

The Department of Linguistics & TESOL at UT Arlington Colloquium

Dr. Keren Rice

*President of the Linguistic Society of America
Professor and Canada Research Chair, University of Toronto*

Affix ordering in the Athabaskan verb: an interactive model

A Festival of Ideas Global Research Institute Event

Abstract

The surface order of morphemes in the verb word of Athapaskan languages has traditionally been considered to be idiosyncratic, stipulated by a template. In Rice 2000 I argued that what I called semantic scope plays an important role in the ordering of morphemes. Here I extend the account of morpheme ordering in the verb word, focusing on a series of problems that arise if scope alone is involved. I argue that if phonological factors are also taken into account, a systematicity to the complexities of morpheme ordering in the verb emerges, with morphemes being segregated by their phonological shapes, and, within these phonologically determined groups, scope plays a major role in the ordering of morphemes.

Friday, March 23, 2012

3:00pm, University Hall, Room 11

****Funding for this event was provided by the Office of the Provost and the Festival of Ideas Global Research Institute.**