

Phonology @ UC San Diego

Who we are and what we're up to, as of February 2011

Sharon Rose, Associate Professor

(BA, Toronto; MA, Université du Québec à Montréal; PhD, McGill)

My interests include phonotactics (long distance harmony), tone and metrical structure, prosodic morphology, duration, and the phonetics of ejectives. My recent work has also incorporated phonetics and psycholinguistics. I work with native speakers of African languages (primarily Ethio-Semitic and Kordofanian). I currently have two main projects: 1) description and analysis of the Kordofanian language Moro (with Farrell Ackerman), funded by an NSF grant, and 2) the phonetics of ejective fricatives in Tigrinya (with Ryan Shosted at UIUC), funded by a UCSD Academic Senate grant. I am also returning to working on psycholinguistic experiments on Amharic phonotactics with Rebecca Colavin as part of her dissertation research. I have supervised students (my own advisees as well as others) on a variety of topics.

Eric Baković, Associate Professor

(BA, UC Santa Cruz; PhD, Rutgers)

My interests are in phonological theory, and my research is generally about the complex interaction of phonological processes. My most recent work has been on blocking and opaque interactions in particular. I'm currently finishing a long-overdue monograph on disjunctive blocking interactions, and recently completed a chapter on opacity in phonological theory. I also recently completed a co-authored paper with Bożena Pająk based on her work on the interaction of assimilation and epenthesis in Polish, that appeared in *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*. I derive particular pleasure from working with students whose research foci are a bit removed from mine. This is a reflection of the diverse-yet-interactive (and collaborative) orientation of our program and of the campus.

Gabriela Caballero, Assistant Professor

(BA, Universidad de Sonora, Mexico; PhD, Berkeley)

My research seeks to contribute to the documentation of indigenous languages of the Americas and to further our understanding of what is the possible range of variation found in human languages in terms of phonology, morphology and their interaction. I specialize in Uto-Aztecan languages and conduct field research on Rarámuri, an endangered language spoken in northern Mexico. Together with Lucien Carroll, I'm currently working on tone and metrical structure and their interaction with intonational phonology in Rarámuri as part of a larger documentation project. I'm also starting a collaboration with Vsevolod Kapatsinski (U Oregon) to investigate the ways in which morphological structure conditions phonological phenomena and the role that speech perception and processing might play in shaping morphological complexity in morphologically complex languages.

Rebecca Sinclair Colavin, ABD

(BA, San Diego State University; MA, UC San Diego)

My research interests are primarily in the area of computational phonology. In general terms, I use evidence from speaker judgment tasks to test and improve a theoretically motivated statistical model (Hayes and Wilson, 2008) that informs us about the role of frequency in the acquisition and processing of phonotactics. Sharon Rose and Roger Levy are my co-advisors, with support from Eric Baković. I have devised and am about to conduct psycholinguistic experiments on Amharic phonotactics.

Alex del Giudice, ABD

(BA, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

My background in Sign Language Phonology, among many other interests, has led to my dissertation research on the evolutionary origins of phonology. Part of this research focuses on how words, which may have

begun as holistic form-meaning pairs, could gain sub-lexical structure overtime as recurring sublexical pieces (phonemes, syllables, etc.) quickly pervade the lexicon. Furthermore, I'm exploring evidence from young sign languages which suggests that the adoption of phonological innovations across an entire language community can be dependent on the structure of the population (i.e., how large the language community is, how many social-communicative links each speaker has to other speakers, etc.).

Bożena Pająk, ABD

(MA, Jagiellonian University, Poland; MA, UC San Diego)

My current research involves speech perception and language learning. I am interested in how knowledge from previously learned languages helps when learning new languages. My main hypothesis is that learning each additional language allows one to build abstract knowledge regarding ways in which languages differ, and that this abstract knowledge facilitates learning when languages differ in expected ways.

Lucien Carroll, 4th-year student

(BA, BS, UC Santa Barbara; MA ABT, San Diego State University)

My general interests are in computational and quantitative modeling, and I think variation and change in phonology provide crucial evidence in developing our understanding of grammar in general. I have written on inter-generational differences in the sandhi tones of Jinhua Wu Chinese, vowel lengthening and tone patterns in GiTonga, and a computational harmonic grammar model of phonological typology.

Noah Girgis, 3rd-year student

(BA, MA, University of Washington)

I am primarily interested in phonology and phonetics and have researched pharyngealization harmony in Arabic from several angles, including heritage speakers and asymmetric spreading patterns in Egyptian Arabic. My results indicate that phonological theories of directional asymmetry are too simplistic, and that while regressive harmony does show stronger acoustic effects, progressive harmony shows evidence for transparency of high vowels, not blocking as previously described.

Bethany Keffala, 3rd-year student

(BA, Bryn Mawr College, MA UC San Diego)

My current interest in phonology pertains to acquisition, and in particular the complexity theory of learning. I am embarking on a study of complex clusters in child language with the collaboration of Jessica Barlow from SDSU. My other area of research is sentence processing and resumptive pronouns.

Hope Morgan 3rd-year student

(BA, Sonoma State University, MA UC San Diego)

I have written on phonological constraints on two-handed signs in Kenyan Sign Language. More broadly, I am interested in the phonological possibilities and constraints across sign languages and how these result in word-formation and interact with morphological features. Even more broadly, I am curious about the underlying universals of language, seen through the prism of the two different modalities.

Page Piccinini 1st-year student

(BA, MA, Northwestern University)

I am interested in phonetics and phonology and the role they play in bilingual speech production. I am currently looking at Spanish-English code-switching to see if there are cues in the signal to alert the listener of an upcoming switch as phonotactic constraints from one language are mapped on to the other modalities.

Selected recent and upcoming activities by UCSD phonologists

Publications

Eric Baković (to appear). Opacity and ordering. In *Handbook of Phonological Theory* (2nd ed.), Wiley-Blackwell.

Eric Baković (to appear). *On 'Elsewhere': Disjunctivity and Blocking in Phonological Theory*. Advances in Optimality Theory. Equinox Books.

Gabriela Caballero (to appear). Morphologically conditioned stress assignment in Choguita Rarámuri (Tarahumara). *Linguistics*

Gabriela Caballero (to appear) Behind the Mexican Mountains: Recent Developments and New Directions in Research on Uto-Aztecan Languages. *Language and Linguistic Compass*.

Gabriela Caballero. (to appear). Multiple Exponence and the phonology-morphology interface. *Proceedings of NELS 39*.

Gabriela Caballero (2010). Scope, phonology and morphology in an agglutinating language: Choguita Rarámuri (Tarahumara) variable suffix ordering. *Morphology 20*: 165-204.

Rebecca Colavin, Roger Levy, and Sharon Rose. (to appear). Modeling OCP-Place in Amharic with the Maximum Entropy Phonotactic Learner. *Proceedings of CLS 46*.

Bożena Pająk (2010). Perceptual advantage from generalized linguistic knowledge. *Proceedings of the 32nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 369-374). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society

Bożena Pająk and Eric Baković (2010). Assimilation, antigemination, and contingent optionality: the phonology of monoconsonantal proclitics in Polish. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 28*(3). 643-680.

Sharon Rose (2011). Long distance assimilation of consonants. In *The Blackwell Companion to Phonology*, Wiley-Blackwell.

Peter Jenks and **Sharon Rose** (2011, in press). High tone in Moro: effects of prosodic categories and morphological domains. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*.

Ryan Shosted and **Sharon Rose** (2011, in press). Affricating ejective fricatives: The case of Tigrinya. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*

Sharon Rose and Rachel Walker (to appear). Harmony Systems. In *Handbook of Phonological Theory* (2nd ed.), Wiley-Blackwell.

Andrew Strabone & Sharon Rose. (submitted) Morphophonological properties of Moro causatives. *Selected Proceedings of the Annual Conference on African Linguistics*.

Presentations

Gabriela Caballero and Alice C. Harris. May 2010. A Working Typology of Multiple Exponence: Cross-linguistics Variation and Theoretical Implications. *14th International Morphology Meeting*, Budapest.

Gabriela Caballero. Jan. 2010. Non-optimizing outward conditioning in Tarahumara allomorph selection. *LSA 84*. Baltimore.

Gabriela Caballero. Jan. 2010. Tone in Choguita Rarámuri (Tarahumara) word prosody. *SSILA Annual Meeting*, Baltimore.

Lucien Carroll. Feb 2010. A contour tone chain shift in Jinhua Wu sandhi tones. *Workshop on East Asian Linguistics*, Santa Barbara.

Rebecca Colavin, Roger Levy, and Sharon Rose. Apr. 2010. Modeling OCP-Place with the Maximum Entropy Phonotactic Learner. *CLS 46*, Chicago.

Rebecca Colavin, Roger Levy, and Sharon Rose. Feb. 2010. Modeling OCP-Place with the Maximum Entropy Phonotactic Learner. *Workshop on Computational Modeling of Sound Pattern Acquisition*, Edmonton, AB.

Alex del Giudice. Apr. 2010. Recreating duality of patterning in the laboratory. *Evolang 8*, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Hope Morgan and Rachel Mayberry. Sept.-Oct. 2010. The handshape parameter in Kenyan Sign Language. *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research*.

Bożena Pająk. Jan. 2010. L2 knowledge facilitates perception of L3. *LSA 84* Baltimore.

Bożena Pająk. Nov. 2010. Bilinguals generalize from known phonological contrasts in perception of a novel language. Poster presented at the *51st Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. St. Louis, MO.

Bożena Pająk. Aug. 2010. Perceptual advantage from generalized linguistic knowledge. *32nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Portland, OR.

Bożena Pająk. Jan. 2010. *L2 knowledge facilitates perception of L3*. 84th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Baltimore, MD.

Sharon Rose. May 2010. Insights from Kordofanian on African language structures. Invited keynote speaker, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 41*, U. of Toronto.

Andrew Strabone and Sharon Rose. May 2010. Morpho-phonological properties of causatives in Moro. *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 41*, U. of Toronto

SaD-PhIG

We meet regularly throughout the year to discuss our own research and read others' work as the **San Diego Phonology Interest Group**, or SaD-PhIG.

Funding

Farrell Ackerman and **Sharon Rose**. 2008-2012. *Moro Language Project*. NSF grant BCS-0745973 (\$199,917).

Gabriela Caballero. 2008-2010. *A reference grammar of Choguita Rarámuri (Tarahumara)*. Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Documentation Project grant (£43,739).

Rebecca Colavin, Alex del Giudice. 2009-2010. **Bożena Pająk** 2010-2011. Center for Research on Language NIH Predoctoral Training Fellowships.

Hope Morgan. 2010-2011. CARTA Fellowship

Bożena Pająk. 2010. Dean of Social Sciences Travel Fund Award (\$250).

Recent Alumni

Cynthia Kilpatrick, PhD 2009

Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics and TESOL, UT Arlington

Dissertation: The Acquisition of Ungrammaticality: Learning a Subset in L2 Phonotactics
Adviser: Eric Bakovic

Nicoleta Bateman, PhD 2007

Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies, California State University, San Marcos

Dissertation: A Crosslinguistic Investigation of Palatalization
Adviser: Sharon Rose

Alicia Muñoz Sánchez, PhD 2003

Spanish Language Academic Coordinator, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego

Dissertation: The Effect of Phonological Status on the Acquisition of New Contrasts: Evidence from Spanish and Japanese L2 Learners of English
Adviser: Sharon Rose

Linda Godson, PhD 2003

Director, Heritage Language Initiative, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Portland State University

Dissertation: Phonetics of Language Attrition: vowel production and articulatory setting in the speech of Western Armenian heritage speakers
Advisers: Maria Polinsky & Sharon Rose