

Formal Linguistics and the Measurement of Grammatical Complexity: Schedule

All talks will be held at the Simpson Center for the Humanities, Room 206, Communications Building

Thursday, March 22, 2012

7 – 8:30 p.m. *Reception: Communications 204*

Friday, March 23, 2012

8:00 – 9:00 *Registration, Coffee: Communications 204*

9:00 – 9:45 Opening Remarks:
Julia Herschensohn (Chair, University of Washington Department of Linguistics)
Frederick J. Newmeyer (UW, UBC, and SFU)

9:45 – 10:30 Invited Speaker: John A. Hawkins (UC Davis and University of Cambridge)
Two Major Contributions From Formal Linguistics to the Complexity Debate

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee Break: Communications 204*

11:00 – 11:45 David Gil (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology)
Built-In Complexity and the Architecture of Grammar

11:45 – 12:30 Ray Jackendoff (Tufts University) and Eva Wittenberg (Tufts University)
Even Simpler Syntax: A Hierarchy of Grammatical Complexity

12:30 – 2:00 *Lunch*

2:00 – 2:45 Daniel Ross (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
Complexity as detail and the case of pseudocoordination in English

2:45 – 3:30 Constantin Freitag (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
From Local Preferences to Global Configurations

3:30 – 4:00 *Coffee Break: Communications 204*

4:00 – 4:45 Markus Bader (University of Frankfurt/Germany) and Jana Häussler (University of
Potsdam)
Constraints on Center-embedding as Revealed by Corpus-data

4:45 – 5:30 Andreas Trotzke (Universität Konstanz)
*Recursive Layering and Sentential Embedding: A Minimalist Metric for
Complexity of Grammar and Performance*

5:30 – 6:15 Invited Speaker: Peter Culicover (Ohio State University)
Constructions, Complexity and Word Order Variation

6:45 – 9:30 *Conference Dinner: Waterfront Activities Center*

Saturday, March 24, 2012

8:30 – 9:00	<i>Coffee: Communications 204</i>
9:00 – 9:45	Invited Speaker: Andrea Moro (Institute of Advanced Study, Pavia) <i>Counting, Chaos and Complexity in Natural Languages</i>
9:45 – 10:30	Lise Menn (University of Colorado, Boulder) and Jill Duffield (University of Colorado, Boulder) <i>Looking For A ‘Gold Standard’ to Measure Language Complexity: What Psycholinguistics and Neurolinguistics Can (and Can’t) Offer to Formal Linguistics</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee Break: Communications 204</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Relja Vulcanović (Kent State University at Stark) <i>Relative Complexity of Flexible Parts-of-Speech Systems</i>
11:45 – 12:30	Kaius Sinnemäki (University of Helsinki) <i>What is Complexity?</i>
12:30 – 2:00	<i>Lunch</i>
2:00 – 2:45	Invited Speaker: Ljiljana Progovac (Wayne State University) <i>Degrees of Complexity in Syntax</i>
2:45 – 3:30	Theresa Biberauer (University of Cambridge), Ian Roberts (University of Cambridge), Michelle Sheehan (University of Cambridge) and Anders Holmberg (Newcastle University) <i>Complexity in Comparative Syntax: The View from Modern Parametric Theory</i>
3:30 – 4:00	<i>Coffee Break: Communications 204</i>
4:00 – 4:45	Hisao Tokizaki (Sapporo University) <i>Deriving Complexity Trade-offs Between Phonology and Morphosyntax</i>
4:45 – 5:30	Igor Yanovich (MIT) <i>Expressive Complexity in Language: A Mathematical Perspective</i>
5:30 – 6:15	Invited Speaker: Lisa Matthewson (University of British Columbia) <i>‘John read three books, Mary read three books, and Sue read three books’: How to Get By if Your Language Lacks Generalized Quantifiers</i>
7:00 – 10:00	<i>Informal Dinner hosted by Julia and Michael Herschensohn</i>
