

2014 YCCSA SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT SUBMISSION

This form is for prospective project supervisors to submit their projects to be included in the YCCSA Summer Scholarships Programme for 2014.

It is the purpose of the Summer School that any projects submitted are interdisciplinary in nature.

Date	<i>6 Feb 2014</i>
Main Supervisor's Name	<i>Dunstan Brown</i>
Main Supervisor's Department	<i>Language and Linguistic Science</i>
Co-supervisors' name(s) and Departments	<i>Dimitar Kazakov, Computer Science Suresh Manandhar, Computer Science</i>
Project Title	<i>An HPSG ontology for Archi</i>
Project Description	<p>This project is the second phase of a programme to develop an ontology for the description of the agreement system of Archi, a Nakh-Daghestanian language spoken by approx. 1200 people in Daghestan. Archi is known to have one of the most complex systems of grammatical agreement. The project builds on the successful first phase, where an ontology for the typology of Archi was developed. In this project (the second phase of the programme) we will develop an ontology of the theoretical distinctions required to describe Archi within a particular theoretical framework, Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar (HPSG). Development of the HPSG ontology will benefit from the work carried out by Prof. Bob Borsley (Essex) as part of a wider AHRC-funded project involving York, Essex, Harvard and Surrey. This project has produced descriptions of the relevant Archi phenomena from an HPSG-perspective.¹ The intern will work under the guidance of Prof. Brown (Language and Linguistic Science), Dr Kazakov (Computer Science) and Dr Manandhar (Computer Science) on the development of the HPSG ontology for Archi. The aims for the summer work are: to investigate and implement the theoretical distinctions in the HPSG documents produced by Prof. Borsley; to provide links from the HPSG ontology to other ontologies for the purpose of comparison; to enhance the visualisation of the ontology.</p> <p>The intern will be given the opportunity to work as part of a team developing a description of the theoretical concepts required to describe the grammatical system of Archi using HPSG. This is being implemented in the form of a set of online ontologies. The student will gain knowledge of linguistic analysis, Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and develop his/her skills in the visualization of complex linguistic data by applying his/her programming skills. He/she will have the opportunity to work on the formal analysis of a lesser described language, and will gain experience in creating and testing different ontologies, presenting them to others for evaluation.</p>

¹ See <http://fahs-wiki.soh.surrey.ac.uk/groups/fromcompetingtheoriestofieldworkarchi/> for the HPSG

Required skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual initiative • Good organizational skills and the ability to work as part of a team • Comfortable with programming concepts and be willing to learn new skills in this area • Familiarity with javascript and web development • Willingness to learn about Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and ontologies for linguistic description
Project dates	<i>14 July – 12 Sep 2014</i>
Other information	
References	<p><i>Greville G. Corbett. 2013. The Unique Challenge of the Archi Paradigm. In: Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society: Special Session on Languages of the Caucasus (2013), pp. 52-67. Editors: Chundra Cathcart, Shinae Kang, and Clare S. Sandy. Available at: http://elanguage.net/journals/bls/article/view/3626 [dated 2011 but published April 2013]↵</i></p> <p><i>Chumakina, Marina. 2013. Archi. Word formation: An International Handbook of the Languages of Europe. Editors: Müller Peter O., Ingeborg Ohnheiser, Susan Olsen, and Franz Rainer. (in print)</i></p>

When complete, please email the form to sarah.christmas@york.ac.uk