

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF GENERAL AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS

CONSTITUTION

1. **Name.**

The Organisation shall be known as the University Council of General and Applied Linguistics.

2. **Aims.**

Within the context of UK higher education, the aims of the Organisation shall be:

- a. to promote research, teaching and learning, and scholarship in general and applied linguistics;
- b. to promote co-operation and co-ordination, and the sharing of expertise and good practice, between institutions, learned societies, professional associations and related bodies in the area of general and applied linguistics;
- c. to support and promote the health and sustainability of general and applied linguistics;
- d. to represent general and applied linguistics in the co-ordination and formulation of policies and their adoption by appropriate national and international agencies.

3. **Activities.**

The Organisation shall conduct such lawful activities as are necessary to further its aims, engaging and consulting with relevant constituencies and stakeholders, responding to consultations, collecting information, issuing statements, publications and briefing materials, and organising meetings. It shall endeavour to be representative of the range of subdisciplines of general and applied linguistics and Members as set out in the Standing Orders. It shall also raise and disburse funds to support its activities. It shall be a not-for-profit organisation.

4. **Organisation.**

The Organisation shall have Members, Representatives and an Executive Committee.

5. **Members.**

Any learned society, professional association or other body with an interest in general and applied linguistics research, teaching and learning, and/or scholarship in higher education in the UK shall be eligible to become a Member. The Members shall jointly reflect the breadth of general and applied linguistics within higher education in the UK. Membership shall be available by invitation and by application. Membership shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

6. **Representatives.**

Each Member shall nominate one Representative to serve on the Executive Committee, who shall normally have a professional and/or academic interest in general or applied linguistics. Each Member shall also nominate one Deputy Representative, who shall serve on the Executive Committee in the absence of the Representative. Representatives shall provide ongoing liaison between the Members and the Executive Committee.

7. **Executive Committee.**

- a. The Executive Committee shall comprise the Chair and the Representatives, and may include non-voting co-opted individuals, for example, to represent subdisciplines of general and applied linguistics for which no relevant UK-based association exists.
- b. The Chair shall be independent, not representing any particular Member or subdiscipline of general or applied linguistics. The Chair shall be elected for a term of three years, renewable once. The election of Chair shall be triggered either (a) when the incumbent approaches the end of his/her term; or

(b) if the incumbent resigns; or (c) if the Executive Committee passes a vote of no confidence in the incumbent.

c. The Executive Committee shall, at its discretion, invite other relevant individuals to attend specific meetings, for example, to provide expertise on a specific issue.

d. The Executive Committee shall elect a Secretary and a Treasurer from among its members, each for a term of three years, renewable once.

8. Standing orders

The Standing Orders shall:

a. list the Members;

b. lay down the frequency of the meetings of the Executive Committee;

c. lay down such other matters as the Executive Committee may deem necessary from time to time;

d. give an indicative, non-exhaustive list of relevant academic disciplines.

The Standing Orders, and any amendments to them, shall be confirmed by simple majority voting by the Executive Committee.

9. Amendments to the Constitution.

Any proposal to amend the Constitution shall be approved by two-thirds majority voting by the Executive Committee.

10. Dissolution

Any proposal to dissolve the Organisation, or to amalgamate it with any other organisation, shall be approved by two-thirds majority voting by the Executive Committee.

February 2009

AMENDED JUNE 2010

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF GENERAL AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS

STANDING ORDERS

1. General and applied linguistics.

The Organisation shall interpret the fields of descriptive, theoretical and applied linguistics in broad terms (in line, for example, with the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for linguistics). The fields shall be deemed to include: Structural/general linguistics (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, whether from a synchronic or diachronic, single-language or comparative perspective), language in use, anthropological linguistics, biological linguistics, clinical linguistics, cognitive linguistics, computational linguistics, corpus linguistics, creolistics, developmental linguistics, ecolinguistics, educational linguistics, ethnolinguistics, evolutionary linguistics, geographical linguistics, language pathology, lexicography/lexicology, mathematical linguistics, neurolinguistics, philosophical linguistics, psycholinguistics, sign-language linguistics, sociolinguistics, statistical linguistics, stylistics, theolinguistics, translation and interpreting studies. Finally, the field shall be deemed to include the history of general and applied linguistics itself.

2. Members.

The Organisation shall have the following Members:

Association for French Language Studies
British Association for Applied Linguistics
British Association of Academic Phoneticians
Henry Sweet Society for the History of Linguistic Ideas
Linguistics Association of Great Britain
Philological Society
UK Cognitive Linguistics Association
University Council of Modern Languages
Poetics and Linguistics Association
British Association for Clinical Linguistics
Forum for Germanic Language Studies

The following bodies shall be invited to nominate a co-opted non-voting individual to sit on the Executive Committee:

CILT – the National Centre for Languages
Higher Education Academy Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies

3. Meetings.

The Executive Committee shall meet three times each year.

February 2009