

Newsletter of the
American Dialect Society

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NADS is resuming publication! This is the first issue since 35.2 for May 2003. Send news to editor Grant Barrett, administrator@americandialect.org. Send inquiries about ADS to executive secretary Allan Metcalf, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650, phone 217-479-7014, AAllan@aol.com

ADS Annual membership for 2005 is \$50, students \$25; plus \$10 outside the United States. Write Customer Service, Journals Fulfillment, Duke University Press, Box 90660, Durham, NC 27708-0660; phone 1-888-387-5765 or 919-687-3602; fax 919-688-2615; subscriptions@dukeupress.edu.

ADS Web site (Grant Barrett, webmaster): <http://www.americandialect.org/>

ADS-L discussion list: To join, send to listserv@listserv.uga.edu the message:

Sub ADS-L Your Name

From: AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

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FIRST CLASS

An Open Letter to American Dialect Society Members

Welcome to the newest issue of the Newsletter of the American Dialect Society. Here you will find many of the features you have enjoyed in the past: information on the annual meeting, announcements of new books and meetings, sample DARE queries, and a membership directory. Much has changed in the Society's operations since NADS was last published, and this issue is intended both to fill you in and to introduce you to what will henceforth be our primary mode of communication with one another.

This past January at the annual meeting in Oakland, the ADS Executive Council approved the creation of an appointed position of Vice-President for Communications and Technology. Because this action required a change in the constitution, the membership has been polled for its approval. You have resoundingly endorsed the change, and Webmaster Grant Barrett, who has served on a provisional basis, has now been officially appointed to the position.

With this new position the ADS recognizes that the flow of professional information is increasingly electronic. One of the main challenges in producing NADS as exclusively a hard-copy newsletter has been that much of its material is time-sensitive, and announcements of deadlines are sometimes very close. Increasingly such information is being posted at our website, and members should expect to find it there rather than in the newsletter. This means that it will be Grant Barrett rather than Allan Metcalf

to whom information should be directed. Allan has edited NADS with panache and diligence for more than twenty years. The new arrangement will free him to concentrate more on his duties as Executive Secretary.

At the same time, this migration to the electronic domain can work well only if the membership becomes much more actively engaged in the Society's website. Do not expect to find a hard-copy NADS in your mailbox with all you need to know to keep up to date; it will from now on have a slimmed-down format. Visit the Society's website regularly at www.americandialect.org. Calls for papers, meeting announcements, and many other features will be there. Just as important, help with the website. Send announcements, news, communications, and other items to Grant at administrator@americandialect.org. He is eager to expand the site into our principal information portal, but he can do this only if members send him material in a regular and timely way. He also welcomes suggestions for the design and development of the site.

So let's welcome back NADS (which will also be posted at the website, sans membership directory). At the same time let us all rely more on the website and use that for sharing news and information about the Society and its membership.

Joan H. Hall

ADS President

Michael B. Montgomery

ADS Past President

Robert Bayley Named New PADS Editor

The ADS Executive Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Bayley of the University of Texas, San Antonio, as editor of *PADS* (*Publication of the American Dialect Society*, our annual monograph supplement to *American Speech*) starting in 2006.

He will take over the editorship from Ronald Butters of Duke University, who has edited *PADS* for the past decade.

"I can only say that I'm very glad that Ron Butters is staying on as Director of ADS Publications," Robert said. "With Ron and Charles Carson of Duke University Press, I'll have plenty of expertise to call on. I think Ron has done a wonderful job and I hope to be able to build on that."

As just two examples of the many great *PADS* released under Ron's tenure, Robert chose *Dialect Change and Maintenance on the Outer Banks* (Walt Wolfram, Kurt Hazen, and Natalie Schilling-Estes, *PADS* 81, 1999) and *Small-Town Values and Big-City Vowels* (Matthew J. Gordon, *PADS* 84, 2001).

Robert Bayley is Professor of Sociolinguistics in the Division of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio and an Associate Member of the Centre for Research on Language Contact at York University in Toronto. His primary research interests are in sociolinguistics, especially language variation, and second language acquisition. He is co-author of *Sociolinguistic Variation in American Sign Language* (2001), *Language as Cultural Practice: Mexicanos en el norte* (2002), and *What's Your Sign for PIZZA? An Introduction to Variation in ASL* (2003) and co-editor of *Second Lan-*

guage Acquisition and Linguistic Variation (1996), *Language Socialization in Bilingual and Multilingual Societies* (2003), and *The Acquisition of Sociolinguistic Competence* (a theme issue of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*) (2004). He has also published more than 70 articles, chapters, and reviews in journals such as *American Speech*, the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, *Language Variation and Change*, *Sign Language Studies*, and *TESOL Quarterly*. He is a member of the editorial boards of the *Journal of Language, Identity, and Education and Sociolinguistics in Deaf Communities* and has served on the editorial board of *American Speech*.

He received three Fulbright Senior Scholar Awards to Bolivia and Mexico, research grants from the Spencer Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education, and a National Academy of Education Spencer Fellowship. In 2002 Robert was awarded an honorary professorship by Harbin Institute of Technology in China. In 2003 he served as the Fulbright-York Visiting Chair in Linguistics at York University in Canada.

Submissions. *PADS* publishes works by ADS members in regional dialects, social dialects, occupational vocabulary, place-names, usage, non-English dialects, new words, proverbial sayings, and the literary use of dialect. Models for these kinds of studies may be found in issues of *PADS*. Proposals and manuscripts for consideration should be sent to: Robert Bayley, Professor of Sociolinguistics, Division of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, University of Texas at San Antonio, 6900 North Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, TX 78249-0653, email: robert.bayley@utsa.edu

American Dialect 2006 Society Annual Meeting at Albuquerque, New Mexico

This is the latest schedule for the 2006 annual meeting of ADS, at the Linguistic Society of America, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 5–8. Full details and a final schedule will be made available on the ADS web site and will be posted to ADS-L, the email discussion list. More information about the LSA conference can be found at the association's web site, <http://www.lsadc.org/annmeet/>.

REGISTRATION: As guests of the Linguistic Society, we must register with them. Thankfully, ADS members may register at the LSA members' rate, even if not LSA members. Preregistration (by December 5) is \$100 for regular members, \$75 for emeritus, \$40 for students and the unemployed. An extra \$25 for regular members and \$10 for others is added for on-site registration. See the LSA website at www.lsadc.org for details.

ADS registration: Additional and *entirely optional*, but those who attend ADS sessions are encouraged to register with the ADS Executive Secretary for \$20, students \$10. This helps defray the cost of our BYOB reception and earns you a distinctive decoration for your LSA badge.

HOTEL: All sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, 330 Tijeras NW (at the Convention Center), Albuquerque NM 87102, phone 505-842-1234. The hotel features a 24-hour health club, an outdoor lap pool, and next to it two outdoor hot tubs.

Rooms at the Hyatt are available at the special LSA rate of \$92 per night, single or double (or triple or quad), or

\$112 per night on the Business Plan (limited to single or double). All rooms have a dataport and high-speed wireless Internet access. The Business Plan includes a complimentary Continental breakfast and access to a 24-hour office with scanner, printer, and copier.

Call 505-842-1234 or 800-233-1234 for reservations, identifying yourself as attending the LSA meeting. Reservations are subject to availability if received after December 14.

LUNCHEON: At 12:15 p.m. Saturday, January 7. The speaker will be **Charles Boberg** of McGill University: "The Status of Canadian English: Lexical vs. Phonetic Evidence." Details on cost and menu will be available from Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf at AAllan@aol.com. Reservations may be made with him too. It's usually possible to accommodate last-minute latecomers, but advance reservations help ensure that there will be enough for all.

BYOB Reception: After the Friday voting on Words of the Year, you're invited to our annual Bring Your Own Book reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We'll have tables available to display your books while you enjoy wine, cheese, soft drinks, crudités, and the view.

Words of the Year: As we have done every year since 1990, on Friday we will look back at the preceding year and choose Words of the Year, much as *Time* magazine chooses a person of the year—words that are new, or newly notable, or otherwise especially characteristic of the year. To nominate a word in advance, send it to Wayne Glowka, chair of the

ADS New Words Committee, at wayne.glowka@gcsu.edu. The nominating meeting is at 10:30 a.m. Friday, and the final vote at 5:30 p.m. that day (see schedule below). All members and friends are invited to participate.

NOMINATIONS for ADS offices:

Elections take place at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday morning. The Nominating Committee (Dennis Preston, chair; Michael Montgomery, Erik Thomas) announces the following candidate:

Charles Boberg, McGill Univ.: Executive council member for the years 2006-09.

Additional nominations may be made by a petition with the signature of at least ten members; it must reach the Executive Secretary by December 22. Those elected take office immediately after the end of the Annual Meeting.

Future Annual Meetings: We will follow LSA to the New York Hilton Jan. 4-7, 2007, and the Chicago Hilton Jan. 3-6, 2008.

PROGRAM

Thursday, January 5

All sessions in Fiesta 1-2, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Session 1: 1:30–3:30 p.m. Chair: Robert Bayley, Univ. of Texas at San Antonio.

1. “Check it, yo’: Examining the role of *yo* in African American English.” **Sarah Hilliard** and **Angela Washington**, Duke Univ.

2. “Mother v. Daughter: Dialect and Characterization Strategies in Conversational Narratives (a.k.a. ‘You’re not going nowhere’).” **Allison Burkette**, Univ. of Mississippi.

3. “In-diddly-fixing Innovations: The

Ned Flanders Effect.” **Mark Peters**, Capella Univ.

4. “Stylistic Variation and the Construction of Masculinity in Dynamic Conversational Settings.” **Jeannine Carpenter**, Duke Univ. and North Carolina State Univ.

Session 2: Panel discussion, 4–6 p.m. Moderator: Ronald R. Butters, Duke Univ.

5. “The Concept of genericness in American English: Linguistics, Lexicography, and American Trademark Law.” Panel:

Laurence R. Horn, Yale Univ., “Generics and Creeping Autohyponymy”;

Jennifer Westerhaus Adams, Walker and Lambe, PLLC, Durham, NC, “How Does American Trademark Law Understand the Concept of Genericness?”

Michael Adams, North Carolina State Univ., “Lexicographical Views I”;

Erin McKean, Oxford Univ. Press, “Trademarks in Dictionaries: What We Have Done and What We Have Failed To Do.”

Friday, January 6

Meeting in Board N, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Executive Council Meeting, 8:30–10:30 a.m. Open meeting; all members welcome. Presiding: ADS President **Joan Hall**, *DARE*.

Meeting in Fiesta 1-2, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Words of the Year Nominations, 10:30 a.m.–12:00 noon. Open meeting of the New Words committee; ADS members and friends welcome. Chair, **Wayne Glowka**, Georgia College and State University. This meeting reviews nomina-

tions for Words of the Year 2005. Final candidates will be identified in preparation for the vote at 5:30 p.m.

Sessions in Fiesta 1-2, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Session 3: 1:00–3:00 p.m. Chair: Anne Curzan, Univ. of Michigan.

6. “Just How Far South is Indianapolis?” **Deena Fogle**, McGill Univ.

7. “An Investigation of the Regional Uses of Prepositions in Southeastern Idaho.” **Sonja Launspach** and **Janna Graham**, Idaho State Univ.

8. “The limits of adult linguistic stability.” **David Bowie**, Univ. of Central Florida.

9. “Chicago: Mild but Still Northern.” **Corrine McCarthy**, McGill Univ.

Session 4: 3:15–5:15 p.m. Chair: Ceil Lucas, Gallaudet Univ.

10. “The Northern Cities Shift and Chicano English in Lansing, Michigan.” **Rebecca Roeder**, Michigan State Univ.

11. “Frequency and Phonological Variation: Evidence from Mexican American English.” **Robert Bayley** and **Xiaoshi Li**, Univ. of Texas at San Antonio.

12. “Acoustic Evidence for New Dialect Formation.” **Erik R. Thomas**, North Carolina State Univ.; **Phillip M. Carter**, Duke Univ.; **Elizabeth L. Coggshall**, North Carolina State Univ.

13. “Middle School Teachers’ and Students’ Perceptions of Linguistic Diversity.” **Jeffrey Reaser**, North Carolina State Univ.

Words of the Year Vote, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Reception in Sage, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Bring-Your-Own-Book Exhibit and Reception, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 7

Sessions in Fiesta 1-2, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Annual Business Meeting, 8:30–9:30 a.m. Most of the business of the Society is conducted at the Executive Council meeting on Friday morning, to which all members are invited (see above). This meeting hears a report on that one and also votes on the Nominating Committee’s recommendation for an Executive Council member (see introductory information).

Session 5: 10:00–12:00 noon. Chair: Joan H. Hall, Dictionary of American Regional English.

14. “Are We Fixin’ to Grammaticalize?” **Patricia Cukor-Avila** and **Bonnie Sbaiti**, Univ. of North Texas.

15. “Need by, down, in, off, out?” **Erica J. Benson**, Univ. of Wisconsin Eau Claire.

16. “Visit (ING) in Appalachia.” **Kirk Hazen**, West Virginia Univ.

17. “Who’s Using *be like* in America Today? Evidence from Corpora of Everyday Conversation.” **Federica Barbieri**, Northern Arizona Univ.

Luncheon in Sage, Hyatt Regency

Annual Luncheon, 12:15–1:45 p.m. Speaker: **Charles Boberg**, McGill Univ. “The Status of Canadian English: Lexical vs. Phonetic Evidence.”

Sessions in Fiesta 1-2, Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Session 6: 2:00–3:30 p.m. Chair: Patricia Cukor-Avila, Univ. of North Texas.

18. “Why Can’t You Understand It When Your Vowels Move?” **Dennis R. Preston**, Michigan State Univ.

19. “Vermont Lowering? Raising Some

Questions About (ay) and (aw) South of the Canadian Border.” **Julie Roberts**, Univ. of Vermont.

20. “Variation in Sign Languages: Reexamining the Role of the Phonological Environment.” **Ceil Lucas**, Gallaudet Univ., and **Robert Bayley**, University of Texas, San Antonio.

Session 7: 3:45–5:15 p.m. Chair: Marianna DiPaolo, Univ. of Utah.

21. “New Methods in Quantifying

American /r/-vocalization: What Can Sociolinguistics Do for Phonology?” **Jaclyn Ocumpaugh**, Michigan State Univ.

22. “Local and External Standards in the Use of African American English.” **Tyler Kendall**, Duke Univ., and **Walt Wolfram**, North Carolina State Univ.

23. “Divided by a Common Language? Language Attitudes and the Northern Cities Shift.” **Kevin Kane**, **Brooke Pearson**, **Dana Schaefer**, and **Lisa Minnick**, Western Michigan Univ.

ABSTRACTS: American Dialect Society Annual Meeting 2006

Jennifer Westerhaus Adams (Walker & Lambe, P.L.L.C., Durham, North Carolina)

ADS Session 2

How does American trademark law understand the concept of genericness?

Two principles underpin American trademark law: it seeks both to protect consumers by allowing them to differentiate the sources of products and to promote commerce by allowing producers to differentiate themselves from competitors. The law will not allow trademark protection for words it deems “generic,” because to do so would risk consumer confusion and create monopoly rights for the producer able to co-opt the only term available to describe its product. In order to better understand the evolution of the legal concept of “genericness,” this presentation will examine both the statutory framework and the case law concerning generic marks.

Michael Adams (North Carolina State University)

ADS Session 2

Generic: Lexicographical views I

Though lexicographers have contributed to confusion about the term *generic*, the concept is less important to

lexicographical practice than many have thought. This paper will trace the history of the terminological confusion but will argue that lexicography is concerned with different semantic problems and operates from a different standard than that implied in legal and linguistic *generic*. It will also consider a set of ethical problems that confront lexicographers whose practices indulge the misbegotten concept of “genericness.”

Federica Barbieri (Northern Arizona University)

ADS session 5

Who’s using be like in America today? Evidence from corpora of everyday conversation

This presentation reports on a study of the use and sociolinguistic distribution of the quotatives *be like*, *go*, *be all* and *say* in present-day American English. The study is based on two corpora of casual conversation (Longman Corpus of Spoken and Written English (1995-1996) and Cambridge-NAU Corpus of Spoken North American English (2004-2005)) which were recorded in various US states, from speakers of all age groups. Results show a marked increase in the frequency of use of *be like* by men and women of all generations below age forty, over the past decade, suggesting that *be like* is rapidly expanding in American English.

Robert Bayley (University of Texas-San Antonio)

Xiaoshi Li (University of Texas-San Antonio)

ADS Session 4

Frequency and phonological variation: Evidence from Mexican American English

This paper, based on approximately 3,000 tokens of -t,d deletion in Chicano English, reports on a test of Bybee's frequency-based model of variation and change. Results of multivariate analysis show that frequency, while statistically significant, is only a fourth-order linguistic constraint, trailing behind morphological class and the features of the following and preceding segments. Moreover, contrary to the predictions of Bybee's model, separate analyses by morphological class show a significant frequency effect only for monomorphemes. That is, frequency appears to operate only post-lexically. These results suggest that the role of frequency in phonological variation and change has been considerably overestimated.

Erica J. Benson (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire)

ADS Session 5

Need by, down, in, off, out?

The scant literature on *need* + prepositional adverb (e.g. *the cat needs out*) might lead one to falsely assume limited linguistic (i.e. *need out*) and regional (i.e. Southern) distributions. The data include 1255 ratings by 163 respondents. Robust distribution of *need + by, down, in, off, out* is evidenced in the Midland (76%-86% use) compared to the North and South ($p < .000$). *Need* + prepositional adverb joins other grammatical features with primarily but not exclusively Midland distributions, e.g. positive *anymore* and *want/need* + past participle. Some explanations for *need* + prepositional adverb in other dialect

areas are explored.

David Bowie (Univ. of Central Florida)
ADS session 3

The limits of adult linguistic stability

The apparent time construct rests on a number of incompletely tested assumptions, including the assumption that speakers retain their vernacular variety effectively unchanged throughout their adult lifespan. As part of a larger study, narratives were elicited from three adult females on two separate occasions about a year and a half apart. Acoustic and impressionistic analyses of the narratives revealed small but significant differences in the subjects' phonetic production between interviews. These findings suggest that adults cannot be relied on to produce precisely the same linguistic responses over even a relatively short period of time.

Allison Burkette (Univ. of Mississippi)
ADS session 1

Mother v. daughter: Dialect and distancing strategies in conversational narratives (a.k.a. "You're not going nowhere")

Using the concept of community voice as a foundation, "Mother v. Daughter" will look at how an individual speaker uses grammar as a means of characterization in her narratives. This paper will present a close examination of conversational narratives told by an elderly mother and her adult daughter – it's the same story, the same linguistic resources, but very different versions. Of interest is the daughter's marked departures from the community vernacular during specific narrations and her use of non-standard features in speech attributed to her mother, the latter acting as editorial commentary on the 'old-fashioned' ideas of her stories' antagonist.

Ronald R. Butters (Duke University)
ADS Session 2

Panel: The concept of genericness in American English: Linguistics, lexicography, and American trademark law

The term GENERIC is important in American trademark law, in linguistics, and in ordinary English usage as represented in popular dictionaries. However, the varying concepts come into conflict in various ways. To non-lawyers, legal maneuvers designed to thwart specific uses of a term seem unfair and prescriptive. To the lawyer, however, legal constraints upon trademark use serves to protect the public from confusing branding practices and out-and-out fraud. Our panel composed of a lawyer, an eminent lexicographer, and three linguists of various stripes, propose to clarify some of the issues in hopes of promoting understanding.

Jeannine Carpenter (Duke University and North Carolina State University)
ADS Session 1

Stylistic variation and the construction of masculinity in dynamic conversational settings

This study explores relationships of gender construction and stylistic variation during an interview with a teen-aged male. The conversational situation allows examination of style-shifting and construction of gender in relation to changing alignments of participants. This paper examines falsetto intonation and creaky phonation in two parts of the interview, which reveal stylistic strategies used by the subject to construct his masculine identity in relation to his interlocutors. The content of the utterances where these features are employed interact with his stylistic choices; creaky voice underscores stereotypically masculine topics and falsetto intonation is used differently, depending on the other participants.

Patricia Cukor-Avila (Univ. of North Texas)

Bonnie Sbaiti (Univ. of North Texas)
ADS Session 5

Are we fixin' to grammaticalize?

Although the use and spread of *yall* has been studied extensively, another marker of Southern speech, *fixin' to*, has received relatively little attention in the research, both in terms of its relationship to other forms with similar aspectual meaning and how its use has changed over time. The present study fills this gap with an investigation of the use, semantic expansion, and evidence for the grammaticalization of *fixin' to* over time. This study includes both an historical overview of *fixin' to* as well as an analysis of contemporary usage from both conversational and survey data.

Deena Fogle (McGill University)
ADS Session 3

Just How Far South is Indianapolis?

Indianapolis, Indiana sits at an area of potential overlap between the Midland and Southern dialect regions. This paper uses spectrographic analysis of sixteen Indianapolis natives to examine the classification of Indianapolis English through two key variables: the low-back ('cot'/'caught') vowel merger and the monophthongization of /ay/. Results show that Indianapolis is, at least preliminarily, a Midland city. No monophthongization of /ay/ was found except before resonants and none of the speakers exhibited a full, unconditioned merger, though several demonstrated a merger in progress.

Kirk Hazen (West Virginia University)
ADS Session 5

Visit (ING) in Appalachia

This paper investigates the (ING) variable in Appalachian speech to explain both the linguistic and social constraints on variation. Data from 45 speakers is

qualitatively and quantitatively analyzed for grammatical context, phonological environment, geographic region, age, sex, ethnicity, social class, and interview context. Results indicate that the only linguistic constraint is the syntactic category. Socially, a Southern/Northern divide exists in the production of variants: The Southern speakers have a higher rate of the alveolar variant than the Northern speakers, but the other social categories affect this regional variation.

Sarah Hilliard (Duke University)

Angela Washington (Duke University)

ADS Session 1

“Check it, yo”: Examining the role of yo in African American English

Though use of the word *yo* is a frequently stereotyped feature of African American speech, few studies have explored *yo*'s linguistic characteristics. This paper uses conversational speech data from African Americans of various backgrounds, examining the stylistic and pragmatic contexts of *yo* and its status as a marker of identity within African American youth discourse. We find that *yo* fulfills many diverse functions in speech, including evaluating arguments and marking emphasis. Stylistically, *yo* often correlates with well-known AA discourse patterns, and is an excellent index of style-shifting. The analysis demonstrates the linguistic multifunctionality and complexity of *yo*.

Laurence R. Horn (Yale University)

ADS Session 2

Generics and creeping autohyponymy

In semantics, generic NPs refer to kinds rather than particular objects: The dog is a mammal. The generic is opposed to the specific (and in the case of he/man language, to the sex-specific), but since the 19th century, cultural and legal contexts have prompted a more specific opposition

between the generic and the proprietary. Once-proper nouns (*zipper*, *linoleum*, *cellophane*) may lose their trademark status along with their upper case. Like other instances of semantic broadening, this process of “genericide” may result in complete meaning shift or in autohyponymy, when a lexical item (*kleenex*, *xerox*, *guy*) may denote its own superordinate.

Kevin Kane (Western Michigan Univ.)

Brooke Pearson (Western Michigan Univ.)

Dana Schaefer (Western Michigan Univ.)

Lisa Minnick (Western Michigan Univ.)

ADS Session 7

Divided by a common language? Language attitudes and the Northern Cities Shift

Our paper explores awareness of and attitudes towards the Northern Cities Shift (NCS). We tested the saliency and status of NCS features by playing recordings of Michigan speakers with NCS for a second sample of Michigan speakers, who were asked to rate the recorded speakers for ‘correctness’ and ‘standardness.’ We consider whether the status of Michigan speech might extend to speakers with NCS features, or whether NCS may cost Michigan speech some the prestige it has long enjoyed among speakers of U.S. English.

Tyler Kendall (Duke University)

Walt Wolfram (North Carolina State University)

ADS Session 7

Local and external Standards in the use of African American English

Although the literature on AAE notes the need to recognize socially stratified varieties and the role of community-internal norms, little empirical research has examined the precise role of local

practices and social categories in the instantiation of AAE norms. We examine the speech of African American leaders in the rural South in different settings and with different audiences to determine the relationship of their speech to local AAE norms. The study demonstrates that local norms and community-specific local practices and ideologies may play a significant role in shaping the use of vernacular and mainstream standard variants by these speakers.

Sonja Launspach (Idaho State Univ.)

Janna Graham (Idaho State Univ.)

ADS Session 3

An Investigation of the Regional Uses of Prepositions in Southeastern Idaho

We examined 30 oral history tapes from the Idaho Historical Society to identify various syntactic features in use during the original settlement of southeastern Idaho. The tapes record the speech of 34 Idahoans who were born between 1870 and 1930. This paper focuses on the speakers' use of prepositions. Specifically, we examine the use of multiple prepositions to describe a single relationship and the unusual syntactic environments and semantic attributes of prepositions such as *to* and *on*. Recent samples collected from freshman writing courses suggest that some regional uses of various prepositions—especially *on*—have been maintained.

Ceil Lucas (Gallaudet University)

Robert Bayley (University of Texas-San Antonio)

ADS Session 6

Variation in Sign Languages: Re-examining the Role of the Phonological Environment

Variation in the parts of ASL signs, i.e. phonological variation, has been explained largely by the influence of the preceding and following signs. This pa-

per summarizes the results of a study of three phonological variables: the sign DEAF; the location of a class of signs represented by the verb KNOW; 1-hand-shape signs. Multivariate analysis shows that the grammatical function of a sign, rather than the phonological environment, is the first-order constraint for all three variables. We suggest that the patterns of variation observed here and in other recent studies follow from the way morphology functions in a visual-gestural modality.

Corrine McCarthy (McGill Univ.)

ADS Session 3

Chicago: Mild but Still Northern

The Northern Cities Shift (NCS) remains an active change in progress at the national level. Within Chicago, early developments-- the raising of /æ/ ('cat') and fronting of /o/ ('cot')—have stabilized. Further, /o/ has settled in low-central, not low-front position: a more conservative position than typically depicted the NCS. Age effects are found for /e/ ('bed') and /i/ ('bid') lowering, /ʌ/ ('bud') backing, and /oh/ ('caught') lowering/fronting, suggesting a continuing change in progress. While the NCS continues to strengthen, Chicagoans do not report knowledge of NCS dialect features, and display high levels of linguistic security.

Erin McKean (Oxford University Press)

ADS Session 2

Trademarks in dictionaries: What we have done and what we have failed to do

Because of the confusion surrounding the inclusion of trademarks in dictionaries, a confusion made up equally of legal and lexicographic uncertainty, the treatment of trademarks in modern American dictionaries has been haphazard and spotty. By looking at the treatment of trademarks that have been included and considering trademarks that have been

either excluded or overlooked, and by considering both the legal realities and the linguistic ones, we can work toward developing a rule of thumb for a standard lexical treatment of lexicalized (not genericized) trademarks.

Jaclyn Ocumpaugh (Michigan State University)

ADS Session 7

New methods in quantifying American /r/-vocalization: What can sociolinguistics do for phonology?

Although /r/ has long been of sociolinguistic interest, the impressionistic methods typically used to investigate /r/ are problematic given its gradient nature. Ocumpaugh (2001) captures this kind of gradient change in /r/ using the Index of R-fullness (IR), an objective measurement based on the normal F2/F3 ratio of a standard /r/. The current study investigates the effect of environment on /r/ production based on Hagiwara (1995) and Ocumpaugh (2001). Results show that /r/ deletes most often in syllable final positions—contrary to patterns of English consonants. These findings suggest that /r/'s consonantal status should be reconsidered.

Mark Peters (Capella University)

ADS Session 1

In-diddly-fixing innovations: The Ned Flanders effect

The Simpsons has had many influences on language, but none of its characters speak as distinctly as the holier-than-everybody Ned Flanders, with his trademark word of *diddly*, which he uses most often as an infix (*scrum-diddly-umptious*, *wel-diddly-elcome*). Traditional discussions of the infix would have ruled out infixes of a monosyllabic word, but Flanders and other characters have used words such as *suck-diddly-uck* and *last-diddly-ast*, which in turn have

inspired many surprising nonce coinages that I will present and discuss, such as compound infixes *su-diddly-fucking-uck*, psuedo-infixes (*crap-diddly-yap*), and infix-like compounds that are difficult to categorize (*crap-diddly-crap-crap*).

Dennis R. Preston (Michigan State University)

ADS Session 6

Why can't you understand it when your vowels move?

Peterson and Barney (1952) and Hillenbrand et al. (1995) show different rates for the correct perception of American English vowels. Are these general studies flawed by failures to take account of 1) speaker dialect, 2) listener dialect, 3) listener phonetic sophistication? Such questions are important for sociophonetic studies of American English since the formant values of Peterson and Barney in particular are often used as a baseline. I will survey several more recent studies of vowel perception in US English, evaluating this past work and outlining a more sophisticated program for continuing work based on these recent experimental findings.

Jeffrey Reaser (North Carolina State University)

ADS Session 4

Middle school teachers' and students' perceptions of linguistic diversity

Although sociolinguists believe it is important, there has been little success disseminating sociolinguistic knowledge to pre-university students, who have less entrenched sociolinguistic ideologies than adults. This is challenging due to the lack of linguistic tradition in mainstream education, lack of linguistic training in teacher education, and because linguists' academic duties keep them from working in public schools. This study examines attitudes 8th graders in North Carolina

have about dialect diversity before and after students participate in a 450-minute dialect awareness unit. Strategies enabling teachers without linguistic training to teach this unit are examined, as are teachers' reactions to sociolinguistic information.

Julie Roberts (University of Vermont)
ADS Session 6

Vermont lowering? Raising some questions about (ay) and (aw) south of the Canadian border

Data comprise the speech of 18 Vermonters, aged 9 to 90. Results reveal that raised and centralized (aw) and (ay), reported to be disappearing by Kurath and colleagues, were present in the oldest speakers but were differentially undergoing age and gender related change. Implications, when results and settlement history of Vermont were examined, include the suggestion that, in Vermont, the raised variants are the older, base forms and that the "Canadian Raising" pattern of younger speakers and women may be the result of an overall leveling related to the changing socioeconomic conditions in the area.

Rebecca Roeder (Michigan State Univ.)

ADS session 4

Mexican American English in Lansing, Michigan

This study provides an acoustic analysis of the effects of the Northern Cities Shift (NCS) on speakers of Mexican

American English in Lansing, Michigan, an area in which the NCS is prevalent. Results are based on a subject pool of 33 Mexican American speakers, distributed across categories of gender, number of years in Michigan, and socioeconomic status. Both the NCS and Mexican Spanish appear to be influencing the vowel space of these speakers, revealing a dialect continuum that spans the several generations of Mexican Americans in Lansing.

Erik R. Thomas (North Carolina State University)

Phillip M. Carter (Duke University)

Elizabeth L. Coggshall (North Carolina State University)

ADS Session 4

Acoustic evidence for new dialect formation

Mexican American English (MAE) was examined in two disparate communities: Pearsall, Texas, with a long-established, majority Mexican American population, and Raleigh, North Carolina, with an incipient Mexican American population. We examined prosodic rhythm; the degree of fronting of /o/, as in *coat*; and raising of /æ/, as in *hand*. Syllable timing, non-fronted /o/, and unraised /æ/ predominate in MAE in both communities and are not abating in Pearsall, which suggests that MAE is a stable variety, at least in southern Texas. Texas MAE may provide a model for trajectories of development in incipient Mexican American communities.

Book Blurbs are submitted by ADS members to administrator@americandialect.org

Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary. Victoria Neufeldt. Boston: Merriam-Webster, 2005. 448 pp. A dictionary for young children designed to appeal to their love of words and word play. It includes word histories, stories and story refer-

ences, poems, and jokes.

Origin of the Term "Hot Dog." Gerald Cohen, Barry Popik, and David Shulman. 2004, 293+ pp. Published by Gerald Cohen (Univ. of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla MO 65409). Extensive primary research refuting previous claims and substantiating new ones. \$47 (includes shipping). Limited edition. Gerald Cohen at gcohen@umr.edu.

DARE Queries

If you are familiar with any of the following words or expressions, please let the editors of the *Dictionary of American Regional English* know. It is most helpful if you can give an example or examples of how it is (or was) used, and as much detail as possible about when, where, and by whom. Other data, such as references to written works where the word appears, are very welcome too, but please note that if it can be found with a Google search on the Web we have probably already seen it. Send your responses to George Goebel at *DARE*, by e-mail to ghgoebel@facstaff.wisc.edu (please put "NADS queries" in the subject line) or regular mail to 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 N. Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

Other queries are regularly posted to the *DARE* web site, <http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/dare/Queries.html>.

make one's tongue slap the roof of one's mouth "To taste good." Our evidence is mostly from the Gulf region, but more evidence would be welcome.

stool "An invitation (to a party or event)." We have a sprinkling of evidence from the southern Appalachians; does anyone know it? Any ideas about origin?

tabernacle "Sow bug/potato bug/roly-poly." We have a second-hand report that this is used in UT; can anyone confirm this?

tall pin "Safety pin." We have a single NC citation.

tally-lagger "Stooge, patsy." We have a single NC response for this.

tax "To charge; to cost." This has a long history; what evidence we have suggests that it is old-fashioned or entirely obsolete, but we would welcome any evidence

about its current status.

tax strip "Strip of grass between sidewalk and street." We have one OH informant.

tazzle up "Tangle, mess up, confuse"; **tazzled up** "muddled." This occurs in English dialect and in the works of the English-born Edward Taylor, but we also have a few 20th century examples, from GA, FL and TN.

teakettle up "Tidy up." We have a few examples, all from New England.

teenter (board), tinter (board), teentering board "See-saw." Found by LANE in the lower Connecticut valley and along the coast westwards; are these forms still used?

teeter-tooter "See-saw." Some of our examples may be typos for teeter-totter, but others appear to be legitimate. Has anyone heard this?

thanuary, thornuary We have two RI examples of this for a children's game similar to pom-pom-pullaway. Is this still known? Can anyone explain the name?

that out "Without doubt, certainly." We have two examples, both from VA.

tombouille We have sketchy information about a type of LA French stew of this name; more information would be welcome.

tooth mouse We have two citations for this as the Cajun equivalent of the tooth fairy, but we'd welcome more evidence of its use (in English, not the French it translates).

what takes one? "What is one doing?" We have two citations, both from DE, for this phrase. Is it still known?

Midwest ADS at MMLA, Milwaukee

Please join the Midwest ADS meeting at the Midwest Modern Language Association, 10-13 November 2005, Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee. ADS will host two sessions consisting of the following papers. For more information go to <http://www.uiowa.edu/~mmla/> or contact session organizer, Kathryn Remlinger, remlingk@gvsu.edu.

Session 1

A Real-Time Analysis of (th) among Detroit African American Speakers

Jennifer Nguyen and Anthony Brasher
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The Secret Life of Vowels: Diphthongization, Mergers and Shifts

Thomas Purnell
University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Final Obstruent Voicing in Western Wisconsin

Jennifer Ann Mercer
University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Folk Linguistics and Sound Change in Wisconsin

Jim Hahn and Erica Benson
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Session 2

Need out of the Midland Dialect Debate?

Erica Benson
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Lexical Borrowing and the Perception of Dialect Convergence

Steve Hartman Keiser
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Pragmatic Change as a Result of Language Contact: How English has Affected Hmong in Wisconsin

Susan Burt
Illinois State University
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Functions of Language in the Tibetan Diaspora: Narratives of Resistance and Survival

Beth Simon
Indiana University, Purdue University
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Book Blurbs.

The Handbook of Pragmatics. Edited by Laurence R. Horn and Gregory Ward. Oxford: Blackwell, 2004. 864 pp. An entry in the multi-volume series of linguistics handbooks published by Blackwell, this book contains 32 chapters by leading scholars in the field, providing an accessible introduction to a wide

range of subfields of theoretical and applied pragmatics and their interfaces with such domains as cognitive psychology, philosophy of language, syntax, semantics, and the lexicon. Also includes an extensive (78 page) bibliography that can serve as a reference tool for those working in the general area of linguistic pragmatics and related fields.

Nominations Sought for Outstanding Students for Honorary Memberships

American Dialect Society President Joan Houston Hall invites nominations of excellent students for three Presidential Honorary Memberships, to be awarded at the Society's January 2006 annual meeting in Albuquerque. Presidential Honorary Memberships entitle the recipients to four years of complimentary membership from 2006 to 2009. Recipients who attend the annual meeting will also be guests at the Society's annual luncheon and will be recognized publicly on that occasion. The aim of the awards is to encourage interest and participation of our best prospects.

Any ADS member may nominate a student, graduate or undergraduate,

who shows outstanding aptitude for and interest in our field. There is no application form. Instead, the sponsoring ADS member is asked to send a letter detailing the nominee's qualifications, together with supporting materials (if possible) such as a paper written under the sponsor's supervision. Hall's postal address is 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706.

If you wish, you are welcome to send a preliminary inquiry to Hall at jdhall@wisc.edu.

Deadline for submitting nominations is December 9, 2005.

Book Blurbs

Cassell's Dictionary of Slang. Jonathon Green, ed. Revised and expanded edition. (London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2005). This single-volume dictionary of Anglophone slang, dating from approximately 1500 and covering the slang lexis of the U.K., the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland, and the English-speaking Caribbean, is a revised and expanded edition of its predecessor, published in 1998. With 87,500 headwords, it is some 12,500 headwords and approximately 300 pages longer. Included are a number of additional definitions within previously published entries. There are more than 12,500 new words, since Green culled a substantial number of entries which did not truly qualify and replaced them either with material that has emerged in the intervening seven years, or with terms from the past that were previ-

ously overlooked. Entries include a headword date spread from presumed first usage, usage notes, geographical labels, definitions and etymologies. As with its predecessor the single-volume format precludes the inclusion of citations; however, the book also draws heavily on Green's on-going researches for a full-cited multi-volume dictionary of slang "on historical principles," currently scheduled for 2007.

Language in the USA : Themes for the Twenty-first Century. Edward Finegan, John R. Rickford. Cambridge University Press, 2004. 520 pp. A comprehensive survey of current language issues in the U.S., exploring the nature of language variation in the United States and its social, historical and political significance. The book is divided into three sections: American English, Other Language Varieties, and The Sociolinguistic Situation in the U.S.A.

Book Blurbs

Dialect and Dichotomy: Literary Representations of African American Speech. Lisa Cohen Minnick. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2004. 216 pp.

With emphasis on African American voices in literature, *Dialect and Dichotomy* outlines the history of dialect writing in American literature and explores the traditions of literary-dialect analysis. It also proposes theoretical principles and specific methods that can be applied to analyses of literary dialect for linguistic and/or literary purposes. Finally, the book demonstrates the proposed methods in four original analyses of African American speech.

Ballyhoo, Buckaroo, and Spuds (US); *Port Out, Starboard Home* (UK and elsewhere). Michael Quinion. New York: HarperCollins, 2006. London: Penguin, 2005. The *cat's pajamas*, the

bee's knees, and the *whole nine yards* rolled into one, this book skewers commonly accepted word-origin myths and etymological folk tales. The expressions that Michael Quinion reviews range throughout the English-speaking world, from *cater-cornered* to *dinkum* and from *wet one's whistle* to *happy as a clam*.

Bad Language: Are Some Words Better Than Others? Edwin Battistella. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. 256 pp. Examining grammar and style, cursing, slang, political correctness, regional and ethnic dialects, and foreign accents and language mixing, Battistella discusses the strong feelings evoked by language variation. He explains the natural desire for uniformity in writing and speaking and traces the association of mainstream norms to ideas about refinement, intelligence, education, character, national unity, and political values.