

PAUL KERSWILL – CURRICULUM VITAE

14TH JULY 2009

FULL NAME: Paul Edward Kerswill

CURRENT AND PAST POSTS

- 2004– Professor of Sociolinguistics, Department of Linguistics and English Language,
Lancaster University
- 1998–2004 Senior Lecturer in Linguistics, Reading University
- 1986–1998 Lecturer in Linguistics, Reading University
- 1985–6 Research Assistant and Grantholder on ESRC project on sociophonetics, Cambridge
University
- 1983 (Jan–Dec) Research Assistant, Dept. of English Language, Durham University
(*Sociolinguistic/dialectological study of local schoolchildren*)

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 1986: PhD in Linguistics (Cambridge). Thesis title: *A sociolinguistic study of rural immigrants in Bergen, Norway*
- 1980: MPhil in Linguistics (Cambridge)
- August 1978–June 1979: Holder of Norwegian State Scholarship for studies at Bergen University
- 1978: BA in Modern and Medieval Languages (Cambridge)

TEACHING (LANCASTER)

Courses taught every year:

- Ling 130 Introduction to English Language – 7 lectures
- Ling 153 Introduction to Language and Society (convenor) – 6 lectures
- Ling 307 Language and Identities: Gender, Ethnicity and Class – 6 lectures
- Ling 401 Research Issues in Applied Linguistics (convenor) – 8 double lecture-workshops
- Ling 453 Sociolinguistics – 9 double lectures
- Ling 492 English Accents and Dialects – 9 double lectures (not 08-9)

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY WORK

Research grants

- October 2007–September 2010 (Lancaster): ESRC, Principal Investigator. Co-investigator Professor Jenny Cheshire (Queen Mary, University of London): *Multicultural London English: the emergence, acquisition and diffusion of a new variety* (ref. RES 062-23-0814). FEC: **£721,495**.
- October 2004–September 2007 (Lancaster): ESRC, Principal Investigator. Co-investigator Professor Jenny Cheshire (Queen Mary, University of London): *Linguistic innovators: the English of adolescents in London* (ref. RES 000 23 0680). Amount awarded: **£278,996**. Grade achieved: **Outstanding**
- September 1995–May 1999 (Reading): ESRC, Principal Investigator. Co-investigators Dr Ann Williams (Reading) and Professor Jenny Cheshire (Queen Mary & Westfield College): *The role of adolescents in dialect levelling* (ref. R000236180). Amount awarded: **£144,178**. Grade achieved: **Outstanding**
- September 1990–February 1994 (Reading): ESRC; sole grantholder): *A new dialect in a new city: children's and adults' speech in Milton Keynes* (ref. R000232376). Amount awarded: **£51,995**. Grade achieved: **Outstanding**
- July 1988–June 1991 (Cambridge): ESRC; held jointly with Dr Francis Nolan and Dr Susan Wright: *The interaction of sociophonetic features and connected speech processes* (ref. R000231056). Amount awarded: **£59,530**
- July 1985–June 1988 (Cambridge): ESRC; held jointly with Dr Francis Nolan and Dr Stephen Levinson): *A sociophonetic study of connected speech processes in Cambridge English* (ref. C00232227). Amount awarded: **£43,440**

Keynote/invited speaker at international meetings

- September 2009: Alf Sommerfelt Memorial Lecture, University of Tromsø. (fully paid)
- July 2009: Invited plenary speaker at International Conference on Language Variation in Europe 5, University of Copenhagen. (fully paid)
- August 2005: Invited discussant at meeting to prepare case for Centre of Excellence in Society and Language, University of Bergen, Norway. (fully paid)
- March 2005: Invited speaker at launch of Norwegian social dialectology project 'Utviklingsprosesser i urbane språkmiljø', Agder College, Kristiansand, Norway. (fully paid)
- September 2004: Keynote speaker at New Zealand Language and Society Conference, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. (part paid)
- August 2002: Invited plenary speaker at 7th Nordic Conference on Dialectology, Voss, Norway. (fully paid)

Danish National Research Foundation Centre for Language Change In Real Time (LANCHART)

I was on the International Council for the above project, based at Copenhagen University. This entailed consultancy on an annual basis in the period 2006–2008, with fully paid attendance and fee.

Other invited overseas lectures since 2006

Excluding the keynotes above, since 1986 I have been an invited, fully or partly paid guest speaker at 32 research meetings overseas (plus 22 research meetings in the UK). Recent highlights include:

- November 2009: Freiburg Institute of Advanced Studies: presentation at ‘Space and Geography’ workshop
- January 2009: Wassenaar, The Netherlands: Invitation to participate in a workshop on ‘The Emergence of Multi-Ethnic Varieties’.
- September 2008: Bergen University: Lecture (in Norwegian) at opening meeting of the project ‘Processes of Dialect Change’.
- July 2008: University of Ghana, Dept. of Linguistics: ‘The African diaspora and London English’.
- June 2008: CNRS, Paris, Fédération typologique: ‘Dialect contact and innovation’.
- October 2007 Hamburg University, Research Centre on Multilingualism: Colloquium on convergence and divergence in language contact situations: ‘Dialect levelling and dialect divergence in south-east England: the role of minority ethnic Englishes in phonetic innovation in London’ (fully paid)
- July 2007 Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok: 4 lectures on ‘New Directions in British Social Dialectology’ and 3 days’ consultancy on social dialectology (fully paid)
- March 2007 ‘Dialect levelling is dead: innovation in inner-London teenage speech’. Research seminar given to the School of English, National University of Singapore.
- February 2007 Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, public lecture: ‘Where are English accents heading? The familiar – and the strange. Or: Is the Queen’s English going to the dogs?’
- February 2007 ‘Dialect levelling is dead: innovation in inner-London teenage speech’. Research seminar given to the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies, Victoria University of Wellington.
- January 2007 ‘Innovation in inner-London teenage speech’. Research seminar given to the Department of Linguistics, Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- June 2006 Copenhagen University, annual meeting of the Project on Language Change in Real Time (LANCHART): ‘Relationships between variables at different linguistic levels’ (fully paid)

Refereed papers given at conferences

- 49 papers

Lectures given by invitation at Doctoral level since 2002

- August 2009 Linguistic Society of America, 65th Institute, Berkeley: Lectures on dialect contact and dialect formation (fully paid)
- September 2008 Bergen University: Two lectures (in Norwegian) on ‘Processes of change in British English dialects’ (fully paid)
- June 2007 Copenhagen University, Sociolinguistics Summer School: ‘Language variation in a metropolis: London’ (fully paid)
- September 2003 4 lectures on social dialectology at Summer School on ‘Sociolinguistic approaches to language change’, University of Berne (fully paid)
- April 2003 2 lectures on social dialectology at North West Centre for Linguistics Spring Research Training Programme, Universities of Salford and Manchester (fully paid)
- June 2002 5 lecture-workshops on dialect contact and koineisation to PhD students, University of Leipzig (fully paid)
- (July 2008 LOT Summer School, Utrecht: 10 lectures on Sociolinguistics (I turned this down because of prior teaching commitments on LAEL’s PhD residential) (fully paid))

2001 RAE

- In the 2001 RAE, my research (Variationist Sociolinguistics) was flagged as being of international standing.

Conference organisation

- Principal organiser:
 - *Sixth UK Language Variation and Change Conference* (with Eivind Torgersen; September 2007)
 - *First Northern Englishes Workshop* (inaugural meeting, 31 March–1 April 2006)
 - *Final Open Conference of the ESF network on Dialect Convergence and Dialect Divergence* (September 1998)
 - *First UK Language Variation and Change Conference* (September 1997)
 - *Sociolinguistics Symposium 9* (April 1992)
- I initiated the *UK Language Variation and Change Conference* in 1997 and the *Northern Englishes Workshop* in 2006. The former is now biennial, the latter annual.
- In July 2004 I was co-organiser, with PhD students Arfaan Khan and Julia Sallabank, of a BAAL/CUP seminar on *Language and Identity* at Reading University.
(http://www.rdg.ac.uk/slals/identity_seminar/index.htm)

Interdisciplinary involvement

Presentation for the panel *Language Policies, Ideologies and Identities in Contemporary Europe*: panel, IAS-ARP Final Conference, September 2007

Participation in European Science Foundation Network

- In 1994–1998 I was on the organising committee of the European Science Foundation Network ‘Convergence and Divergence of Dialects in a Changing Europe’, co-ordinated by Peter Auer (then at Hamburg) and Frans Hinskens (then at Leipzig). I organised the final open conference in Reading in 1998.

The legacy of the ESF Network is the establishment of a new conference series, the **International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE)**, modelled on the 1998 Reading conference, and on whose permanent committee I sit. ICLaVE has now been held in Barcelona, Uppsala, Amsterdam and Cyprus. The most recent meeting was held in Copenhagen in June 2009, where I will be an invited plenary speaker.

External examining since 2001

2006–10: MA Honours in English Language, University of Aberdeen
2003–6: BA in English Language and Linguistics, University of Newcastle
1999–2002: BA in Linguistics, Queen Mary & Westfield College, London
1998–2001: Part 1B of the Modern Languages Tripos, University of Cambridge
1998–2001: BA in English, University of Hong Kong

PhD examining overseas since 2004

Bergen, Oslo, Trondheim, Stockholm and Canterbury

Overseas chair promotions committee, University of Cyprus, June 2008

Member of promotion committee to evaluate Dr A. Papapavlou’s application for promotion to Full Professor

Editorial board

1995– Member of editorial board of *Journal of Sociolinguistics* (Blackwell)

Book series editor

Studies in Language Variation, Benjamins (with Peter Auer and Frans Hinskens)

Edinburgh Sociolinguistics, Edinburgh University Press (with Joan Swann)

Community involvement since 2003

Lectures:

2007: ‘Studying dialect in the modern age’. Biennial meeting of Northern dialect societies, Beamish Museum, Durham.

- 2006: Lecture to 6th formers attending residential course on *English Language: Contemporary Dialect Change* (National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth, Villiers Park Educational Trust, Foxton, nr. Cambridge)
- 2005: ‘Birth and death of dialect’ (Lecture to AS and A level students at St Edward’s College, Liverpool)
- 2003: ‘Birth and death of dialect’ (Lecture to 600 students attending AS and A level English Language Conference, London, run by SEC Ltd., Catfield, Norfolk)
- 2003: ‘Changing English’ (Lecture to 70 6th formers at Farnborough College)

Radio and television interviews:

- 2008: Interview on British Forces Broadcasting on changes in British accents
- 2008: Interview on BBC World Service on changes in British accents
- 2007: Interview on New Zealand National Radio on changes in British accents
- 2006: Interviews on Radio Cumbria and Radio Lancashire about ESRC *Linguistic Innovators* project
- 2005: appeared on quiz show on local accents for BBC Radio Berkshire as part of the BBC’s Voices project
- 2004: interviewed for Radio 4’s *Word of Mouth* by Michael Rosen (broadcast in May)
- 2004: interviewed on *Today* programme in connection with the Sociolinguistics Symposium held in Newcastle
- 2003: interviewed for a 20-minute programme on the Milton Keynes accent for BBC1’s *Inside Out* series (screened in March)
- 2003: interviewed for Radio 4’s *You and Yours* (broadcast in August)

Doctoral students since 2001

Werdan Kassab (2008-)
Kate Whisker (ESRC; 2007-)
Paulina Hurwitz (ESRC; 2007-)
Elaheh Almousavi (2007-)
Frank van Splunder (jointly supervised, 2005-)
Yasuko Yamada (jointly supervised, 2005-)
Arfaan Khan (ESRC; 2002-2006)
Julia Sallabank (ESRC part-time; 2000-2006)
– plus 15 successful PhD completions in 1988–2001