

Constitution for the UK-Cognitive Linguistics Association

1. The Association shall be known as the *United Kingdom Cognitive Linguistics Association* (abbreviated UK-CLA).

2. The purpose of the association is to promote Cognitive Linguistics at the national and international levels in a range of ways. In particular, it is proposed that the UK-CLA will organise biennial conferences (the first being the NDCL conference, taking place in Oct. 2005 held at the University of Sussex), and to circulate to its members an electronic newsletter distributed up to 3 times per year.

3. In addition, the Association will support, among other things, contacts and cooperation between its members, the development of research projects, curricula and international graduate and doctoral programs in Cognitive Linguistics, as well as the organisation of conferences and workshops.

4. A key aspect of the work undertaken by the Association will be cooperation between the International Cognitive Linguistics Association, and in particular, other European Cognitive Linguistics Associations.

5. Applicants for membership are expected to support the goals of the Association.

6. The outlook of the Association will be international in nature. Thus, applicants for membership may be of any nationality, and may be based in a country other than the UK.

7. Responsibility for setting up and administering the Association falls to the Governing Board.

8. The first Governing Board will be elected by the General Assembly of registered delegates at the NDCL conference, on 25th October 2005.

9. The Governing Board will be elected by members of the Association for a two-year term at the business meeting during a regular UK-CLA conference. The board members can be re-elected for an immediately subsequent second term only once, with the exception of the public relations officer/webmaster. Nominations for these positions can be made by any member by prior notification to the President or from the floor during the Assembly of the

Association. The candidates for office should be affiliated with UK-based institutions.

10. The Governing Board will consist of the President, the Vice-president, the newsletter editor, the secretary, the treasurer, the publicity officer/webmaster, and up to three other regular elected members. There may also be ex-officio members who sit on the Governing Board, at the invitation of the Governing Board. These members may include the Chair of the Organising Committee for the next biennial meeting of the UK-CLA, and the editor of a UK-CLA journal, should the Governing Body proceed with such an initiative. In the case of a tied vote the President will have the casting vote. The quorum will be five.

11. The composition of the Governing Board should reflect a variety of cognitive linguistic fields, languages, and UK universities and research institutions.

12. The first Governing Board will be charged with the following:

- a. setting up a website in order to facilitate membership applications, and to promote the interests of the Association.
- b. deciding upon and publicising details relating to the membership application process.
- c. seeking affiliation with the International Cognitive Linguistics Association.
- d. exploring the viability of a journal, in conjunction with an appropriate academic publisher.
- e. If applicable, setting and collecting membership fees in order to support the activities of the Association, including a journal, if applicable.
- f. appointing a suitably qualified editor for such a position, and agreeing terms of appointment.
- g. organising a biennial UK-Cognitive Linguistics Conference in conjunction with a local organising committee.
- h. Reporting on activities and developments to the Association's members during the business meeting at each regular UK-CLA conference.
- i. engaging with and exploring collaborations with other Cognitive Linguistics Associations.
- j. engaging in any other activities that support and promote the aims and interests of the Association and its members.
- k. to submit to the second assembly of the UK-CLA membership a revised constitution.

13. Proposals for amendments to any aspect of the constitution, or nominations for Governing Board officers will be accepted on the basis of a proposer and a seconder. Such proposals will then be voted on.

14. For officers of the Governing Board to be elected, those achieving the highest number of votes in a secret ballot for each position, in the case of two or more candidates for one post, will be elected.

15. The constitution may be amended by two-thirds majority vote by the Assembly of the UK-CLA membership.

16. This Constitution becomes official upon approval by a two-thirds majority of the Founding Assembly convened during the conference "New Directions in Cognitive Linguistics", at the University of Sussex on October 25th, 2005.