



Research Centre for Linguistic Typology

Institute for Advanced Study



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Newsletter — February 2003

Our third year as part of the Institute for Advanced Study at La Trobe University in Melbourne has again been marked by success. The many publications of members of the Research Centre have been marked by excellence and originality. We continue to attract the highest quality scholars as Research Fellows, Visiting Fellows and Doctoral Students. The International Workshops which we host each year produce seminal volumes that are acknowledged to constitute substantial contributions to the field.

Who'll be at RCLT in 2003

Besides **Professor R. M. W. (Bob) Dixon** (Director), **Professor Alexandra Y. (Sasha) Aikhenvald** (Associate Director), **Ms Siew Peng Condon** (Executive Officer) and **Adam Bowles** (Publications Assistant), we'll have the following scholars with us this year:

Research Fellows

— **Dr. Knut Olawsky**, on an RCLT three-year Research Fellowship, has returned from his third fieldtrip to study Urarina, a language isolate spoken on the Rio Chambira in Peru. He is currently working on a grammar of this language.

— **Dr. Andrew Ingram**, on a three-year Research Fellowship, is working on a grammar of Dumo (Sko family), a Papuan language from New Guinea. He will complete his third fieldtrip in the first half of this year.

— **Dr. Janet Sharp**, on a three-year Research Fellowship, is undertaking intensive work on a grammar and dictionary of Karajarri, from the northwest of Western Australia, and on a dictionary of Northern Nyangumarta.

— **Dr. Nicole Kruspe**, on a three-year Research Fellowship, has undertaken a lengthy fieldtrip to work on Che' Wong, a previously undescribed Northern Aslian language from Malaysia. She is writing a draft grammar of this language and also working on Mah Meri, another Aslian language from Malaysia.

— **Dr. Tonya Stebbins** is a La Trobe University Postdoctoral Research Fellow. She is working on a draft grammar of Mali-Baning, a language from the Gazelle Peninsula region of New Britain, Papua New Guinea.

— **Dr. Catriona Hyslop** is a La Trobe University Postdoctoral Research Fellow. She spent six months doing fieldwork on the Vurës language of Vanuatu and is working on a grammar of this language.

— **Dr. Ulrike Zeshan** will be working on Turkish and Arabic sign languages and continuing her study of the grammatical typology of sign languages.

— **Dr. Stephen Morey** has been awarded a La Trobe University Postdoctoral Fellowship, to work at RCLT. He plans to document and describe the Turung language of Assam, India, and to investigate the relationship between Turung and the Tai languages.

Visiting Fellows

— **Professor Marianne Mithun**, of the University of California at Santa Barbara, is the major expert on the indigenous languages of North America and is a leading typologist, having published seminal works on many topics. She will be a Special Visiting Fellow (sponsored by the Vice-Chancellor) from 3 -15 August, giving a public lecture on 13 August.

— **Professor Dr. Bernd Heine**, of the Institute for African Studies of the University of Cologne, a major expert on typology, grammaticalization and African linguistics, will be a Visiting Fellow of RCLT and Special IAS Visiting Fellow from 16 February until 3 April. He will be working on the areal typology of African languages, and a reference grammar of !Xun (a North Khoisan language of Namibia).

— **Dr. Tony Diller**, of the National Thai Centre at the Australian National University, the leading scholar on the Thai language and the Tai-Kadai language family, will be a Visiting Fellow at RCLT from 1 April until 23 July. He will work on Thai verb serialization in typological perspective.

— **Professor Willem De Reuse**, of the University of North Texas, an authority on Eskimo and Athabaskan languages, will spend five months at RCLT commencing in mid-May. He will be working intensively on a reference grammar of Western Apache, a language on which he has done extensive fieldwork.

— **Professor Eve Danzinger**, of the University of Virginia, a leading expert on the Mayan language family, will be a Visiting Fellow at RCLT from May until October. She will investigate whether 'noun' and 'verb' are viable universal categories.

— **Professor Fiona McLaughlin**, of the University of Florida, one of the leading authorities on West Atlantic languages and a major expert on Wolof, will be a Visiting Fellow from July until October. She will work on noun classification in the Atlantic languages with particular attention to phonologically-based agreement.

— **Professor Zygmunt Frajzyngier**, of the University of Colorado, a major expert on Chadic languages and language typology, will be at RCLT for the last four months of the year. His main project will be a study of the interaction of syntax and morphology in the coding of various functional domains.

— **Dr. Ghil'ad Zuckermann**, of the University of Cambridge, will be at RCLT from September until December. He will explore the nature of the 'Israeli' language,

whether it should be considered a historical continuation of Ancient Hebrew (a Semitic language), or a mixed language with a basically Indo-European profile.

— **Professor Östen Dahl**, of the University of Stockholm, will be at RCLT for a month from 15 October sponsored by the Swedish Royal Academy of Letters. He will be working on a variety of issues in linguistic typology.

Honorary Visiting Fellows

— **Dr. Christa König**, of the Institute for African Studies of the University of Cologne, an expert in African languages, will be an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT from 16 February until 3 April. She will be working on the typology of case in African languages and other issues in language typology and description.

— **Professor Shobhana Chelliah**, of the University of North Texas, an authority on the Manipuri language of northeast India, will be an Honorary Visiting Fellow from early June until mid-August. She will work on various issues in Tibeto-Burman linguistics.

— **Professor Andrew Butcher**, from Flinders University, a major expert in phonetics, will be an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT from 12 August until 5 December. He will be completing and preparing for publication his major monograph on the phonetic parameters utilised by the indigenous languages of Australia.

— **Dr. John Hajek**, Head of the Department of French and Italian Studies at the University of Melbourne, will continue as a part-time Visiting Fellow, working on phonological typology and on the languages of East Timor.

— **Professor Roger Wales**, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at La Trobe University, attends RCLT as an occasional 'research retreat'. He is working on the role of prosody in discourse structure in Australian English, and on categorising spatial perspectives in discourse contexts.

PhD students

— **Antoine Guillaume** (PhD student at RCLT) is working on a full grammar of Cavineña, an endangered language from the Takana family, spoken in Bolivia.

— **Carola Emkow** (PhD student at RCLT) is working on a comprehensive grammar of Araona, a Takana language spoken in Bolivia.

— **Stefan Dienst** (PhD student at RCLT) is working on a comprehensive grammar of the Kulina language (Arawá family) from the state of Acre in Brazil.

— **Rebecca Hanson** (PhD student at RCLT) will commence about June 2003. She is planning to work on a previously undescribed (or scarcely described) indigenous language from Latin America.

— **Sheena Van Der Mark** (PhD student at RCLT) will commence about June 2003. She is planning to work on a previously undescribed indigenous language from Papua New Guinea.

— **Alec Coupe** (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) is continuing his work on the Mongsen dialect of Ao, a Tibeto-Burman language from Nagaland (India).

— **Josephine Daguman** (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) is writing a comprehensive grammar of Northern Subanen, a Western Austronesian language spoken in the Zamboanga peninsula, Philippines.

— **Rosmarie Moser** (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) is continuing her work on a grammar of Kabba, a Nilo-Saharan language spoken in the Central African Republic.

Announcement

Everyone at RCLT has written (or is 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-orientated scholars (from Australia or from overseas) who would like to consider spending a sabbatical at RCLT. We can provide a room and a computer, plus an intellectual ambience of the highest order.

Events

Local Typology Workshops

A local Workshop on **Imperatives and other commands** meets fortnightly, on Wednesday from 4.00 - 5.30 p.m., commencing on 29 January 2003. At the first meeting, Alexandra Aikhenvald presented a position paper on the parameters of variation of imperatives and strategies used for commands across the world's languages. At subsequent meetings, members of the Workshop will each give 30 minute presentations on imperatives and commands in a language on which they have specialised knowledge. At the end, we will attempt to put forward appropriate inductive generalisations. All linguists from the Melbourne area (or from elsewhere) are warmly invited to take part in this and in the following workshops. The position paper can be accessed at http://www.latrobe.edu.au/rclt/Typology_workshops/2003/Imperatives/position_paper.pdf.

A local Workshop on **Comparatives** will meet fortnightly, on Wednesday from 4.00 - 5.30 p.m., probably commencing in August. Bob Dixon will present a position paper on the criteria for comparative constructions and their parameters of variation across the world's languages. The workshop will then follow the course outlined above.

International Workshop in June 2003

Following on from our successful workshops at the ANU in 1997 and in 1998 and at La Trobe in 2000, 2001 and 2002, we shall be holding an International Workshop on 'Serial verb constructions', from Monday 9th until Saturday 14th June 2003. Auditors are welcome, at no fee (but note that we are unable to organise accommodation for auditors). The position paper for the workshop, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, can be accessed on our website, <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/rclt>. The provisional program is as follows:

Monday, 9th June 2003**at La Trobe City Campus (215 Franklin Street, corner of Queen street)**

- 9.00 Opening of Workshop by Professor Michael Osborne, Vice-Chancellor and President of La Trobe University
- 9.10 Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (RCLT) — Tariana (Arawak family, Brazil)
- 10.40 Coffee
- 11.10 Willem De Reuse (University of North Texas and RCLT) — Lakhota (Siouan)
- 12.40 Lunch
- 2.00 Roberto Zavala Maldonado (Research Centre for the Study of Social Anthropology-Sureste, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico) — Olutec (Mixean)
- 3.30 Coffee
- 4.00 Christa Kilian-Hatz (University of Cologne) — Khwe (Khoisan)
- 5.30 Finish

Tuesday 10th June 2003**at La Trobe City Campus (215 Franklin Street, corner of Queen street)**

- 9.00 Felix Ameka (University of Leiden) — Ewe (Kwa family within Niger-Congo)
- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 Carol Lord (California State University, Long Beach) — Igbo (Igboid family within Niger-Congo)
- 12.30 Lunch
- 2.00 Gerrit Dimmendaal (University of Cologne) — Ometo (Omoti branch of Afroasiatic)
- 3.30 Coffee
- 4.00 Birgit Hellwig (Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen) — Goemai (Chadic branch of Afroasiatic)
- 5.30 Finish

Wednesday 11th June 2003 — free day**Thursday 12th June 2003****at RCLT, La Trobe main campus in Bundoora**

- 9.00 Andrew Ingram (RCLT) — Dumo (Sko family, Papuan area)
- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 John Hajek (University of Melbourne) — Tetun (Austronesian)
- 12.30 Lunch
- 2.00 Frank Lichtenberk (University of Auckland) — To'aba'ita (Austronesian)
- 3.30 Coffee
- 4.00 Alex François (CNRS, Paris) — Mwotlap (Austronesian)
- 5.30 Finish

Friday 13th June 2003**at La Trobe City Campus (215 Franklin Street, corner of Queen street)**

- 9.00 Stephen Matthews (University of Hong Kong) — Cantonese
- 10.30 Coffee

- 11.00 David Solnit (Berkeley) — Karen (Tibeto-Burman)
 12.30 Lunch
 2.00 Anthony Diller (Australian National University and RCLT) — Thai
 3.30 Coffee
 4.00 Group discussion
 5.30 Finish

Saturday 14th June 2003

at La Trobe City Campus (215 Franklin Street, corner of Queen street)

- 9.30 R.M.W. Dixon (RCLT) — Summing up **NOTE: 9.30 start**
 11.00 Coffee
 11.30 Group discussion and publication plans
 1.00 Finish

Book Collection

We have a useful and growing collection of monographs, predominantly grammars of languages and works on typology, language contact, etc. In addition, we subscribe to some journals, notably *Chicago Linguistics Society Papers*, *Berkeley Linguistic Society Papers*, *Oceanic Linguistics*, *Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman area*, *Aboriginal History* and *Journal of West African Languages*. In all, we now have over 1,250 volumes.

We are grateful to Professor Michael Osborne, Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, for a one-off grant to assist in establishing the book collection. Thanks are also due to scholars who donated books this past year: Randy LaPolla, Barry Blake, Hilary Chappell, Olga Kazakevitch, Guy Deutcher, Catherine Travis, Lars Johanson, Alan Kaye, Bh. Krishnamurti, and Wally Thompson. We welcome further donations of relevant volumes — for example, from scholars taking retirement, or just from people short of shelf space.

Anyone is welcome to make use of this collection, but note that volumes may not be taken out of the building.

Report on RCLT's activities during 2002

Our **fifth International Workshop** was held from 12th to 17th August 2002, on 'Adjective Classes'. Presentations were made by N. J. Enfield (Nijmegen), Fiona McLaughlin (Florida), Felix Ameka (Leiden), Randy LaPolla and Chenglong Huang (Hong Kong), Carol Genetti and Kristine Hildebrandt (Santa Barbara), Tony Backhouse (Hokkaido), Ho-Minh Sohn (Hawai'i), Nora England (Texas), Paulette Levy (Mexico), Wallace Chafe (Santa Barbara), Greville Corbett (Surrey), John Hajek (Melbourne) and Catriona Hyslop, Nicole Kruse, Aikhenvald and Dixon (all from RCLT) on a range of languages from North, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Nepal, Burma, Laos, Malaysia, China, Japan, Korea and Vanuatu.

When opening the 2002 Workshop, Professor Michael Osborne (Vice-Chancellor of the University) announced that he was establishing a Special Visiting

Fellowship. Each year, a leading international scholar in linguistic typology will be invited to spend some weeks at the University, receiving an Honorary Degree and giving a Public Lecture.

The volumes from our first four International Workshops were put out by three different publishers. We are delighted to announce that, commencing with the 2002 Workshop, all volumes will be published by Oxford University Press (subject to approval by the publishers' independent referees) in a special series, *Explorations in Linguistic Typology*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon.

Cambridge University Press publishes a series **Cambridge Language Surveys** (with a green cover). We are delighted to note that four volumes in this series were partly or wholly produced under the auspices of RCLT. These are: *The Amazonian languages*, edited by Dixon and Aikhenvald (1999), *The Dravidian languages*, by Bh. Krishnamurti (2002), *Australian languages: their nature and development*, by Dixon (2002) and *The languages of the Andes*, by Willem F.H. Adelaar (due out in 2003). A further volume in the series, *The Balkan Languages*, by Brian Joseph and Victor Friedman, was planned during the authors' sojourn in the Research Centre in 2001.

When La Trobe University was established, it was designated to be the Australian University with specialisation in Latin American Studies. This accords well with the research plan of RCLT which has earmarked Amazonia as one of its three areas of particular linguistic focus (the others being the Papuan languages of New Guinea and the Aboriginal languages of Australia). We have maintained propitious links with La Trobe's **Institute of Latin American Studies**, involving the exchange of seminars, ideas and information.

A **local Workshop on Copula Clauses and Verbless Clauses** met fortnightly, on Wednesdays 4 - 5.30 p.m., from 8 May till 13 November 2002. At the first meeting, Bob Dixon presented a position paper on the parameters of variation for copula clauses and verbless clauses across the world's languages — their types, forms, functions, and varieties of referential systems. At subsequent meetings, twenty individual scholars each gave a 30-minute presentation on copula clauses and verbless clauses in a language on which they have specialised knowledge. At the end, members of the Workshop put forward appropriate generalisations.

In addition to the Workshop, we held a series of **seminars**, with the participation of all the members of the Centre, and also of a number of visiting scholars, including Brian Butterworth, of University College London; Susan Fischer, of the National Technical Institute of the Deaf, Rochester; Tom Güldemann, of University of Leipzig; Phil Jaggar, of School of Oriental and African Studies; Olga Kazakevitch, of Moscow State University; Nick Evans and Rachel Nordlinger, of University of Melbourne; and Peter Mathews, of Department of Archaeology of La Trobe University.

In the period between August and December 2002, the **Tibeto-Burman linguistics discussion group** met weekly on Fridays, under the leadership of Prof. Randy LaPolla.

Members' achievements

Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald completed two major works on Tariana, based on more than a decade of field research. Her 435 pp. *Tariana-Portuguese dictionary-thesaurus* was published in July 2002 by Museu Goeldi in Belém, Brazil, and her 720 pp. *Grammar of Tariana, from north-west Amazonia*, is due out in July 2003, from Cambridge University Press. She is continuing to advise the Tariana community on language maintenance issues.

Her 375 pp. monograph *Language contact in Amazonia* (Oxford UP, December 2002), constitutes first fruits from her second term as ARC Senior Research Fellow (1999-2004); it offers generalizations as to which categories are more — and which are less — borrowable, under different sociolinguistic conditions for languages with different structures. Her other publications include papers on language endangerment, on the typology of clitics, and on evidentiality in typological perspective. She made a presentation on adjective classes in Tariana to RCLT's International Workshop and has written position papers both for the International Workshop on Serial Verb Constructions and for the Local Workshop on Imperatives and Other Commands. A major editorial task was a special issue *Nominal classification* for the journal *Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung* (for which she wrote an introductory chapter 'Nominal classification in typological perspective').

On-going projects include a monograph *Evidentiality* (due to be delivered to Oxford University Press in mid 2003). Following field work, during December 2002 and January 2003, in the village of Awa Pit (Sepik region, Papua New Guinea), Aikhenvald has completed the draft of a 300-page grammar of Manambu (in collaboration with Pauline Laki) and has worked with Laki and Colonel David Takendu, OBE, on a dictionary of this language.

She gave four lectures in Moscow in May, taught a course on linguistic typology in the Australian Linguistic Institute at Macquarie University in July, presented a paper at the conference 'National Narratives And Identities In A Global World: The Case Of Latin America', at La Trobe, in September, and in November delivered an invited talk at a conference on Endangered Languages of the Pacific Rim, held in Kyoto, Japan, on 'Endangered languages of the Sepik area of Papua New Guinea'. In July 2003, she will present a plenary paper at the 17th International Congress of Linguists in Prague, on 'Evidentiality: problems and challenges'.

The Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research awarded her an Individual Research Grant to work on 'Arawak languages: reconstruction and culture history'.

Over the past decade, **Professor R. M. W. Dixon** has devoted a great deal of his time to two major projects. His magnum opus *Australian languages: their nature and development* (302,000 words; xlii, 734 pages), was published by Cambridge University Press in November 2002. This develops and documents the idea that the indigenous languages of Australia constitute a long-term linguistic area (rather than a neat genetic tree), for which his best-selling essay *The rise and fall of languages* (Cambridge UP 1997) was a prolegomenon. Also in November, he completed a full 650-page draft of *A grammar of Jarawara, from southern Amazonia* (written in collaboration with missionary linguist Alan Vogel) submitting it to a publisher and

also circulating copies to colleagues for their critical feed-back. He also published papers on the morphology of Jarawara and on evidentiality in Jarawara, and made a presentation on adjective classes in Jarawara to RCLT's International Workshop.

The main task for Dixon's third term as an ARC Senior Research Fellow (2001-6) is to write the first comprehensive monograph on basic linguistic theory, dealing with methodology and modes of argumentation and analysis, and also profiling recurrent grammatical categories and construction types. He has made fine progress with this task, completing twelve draft chapters of the book, publishing a paper on copula clauses and having a paper on demonstratives accepted for publication.

Dixon is co-editor (with Professor Keren Rice, of the University of Toronto) of the monograph series *Cambridge Grammatical Descriptions*, published by Cambridge University Press. The first volume in the series was published in November: *A grammar of Kham* (a Tibeto-Burman language) by David Watters. The second volume, *A grammar of Tariana, from northwest Amazonia*, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, will be published in the second half of 2003. This will soon be followed by *A grammar of Semelai* (from the Aslian branch of Austroasiatic) by Nicole Kruspe. Dixon is also editor for the series *Studies in Australian Languages*, published by Lincom Europa in Munich. One monograph was published in this series during the year, *A study of the phonetics and phonology of Yaraldi and associated dialects*, by Maryalyce McDonald. In addition, he continued on the editorial boards of the journals *Anthropological Linguistics*, *Studia Linguistica*, and *Australian Journal of Linguistics*, and of the *Typological Studies in Language* monograph series.

He also continued working with the Dyirbal language community in North Queensland on literacy issues, being available as consultant to Ernie Grant and Claire Reppel on a new series of language lessons which have been requested by the language community.

Professor Willem F. H. Adelaar, Chair of Native American languages and cultures, of University of Leiden, was a Visiting Fellow at RCLT during April-June 2002. He continued his research on various aspects of Andean languages and on his book *The Languages of the Andes*, for Cambridge Language Surveys. In addition, he gave a variety of seminars on the structure of Quechua and Aymara, assisting other members of RCLT in identifying Quechua and Aymara influence in the languages of their expertise.

Dr. Guy Deutcher, St John's College, Cambridge University, spent seven weeks at RCLT (February-April) as a Visiting Fellow working on the rise of ergativity in Sumerian, and the patterns of anaphora in Akkadian. He also worked on the adjective class in Akkadian and especially in Sumerian where adjectives are not easily distinguishable from verbs. During this period, he completed four papers and gave several talks.

Professor Carol Genetti, Chair, Linguistics Department, UCSB, was a Visiting Fellow at RCLT between June and September 2002. During this time, she revised a large part of her reference grammar of Dolakha Newar, completed the revision of an edited volume containing grammars and glossaries of Manange and Sherpa, completed

a paper on the Dolakha Newar participial constructions (accepted for publication in *Studies in Language*), and wrote a draft article on the history of adjectival verbs in Newar. She presented several talks on various topics on Dolakha Newar.

Professor Randy LaPolla, of City University of Hong Kong, was Visiting Fellow at RCLT between August and December 2002. During his stay, he revised his grammar of Qiang, a Tibeto-Burman language, for publication. He also continued his work on the Qiang Dialect Atlas Project, prepared and revised over ten papers, including the introduction for the volume *Language variation and change: papers on the Sino-sphere and Indo-sphere in honour of James A. Matisoff's 65th birthday*. He presented a paper on adjectives in Qiang (with Chenglong Huang) at the International Workshop on Adjective classes, and gave several talks on a variety of topics in Tibeto-Burman linguistics and typology. He also led a weekly Tibeto-Burman linguistics discussion group.

Dr. Dory Poa, of Hong Kong Institute of Education, was an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT between September and December 2002. During this period, she finalised nine of the fifteen dialects for the database of the Qiang Dialect Atlas project. She also worked on two papers for publication with Professor LaPolla and developed LinguaLink databases for producing the dictionary and a new set of texts for their joint Rawang Texts and Dictionary Project.

Chenglong Huang, an Assistant Researcher at the Institute of Nationalities, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing, was an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT in late 2002. He worked on his PhD thesis (for the City University of Hong Kong), a grammatical description of the Puxi dialect of Qiang. He participated actively in the Tibeto-Burman linguistics study group and also worked with Professor LaPolla and Dr Poa on the Qiang Dialect Atlas Project.

Dr. Janie Steen, of Cambridge University, spent seven weeks at RCLT (February-April) as an Honorary Visiting Fellow revising her PhD dissertation 'Latin Rhetoric and Old English Poetic Style', for publication as a book. She intended to demonstrate how Latin rhetoric influenced vernacular verse, by careful examination of several vernacular renderings of Latin sources.

Assoc. Professor Graham McKay, of the School of International, Cultural and Community Studies of Edith Cowan University, was an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT between January and June 2002. During this period, he did intensive work on preparing his grammar of the Rembarnga language of Arnhem land for publication. He also revised a paper on subject and object bound pronominal forms in Ndjébbana and gave a number of talks.

Dr. Raoul Zamponi, of Università degli Studi di Siena, was an Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT in September-October 2002. He revised two grammars of extinct and poorly documented languages of Venezuela: Betoï, an isolate once spoken in the area of Llanos de Orinoco, and Maipure, an Arawak language once spoken in the state of

Amazonas. He also worked on the grammar of Waikuri, an extinct isolate of Baja California.

Dr. Hilary Chappell, of the Department of Linguistics at La Trobe, spent a productive second half of the year as Honorary Visiting Fellow at RCLT working on her book on the typology of Sinitic languages, and especially on problems of aspect in Sinitic languages. She has also completed a number of papers on Sinitic, and finished her translation of the first grammar of Hakka.

Assoc. Professor John Hajek (University of Melbourne) continued to work on the description of Tetun and other, endangered East Timorese languages such as Waimoa and Lovaia, the Romance language Friulian, as well as his typological research on the sound systems of Southeast Asia and New Guinea.

Professor Roger Wales, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at La Trobe University, has used RCLT as an occasional 'research retreat', working on the role of prosody in discourse structure in Australian English.

Dr. Timothy Jowan Curnow spent the final year of his ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship continuing to work on the interaction of evidentiality and first person, with the aim of producing a monograph on this topic. He also began working on verbal logophoricity, particularly its marking with first person morphology, presenting papers on this topic at the conferences of the Australian Linguistic Society and the Linguistic Association of Great Britain.

Dr. Catriona Hyslop joined RCLT in February 2002. She spent six months doing fieldwork on the Vurës language of Vanuatu and is working on a descriptive grammar of this language. While in Vanuatu she participated in a workshop on kinship terminology with speakers of 25 languages. She presented a paper at the RCLT International Workshop on Adjective Classes.

Dr. Andrew Ingram returned in April 2002 from a six-month field-trip to study Dumo, a Sko language of Papua New Guinea. He spent the rest of the year analysing the Dumo data and preparing a draft of a grammar for the language. He continued to work on Anamuxra, a language he described for his PhD. His PhD thesis, *A grammar of Anamuxra*, was accepted for publication with Pacific Linguistics.

Dr. Nicole Kruspe is currently writing a grammar of Che' Wong, an Aslian language from Malaysia. She made her first fieldtrip to the Che' Wong area from April to November, returning in August to participate in the International Workshop on Adjective Classes. She has also been preparing her PhD thesis on Semelai for publication. During 2002 she also had the opportunity to continue her work on another Aslian language, Mah Meri, investigating Mah Meri dialects and finalising a dictionary.

Dr. Knut Olawsky continued his work on Urarina, an isolate spoken in the Peruvian rainforest. During the first half of 2002, he did intensive study of the morphology and syntax of the language. He undertook a fieldtrip to Peru in the second half of 2002. He presented various papers at the Universities of Santa Barbara, Düsseldorf, Leiden, and Berkeley. He has published a volume of annotated texts in Urarina.

Dr. Janet Sharp spent the first part of 2002 preparing for fieldwork on Karajarri, a language of north west Western Australia, setting up the data. She spent six months at Bidyadanga, WA, working on Karajarri, Warnman and Northern Nyangumarta. Since returning to RCLT, she has sent off the Warnman dictionary to the Bidyadanga Language Centre for publication and has continued working on the dictionaries of Nyangumarta and Karajarri. She is now working on the Karajarri grammar.

Dr. Tonya Stebbins spent most of 2002 doing fieldwork in East New Britain, Papua New Guinea, working on Mali-Baining, a member of poorly known Baining language family, and on Taulil, a language typologically similar but genetically unrelated to Baining. She is currently preparing a draft grammar and a dictionary of Mali-Baining.

Dr. Ulrike Zeshan returned from fieldwork in Turkey and Lebanon in February 2002, then mainly worked on writing up her research results from Turkey (two articles forthcoming in 2003) and the results from cross-linguistic study on negatives and interrogatives (two forthcoming articles in 2003). She spent a lengthy period of fieldwork (October 2002 – January 2003) in Turkey, Lebanon and in Egypt. She is now working on integrating her results on Turkish sign language and other Middle-Eastern sign languages.

Antoine Guillaume (PhD student at RCLT) has completed a first draft of his grammar of Cavineña, an endangered Takana language spoken in northern Bolivia.

Stefan Dienst (PhD student at RCLT) spent most of 2002 and the first half of 2003 doing fieldwork on Kulina, an Arawá language from the state of Acre in Brazil.

Carola Emkow (PhD student at RCLT) spent most of 2002 doing fieldwork on Araona, a Takana language from northeast Bolivia, and writing the draft of a complete grammar of this language.

Alec Coupe (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) suspended his candidature for most of 2002 to lecture in undergraduate Syntax, Phonetics, and Phonology at La Trobe University. Since resuming his candidature he has continued writing chapters of his descriptive grammar of the Mongsen dialect of Ao, a Tibeto-Burman language of Nagaland, north-east India. His MA thesis was accepted for publication by Pacific Linguistics.

Josephine Daguman (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) commenced her PhD in February 2001. She is writing a grammar of Northern

Subanen, A Western Austronesian language spoken in Zamboanga peninsula, Philippines. She undertook a lengthy fieldtrip in late 2002-early 2003.

Rosmarie Moser (PhD student in the La Trobe Department of Linguistics) spent the year 2002 working on her grammar of Kabba, a Nilo-Saharan language, writing chapters on verbal morphology, complex predicates, and basic and complex clause structures. She is currently working on a revision of the final draft of her thesis.

Anya Woods, Tania Strahan and **Adam Bowles** worked fruitfully as publication assistants during the year.

Outside lectures

All members of RCLT gave one or more seminar and/or workshop presentations in the Research Centre. In addition, Aikhenvald, Curnow, Dixon, Hajek, Adelaar, LaPolla, Deutcher, McKay, Genetti and Zeshan gave a wide selection of lectures elsewhere — in the Departments of Linguistics at La Trobe, Melbourne, Monash and MacQuarie universities.

Volumes from past International Workshops

A volume including revised versions of papers presented at our 2000 Workshop (held at La Trobe University), *Word: a cross-linguistic typology*, edited by Dixon and Aikhenvald, was published in December 2002 by Cambridge University Press. After the introductory chapter, 'Word: a typological framework', by R. M. W. Dixon and Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, there are the following chapters: 'Typological parameters for the study of clitics, with special reference to Tariana', by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald; 'The word in Cup'ik', by Anthony C. Woodbury; 'The word in Eastern/Central Arrernte', by John Henderson; 'The eclectic morphology of Jarawara, and the status of word', by R. M. W. Dixon; 'Towards a notion of "word" in sign languages', by Ulrike Zeshan; 'Synchronic and diachronic perspective on "word" in Siouan', by Robert Rankin, John Boyle, Randolph Graczyk and John Koontz; 'What is a word in Dagbani', by Knut J. Olawsky; 'The word in Georgian', by Alice C. Harris; 'The word in Modern Greek', by Brian Joseph; and 'What can we conclude?', by P. H. Matthews.

The volume from our 2002 Workshop (the second Workshop held at La Trobe University), *Studies in evidentiality*, edited by Aikhenvald and Dixon, is currently in press with John Benjamins (Amsterdam) as volume 54 of *Typological Studies in Language*, and should appear in the first half of 2003. The introductory chapter by Aikhenvald, 'Evidentiality in typological perspective', is followed by eleven further chapters: 'Evidentiality in Shipibo-Konibo, with a comparative overview of the category in Panoan', by Pilar M. Valenzuela; 'Evidentiality in Qiang' by Randy J. LaPolla; 'Evidentiality in Western Apache (Athabaskan)', by Willem J. De Reuse; 'Evidentials in Eastern Pomo with a comparative survey of the category in other

Poman languages', by Sally McLendon; 'Evidentiality in Tariana', by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald; 'Evidentiality in Jarawara', by R.M.W. Dixon; 'Evidentiality in the Balkans with special attention to Macedonian and Albanian', by Victor A. Friedman; 'Evidentiality in Yukaghir', by Elena Maslova; 'Evidentiality in Myky', by Ruth Monserrat and R.M.W. Dixon; 'Evidential category and evidential strategy in Abkhaz', by Viacheslav Chirikba; 'Evidentiality in Turkic', by Lars Johanson; 'Evidentiality in West Greenlandic: a case of scattered coding', by Michael Fortescue; 'Evidentiality: summation, questions, prospects', by Brian D. Joseph.

Participants in our August 2002 Workshop (the third one held at La Trobe), on **Adjective classes**, have sent in their papers. We plan to submit the full set of papers to Oxford University Press in March 2003.

In addition, Aikhenvald has edited a special issue *Nominal classification of Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung* (Bremen, Germany). The volume starts with Aikhenvald's typological summing-up paper 'Nominal classification in typological perspective'. Papers are: 'Nominal classification in Lao: a sketch', by N. J. Enfield; 'Classifiers in Chimila (Chibchan)', by Terry Malone; 'The history and development of Siouan positionals with special attention to polygrammaticalization in Dhegiha', by Robert L. Rankin; 'Nominal classification in Miraña, a Witotoan language of Colombia', by Frank Seifart; 'Salish numeral classifiers: a lexical means to a grammatical end', by Donna B. Gerds and Mercedes Q. Hinkson; 'Parts in Papantla Totonac and the genesis of systems of numeral classification', by Paulette Levy; and 'Classifiers in Nivkh', by Ekaterina Gruzdeva.

Classifiers: a typology of noun categorization devices by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (published in April 2000, by Oxford University Press) has been most well received. Edward Vajda, in his review in *Journal of Linguistics*, says that 'this book offers a multifaceted, cross-linguistic survey of all types of grammatical devices used to categorize nouns', and 'has much to offer linguists motivated by any one of several primary interests, particularly language universals and the connection between language and cognition'. According to Kathleen Connors, in her review of the book for *Studies in Language*, 'this book is an encyclopedic and up-to-date treatment of a vast body of research on noun categorization devices' and 'a hugely impressive work'. The monograph is due to come out in paperback in March 2003.

The reaction to ***Changing valency: case studies in transitivity***, edited by R.M.W. Dixon and Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald has also been highly positive; according to Gilbert Lazard (a review for *Linguistic Typology*), 'this book provides a general perspective on valency-changing mechanisms' and 'presents the typological-oriented reader with a valuable collection of various data carefully classified, clearly described, and richly exemplified'. Nicholas Ostler, in *Modern Language Review*, calls it 'a joy in itself to typologists'.

Publications

This is a selected list of books, and of papers in good-quality, hard-copy books and journals (members of the Research Centre also put out a number of reviews and contributions to 'Lonely Planet' guides). We list publications during 2002 and also items accepted for publication which are 'in press'. The list covers publications by present and past members of RCLT, based on work done while they were at the Research Centre.

WILLEM F. H. ADELAAR [member of RCLT in 2002]

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ALEXANDRA Y. AIKHENVALD

2002. *Dicionário Tariana-Português e Português-Tariana*. Museu Goeldi: Belém, pp. 435 (Boletim do museu Goeldi 17: 1, dated July 2001, published 2002).

2002. *Language Contact in Amazonia*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. xx, 363, 16 plates.

2002. 'Traditional Multilingualism and Language Endangerment', pp. 24-33 of *Language endangerment and language maintenance*, edited by David Bradley and Maya Bradley. London: Curzon Press.

2002. 'Language obsolescence: Progress or decay? The emergence of new grammatical categories in "language death"', pp. 144-55 of preceding.

2002. 'Language endangerment in the Sepik area of Papua New Guinea', *Materials of The Fourth International Conference on Endangered Languages of the Pacific Rim*. Kyoto, 23-25 November 2002, pp. 1-53.

2002. 'A typology of clitics, with special reference to Tariana', pp. 42-78 of Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds).

— In Press. 2003. *The Tariana Language of Northwest Amazonia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. xix, 719.

— In Press. 2003. 'Classifiers in spoken and signed languages: how to know more', *Perspectives on classifier constructions in sign languages*, edited by K. Emmorey. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum and Associates.

— In Press. 2003. 'Evidentiality in typological perspective', pp. of 1-31 of Aikhenvald and Dixon (eds).

— In Press. 2003. 'Evidentiality in Tariana', pp. 131-64 of Aikhenvald and Dixon (eds).

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— In Press. 2003. 'Multilingualism and ethnic stereotypes: the Tariana of northwest Amazonia', *Language in Society* 32, 1: 1-21.

— In Press. 2003. 'Mechanisms of change in areal diffusion: new morphology and language contact', *Journal of Linguistics* 39, 1: 1-29.

— In Press. 2003. 'Teaching Tariana, an endangered language of northwest Amazonia', *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*.

— In Press. 2003. 'Language contact and language change in Amazonia', pp. 1-20 of *Historical linguistics 2001*, edited by B. Blake and K. Burridge. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

— In Press. 2003. 'Gender', Article 98 of *Handbuch der Morfologie*, ed. C. Lehmann and J. Mugdan, Mouton de Gruyter, 83 pp.

- In Press. (scheduled for 2003). *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, Russian University of Humanities, Moscow (in Russian).
- In Press. 2004. A. Y. Aikhenvald ed. *Nominal classification*, Special issue of *Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung*.
- In Press. 2004. 'Nominal classification in typological perspective', to appear in preceding.
- In Press. 'Arawak languages', *Encyclopedia of Linguistics*, ed. by P. Strazny. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers: Chicago.
- In Press. 'Le tariana', *Dictionnaire des langues du monde*, ed. F. Queixalos. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France.
- In Press. 'Typological dimensions in word formation', to appear in T. Shopen ed. *Language Typology and Syntactic Description*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Forthcoming. *Evidentiality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

ALEXANDRA Y. AIKHENVALD and R. M. W. DIXON

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WALTER BISANG [member of RCLT in 2000]

- Forthcoming. 'Argument structure, syntax and pragmatics – typological characteristics of Chinese'. *Akten des 3 Ost-West Kolloquiums*, edited by W. Kürschner. Tübingen: Narr.
- Forthcoming. 'Classification and the evolution of grammatical structures: a universal perspective', in *Language evolution in a typological perspective*, edited by T. Leuschner.
- Forthcoming. 'Argumenthood and syntax in Chinese, Japanese and Tagalog', in *Argument structure*, edited by Peter Siemund, Akio Ogawa and Daniel Hole.
- Forthcoming. 'Finiteness, obligatoriness and grammaticalization', in *All over the clause*, edited by Plank, Frans and Irina Nikolaeva.

KATE BURRIDGE [member of RCLT in 2001]

- 2002. *Blooming English: Observations on the roots, cultivation and hybrids of the English Language*. Sydney: ABC Books.
- 2002. 'Changes within Pennsylvania German Grammar as Enactments of Anabaptist World-View', pp. 207-30 of *Ethnosyntax: Explorations in Culture and Grammar*, edited by N. J. Enfield. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
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ÉVA ÁGNES CSATÓ [member of RCLT in 2001]

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- 2003. Eva A. Csato, Bo Isaksson and Carina Jahani (eds), *Linguistic convergence and areal diffusion: Case studies from Iranian, Semitic and Turkic*. London: Routledge Curzon.

- In Press. 2003. 'Gunnar Jarring's Kashkay materials', in *Turkic-Iranian Contiguity*, edited by Lars Johanson, Christiane Bulut and Filiz Kiral. Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz.

HILARY CHAPPELL [member of RCLT in 1998 and 2001-2002]

- In Press. 2002 (with L. Sagart). 'Le Hakka', to appear in *Encyclopedie des Sciences du Langage: Dictionnaire des langues*, edited by D Kouloughli and A. Peyraube. Paris: Presses Universitaire de France.
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ALEC COUPE

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TIMOTHY JOWAN CURNOW

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- 2002. 'Conjunct/disjunct systems in Barbacoan languages', pp. 3-12 of *Santa Barbara Papers in Linguistics 11* (Proceedings from the 4th Workshop on American Indigenous Languages), edited by Jeanie Castillo. Santa Barbara: UCSB Department of Linguistics.
- 2002. 'Can you be gay and lesbian in Australian English?', *Australian Journal of Linguistics* 22: 23-33.
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- In Press. 2003. 'Types of interaction between evidentials and first person subjects', *Anthropological Linguistics* 44(2).
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GUY DEUTCHER [member of RCLT in 2002]

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GERRIT J. DIMMENDAAL [member of RCLT in 1998]

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CAROL GENETTI [member of RCLT in 2002]

- In Press. Editor of *Tibeto-Burman Languages of Nepal: Manange and Sherpa*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics.
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- 2002 (with John Bowden) 'A Phonological Oddity in the Austronesian Area: Ejectives in Waimoa'. *Oceanic Linguistics* 41: 222-224.
- 2002 (with C.J. Williams-van Klinken and R. Nordlinger). *A Descriptive Grammar of Tetun Dili*, Canberra: Pacific Linguistics.
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JANE HILL [member of RCLT in 2000]

- In Press. 2003. 'Subject number, verb agreement, grammaticalization, and transitivity in the Cupeño verb construction,' pp. 207-26 of *Formal Approaches to Function in Grammar*, edited by Andrew Carnie, Heidi Harley and MaryAnn Wille. (Linguistik Aktuell #62.) Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
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CATRIONA HYSLOP

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ANDREW INGRAM

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LARS JOHANSON [member of RCLT in 2001]

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- In Press. 2003. 'Evidentiality in Turkic', pp. 273-90 of Aikhenvald and Dixon (eds).
- In Press. 2003. 'Adjectives and nouns in South Siberian and other Turkic languages', in *The Shor language and its environment*, edited by Marcel Erdal. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
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BRIAN D. JOSEPH [member of RCLT in 2001]

- 2002. 'The word in Modern Greek', pp. 243-65 of Dixon and Aikhenvald (eds.)
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SUZANNE KITE [member of RCLT in 1997-1999]

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BH. KRISHNAMURTI [member of RCLT in 2001]

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- 2002. 'Linguistic prehistory and borrowing', pp. 199-208 of *Case for Language Studies: Papers in Honour of B. Lakshmi Bai*, edited by V. Swarajya Lakshmi. Hyderabad: Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics, Osmania University and Booklinks Corporation.

NICOLE KRUSPE

- In Press. 2003. *A Grammar of Semelai*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

RANDY LAPOLLA [member of RCLT in 1998 and 2002]

- 2002 (with Graham Thurgood). Editors of *The Sino-Tibetan Languages*. London: Curzon Press.
- Forthcoming. *A Grammar of Qiang*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
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Study on the Structure and Semantics of Focus, edited by Xu Liejiong and Haihua Pan. Beijing: Beijing Foreign Studies University Press.

— Forthcoming. 'Texts in the Qugu Variety of Northern Qiang'. Kyoto: *Endangered Languages of the Pacific Rim Project* series.

EVA LINDSTRÖM [member of RCLT in 1997-2001]

— 2002. 'The Body in Expressions of Emotion: Kuot'. *Pragmatics and Cognition* 10: 159-84.

— 2002. 'Att utforska ett språk i Söderhavet – om en resa i lingvistikens tecken'. [To investigate a South Seas languages – about a linguistic journey], pp. 8-9 of *Forskardagarna 2002*, edited by S. Mauritzon. Stockholm: Stockholm University.

RUTH MONSERRAT AND R. M. W. DIXON

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ROSMARIE MOSER

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KNUT OLAWSKY

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DORY POA [member of RCLT in 2002]

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REGINA PUSTET [member of RCLT in 2001]

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ROBERT RANKIN [member of RCLT in 2000]

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JANET SHARP

- In Press. 2003. *A Grammar of the Nyangumarta Language of the Pilbara*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics

MASAYOSHI SHIBATANI [Member of RCLT in 1999]

- 2002. Editor of *The grammar of causation and interpersonal manipulation*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
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TONYA STEBBINS

- 2002. 'Working together to strengthen Sm'algyax', pp. 59-77 of *Language endangerment and language maintenance*, edited by David Bradley and Maya Bradley. London: Curzon Press.
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MAURO TOSCO [member of RCLT in 1999]

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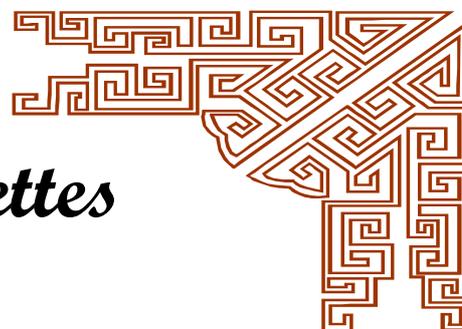
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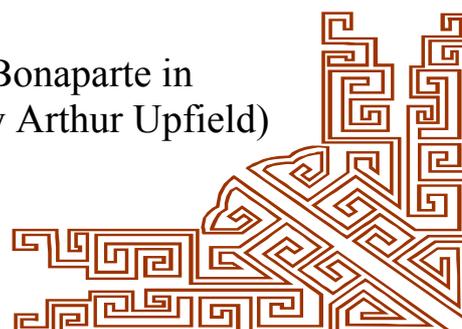
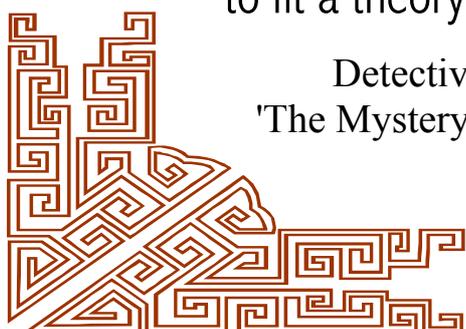
Linguistic vignettes

I have no data yet. It is a capital mistake to theorise before one has data. Insensibly, one begins to twist facts to suit theories, instead of theories to suit facts.

Sherlock Holmes in 'A Scandal in Bohemia'
(by Arthur Conan Doyle)

We must be cautious, we musn't manufacture facts to fit a theory.

Detective-Inspector Napoleon Bonaparte in
'The Mystery of Swordfish Reef' (by Arthur Upfield)



The Research Centre for Linguistic Typology

RCLT was established within the Australian National University, in Canberra, on 18th December 1996, and relocated to La Trobe University, in Melbourne, on 1st January 2000.

The Research Centre is concerned with the business of 'real linguistics' — our faculty and research students undertake intensive studies of previously undescribed (or barely described) languages, focussing in particular on the languages of Amazonia, the Papuan languages of New Guinea and nearby islands, and the Aboriginal languages of Australia. We eschew eclipsing-type formalisms (which are inherently transient), instead working in terms of basic linguistic theory, the cumulative model which is employed in most linguistic descriptions. All of the Research Centre's work has a sound empirical basis but also shows a firm theoretical orientation; it seeks for explanation hand-in-hand with description.

Building on reliable descriptive studies, the Research Centre also puts forward inductive generalisations about human language. For instance, it enquires whether all languages have classes of noun and verb. It investigates the interrelation between different grammatical categories — if gender choice depends upon number is it always the case that there are more genders in singular than plural? And it looks at how languages change — in what circumstances and from what sources do languages develop tones? And why and how do languages lose tones?

Another area of study concerns the ways in which languages influence each other. What kinds of words, or grammatical categories, or construction types, are likely to be borrowed between two contiguous languages, and under what social circumstances? Are some kinds of grammatical system particularly open to diffusion, so that they are likely to spread over all the languages in a geographical area, and are other kinds of system less likely to be diffused?

RCLT has a range of Research Fellows and PhD students (some financed from Centre funds, and some from outside sources). Each year it invites a number of leading international scholars to be Visiting Fellows. In addition, a range of scholars — who have appropriate interests and achievements — choose to spend their sabbatical in the vibrant intellectual atmosphere of the Research Centre.

More information is available at our website: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/rclt>.