

## **Practicum (professional development)**

### Conferences and publishing

Goal of the new series *Practicum* (a few sessions per year during the SemRech): help you (mainly MA and PhD students) develop professional skills in academia.

#### Some resources:

For everything:

LSA website: <https://www.lsadc.org/careers>

For announcements about conferences and jobs

The LINGUIST List mailing list (LINGLITE): <https://linguistlist.org/subscribe/>

Parislinguists: [https://listes.services.cnrs.fr/www/subscribe/parislinguists?previous\\_action=info](https://listes.services.cnrs.fr/www/subscribe/parislinguists?previous_action=info)

Lingalert: <https://lingalert.com/>

For finding research papers:

Google scholar: <http://scholar.google.com/>

LingBuzz (article archive): <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz>

Semanticsarchive.net (article archive in semantics): <http://semanticsarchive.net/>

Personal websites of linguists

Unige library (scan & deliver service) – talk to Talal Zouhri [Talal.Zouhri@unige.ch](mailto:Talal.Zouhri@unige.ch)

[+ Libgen, Anna's archive, Sci-Hub]

For sharing folders and backing up your data

Unige Onedrive (100Go as student, 1To as collaborator)

[+ dropbox, google drive, etc.]

#### General advice:

Attend SemRech regularly

Set up meetings with invited researchers (google doc will be available each week) to discuss your research (make a small handout)

Use room L306 to work if you do not have an office or discuss together.

If it's not already done, please subscribe to the student mailing list of the department

(<https://listes.unige.ch/sympa/subscribe/linguistique-etu>)

#### Conferences and publishing – why ?

The dissertation is no longer king (many fields are phasing out dissertations as ends-in-themselves)

→ expect to have several presentations and at least 1-2 publications

Of course, these can be part of/related to your dissertation!

#### Research pipeline

- internal development/presentation
- conference presentation(s)
- (conference proceedings)
- journal article

## 1. Conferences

Typically the bulk of a grad student's public output

Two types of presentation:

- presentations proper, i.e. talks ("papers" presented) 20 to 45 minutes + question period.
- posters (or "poster presentations"): print it up and stand there

Why conferences?

- Developing work & getting external feedback (with the eventual goal to publish)
- Seeing other current (pre-published) work and trends
- Fun, networking, self-promotion
- CV-building (most employers will judge you by proxy of your record, not by carefully reading your papers, which is clearly impossible)
- Getting used to presenting before doing it on the job market
- Getting used to packaging ideas, arguing, presenting as a teacher & scholar

A *massive* list of "calls for papers" can be found on Linguist List (Cf. <http://lingalert.com/>).  
→ you need to write a (usually 2-page) abstract to submit a paper to a conference

Deadlines: keep a rolling list of upcoming deadlines of anything relevant (even if you don't have a specific plan for it)

- General conferences

Most prestigious:

**GLOW**: Generative Linguistics in the Old World (in Europe)

Call: around November

Conference: around March

+ **GLOW in Asia**

**NELS**: Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (in the US)

Call for papers: beginning of summer

Conference: around October

**WCCFL**: West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (in the US)

Call: around November

Conference: around May

More student-oriented:

**BLS**: Berkeley Linguistics Society Annual Meeting

Call: around November

Conference: February

**CLS:** the Chicago Linguistic Society

Call: January

Conference: April

**PLC:** Penn Linguistics Colloquium

Call: around November

Conference: around March

**ConSOLE:** Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe

Call: around September

Conference: around January

**LingO:** Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Linguistics

Call: around January

Conference: around June

**MFil:** Manchester Forum in Linguistics

Call: around January

Conference: around May

**LELPGC:** Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (in Edinburgh)

Call: around January

Conference: around June

**BerlinBrnoVienna**

Call: around May

Conference: around July

**ESSLLI** student session (see summer schools)

Traditionally linked to job market:

**LSA:** Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Call: summer

Conference: beginning of January

**SLE:** Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea

Conference : summer

Others:

**CGG:** Colloquium on Generative Grammar (in Europe)

Call: around January

Conference: around May

**EGG:** Encuentro de Gramática Generativa

Call: around May

Conference: around August

**ICL:** International Congress of Linguists  
Conference: summer (every five years)

**LAGB:** Linguistics Association of Great Britain  
Conference: September

- By subfield
  - Semantics

**SALT:** Semantics and Linguistic Theory conference (in the US)  
Call for papers: around December  
Conference: around May

**SuB:** Sinn und Bedeutung: annual meeting of Sinn und Bedeutung (in Europe)  
Call for Papers: around April  
Conference: September

**Amsterdam Colloquium**  
Call for papers: September  
Conference: around December (every two years)

**CSSP:** Colloque de Syntaxe et Sémantique à Paris (Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris)  
Call: Spring  
Conference: Fall (every two years)

**TbiLLC:** Tbilisi Symposium on Logic, Language and Computation  
Call for papers: around March  
Conference: around September (every two years)

- Phonology

**AMP:** Annual Meeting on Phonology (in the US)  
Call: Spring  
Conference: Fall

**Interspeech**  
Conference: summer

**mfm:** Manchester Phonology Meeting  
Call for papers: February  
Conference: around May

**OCP:** Old World Conference in Phonology (in Europe)  
Call: around October  
Conference: around February

**Speech Prosody**

Call: around November

Conference: around May

- Psycholinguistics/experimental linguistics

**CUNY / HSP: Human Sentence Processing Conference (in the US)**

Call: December

Conference: March

**ELM: Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (at UPenn)**

Call: around December

Conference: around June (every two years)

**XPRAG: experimental linguistics conference (in Europe)**

Call: around April

Conference: around September (every two years)

**CogSci: Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society**

Conference in the summer (rotating between Western Europe, US/Canada and elsewhere)

- Language Acquisition

**BUCLD: Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development**

Call: around June

Conference: Fall

**GALA: Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition (in Europe)**

Call: around February

Conference: September (every two years)

**GALANA: Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition, North America**

Call: around January

Conference: around May

**IASCL: congress of the International Association for the Study of Child Language**

Conference: in the summer every three years

- Historical Linguistics

**ICHL: International Conference on Historical Linguistics**

Call: around December

Conference: July (every two years)

**Annual UCLA Indo-European Conference**

Call: June

Conference: around November

**DiGS:** Diachronic Generative Syntax

Call: around February

Conference: around June

- By Language Area
  - Asian Languages

**AFLA:** Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association

Call: around November

Conference: around April

**FAJL:** Formal Approaches to Japanese Linguistics

Conference: still on? (every two years)

**FASAL:** Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages

Conference: Spring

**NACCL:** North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics

Call for paper: around January

Conference: around June

**TEAL:** International Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics

Call: Fall/Winter

Conference: Spring/Summer

**WAFL:** Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics

Call: Fall

Conference: Spring

- Romance Languages

**GR:** Going Romance – Symposium on Romance Linguistics

Call: July

Conference: December

**LSRL:** Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages

Call: around December

Conference: around May

- Slavic Languages

**FASL:** Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics

Call : around February

Conference: around May

- Other languages

**NACIL:** North American Conference on Iranian Linguistics

Conference: Spring

**TripleA** (Africa, Asia, Austronesia)

Call: Spring

Conference: summer

- Summer schools

**CreteLing**: Crete Summer School of Linguistics

**EGG**: Eastern Generative Grammar (EGG)

**ESSLLI**: European Summer School in Logic Language and Information

**LSA Institute**: Linguistics Society of America Summer Institute

**NASSLLI**: North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information

**NYI** Global Institute of Cultural, Cognitive, and Linguistic Studies

### Recommendations

One you have a project ready, submit to several conferences (unlike journals, you can double submit).

But if it's multiply accepted, you have to pick one. Or better: vary your papers (different angle) / titles enough that you could do both.

Nobody keeps track of how many times you get rejected; you're judged only on successes (CV), not attempts.

It's useful to have comments on your abstract. (but don't waste the time of reviewers, write your abstract in advance and carefully, it takes time!)

Look at new hires in your subfield. Where did they present, and how often?

### Abstracts

Conference abstracts are different from paper abstracts: Concise summaries of your research project to convince conference reviewers of the relevance and quality of your work (and then inform attendees about the content of your presentation).

1 or 2 single-spaced pages (depending on the specific conference rules): sometimes one of solid text with an additional page for figures, examples and/or selected references; follow the rules religiously.

Usually limited to one single-authored paper and two co-authored papers. (or one single, one co-authored)

Write densely (avoid lit review: only most relevant recent works; just dive in)

Maximize word count & use of space without gimmicks

Avoid promissory notes; make it seem as though the research is all done.

Have something specific (e.g. graph; examples).

Check accepted abstracts in recent conferences.

Have your abstract reviewed by your adviser (and read by colleagues) before sending it!

### Proceedings papers

In most conferences.

8-18 pages single-spaced, often only lightly reviewed other than for formatting.

Not as prestigious as journal articles, but often all grad students have, and some are quite prestigious (e.g., NELS, WCCFL, SALT).

Some people combine these with presentations on the CV. Better having separate sections (presentations vs. publications).

## 2. Publishing

### a- Conference Proceedings

Usually no reviewing process.

Strongly recommended as first step of publication: you can submit to a journal a paper already presented at a conference and reported in a proceedings paper.

### b- Journals

Peer-reviewed.

Highest standard for scholarship (and the most important product in linguistics).

Ask your advisor a recommendation about which journal to choose.

- General

*Linguistic Inquiry (LI)*

*Language*

*Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (NLLT)*

*Glossa (previously Lingua)*

*Journal of Linguistics*

*The Linguistic Review*

*Studia Linguistica*

...

- By subfield

*Journal of Semantics*

*Linguistics and Philosophy*

*Semantics and Pragmatics*

*Natural Language Semantics*

*STAR (Syntactic Theory and Research) previously Syntax*

*Phonology*

*Glossa Psycholinguistics*

...

- By language area

*Isogloss, Probus*

*Journal of East Asian Linguistics*

*Journal of Germanic Linguistics*

...

Some official journal ranking:

[http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?category=1203&area=0&year=2012&country=&order=sjr&min=0&min\\_type=cd](http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?category=1203&area=0&year=2012&country=&order=sjr&min=0&min_type=cd)

*Note: Science, Nature, PNAS, etc. have highest impact factors, but tend not to attract linguists' attention. Journal of Memory & Language, Brain & Language, Cognition, and Cognitive Science have extremely high impact factors, but psychology/computation-heavier journals generally do.*

### Submission process

Submit your manuscript, an abstract, keywords and a cover letter on the journal website.

You are assigned an editor and several (one to four) anonymous reviewers.

3 to several months (even one year...) quietly pass.

You'll get back a review package with a judgment: reject (very common), revise & resubmit (very common), accept with major revisions (uncommon in the first round), or accept with minor revisions (very uncommon in the first round).

Keep running with the journal until they explicitly accept or reject your article.

### Reviews

Tend to be long and painful or short and painful

Even if rejected, you get a lot of free advice and can potentially move on to the next best journal after some heavy editing.

For revise & resubmit, deal with as much as you can, though you don't have to address every single thing (esp. if reviews contradict each other, or the reviewer missed something, but in those cases, you have to explain it in your letter).

Explain how you addressed everything in a letter to the editor along with your resubmission.

At this point, your only goal is to get the thing published. Don't stubbornly cling to some point if that could cost you the paper; be polite, matter-of-fact, statesman-like.

After acceptance of your article, you will have to add acknowledgements (and funding and some statements), confirm your affiliation and read the proofs to check editing mistakes before publication.

*Note:* many journals do not systematically publish in open access, but for some of them, Unige has some agreements allowing you to publish in open access.

Check <https://www.unige.ch/biblio/fr/openaccess/> or ask Christopher Kaiser ([Christopher.Kaiser@unige.ch](mailto:Christopher.Kaiser@unige.ch)) for questions about open access