

Emily Elfner

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Primary research interests: prosody and prosodic theory, syntax-phonology interface, phonological theory, fieldwork, Irish, First Nations languages (Blackfoot, Kwak'wala).

Current position

Jan. 1, 2012 - Jan. 1, 2014 SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Linguistics, McGill University. Supervisor: Michael Wagner.

Education

2006-2012 PhD in Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (February 2012).
Dissertation: *Syntax-prosody interactions in Irish*
Chair: Elisabeth Selkirk
Members: John Kingston, John McCarthy, Jim McCloskey, Mark Feinstein

2004-2006 MA in Linguistics, University of Calgary.
Thesis: *The mora in Blackfoot*.
Supervisor: Darin Flynn (Howe)
Members: John Archibald, Douglas Walker

2001-2004 BA (Honours) in Linguistics, University of Calgary.
Thesis: *The role of sonority in Blackfoot phonotactics*. Supervisor: Darin Flynn (Howe)

Publications

Peer-reviewed publications

To appear. Stress-epenthesis interactions in Harmonic Serialism. In John McCarthy and Joe Pater (eds.) *Harmonic Grammar and Harmonic Serialism*. Equinox Press. 33 pp.

2011. The interaction of linearization and prosody: Evidence from pronoun postposing in Irish. In Andrew Carnie (ed.) *Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 17-40.

Conference proceedings (based on refereed abstract)

To appear. Recursivity in prosodic phrasing: Evidence from Conamara Irish. In Seda Kan, Claire Moore-Cantwell, and Robert Staubs (eds.) *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting of the North-East Linguistic Society*. Amherst, MA: GLSA publications. 14pp.

2011. Recursive phonological phrases in Conamara Irish. In Mary Byram Washburn, Sarah Ouwayda, Chuoying Ouyang, Bin Yin, Canan Ipek, Lisa Marston, and Aaron Walker (eds.) *Proceedings of the 28th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Available online: <https://sites.google.com/site/wccfl28pro/elfner>
2008. (with Wendell Kimper). Reduplication without RED: Evidence from *diddly*-infixation. In Natasha Abner & Jason Bishop (eds.) *Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project, 150-158. www.lingref.com, #1827.
2006. Contrastive syllabification in Blackfoot. In Donald Baumer, David Montero and Michael Scanlon (eds.) *Proceedings of the 25th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project, 141-149. www.lingref.com, #1442.

Edited volume

2008. (with Martin Walkow). *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the North-East Linguistic Society*. Amherst, MA: GLSA publications.

Manuscripts in preparation

- In prep. (with Ryan Bennett and Jim McCloskey). Lightest to the right: An anomalous displacement in Irish. Ms., University of California, Santa Cruz and University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Working papers/Other

2009. Syllabification and stress-epenthesis interactions in Harmonic Serialism. Available online: http://people.umass.edu/eelfner/elfner_2009_syllabification_HS.pdf
2006. The mora in Blackfoot. Unpublished MA thesis, University of Calgary. Available online: <http://people.umass.edu/eelfner/morablackfoot.pdf>
2005. The role of sonority in Blackfoot phonotactics. *Calgary Papers in Linguistics* 26:27-91. Available online: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/lingcpl/volume26.html>

Presentations

Invited presentations

2011. Cumulative constraint interaction in syntax-prosody mapping: Evidence from Irish. Ph-Lunch, University of California, Santa Cruz. May 20.
2010. Field methods for prosody. Guest lecture in undergraduate field methods, Hampshire College. February 11.
2009. (with Wendell Kimper). What can Ned Flanders tell us about linguistic knowledge? *Diddly*-infixation and the poverty of the stimulus. Hampshire College Cognitive Science Lunch Talk, Hampshire College. February 18.

Refereed conference presentations and posters

2012. Cumulative constraint interaction in syntax-prosody mapping: Evidence from Conamara Irish. Paper to be presented in the Workshop on the Phonology-Syntax Interface preceding the Old World Conference on Phonology (OCP) 9, ZAS, Berlin. January 18.
2011. Prosodic constraints on syntax-prosody mapping: Evidence from Conamara Irish. Paper presented at Experimental and Theoretical Advances in Prosody (ETAP) 2, McGill University, Montréal. September 24.

2011. Tonal evidence for recursive prosodic phrasing in Conamara Irish. Poster presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Pittsburgh, PA. January 7.
2010. (with Ryan Bennett, Andrew Dowd, and Jim McCloskey). Lightest to the right: An anomalous displacement in Irish. Paper presented at the 6th Celtic Linguistics Conference, University College Dublin. September 10.
2010. Tonal evidence for prosodic phrasing in Conamara Irish. Paper presented at the 6th Celtic Linguistics Conference, University College Dublin. September 10.
2010. Prosodic recursivity in Conamara Irish. Paper presented at the Canadian Linguistic Association Conference, Concordia University, Montréal. May 29.
2010. Recursive phonological phrases in Conamara Irish. Paper presented in the Special Session on Prosody in Grammar, Acquisition, and Processing at the 28th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of Southern California. February 19.
2010. Stress-epenthesis interactions in Harmonic Serialism. Poster presented at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Baltimore, MD. January 9.
2009. Recursivity and binarity in prosodic phrasing: Evidence from Conamara Irish. Paper presented at the 40th Meeting of the North-East Linguistic Society, MIT. November 14.
2009. The interaction of linearization and prosody: Pronoun postposing in Irish. Paper presented at Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics, University of Arizona. March 27.
2008. (with Wendell Kimper). Reduplication without RED: Evidence from *diddly*- infixation. Paper presented at the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles. May 17.
2007. Moraic faithfulness: Evidence from Blackfoot and English. Paper presented at the 15th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester, England. May 26.
2006. Contrastive syllabification in Blackfoot. Paper presented at the 25th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of Washington. April 29.
2005. Syllable weight in Blackfoot. Paper presented at the 37th Algonquian Conference, University of Ottawa. October 21.

Other presentations

2010. Recursivity and binarity in prosodic phrasing: Evidence from Conamara Irish. Paper presented at SPINE4 (Syntax-Phonology Interface in the North-East), University of Massachusetts, Amherst. February 6.
2009. Harmonic Serialism and stress-epenthesis interactions in Levantine Arabic. Paper presented at MUMM3 (MIT-UMass Meeting in Phonology), MIT. May 9, 2009.
2009. Harmonic Serialism and stress-epenthesis interactions in Levantine Arabic. Paper presented at HUMDRUM (graduate student workshop on Optimality Theory), University of Massachusetts, Amherst. April 18.
2008. Prosodic circumscription in Harmonic Serialism. Paper presented at HUMDRUM (graduate student workshop on Optimality Theory), Rutgers University. April 26.
2007. Contrastive syllable weight in Blackfoot and English. Paper presented at UMMM2 (UMass-MIT Meeting in Phonology), University of Massachusetts, Amherst. September 29.
2004. The role of sonority in Blackfoot phonotactics. Paper presented at the Alberta Conference on Linguistics. Banff, AB. October 30.

Awards, Scholarships, and Fellowships

Federal Government (Canada)

- 2012-2014 Two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). To be held in the Department of Linguistics, McGill University, beginning January 1, 2012. Supervisor: Michael Wagner.
- 2006-2011 Four-year Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (interrupted Spring 2009 and Spring 2010 for teaching)
- 2006-2009 Three-year Canadian Graduate Scholarship, Doctoral, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) (declined)
- 2005-2006 Canadian Graduate Scholarship, Master's, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary

Other

- 2009 Scholarship to attend Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics, a four-day mini-course followed by a conference. Department of Linguistics, University of Arizona
- 2006 Graduate Research Scholarship, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary
- 2005 Graduate Student Scholarship, Government of Alberta, Alberta Advanced Education's Achievement Scholarship Program
- 2004-2005 Graduate Research Scholarship, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary
- 2004-2005 Department of Graduate Studies Award, University of Calgary
- 2003 Louise McKinney Scholarship, Province of Alberta, Alberta Scholarship Program
- 2002 Jason Lang Scholarship, Province of Alberta, Alberta Scholarship Program
- 2002 Undergraduate Merit Scholarship, University of Calgary
- 2001 Alexander Rutherford Scholarship, Province of Alberta
- 2001 Undergraduate Merit Scholarship, University of Calgary

Teaching

As instructor

- Spring 2010 Teaching Associate, Linguistics 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory
Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Teaching assistantships/Grader positions

- Fall 2011 Teaching Assistant, Linguistics 101: People and their Language
Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Instructor: Peggy Speas
- Summer 2011 Grader, Linguistics 101 (online): People and their Language
(Session 3) Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Instructor: John McCarthy

Spring 2011	Grader, Linguistics 402: Speech Sounds and Structure Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Instructor: Anne Pycha
Spring 2009	Teaching Assistant, Linguistics 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Instructor: Lisa Green
Fall 2008	Grader, Linguistics 101 (online): People and their Language Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Instructor: John McCarthy
Spring 2008	Grader, Linguistics 101 (online): People and their Language Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Instructor: John McCarthy
Winter 2005	Teaching Assistant, Linguistics 319: Introduction to Semantics Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary Instructor: Ilana Mezhevich
Fall 2004	Teaching Assistant, Linguistics 201: Introduction to Linguistics I Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary Instructor: Susan Bennett

Research Assistantships

Summer 2009	“Investigations in Optimality Theory: Typology, Learning, and Modeling” (NSF grant # BCS-0813829), Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. PIs: John McCarthy and Joe Pater.
Summer 2008	Summer research assistant to John McCarthy, Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
Summer 2007	“Black and White Prosody”, Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. PIs: Lisa Green and Lisa Selkirk
2003-2005	“Prosody of Western Canadian Languages”, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary (SSHRC). PI: Darin Flynn

Professional development

2011	Visit to UC Santa Cruz sponsored by CrISP (Cross-linguistic Investigations in Syntax-Phonology research group), to pursue collaborative research on Irish prosody (with Jim McCloskey and Ryan Bennett), May 17-24, 2011.
2009	Research Associate (Junior Specialist), Linguistics Research Center, University of California, Santa Cruz (courtesy appointment, fall quarter).
2009	Irish Language Summer School. International Summer School, National University of Ireland, Galway. An Cheathrú Rua (Carraroe), Ireland. July 17-August 14.
2009	Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics mini-course. Department of Linguistics, University of Arizona. March 23-29.
2008	InField: Institute on Field Linguistics and Language Documentation (including participation in two weeks of workshops and a four-week field training and documentation project on Kwak’wala). Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara. June 23-August 1.

2005 Cwrs Wlpan (intensive Welsh language course). Welsh Language Teaching Centre, Cardiff University. Llanbedr Pont Steffan (Lampeter), Wales. July 1-August 26.

Fieldwork Experience

2009-present Irish (Celtic; Conamara dialect). Boston, Massachusetts; An Cheathrú Rua (Carraroe), Galway, and Dublin, Ireland.

2008 Kwak'wala (North Wakashan). Intensive four-week field methods course and collaborative documentation project. InField, University of California, Santa Barbara (instructor: Patricia Shaw, UBC).

2003-2006 Blackfoot (Algonquian; Siksiká dialect). Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Service

2011 Reviewer for John McCarthy and Joe Pater (eds.) *Harmonic Grammar and Harmonic Serialism*, Equinox Press.

2010, 2011 Reviewer for *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*.

2010 Reviewer for Andrew Carnie (ed.) *Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics*, Cambridge Scholars Press.

2009 Co-organizer of HUMDRUM (with Brian Smith), a graduate student workshop on Optimality Theory (participating schools: UMass, Rutgers, Yale, NYU). Took place April 18, 2009, at UMass, Amherst.

2008-2009 Colloquium coordinator, Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. (Fall and Spring semesters)

2004-2005 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary Graduate Students Association.

Languages

English (native)

French (fluent)

Irish (conversational; structural knowledge; fieldwork)

Welsh (conversational; structural knowledge)

Blackfoot (structural knowledge; fieldwork)

Kwak'wala (structural knowledge; fieldwork)