

English language seminars archive

List of English language seminars previous speakers and topics

2014/2015

- 19 Mar 2015: **Reading:** Anderson, John (2014) 'Graphophonology and anachronic phonology.' *Folia Linguistica Historica* 35, 1–53.
- 12 Mar 2015: **Speakers:** Joanna Kopaczyk and Ben Molineaux (University of Edinburgh) 'Inglis of the Northirn lede: Sources and resources for the earliest history of Scots'
- 10 Dec 2014: **Thijs Lubbers** (University of Edinburgh) 'Detecting Periodic Profiles in English Prose: Some Stylometric Explorations of a Horse Manuals Corpus'
- 26 Nov 2014: **Tania De Dios** (visiting PhD student from the University of Santiago de Compostela) 'Walking on the margins of intransitivity: A study of unexpressed objects in English'
- 12 Nov 2014: **Dr David Tizon-Couto** (University of Vigo) 'A corpus-based account of Left Dislocated Noun Phrases in the recent history of English'
- 22 Oct 2014: **Discussion:** R.A. Blythe & W. Croft. 2012. S-curves and the mechanisms of propagation in language change. *Language* 88(2): 269-304.

2013/2014

- 4 Jul 2014: **Rhona Alcorn** (University of Edinburgh) 'How 'them' could have been 'his''
- 27 Jun 2014: **Thijs Lubbers** (University of Edinburgh) 'Profiling Stylistic Change Using Instructional Writing on Horses: The Case of Reader Orientation'
- 2 May 2014: **Trinidad Guzmán González** (Universidad de León)

'The Linguist as Detective...'

- 25 Apr 2014: **Trinidad Guzmán González** (Universidad de León) 'Assigned Gender: Some Theory and a Few Case Studies'
- 1 Nov 2013: **Philip Miller & Barbara Hemforth** (University of Paris, Diderot campus) 'Verb Phrase Ellipsis with Nominal Antecedents'
- 8 Nov 2013: **Thijs Lubbers** (University of Edinburgh) 'How to Analyse a 'How to'-Text: a Diachronic Perspective on the Language of Instructional Writing in English [work in progress]'
- 1 Nov 2013: **Philip Miller & Barbara Hemforth** (University of Paris, Diderot campus) 'Verb Phrase Ellipsis with Nominal Antecedents'
- 25 Oct 2013: **Reading:** Thurber, B. 2011. Voicing of initial interdental fricatives in early Middle English function words. *Journal of Germanic Linguistics* 23.1: 65-81.
- 11 Oct 2013: **Thomas Hoffmann** (University of Osnabrueck) 'Comparing English Comparative Correlatives'

2012/2013

- 05 Jul 2013: **Joseph Tyler** (Visiting Assistant Professor, Qatar University) 'The many meanings of uptalk: perception of rising terminal pitch on declaratives'
- 22 Mar 2013: **Nikolaus Ritt** (University of Vienna) 'The morphonotactics of word final consonant clusters in and after the Middle English period'
- 8 Mar 2013: **Nikolaus Ritt** (University of Edinburgh) 'Subjectification, the prototypical subject, and the semantic development of verbs like cope with, deal with, or manage'
- 22 Feb 2013: **Des Ryan** (PhD Student, Trinity College, Dublin) 'Towards a theory of English spelling'
- 7 Dec 2012: **Penny Thompson** (University of Edinburgh) 'Non-high vowel deletion vs. high vowel deletion: The syllabification of obstruent+sonorant clusters in Old English'
- 2 Nov 2012: **Warren Maguire** (University of Edinburgh) 'A new

look at the relationship between the MEAT and MATE lexical sets in Mid-Ulster English'

- 28 Sep 2012: **Graeme Trousdale** (University of Edinburgh) 'Different paths to the English way-construction'
- 14 Sep 2012: **Hendrik De Smet** (University of Leuven) 'Change through recombination: blending and analogy'

2011/2012

- 27 Jul 2012: **Sara Myers** (University of Edinburgh) 'The survival of unambiguous Old English adjective case endings in early Middle English texts from the Southwest Midlands'
- 5 Apr 2012: **Nicolas Ballier** (Universite Paris Diderot - Paris 7) 'Annotated spoken corpora and after, the need for corpus interoperability'
- 23 Mar 2012: **Ole Schuetzler** (University of Bamberg) "Sociophonetic variation of Scottish Standard English /e/, /o/, and /r/"
- 2 Mar 2012: **Rhona Alcorn** (University of Edinburgh) 'Tracking change: a Corpus of Narrative Etymologies (CoNE)'
- 9 Mar 2012: **Laszlo Kristo** (Pazmany Peter Catholic University) 'The representation of long vowels in English'
- 17 Feb 2012: **Ans van Kemenade** (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) 'V2 variation in Middle English: syntax and information structure'
- 9 Dec 2011: **Meg Laing** (University of Edinburgh) 'From the horse's mouth: some 15th-century words you would rather not know'
- 4 Nov 2011: **Kristina Geeraert** (University of Alberta) 'The past tense as a past participle'
- 25 Nov 2011: **Warren Maguire** (University of Edinburgh) 'The dialect of the Holy Island of Lindisfarne'
- 18 Nov 2011: **Beatriz Rodríguez Arrizabalaga** (Universidad de Huelva) 'Corpus-based investigations into English cognate object constructions'
- 21 Oct 2011: **Graeme Trousdale** (University of Edinburgh) "ish"
- 28 Oct 2011: **Patrick Honeybone** (University of Edinburgh) 'Ts, Hs,

THs and Rs: categorical frequency effects in the phonology of English'

- 5 Oct 2011: **Nik Gisborne** (University of Edinburgh) On "the" [Joint event with the Syntax and Semantics Research Group]

2010/2011

- 27th May 2011: **Maryam Bakht** (Hunter College, City University of New York) 'What We Know (and Don't Know) About English Adverbial Intensifiers'
- 4th March 2011: **Nicolas Ballier** (Paris 7) 'Rhythm and syllabification in English native and non-native speech'
- 17th December 2010: **Patrick Honeybone** 'How symmetrical are English vowels?' + **drinks/meal after work**
- 19th November 2010: **Heinz Giegerich** 'adverb-forming -LY'
- 5th November 2010: **Katalin Balogne Berces** (Pazmany Peter CU) 'English meets Strict CV Phonology'
- 13th October 2010: **Lauren Hall-Lew** New Perspectives on Language and Ethnicity in U.S. English: Vocalic Variation in San Francisco, California

2009/2010

- 31st March 2010: **Discussion:** McWhorter, John (2002) 'What happened to English?' *Diachronica* 19, 217-72.
- 17th March 2010: **Remco Knooihuizen** 'Pre-aspiration and Shetland English'
- 18 December 2009: **Lauren Stewart**
- 4th December 2009: **Will Barras**
- 20th November 2009: **Lynn Clark**
- 6th November 2009: **Marton Soskuthy**
- 23rd October 2009: grant proposal workshop, led by **Nik Gisborne**
- 16th October 2009: **Rhona Alcorn** 'Multiple regression: do all roads lead to Rome?'

2008/2009

- 1st April 2009: **Cynthia Allen** (ANU) 'The Early English "His Genitive" and Germanic Possessor Doubling'
- 27th March 2009: **Patrick Honeybone** 'Scouse Diddification'
- 13th March 2009: **Nik Gisborne** 'Finiteness in Hong Kong English'
- 27th February 2009: No meeting
- 13th February 2009: **Maria Jose Carrillo Linares** (Huelva) 'Processing raw data for Middle English word geography: problems in interpreting and mapping'
- 6th February 2009: **Ingo Plag** (Siegen) 'The variability of compound stress in English: Probabilities, rules and exemplars'
- 16th January 2009: **Graeme Trousdale & Elizabeth Traugott** (Stanford) Discussion of draft paper 'Gradience, gradualness and grammaticalization: How do they intersect?'
- 5th December 2008: **Robert Truswell** 'Parataxis and Coreference in Early Modern English Correlatives'
- 21st November 2008: **Warren Maguire** 'Quantifying dialect similarity by comparison of the lexical distribution of phonemes'
- 7th November 2008: **John Payne** (Manchester) & **Geoff Pullum** [joint research with **Rodney Huddleston** (Queensland)] 'The adjective and adverb categories in English cannot be conflated, and the traditional view that they are differentiated by their syntactic functions is wrong: new arguments and new evidence'
- 31st October 2008: **Chris Montgomery** 'Geographical perceptions of dialects in England'
- 17th October 2008: **Renata Gregova** (Pavol Jozef Safarik University) 'On Phonetic Iconicity in Evaluative Morphology'
- 26th September 2008: **Penny Thompson** 'The lexicalization of syncope: derivational affixes in West Saxon adjectives'

2007/2008

- 18th April 2008: **Wojtek Gardela** 'The Present Participle in the Northern English and Scots of the Late 14th and the 15th Centuries'
- 14th March 2008: **Lauren Stewart** "'Shee is Northern, and speakes so": Two Representations of Northern Dialect in 17th Century Drama'

- 29th February 2008: **Claire Cowie & Ross Pirie** 'As far as we're concerned: The set of viewpoint subjunct (or topic restrictors) in English'
- 1st February 2008: **Discussion:** Crisma, Paola (2007) 'Were they 'dropping their aitches'? A quantitative study of h- loss in Middle English' *English Language and Linguistics* 11,1: 51-80.
- 11th January 2008: **Keith Williamson** 'The Rough Guide to [LAOS](#)'
- 7th December 2007: **Bert Vaux** (Cambridge) 'The phonology of English rhotacism'
- 30th November 2007: **Lisa Lim** (Amsterdam) 'Singlish is a tone language meh55? Particles and prosody in a contact variety of English'
- 20th November 2007: **Philip Durkin** (Principal Etymologist, Oxford English Dictionary) 'Lexical borrowing: some reflections based on work on the third edition of the OED'
- 9th November 2007: **Edurne Garrido Anes** (Huelva) 'Dialectal Diversity in Middle English: Dealing with the Lexicon'
- 26th October 2007: **Rhona Alcorn** 'The syntax of pronominal objects of prepositions in Old English: an empirical study into the effects of grammatical person'
- 12th October 2007: **Tom Burton** (Adelaide) 'Re-sounding "The vaices that be gone": the pronunciation of William Barnes's dialect poems'
- 28th September 2007: **Discussion:** Nunberg, Geoffrey, Sag, Ivan & Wasow, Thomas (1994) 'Idioms' *Language*. 70: 491-538.
- 21st September 2007: **Discussion:** Graeme Trousdale 'Construction Grammar and lexicalization in the history of English'

2006/2007

- 22nd June 2007: two speakers:
 - **Amanda Patten** 'How specificational are cleft sentences?'
 - **Remco Knooihuizen** 'Language shift and new-dialect formation: the development of Shetland Scots'
- 1st June 2007: **Heinz Giegerich**, **Nik Gisborne** & **Graeme Trousdale** 'Subjective attribution'

- 23rd March 2007: **Robert McKenzie** 'The influence of preceptions of L1 and social variables on non-native attitudes towards varieties of English speech'
- 9th March 2007: **Derek Britton** 'Hyper-rhoticity (unetymological /r/ epenthesis) and the supposed Early Modern English Deletion of /r/ in unstressed syllables'
- 23rd February 2007: **Roger Lass** (Cape Town) 'Was there a schwa in early English?'
- 2nd February 2007: **Remco Knooihuizen** 'Fishing for words: the sociolinguistic significance of a word list'
- 19th January 2007: **Nikolaus Ritt** (Vienna) 'Revisiting Middle English vowel quantity'
- 14th December 2006: **Discussion:** Scheibman, Joanna (2001) "Local patterns of subjectivity in person and verb type in American English conversation". In Bybee, J & Hopper, P. (eds.) Frequency and the Emergence of Linguistic Structure. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- 24th November 2006: **Patrick Honeybone** 'Where and what is Northern English t-to-r?'
- 8th November 2006: **Hermann Moisl** (Newcastle) 'Nonlinear exploratory multivariate analysis of historical text corpora'
- 3rd November 2006: **Anne Hoyer** (Heidelberg) 'The Scottishness of Oor Wullie'
- 27th October 2006: **Warren Maguire** 'Quantitative phonetic comparison of varieties of English'
- 13th October 2006: **Discussion:** Schreier, Daniel & Trudgill, Peter (2006) 'The segmental phonology of nineteenth-century Tristan da Cunha English: convergence and local innovation'. English Language and Linguistics 10: 119-141.
- 29th September 2006: **Meg Laing** 'You can't beat the system. Newton, dogs, fleas and early Middle English'

2005/2006

- 17 March 2006: **Sonja Kleinke** (Freie Universitaet Berlin) 'Cognitive explorations into in the speaker's role in the maxims of conversation'

- 10 March 2006: **Discussion:** Hickey, Raymond (2002) 'The Atlantic edge: the relationship between Irish English and Newfoundland English' *English World-Wide* 23:2, 283-316.
- 24 February 2006: **Will Barras** "'The exhalations whizzing in the...er?" SQUARE and NURSE in Lancashire English'
- 10 February 2006: **Discussion:** Hay, Jennifer & Sudbury, Andrea (2005) 'How rhoticity became /r/-sandhi' *Language* 81.
- 16 December 2005: **Sarah Collie** 'Putting Stress Preservation to bed'
- 2 December 2005: **Warren Maguire** 'The NURSE and NORTH "merger" in Tyneside English'
- 18 November 2005: **Linda van Bergen** 'Negative contraction in Old English dialects'
- 21 October 2005: **Claire Cowie** 'English in call centres in India'
- 7 October 2005: **Fiona Marshall** (Sheffield) 'Linguistics and Philology'
- 28 September 2005: **Juan Gabriel Vazquez Gonzalez** (Huelva University) 'Trust the Historical Text, too: on Conceptual Collocates and Historical Categorization'

2004/2005

- 4 March 2005: **Norman Macleod** 'Lines, Schemes, Syntax'
- 18 February 2005: **Elizabeth C. Traugott** (Stanford) 'Lexicalization and Grammaticalization: similarities and differences revisited'
- 18 February 2005: **Nik Gisborne** 'Against Copy Raising'
- 4 February 2005: **Lynn Clark** 'Cognitive Grammar and sociolinguistic variation - towards a theory of cognitive sociolinguistics'
- 2 February 2005: **James M. Scobbie** (QMUC) 'The Scottish Vowel Length Rule and the distribution of /ai/ variants in word-internal contexts.'
- 3 December 2004: **Meg Laing** and **Roger Lass** (Cape Town) 'Early Middle English "knight": (Pseudo)metathesis and lexical specificity'
- 1 December 2004: **Dick Hudson** (UCL) 'From structure to use via the language network'

- 26 November 2004: **Patrick Honeybone** 'SQUAREing the NURSEicle in Liverpool English'
- 23 November 2004: **Anthony Warner** (York) [= IHD **lecture**] 'Doing it with Style'
- 12 November 2004: **Graeme Trousdale** 'The demise of the impersonal construction in English: a Cognitive Grammar account'
- 8 October 2004: **Heinz Giegerich** 'English NN constructions: compound or phrase?'
- 7 May 2004: **Ricardo Bermudez-Otero** (Newcastle) 'Raising and flapping in Canadian English: grammar and acquisition'
- 23 April 2004: **Derek Britton** 'Degemination in Middle English'
- 12 March 2004: **Graeme Trousdale** 'Issues in Old English sociolinguistics'
- 27 February 2004: **Nik Gisborne** 'The history of English evidential verbs of appearance'
- 13 February 2004: **Jeremy Smith** (Glasgow) 'Another look at phonaesthesia'
- 30 January 2004: **Roger Lass** (Cape Town) 'Aster me the dell huge: substitutive logic and chains of permission in some 13th-century scribal languages.'