A Summer School and Conference on the Method of Lexical Exceptions will be held from Sunday 2 September to Saturday 8 September 2007 in the School of Modern Languages, University of St Andrews, Scotland. Sunday 2 September is arrival day, and Saturday 8 September is departure day; no classes or papers will take place on those days. The Summer School will be held in the mornings and part of the afternoons, and will be taught by Dr Christopher Beedham; the language of the Summer School will be English. The Conference will take place in the afternoons, and is there primarily for participants in the Summer School who wish to develop further the method of lexical exceptions or give a paper on exceptions generally. It is envisaged that participants will attend both the Summer School in the mornings and the papers of the Conference in the afternoons. However, you may, if you wish, attend one but not the other (the fee, though, is the same).

Course book

The Summer School in the mornings will be based on Dr Beedham's book, *Language and Meaning: The structural creation of reality*, Amsterdam: Benjamins 2005, and participants are asked to read this book before commencement of the course.

The method of lexical exceptions

The Ômethod of lexical exceptionsÔ is a method of research in theoretical linguistics which starts from the premise that unexplained lexical exceptions to a grammatical rule are not part of the structure of a language but are a symptom of the fact that the rule is wrong, the exceptions have been introduced by the grammarian erroneously in a mistaken analysis. We home in on those exceptions and use them in an empirical investigation to produce a new and better analysis, one which explains various anomalies of the old analysis, including the existence of the exceptions. For example, non-passivizable transitive verbs have been used to produce an analysis of the passive which sees the passive as an aspect of the verb, not a voice of the verb (derived from an underlying active). The purpose of the Summer School is to show participants how the method works, so that they can then use the method themselves on other areas of grammar in their own languages.
Classes

The course will consist of lectures given by Dr Beedham, at which questions, comments and discussion are encouraged, and discussion sessions based as far as possible on presentations by course participants. The main languages of illustration in lectures will be English, German, and Russian, but participants are encouraged to bring their own languages into the discussion.

The course will cover the following topics:

- Saussurean structuralism
- Aspect
- The passive
- Irregular verbs
- The method of lexical exceptions

Target audience

The Summer School and Conference is aimed at prospective postgraduate students, existing postgraduate students, academic staff, and all researchers in languages and linguistics.

Call for papers

Participants in the Summer School are invited to submit abstracts to give a paper at the Conference on any facet of the method of lexical exceptions or on exceptions in general. Papers which discuss specific rules and their exceptions D in any language whatsoever D as areas of potential research are particularly welcome; critical papers are also welcome. The purpose of the Conference is to develop the method and take it further than where it is at the moment. You may also submit an abstract if you are not participating in the Summer School. You may give your paper in English, German, Russian, or French; if you wish to give a paper in another language please contact the organisers.

Papers will be 40 mins. long, including 10 mins. discussion. Abstracts should not exceed more than one page of A4, and should be written in Times New Roman, in 12-point type, with a 2.5 cm margin all round. Abstracts should be sent to us preferably electronically, as an attachment to an e-mail (if your abstract contains special symbols be sure to Embed True Type Fonts under Save As), and must reach us by 19 August 2007.

Proceedings

We will try to publish a selection of the papers from the Conference in a set of Proceedings.

Students, and participants from non-hard currency countries

If you are coming from outside the UK you may apply to your local British Council office for funding. There is a discount on the fee for students, and for participants from non-hard currency countries. In addition, we hope to be able to offer a modest subsidy to students, and to participants from non-hard currency countries. If you wish to apply for such a subsidy please write to the organisers, by e-mail or post, stating whether you are a student or in employment, which country you are from, and that you request a subsidy. You will be informed in summer 2007 of the amount of subsidy, if any, you have been awarded.
Accommodation

Accommodation will be in a Hall of Residence, with a choice of with en suite bathroom (probably New Hall) or without en suite bathroom (probably John Burnet Hall), and participants will take meals together. Classes and papers will be held within at most 10 mins. walk from the Halls of Residence.

Events

There will be a wine reception hosted by the German Department, an excursion and a Final Dinner on the Friday in a restaurant in town.

Travel to St Andrews

The nearest airport is Edinburgh. From Edinburgh airport take the bus (approx. £5 return) or a taxi (£15 - £20) to Waverley Station, Edinburgh. From there take the train to Leuchars (£17 return). From Leuchars railway station take the bus (£4 return) or a taxi (£10) to St Andrews bus station. From there the Halls of Residence are all within 5 D 10 mins walk. Alternatively, a taxi from Edinburgh airport to St Andrews costs approx £60. For further information see http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/getting.shtml. For a map of St Andrews see http://www.escapetotranquillity.com/maps.html.

St Andrews

St Andrews is a medieval town on the East coast of Scotland, famous for tourism, golf, and its University.

Update 22 August 2007

Participants who have booked accommodation with an en suite bathroom are in New Hall (on the North Haugh), those who have booked a room without en suite bathroom are in McIntosh Hall (Abbotsford Crescent). You will have access to your room from 14.00 on Sunday 2 Sept., earlier if your room happens to be ready earlier. If you arrive before your room is ready you may leave luggage at the Reception of your Hall. Participants staying at McIntosh Hall will take their lunch and dinner in New Hall, together with the New Hall participants.

Registration is in the foyer/bar area of New Hall from 16.00 – 18.00 on Sunday. Dinner is at 18.00. There will be a reception, hosted by the German Department, from 19.30 in the foyer/bar area of New Hall.

Classes and papers will be held in Seminar Room 3 (room 119) on the first floor of the new Arts Building, situated behind the University library: go to the library and go down the path either to the left or the right of the library. The Summer School starts at 9.00 on Monday 3 Sept.

For a map of the University click here. New Hall and McIntosh Hall are marked on this map; the new Arts Building and the Library are not marked on it, but they are situated just off North Street between the OLD UNION and the Cinema. For a map of St Andrews click here.

The excursion will now be free, and will be a guided walking tour of St Andrews on Wednesday afternoon. Please indicate at Registration on arrival if you intend to take part in the excursion.