

The 14th Austronesian and Papuan Languages and Linguistics conference

1 Meeting description

The Austronesian and Papuan Languages and Linguistics Research Group is pleased to announce that its fourteenth international conference - APLL14 - will be hosted jointly by the Leibniz Centre General Linguistics (ZAS) and Humboldt University in Berlin on 9-11 June, 2022. Owing to the current pandemic and the unpredictability of travel restrictions, we plan to hold APLL14 in a hybrid format, accommodating both on-site and on-line presentations. All on-site presentations will be streamed on-line; and all on-line presentations will be broadcasted on-site.

The purpose of the APLL conferences is to provide a venue for presentation of the best current research on Austronesian and Papuan languages and linguistics, and to promote collaboration and research in this area. APLL14 follows two successful online instantiations of APLL, hosted by the University of Oslo in 2020 and by the University of Edinburgh in 2021, as well as previous APLL conferences held in Leiden, Surrey, Paris and London, and the Austronesian Languages and Linguistics (ALL) conferences held at SOAS and St Catherine's College, Oxford.

As we cannot foresee the travel restrictions for June 2022, the conference will take a hybrid format, accommodating both on-site and on-line presentations. All on-site presentations will be live-streamed on-line; and vice versa all on-line presentations will be broadcasted on-site.

2 Invited speakers

- Isabelle Bril (LACITO-CNRS, Paris)
- Bethwyn Evans (Australian National University, Canberra)
- Eri Kashima (University of Helsinki)

3 Call for papers

Abstract submission for APLL14 is now open. The Programme Committee welcomes presentations on any aspect of the languages and linguistics of Austronesian and Papuan languages, including descriptive linguistics of individual languages, and comparative and historical studies involving several of these languages. Moreover, we invite abstracts on two special themes that are planned for the conference: language ecology and applicatives. See more on these below.

Presentations will be 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Each individual may contribute up to two submissions, one of which may be a single-author paper. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed by members of the Programme Committee. Abstracts must be submitted via email to: `apll14.conference[at]gmail.com`

Abstracts must be no more than two A4 pages in length, including all material such as references, examples, figures, tables, and maps. Abstracts must be anonymous, and set in a minimum of 12pt font. They should be in .pdf format and the filename should start with APLL14, followed by an underscore and then first author's surname, e.g. `APLL14_sonder.pdf`. If you have a common surname, please also include initials, e.g. `APLL14_jsmith.pdf`.

3.1 Theme I: Language Ecology

The Austronesian and Papuan logosphere ranks very high in linguistic diversity, and it remains a puzzle how such a high degree of diversity has developed originally and how it has remained stable despite much language contact and entrenched multilingualism. The concept of language ecology may help to investigate this question in a structured way. The ecology of a language is the network of relationships that a language (i.e. its speakers) has with the other languages it comes in contact with, together with other aspects of its environment that might exert an influence on it. The concept of language ecology, following Haugen (1972), includes factors such as: the genetic classification of the language; the demography of its speakers; its internal variation; its domains of use; other languages used by its speakers; their degree of bi- or multilingualism; its degree of development; whether it has institutional support; the attitudes of its users; as well as the many non-linguistic aspects of its social environment and natural environment. We are interested in papers addressing aspects of the following questions:

- What types of bi- or multilingualism are practised in the speech communities of the region?

- What are the speakers' attitudes towards their own language or a neighbouring language?
- What are the speakers' attitudes towards variation and language change?
- How do/did language ecologies change in the region? To what degree are they endangered?
- How do non-linguistic factors (i.e. the social environment and natural environment) influence the structure of individual languages?

3.2 Theme II: Applicatives

Applicatives are a prevalent morphosyntactic construction in the grammars of Austronesian and Papuan languages, but also play a role beyond its morpho-syntactic function of promoting a peripheral semantic role to direct object as the “applied phrase”. Recent work investigating the morphosyntax of applicative constructions has explored the types of semantic roles applicative morphology targets, the role of stacking/doubling of different applicative morphology, the role of word order of internal arguments, as well as its role in relation to its use in deriving causative constructions. In addition, recent work has noted that the role of applicative morphology can have other non-syntactic functions. Among these functions are pluractionality, iteration, topicality of the applied phrase, specificity of the applied phrase, completeness of the event or affectedness of the applied phrase. These functions, while less studied, seem to be common cross-linguistically. We are interested in papers addressing aspects of the following questions, especially with an eye to broader typological generalizations:

- What are the morpho-syntactic functions of applicative constructions in a given Austronesian or Papuan language?
- What are the semantic or pragmatic functions of applicatives in a given Austronesian or Papuan language?
- What are pathways of change to and/or beyond applicatives in one or more Austronesian or Papuan languages?

4 Key dates

Abstract submission deadline: **1 March 2022**

Notification of acceptance: **1 April 2022**

Conference: **9-11 June 2022**

5 Conference website

<https://sites.google.com/view/apll14-conference>

6 Local organisers

Jocelyn Aznar (ZAS), Christian Döhler (ZAS), Yining Nie (HU Berlin), Jozina Vander Klok (HU Berlin), Tonjes Veenstra (ZAS)

References

Haugen, E. (1972). The ecology of language. In A. S. Dil (Ed.), *The ecology of language. Essays by Einar Haugen*, pp. 325–339. Stanford: Stanford University Press.