A ROUND TABLE ON DETERMINER STATUS IN ARTICLESS LANGUAGES

BACKGROUND

There are three logical possibilities for bare nouns in articleless languages:

(i) they are always Noun Phrases Bošković 2010, 2009, 2008; Chierchia 1998; Bošković & Gajewski to appear
(ii) they are always Determiner Phrases Longobardi 1994, Progovac 1998
(iii) they vacillate between NP and DP Franks & Pereltsvaig 2004, Ajíbóyé 2006

GOALS OF THE PANEL

- to explore the validity of three logical possibilities in a live debate
- to argue for/against what counts as evidence for D
  (i) syntactically
  (ii) semantically
  (iii) at interface

Questions to be addressed include (but are not limited to) the following:

What are the consequences of lack/presence of a covert D? How, if at all, does D relate to other functors in a language? How, if at all, does the semantic content of D bear on the interpretations of bare nouns? What predictions does the lack/presence of a covert D make? If a D is indeed lacking, how to account for the definiteness effects? What is the difference between a null definiteness operator and a covert D? Why do the data interpretations from articless languages pattern differently?

PANEL PARTICIPANTS

Solveiga Armoskaite (University of Rochester)
Greg Carlson (University of Rochester)
Miloje Despic (Cornell University)
Carrie Gillon (Arizona State University)

MODERATOR
Jila Ghomeshi (University of Manitoba)

TIME
December 6th, 2013, 3:30-5 pm

PLACE
University of Rochester
Gamble Room, Rush Rheese Library

After the panel discussion, the floor will open to all. Do come and check if you’ve got D!