

**MARGARET JEAN SPEAS**

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South College  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Degree in Linguistics awarded 1986  
Dissertation Title:  
Adjunctions and Projections in Syntax

M.A. University of Arizona, Tucson AZ  
Degree in Linguistics awarded 1981

B.A. Washington University, St. Louis MO  
Degree in English and Sociology awarded 1973

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2001 – present                      Professor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

1992 – 2001      Associate Professor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

1989 - 1992      Assistant Professor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

1987-1989      Assistant Professor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

1986-87 Visiting Instructor  
Department of Linguistics  
University of California, San Diego

Summer 1985            Instructor  
Navajo Community College  
Tsaile, AZ

## **GRANTS AND HONORS**

2009	National Science Foundation, Conference Grant for conference on
Recursion	in Language and Cognition, \$62,547 (co-PI with Tom Roeper)
2006-7	Conti Research Fellowship
2006	National Science Foundation, 3-year grant, \$668,716 (co-PI with Tom Roeper, Jill deVilliers, Jay Garfield and Evangeline Parsons-Yazzie
1999	Distinguished Alumna Award, Bryn Mawr School, Baltimore MD.
1999	Center for Teaching Research Grant on Instructional Technology
1999	Grant to Navajo Language Academy for summer workshop
1992	Umass Faculty Research Grant
1991-92	Lilly Faculty Teaching Fellowship
1991	UMass Faculty Research Grant
1989	National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend
1989	National Science Foundation Conference Grant for conference on Phrase Structure in Tucson, AZ (co-principal investigator with Dr. Susan Rothstein)
1988	Edward Sapir Award, New York Academy of Sciences
1988,89	Graduate Research Council Summer Grants, U.W.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Direct Evidentials, Case, Tense and Aspect in Tibetan  
Kalsang, Jay L. Garfield, Margaret Speas and Jill de Villiers

“Language Ownership and Language Ideologies.” to appear in collected essays from the  
UMass ISHA seminar on cultural ownership.

Speas, Margaret, Helen Antonio, Kellymay Kelly, Lorene Legah, Lena McCabe, Ellavina  
Tsosie Perkins, Cecile Silentman Carr, Irene Silentman, and Roseann Willink,  
“Navajo Spatial Terms Made Easier”, in volume on Athabaskan Linguistics edited  
by Keren Rice. in press.

“Evidentials as Generalized Functional Heads.” 2010. in A.M. diScuillo, ed. *Interface  
Legibility at the Edge*. Oxford University Press.

- de Villiers, J., J Garfield, H Gernet-Girard, T Roeper, M Speas. 2009. 'Evidentials in Tibetan: Acquisition, Semantics and Cognitive Development' in Fitneva, Stanka. *Papers on the Acquisition of Evidentiality*.
- 'On the Syntax and Semantics of Evidentials.' 2008. *Language and Linguistics Compass*. Volume 2 Issue 5, pp. 940 – 965.
- Parsons-Yazzie, Evangeline and Margaret Speas. 2008. *Dinø Bizaad Bŋnahoo'aah (Rediscovering the Navajo Language)* Salina Bookshelf, Flagstaff AZ.
- Davis, Chris, Chris Potts and Peggy Speas. 2008. 'The Pragmatic Values of Evidential Sentences.' SALT.
- "Someone Else's Language: Linguists and Language Revitalization" 2008. Rehner, Jon and Louise Lockard, eds *Indigenous Language revitalization: Encouragement, Guidance and Lessons Learned*. Flagstaff: Northern Arizona University Press. 19 pp.
- "Review of A. Aikhenvald: Evidentiality." 2008. Lingua. vol. 118, Issue 5. 754-759.
- "Evidential Paradigms, World Variables and Person Agreement Features" The Italian Journal of Linguistics, 16.1, 2004. ed. by K. Safir and V. Bianchi.
- "Evidentiality, Logophoricity and the Syntactic Representation of Pragmatic Features." 2004. Lingua 14.3, pp. 255-276.
- "Economy, Agreement and the Representation of Null Arguments." 2006. in P. Ackema, ed., Agreement and Argument Structure. Oxford University Press.
- "Configurational Properties of Point of View Roles" (with Carol Tenny). 2003. in DiSciullo, ed. Asymmetry in Grammar. Benjamins. pp. 315-344.
- "Constraints On Null Pronouns" 2001. in Legendre, Grimshaw and Vikner, eds., Optimality-Theoretic Syntax MIT Press, Cambridge. Proceedings of the Hopkins Optimality Workshop, Geraldine Legendre, ed. MIT Press.
- "From Rules to Principles in the Study of Navajo Syntax" 2001 Fernald and Platero, eds., Studies in Navajo Syntax and Semantics. MITWPL, Cambridge MA.
- "Projection and Pronominal Arguments" 2000. Lexical Specification and Insertion, P. Coopmans, M. Everaert and J. Grimshaw, eds, Blackwell Pubs. 349-378.
- "Person and Point of View in Navajo" 2000. Eloise Jelinek, ed., WCCFL Papers in Honor

of Ken Hale, MIT Press, Cambridge.

"Person and Point of View in Navajo Direct Discourse Complements" 1999. UMass Occasional Papers #23: Papers from the 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion. DeLacy and Nowak, eds.

'Review of Lust, Suner and Whitman, Syntactic Theory and First Language Acquisition: Cross-Linguistic Perspectives, Volume 1: Heads, Projections and Learnability. 1999 Language 75.2.

'Review of Huck and Goldsmith, Ideology and Linguistic Theory, 1998. Journal of Linguistics 34.2.

'Comments on the paper by Sells' 1998. in Lapointe, Steven G., Diane K. Brentari and Patrick Farrell, Morphology and its Relation to Phonology and Syntax, Stanford CA: CSLI Publications.

'Optimality Theory and Syntax: Null Pronouns and Control' 1997 in Archangeli and Langendoen, eds., Optimality Theory, Blackwell Publishers.

'Null Objects in Functional Projections' 1996, in Zaring and Rooryck, eds., Phrase Structure and the Lexicon, University of Chicago Press.

'Quantification and the Position of NPs in Navajo' (with E. Parsons Yazzie) 1996, in E. Jelinek and L. Saxon, eds., Athapaskan Syntax, Benjamins.

'Review of M. Axelrod The Semantics of Time: Aspectual Categorization in Koyukon Athapaskan', 1996, International Journal of American Linguistics vol.62, #1 111-128.

'Generalized Control and Null Objects in Optimality Theory', 1995, Beckman, Walsh-Dickey and Urbanczyk, eds., UMass Occasional Papers on Optimality.

'Null Arguments in a Theory of Economy of Projection', 1994, UMass Occasional Papers in Linguistics, E. Benedicto and J. Runner, eds.

'Functional Heads and the Mirror Principle', 1991, Lingua 84, 181-214.

'Functional Heads and Inflectional Morphemes', 1991, The Linguistic Review 8, 389-417.

'Generalized Transformations and the D-Structure Position of Adjuncts', 1991, in Perspectives on Phrase Structure. S. Rothstein. Syntax and Semantics Vol. 25, Academic Press, 241-257.

"Logical Form and Barriers in Navajo" (with Barss, Hale and Perkins), in Huang and May, eds., 1991, Logical Form: Cross-Linguistic Perspectives, Reidel Publications,

Dordrecht, pp. 25-47.

Book notice on Kari, J., Ahtna Athapaskan Dictionary, Language 67.2, 1991, p. 407.

Phrase Structure in Natural Language, 1990, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht. (288 pp.)

"Comments on the Papers by Gair, Kachru, Mohanan and Mohanan" in Verma and Mohanan, eds., 1990 Experiencer Subjects in South Asian Languages, CSLI, Stanford, CA, pp. 77-84.

"First Generation Mentors", 1990, The Cornell Lectures: Women in the Linguistics Profession, Linguistics Society of America, Washington DC, pp. 196-207.

"Aspects of Logical Form in Navajo", 1989, (with Barss, Hale and Perkins), Cook and Rice, eds., Studies in Athapaskan Linguistics, J. Benjamins, pp. 317-334.

"Position Classes and Morphological Universals", 1987, Native American Languages and Linguistics, (Conference Parasession Proceedings), Indiana University Linguistics Club Publications, pp. 199-214.

"The Position of Navajo in the Configurationality Debate", 1986, Proceedings of the Groningen Roundtable on Configurationality, (21pp)

"Configurationality and ATB Representations", 1986, Proceedings of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, v.5, pp. 255-267.

"On Saying d i t", 1986, (with Segal) Mind and Language, vol. 1.2, pp. 124-132.

"Specifiers and Projection" 1986, (with Fukui) MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, vol. 8, pp. 128-172.

"Saturation and Phrase Structure", 1985, MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, vol. 7, pp. 174-198.

"Dictionary Entries for Verbs of Motion", 1985, (with Baker), Lexical Semantics in Review, Lexicon Project Working Papers, vol.1, Center for Cognitive Science, MIT, Cambridge MA. (approx. 12 pp.)

"Navajo Prefixes and Word Structure Typology", 1985, MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, vol. 6, pp. 86-111.

MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, vol 6, 1985, co-editor with Sproat.

## **CONFERENCE AND INVITED TALKS**

“Focusing the Left Periphery.” Keynote address, WSCLA14 (workshop on the Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas’ Purdue University, April 2009.

“Someone else’s language: On the role of linguists in language revitalization” Keynote address, Society for Indigenous Languages annual meeting, May 2008, Flagstaff AZ.

“Acquisition of Pronouns in Indirect and Direct Discourse” with Chloe Gu, Megan Kravitz, Tom Roeper, Jill de Villiers. UConn-UMass conference on Language Acquisition, December 2008.

‘Categories of Navajo Quantification’ Albuquerque Conference in honor of Ken Hale, March 8, 2008.

Speas, Peggy. “Sentence Structure in Context: Navajo Direct Discourse Complements” Syntax colloquium, University of New Mexico.

‘The Pragmatic Values of Evidential Sentences.’ (with Chris Davis and Chris Potts) SALT conference, May 2007.

‘On Embedded Deixis: Language Acquisition and Field Work’ with Helen Stickney, Tom Roeper, Annahita Farruda and Leah Bateman. UMass-UConn conference on Language Acquisition, December 2007.

‘Navajo Spatial Terms Made Easier’ (with Helen Antonio, Kellymay Kelly, Lorene Legah, Lena McCabe, Ellavina Tsosie Perkins, Cecile Silentman Carr, Irene Silentman, and Roseann Willink) Athabaskan Languages Conference, July 2007.

‘Preliminary Studies of Acquisition of Tibetan Evidentials.’ (with Jay Garfield, Tom Roeper, and Jill de Villiers) presented at Society for Research on Child Development, April 2007.

‘Evidentials and Theory of Mind in Tibetan: an overview’ (with Jay Garfield, Tom Roeper and Jill deVilliers) presented at 5 College Cognitive Science Seminar October 2006.

“Generalized Functional Heads” Conference on Interface Legibility at the Edge, University of Bucharest, June 26, 2006.

‘Perspectives on False Belief’ presented at the International Congress for the Study of Child Language, Berlin, July 25-29 2005.

‘The interaction of clausal syntax, discourse roles, and information structure in questions’,

Workshop on Syntax, Semantics and Pragmatics of Questions, ESSLI, Nancy, France, July 18, 2005. (with Carol Tenny)

'Aspect, Attitude and Agreement', USC Conference on Linguistics and Philosophy, April 15-17 2005 "Pronouns and the Syntax of Pragmatic Roles" (with Carol Tenny). University of California, Irvine Colloquium. May 2003.

"Person (and Mood and Tense) and Indexicality" Harvard Workshop on Indexicals, Speech acts and Logophors, Nov. 20, 2005.

"The Grammar of Context" Venice Conference on Computation and Pragmatics, October 2002 and University of California, San Diego Colloquium. May 2003.

'Evidentials as Agreement in the Left Periphery' Georgetown University Round Table March 27, 2004 "Grammaticization at the Left Periphery." (with Carol Tenny) Berlin Symposium on the Syntax/Semantics/Pragmatics Interface, Berlin, March 2002.

"A Modular Approach to Teacher Training in Linguistics" January 2002. Linguistics Society of America, Symposium on Linguistics in the Schools, San Francisco.

"Configurational Properties of Point of View Roles" (with Carol Tenny) UQAM conference on Asymmetry, April 2001.

"Functional Categories and the Syntax-Pragmatics Interface" keynote address, Texas Linguistics Society, March 2001.

"Evidentiality, Logophoricity and the Syntactic Representation of Pragmatic Features" University College London workshop on the syntax-pragmatics interface, April 2000.

"Point of View and Agreement in Navajo" West Coast Conference on Linguistics, Tucson, AZ, April 1999.

"Constraints On Null Pronouns" Hopkins Optimality Workshop, Baltimore, MD. May 1998.

With Valerie Johnson "The Copula as Aspectual marker in AAE" 1997 American Speech and Hearing Association, Nov. 14, 1998, Boston.

"Optimal Pronouns" University of California, Irvine, May 1997.

"Optimality in Syntax: Null and Overt Pronouns" University of California, San Diego, May 1997.

"From Rules to Principles in Navajo Syntax" workshop on Navajo syntax, Navajo Community College, Tsaile AZ July 1997.

with D'Jaris Coles "Syntactic Constraints of First Person Singular Future Tense in African American English" 1996 Memphis Research Symposium on Communication in African American Children and Youth June 21-22, 1996

"The Projection and Interpretation of Null Specifiers" York Conference on Specifiers, York University, York England March 22, 1996.

"Constraining GEN in Syntax" Seminar on Optimality, University of Arizona, Nov. 1995.

"Optimality Beyond Phonology: Null Arguments and Control" University of Arizona, Nov. 1995

"Clause Structure in Athapaskan Languages" invited talk at NSF workshop on Athapaskan Syntax, Albuquerque NM, July 3-7, 1995.

"On Configurationality and the Typology of Voice: Commentary on Sells" invited commentary at Conference on Morphology and Syntax, U.C. Davis, May 5-7, 1995

"Optimality in Syntax" 1/2 day seminar presented at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee April 8, 1995.

"Empty Positions and Economy of Projection" invited talk at Eastern States Conference on Linguistics, University of South Carolina, Sept. 29 - Oct. 3 1994.

"Null Arguments in a Theory of Economy of Projection" given at LSA, January 1994, Boston, MA, and at CUNY Syntax Colloquium, March 1994.

"Rich Object Agreement and Null Objects: A Case Study from Navajo" WECOL, Seattle, WA, October 1994.

"5 Lectures on Functional Categories", University of Oviedo, Spain, March 8-12, 1993.

"Null Arguments in Functional Projections"  
University of Indiana and University of Illinois, October 1992.

"Remarks on Indefinite NPs in Navajo"  
Athapaskan Linguistics Conference, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ  
July 1992.

"Current Studies in Navajo Syntax" two week long workshop at Navajo Community College, Shiprock NM and Tsaile AZ, June 1992.

"Quantification and A-Positions in Navajo"  
Jersey Linguistics Circle, University of Delaware, April 1992.



"Argument and Adjunct Positions in Navajo"

University of Maryland Linguistics Colloquium, March 1992.

"Syntactic Positions in Navajo"

Conference on Projection from the Lexicon, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, December 1991.

"Projecting Agreement"

University of Connecticut Linguistics Colloquium November, 1991

"Syntactic Positions in Navajo"

Annual Meeting, Athapaskan Linguistics Society, July 1991, Santa Cruz, CA

"Should English be the Official Language of the US?"

Invited address, Kiwanis Club of Fall River, MA, May 1991

"Functional Heads and Inflectional Morphemes"

Annual Meeting, Generative Linguistics Society of the Old World (GLOW) April 1991, Leiden, the Netherlands.

"Inflectional Morphology and the Mirror Principle"

University of Rochester, February 1991.

"Functional Heads in Navajo"

University of Pittsburgh, January 1991 and Cornell University, October 1990

"Predicate Nominals and the Internal Subjects Hypothesis",

Brandeis University, February 1990 and Universite de Quebec a Montreal, April 1990

"Thematic Grids and Generalized Transformations"

Annual Meeting, Linguistics Society of America, December 1989, Washington DC (30-minute presentation)

"An Overview of the Cornell Conference on Women in the Linguistics Profession"

Annual Meeting, Linguistics Society of America December 1990, Washington D.C.

"Peripheral Arguments"

Invited Talk, MIT Workshop on External Arguments, December 1989

"Pronouns and Parsing in Navajo and English"

Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, November 1989, Washington D.C.

- "Generalized Transformations and Projection from the Lexicon"  
Conference on Phrase Structure, July 1989, Tucson, AZ
- "Specifying Maximal Projections: On the Role of X-bar Theory in Universal Grammar"  
University of Florida Phrase Structure Workshop, February 1989
- "Agreement and Incorporated Pronouns in Navajo"  
Annual Meeting, Linguistics Society of America, December 1988, New Orleans.
- "Functional Categories in Navajo"  
MIT seminar on Functional Categories, November 1988
- "Comments on the Papers on Experiencer Subjects in Malayalam, Sinhala, and Hindi"  
16th Annual Conference on South Asia November 1988, University of Wisconsin
- "Distributivity and Number Agreement in Navajo"  
Annual Meeting, Minnesota Conference on Languages and Linguistics, October, 1988, Minneapolis, MN
- "On Projection from the Lexicon"  
Annual Meeting, Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) April 1988, Budapest, Hungary
- "Formal and Informal Versions of X-Bar Theory"  
University of Arizona, February 1988
- "Navajo Verbal Morphology"  
University of California, Irvine, June 1987
- "Adjuncts and Adjunction in Navajo"  
UCLA, May 1987
- "Position Classes and Morphological Universals"  
Annual Meeting, Chicago Linguistics Society, April 1987
- "Configurationality Parameters"  
University of Wisconsin, March 1987
- "On Nonconfigurational Morphology"  
Keynote Address, Northwest Linguistics Association, February 1987, Seattle, WA
- "Comments on the Papers on Syntactic Representations"  
Conference on Syntactic Representations and Clause Union  
February 1987, San Diego, CA

"On the Position of Navajo in the Configurationality Debate" Groningen Roundtable on Configurationality, April 1986, Groningen, The Netherlands

"Tag Questions and the Spellout of INFL"

Annual Meeting, Linguistics Society of America, December 1984, Baltimore, MD

"Navajo Prefix Categories"

Annual Meeting, California Linguistics Association, June 1981, Eureka, CA

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Consultant for AskLing, online information source on Linguistics

Treasurer, Navajo Language Academy 2000 to present

Chair, Board of Directors, Navajo Language Academy 1998-2000.

Associate Editor, Language. 1997-1999.

Co-Organizer, Athapaskan Linguistics Conference, Flagstaff AZ July 1992 and Santa Fe NM July 1993.

Workshop Leader, Navajo Community College, Shiprock NM June 1992.

Co-editor, Squibs and Discussion Section, Linguistic Inquiry, 1990-1993.

Member of Editorial Board, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, 1994-1996.

Prepublication Reviewer, Linguistic Inquiry, Linguistics and Philosophy, The Linguistics Review, Language Acquisition

Book reviewer for Kluwer Academic Publishers, Oxford University Press.

Lifetime Member, Linguistics Society of America.

## **Doctoral Committees:**

John Boyd, Northampton, MA

Rejean Canac-Marquis, Simon Fraser University

Rose Marie deChaine, University of British Columbia

Veena Dwivedi, McGill University

Lisa Green, University of Texas, Austin

Andre Isaacs Wellesley College

Eva Juarros-Daussa, SUNY Buffalo

Yanghee Joo, University of Oregon

Noriko Kawasaki, Tokyo Christian University

Tohru Noguchi, Tokyo Institute of Technology

Bernadette Plunkett, University of York

Bernhard Rohrbacher, Los Angeles, CA

Hotze Rullman, University of Calgary

Gautam Sengupta, University of Hyderabad, India

Koichi Tateishi, Kyoto University of Foreign Studies

Adam Werle

