

# LANGUAGE AND CULTURE RESEARCH CENTRE

College of Arts, Society and Education — James Cook University

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## Bulletin — February 2017

The **Language and Culture Research Centre** (LCRC) is nested within the **College of Arts, Society and Education** (Dean, Professor Nola Alloway) and works in association with the **Cairns Institute** (Director, Professor Stewart Lockie) at James Cook University.

### Overview

Now in its ninth year, the Language and Culture Research Centre maintained — and indeed enhanced — its stature as a leading international centre for the inductive study of linguistic typology. We are the only linguistics research centre (or department) in the world all of whose PhD students are producing a theoretically-informed grammatical description of a previously undescribed (or poorly known) language.

The Directors were awarded another Discovery Project from the Australian Research Council on 'The integration of language and society'. Co-investigators are Dr Nerida Jarkey of the University of Sydney, Professor Maarten Mous, from the University of Leiden, and Professor Anne Storch, from the University of Cologne. This is in addition to the continuing Australian Laureate Fellowship, plus other ARC Discovery and Linkage grants, and also a competitive grant received under the Universities Australia-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme.

LCRC currently has three Post-Doctoral Research Fellows working on languages from South America. Two new Research Fellow positions will shortly be advertised: one for five years to work in any area of languages of the tropics, and to assist with the supervision of PhD students, and another for two years to work on a language from Papua New Guinea.

The regular cohort which includes seven PhD students was augmented by a steady stream of distinguished Visiting Fellows, all taking part in a series of regular weekly seminars and a continuing workshop which, in 2017, will be on 'Reflexive and reciprocal constructions'.

## **MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE RESEARCH CENTRE**

The Language and Culture Research Centre promotes interdisciplinary research involving immersion fieldwork, leading to comprehensive documentation of indigenous languages and cultures. This feeds into inductive generalisations concerning human language capacity, and the interaction between parameters of linguistic and cultural behaviour. Our core members are anthropologically-orientated linguists and we maintain a dialogue with anthropologists, sociologists, archeologists, educationalists and other scholars in the humanities, social sciences and relevant natural sciences. LCRC's primary focus is on the autochthonous peoples of New Guinea, Australia, Amazonia, and East Asia.

We work in terms of basic linguistic theory, the cumulative framework which is employed in most linguistic description, providing anthropologically informed grammars and analyses of languages and language areas. Our work has a sound empirical basis but also shows a firm theoretical orientation, seeking for explanation hand-in-hand with description.

Building on reliable descriptive studies, the LCRC also puts forward inductive generalisations about human languages, cultural practices and cognition. We enquire how a language reflects the environment in which people live, their system of social organisation, food production techniques, and the ways in which a community views the world. For instance, groups living in mountainous terrain often have to specify, for any object, whether it is uphill, downhill or at the same level as the speaker. And if there is a chiefly system, a special term of address may be required for speaking to a high chief, and a different term for a minor chief. Why are languages the way they are? We seek scientific explanation and motivation, combining the expertise of linguists, anthropologists and social scientists from other domains.

Another focus of study concerns the ways in which languages influence each other. What kind of words, and meanings, are likely to be borrowed between two languages spoken next to each other, and under what social circumstances? Are some kinds of systems particularly open to diffusion, so that they are likely to spread over all the languages in a geographical area, and are other kinds of systems less likely to be diffused?

LCRC organises International Workshops, regular roundtable meetings, and various events through the year. We reach out to the community, through advising and assisting concerning language renewal and revitalisation.

## The People at LCRC in 2017

**Distinguished Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald** is Australian Laureate Fellow and Director of LCRC. She is working on a monograph *Serial verbs*, to be published by Oxford University Press, and a general monograph on language, *The words we live by*, to be published by Profile books. She is also seeing through the press *The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality*, and (jointly with R.M.W. Dixon) *Commands: a cross-linguistic typology* (both by Oxford University Press). A fieldtrip is planned for April-June, to the Sepik region of Papua New Guinea, for further work with the Yalaku and the Manambu people. In addition to preparing a comprehensive grammar and a revised dictionary of Yalaku, work is continuing on Arawak languages from the Upper Rio Negro area in Brazil, especially comparative Arawak, and production of community materials in Tariana and Warekena. She is currently working on various facets of genders, commands, and the typology of multiple classifier systems.

**Professor R. M. W. (Bob) Dixon**, Deputy Director of LCRC, is putting the finishing touches to a monograph entitled *The unmasking of English dictionaries*. This combines a history of dictionary-making relating to English from the eighth century to the present day, together with critical assessment of dictionary organization, the treatment of meaning, and the habit of plagiarism. The over-arching theme of the volume is a proposal for a computer-based dictionary consisting of interlocking semantic sets which contrast the properties of related words, thus fulfilling what should surely be the purpose of a dictionary: to let the user know which word to use in what circumstances. He is now undertaking a comprehensive study of the grammar and semantics of prepositions in English. He is also continuing to work on a comprehensive thesaurus/dictionary across ten dialects of the North Queensland language Dyirbal, now dealing with verbs and adverbals.

### Post-doctoral Research Fellows

Our intellectual profile is enhanced by the activities of three top-class scholars as Post-Doctoral Research Fellows. They are employed on Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship Project 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'.

**Dr Luca Ciucci** received his PhD from Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, in 2013. He is an expert on Zamucoan languages and indigenous languages of Bolivia and Paraguay. His publications include *Inflectional morphology in the Zamucoan languages* (Asunción, CEADUC). He is working on a grammatical description of Chamacoco (Zamucoan), on language contact in the Chaco area, and Chiquitano, with a special focus on the language spoken in the Jesuit Missions, its evolution and its contact with Zamucoan. He holds a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the LCRC within Distinguished Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'.

**Dr Simon E. Overall** received his PhD in 2008 from the Research Centre for Linguistic Typology, then at La Trobe University, with a thesis on the grammar of Aguaruna now published in the Mouton Grammar Library series (De Gruyter Mouton, Berlin). His research focuses on the diachrony of nominalizations and their involvement in discourse and switch-reference, as well as the linguistic situation in the eastern foothills of the Andes. He holds a Research Fellowship within the ARC Laureate Fellowship 'How gender shapes the world'. His major project involves working on a grammar of Kandozi, an isolate of Peru, and various issues in languages of the Andean Foothills of South America.

**Dr Elena Mihas** has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (2010), 'Essentials of Ashéninka Perené grammar'. Her recent publications include a monograph *Conversational structures of Alto Perené (Arawak) of Peru*, John Benjamins. Her comprehensive grammar of Ashéninka Perené was published in 2015 in the Mouton Grammar Library Series (De Gruyter Mouton, Berlin). She is currently working on a grammar of Satipo Ashaninka (Nebraska University Press). She holds a five-year Post-doctoral Research Associate Fellowship within the framework of the ARC ALF Project, working on varieties of Campa languages, gender in Amazonia, and endangered dialects of Koryak, a Chukotko-Kamchatkan language from the Russian Far-East.

## **Adjunct Staff of the Cairns Institute and LCRC**

**Dr Angeliki Alvanoudi** completed her PhD 'The social and cognitive dimensions of grammatical genders' at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki which was published in 2014 under the title *Grammatical Gender in Interaction: Cultural and Cognitive Aspects* in Brill's *Studies in Languages, Cognition and Culture*. She finished her term as Research Fellow and was appointed Adjunct Fellow at the LCRC and the Cairns Institute in 2015. She has conducted fieldwork with Greek immigrants in Cairns and surrounding regions of Queensland. Her monograph on Greek spoken in Australia and contact-induced change will be published by Palgrave Macmillan.

**Dr Juliane Böttger** completed her PhD at the LCRC in 2015. Her expertise lies in the field of Oceanic languages, with special focus on Lele and Nali languages of the Manus Island.

**Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho** (MA, Universidade Estadual Paulista) is a PhD student at the Universidade Estadual Paulista 'Júlio de Mesquita Filho', Faculdade de Ciências e Letras de Araraquara (Brasil). He is currently working on his PhD 'A morphosyntactic study of the Deni language (Arawá)'. He was appointed Adjunct Research Fellow at LCRC in 2016.

**Professor Dr Diana Forker** was appointed Adjunct Fellow at the LCRC and the Cairns Institute in 2015. An expert in North-east Caucasian languages (especially Hinuq and Sanzhi Dargwa) and a former Feodor Lynen Fellow at the LCRC, she has been awarded the Chair in Caucasian languages at the University of Jena. She continues her work on North-east Caucasian languages and linguistic typology.

**Dr Valérie Guérin** obtained a PhD from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2008) for her work on Maṽea, an endangered language of Vanuatu. She has published the monograph *A grammar of Maṽea: An Oceanic language of Vanuatu*, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, in addition to a dictionary, and a number of papers dealing with Oceanic languages and problems of fieldwork and language documentation, and the typology of demonstrative verbs (*Linguistic Typology*). She received her appointment as Adjunct Research Fellow at the LCRC in 2016, and continues working on a grammar of Tiyatuk (or Tayatuk), a Papuan language from the Morobe Province in PNG.

**Dr Colleen Oates**, an Adjunct Fellow of the Cairns Institute, is an expert on philosophies of research, research methodologies and indigenous Melanesian mythologies. Her particular expertise is in the language and culture of the Ninggirum, Ok Family, Papua New Guinea. She is working on a monograph *Of Stone and Mine: surviving Ok Tedi*, and a number of research papers.

**Cassy Nancarrow** joined the LCRC in 2014 on an Adjunct Lecturer appointment. She is an expert in anthropological linguistics with a focus on the indigenous languages of Northern Australia, especially Mornington Island, bilingual education and Creole languages. Her expertise is a welcome addition to the LCRC's focus on Australian Aboriginal languages, languages of the tropics and bilingual education from a global perspective.

**Dr Hiroko Sato** joined the LCRC in 2016 as Adjunct Research Fellow of LCRC. She received her PhD in linguistics from the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, on 'Grammar of Kove: An Austronesian Language of the West New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea'. She is Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities and National Science Foundation and Adjunct assistant



professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. She is currently conducting research on Bebeli, an Austronesian language spoken in the West New Britain region of Papua New Guinea, in addition to Akolet, Avau and Gelimi.

## **PhD students**

**Grant Aiton**, from the University of Alberta, has submitted his grammar of Eibela, a previously undescribed Papuan language from Western Province, Papua New Guinea, for examination. He was also the LCRC Equipment and Maintenance Officer.

**Katarzyna Wojtylak**, from Leiden University, is a PhD student within Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship project 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'. She is working on a comprehensive grammar of the Murui Witoto language from Colombia. She is in charge of LCRC and JCU library acquisitions in linguistics.

**Nick Piper**, from the Australian National University, is working on a comprehensive grammar of Meryam Mir, the language of the Eastern Torres Strait.

**Bai Junwei (Abe)** (MA, Nanjing University, PR China) is working on a comprehensive grammar of Munya, a previously undescribed Tibeto-Burman language of China.

**Firew Girma Worku** (MA, University of Addis-Abbaba, Ethiopia) is working on a comprehensive grammar of Mursi, a Nilo-Saharan language of Ethiopia.

**Inti Aedo Orozco** (MA, University of Mainz, Germany) is working on a comprehensive grammar of Kamula, an isolate from Western Province, Papua New Guinea.

**Pema Wangdi** (MA, ANU) will be working on a comprehensive grammar of Brokpake, an endangered Tibeto-Burman language of eastern Bhutan.

**Nathan White** (MA, Trinity Western University, Canada) will be working on a comprehensive grammar of a Hmong language.

## **Administrative Staff and Research assistants**

**Amanda Parsonage**, Executive Assistant and Administrative Officer, provides crucial administrative and other support to the linguistic scholars within the Centre, including maintenance of the LCRC website and databases.

**Dr Brigitta Flick, Jolene Overall and Angela Lansdown** continue their invaluable work as Publication Officers for LCRC.

**Tahnee Innes** was awarded a First-class Honours BA in Anthropology at JCU, with a thesis titled 'Networked Politics of Place on Goolarabooloo-Jabirr Jabirr Country'. She is a Research Assistant at LCRC within the ARC Linkage Project 'Land, language and heritage', collecting personal histories and cultural information about the Jirrbal people of North Queensland. She is now undertaking an anthropology PhD on material culture of the Dyirbal-speaking peoples.

### **Other members of the Language and Culture Research Centre:**

- **Dr Chia-jung Pan** successfully completed his PhD at LCRC on the grammar of Lha'alu (or Saaroa), a critically endangered Austronesian language of Taiwan. Chia-jung was appointed to a highly prestigious position of Young Academic Leader of Nankai University, China, within the School of Literature.
- **Dr Hannah Sarvasy** successfully completed her PhD at LCRC on a grammar of Nungon, a Papuan language spoken by about 500 people in a remote river valley in the Saruwaged Mountains of PNG (Morobe Province). She currently holds a Post-doctoral Fellowship at the ANU.
- **Dr Dineke Schokkin** successfully completed her PhD at LCRC on the grammar of Paluai, an Oceanic language from Baluan (Manus Province, PNG). She is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the ANU.
- **Dr Sihong Zhang** successfully completed his PhD at LCRC on a grammar of Ersu, a previously undescribed Tibeto-Burman language of China. He continues in his position of Vice Dean at the The School of International Education and Exchange at Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, combining administrative and teaching duties with a high research productivity.
- **Professor Ton Otto**, Research Leader, People and Societies of the Tropics, within the Cairns Institute, is working on design anthropology, social change, notions of temporality, and agency, with reference to Papua New Guinea and particularly the peoples of Manus Island.
- **Professor Rosita Henry**, anthropologist at the Townsville Campus, is also a Research Fellow of the CI. Her research concerns the poetic politics of relationships between people, places and the nation-state in Australia and the Pacific. She is author of numerous articles on the political anthropology of place and performance.
- **Dr Mike Wood** is a Senior Lecturer in Anthropology at the Cairns Campus of James Cook University. For a long time he has worked with Kamula speakers in PNG. He is currently working on three PNG-based projects that concern HIV/AIDS-related issues. He also works with Rosita Henry on a project concerning the history of artefacts collected in the Wet Tropics that surround Cairns, and in the Nakanai Ranges of West New Britain. He is interested in

issues to do with climate change and the recent development of carbon credit schemes in PNG.

• **Dr Maria Wronska-Friend** is Adjunct Senior Lecturer at CASE (Cairns Campus). Social interactions involving people and objects, especially in Indonesian and Papua New Guinean societies, are the main fields of her research. In particular, she is interested in the process of the cross-cultural transfer and use of objects, such as colonial trade, artistic inspiration, knowledge and technology appropriation, and the process of globalisation.

• **Dr Robin Rodd** is Lecturer in Anthropology at Townsville, and an expert on the ethnography of the Piaroa, a linguistic isolate of Venezuela. His further research interests include ethnopharmacology of psychoactive plants, psychological anthropology, shamanism, systems theory and philosophy of health, and the history and ethnography of Venezuela and Latin America in general. He is currently examining notions of health and healing among Australian ayahuasca drinkers.

• **Associate Professor Reesa Sorin** is an expert in Early Childhood Education at JCU Cairns. Her areas of research include: fear and emotional literacy in early childhood; conceptualisations of childhood; art-based methods / multiliteracies for learning, teaching and research in early childhood; scenario-based learning; student mobility and pre-service teacher education.

• **Professor Sean Ulm** holds an ARC Future Fellowship in Archaeology at the Cairns campus. His research focuses on cultural and environmental change in coastal regions of the Pacific Basin over the last 10,000 years. He has conducted research in Australia, Honduras, Chile, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific. He has made major contributions to our understanding of coastal life ways and to improving radiocarbon chronologies based on marine materials throughout the Australasian region. His publications include more than 60 articles on the archaeology of Australia, and five edited books. In mid-2017 Sean commences as Deputy Director of the new ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (CABAH).

• **Dr Daniela Vavrová** is Laboratory director and a founding member of ALTAR, Anthropological Laboratory for Tropical Audiovisual Research, The Cairns Institute, <https://espaces.edu.au/altar> from 2013. She is Adjunct Research Fellow in the College of Arts, Society and Education & Casual Research Officer of The Audio Visual Lab of The Cairns Institute.



## **Forthcoming Activities and Visiting Fellows in 2017**

### **LCRC SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP CLASSIFIERS AND GENDERS IN THE LANGUAGES OF AMAZONIA**

Special Workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre cast within the framework of Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective' focussing on multiple classifier systems in focal families and areas of Amazonia and adjacent areas.

**Convenors: Prof Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Dr Elena Mihas**

Invited participants include: Luca Ciucci (LCRC), R. M. W. Dixon (LCRC), Lev Michael (UC Berkeley), Pilar Valenzuela (Chapman University), Rosa Vallejos (University of New Mexico), Kasia Wojtylak (LCRC)

**Cairns, 9-10 August 2017**

### **CREATIVITY IN LANGUAGE**

**Second Special workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre and the Institute of African Studies (University of Cologne) supported by a grant from Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD, or German Academic Exchange Service) and Universities Australia**

**Convenors: Prof Anne Storch, Prof Alexandra Aikhenvald**

**Köln, 29-30 September 2017**

### **THE SECRET AND THE SACRED: WORKING OUT HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE**

**Third Special workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre and the Institute of African Studies (University of Cologne) supported by a grant from DAAD and Universities Australia**

**Convenors: Prof Alexandra Aikhenvald, Prof Anne Storch,  
Cairns, 15-16 November 2017**

**Programs will be available on <https://research.jcu.edu.au/lcrc>  
Everyone is welcome!**

### **ANTHROPOLOGICAL LINGUISTICS COURSE AND TEACHING**

The second undergraduate course AN2009 Anthropological Linguistics, will be taught at the Cairns Campus during the second semester 2017 by **Cassy Nancarrow**. Aikhenvald and Dixon will contribute, each with a guest lecture.

### VISITING FELLOWS AT THE LCRC

**Dr Felix Ameka**, of the University of Leiden, is an expert in West-African languages and various issue in linguistic typology and areal linguistics. He will be at the LCRC in the last quarter of 2017.

**Professor Kate Burridge**, an expert on Pennsylvania German, and on numerous issues in English linguistics and history, will be at the LCRC in the second half of 2017.

**Dr Hiroko Sato**, of University of Hawai'i at Manoa, an expert on Oceanic languages of West New Britain, PNG, will be visiting the LCRC in the second half of 2017.

**Dr Sihong Zhang**, of the School of International Education and Exchange at Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, an expert on Tibeto-Burman languages of China, is planning to visit the LCRC in July 2017.

### A NEW LINGUISTIC DATABASE ON TROPICAL LANGUAGES

Throughout the past three years, **Kasia Wojtylak** and **Grant Aiton** have been supervising the creation of the LCRC special language archive and the newly developed archival facility for tropical languages in the form of a well-developed database. The database allows LCRC researchers to create and manipulate multimedia files and serves as a virtual platform designed for collaboration between researchers and community members. In addition to various types of multimedia files (i.e. text, image, audio and video files among them ELAN, Flex and Toolbox files) included in the corpus, the site contains an up-to-date repository of publications of the team-members (including those in press). All materials are interlinked in a way that allows the user to navigate quickly through the corpus and run simple search queries within the site. In the future, the site will facilitate numerous types of complex search options to increase the efficiency of the collected materials in the corpus. The facility can be accessed at <https://osf.io/rcmv4/>. Feedback and collaboration are welcome!

### A LINGUISTIC RESOURCE ON EVIDENTIALITY

A website on Evidentiality has been put together (by Amanda Parsonage, the Administrative Officer of the LCRC), in conjunction with *The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality* (edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, forthcoming 2017). The site contains information about the Handbook and a number of key publications on evidentiality. The link is: <http://research.jcu.edu.au/lcrc/Research%20Projects/evidentiality>

# Highlights of 2016

## Grants, Honours and Awards

### COMPETITIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

**Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald (JCU), Professor R. M. W. Dixon (JCU), Dr Nerida Jarkey (University of Sydney) (Chief Investigators), Professor Dr Anne Storch (University of Cologne) and Professor Maarten Mous (University of Leiden) (Partner Investigators)** have been awarded an ARC Discovery Project 'The integration of language and society' (2017-2020). The summary of the project is as follows:

All human societies show pervasive similarities and all languages share recurrent features. Reaching beyond these, the project aims to study (a) substantial social and life-style differences, and (b) particular features of language structure, seeking associations between these. Viewing society and language as an integrated whole, the project team will focus on areas in PNG, Africa, East Asia, Amazonia and Australia, studying related groups in contrasting physical and social environments. Inductive generalisations concerning significant associations between societal and language parameters (e.g. varying techniques of address relating to articulated kin systems, and social hierarchy) aim to provide insight into the human dynamic.

The Project includes a Post-Doctoral research Fellowship, to work on a poorly documented language of the East Sepik Province, which will be advertised soon. For more information, please write to [Alexandra.Aikhenvald@jcu.edu.au](mailto:Alexandra.Aikhenvald@jcu.edu.au).

**Professor Sean Ulm** and colleagues have been awarded an ARC Discovery Grant 'The deep history of sea country: climate, sea level, and culture', based in Flinders University. The Project summary is as follows:

This project aims to investigate the records of the now-submerged Pilbara coast (50,000 to 7000 years ago). Nearly a third of Australia's landmass was drowned after the last ice age, and sea-level change displaced generations of people. Submerged landscape archaeology will help reveal past sea-level rise, population resilience, mobility and diet. The project integrates cultural and environmental studies and material analysis, and adapts a method from the world's only confirmed submarine middens. It will use marine and aerial survey techniques to investigate physical and cultural submerged landscapes. This

project expects to influence heritage and environmental management and the marine heritage sector.

The University Council of JCU awarded **Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald** the prestigious title of Distinguished Professor for a further five years. She continues to be the only Distinguished Professor in humanities or social sciences at JCU.

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald** continues working within the framework of her **Australian Laureate Fellowship** 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective', 2012-17.

**Rosita Henry and Michael Wood's ARC Discovery Project** 'Planning for later life: An ethnographic analysis of ageing among Transnational Papua New Guineans' (2014-16) is continuing. This involves Professor Karen Sykes, of the University of Manchester, as a Partner Investigator.

**Dixon and Aikhenvald** continue their work on an ARC Linkage Grant, *Land, language and heritage* (2011-14) (with Dr Ernie Grant as co-leader).

Thanks to the efforts of Dr **Luca Ciucci**, the historical manuscript "Vocabulario de la lengua Chiquita" by Father Ignacio Chomé was declared World's Documentary Heritage by UNESCO. This is of extreme importance for the maintenance and the preservation of Chiquitano, a linguistic isolate spoken in Bolivia, and the object of study by Dr Ciucci.

Special congratulations to **Professor Anne Storch, member of Consultative Committee of the LCRC**, on receiving a highly prestigious Leibnitz award, the highest honour for an academic in Germany, for her contribution to scholarship!

#### PHD COMPLETIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

**CONGRATULATIONS to Ryan Pennington** on successful completion of his PhD thesis 'A grammar of Ma Manda'

**CONGRATULATIONS to Emma Scott** on successful completion of her PhD 'Decolonisation, Interculturality, and Multiple Epistemologies: Hiwi People in Bolivarian Venezuela'

**CONGRATULATIONS to Mikko Salminen** on successful completion of his PhD thesis 'A Grammar of Umbeyajts as spoken by the Ikojts people of San Dionisio del Mar, Oaxaca, Mexico'

**CONGRATULATIONS to Dr Kirsty Gillespie** on her appointment as Senior Curator, Anthropology, at the Museum of Tropical Queensland in Townsville

## Members of the LCRC well represented at AMAZONICAS VI

by Kasia Wojtylak and Simon Overall

James Cook University and particularly the LCRC were well represented at the recent AMAZONICAS VI conference on indigenous Amazonian languages, held on the banks of the Amazon River itself in Leticia (Colombia) and Tabatinga (Brazil), 24–29 May 2016. Three members of the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) in The Cairns Institute gave presentations: Postdoctoral Research Fellow **Dr Simon Overall**, PhD student **Kasia Wojtylak**, and visiting PhD student **Martin Kohlberger**; in addition, Martin and Simon convened a session on “Historical Phonology and Sound Change in Amazonian Languages.” (See the conference website at <http://www.humanas.unal.edu.co/amazonicas6/en/>)

The conference was hosted by the National University of Colombia in Leticia and the University of the State of Amazonas in Tabatinga. The two cities are located on the Amazon river and form a single urban area at the point where Colombia, Brazil and Peru come together. Leticia is the capital of Colombia’s department of Amazonas with c. 46,000 inhabitants; and Tabatinga is a municipality of Brazil’s State of Amazonas with c. 60,000 inhabitants.

The AMAZONICAS conference series has the theme “The Structure of Amazonian Languages”, and has been held biannually since 2007, always in an Amazonian country (Brazil, Colombia and Peru so far – the 2018 conference will be held in Ecuador). Its mission is to promote and strengthen exchange and cooperation among researchers engaged in the study of indigenous languages spoken in the Amazon region, and it is the only conference series dedicated to these languages, which are well known amongst linguists for the challenges they present to established linguistic theory. Although researchers in this field are relatively few, they are based in institutions all over the world, and this is an important opportunity to bring them together in a week of intense academic activity, as well as an enjoyable social side. Each AMAZONICAS has two main symposiums, dedicated to themes in phonology and syntax, and a third one focused on studies of a specific linguistic family. The 2016 themes were “Negation in Amazonian Languages”, “Historical Phonology and Sound Change in Amazonian Languages” and the Tukano and Makú (Nadahup/Kakua-Nukak/Puinave) language families.

**Simon Overall** presented on negation in Kandozi-Chapra, an isolate language spoken in north Peru, and **Kasia Wojtylak** focused on negation mechanisms in Murui (Witotoan), a Colombian indigenous language she has been studying since 2010 and is currently writing her PhD dissertation on. **Martin Kohlberger** presented on “The Development of ‘Vowel Harmony’ in Shiwiar (Chicham, Ecuador)”. More than 100 people from all over the world attended the conference, and the talks were given in English, Spanish and Portuguese.



### FURTHER EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES: HIGHLIGHTS

**Angeliki Alvanoudi** presented a talk on 'Polar questions in Greek conversation: Forms and functions' at the Symposium 'Questions-Answers in Greek talk-in-interaction', at the Institute of Modern Greek Studies, 13-14 October 2016.

**Luca Ciucci** presented the following talks:

- "Towards a critical edition of Chomé's *Vocabulario de la lengua zamuca*". *Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Washington, D.C. January 7-10, 2016.
- with Pier Marco Bertinetto. "On the threefold shape of Zamucoan nominals". *21st Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas* (WSCLA 2016). Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Montréal. April 1-3, 2016.

He also organized the workshop *The history of the Italian language: a European perspective*, at Spring Agora Bergamo, organized under the High Patronage of the European Parliament and of the Council of Europe. May 19, 2016.

**Elena Mihas** presented the following talks:

- special lecture at the University of Wisconsin 'Universals and variation in the organization of talk: Evidence from Alto Perené Arawak of Peru', February 2016.
- 'Responding to new challenges in documentary linguistics: An introduction to discourse-based grammars', University of Melbourne, 23 March 2016
- 'Guiding language consultants' individual projects: Negotiating organizational issues in the field', University of Melbourne, 24 March 2016
- 'Lip pointing in social interactions of Alto Perené and Satipo Kampa Arawaks of Peru' at the Annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, 5-7 January 2017.

**Simon E. Overall** presented a talk 'Documentation of Awajún traditional plant knowledge in Amazonas, Peru' at a meeting *Digital humanities at JCU 2016*, 3 November 2016.

**Kasia Wojtylak** presented a paper 'A Day in Life: an audio-video exhibition project', jointly with K. T. Lupinski at *Exhibition, Video Art and Performance as Interventionist Research Method* Workshop, October 2016, JCU. Her joint film with Kristian T. Lupinski *Murui Filmmakers: Murui joreño otino* was officially selected for the *Understory Film Festival*, in Cairns. She participated as a volunteer at the Annual meeting of the Australian Linguistic Society (7-9 December 2016, Melbourne).

## New Books — Monographs

with publishers' descriptions

# DYIRBAL THESAURUS AND DICTIONARY across ten dialects

compiled by R. M. W. (Bob) Dixon

from information supplied by

Chloe Grant	George Watson	Bessie Jerry	Mollie Raymond
Ida Henry	Harry Digala	Andy Denham	Mick Murray
Jack Muriata	Joe Davis	Rosie Runaway	Fred Williams
Paddy Beeron	Jack Murray	Paddy Bute	Jimmy Murray
Joe Kinjun	Jackie Woods	Tommy Warren	Tommy Springcart
Tom Murray	Jimmie Carrick	Spider Henry	Pompey Clumppoint

**Part one - Nominals**  
nouns, adjectives, and time words  
and Part two - Alphabetical list  
in everyday language style

**note that this is a draft only, and still requires further checking  
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**Language and Culture Research Centre  
James Cook University, Cairns, 2017**

## Preface

I have been working on assembling a full lexicon across all dialects of Dyirbal since October 1963; this is the preliminary result. The words are organised into a thesaurus, where words with similar meaning are grouped together, each entry being assigned a code. There is then an alphabetical list of all Dyirbal lexical words, each with its code on the right hand side, so that it can be located in the thesaurus.

Each entry gives variant forms for a given meaning across as many dialects as we have information for. The main entry is for words in the everyday language style, which is called Guwal in southern dialects (AJUYG) and Ngirrma in northern dialects (NWM). The corresponding form(s) in the Jalnguy ('mother-in-law' or avoidance) styles for N, M and J are added, where these are known. Where possible, everyday style words which share the same Jalnguy correspondent are grouped together.

The whole work will be in several parts. The first two are available now (in draft form), with the others expected to be completed in 2017 and 2018.

- 1 Thesaurus of nominals (nouns, adjectives and time words)—everyday style, with Jalnguy correspondents. Includes full identifications of fauna and flora.
- 2 Alphabetical list of everyday style nominals.
- 3 Thesaurus of verbals (verbs and adverbals).
- 4 Alphabetical list of everyday style verbals.
- 5 Alphabetical list of all Jalnguy words, with the semantic scopes of each.
- 6 Overall alphabetical, combining 2, 4 and 5.

In addition, a volume of 78 Dyrbal texts, with translations, is in an advanced stage of preparation.

My role has been as facilitator. The basic information was provided by past custodians of the language, twenty-four of whom are listed on the title page. Several dozen others each provided a little information.

Additionally, I owe a continuing debt to Ernie Grant (Chloe Grant's son) who assisted with my initial introduction into the Jirrbal-Girramay community at Murray Upper, and has provided unfailing support and encouragement throughout the more than fifty years that have followed.

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### **EVALUATIVES IN GRAMMAR**

Inti Aedo Orozco

**Munich: LINCOM Studies in Language Typology 29.** 92pp. 2016.

Evaluative morphemes (EVs) consist of the elements: diminutives, augmentatives, pejoratives and amelioratives. Although these elements are known to be derivations that express the values: small, big, bad, good; there are many EVs features neglected by common definitions. EVs can sometimes fulfil two different functions at the same time and even become part of the grammar of a language. How and what material EVs evolve from, decides how they are later embedded in a grammar. Three of those processes are illustrated in the development of EVs in three unrelated languages through which Evaluative morphology could be subdivided in at least three different types.

### **HOW GENDER SHAPES THE WORLD**

Alexandra Aikhenvald

2016. Oxford: Oxford University Press, hardback and paperback. pp

This is a book about the multi-faceted notion of gender. Gender differences form the basis for family life, patterns of socialisation, distribution of tasks, and spheres of responsibilities. The way gender is articulated shapes the world of individuals, and of the societies they live in. Gender has three faces. Linguistic Gender (the original sense of 'gender') is a feature of many languages and reflects division of nouns into grammatical classes or genders (feminine,

masculine, neuter, and so on). Natural Gender (or sex) refers to the division of animates into males and females. Social Gender reflects the social implications, and norms, of being a man or a woman (or perhaps something else). Women and men may talk and behave differently, depending on conventions within the societies they live in. Their role in language maintenance can also vary. The book focuses on how Gender in its many guises is reflected in the human languages, how it features in myths and metaphors, and the role it plays in human cognition. Examples are drawn from all over the world, with a special focus on the author's extensive fieldwork in Amazonia and New Guinea.

### Contents

- Chapter 1 The multifaceted Gender
- Chapter 2 Linguistic gender and its expression
- Chapter 3 Round women and long men: physical properties in linguistic gender
- Chapter 4 What are linguistic genders good for?
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- Chapter 6 The rise and fall of linguistic gender
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- Chapter 8 The images of gender
- Chapter 9 When women and men speak differently
- Chapter 10 The rituals of gender
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## **INFLECTIONAL MORPHOLOGY IN THE ZAMUCOAN LANGUAGES**

Luca Ciucci

Centro de Estudios Antropológicos de la Universidad Católica (CEADUC); 1 edition  
(July 2016), Series, Biblioteca Paraguaya de Antropología - Vol. 103, 804pp.

This book describes the inflectional morphology of the Zamucoan family, which only consists of three languages spoken in the Chaco lowlands of northern Bolivia and southern Paraguay: Ayoreo, Chamacoco and Old Zamuco. Ayoreo and Chamacoco are considered endangered by UNESCO: the former is spoken by about 4500 people, the latter by about 2000 people. Ayoreo used to live a nomadic life in the Chaco and only sedentarized some decades ago. Nowadays there are still uncontacted groups of Ayoreo living in Paraguay. Old Zamuco, now extinct, was spoken in the 18<sup>th</sup> century in the lost Jesuit mission of *San Ignacio de Samucos*. The author did fieldwork on Ayoreo and Chamacoco and analyzed the data collected by the Jesuits for Old Zamuco. The first part introduces the three languages and their salient features. The rest of the book, through more than 1370 examples, describes verb inflection (part II), possessive inflection (part III) and nominal suffixation of the three languages (part IV), with their typological and morphosyntactic implications. This study will be a valuable book for all those interested in South American languages, morphology, morphosyntax and typology, in the departments of linguistics and anthropology.



## Contents

### First Part: Introduction

- §1. The Zamucoan family
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### Second Part: Verb inflection

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- §5 Chamacoco verb inflection
- §6 Old Zamuco verb inflection
- §7 Verb inflection in the Zamucoan languages: a comparison
- §8 Chamacoco quotatives

### Third part: Possessive Inflection

- §9 Ayoreo possessive inflection
- §10 Chamacoco possessive inflection
- §11 Possessive inflection in the Zamucoan languages: a comparison

### Forth part: Nominal Suffixation

- §12 Ayoreo nominal suffixation
- §13 Chamacoco nominal suffixation
- §14 Nominal suffixation in the Zamucoan languages: a comparison
- §15 General conclusions

### References

Appendix A. The Swadesh list of 207 words

Appendix B. Paradigms of Old Zamuco possessable nouns in Chomé's grammar

## **ARE SOME LANGUAGES BETTER THAN OTHERS?**

R. M. W. Dixon

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, vii+274pp.

This book sets out to answer a question that many linguists have been hesitant to ask: are some languages better than others? Can we say, for instance, that because German has three genders and French only two, German is a better language in this respect? Jarawara, spoken in the Amazonian jungle, has two ways of showing possession: one for a part (e.g. 'Father's foot') and the other for something which is owned and can be given away or sold (e.g. 'Father's knife'); is it thus a better language than English, which marks all possession in the same way?

R. M. W. Dixon begins by outlining what he feels are the essential components of any language, such as the ability to pose questions, command actions, and provide statements. He then discusses desirable features including gender agreement, tenses, and articles, before concluding with his view of what the ideal language would look like - and an explanation of why it does not and

probably never will exist. Written in the author's usual accessible and engaging style, and full of personal anecdotes and unusual linguistic phenomena, the book will be of interest to all general language enthusiasts as well as to a linguistics student audience, and particularly to anyone with an interest in linguistic typology.

### Contents

1 Setting the scene	6 How about complexity
2 How languages work	7 How many words should there be?
3 What is necessary	8 The limits of a language
4 What is desirable	9 Better for what purpose?
5 What is not (really) needed	10 An ideal language
	11 Facing up to the question

## **CONVERSATIONAL STRUCTURES OF ALTO PERENÉ (ARAWAK) OF PERU**

Elena Mihás (with the assistance of Gregorio Santos Pérez)

Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Studies in Language Companion Series, 181] 2017. xxi, 343 pp.

Drawing on extensive fieldwork in the research community, the book is a focused exploration of discourse patterns of Alto Perené Arawak, with emphasis on conversational structures. The book's methodological scaffold is based on proposals and insights from multiple research fields, such as comparative conversation analysis, sociology, interactional linguistics, documentary linguistics, anthropological linguistics, and prosodic typology. The interactional patterns of a small Arawak language of Peru are shown to share the common infrastructure reported in the organization of conversation across other languages and cultures. Yet the analysis demonstrates a variety of unique nuances in the organization of interactional behavior of Alto Perené Arawak participants. The peculiarities observed are attributed to the language-specific semiotic resources and participants' orientation to the local cultural norms. The book's structured examination of conversational data of a small indigenous language of South America is anticipated to be of utility to linguistic research on understudied non-Western languages.

### *Table of Contents*

Chapter 1. Preliminaries

Part I: A macroperspective on discourse organization

Chapter 2. Linguistic resources used for coding participation roles

Chapter 3. Linguistic resources used for coding membership categories

Chapter 4. Organization of focused encounters

Chapter 5. Nonverbal resources deployed by participants in interaction  
 Part II: A microperspective on talk management  
 Chapter 6. Turn-taking  
 Chapter 7. Repair  
 Chapter 8. Epistemics  
 Chapter 9. Language- and culture-specific shaping of interactional practices  
 References

## **A GRAMMAR OF AGUARUNA (INIÁ CHICHAM)**

Simon Overall

Mouton Grammar Library, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, 2017

This book is a descriptive grammar of Aguaruna, known to its speakers as Iniá Chicham, a Jivaroan language spoken by some 55,000 people in the northwest Peruvian Amazon. Aguaruna is typologically and historically significant because of its location in the eastern foothills of the Andes, right between the Andean and Amazonian linguistic areas. Some typologically unusual syntactic phenomena, for example in the areas of grammatical relations and case marking, make this description relevant beyond the areal context. This is the first full grammar of a Jivaroan language, covering phonology, morphology and syntax as well as addressing some issues in discourse structure. It is an important work for specialists in South American languages as well as for linguists working in more general typological fields.

### Contents

- |   |  |
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| 2. Cultural and historical context          | 11. Negation                             |
| 3. Phonology                                | 12. Adverbial Words                      |
| 4. Nouns, adjectives and pronouns           | 13. Subordinate clauses                  |
| 5. Noun Phrase                              | 14. Clause chaining and clause combining |
| 6. The Verb                                 | 15. Nominalization                       |
| 7. Grammatical Relations and Transitivity   | 16. Relative clauses                     |
| 8. Tense, Aspect and Person in Finite Verbs | 17. Speech reports and complementation   |
| 9. Mood and Modality                        | 18. Discourse Organisation               |

## **A REFERENCE GRAMMAR OF ERSU, A TIBETO-BURMAN LANGUAGE OF CHINA**

Zhang Sihong

*Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, James Cook University*

Munich: LINCOM Studies in Asian Linguistics 85. 602pp. 2016.

Ersu is an underdocumented Tibeto-Burman language spoken in the southwest of China. It is a head-marking, verb-final, tonal and agglutinative language with an isolating tendency. It has a complex phonological system. Reduplication, compounding, affixation and cliticization are attested in word formation. The canonical constituent order of a simple clause is AOV/SV. However, the syntactic constituent order may also vary due to pragmatic motivations. “Tail-head” linkage strategy is frequently used in discourse. Ellipses occur quite often in speaking and a speech act participant is seldom mentioned. “Topic-comment” constructions occur with high frequency.

The grammar consists of 14 chapters that cover almost all the respects of the language such as phonology, word classes, nouns and nominal morphology, noun phrases, numeral systems, nominal and verbal action classification systems, verbs and verb phrases, aspect system, mood and modality, the expression of knowledge, clause types and clause combining, discourse analysis and discourse organization, language change and language endangerment.

The production of this book is based on the author’s PhD thesis, which was praised as a model grammar for a Tibeto-Burman language by one of the examiners. The book fills an important lacuna in the descriptive literature of linguistic typology.

### **Edited Volumes**

#### **GENDER, LANGUAGE AND COGNITION**

Special section of the *International Journal of Language and Culture*, 31 (1),  
edited by Angeliki Alvanoudi, 2016

Aspects of the meaning of gender: Introduction *Angeliki Alvanoudi*

Gender, shape and sociality: how humans are special in Manambu *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*

Gender in Hinuq and other Nakh-Daghestanian languages *Diana Forker*

Sexless babies, sexed grandparents: Nungon gendered person terms *Hannah Sarvasy*

#### **NOMINALIZATION: A VIEW FROM NORTHWEST AMAZONIA**

Special Issue of *Language Typology and Universals* (STUF), edited by Simon E. Overall and Katarzyna I. Wojtylak. Forthcoming 2017

Introduction. *Simon E. Overall and Katarzyna I. Wojtylak*

The form and function of nominalizations in Murui (Witoto, Colombia).

*Katarzyna I. Wojtylak*

Nominalizations in Kakua (Makú/Nadahup, Colombia) and the Vaupés influence. *Katherine E. Bolaños*

How to copy your neighbour's ways: a cross-generational perspective on nominalizations in Tariana (Arawak, Brazil). *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*

Nominalization patterns in Alto Perené, a Kampa Arawak language of Peru. *Elena Mihás*

From verb to noun and back again: Non-referential uses of nominalizations in Aguaruna (Jivaroan/Chicham, Peru). *Simon E. Overall*

Between Nouns and Verbs: Nominalisations in Shiwiar (Jivaroan/Chicham, Peru). *Martin Kohlberger*

## **THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK OF LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY**

edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon, Cambridge:  
Cambridge University Press, 2017, pp 1024.

Linguistic typology identifies how languages vary and what they all have in common. This volume offers a state-of-the-art perspective on linguistic typology. The aims and methods of linguistic typology are discussed in the introduction by the editor. The first part, 'Domains of linguistic typology', covers phonological typology, morphological typology, sociolinguistic typology, and the relationships between typology, historical linguistics and grammaticalization. Further chapters address typological features of mixed languages, Creole languages, sign languages and secret languages. The second part, 'Typology of grammatical categories', features contributions on the typology of morphological processes, noun categorisation devices (covering genders and classifiers of various sorts), negation, frustrative modality, logophoricity, switch reference, and motion events. Part III focuses on typological profile of mainland South Asia area, Australia, Quechuan and Aymaran, Eskimo-Aleut, Iroquoian, Kampa subgroup of Arawak, Omotic, Semitic, Dravidian, Oceanic subgroup of Austronesian, and Awuyu-Ndumut family (in West Papua).

### Contents

Introduction. Linguistic typology: setting the scene *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon*

#### **Part I. Domains of linguistic typology**

1. Phonological typology *Harry van der Hulst*
2. Morphological typology *Thomas E. Payne*
3. Typology and historical linguistics *Silvia Luraghi*
4. Sociolinguistic typology *Peter Trudgill*
5. Typology and grammaticalization *Heiko Narrog*
6. Sign language typology *Ulrike Zeshan and Nick Palfreyman*
7. Typology of mixed languages *Peter Bakker*



8. Typology of Creole languages *Aymeric Daval-Markussen and Peter Bakker*
9. Typology of secret languages and linguistic taboos *Anne Storch*

### **Part II. Typology of grammatical categories**

10. A typology of morphological processes: form and function *David Beck*
11. A typology of noun categorization devices *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*
12. Negation *Matti Miestamo*
13. Number *Edith Moravcsik*
14. A typology of frustrative marking in Amazonian languages *Simon E. Overall*
15. Logophoricity *Felix Ameka*
16. Switch reference *John Roberts*
17. Approaches to motion event typology *Eric Pederson*

### **Part III. Typological profiles of linguistic areas and language families**

18. Language in the mainland Southeast Asia area *N. J. Enfield*
19. The Australian linguistic area *R. M. W. Dixon*
20. An overview of Aymaran and Quechuan language structures *Willem Adelaar*
21. The Eskimo-Aleut language family *Michael Fortescue*
22. The Athabaskan (Dene) language family *Keren Rice and Willem de Reuse*
23. The Iroquoian language family *Marianne Mithun*
24. The Kampa subgroup of the Arawak language family *Elena Mihas*
25. The Omotic language family *Azeb Amha*
26. The Semitic language family *Aaron D. Rubin*
27. The Dravidian language family *Sanford Steever*
28. The Oceanic subgroup of the Austronesian language family *Valérie Guérin*
29. The Greater Awyu-Ndumut language family of West Papua *Lourens de Vries*

## **THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF EVIDENTIALITY**

edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (Oxford University Press, 2017)

1. Evidentials: the framework ALEXANDRA Y. AIKHENVALD
- Appendix. Fieldworker guide to evidentiality systems: Checklist of points
- Evidentiality and related concepts: glossary of terms
- PART I. EVIDENTIALITY: ITS EXPRESSION, SCOPE AND HISTORY
2. Evidentials and person JACKSON T.-S. SUN
3. Evidentiality and its relations with other verbal categories DIANA FORKER
- 4 Evidentials and epistemic modality BJÖRN WIEMER
5. Non-propositional evidentiality GUILLAUME JACQUES
6. Where do evidentials come from? VICTOR FRIEDMAN
7. Contact-induced change in evidentials ALEXANDRA Y. AIKHENVALD
- PART II. EVIDENTIALS IN COGNITION, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY
8. Evidentials, information sources, and cognition ERCENÜR ÜNAL AND ANNA PAPAFRAGOU
9. The acquisition of evidentiality STANKA FITNEVA

10. The interactional and cultural pragmatics of evidentiality in Pastaza Quichua  
JANIS NUCKOLLS
11. Evidence and evidentiality in Quechua narrative discourse ROSALEEN  
HOWARD
12. Stereotypes and evidentiality MICHAEL WOOD

Part III. EVIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION SOURCES: FURTHER ISSUES AND  
APPROACHES

13. Evidentiality: the notion and the term KASPER BOYE
14. Extragrammatical expression of information source MARIO SQUARTINI
15. Evidentiality and formal semantic theories MARGARET SPEAS

PART IV. EVIDENTIALITY ACROSS THE WORLD

16. Evidentiality and the Cariban languages EITHNE B. CARLIN
17. Evidentiality in Nambikwara languages DAVID EBERHARD
18. Evidentiality in Tukanoan languages KRISTINE STENZEL AND ELSA GOMEZ-  
IMBERT
19. Evidentiality in Bora-Witotoan languages KATARZYNA I. WOJTYLAK
20. Evidentiality in the Uto-Aztecan languages TIM THORNES
21. Evidentiality in Algonquian MARIE-ODILE JUNKER, CONOR M. QUINN, AND J.  
RANDOLPH VALENTINE
22. Evidentiality in Gitksan TYLER PETERSON
23. Evidentiality in Nakh-Daghestanian languages DIANA FORKER
24. Turkic indirectivity LARS JOHANSON
25. Evidentials in Uralic languages ELENA SKRIBNIK AND PETAR KEHAYOV
26. Evidentiality in Mongolic BENJAMIN BROSIG AND ELENA SKRIBNIK
27. Evidentiality in Tibetic SCOTT DELANCEY
28. Evidentiality in Bodic (Tibeto-Burman) languages GWENDOLYN HYSLOP
29. Evidentiality and the expression of knowledge: an African perspective ANNE  
STORCH
30. Evidentiality in the languages of New Guinea HANNAH SARVASY
31. Evidentiality in Formosan languages CHIA-JUNG PAN
32. Reported evidential in Philippine languages JOSEPHINE S. DAGUMAN
33. Evidentiality in Korean HO-MIN SOHN
34. Evidentiality in Japanese HEIKO NARROG AND WENJIANG YANG
35. *Dizque* and other emergent evidential forms in Romance languages ASIER  
ALCÁZAR
36. Evidentials and evidentiality strategies in signed languages SHERMAN  
WILCOX AND BARBARA SHAFFER

References

## COMMANDS: A CROSS-LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY

edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R.M.W. Dixon, Oxford: Oxford University Press (Explorations in Linguistic Typology, vol 7), 2017

This book focuses on the form and the function of commands—directive speech acts such as pleas, entreaties, and orders—from a typological perspective. A team of internationally-renowned experts in the field examine the interrelationship of these speech acts with cultural stereotypes and practices, as well as their origins and development, especially in the light of language contact.

The volume begins with an introduction outlining the marking and the meaning of imperatives and other ways of expressing commands and directives. Each of the chapters that follow then offers an in-depth analysis of commands in a particular language. These analyses are cast in terms of ‘basic linguistic theory’—a cumulative typological functional framework—and the chapters are arranged and structured in a way that allows useful comparison between them. The languages investigated include Quechua, Japanese, Lao, Aguaruna and Ashaninka Satipo (both from Peru), Dyirbal (from Australia), Zenzontepec Chatino (from Mexico), Nungon, Tayatuk and Karawari (from Papua New Guinea), Korowai (from West Papua), Wolaitta (from Ethiopia), and Northern Paiute (a native language of the United States).

### Contents

- 1 Commands: a cross-linguistic view *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*
- 2 Imperatives and commands in Quechua *Willem F. H. Adelaar*
- 3 The grammatical representation of commands and prohibitions in Aguaruna *Simon E. Overall*
- 4 Imperatives in Ashaninka Satipo (Kampa Arawak) of Peru *Elena Mihás*
- 5 Commands in Zenzontepec Chatino (Otomanguean) *Eric W. Campbell*
- 6 What Dyirbal uses instead of commands *R. M. W. Dixon*
- 7 On the heterogeneity of Northern Paiute directives *Tim Thornes*
- 8 Imperatives and commands in Japanese *Nerida Jarkey*
- 9 Commands in Lao *N. J. Enfield*
- 10 Imperatives and command strategies in Tayatuk (Morobe, PNG) *Valérie Guérin*
- 11 Imperatives and commands in Nungon *Hannah Sarvasy*
- 12 The imperative paradigm of Korowai, a Greater Awyu language of West Papua *Lourens de Vries*
- 13 Commands as a form of intimacy among the Karawari of Papua New Guinea *Borut Telban*
- 14 Commands in Wolaitta *Azeb Amha*
- 15 Veiled commands: Anthropological perspectives on directives *Rosita Henry*

## Monograph Series

### **BRILL'S STUDIES IN LANGUAGE, COGNITION AND CULTURE**

Editors: Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, R. M. W. Dixon and N. J. Enfield

This peer-reviewed book series offers an international forum for high-quality original studies in languages and cultures. It focuses on the interaction between linguistic categories (and their conceptualization), cultural values, and human cognition. Publications in this series will include interdisciplinary studies on language, its meanings and forms, and possible interactions with cognitive and communicational patterns. The series spans cultural and social anthropology, cognitive science and linguistics. The emphasis is on inductively based cross-linguistic and crosscultural studies, with special attention to poorly known areas, such as Lowland Amazonia and the Pacific.

THE FOLLOWING VOLUMES WERE PUBLISHED IN 2016 OR ARE IN PRESS:

**Yamaguchi, Tashiko and David Deterding** (eds.). *English in Malasia, Current Use and Status*, BSLC 14, approx. xiii, 169 pp, 2016.

**Rankin, Robert L.** Forthcoming. *Siouan Studies: Selected Papers by Robert L. Rankin*. Selected and annotated by John P. Boyle and David S. Rood, with the assistance of Willem de Reuse, Johannes Helmbrecht, David Kaufman, and Kathleen Shea

Further information is available on <http://www.brill.com/publications/brills-studies-language-cognition-and-culture>.

**NEW BOOKS IN LINCOM EUROPA SERIES 'OUTSTANDING GRAMMARS FROM AUSTRALIA'**, edited by R. M. W. Dixon. Munich: Lincom Europa.

**Ford, Lysbeth.** 2016. *Batjamalh Grammar and Dictionary*. Outstanding grammars from Australia 16. 162 pp.

**Marnita, Rina AS.** 2016. *Classifiers in Minangkabau: a typological study*. Outstanding grammars from Australia 17. 276 pp.

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## Announcement

Most members of the Language and Culture Research Centre have written (or are writing) a grammar of a language, and many of us are working on typological universals, by inductive generalisations from a well-chosen sample of grammars. We welcome enquiries from similarly oriented scholars (from Australia or from overseas) who would like to consider spending a sabbatical with us. We can provide basic facilities, plus an intellectual ambience of the highest order.

## What happened at LCRC during 2016

### Visiting Fellows

- **Professor Pavel Štekauer**, Professor of English Linguistics, Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, P. J. Safarik University, Kosice, Slovakia, Professor in English Linguistics, English Philology, Rzeszow University, and Professor at KRE University, Budapest, Hungary, April-May 2016.
- **Associate Professor Lívia Körtvélyessy**, of the Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, P. J. Safarik University, Kosice, Slovakia and Rzeszow University, April-May 2016.
- **Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho**, PhD student of the Universidade Estadual Paulisa Júlio de Mesquita Filho, LCRC Visiting Fellow on doutorado-sanduiche program (funded by CNPq, Brazil), August 2015 - July 2016.
- **Joseph Brooks** (MA University of California Santa Barbara), PhD student at the University of California Santa Barbara, April, June-August and November - early December 2016
- **Martin Kohlberger** (MA University of Edinburgh) is a PhD student at Leiden University April, June-August and November - early December 2016
- **Dr Hiroko Sato**, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, LCRC Visiting Fellow, August 2016

### Special seminars and events

**Special Seminar (jointly by DTM and LCRC), Wednesday 15 June, D3-054 (Cairns), and 040-103 (Townsville)**

**Associate Professor Kathy Andrews**, Griffith University

**MALARIA ELIMINATION: SHIFTING PRIORITIES  
IN MALARIA DRUG DISCOVERY RESEARCH**

**Special Seminar, Wednesday 17 August, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Dr Hiroko Sato**, University of Hawaii

**POSSESSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS AND NOMINALIZATION IN KOVE**

**Special Seminar, Wednesday 24 August, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Dr Kirsty Gillespie**, University of Queensland

**SONGS AND STORIES FROM THE LIHIR ISLAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**Special Seminar, Wednesday 5 October, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Dr Lidia Mazzitelli**, University of Cologne

## POSSESSION IN CIRCUM-BALTIC LANGUAGES

**Special seminar, Wednesday 16 November, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Olga Maxwell, LaTrobe University**

### **INTONATION AND PROSODIC MARKING OF PROMINENCE IN EDUCATED INDIAN ENGLISH**

**Special seminar, Tuesday 22 November, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Dr Angelika Miezner, University of Cologne**

### **FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, GESTURES AND WHISTLED WORDS: ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF COMMUNICATING INFORMATION AND EMOTION AMONG THE CHERANG'ANY OF KENYA**

## **Seminars and Roundtable meetings of LCRC**

Meeting of the LCRC, held throughout the year, are open to anyone interested in linguistic topics. Presentations in 2016 were:

10 February	Angeliki Alvanoudi	Language contact, borrowing and code switching: a case study of Australian Greek
17 February	Bob Dixon	The grammar of English pronouns
2 March	Simon Overall	Negation in Kandozi
9 March	Elena Mihas	Syntactic and prosodic projections of turn completions in Alto Perene turn-taking management
13 April	Pavol Stekauer	Onomasiological theory of word-formation
20 April	Livia Körtvélyessy	Typology in word-formation
27 April	Martin Kohlberger	The linguistic history of Ecuador: insights from toponymy
8 June	Bai Junwei (Abe)	Serial verbs in Mandarin
7 September	Kasia Wojtylak	Aspects of Nonuya (Witotoan) grammar
26 October	David Felipe Guerrero Beltrán	The Alignment Person-Marking System in Karijona
2 Novembe	Luca Ciucci	On para-hypotactical structures in Zamucoan (Ayoreo, Chamacoco)
9 November	Firew Girma Worku	Morphophonemic processes in Gawwada: a moraic model representation
30 November	Inti Aedo Orozco	Evaluatives in grammar
7 December	Martin Kohlberger	Initial insights from the multilingual Sibundoy Valley (Colombia)
14 December		End-of-year Roundtable



*Tides of Transformation*  
*Pacific Pasts, Pacific Futures*  
*The 6th Biennial Conference of the Australian*  
*Association for Pacific Studies*

The Cairns Institute, James Cook University  
 Cairns, North Queensland, Australia  
 1-4 April, 2016, Panel 2

*Shifting cultures, shifting languages: a Pacific perspective*

3 April 2016, D3-059, 9.00-12.00

Convenors:

Distinguished Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and Professor R. M. W. Dixon  
 Language and Culture Research Centre, JCU

The Panel featured four talks followed by a discussion:

- 'Iaai on the Move: Dynamics of Linguistic Changes in a Kanak Language of New Caledonia', by Anne-Laure Dotte (*Université de la Nouvelle-Calédonie*)
- 'Shifting language use in the Southern Gulf of Carpentaria (Northern Australia)', by Cassy Nancarrow (LCRC, JCU)
- 'Tides of Cultural Transformation through the Eyes of UPNG students', by Olga Temple (UPNG)
- 'ONGO: Phonetics wellbeing that resonates', by Tomui Kaloni (Tufunga/architect/artist)

**WORKSHOPS**

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

RESEARCH CENTRE

Special Workshop

**Grammatical categories and information structure**

**Conveners: Simon Overall and Sasha Aikhenvald**

Wednesday 29 June 2016, D3, JCU Cairns

The Workshop featured ten presentations and subsequent discussion, following an official opening & launch of *Are some languages better than others?* by R. M. W. Dixon by Professor Stewart Lockie, Director of the Cairns Institute

- 'Pivot and highlighting in Dyirbal', by R. M. W. Dixon
- 'The use of discourse particles as markers of subordination in Shiwiar', by Martin Kohlberger
- 'Differential case marking and information structure in Murui', by Kasia Wojtylak

- 'Information structure: focus marking in Deni (Arawá)', by Mateus Carvalho
- 'Information structure in Kuuk Thaayorre', by Alice Gaby
- 'Topical and focused object constructions in object-initial clauses in Chini', by Joseph Brooks
- 'Deciphering demonstratives in Meriam Mir: their meanings and function', by Nick Piper
- 'Lexical and discursive conditioning of optional case marking in Eibela', by Grant Aiton
- 'Mixed motivations: how to mark grammatical relations in Manambu', by Sasha Aikhenvald
- 'Information structure and mood marking in the Kandozi-Chapra clause', by Simon Overall

### **CREATIVITY IN LANGUAGE: SECRET CODES AND SPECIAL STYLES**

**Special workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre and the Institute of African Studies (University of Cologne) supported by a grant from DAAD and Universities Australia**

**Coordinators: Anne Storch, Alexandra Aikhenvald  
Wednesday 10 August-Thursday 11 August**

The Workshop was introduced by Anne Storch, and the final discussion was moderated by Bob Dixon. It featured the following talks:

- Anne Storch, 'Meanings of linguistic secrecy. On intentional unintelligibility and the performance of noisy utterance'
- Nico Nassenstein, 'Manipulation in late life: linguistic secrecy and the unintelligible in the speech of the elderly in Eastern Congo'
- Elena Mihas, 'The two-party activity of *tsinampantsi* 'joking' among Perené and Satipo Kampa Arawaks of Peru: its organization, infrastructure, and interactional import'
- Kasia Wojtylak, 'The Murui signal drums'
- Andrea Hollington, 'Chibende - insights into a Zimbabwean secret youth language and its sociolinguistic context'
- Luca Ciucci, 'A culture of secrecy: the hidden narratives of the Ayoreo'
- Sasha Aikhenvald, 'Hidden from women's ears: gender-based taboos in the Vaupés area'
- Christiane Bongartz, 'Silence in language learning: vignettes on secrecy in classroom settings'
- Simon Overall, 'Imagery and metaphor in Chicham (Jivaroan) magic and vision-seeking'
- Joseph Brooks, 'New words for new concepts: creative word coinage in Chini'
- Martin Kohlberger, 'The hunting avoidance register in Shiwiar: A mechanism for lexical borrowing'

The volume emanating from the Workshop will shortly be submitted to an international publisher

## Global Workshop

We jointly pick a topic of general appeal, with a number of people making presentations with respect to a language of which they have first-hand knowledge. **The workshop 'Possession'** commenced on 16 March 2016 and will run into 2017. The Initial Orientation was given by R. M. W. Dixon and Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald on 16 March 2016.

23 March	Mateus Carvalho	Deni
6 April	Nick Piper	Meriam Mir
1 June	Bob Dixon	Fijian
22 June	Kasia Wojtylak	Murui Witoto
6 July	Simon Overall	Kandozi
20 July	Martin Kohlberger	Shiwiar
27 July	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Yalaku
3 August	Joseph Brooks	Chini
31 August	Luca Ciucci	Chamacoco
14 September	Elena Mihas	Satipo Ashaninka
21 September	Bob Dixon	Dyirbal
12 October	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Tariana
19 October	Howard Oates	Ninggirum

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### **Endorsements for *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R.M.W. Dixon, Cambridge University Press, 2017**

(<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/the-cambridge-handbook-of-linguistic-typology/50C48FB122A817ED3ACED4D238D1A821>)

'This Handbook provides a state-of-the-art survey of achievements and developments in the field of linguistic typology, covering the history of typology, phonological, morphological and syntactic typology, the relation of typology to historical linguistics, areal typology, sociolinguistic typology, and typological studies of sign languages. It takes account of all substantial typological studies published so far and adds a wealth of new data and analyses, based on the rich experience of the editors themselves and the expertise of a number of scholars of high competence in their respective fields.' **Lars Johanson - Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany**

'Edited by two of the world's leading typologists, this Handbook enables the reader to access a wealth of information on language structures far beyond those that have been covered in previous typological work.' **Bernd Heine - Universität zu Köln**

## Activities of LCRC members in 2016

**Inti Aedo Orozco** finished her MA degree in Linguistics at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany and published her MA dissertation *Evaluatives in Grammar* in April 2016. She started as a PhD student at the LCRC and started preparing a project to document Kamula, a poorly described language spoken in the Western Province of PNG. In February 2017 she is undertaking a preliminary field trip to one of the Kamula speaker communities together with Michael Wood (an expert on the Kamula culture and social structure). Soon after returning from the preliminary fieldtrip to PNG, she will be presenting a Confirmation of Candidature seminar, and later on in 2017, she will return to the community for a longer period of immersion fieldwork to assemble language materials for the production of a full grammar.

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald** saw through the press her monograph *How gender shapes the world* (OUP, 2016 by Oxford University Press), a cumulation of her expertise in the analysis of gender in all its guises. She spent a substantial amount of time seeing through press the voluminous *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology* (Cambridge University Press), and putting together a comprehensive *Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality*, a state-of-the art volume on grammaticalised information source. Her introduction to the volume, 'Evidentiality: the framework', summarises the major issues and analytic parameters of evidentiality. She did additional fieldwork on the Yalaku language in the East Sepik Province, with the support of the community and the local Councillor, Joel Ukaia, and further fieldwork on Manambu, from the same area and the same Ndu family. Her corpus of materials on Yalaku consists of about ten hours transcribed and translated recordings, in addition to fieldnotes. A grammar of Yalaku is under way.

Throughout the year, she published and prepared for publication papers on linguistic areas in Amazonia, the expression of person in Arawak languages, the typology of classifiers and various aspects of languages of the Sepik, in addition to preparing a five-year report on the activities and achievements of the LCRC. She continued as Associate Editor for the *Journal of Language Contact*, as editor for monograph series Brill's Studies in *Language, Cognition and Culture*, as member of various editorial boards, and as Consultant on South American etymologies for the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

**Grant Aiton** has continued working on description and documentation of Eibela. He participated in the LCRC Workshop 'Grammatical categories and information structure', and continued his work as curator of fieldwork equipment at the LCRC, training linguists in fieldwork technology. He submitted his PhD 'A grammar of Eibela' for examination, and has returned to Papua New Guinea to continue working on a project funded by the Endangered Language Documentation Programme.

**Angeliki Alvanoudi** continued her work on conceptualization of gender, having edited a special section on 'Aspects of the Meaning of Gender' in the *International Journal of Language and Culture* 3(1) and authoring the introductory chapter, in addition to other research articles. Her monograph, with *Language contact, borrowing and code switching: Greek in Australia*, is under contract with Palgrave Macmillan. The monograph is an in-depth investigation of the Greek language spoken by immigrants in Far North Queensland, Australia. The monograph examines the structure and use of Greek in diaspora, with particular attention to language contact induced changes, such as borrowing of lexemes and discourse patterns, shedding light into the nature and extent of variation in Greek in diaspora. The study explores code switching in naturally occurring conversations with first-generation and second-generation Greeks, employing a conversation analytic framework. She continues teaching linguistics courses at Aristotle University in Thessaloniki.

**Bai Junwei (Abe)** spent the first half of 2016 in LCRC, studying the principles of typological analysis and basic linguistic theory, as well as the literature on Tibeto-Burman languages, and preparing to start fieldwork on Munya, a previously undescribed Tibeto-Burman language. The second half of 2016 was spent in the field (where he will remain for four months of 2017). He is undertaking immersion fieldwork in the Munya-speaking communities and making exciting discoveries on evidentials, egophorics and directionals.

**Juliane Böttger** continued teaching introductory linguistics and phonetics for speech pathologists at JCU Townsville. In addition, she is working on publications resulting from her thesis. She hopes to return to her field site, Manus Island, soon, to present the Lele language community with copies of language materials, such as a collection of stories and a list of vocabulary items, and is preparing her thesis for publication.

**Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho**, a PhD student at UNESP – FCLAr (Brazil), is finalising his comprehensive grammar of Deni, an Arawá language spoken in southern Amazonia, Brazil, in addition to Arawá materials.

**Luca Ciucci** published his first book *Inflectional morphology in the Zamucoan languages* (Asunción, CEADUC). He is working at a grammatical description of Chamacoco (Zamucoan) and on language contact in the Chaco. He continued his cooperation with Pier Marco Bertinetto on the reconstruction of Proto-Zamucoan, on the grammar of Ayoreo and on other typological aspects of Zamucoan. He is preparing the critical edition of Chomé's *Vocabulario de la lengua Zamuca*. It is the only extant dictionary of the extinct Old Zamuco language, and it was rediscovered by Pier Marco Bertinetto and Luca Ciucci in 2014. He has begun to work on Chiquitano, with a special focus on the language spoken in the Jesuit Missions, its evolution and its contact with Zamucoan.



**R. M. W. Dixon** saw through the press his controversial monograph *Are some languages better than others?* (Oxford University Press, 2016). His major project during the year was a monograph *The unmasking of English dictionaries* which contains a critical examination of lexicographical practices, and suggestions for a reform. He continued work on a comprehensive thesaurus-dictionary of Dyirbal, dealing with all the available information on ten dialects, gathered during fieldwork between 1963 and 2002. The lexemes are arranged in semantic sets, largely motivated by the way in which they share correspondence in Jalnguy, the mother-in-law style. There is full information on identification of flora and fauna. A preliminary version of Part 1 of the thesaurus, covering nouns, adjectives and time words, has now been completed, together with an alphabetical index. This will be launched in early 2017. He has also continued working with his extensive field materials on the Boumaa dialect of Fijian and on Jarawara, from southern Amazonia. He continued as co-editor of the OUP series *Explorations in Linguistic Typology* and *Brill's Studies in Language, Cognition and Culture* and as a member of the editorial board for *Anthropological Linguistics*.

**Valérie Guérin** spent the first half of 2016 working on a draft grammar of Tayatuk, from Morobe Province of PNG. She is now Adjunct Fellow of the LCRC. Her current projects include an edited book on the typology of bridging constructions and an article on optional case marking in Tayatuk.

**Rosita Henry** finalised work on the ARC Discovery project 'Objects of possession: artefact transactions in the Wet Tropics of North Queensland', co-editing with Shelley Greer, Russell McGregor and Michael Wood, the volume *Transactions and Transformations: Artefacts of the Wet Tropics, North Queensland (Memoirs of the Queensland Museum (Culture) Volume 10, December 2016)*. She also conducted research for the ARC project 'Planning for later life: An ethnographic analysis of ageing among transnational Papua New Guineans'. She presented on this research at the Australian Association for Pacific Studies Conference (Cairns, April 2016) and at the Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting (ANZSGM) (Cairns, June 2016). Rosita continued to work with Daniela Vávrová on their ethnographic film *An Extraordinary Wedding; Marriage and Modernity in Western Highlands, PNG*. They co-authored a paper on this work which was published in December 2016. Rosita successfully convened the Australian Association of Pacific Studies Conference *Tides of Transformation* held at the Cairns Institute (1-3 April 2016) and ran an Ethnographic Field School in PNG for 10 JCU students, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) under the New Colombo Plan. This mobility project will be run again in 2017 and 2018 by Rosita under the title 'Sustainable Futures for Tropical Societies', in collaboration with staff from the University of Papua New Guinea and staff of Haus Poroman (a local business enterprise based in Kunguma Village, Mt Hagen). In May 2016, Rosita was elected Chair of the Ethics Taskforce of the World Council of Anthropological Associations at the WCAA



Biennial Meeting, IUEAS Inter-Congress, Dubrovnik. In this capacity she is co-convening a panel at the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) and Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA) Conference in Ottawa in May 2017.

**Elena Mihas** completed a book titled ‘Conversational structures of Alto Perené’ (Arawak), which is a focused exploration of the speech community’s communicative practices (the publisher is John Benjamins). It is seen as a companion volume of the descriptive grammar of Alto Perené (Mihas 2015), written from a functional-typological perspective. Elena also continued the documentation project of Satipo Ashaninka Arawak of Peru begun in 2014. She carried out fieldwork in the Satipo Province, making video and audio recordings of daily conversations and noting the patterns of multimodal interaction of native speakers. She also began working on the manuscript ‘A grammar of Satipo Ashaninka, with comparative notes on other Northern Kampa Arawak languages of Peru’ (University of Nebraska Press). The strong point of the grammar’s analyses will come from the inclusion of comparative notes on two Northern Kampa languages, Alto Perené and Pichis, which Elena has extensively studied in 2008-2016. The grammar will be based on a large corpus of fieldwork data collected during the author’s 7-month ethnographic fieldwork (2011, 2014-2016) in the Satipo province. The corpus includes over 11 hours of multigenre video recordings of 21 native speakers. The Satipo Ashaninka corpus is supplemented by the Alto Perené field data (over 50 hours of video and audio recordings) and Pichis data (over 8 hours of video and audio recordings). She has started fieldwork on a variety of maritime Koryak, spoken on the eastern coast of the Kamchatka peninsula, Russia. The collaborative project will involve the native community and colleagues from Russian research institutions.

**Cassy Nancarrow** is an educator and linguist focussing on the Australian languages of North Queensland, currently working with the Queensland Department of Education and Training to support the teaching of Indigenous languages in schools and the development of teachers of Indigenous EAL/D students. She has an ongoing interest in the language of song and manages a digital song archive at Mornington Island. Cassy also works on language revival projects with community groups in the Cairns region, and lectures in Anthropological Linguistics at JCU.

**Colleen Oates** spent 2016 teaching in a local Bible College at Calvary Church and continued work on revised Anthropology curriculum for WBT/SIL. In 2017 she will be serving as Area Coordinator for CWCI (Christian Women Communicating Internationally), teaching in the Bible College at Calvary Church, and revision of *Stone changes our world: surviving Ok Tedi* in the latter part of the year.

**Simon Overall** was in north Peru from March to May of 2016, visiting Chapra communities as part of his project documenting the Kandozi-Chapra language, funded by the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme. The trip also

included a visit to the Aguaruna community of Temashnum to continue supporting a local project documenting ethnobotanical knowledge. In May Simon attended the Amazonicas VI Conference in Leticia, Colombia and Tabatinga, Brazil, where he co-organised a session on “Historical Phonology and Sound Change in Amazonian Languages”. He also presented a paper on “Negation in Kandozi-Chapra” at the conference. Simon’s monograph *A Grammar of Aguaruna* has gone to press in January 2017. Editing work continues on a volume on nominalization in Northwest Amazonia (jointly with Kasia Wojtylak) and one on non-verbal predication in Amazonian languages (jointly with Rosa Vallejos and Spike Gildea), and a grammar of Kandozi-Chapra is underway. In early 2017 Simon will return to the Morona and Pastaza Rivers in north Peru to finish up his ELDP project on documentation of Kandozi-Chapra.

**Chia-jung Pan** is a Young Academic Leader of Nankai University within the School of Literature. Currently, he is continuing his research into the Saaroa language and investigating its genetic and areal relations with neighbouring Tsou and Kanakanavu languages. He completed a chapter on evidentiality in Formosan languages, to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality*.

**Nick Piper** presented a paper at the Special Workshop on Grammatical Categories and Information Structure at JCU on 29-30 June 2016 called ‘Deciphering demonstratives in Meriam: their meanings & function’. She continues to do research towards a PhD on Meriam Mir.

**Robin Rodd** has become the secretary of the Association of Iberian and Latin American Studies of Australasia. Along with a colleague at the University of Sydney (Abi Taylor), Robin was successful in winning a highly competitive Australian Political Studies Association Workshop Grant. The event, 'The figure of the Citizen in Times of Crisis: Disappearing, emerging and reimagined', will be hosted at the Sydney Democracy Network at the University of Sydney on the 29-30 June, and will bring together a dozen of Australia’s leading scholars of citizenship, democracy and human rights to discuss the disappearance and transformation of the figure of the citizen as a political agent on the borders between states, and within the borders of liberal democracies. He is also co-ordinating the critical theory reading group which will be video linked to Cairns.

**Mikko Salminen** successfully finalised his PhD thesis on the Huave variety of San Dionisio del Mar. He is also working on his Oral Literature project from the Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research, together with two local team members.

**Hiroko Sato** is conducting ongoing research on Bebeli, an Austronesian language spoken in the West New Britain region of Papua New Guinea. She undertook a ten-week fieldtrip to Papua New Guinea in 2016. While her primary focus is the documentation of Bebeli, she has also conducted fieldwork on related languages, Akolet, Avau and Gelim, for comparative purposes. She is

also involved in projects on Tok Pisin such as an experimental study on the acquisition of Tok Pisin *wh*-questions. She co-edited *Introductory Readings on the Languages of the Pacific Islands*, which is now used as a textbook at two universities. In the past year, she has given several talks on language issues in Papua New Guinea.

**Reesa Sorin**'s research this year will concentrate in Singapore, following the change of a special needs school to an arts-based curriculum. She will then travel to Canada to research the Major Work program, which was a gifted and talented program in Winnipeg in the 1950s – 70s.

**Sean Ulm** continued work on his ARC Future Fellowship to refine radiocarbon dating of marine materials across the tropics. He also continued work on a previous ARC Discovery Project working with the Kaiadilt Aboriginal community on Bentinck Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria to determine how the arrival of humans in the island archipelago in the last few thousand years transformed the environment. Early 2017r Sean will commence work on a new ARC Discovery Project to explore the deep history of sea country by developing and applying techniques to the investigation of submerged cultural landscapes on Australia's continental shelf. In mid-2017 Sean commences as Deputy Director of the new ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (CABAH). JCU is a major node in CABAH, which will launch an innovative, interdisciplinary research program to investigate the human and environmental history of Australia, Papua New Guinea and eastern Indonesia from 130,000 years ago – when Australia was devoid of humans and the climate was similar to today's – to the time of initial European invasion. CABAH will be launched in mid-2017, funded by a \$33.75 million grant from the ARC, \$1 million from the NSW Government, and \$11 million from participating universities, museums, and other organisations. These will support around 40 new research positions and over 50 new research students over the 7-year life of the Centre. Other highlights for the year included serving as Deputy Chair of the Humanities and Creative Arts Panel of the ARC College of Experts and completing a fourth and final year serving on the ARC College of Experts.

**Kasia Wojtylak** undertook a lengthy period of fieldwork in 2015-early 2016, in the Colombian part of the Amazon, to collect linguistic data and finalize her PhD thesis 'A grammar of Murui (Bue), a Witotoan language of Northwest Amazonia'. In May 2016 she returned to South America to participate in the biannual conference AMAZONICAS VI on indigenous Amazonian languages held at the National University of Colombia in Leticia and the University of the State of Amazonas in Tabatinga, Brazil. In November, Kasia successfully presented her pre-Completion seminar at JCU, and is currently revising her final draft of the thesis, which will be submitted for examination in March 2017. She is also working on the feature documentary film 'Kai Murui Uai - Our Murui Words', done together with a filmmaker Kristian Lupinski, which will be released in June 2017.

**Michael Wood** started field work in 2015 on a project designed to establish potential World Heritage values of the large caves and surrounding cultural landscape found in the Nakanai Ranges in New Britain Island. He ended the year with a return trip to the region. Should provisional funding be confirmed, 2017 could involve Michael helping locals to record and create their own histories of gardening.

**Firew Girma Worku** started his PhD course in July 2016 and spent a few months studying basic linguistic theory and principles of grammar writing, and familiarising himself with the existing literature on Nilo-Saharan languages and especially the Mursi people, whose language he is currently investigating. He started his first period of immersion fieldwork in late 2016.

**Maria Wronska-Friend** published a bilingual book (Indonesian/English) *Batik Jawa bagi Dunia. Javanese Batik to the World* (in Jakarta). The book examines the impact of Javanese batik on textiles made by artists and craftsmen in Europe, West Africa, India as well as by Aboriginal societies of the central desert. The book was launched at the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Indonesia in Jakarta and Gajah Mada University in Yogyakarta. In June at the textile conference in Glarus, Switzerland, she presented a paper *Java Batik Imitationen im 19 Jahrhundert: die Initiativen von Thomas Stamford Raffles und Carlos Forel Koechlin*. She also conducted research in Bengal, India, at the Visva Bharati University in Santiniketan where she examined collection of Indonesian textiles brought by Rabindranath Tagore from his 1927 visit to Java and Bali.

**Sihong Zhang** continues his work on Ersu and other Tibetan languages, and revising papers on various issues, in addition to a busy schedule as Vice Dean at the School of International Education and Exchange at Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, combining administrative and teaching duties with continuing research productivity. His PhD thesis 'A grammar of Ersu' was published in 2016 by Lincom Europa.

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## Publications by past and present members of LCRC 2016 and forthcoming

### Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald

2016. *How gender shapes the world*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2016. 'Distance, direction, and relevance: how to choose and to use a demonstrative in Manambu'. *Anthropological Linguistics* 57: 1-45 (dated 2015, published 2016)
2016. 'Language contact and word structure: a case study from north-west Amazonia', pp. 297-313 of *Language Contact and Change in the Americas. Studies in honor of Marianne Mithun*, by Berez-Kroeker, Andrea L., Diane M. Hintz and Carmen Jany (eds.) [SLCS 173]. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
2016. 'Gender, shape, and sociality: how humans are special in Manambu' *International Journal of Language and Culture* for the Special Issue "Aspects of the Meaning of Gender", edited by Angeliki Alvanoudi, volume 3: 68-89.
2016. 'Imperatives and commands in Manambu'. *Oceanic Linguistics* 55: 639-73.
- Forthcoming. *Serial verbs*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. *The words we live by*. London: Profile books (contract signed April 2016).
- Forthcoming. 2017. *The Oxford Handbook of evidentiality*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. *Serial verbs*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Areal diffusion and the limits of grammaticalization: an Amazonian perspective', to appear in *Grammaticalization from a typological perspective.*, edited by Heiko Narrog and Bernd Heine. Oxford: Oxford University Press (contract signed June 2016; delivered August 2015).
- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality and information source', in 'Between evidentials and modals', ed. by Chungmin Lee and Jinhho Park. Leiden: Brill.
- Forthcoming. 'Polysynthesis in Amazonia', *Handbook of polysynthesis*, ed. by Michael Fortescue, Marianne Mithun et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Polysynthesis in Tariana', *Handbook of polysynthesis*, ed. by Michael Fortescue, Marianne Mithun et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Language contact and language endangerment', to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of language contact*, edited by Anthony Grant. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'A typology of noun categorization devices', 361-404 of *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*, edited by A. Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality: the framework, to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of evidentiality*, edited by A. Y. Aikhenvald. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality and language contact', to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of evidentiality*, edited by A. Y. Aikhenvald. Oxford: Oxford University Press.



- Forthcoming. 'Language change and language obsolescence'. to appear in *Handbook of Historical Linguistics*, edited by Brian Joseph and Richard Janda. Wiley, Routledge.
- Forthcoming. "'Me', 'us' and 'others': Expressing the self in Arawak languages of South America', to appear in *Expressing the Self: Cultural Diversity and Cognitive Universals*, edited by Minyao Huang and Kasia Jaszolt. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'The Amazon', to appear in *The Cambridge handbook of language contact*, Ed. by Salikoko S. Mufwene & Anna María Escobar. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Comparison, contrast and similarity in Yalaku', to appear in a special issue of *Linguistic Discovery* edited by Katarzyna I. Wojtylak and Yvonne Treis.
- Forthcoming. 'How to copy your neighbour's ways: a cross-generational perspective on nominalizations in Tariana (Arawak, Brazil)', to appear in a special issue *Nominalizations in the Americas*, edited by Katarzyna I. Wojtylak and Simon E. Overall.
- forthcoming. 'Imperatives and commands in a typological perspective', to appear in A. Y. Aikhenvald and R.M.W. Dixon eds. *Commands: a cross-linguistic typology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Worlds apart: language survival and language use in two Middle Sepik communities'. *Journal de la Société des Océanistes* (2018).
- Forthcoming. 'Disentangling a versatile prefix: the nature and development of a polysemous marker in Arawak languages'. *International Journal of American Linguistics*.

### **Alexandra Y Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon**

- Forthcoming. 2017. Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R.M.W. Dixon eds. *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming. Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. 'Linguistic typology: setting the scene', pp. 1-36 of *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming. 2017. A. Y. Aikhenvald and R.M.W. Dixon eds. *Commands: a cross-linguistic typology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### **Angeliki Alvanoudi**

2016. Editor of 'Aspects of the Meaning of Gender', special section of *International Journal of Language and Culture* 3(1).
2016. 'Aspects of the meaning of gender: Introduction', *International Journal of Language and Culture* 3(1): 56-67).
- Forthcoming. 'Language contact, borrowing and code switching: A case study of Australian Greek' to appear in the *Journal of Greek Linguistics*.
- Forthcoming. 2017. 'The interface between language and cultural conceptualizations of gender in interaction: the case of Greek' to be



published in the volume *Advances in Cultural Linguistics* edited by F. Sharifian, Springer.

Forthcoming. *Language contact, borrowing and code switching: Greek in Australia*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

### **Azeb Amha**

Forthcoming. 2017. 'Omotic languages', pp. 815-53 of *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **Juliane Böttger**

Forthcoming. *Topics in the grammar of Lele*. Munich: Lincom Europa.

### **Katherine E. Bolaños**

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## A SELECTION OF REVIEWS OF OUR BOOKS

'There are some seemingly simple questions where, for good reasons, the non-linguist will expect answers from the linguist, yet where the latter may not feel to be in a position to provide a fully satisfying answer. And whether some languages are better than others is one of these questions. Presumably many linguists have asked themselves the question that is the title of this book, but few would venture to do what the author of this book did, namely make this question the target of an academic publication. There is in fact justification for Dixon (henceforth: D) to tackle this topic: With over fifty years of experience in linguistic analysis and description and his vast knowledge of the typological diversity to be observed in the languages of the world, he is presumably better qualified for this task than most other linguists. [...]

D always finds a way of presenting the text not only in an intelligible but also in an entertaining format. In this way, even the unusually complex morphosyntax of Jarawara, extensively dealt with in the book, will not prevent the non-linguist from enjoying the book. And with the wide range of typological generalizations to be found across the chapters, the book is a goldmine for any general linguist.'

Bernd Heine, review of R. M. W. Dixon's *Are some languages better than others?* (2016, Oxford University Press).

'This treatise unabashedly poses the simple polar question whether some languages are 'better' than others. Dixon, an extraordinarily experienced linguist, is of course wise enough not to answer with a plain 'yes' or 'no'. At the end of the book, he even completely leaves the decision to his readers: 'It is up to you, the reader, to decide'. [...]

Dixon confesses that this book is, 'in essence, speculation—a hypothesis awaiting confirmation' (p. 246). It is, however, speculative at a high intellectual level, thought-provoking, stimulating, and inspiring. It provides a wealth of interesting data, drawn from the author's own 'forty years of immersion fieldwork' (p. vii) on lesser known languages and analyzed in a lucid way. The book is a veritable compendium of linguistics, a collection of concise but detailed information about the essential components of human languages. It is written in an accessible, enjoyable, and refreshingly clear style. It also brings many other important questions into focus, for example, the varying extents to which speakers of diverse tongues make use of the vast potential resources of human language.

Lars Johanson, review of R. M. W. Dixon's *Are some languages better than others?* (2016, Oxford University Press), forthcoming in *Language*.

## NEW AND FORTHCOMING BOOKS BY MEMBERS OF LCRC

**Inti Aedo Orozco**

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