



Helsinki 2018: Discourse-Pragmatic Variation and Change 4

<https://www.helsinki.fi/en/conferences/discourse-pragmatic-variation-change-4>

DiPVaC4 provides a platform for the presentation of cutting-edge research into variation and change in the use of items and constructions often referred to as discourse markers or pragmatic particles whose primary functions are interpersonal and textual. It also provides a forum for the formation of new international and multidisciplinary research networks exploring the theoretical and social importance of quantitative research into discourse-pragmatic variation and change. The conference will bring together participants from across the world to achieve multiple aims: to discuss methodological, empirical and theoretical advancements in the analysis of variation and change in the use of discourse-pragmatic features; to examine the social implications and applications of research into the use of these features; to promote the study of discourse-pragmatic variation and change within and beyond linguistics.

Plenary speakers

Yael Maschler, University of Haifa
Terttu Nevalainen, University of Helsinki
Heike Pichler, Newcastle University
Jan-Ola Östman, University of Helsinki

Important dates

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 10 December 2017
Notification of acceptance: 15 January 2018
Conference: 28-30 May 2018

Organizers

The Local Organizing Committee for DiPVaC4 is Dr. Elizabeth Peterson, Dr. Turo Hiltunen, Dr. Anni Sairio, and Olli Silvennoinen.

For questions regarding the conference, please contact Dr. Peterson at [elizabeth.peterson\(at\)helsinki.fi](mailto:elizabeth.peterson(at)helsinki.fi).

Call for papers

We are pleased to announce the call for papers for DiPVaC4 at the University of Helsinki. We welcome abstracts for oral presentations which take a quantitative approach to data analysis and deal with diverse aspects of discourse-pragmatic variation and change in any language or variety. Presentations will be 20 minutes long, followed by a 10 minute question period. Presentations will be in English. There will be one session at the conference (i.e., there are no parallel sessions).

We welcome papers dealing with, but not restricted to, the following topics:

- sociolinguistic patterns of discourse-pragmatic variation and change
- discourse-pragmatic variation and change in contexts of language contact
- quantitative studies addressing the grammaticalization of discourse-pragmatic features
- contrastive/cross-linguistic studies of discourse-pragmatic variation and change
- methods in the quantitative analysis of discourse-pragmatic features
- social and geographical diffusion patterns of innovative discourse features
- the role of discourse-pragmatic features in the construction and negotiation of social identities
- the acquisition of discourse-pragmatic variation by children, second language learners and bilingual speakers
- discourse-pragmatic variation and change across the lifespan
- socio-perceptual studies of discourse-pragmatic variation
- discourse-pragmatic variation across interactional, situational and technological settings
- implications and applications of discourse-pragmatic variation and change within and beyond linguistic theory

Abstracts should be submitted to EasyChair (the submission link is [here](#)). Abstracts should be a maximum of 300 words in length (excluding title and references), and should be single-spaced and in 12-point font. Please ensure that abstract content is properly anonymized in order to allow for blind review. You should copy and paste your abstract into the EasyChair submission form AND upload it as a PDF file.

The deadline for abstracts is December 10, 2017.