

# **LANGUAGE AND CULTURE RESEARCH CENTRE**

**College of Arts, Society and Education — James Cook University**

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## **Bulletin — February 2016**

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**

The 7th year of the Language and Culture Research Centre was a smorgasboard of intellectual activities and achievements. Linguistics at JCU was judged 'above world standard' in the recent round of Excellence Research Australia.

Starting in 1997, Aikhenvald and Dixon had organized eleven International Workshops on topics of critical theoretical interest. All the published volumes have been acclaimed as state-of-the-art. Our twelfth International Workshop 'Commands' was held over six days, 28 September - 3 October 2015. Fifteen leading linguists from JCU and also from Sydney, ANU, the USA, the Netherlands and Slovenia each contributed an insightful account of directive speech acts in a language on which they have done substantial immersion fieldwork. This resulted in a exhilarating feast of discovery.

Augmenting the regular cohort of four Post-doctoral Research Fellows and six PhD students, there was a steady stream of distinguished Visiting Fellows, bringing together a wide range of linguistic expertise, all of high intellectual quality. Each week there is a seminar on a critical topic at the cutting edge of theoretical research, or a continuing workshop. Following the 2015 Workshop on 'Non-spatial setting', we now embark on 'Possession'.

In addition to the continuing Australian Laureate Fellowship plus ARC Discovery and Linkage Grants, we received a competitive grant under the 2015-2016 Universities Australia – Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme, jointly with Professor Anne Storch (University of Cologne).

## The People at LCRC in 2016

**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, editing *The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality*, seeing through the press a monograph entitled *How gender shapes the world* for Oxford University Press, and (jointly with R.M.W. Dixon) *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*. 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. Work is continuing on Arawak languages from the Upper Rio Negro area in Brazil, especially comparative Arawak, and production of reading materials in Tariana and Warekena. She is currently working on various facets of genders, on serial verb constructions and on a typology of multiple classifier systems.

**Professor R. M. W. (Bob) Dixon**, Deputy Director of LCRC, is at present seeing through the press a monograph entitled *Are some languages better than others?* for Oxford University Press. His major project at present is 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 also working steadily on a comprehensive thesaurus/dictionary across ten dialects of the North Queensland language Dyirbal.

### Post-doctoral Research Fellows

Our intellectual profile is burgeoning with the appointment of three top-class scholars as Post-doctoral Research Fellows. They are employed on ARC Discovery Project Aikhenvald/Dixon 'How languages differ and why', and on Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship Project 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'.

## **NEW AND FORTHCOMING BOOKS BY MEMBERS OF LCRC**

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald**

*The art of grammar: A practical guide.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2015.

**R. M. W. Dixon**

*Edible gender, mother-in-law style and other grammatical wonders: Studies in Dyirbal, Yidiñ and Warrgamay.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2015.

**Elena Mihas**

*A grammar of Asheninca Perené (Arawak).* Mouton Grammar Library. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton. 2015.

**Ryan Pennington**

*Ma Manda phonology.* Munich: Lincom Europa. 2015.

**R. M. W. Dixon**

*Are some languages better than others?* Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2016.

**Simon Overall**

*A grammar of Aguaruna.* Mouton Grammar Library. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton. Due out 2016.

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald**

*How gender shapes the world.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. Due out 2016.

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon (eds).** *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Due 2016.

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (ed).**

*The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. Due out 2017.

**Angeliki Alvanoudi (ed)**

*Gender, language and cognition.* A special section of the *International Journal of Language and Culture*, due out 2016.

**Simon Overall and K. I. Wojtylak (eds).**

*Nominalization: A view from Northwest Amazonia.* Special issue of STUF - Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung (*Language typology and universals*). Forthcoming 2016.

**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 which has been accepted for publication 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 is on a three-year Research Fellowship within the ARC DP 'How languages differ and why'. His major project involves working on a grammar of Kandozi, an isolate of Peru.

**Dr Valérie Guérin** obtained a PhD from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2008) for her work on Maŵea, an endangered language of Vanuatu. She has published the monograph *A grammar of Maŵea: 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 holds a five-year Post-doctoral Research Associate Fellowship within the framework of the ARC ALF Project, working on a comprehensive grammar of Tiyatuk (or Tayatuk), a Papuan language from the Morobe Province in PNG, with a focus on the conceptualization of gender.

**Dr Elena Mihás** has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2010), 'Essentials of Ashéninka Perené grammar'. Her recent publications include 'Ideophones in Alto Perené' (*Studies in Language*) and 'Subordination strategies in Ashéninka Perené (Arawak) from Central-Eastern Peru' (*Rivista di Linguistica/Italian Journal of Linguistics*), and a monograph *History, landscape and ritual in narratives of Upper Perené Arawaks from Eastern Peru*, Nebraska University Press. Her comprehensive grammar of Ashéninka Perené was published in 2015 in the Mouton Grammar Library Series (De Gruyter Mouton, Berlin). She holds a five-year Post-doctoral Research Associate Fellowship within the framework of the ARC ALF Project, working on varieties of Campa languages and the conceptualization of gender in Amazonia.

## LCRC Visiting Fellows

**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), on an exchange program financed by the Brazilian National Research Council (CNPq). He is spending a year at LCRC (August 2015-July 2016) working on his PhD 'A morphosyntactic study of the Deni language (Arawá)'.

**Professor Pavel Štekauer**, Professor of English Linguistics, Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, P. J. Šafárik University, Kosice,

Slovakia, Professor in English Linguistics, English Philology, Rzeszow University, and Professor at KRE University, Budapest, Hungary, is an expert on derivational morphology with special focus on English. He will be visiting LCRC 3 April-3 May 2016, offering lectures in the area of his expertise and collaborating with the members of LCRC on derivational networks.

**Associate Professor Lívía Körtvélyessi**, of the Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, P. J. Šafárik University, Kosice, Slovakia and Rzeszow University, is an expert on typology of derivation, evaluative morphology and word formation. She will be visiting LCRC 3 April-3 May 2016, offering lectures in the area of her expertise and collaborating with the members of LCRC on derivation.

**Martin Kohlberger** (MA, University of Edinburgh) is a PhD student at Leiden University. He will spend a total of 4 months at LCRC (April and June-August 2016) working on his PhD 'A grammar of Shiwiar'.

**Joseph Brooks** (MA, University of California Santa Barbara) is a PhD student at the University of California Santa Barbara. He will spend a total of 4 months at LCRC (April and June-August 2016) working on his PhD 'Realis and irrealis distinctions in Chini' and after which time he will spend 2-3 months conducting fieldwork in Papua New Guinea.

### **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 was appointed Adjunct Lecturer at the LCRC and the Cairns Institute in 2015. She is conducting fieldwork with Greek immigrants in Cairns and surrounding regions of Queensland, and preparing a monograph on Greek spoken in Australia and contact-induced change.

**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 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 forthcoming 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.

**Professor Kenneth Sumbuk**, Professor of Linguistics at UPNG, is an expert on the indigenous languages and cultures of the Sepik region, an area of extreme diversity. He is currently revising for publication his PhD thesis 'The Sare language of East Sepik, PNG'.

## PhD students

**Mikko Salminen**, from Leiden University, is working on a comprehensive grammatical description of Huave, an isolate from Mexico.

**Grant Aiton**, from the University of Alberta, is finalizing his grammar of Eibela, a previously undescribed Papuan language from Western Province, Papua New Guinea. He is continuing as 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.

**Ryan Pennington** (MA, Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, Texas) is a PhD student within Aikhenvald's Australian Laureate Fellowship project 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'. He is working on a grammar of Ma Manda, a Papuan language from Morobe Province.

**Bai Junwei (Abe)** (MA, Nanjing University, PR China) will be working on a previously undescribed Tibeto-Burman language of China.

## **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** and **Jolene Overall** 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 Goolaraboloo-Jabirr Jabirr Country'. She is working as a Research Assistant at LCRC within the framework of the ARC Linkage Project 'Land, language and heritage', collecting personal histories and cultural information about the Jirrbal people of North Queensland.

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

- **Dr Chia-jung Pan** successfully completed his PhD at LCRC on the grammar of Lha'alua (or Saarua), 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 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.

- **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.

- **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 edited five books.



## **New Linguist at JCU - a cordial welcome!**

**Dr Jae-Hyun Kim** has been appointed to a position of Lecturer in Speech Pathology within the College of Healthcare Sciences within the Division of Tropical Health and Medicine at JCU. Jae-Hyun obtained his PhD in Speech Science from the University of Auckland with a thesis on phonological development in Korean-English bilingual children. His research interests involve the role of language input and cross-linguistic influences in phonological development in bilingual children and parental attitudes and beliefs about raising bilingual children and language maintenance in bilingual communities in regional Australia.

## **Forthcoming Activities in 2016**

*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**

A fundamental question in understanding language dynamics is how cultural changes in the modern world affect linguistic expression, and the structure of languages. Linguistic globalization results in the spread of major languages, such as English or Tok Pisin, and the impending language shift which affects minority languages. Traditional authority structures undergo transformations. Under the impact of westernised societies, classificatory kinship systems are modified. The introduction of new market economies affects patterns of customary exchange. New concepts go together with new ways of talking about things. The impact of language contact can be reflected in the increase of loan words. Numerous Oceanic and Papuan languages from Papua New Guinea have a substantial number of lexical loans from Tok Pisin. Or an existing word can develop new meanings in new environments: for instance, the Manambu of the East Sepik consistently use the verb 'stand' in the meaning of 'stand' in an election. The Panel will offer a discussion of ways in which shifts and changes in the cultural environment accompany linguistic changes in minority languages. Our special

focus is on investigating the impact of societal changes on kinship systems and patterns of interaction. We will also focus on determining the role of human agency in promoting, or slowing down, language change sensitive to new developments in cultural patterns and social relationships.

### Program

Chairs Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Professor R. M. W. Dixon

Anne Laure Dotte (University de la Nouvelle Calédonie)	'Iaai on the move: Dynamics of Linguistic changes in a Kanak language of New Caledonia'
Cassy Nancarrow (LCRC, JCU)	'Shifting language use in the Southern Gulf of Carpentaria (Northern Australia)'
Olga Temple (UPNG)	'Tides of cultural transformation through the eyes of UPNG students'
Tomui Kaloni (Tufunga)	'ONGO: Phonetics wellbeing that resonates'
Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald	'What can we conclude?'
Discussion	

### Abstracts

#### Iaai on the Move:

#### Dynamics of Linguistic Changes in a Kanak Language of New Caledonia

**Anne-Laure Dotte** (*Université de la Nouvelle-Calédonie*)

Iaai is one of the twenty-eight Kanak languages still spoken in New Caledonia today. Intensive contact with dominant language French led to a diglossic situation that favors language shift. Among modern first-hand data, linguistic changes of different natures are attested in Iaai and highlight the intertwining of contrasting dynamics. This talk will discuss two such instances: (i) modernization of the lexicon, with special focus on the integration of verbal borrowings and (ii) evolutions displayed within the possessive classifier system. This entails either patterns of linguistic obsolescence, with the loss of some classifiers dedicated to obsolete cultural practices, or patterns of linguistic resilience, with semantical enlargement in order to include new items or activities related to Iaai's actual linguistic ecology. The general aim of this talk is on pointing out that shifting minority languages are not only on the tide of obsolescence but that they also demonstrate creative responses to change in socio-cultural patterns.

## **Shifting language use in the Southern Gulf of Carpentaria (Northern Australia)**

**Cassy Nancarrow (LCRC, JCU)**

In the North of Australia, present day language use in Aboriginal communities is foremostly characterized by language contact with English, the former colonial language and now national standard, but also by interaction with a number of pidgin and creole languages. In addition there are still complex layers of 'traditional' languages spoken to varying degrees, and an increasing interest in reviving or revitalizing traditional language and cultural practices.

This presentation looks at shifting language use in the Southern Gulf of Carpentaria and in particular the impact of language contact on linguistic expression of classificatory kinship and social relationships. For instance even though Lardil is now only fully spoken by a handful of elders, certain kin terms and/or calqued patterns of usage prevail amongst younger speakers of Mornington Island creole.

Perceptions of language shift and creole usage by both speakers and others are discussed, and implications for the maintenance and revival of 'traditional' language and cultural practices such as song and dance are explored, particularly in the context of Mornington Island.

## **Tides of Cultural Transformation through the Eyes of UPNG Students**

**Olga Temple (UPNG)**

This paper presents the findings of the sociolinguistic research conducted in the Linguistics & Modern Languages department, School of Humanities & Social Sciences (SHSS), University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) in 2014. The study aimed (1) to record the changes occurring in Tok Pisin and the indigenous Papuan and Austronesian languages under the impact of new technologies, and (2) to take a snapshot of UPNG students' attitudes towards the socio-cultural changes happening. Eighty-seven students from all four UPNG Schools on the Waigani Campus collected new words and expressions in the languages they speak; they then wrote argumentative essays, expressing their personal opinions on some 'hot' issues of the current public debate (i.e., the impact of mobile phones on PNG languages and cultures, on Vernacular Education, on the future of vernaculars and of the 'Melanesian Way' ideology). Data collected (over 2,300 words and phrases in Tok Pisin and, on average, 100 items for each of the thirty-one vernaculars) showed a tremendous increase in the influence of English on Tok Pisin and, through Tok Pisin, on the vernacular languages of Papua New Guinea. This was evident in widespread code switching, in active borrowing of English words for new concepts, in phonology (increasingly less frequent epenthesis: poket buruk → poket bruk – "I'm broke"; sigirapim → sigrapm – "scratch it"), as well as in morphology and syntax: frequent omission of the Tok Pisin transitive verb marker (i.e., andu = undo; topap = top up, etc.), common use of English functional morphemes (bat = but; and; so; tru = through, etc.) and inflections (i.e., the plural –s: frens = friends; yunits = units; fons/pons = phones), etc. This paper also presents an interesting account of some patterns observed in students' attitudes towards the tides of cultural transformation in Papua New Guinea, as gleaned through this study.

***ONGO: Phonetics wellbeing that resonates*****Tomui Kaloni** (*Tufunga/architect/artist*)

In watching changes (socio-environmental) that have taken place over time in the Pacific, I have pondered ways of countering those issues and impacts that would affect our current and future wellbeing. I could only retreat back to one of the conclusions to my long-term study of the Tongan Fale; “The *Tongan Fale* is the “*ideal environment*” to nurture the *ideal* Tongan person”. This ‘ideal environment’ carries with it the socio-cultural, spiritual, intangible and tangible qualities that gives it meaning and *persona* hence wellbeing. Environment directly equates to ‘wellbeing’ here. This is further discussed and substantiated by the *Ongo* (Kaloni 2014) which is our *outer and inner sensorial receptors, compass, processors, thermostats* that ultimately determines and calibrates our “*dwellbeing*” or *fongofongaola* and its health. This *Ongo* is an influx of complex culturality, sensoriality and spirituality that is *responsive* to the total environment both at the micro and the macro level instantaneously. The *inner compass* that guides us so well through the complex influx of life which is what Bishop TD Jakes so eloquently articulates and calls the *Instinct* (Jakes 2015).

As previously discussed in my Masters of Architecture thesis at UoA, assessments still pending, *Ongo* is the *phonetics* to our language of the *Tongan Fale* or architecture that dwells and operates deep ‘*within*’. I would like to bring into that panel discussion, if accepted, the *Ongo* as the fluid continuum where culture, meaning and language are appropriated and breathed *mānava* into sync. Furthermore, *Fatu-i-Ongo* new research methodology that I proposed and how this will enrich but also empower our ‘sense of wellbeing’ as we experience and surf though different *changes and environments* from deep within - our *Mana!*

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**GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES AND INFORMATION STRUCTURE****Special Workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre****Valérie Guérin, Simon Overall and Alexandra Aikhenvald (Convenors)****27-28 June 2016**

Nominal and verbal grammatical categories can be deployed to express meanings related to information structures — covering discourse prominence, new and old information and topic and focus in their various guises. For instance, differential case marking across the languages of the world reflects pragmatic features of noun phrases (which can be in object function, in case of Differential Object Marking; or in subject function, in case of Differential Subject Marking). Meanings related to information structure can also be expressed through pronominal cross-referencing, gender agreement, classifier choice, or marking of possessor or possessee within a possessive construction. Alternatively, a language may have special grammatical markers (often subsumed under an umbrella term ‘particles’) whose sole function is to mark a participant as being a topic or a focus of a stretch of discourse.

This workshop will focus on the kinds of grammatical categories prone to reflect information structure, the way they are used, and their origins and development. Special attention will be paid to dedicated markers of discourse-pragmatic categories, their meanings and usage in various genres, and their spread and histories.

**Plenary speaker: Dr Alice Gaby, Monash University****Program will be soon available on <https://research.jcu.edu.au/lcrc>****Everyone is welcome!**

## **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**

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

First week of August 2016

**Program will be soon available on <https://research.jcu.edu.au/lcrc>**

**Everyone is welcome!**

### **A NEW LINGUISTIC DATABASE ON TROPICAL LANGUAGES AT THE LCRC**

Throughout 2014 and 2015, **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 which 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 overall efficiency of the collected materials in the corpus. The facility can be accessed at <https://osf.io/rcmv4/>. Feedback and collaboration are most welcome!

### **A NEW 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 2015

## Grants, Honours and Awards

Two members of LCRC have each been awarded a fieldwork grant from the **Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research** in 2015:

- **Grant Aiton**, to undertake fieldwork grant on Eibela oral literature.
- **Simon E. Overall** for the purchase of equipment to record and document Aguaruna ethnobotanical knowledge.

**Grant Aiton** was awarded a small grant from the **Endangered Languages Documentation Programme** (ELDP, London) to work on the documentation of the Eibela language (Western Province, PNG).

**Simon E. Overall** was awarded a small grant from the **Endangered Languages Documentation Programme** (ELDP, London) to work on the documentation of Kandozi and Aguaruna (Peru).

A competitive grant under the 2015-2016 Universities Australia – Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme was awarded to **Alexandra Aikhenvald** (as Australian Partner) and **Professor Dr Anne Storch** (University of Cologne) (as German Partner). Other members of the team include **Valérie Guérin, Elena Mihas, Nick Piper, and Kasia Wojtylak** (LCRC) and **Angelika Mietzner, Andrea Wolvers and Niko Nassenstein** (University of Cologne).

**Alexandra Aikhenvald** was elected Fellow of the Queensland Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**Sean Ulm** was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

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

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon's ARC Discovery Project** 'How languages differ and why' (2013-15) is continuing. This project involves Prof Dr W. F. H. Adelaar, of the University of Leiden, and Prof Dr Lourens de Vries, of the Free University of Amsterdam, as Partner Investigators.

**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).

#### PHD COMPLETIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

**CONGRATULATIONS to Juliane Böttger** on successful completion of her PhD thesis 'Topics in the grammar of Lele, Manus Province, PNG'

**CONGRATULATIONS to Hannah Sarvasy** on her appointment as Research Fellow at the ANU

**CONGRATULATIONS to Sean Ulm** on his promotion to the rank of Professor at JCU

**CONGRATULATIONS to Diana Forker** on her appointment to the highly prestigious chair of Caucasian studies at the University of Jena.

#### EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES: HIGHLIGHTS

**Angeliki Alvanoudi** presented a talk on grammaticalization in Modern Greek conversation at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Greek Linguistics, Freie Universität Berlin (16-19 September, 2015).

**Grant Aiton** presented a paper at the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Linguistics Society of Papua New Guinea on "Discourse organization in Eibela Utilizing Repetitive Structures" (published in the journal *Language and Linguistics in Melanesia*).

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald** presented a plenary talk 'The joy of language', at the Young Language Ambassador Conference, Cairns, 28 August. She also presented the following papers:

- a key-note address 'Imperatives and commands in language and society' at the 42nd International Symposium of the National Academy of Korea, Seoul, 23 October 2015
- a seminar on 'Evidentiality: how to know more' at the Seoul National University Language Research Institute, Seoul, 24 October 2015
- a plenary address 'Saying how you know it: the obligatory marking of evidence', at the Biennial Conference of the Australian Association of von Humboldt Fellows 'Global perspectives, local knowledge', Hobart, Tasmania, 24 November 2015.

Her lecture 'On forms and meanings in possessive structures' was presented (in absentia) at a workshop on Possession and Ownership in the LENCA languages, organized by Professor Lars Johanson and Professor Irina Nevskaya within the conference of the Societas Linguistica Europea.

**Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho** presented a talk 'Nouns in Deni (Arawá)' at the 9th International Conference of Brazilian Linguistics Association, Belém - Pará, March 2-5, 2015.

**Elena Mihas** presented a guest lecture on Alto Perene conversational structures and bodily behavior at the Anthropology Dept, UW-Milwaukee, May 5, 2015.

**Simon Overall** organised a thematic session on 'Linguistic Relations across the Andean-Amazonian Divide' at the REELA (European Network for the Study of Andean Languages — or Red Europea para el Estudio de las Lenguas Andinas) conference at Leiden University in September, together with Nicholas Emlen and Martin Kohlberger. He presented the following papers:

- 'Canonical and non-canonical switch-reference in Western Amazonia' at the ALT conference (University of New Mexico) in August;
- 'The Eastern foothills as a contact zone: evidence from non-canonical switch-reference' jointly with Marine Vuillermet at REELA, Leiden, September.

**Hannah Sarvasy** presented a paper on Split Number in Nungon (Papuan) at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Portland, January 2015. Hannah was co-organizer, with Mary Paster and Michael Diercks, of a Special Workshop on the Luyia Bantu Languages at the Annual Conference on African Linguistics in March 2015.

**Kasia Wojtylak** presented a paper at the 41st meeting of Berkely Linguistics Society (6-9 February 2015) 'Fruits for Animals: Hunting avoidance speech style among the Murui people (Northwest Amazonia)' (to be published soon). She presented the following seminars and papers:

- 'Classifiers as derivational markers in Murui (Northwest Amazonia)', University of Sydney, 22 May 2015
- 'Functions of classifiers in an ongoing discourse: Reference-tracking systems in Murui (Northwest Amazonia)'. Presented at Reference-Tracking Strategies Beyond Pronouns session of the 14th International Pragmatics Conference. Antwerp, Belgium, July 2015
- 'Classifiers as derivational markers: the case of Murui from Northwest Amazonia'. Presented at Typology and Universals in Word-formation III Conference, Kosice, Slovakia, 26-28 June 2015
- 'Information source and epistemic modality in Murui (Witoto)'. Presented at Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, 18 June
- 'Heterogeneous numerals in Murui (Witoto, Northwest Amazonia)'. Presented at Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands, 12 June.

She co-organized a Special Workshop on Comparative and Superlative Constructions: Typology and Diachrony, with Professor Lourens de Vries (16-17 June, VU University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands), and presented a talk 'Murui Comparative constructions (Witoto)'.



## New Books — Monographs

with publishers' descriptions

### **THE ART OF GRAMMAR: A PRACTICAL GUIDE**

Alexandra Aikhenvald

2015. Oxford: Oxford University Press, hardback and paperback.

This book introduces the principles and practice of writing a comprehensive reference grammar. Several thousand distinct languages are currently spoken across the globe, each with its own grammatical system and its own selection of diverse grammatical structures. Comprehensive reference grammars offer a basis for understanding linguistic diversity and can provide a unique perspective into the structure and social and cognitive underpinnings of different languages. Alexandra Aikhenvald describes the means of collecting, analyzing, and organizing data for use in this type of grammar, and discusses the typological parameters that can be used to explore relationships with other languages. She considers how a grammar can be made to reflect and bring to life the society of its speakers through background explanation and the judicious choice of examples, as well as by showing how its language, history, and culture are intertwined. She ends with a full glossary of terms and guidance for those wanting to explore a particular linguistic phenomenon or language family. *The Art of Grammar* is the ideal resource for students and teachers of linguistics, language studies, and inductively-oriented linguistic, cultural, and social anthropology.

#### Contents

1 Introduction. To write a grammar	10 Who does what to whom: grammatical relations
Appendix — Linguistic fieldwork	
2 A language and its setting	11 Clause and sentence types
3 Basics	12 Clause linking and complex clauses
4 Sounds and their functions	13 Language in context
5 Word classes	14 Why is a language the way it is?
6 Nouns	15 How to create a grammar, and how to read one
7 Verbs	Glossary of terms
8 Adjectives and adverbs	
9 Closed classes	

### **EDIBLE GENDER, MOTHER-IN-LAW STYLE, AND OTHER GRAMMATICAL WONDERS: STUDIES IN DYIRBAL, YIDIÑ AND WARRGAMAY**

R. M. W. Dixon

Oxford University Press, 2015

This book builds on R. M. W. Dixon's most influential work on the indigenous languages of Australia over the past forty years, from his trailblazing grammar

of Dyirbal published in 1972 to later grammars of Yidiñ (1977) and Warrgamay (1981). *Edible Gender, Mother-in-Law Style, and Other Grammatical Wonders* includes further studies on these languages, and the interrelations between them. Following an account of the anthropological and linguistic background, part I provides a thorough examination of, and comparison between, the gender system in Dyirbal (one of whose members refers to 'edible vegetables') and the set of nominal classifiers in Yidiñ. The chapters in part II describe Dyirbal's unusual kinship system and the 'mother-in-law' language style, and examines the origins of 'mother-in-law' vocabulary in Dyirbal and in Yidiñ. There are four grammatical studies in part III, dealing with syntactic orientation, serial verb constructions, complementation strategies, and grammatical reanalysis. Part IV covers grammatical and lexical variation across the dialects of Dyirbal, compensatory phonological changes, and a study of language contact across the Cairns rainforest region. The two final chapters, in Part V, recount the sad stories of how the Yidiñ and Dyirbal languages slowly slipped into oblivion.

### Contents

	1	Background
Part I.		<i>Genders and classifiers</i>
	2	Edible and the other genders in Dyirbal
	3	Classifiers in Yidiñ
Part II.		<i>Kin relations and how to talk with them</i>
	4	The Dyirbal kinship system
	5	Jalnguy, the 'mother-in-law' speech style, in Dyirbal
	6	The origin of 'mother-in-law' vocabulary in Dyirbal and Yidiñ
Part III.		<i>Grammatical studies</i>
	7	Comparing the syntactic orientations of Dyirbal and Yidiñ
	8	Serial verb constructions in Dyirbal
	9	Complementation strategies in Dyirbal
	10	Grammatical reanalysis in Warrgamay
Part IV.		<i>Variation, contact and change</i>
	11	Dyirbal grammar—variation across dialects
	12	Dyirbal dialectology—lexical variation
	13	Compensating phonological changes in the Ngajan and Wari dialects of Dyirbal
	14	A study of language contact: Dyirbal, Yidiñ, Warrgamay and their neighbours
Part V.		<i>Languages fading away</i>
	15	How semi-speakers of Yidiñ reanalysed the grammar
	16	A changing language situation: the decline of Dyirbal

## **A GRAMMAR OF ASHÉNINCA PERENÉ (ARAWAK)**

Elena Mihás

Mouton Grammar Library, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, 2015

Ashéninka Perené belongs to the Kampa group of the Arawak family, located in the central Peruvian Amazon in the foothills of the Andes mountains. While limited grammatical studies of Kampa languages exist, this grammar is by far the most comprehensive study of any language of this sub-family, and is one of only two or three comparable studies of Arawak languages more generally.

### Contents

Part I <i>Introduction</i>	10	Noun classes and nominal categories
1 The language and its speakers		
Part II <i>The sound system</i>	11	Noun phrase syntax
2 Phonology		Part VI <i>Word formation</i>
3 Morphophonemics	12	Word formation
Part III <i>Word structure and word classes</i>		Part VII <i>Main clause structure</i>
4 Word structure		13 Syntactic functions and word order
5 Word classes		Part VIII <i>Special sentence types</i>
Part IV <i>The verb</i>	14	Speech act distinctions
6 Verbal predicate structure	15	Negation
7 Verb classes		Part IX <i>Complex constructions</i>
8 Verbal categories	16	Clause linking
9 Valence-adjusting mechanisms		Part X <i>Information structure</i>
Part V <i>The noun</i>	17	Topic, focus, and emphasis
		References

## **A GRAMMAR OF AGUARUNA**

Simon Overall

Mouton Grammar Library, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, due 2016

This book is a descriptive grammar of Aguaruna, known to its speakers as Iiniá 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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Introduction to the Aguaruna language    | 10. Questions                            |
| 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               |

## **MA MANDA PHONOLOGY**

Ryan Pennington

Munich: Lincom Europa, 2015

This is a phonological description of Ma Manda (ISO 639-3: skc), a Finisterre-Huon language of the Trans-New Guinea family. This is accomplished through a sketch of the segmental phonology, syllable structure and phonotactics, suprasegmental features, and morphophonemic alternations.

In addition to documenting the phonological domains listed above, particular emphasis is given to several unique and interesting processes. First, /i/ and /u/ tend to be reduced to the high central [ɨ] in unstressed environments. Related to this is a rule of epenthesis whereby the same segment ([ɨ]) is inserted between disallowed consonant clusters. These two processes are discussed from both a synchronic and a diachronic perspective. Next is a process of long distance nasal agreement, also known in the literature as nasal consonant harmony (Hansson 2010, Walker 2011). In Ma Manda, NV (nasal+vowel) sequences initiate the prenasalization of a following tautomorphemic voiced plosive. For example, the word /mədə/ ‘talk’ is pronounced as [məndə]. Furthermore, both voiceless and voiced heteromorphemic plosives undergo the same alternation: /mo-qə/ → [monqə] ‘go down and...’ and /mo-be/ → [mombe] ‘go down!’. Ma Manda is the only language known to exhibit this pattern. Finally, a number of complex and phonetically unmotivated alternations are triggered when consonants concatenate across morpheme boundaries. For example, the lateral /l/ is realized as a voiceless alveolar stop ([t]) when adjacent

to any nasal (e.g., /l+m/→[tm] and /m+l/→[mt]). Mappings such as /lm/→[tm] are quite unexpected from the perspective of sonority-based constraints like the Syllable Contact Law (Hooper 1976, Seo 2011). Nevertheless, in Ma Manda these processes are robust, productive, and regular. Consequently, several aspects of the sound patterns of this understudied language of Papua New Guinea are noteworthy for the contribution they make to linguistic typology in general, and to phonological theory in particular.

## **HOW GENDER SHAPES THE WORLD**

Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald

to be published by Oxford University Press in August 2016

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?
- Chapter 5 Gender meanings in grammar and lexicon
- Chapter 6 The rise and fall of linguistic gender
- Chapter 7 Manly women and womanly men: the effects of gender reversal
- Chapter 8 The images of gender
- Chapter 9 When women and men speak differently
- Chapter 10 The rituals of gender
- Chapter 11 Gender in grammar and society
- Chapter 12 The heart of the matter: envoi

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

R. M. W. Dixon

to be published by Oxford University Press, 24 March 2016

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

### **Edited Volumes**

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

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

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 (forthcoming in 2016)

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, due out in 2017)

**Introduction** Evidentials in cross-linguistic perspective *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*

### **Part A Evidentiality: its expression and scope**

- Chapter 1 Evidentiality: the notion and the term *Kaspar Boye*  
 Chapter 2 Evidentials and their meanings *Ferdinand de Haan*  
 Chapter 3 Non-propositional evidentiality *Guillaume Jacques*  
 Chapter 4 Extragrammatical expression of information source *Mario Squartini*  
 Chapter 5 Evidentiality and formal semantic theories *Margaret Speas*



## **Part B Evidentials and other grammatical categories**

Chapter 6 Evidentials and person *Jackson Sun*

Chapter 7 Evidentials and verbal categories *Diana Forker*

Chapter 8 Evidentials and epistemic modalities *Björn Wiemer*

## **Part C Evidentials in historical perspective**

Chapter 9 Historical development and grammaticalization of evidentials *Victor Friedman*

Chapter 10 Contact-induced change in evidentials *Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald*

## **Part D Evidentials in interaction and cognition.**

Chapter 11 Evidentials and evidentiality strategies in interaction *Janis Nucholls*

Chapter 12 Evidentiality and discourse *Rosaleen Howard*

Chapter 13 Evidentiality, information source and cultural stereotypes *Michael Wood*

Chapter 14 Evidentials, information source and cognition *Anna Papafragou and Ercenur Unal*

Chapter 15 How children acquire evidentials *Stanka Fitneva*

## **Part E Evidentials across the world**

Chapter 16 Evidentiality in Nakh-Daghestanian languages *Diana Forker*

Chapter 17 Indirectivity in Turkic *Lars Johanson*

Chapter 18 Evidentiality in Uralic languages *Elena Skribnik*

Chapter 19 Evidentiality in Mongolic languages *Elena Skribnik*

Chapter 20 Evidentiality in Tibetic *Scott DeLancey*

Chapter 21 Evidentiality in Bodish (Tibeto-Burman) languages *Gwendolyn Hyslop*

Chapter 22 Evidentiality in Algonquian *Marie-Odile Junker*

Chapter 23 Evidentiality in Giktsan and Tsimshianic *Tyler Peterson*

Chapter 24 Evidentiality in the Uto-Aztecan languages *Tim Thornes*

Chapter 25 Evidentiality in Tucanoan languages *Kristine Stenzel and Elsa Gomez-Imbert*

Chapter 26 Evidentiality in Bora-Witotoan languages *Katarzyna I. Wojtylak*

Chapter 27 Evidentiality in Cariban languages *Eithne Carlin*

Chapter 28 Evidentiality in Nambiquara languages *David Eberhard*

Chapter 29 Evidentiality in the languages of New Guinea *Hannah Sarvasy*

Chapter 30 Evidentiality in African languages *Anne Storch*

Chapter 31 Evidentiality strategies in Latin American Spanish *Azier Alcázar*

Chapter 32 Evidentiality in Japanese *Heiko Narrog and Wenjiang Yang*

Chapter 33 Evidentiality in Korean *Ho-min Sohn*

Chapter 34 Evidentiality in Formosan languages *Chia-jung Pan*

Chapter 35 Evidentiality in Philippine languages *Josephine Daguman*

Chapter 36 Evidentials and evidentiality strategies in sign languages *Sherman Wilcox and Barbara Shaffer*

## Paperback reissues

### **THE GRAMMAR OF KNOWLEDGE: A CROSS-LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY**

edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon.

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014, xxii, 291 pages

Hardback edition 2014, paperback edition February 2016

*The Grammar of Knowledge* offers both a linguistic and anthropological perspective on the expression of information sources, as well as inferences, assumptions, probability and possibility, and gradations of doubt and beliefs in a range of languages. The book investigates twelve different languages, from families including Tibeto-Burman, Nakh-Dagestani, and Austronesian, all of which share the property of requiring the source of information to be specified in every sentence. In these languages, it may not be possible to say merely that ‘the man went fishing’. Instead, the source of evidence for the statement must also be specified, usually through the use of evidential markers. For example, it may be necessary to indicate whether the speaker saw the man go fishing; has simply assumed that the man went fishing; or was told that he went fishing by a third party. Some languages, such as Hinuq and Tatar, distinguish between first-hand and non first-hand information sources; others, such as Ersu, mark three distinct types of information—directly acquired, inferred or assumed, and reported. Some require an even greater level of specification: Ashéninka Perené, from South America, has a specific marker to express suspicions or misgivings. Like others in the series, the book illustrates and examines these aspects of language in different cultural and linguistic settings. It will interest linguists of all persuasions as well as linguistically-minded anthropologists.

### **WORD: A CROSS-LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY**

edited by R. M. W. Dixon and Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald

Cambridge University Press, 2002

was published by the Press in China in collaboration with a Chinese publisher, Beijing World Publishing Corporation in 2015.

## Monograph Series

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

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

This new 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 2015 OR ARE IN PRESS:

**Dimmendaal, Gerrit J.** *The Leopard's Spots*, BSLC 10, 222 pp., 2015.

**Joby, Christopher.** *The Dutch Language in Britain (1550- 1702). A social history of Dutch in Early Modern Britain*, BSLC 11, pp. 451, 2015.

**Jarkey, Nerida.** *Serial verbs in White Hmong*, BSLC 12, 2015.

**Lees, Aet.** *Case Alternations in the Finnic Languages*, BSLC 13, 2015.

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

**Rankin, Robert L.** *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, forthcoming in 2017.

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

## 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.

## **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.

## What happened at LCRC during 2015

### Visiting Fellows

- **Professor Dr Willem F. H. Adelaar**, of the University of Leiden, LCRC Visiting Fellow and Partner Investigator within an ARC Discovery Project, September-October 2015
- **Professor Iwona Kraska-Szlenk**, of the University of Warsaw, LCRC Visiting Fellow, November 2015.
- **Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho**, PhD student of the Universidade Estadual Paulista Júlio de Mesquita Filho, LCRC Visiting Fellow on doutorado-sanduiche program (funded by CNPq, Brazil), August 2015 - July 2016.
- **Associate Professor Janet Fletcher**, University of Melbourne, LCRC Visiting Fellow, July 2015
- **Dr Hiroko Sato**, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, LCRC Visiting Fellow, July 2015

### Special seminars and events

**Special Seminar, Wednesday 29 July, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Associate Professor Janet Fletcher**, University of Melbourne Intonation in Mawng

**Special Seminar, Wednesday 9 September, D3-150, 4 pm**

**Dr Hiroko Sato**, University of Hawai'i at Manoa Serial verb constructions in Kove

**Anthropological film, Wednesday 29 April, 6 pm, The Cairns Institute Lecture Theatre**

A special screening of the film *Hiper-mulheres* (The Hyperwomen 2011, 80 min), a 2012 Brazilian documentary film, directed by Fausto Carlos, Leonardo Sette and Takuma Kuikuro. The film was shot in the Xingu National Park, Mato Grosso, Brazil. Fearing the death of his wife, an old man requests that his nephew perform the Jamurikumalu, the main women's ritual of the Indigenous peoples of the Upper Xingu (Mato Grosso, Brazil), so that she may sing one last time. The women start the rehearsals, but the only singer who really knows all the songs is seriously ill. The film was introduced by Distinguished Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (with the help of Emilienne Ireland, expert on the Waujá and other groups of the Xingu area).

**Anthropological film, Wednesday 26 August, 6 pm, Cairns Institute Lecture Theatre**

A special screening of the film '**War of the Gods**' (1971, 66 min), one of several documentaries of the 'Disappearing World Series' produced by the Granada TV in the UK from 1970-1990s. The film was introduced by Distinguished Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, specialist in Amazonian and Papua New Guinean languages and her student Kasia I. Wojtylak, doing research in Colombia (organized by Daniela Vavrová)

## Seminars and Roundtable meetings of LCRC

Meeting of the LCRC, held throughout the year, are open to anyone interested in linguistic topics. Presentations in 2015-early 2016 were:

30 January	Kasia Wojtylak	Fruits for Animals: Hunting avoidance speech style among the Murui people (Northwest Amazonia)
18 February	Valérie Guérin	Focussing on S and A in Tayatuk
18 March	Bob Dixon	Are some languages better than others? (1)
25 March	Bob Dixon	Are some languages better than others? (2)
1 April	Angeliki Alvanoudi	Grammars in contact in Cairns: contact-induced change in Greek
6 May	Jennifer Deger	Mobile phones and an Aboriginal act of remix
13 May	Kasia Wojtylak	Expression of information source in Murui
10 June	Grant Aiton	Complex predicates in Eibela
24 June	Elena Mihas	Some aspects of informal talk and visible behaviour in Alto Perene (Arawak)
8 July	Richard Lansdown	Language and Action in Literary Criticism, illustrated from T. S. Eliot's <i>The Waste Land</i>
22 July	Tahnee Innes	Growing up Jirrbal: Ernie Grant's reminiscences
19 August	Mike Wood	Translating New Testament spirits, angels and other liturgical entities into Kamula
16 September	Bob Dixon	The emergence of English dictionaries, 725 – 1616 CE
7 October	Willem Adelaar	Recovering the Andean past through scenarios of language contact and migration
11 Nov	Iwona Kraska-Szlenk	Swahili ‘reversed’ address terms: usage patterns, cognitive motivation and cultural factors
18 Nov	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Language contact and word structure: a case study from north-west Amazonia

2 December	Mateus C. M. de Carvalho	Commands in Deni
9 December	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Commands in Manambu
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

## WORKSHOPS

### **SPECIAL WORKSHOP AND FAMILIARISATION LINGUISTICS MEETS BOTANY** common aims, problems and resources

2-4 pm Wednesday 28 January in the Herbarium, Building E2. Room 118M

#### **Schedule**

2-3 pm: Introduction to the Australian Tropical Herbarium – collections, staff and facilities; tour to cover the Public Reference Collection, main research Herbarium, and brief overview of resources of possible value for linguistics research

3-4 pm: Familiarisation session: selected researchers from linguistics and botany to outline briefly and informally (their research, interests and background)

4 pm onwards - Continue discussions over nibbles and drinks

### **BRIDGING LINKAGE IN CROSS-LINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE**

Special workshop of the Language and Culture Research Centre

Valérie Guérin and Simon E. Overall (Convenors)

Cairns Institute & College of Arts, Society, and Education

James Cook University, 25-26 February 2015

The Workshop featured ten presentations, following the introductory talk 'Bridging linkage: An introduction', by Valérie Guérin:

- 'Pro-verbal and pronominal bridging constructions in Aguaruna (Jivaroan)', by Simon E. Overall
- 'Recapitulative linkage in Murui narratives (Witoto, Northwest Amazonia)' by Kasia Wojtylak
- 'Bridging linkage, summary and recapitulation in Tariana, an Arawak language from northwest Amazonia' by Alexandra Aikhenvald
- 'The summary construction in Jarawara' by Bob Dixon
- 'Recapitulative linkage in Ma Manda' by Ryan Pennington
- 'Repetition and anaphora as a cohesive device in Eibela discourse' by Grant Aiton
- 'Canonical and non-canonical bridging constructions in Jingulu' by Rob Pensalfini
- 'Do Oceanic languages have bridging linkage?' by Valérie Guérin
- 'Clause repetition as a bridging device in Greek conversation' Angeliki Alvanoudi

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

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## **COMMANDS: A CROSS-LINGUISTIC VIEW**

the Twelfth International Workshop

Cairns Institute / CASE — James Cook University

organised by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon

Monday 28 September – Saturday 3 October 2015

all sessions in D3-150, Cairns Institute building

Over the past eighteen years, Professors Alexandra Y Aikhenvald and R M W Dixon have organized eleven week-long International Workshops on topics of current theoretical importance. For each of them, there has been a published volume (including the best papers) with Cambridge University Press or Oxford University Press. These have been issued in the first place as hardback, and their success has been such that each has been later reissued in a cheaper paperback format. The reviews in academic journals have been consistently laudatory, hailing the volumes as masterpieces at the cutting edge of current research. The Twelfth International Workshop, 'Commands', took place between 28 September and 3 October this year. It saw a gathering of linguists from all corners of the globe. Labor Senator for Queensland the Honorable Jan McLucas officially launched the workshop, highlighting the importance of international events like this coming to the tropical far north. She also launched the following latest publications from LCRC members:

R M W Dixon, 2015. *Edible Gender, mother-in-law style and other grammatical wonders*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Elena Mihas, 2014. *Upper Perené Arawak narratives*. University of Nebraska Press

Nerida Jarkey 2015. *Serial verbs in White Hmong*. Leiden, Brill (in a series edited by Aikhenvald, Dixon and Enfield).

The week of the workshop was highly stimulating, and full of exciting discussions and exchange of ideas. The volume emanating from the Workshop has been submitted to a refereed international publisher.

The initial presentation, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald 'Commands: a cross-linguistic perspective' was followed by

- Valérie Guérin, on Tayatuk (Papuan area),
- N. J. Enfield (University of Sydney) on Lao,
- Nerida Jarkey (University of Sydney) on Japanese,
- Hannah Sarvasy (ANU) on Nungon (Papuan),
- Timothy Thornes (Boise State University) on Northern Paiute (Numic, Uto-Aztecan),
- Eric Campbell (University of California, Santa Barbara) on Zenzontepec Chatino (Otomanguean),
- Azeb Amha (University of Leiden) on Wolaitta (Omotic, Afroasiatic),
- R. M. W. Dixon (LCRC) on Dyrbal (Australian area),



- Lourens De Vries (Free University of Amsterdam) on Korowai (Papuan area),
- Borut Telban (Slovene Academy of Sciences) on Karawari (Lower Sepik, Papuan area),
- W. F. H. Adelaar (University of Leiden) on Quechua,
- Elena Mihas on Ashaninka Tambo (Campan, Arawak),
- Simon Overall (LCRC) on Aguaruna (Jivaroan), and
- Rosita Henry on 'Veiled commands: Anthropological perspectives on directives'.

The workshop finished with a summary by Alexandra Aikhenvald and group discussion and publication plans. The volume emanating from the Workshop has been submitted to an international publisher.

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#### ANTHROPOLOGICAL LINGUISTICS COURSE AND TEACHING

The second undergraduate course AN2009 Anthropological Linguistics, was taught at the Cairns Campus during the second semester 2015 by **Cassy Nancarrow**. Aikhenvald and Dixon contributed, each with a guest lecture.

### 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 'Non-spatial setting'** commenced on 8 April 2015 and will run until March 2016. The Initial Orientation was given by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald on 19 March 2015.

29 April	Grant Aiton	Eibela
20 May	Nick Piper	Meryam Mir
3 June	Howard Oates	Ninggirum
17 June	Simon Overall	Aguaruna
1 July	Valérie Guérin	Tayatuk
15 July	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Manambu
5 August	Ryan Pennington	Ma Manda
12 August	Simon Overall	Kandozi
26 August	Kasia Wojtylak	Murui Witoto
2 September	Elena Mihas	Satipo Ashaninka
14 October	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Tariana
28 October	Bob Dixon	Jarawara
4 November	Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho	Deni
24 February	Alexandra Aikhenvald	Non-spatial setting: summary and conclusions

## Activities of LCRC members in 2015

**Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald** completed her monograph *How gender shapes the world* (to be published in August 2016 by Oxford University Press). This is a cumulation of her experience in the analysis of gender and other noun categorization devices, and the social role of gender distinctions. She has continued working on Manambu, a Ndu language of the Sepik region of Papua New Guinea, and on Yalaku (formerly known as Yelogu), a previously undescribed Ndu language, with the support of the community and the local Councillor, Joel Ukaia. She is currently editing *The Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality* (Oxford University Press) and seeing through press (jointly with R. M. W. Dixon) *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology* (Cambridge University Press).

During the year, she published and prepared for publication papers on language contact, the grammar of Tariana, grammaticalization in Amazonian languages, and various aspects of languages of the Sepik and linguistic typology (especially evidentiality). She continued as Associate Editor for the *Journal of Language Contact*, as editor for monograph series *Brill's Studies in Language, Cognition and Culture*, and as member of various editorial boards. She is Consultant on South American etymologies for the *Oxford English Dictionary*, and member of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.

**Grant Aiton** has continued working on description and documentation of Eibela. He participated in the workshop “Bridging Linkage in Cross-Linguistic Perspective” in February, where he presented on Eibela. He undertook field work to document oral literature in Eibela communities as part of a grant received from the *Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research*. He is presently preparing to return to Papua New Guinea in a project funded by the Endangered Language Documentation Programme, and is about to complete his PhD thesis.

**Angeliki Alvanoudi** became an Adjunct Lecturer at LCRC, JCU. She also became a teaching staff member at the School of English Language and Literature, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (spring semester 2016). She authored a paper entitled ‘Conversational code switching in an Australian-Greek community’ (in Greek) to appear in the proceedings of the Symposium on Greek Language and Spoken Communication, and a book chapter entitled ‘Clause repetition as a tying technique in Greek conversation’ for the volume on bridging linkage edited by Valérie Guérin and Simon Overall. She completed a preliminary draft of her monograph on Greek spoken in Australia and contact-induced change with the provisional title *Language contact, borrowing and code switching: A case study of Australian Greek*. She edited a special section on ‘Aspects of the meaning of gender’ to appear in the *International Journal of*

*Language and Culture*. She authored further two journal papers, which are currently under review.

**Juliane Böttger** finalised her thesis on 'Topics in the grammar of Lele' in July 2015 and was awarded a PhD in September 2015. In August 2015, she started teaching introductory linguistics and phonetics for speech pathologists at JCU Townsville and is currently in her second semester. 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.

**Mateus Cruz Maciel de Carvalho**, a PhD student at UNESP – FCLAr (Brazil), is working on a comprehensive grammar of Deni, an Arawá language spoken in southern Amazonia, Brazil. He will be at LCRC from August 2015 until July 2016, working on his thesis and on Arawá materials, under the supervision of Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon.

**R. M. W. Dixon's** monograph *Edible gender, mother-in-law style and other grammatical wonders: studies in Dyirbal, Yidiñ and Warrgamay* was published by Oxford University Press in May 2015. This includes substantially revised versions of a dozen studies published between 1968 and 2012. He completed a controversial volume *Are some languages better than others?* which will be published by Oxford University Press on 24 March 2016. He wrote a paper 'The grammar of English pronouns' and a chapter for *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*. He also continued work on languages from his three field sites — Australia (Dyirbal, Yidiñ), the Pacific (Fijian) and Amazonia (Jarawara). Work is well advanced on a volume of texts in Dyirbal, plus a comprehensive dictionary/thesaurus of that language. 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** delivered a special seminar on optional subject marking (entitled Focusing in S and A in Tayatuk) at the LCRC on 18 February 2015. She organized a workshop on “bridging constructions” (also known as tail-head linkage) with Simon Overall on the 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2015. Valérie and Simon plan to submit the collection of papers presented at the workshop in an edited volume. They drafted the introduction to the volume in November and circulated it among participants. Valérie submitted her paper on bridging constructions in Mavea (an Oceanic language of Vanuatu) as a contribution to the volume. In March-May, she was in PNG for her fieldwork and in September, she took part in the International Workshop and gave a talk entitled “Commands in Tayatuk” on 28 September. In November, she submitted this presentation to the volume emanating from the workshop.

**Rosita Henry** is continuing to work on her ethnographic biography of Maggie Wilson (working title: *Maggie's Memoir: Untying Knots and Weaving Threads in the Papua New Guinea Highlands*). She was recognised for her supervision of Higher Degree Students by being awarded with 'Supervisor of the Year'. During the year she continued to conduct research in relation to the two ARC Discovery projects that she leads: 1) 'Objects of possession: artefact transactions in the Wet Tropics of North Queensland' and 2) 'Planning for later life: An ethnographic analysis of ageing among transnational Papua New Guineans'. In early 2015, she completed editing with Shelley Greer, Russell McGregor and Michael Wood, a collection of papers based on her team's research for the artefacts project. The collection is currently under review to be published as a Special Issue of the *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum*. In October 2015, she was invited to present outcomes of this research project at the Museum Victoria in Melbourne. She presented a paper entitled *Creative connections: An artefact collection from the Wet Tropics, North Queensland*. She is currently busy organising the Australian Association of Pacific Studies Conference *Tides of Transformation* to be held at the Cairns Institute (1-3 April 2016). She has also been invited to speak on gender and aging at The Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting (ANZSGM) 2016, to be held at the Cairns Convention Centre from Wednesday, 1 to Friday, 3 June 2016.

**Iwona Kraska-Szlenk**, of the University of Warsaw, is an expert in African and general linguistics, with a special focus on cognitive studies, gender and kinship terminologies. She was an LCRC Visiting Fellow during the month of November 2015. During her visit, she presented a lecture on Swahili address terms, and continued her work on body part terms and their semantic extensions.

**Elena Mihas** carried on research work on Alto Perene (Arawak) and continued documentation and grammatical analysis of Satipo Ashaninka (Arawak). She did extensive fieldwork in the Chanchamayo and Satipo provinces of Peru in the winter and spring of 2015 to collect more conversational data in the communities where the languages are spoken. The fieldwork was supported by the James Cook University Faculty Grant 'Ethnography of communication: Patterns of Ashéninka Perené (Arawak) public discourse', 2015, the Jacobs Research Funds Grant 'Ethnography of communication: Patterns of Ashéninka Perené (Arawak) public discourse', 2015, and the LCRC funds. An outcome of the 2015 fieldwork is a volume on conversational structures of Alto Perene to be submitted for publication in the first half of 2016. The book covers a range of topics including chapters on linguistic resources used for coding participation roles, linguistic resources used for coding membership categories, organization of focused encounters, nonverbal resources used by participants in interaction, mechanisms of turn-taking and repair, epistemic positioning of participants, and types and functions of responses. In addition, she began preparations for doing 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 ESL students. She has recently researched and produced a set of nine multilingual storybooks with Lardil, Kaiadilt and Yangkaal people 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'** research explores the usefulness of alternative methodologies in what we can know about indigenous mythology and lifeways of the Ninggirum of PNG. Present interest explores Ninggirum religious understandings and ways in which Christianity shapes Ninggirum experience, and the effects of global education for development on Indigenous Knowledge in Papua New Guinea. Current focus is on the completion of a monograph *Stone changes our world: surviving Ok Tedi*.

**Ton Otto** continues his work on design anthropology, social change, notions of temporality, and agency. In 2015, he co-organised a conference on design anthropology. A volume with the title *Design Anthropological Futures* will appear in 2016 (Bloomsbury). Otto conducted fieldwork in Manus, PNG, with a focus on the importance of ancestor spirits.

**Simon Overall** undertook fieldwork in north Peru in early 2015, visiting Kandozi communities to continue his work on Kandozi-Chapra grammar, and also spending a few days in an Aguaruna community where he is working with a local organisation to set up a project funded by the Firebird Foundation to document ethnobotanical knowledge. In February he and Valérie Guérin organised a workshop at LCRC “Bridging Linkage in Cross-Linguistic Perspective”. Currently he and Martin Kohlberger are organising a session for Amazonicas 6 (Leticia, Colombia) “Historical Phonology and Sound Change in Amazonian Languages”, to take place in May 2016. Simon and Kasia Wojtylak are finalising a collection of papers on Nominalization in Northwest Amazonia, from the 2014 LCRC workshop. Together with Rosa Vallejos and Spike Gildea he is editing a volume of papers on nonverbal predication, from the Amazonicas 5 conference, to be published by John Benjamins. He is also working on sketches of Jivaroan languages and of Kandozi-Chapra for a *Handbook of Amazonian Languages* edited by Lev Michael and Patience Epps. Simon received an ELDP grant for two field trips in 2016, which will take him to Chapra and Kandozi communities on the Morona and Pastaza Rivers in north Peru to document local variation in the Kandozi-Chapra language.

**Chia-jung Pan** is a Young Academic Leader of Nankai University within the School of Literature. Currently, he is continuing his research into the Saarua language and investigating its genetic and areal relations with neighbouring Tsou and Kanakanavu languages.

**Nick Piper** continues to do research towards a PhD on Meriam Mir. She has re-established contact with the community, particularly those speakers living in Cairns. She has gained new insights into the stress patterns of the language and the current shift in meaning and functions of some of the demonstratives. She has begun collaborating with Drs Philip Matthias and Helen Fairweather who have a project to study and perform Christian hymns and choruses from the Eastern Torres Strait. Her input is to primarily provide word to word and free translations of the Meriam songs as well as ensure standard orthography.

**Mikko Salminen** continues his work 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.

**Hannah Sarvasy** is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in linguistics at the ANU, working on child language acquisition of Nungon. She completed additional periods of immersion fieldwork on the Nungon language in Towet village, Saruwaged Mountains, Morobe Province, PNG. She is currently preparing her PhD 'A grammar of Nungon, from Morobe Province' for publication.

**Dineke Schokkin** is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in linguistics at the ANU. She continues her work on the Paluai language of the Manus Province (PNG), focusing on getting her PhD ready for publication, in addition to working on Idi, a language from the Pahoturi River Family spoken in the Morehead District of Southern New Guinea.

**Reesa Sorin's** research in 2015 focussed on revisiting scenario-based learning; and also working in a partnership with Robyn Glade-Wright researching the impact of art exhibitions on understandings about extinction and on the impact of an overseas study tour on student engagement. She continued writing about the Postcards across Borders project (including a book chapter) and the Classroom Canines project. She also contributed to a chapter about teaching sustainability to preservice teachers.

**Sean Ulm** continued work on his ARC Future Fellowship to refine radiocarbon dating of marine materials across the tropics. He also continued work on his 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. Highlights for the year included his election to the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He was promoted to the rank of Professor at JCU.

**Kasia Wojtylak** continued working on a grammar of Witoto Murui. She presented a number of seminars and lectures at the University of Sydney, Leiden, MPI Nijmegen, dealing with a variety of topics in the language. On 16-17 June she co-organized, with Professor Lourens de Vries, a Special Workshop 'Comparative and Superlative Constructions: Typology and Diachrony' (VU University Amsterdam), and gave a talk on 'Comparative Constructions in Murui (Witoto, Northwest Amazonia)'. She has co-edited the ensuing volume,

and continued working on various issues in Murui Witoto, including evidentiality, epistemic modality and verb structure. In later 2015-early 2016 she undertook a lengthy period of fieldwork among the Murui Witoto.

**Michael Wood** has continued working on an ARC Linkage Grant for *The Nakanai Caves Cultural Heritage Project*. The aim of this project is investigate the way the regions impressive limestone caves may be linked to local cultural landscapes. Working with prior ethnographic material it became clear that gardens in the region were systematically linked to an underground cosmology associated with volcanoes. In December 2015 he presented some of the earlier ethnographic material to a TransOceanik Workshop on ‘Theatre of Operations’, Collège de France, Paris. Work also continued on an ARC DP research project on how the FNQ PNG community prepare for old age with their research team now including Lokes Brooksbank, Nalisa Neundorf and Daniela Vavrova. During 2015 he worked on developing a paper on translating Kamula bush spirits into local forms of Christianity. An early version of this paper was presented in 2015 to the LCRC weekly seminar.

**Maria Wronska-Friend** continued her research on the cross-cultural history of Indonesian textiles and the impact of Indonesian textile design in the works of European artists and designers, such as Henri Matisse, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Paul Poiret and Henry van de Velde. In May she presented a paper “Colonial inspiration: batik textiles and the Dutch art” at the European Textile Network Conference in Leiden, The Netherlands. She has also worked as a researcher consultant to two major collections of Indonesian textiles: Javanese batiks of Rudolf Smend, Germany, and Balinese textiles of Krzysztof Musial, Spain. The results of her work were published in relevant catalogues.

**Sihong Zhang** continues his work on Ersu and other Tibetan languages, revising papers on various issues and preparing his PhD thesis for publication, in addition to a busy schedule as Vice Dean at the The School of International Education and Exchange at Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, combining administrative and teaching duties with continuing research productivity.

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**Endorsements from the dust jacket of *The Art of grammar: a practical guide*, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015**

'A concise book that discusses procedures for assembling a comprehensive reference grammar, with emphasis on practical advice, attention to clarity, and thoughtful use of technical terminology. Written by an expert in the field, it will be welcomed by a substantial body of linguists and their students'.

**Marianne Mithun**, University of California at Santa Barbara

*The Art of grammar* is a tool that is long overdue. It enables prospective researchers to make a quality assessment for reference grammars, and it will provide a transparent set of criteria for establishing their usefulness for typological research, historical linguistic research, language standardization, or educational policy.

**Willem F. H. Adelaar**, Leiden University

**Endorsements from the dust jacket of *Are some languages better than others*, by R.M.W. Dixon, Oxford: Oxford University Press, due out on 24 March 2016**

‘Too many linguists are afraid to pose the question that makes up the title of this book. Like people, languages are different, and each has its own strengths and weaknesses; some are harder to figure out, and some are relatively easy. Dixon illustrates these facts in a very clear and engaging manner, using examples for a wide variety of languages from around the world, and through delightful anecdotes taken from his 50 years of experience in the field. This is a book based in linguistic reality, not linguistic theory.’

**Aaron D. Rubin**, Pennsylvania State University

‘The (in)equality of languages is certainly one of the most vexing issues in modern linguistics. This book effectively challenges some common views on language, ranging from those pertaining to feelings of western cultural superiority to the ‘politically correct’ convictions prevalent among traditional academic circles. The author offers a balanced and well-informed discussion of the issue and draws from a lifelong research experience with languages of all types, spoken in situations that can differ dramatically. A very refreshing approach that will keep the reader fascinated!’

**Willem F. H. Adelaar**, Leiden University



## Publications by past and present members of LCRC 2015 and forthcoming

### Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald

2015. *The art of grammar: a practical guide*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2015. 'Body, mind and spirit: body parts in Manambu and their meanings'. *Studies in Language* 39: 85-117.
2015. 'Evidentiality and its interrelations with other categories'. *Linguistic Typology* 19: 239-77.
2015. 'Differential case in Yalaku'. *Oceanic Linguistics* 54 (1): 241-70.
2015. 'Sentence types', in *Oxford Handbook of mood and modality*, edited by I. Nuyts et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press (published online July 2015).
2015. 'Imperatives and commands in language and society', pp. 83-98 of *Interdisciplinary Explorations of Language in our AGE*. Proceedings of the 42 NAS International Symposium, Seoul 22-23 October 2015. Seoul: NAS.
- Forthcoming. 'Distance, direction, and relevance: how to choose and to use a demonstrative in Manambu'. *Anthropological Linguistics* 57: 1-45.
- Forthcoming. April 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 Andrea Berez-Kroeker, Diane M. Hintz and Carmen Jany (eds.) [SLCS 173]. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Forthcoming (2016). *How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality and information source', in *Between evidentials and modals*, ed. by Chungmin Lee and Jinhho Park. Leiden: Brill.
- Forthcoming. 'Polysynthesis in Amazonia', in *Handbook of polysynthesis*, ed. by Michael Fortescue, Marianne Mithun et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Polysynthesis in Tariana', in *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', to appear in *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality: an introduction', to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of evidentiality*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. 'Evidentiality and language contact', to appear in *The Oxford Handbook of evidentiality*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming. '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.
- 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.
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### **Elena Mihas**

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### **René van den Berg**

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### **Kasia Wojtylak**

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### **Sihong Zhang**

Forthcoming. 'Kinship system and kinship terms in Ersu'. *Anthropological Linguistics*.

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**Extract from a recent review of *Perception and cognition in language and culture*, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and Anne Storch**

Review by Tiago Chacon, *Linguist List*

'This book is an important contribution to deeper understanding of the linguistic expression of sensory perception and its correlation with cognition and culture. It brings fresh and diverse questions and approaches that in due time will help refine and expand previous research.'

## **A SELECTION OF REVIEWS OF OUR BOOKS**

**Possession and ownership: A cross-linguistic typology**, edited by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Review by David Robertson in *Linguist List*

*Possession and Ownership* is an invaluable contribution to the linguistic typology literature... The book's nature as a cross-linguistic survey allows it to clarify many hitherto outstanding issues such as which are the core types of possession that are recurrently encountered in languages, and which are more peripheral.

**The Grammar of knowledge**, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, OUP, 2012.

Review by Erica Sandman in *Sky Journal of Linguistics*

*The Grammar of knowledge* offers many novel perspectives to the study of evidential meanings in language... The rich data on little documented and endangered languages based on first-hand fieldwork is of high value in its own right. Written in an engaging and accessible manner, *The Grammar of Knowledge* is essential reading for anyone interested in knowledge-related grammatical categories, linguistic typology and the study of lesser-documented languages.

**The Languages of the Amazon**, by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, OUP, 2012.

Review by Patience Epps in *Anthropological Linguistics*

*The Languages of the Amazon* draws on this rich set of materials to provide a comprehensive introduction to these languages... The discussion provides a rich sense of the variety and intricacy of the Amazonian languages...a highly informative and accessible resource that brings the fascinating intricacies of these languages into the view of a wide audience.

**I am a linguist**, by R. M. W. Dixon. Brill, 2011.

Review by Peter Bakker, *International Journal of American Linguistics*

The significance of R. M. W. ("Bob") Dixon in global linguistics is great. Australian Aboriginal linguistics was basically built up by him. He has written a handful of high-quality descriptive grammars and (co)edited close to a dozen influential typological volumes with major publishers and a number of other works with high impact. Apart from that, he has written works for a general audience, such as a fascinating account of his fieldwork experiences in Australia and a few novels and science fiction stories...It transpires from the book that Dixon is the ultimate linguist, and that there are perhaps a handful of linguists of his caliber. Others who think they are linguists can learn how to become one in this autobiography-cum-hagiography that reads like a novel.

**Making new words: morphological derivation in English**, by R. M. W. Dixon. OUP, 2014.

Review by Pavel Štekauer, *Language*

'I believe this book to be a worthy successor to Marchand's *Categories* (1960, 1969), and, as such, it deserves to be labeled... a 'truly monumental work' synthesizing and expanding the available knowledge in the field. While its scope only encompasses affixation processes, these are described with remarkable comprehensiveness and systematicity...D's monograph is one of the most impressive reference books of recent years.'