The Department of Linguistics
is pleased to present

Eric Bakovic

UC San Diego

speaking on

Assembly required: insights from phonological interaction

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
1:30 PM (PST) via Zoom

Zoom Information: Will be emailed on Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Abstract:
Generative theories of phonology share a significant base of common assumptions, both theoretical and methodological, making it both possible and worthwhile to formally analyze the consequences of those assumptions relatively independently of the specifics of the different theories in which they are embedded. My focus in this talk is on the common assumption that a phonological grammar is an input-output map composed of simple, direct, semi-independent generalization statements (rules and/or constraints), with additional generalizations emerging from their interactions. Discussion of examples from my own research on blocking and complementarity (Baković 2013), vowel harmony (Baković 2000, Baković & Wilson 2001), and sufficient similarity avoidance (Baković 2005, Pająk & Baković 2010) sets the stage for a formal analysis of map interactions. This formal analysis reveals the consequences of different formulations of phonological maps and of different ways to characterize their interactions (Baković & Blumenfeld 2018, 2019, in prep.), enables a complete formal characterization of phonological opacity (Baković 2007, 2011), and offers new insight into distinctions between computational expressivity classes (McCollum et al. 2018, 2020; Meinhardt et al., submitted).

(Full citations and access to work cited here can be found at https://tinyurl.com/ebakovic-assembly.)