIG Committee members’ terms of office. Detailed information about the duration of terms of office could not be found prior to the AGM. At the AGM, Garry Plappert (GP) managed to find the CL SIG Constitution, which indicated that the current 3-year terms of office had been running against the 2-year term indicated in the Constitution. As the issue could not be solved retrospectively, it was suggested, after due consultation with BAAL CL SIG members and the then BAAL SIG coordinator, that the board members who had already been elected for three years should complete their terms as expected and that, from then on, new board members should be elected for a period of two years. This proposal is to be sent to the CL SIG mailing list for approval. **Action: Acting Chair.**
8. If accepted, the proposal would mean that the board would have the following configuration:
   1. Convenor: Bróna Murphy (2012-2015)
   2. Communications Officer: Garry Plappert (2013-2016)
   3. Meetings Secretary: Hilary Nesi (2008-2011; 2011-2014; 2014-2017)
   4. Treasurer: Lise Fontaine (2012-2015)
   5. Ordinary Members: Kat Gupta (2013-2016) & Vander Viana (2013-2016)
9. The new schedule of elections would be as follows:
   1. 2015: election for Convenor and Treasurer;
   2. 2016: election for Communications Officer and Ordinary Members;
   3. 2017: election for Meetings Secretary as well as Convenor and Treasurer.
10. It has been pointed out that electing a new Convenor and Treasurer in the same year is not desirable in terms of the financial handover. However, currently, there is no way of solving this issue as we have to abide by the Constitution. A proposal to change the Constitution could be made (e.g. making either the Convenor’s or the Treasurer’s term of office longer), but this would need to be approved in the next AGM. **Action: Future Chair.**
11. Although both BM and LF had expressed their interest in standing for re-election of their current posts (i.e. Convenor and Treasurer, respectively), the election could not be held at this AGM as the minimum quorum required by the constitution was not met. Elections will then be held through the CL SIG mailing list in due course. **Action: Acting Chair.**
12. At the AGM, GP found another CL SIG website that the Committee was unaware of. GP has promised to deactivate one of the sites and revamp/update the other. A suggestion was made to include the profile of current CL SIG members in the site. **Action: Communications Secretary.**
13. After due discussion, members agreed that, despite its lack of activity, it was worthwhile keeping the CL SIG mailing list. It provides the SIG with a direct way of interacting with members and it helps the Committee to identify its membership.
14. The next CL SIG event was advertised: it will take place at Aston University in 2016. Organized by GP, the event will focus on software and programming. **Action: Communications Secretary.**
15. Given that few CL SIG members could attend this year’s AGM, a suggestion was made to hold the AGM at the one-day event held by the SIG rather than at the BAAL Annual Conference. This way, it will be easier to reach the quorum required by the Constitution. **Action: Future Chair.**
16. Ideas for future events were given as follows:
    1. another visualization workshop with a different speaker, building on the success of the event organized at Coventry;
    2. a colloquium on ‘corpora for learners’ where publishers are also invited to the event.
17. Tilly Harrison has volunteered to host a future CL SIG event at Warwick.
18. VV thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the AGM.

**Members present at the AGM**

1. Duygu Candarli / University of Manchester (duygu.candarli[at]postgraduate.manchester.ac.uk)
2. Garry Plappert / Aston University (g.plappert[at]aston.ac.uk)
3. Laura Grimes / Cambridge University Press (lgrimes[at]Cambridge.org)
4. Susan Hunston / University of Birmingham (s.e.hunston[at]bham.ac.uk)
5. Tilly Harrison / University of Warwick (tilly.harrison[at]warwick.ac.uk)
6. Vander Viana / University of Stirling (vander.viana[at]stir.ac.uk)
7. Yoshiyuki Notohara / Doshisha University (ynotohar[at]doshisha.ao.jp)