

**The University of Pittsburgh ~ Department of Linguistics
Colloquium Series *Presents:***

**“A Formal Account of Modern Greek Nominal Inflection
within the Framework of Distributed Morphology”**

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Among the functions of the morphological component of the grammar is the task of providing the correct inflectional markers for a given stem. For nouns in languages with lexical gender, acquisition is facilitated where there is consistency in the form of inflectional markers across nouns of the same gender (Clark, 1998). In the interest of learnability, therefore, one would expect a correlation between the formal gender of a noun and the phonological form of its inflectional marker. Although there is generally a high degree of correspondence between specific inflectional suffixes and particular genders in Modern Greek, there are also mismatches between formal and semantic gender, as well as mismatches between formal gender and how that feature is phonologically encoded in the morphology.

Framed within the theoretical model of Distributed Morphology, this paper will offer an analysis of nominal inflection that systematically accounts for both its role in concord operations within the DP and for apparent mismatches between lexical gender and inflectional morphology.

Friday, December 7, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

Room 144

Cathedral of Learning