BAAL Corpus Linguistics SIG meeting 16th September 2005 at BAAL Annual Meeting, University of Bristol

Present: Paul Thompson (Chair) (PT); Alison Sealey (Minutes) (AS); Tilly Harrison (TH); Fiona Barker (FB); Lan-Ting Huang (LTH); Lia Blaj (LB); Richard Badger (RB); Maggie Charles (MC); Hilary Nesi (HN); Edith Esch (EE)

Apologies: Susan Hunston; Sheena Gardner; Verena Jung

1. Minutes of previous meeting: Approved

2. Matters arising
a) It was noted that the wording of the required constitution remained to be agreed as a draft to present to the EC.
Action: TH to circulate a request for comments on the draft from the SIG membership to be received by the end of October.

b) The formal statement of the SIG's aims also needs to be agreed. This will be based on the draft constitution – see 2a above.

c) The planned spring meeting took place, organised jointly with the Oxford Text Archive, with the theme 'Identifying Multi-word Units'. Approximately 40 people attended to hear 7 papers, and a small profit was generated.

3. Convenor's Report
PT reported back from the SIG Convenors' meeting earlier that day. It was noted that there had been some concern about the prominence of SIG events at the Annual Meeting, and that there would now be either a Track or a Colloquium associated with each SIG, but not both, which should address this potential danger. The meeting agreed that the CL SIG is better suited to a track.
The issue of refereeing SIG-related abstracts for the AM was discussed. Referral to a SIG reviewer in addition to the main reviewing process seemed to introduce an unnecessary extra layer to the process. Under review by EC.
A member of the CL SIG committee other than the Convenor should act as reviewer for CL track abstracts.
Action: Abstract reviewer to be identified before abstract deadline for 2006 AM. (But see 6b below.)

The committee was reminded that the SIG needs to present an annual report and budget to the EC, and informed that for future proposed events a budget will need to be submitted to the committee in advance.

4. Planned events
There was discussion about the kind of regular event to be held in addition to the AM CL SIG track papers. It was agreed that, as with the successful previous meetings, it was useful to provide a forum for exploration of practical / methodological (e.g. mark-up; how to use corpus tools; problems experienced in members' research etc.)

5. Treasurer's Report
TH presented the report. The CL SIG banks with HSBC, currently University of Warwick branch. £200 was deposited from the previous meeting, which had accrued some minimal interest, and £215 from the Oxford meeting. The current balance was £415.22, but there are some expenses pending, such as the website domain costs, for which PT will present an invoice.

6. Elections
There were vacancies for 3 posts at this meeting.

6a) Communications Secretary
This post entails managing the email list, the web-site and the minutes (unless this task circulates).
Fiona Barker was elected – nominated by TH; seconded by HN

6b) Meetings Co-ordinator
This post entails reviewing abstracts for the CL SIG track at the AM and organising the Spring meeting.
Lia Blaj was elected – nominated by HN; seconded by RB

6c) Ordinary Member
Richard Badger was elected – nominated by HN; seconded by MC.