# Contents

Foreword 5

## Part One

1. Introduction 9
   1.1 Institutional Embedding 9
   1.2 Profile 9

2. CLCG in 2008 10
   2.1 Structure 10
   2.2 Director, Advisory Board, Coordinators 10
   2.3 Assessment 11
   2.4 Staffing 11
   2.5 Finances: Travel and Material costs 12
   2.6 Internationalization 12
   2.7 Contract Research 13

3. Research Activities 14
   3.1 Conferences, Cooperation, and Colloquia 14
   3.1.1 TABU-day 2008 14
   3.1.2 Groningen conferences 14
   3.1.3 Conferences elsewhere 15
   3.1.4 Visiting scholars 16
   3.1.5 Linguistics Colloquium 17
   3.1.6 Other lectures 18
   3.2 CLCG-Publications 18
   3.3 PhD Training Program 18
   3.3.1 Graduate students 21
   3.4 Postdocs 21

## Part Two

4. Research Groups 25
   4.1 Computational Linguistics 25
   4.2 Discourse and Communication 39
   4.3 Language and Literacy Development Across the Life Span 49
   4.4 Language Variation and Language Change 61
   4.5 Neurolinguistics 71
   4.6 Syntax and Semantics 79

## Part Three

5. Research Staff 2008 93
Foreword

The Center for Language and Cognition, Groningen (CLCG) continued its research into 2008, making it an exciting place to work. On behalf of CLCG I am pleased to present the 2008 annual report. Highlights of this year’s activities were the following.

Five PhD theses were defended:
- Starting a Sentence in Dutch: A corpus study of subject- and object-fronting (Gerlof Bouma).
- Open your eyes and listen carefully. Auditory and audiovisual speech perception and the McGurk effect in Dutch speakers with and without aphasia (Julia Klitsch).
- Restructuring and Infinitival Complements in Dutch (Janneke ter Beek).
- Off-line Answer Extraction for Question Answering (Jori Mur).
- Automatic Lexico-Semantic Acquisition for Question Answering (Lonneke van der Plas).

Twelve new PhD projects started:
- four in computational linguistics (two externally funded): on computational modeling of lexical acquisition, on text generation from abstract dependency structures, on corpus based machine translation, and on phylogenetic investigations in language relatedness.
- two in syntax and semantics (one externally funded): on word order in early child language, and on using cognitive modeling to study language acquisition.
- two in discourse and communication: on language and aging, and on the role of prosody in pronoun resolution: evidence from psycholinguistics and neuroimaging.
- three in language and literacy development across the life span: on explaining knowledge change through writing, on the analysis of learnability of picture books and stories for pre-school children, and on L2-acquisition of grammatical gender: role of the L1 and age of acquisition.
- one in language variation and change: on regional syntax variation in Moselle-Franconian.

Two NWO projects completed their last year:
- on automated question answering (Gosse Bouma),
- on script analysis tools for the cultural heritage (John Nerbonne).

Thirteen NWO projects continued:
- on asymmetries in grammar (Hendriks, VICI),
- on dependency in universal grammar (Jan-Wouter Zwart),
- on language, multilingualism and integration (Kees de Bot and Monika Schmid),
- on modeling textual organization (Egg and Redeker),
- on linguistic determinants of mutual intelligibility in Scandinavia (Charlotte Gooskens),
- on grafting in syntax and on parataxis (Mark de Vries),
- on the determinants of dialect differences (John Nerbonne and Hermann Niebaum),
- on the determinants of intelligibility in Flanders and in the Netherlands (John Nerbonne and Charlotte Gooskens),
- on activities and interactions in preschools (Kees de Glopper),
- on picture books and the social-emotional development of infants (Kees de Glopper),
- on learning and interaction with diversity in the classroom (Kees de Glopper), and
- on production in Turkish-Dutch aphasia (Roelien Bastiaanse), and
- the developmental dyslexia project (Frans Zwarts) entered its tenth year.
Seven language resource projects (STEVIN) were active. 
Three of them ended in 2008:
- D-Coi led by Gertjan van Noord on corpus annotation,
- Irme led by Gertjan van Noord on lexical affinities,
- COREA led by Gosse Bouma on anaphoric resolution.
One continued:
- LASSY led by Gertjan van Noord on syntactic annotation.
Three new projects startet:
- DAISY led by Gertjan van Noord on language generation and summarization,
- PaCo led by Jörg Tiedemann on machine translation,
- DUOMAN led by Gertjan van Noord on sentiment analysis of on-line media content.

Three internationally funded projects continued:
- one led by John Nerbonne aimed at measuring linguistic differences, funded by the German Volkswagen Foundation (in collaboration with Tübingen and Sofia);
- one led by Angeliek van Hout and Bart Hollebrandse aimed at characterizing the structural complexity in language, funded by the European Community (in collaboration with Berlin, Postdam, Manchester and St. Andrews);
- and one project entered its last year led by Roelien Bastiaanse aiming at language processing, motor sequencing and working memory in Parkinson’s Disease, funded by the International Parkinson Foundation.

CLCG hosted nine visiting scholars, and organized twelve colloquia on a broad range of topics. Eight international scientific meetings were hosted in Groningen, including the traditional Groningen TABU dag, and Groningen researchers were involved in the organization of nineteen other scientific events elsewhere.

CLCG completed the funded cooperation with the Ohio State University, San Diego and the University of Massachusetts, and continued cooperation with Tübingen.

Prof. dr. ir. John Nerbonne
CLCG director

Groningen, March 2009
Part One
1 Introduction

The Center for Language and Cognition Groningen (CLCG) is a research institute within the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen. It is home to all the linguistic research carried out within this faculty. This report summarizes the institute's activities during 2008.

A substantial appendix, including a full list of publications of all CLCG members in 2008, their lectures and other professional activities, may be found on the institute's website, http://www.rug.nl/let/onderzoek/onderzoekinstituten/clcg/ (see the section on “Annual Reports”).

1.1 Institutional Embedding

The institute is part of the Faculty of Arts, and all of its members are employed there. Many researchers also participate in Groningen’s Center for Behavioral and Cognitive Neurosciences (BCN), a local interdisciplinary research school that brings together research from five different faculties of the University of Groningen. Many of the CLCG members likewise choose to participate in the national graduate school in Linguistics, LOT (Landelijke Onderzoeksschool Taalwetenschap). One of the major tasks of BCN and LOT is offering training courses to PhD students. Various PhD students attend courses that are organized by BCN and LOT, while some senior researchers teach such courses. CLCG began preparations to participate in the Graduate School for the Humanities in 2009.

1.2 Profile

CLCG recognizes special responsibilities in the following four areas:

- Linguistic research must work hand in hand with the instructional needs of the faculty, particularly in the modern European languages (Germanic, Romance, Slavic and Finno-Ugric).
- CLCG has a special responsibility for Dutch languages and dialects, especially the minority languages spoken in the Northern Netherlands that is to say Frisian and Lower Saxon. The university recognizes this special responsibility.
- Applications justify linguistic research (as well as progress in understanding). This is important for developmental linguistics, aphasiology, communications, and computational linguistics.
- CLCG is in a unique position to contribute to progress through cooperation with the cognitive neurosciences in Groningen. While this opportunity is concentrated in neurolinguistics, most other CLCG groups have research with neurolinguistic implications, including language development, communication and discourse, and theoretical and computational linguistics.

CLCG seeks to meet these responsibilities especially by recruiting appropriate expertise whenever vacancies arise.
2 CLCG in 2008

2.1 Structure

The Research Staff is listed in the last chapter. In 2008 CLCG consisted of six research groups, organized by subdiscipline:

- Computational Linguistics (CL)
- Discourse and Communication (DC)
- Language and Literacy development across the Life Span (LANSPAN)
- Language Variation and Language Change (LVLC)
- Neurolinguistics (NL)
- Syntax and Semantics (SS)

Dr. Alexandra Lenz joined the LVLC group as a Rosalind Franklin fellow. Prof. Tette Hofstra retired in May, and Dr. Markus Egg left in December to assume a chair at the Humboldt University.

2.2 Director, Advisory Board, Coordinators

Prof.dr.ir. J. Nerbonne succeeded Prof.dr. G.J. de Haan as director of the Center for Language and Cognition Groningen in 1999 and was reappointed in 2007 for another 4 years.

The Advisory Board of the CLCG chose Dr. C.J.W. Zwart as its chair in 2008 as the successor of Prof. dr. C.L.J. de Bot, who gave up his chair to avoid conflicting positions when he became director of BCN. The board advises the director on policy matters and consists of the full professors and the coordinators of the research groups, listed below.

- Prof.dr. Y.R.M. Bastiaanse
- Prof dr. C.L.J. de Bot
- Dr. M. Egg
- Prof.dr. C.M. de Glopper
- Prof.dr. G.J. de Haan
- Prof.dr. C.T. Hasselblatt
- Prof. dr. J. Hoeksema
- Prof.dr. T. Hofstra
- Prof.dr. J. Koster
- Prof.dr. A.G.B. ter Meulen
- Prof.dr. H.W.H. Niebaum
- Dr. G.J. van Noord
- Dr. M. Norde
- Prof.dr. G. Redeker
- Prof.dr. S. Reker
- Dr. M.S. Schmid
- Dr. L.A. Stowe
- Dr. C.J.W. Zwart

Marlies Kluck and Ankelien Schippers served as student members.
The CLCG Advisory Board met twice in 2008, on Febr. 4 and Dec. 1.

The main points on the agenda were the impending introduction of the faculty graduate schools and the effect this might have on CLCG's relation to BCN and LOT, a new faculty-wide system for monitoring graduate students, and the 2008 mid-term review. All the faculties at the University of Groningen and, indeed, nation-wide, are introducing graduate schools whose main task is the education of graduate students. The Faculty of Arts has drawn up initial plans which are to be implemented in 2009. CLCG will naturally participate in this organization, but CLCG's members are convinced of the value of the courses offered by BCN and LOT. The faculty indicated that it, too, wished to see these activities continued.

The faculty has also introduced a policy that the progress of graduate students is to be monitored at the end of six, twelve, twenty-four and thirty-six months. CLCG implemented this policy in 2008, and all of the reports are being made and filed. We expect this activity to transfer to the graduate school before long.

Finally, the board prepared for the mid-term review, especially by reviewing a draft of the self-study, composed along the lines suggested by the Dutch VSNU's Standard Evaluation Protocol. See 2.3 below “Assessment” for more on the review itself.

### 2.3 Assessment

CLCG was assessed in 2004 for the period 1998-2003 according to the guidelines of the “Standard Evaluation Protocol” (SEP), published by the Office of the Association of Dutch Universities (VSNU). Details of that assessment and CLCG's reaction may be found in the 2005 annual report. We note here that we have effected all of the recommendations of the assessment board as of 2005.

CLCG conducted a midterm review in 2008 for the three-year period 2004-2006, again using the SEP guidelines. In addition to seeking the customary, internal reaction for mid-term reviews, CLCG also invited Prof. Henriëtte de Swart, Utrecht, and Prof. Pieter Muysken, Nijmegen to review its self-study with an eye to identifying problems and opportunities for improvement. Both the internal faculty reviews and the external colleagues were positive, helpful and selectively critical. Everyone reacted with dismay at the continued drop in CLCG's university (permanent) staffing, down 30% over a ten-year period.

### 2.4 Staffing

The first source of funding is the university, the second the national and European science agencies (the Dutch Organization for Scientific Research – NWO, the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences – KNAW, the European Marie Curie Fellowship Program, the Dutch Government (Nederlandse Taalunie) and the European Community, and the third includes all the rest, esp. contract research. In table 1 the three sources, together with the full-time equivalents for each function in 2008, are displayed.
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>56.55</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Financial sources with full-time equivalents (fte) for each function in 2008

2.5 Finances: Travel and Material costs

The budget for the CLCG-travel and material, intended for regular members of the CLCG, covers staff travel abroad and organization of conferences, workshops and other meetings with a scientific character. In 2008, the annual financial support from the Faculty of Arts, amounted to € 34,389. In the reporting period a sum of approx. € 45,000 was spent. The additional € 10,400 was paid from reserves.

2.6 Internationalization

**Computational Linguistics** has several international projects.


John Nerbonne leads an NWO collaboration project with Tübingen, Seminar für Sprachwissenschaft. The project focuses on computational and psycholinguistic processing. From this collaboration various projects have grown (see earlier annual reports), including the current project ‘Measuring Linguistic Unity and Diversity’ a current three-year project involving Erhard Hinrichs, Seminar für Sprachwissenschaft, Tübingen and Petya Osenova, Laboratory for Linguistic Modeling, Sofia. It funds a graduate student project in Groningen and is financed by the Volkswagen Foundation.

'Building ICT Research Capacity in Uganda' is a collaborative project involving the University of Groningen, the Radboud University (Nijmegen), and Eindhoven Technical University, all cooperating with four Ugandan universities, led by Makerere University. John Nerbonne leads this Mil. €5,7 project sponsoring thirty Ph.D. projects, three of which have been initiated at the CLCG.

**Discourse & Communication**

Harrie Mazeland collaborates with Arnulf Deppermann of the *Institut für Deutsche Sprache* (IDS) on an IDS-sponsored project on grammatical, semantic and pragmatic structures of talk in interaction.
The LANSPLAN group is involved in three international projects. Angeliek van Hout is the local project leader of ‘Characterizing Human Language by Structural Complexity’. It is part of the EU’s FP6 NEST Pathfinder Initiative “What it means to be human” and involves British and German researchers as well. One full-time researcher is employed by the project as well as several student assistants.

‘Crosslinguistically Robust Stages of Children’s Linguistic Performance’ is a European Science Foundation (ESF) project led locally by Angeliek van Hout which conducts comparative research on first language acquisition in normally developing and language-impaired children. It is funded as COST Action A 33, and is coordinated by researchers from the Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Berlin. The research focuses on semantic and pragmatic development, and currently involves over 40 researchers from 21 European countries, as well as from the US and Saudi Arabia.

Monika S. Schmid heads an NWO-sponsored project on interdisciplinary perspectives on multilingual development.

Syntax and Semantics

Petra Hendriks collaborates with Nijmegen and the Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS) in Berlin, researching the interplay between the speaker’s and the hearer’s perspective. NWO funds this cooperation.

Brigitte Kampers-Manhe, participates in La Grande Grammaire du Français, funded by the French CNRS and aimed at writing a completely new Grammar of French.

Graduate students

Two graduate students have also successfully sought funding for scientific collaboration. Veerle Baaijen (LANSPLAN) collaborates with David Galbraith at the Staffordshire University in Stoke-on-Trent (UK) under the auspices of a COST Short Term Scientific Mission. They are working on how writing leads to changes in the writer’s understanding. And Marlies Kluck (Syntax and Semantics) acquired a grant from the Jo Kolk Fund to study with David Pesetsky of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to study Issues in syntactic grafting: feature valuation and linearization.

Others

Apart from these formal cooperation programs, the CLCG has numerous other invaluable contacts with various other institutions in Europe, Israel, Japan, and the United States. Some of these are purely informal, and others have arisen through formal collaboration in instructional programs.

2.7 Contract Research

Etoc (Expertisecentrum voor taal, onderwijs en communicatie), the Faculty of Arts’s Expertise Center for Language, Education and Communication specializes in research and development. Etoc works on a contract basis and carries out projects for national, provincial and municipal agencies and for primary and secondary schools. In 2008 Etoc’s projects focused on the development of language policies for schools, language testing and the developing teaching and learning materials. This year, the contracts totaled over € 300,000,-.
3 Research Activities

3.1 Conferences, Cooperation, and Colloquia

CLCG organized the annual TABU day once again, and was centrally involved in several other local conferences.

3.1.1 TABU-day 2008

The TABU-day, the annual one-day conference on general linguistics, organized by Groningen University, was held on June 6, 2008. Aysa Arylova, Gisi Cannizzaro, Çagri Çöltekin, Evgenia Markovskaya, and Muriel Norde (senior advisor) coordinated the event. The first keynote lecture, given by Prof. dr. Ian Roberts, University of Cambridge was on *Macroparameters, Markedness and Typological Drift*. The closing keynote lecture, given by Prof. dr. Jonas Kuhn, University of Potsdam was titled *Does Language Technology need Linguistics? Do Linguists need Language Technology?*

The program of contributed talks consisted of presentations by mainly junior researchers. This year’s TABU-day had 22 presenters from the University of Groningen, 6 presenters from other Universities in the Netherlands and 4 presenters from abroad. The presentations covered a wide range of topics, from computational linguistics and psycholinguistics to theoretical syntax. In total, about 67 people attended the event (University of Groningen: 43, other Dutch universities: 11, foreign universities: 13).

For details see http://www.rug.nl/let/onderzoek/onderzoekinstituten/clcg/events/

Members of the CLCG also took part in the organization of conferences, workshops, symposia mentioned in the next sections. We note throughout the sections below only the involvement of CLCG researchers, not the entire committees.

3.1.2 Groningen conferences

CLCG members organized the following *international* meetings in Groningen in 2008.

*Workshop on levels of abstraction in the investigation of language development*, involved formal linguistics, applied linguistics, the neurocognitive base of language, and diachronic linguistics, in examining bilingual phenomena. Groningen, February 21-24. Monika Schmid, organizer.


*Auditory and Audiovisual language processing in Aphasia*, workshop on speech perception in Aphasia on the occasion of the promotion of Julia Klitsch. Groningen, April 16. Katrien Colman and Roelien Bastiaanse organized the event sponsored by Stichting Afasie Nederland, GUF, CLCG, and BCN.

*Merge: the derivation of structure and order*, international workshop on the properties of the generative procedure deriving phrase structure and linear order in syntax, Groningen, June 5. Jordi Fortuny and Jan-Wouter Zwart, organizers.
The Third workshop on Optimality Theory and Interpretation explored “The interplay between the speaker’s and the hearer’s perspective”, Groningen, November 7. Petra Hendriks, Sanne Kuijper, Gisi Cannizzaro, and Charlotte Koster were organizers.

Going Romance, twenty-second symposium on Romance Linguistics. Groningen, December 11-13. Reineke Bok-Bennema, Jordi Fortuny, Brigitte Kampers-Manhe, and Arie Molendijk organized the symposium, which included a one-day workshop on tense and aspect organized by Angeliek van Hout and Bart Hollebrandse.

Spring Syntax Symposium at the occasion of Janneke ter Beek’s dissertation defense, May 20, organized by Janneke ter Beek, Jan Koster, and Jan-Wouter Zwart

3.1.3 Conferences elsewhere


17th Sociolinguistics Symposium (SS17), Amsterdam, April 3-5, featured workshops on Micro and Macro Connections (exploring the ways in which verbal practices display, and contribute to social organization), with Harrie Mazeland, vice chair, and Gisela Redeker, reviewer; and also on Discourse in the Multicultural School, with Jan Berenst, chair.


LREC 2008, Language Resources and Evaluation Conference, Marrakech, Morocco, May 28-30. John Nerbonne, member of program committee. The conference included satellite workshops (i) on Natural language processing resources, algorithms and tools for authoring aids, June 1, 2008 with Gisela Redeker, member of program committee; and on Language Technology for Cultural Heritage Data (LaTeCH 2008), June 1 with John Nerbonne, member of program committee.

10th SIGMORPHON, 2008, Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) Special Interest Group in Morphology and Phonology, Columbus, Ohio, June 19, with John Nerbonne, member of program committee.

Digital Humanities, joint meeting of Association for Computing in the Humanities and Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing, Oulu, Finnland, June 24-28. John Nerbonne, member of program committee.


International PhD Workshop on Crosslinguistic Aspects of Aphasia, Potsdam, July 4-5. Roelien Bastiaanse, co-organizer.

Constraints in Discourse III, Potsdam, July 29 - August 1. Markus Egg and Gisela Redeker, members of program committee, Peter Kühnlein, co-organizer.
Methods XIII: International Conference on Methods in Dialectology, included a two-day thread on Measuring linguistic relations between closely related varieties, Leeds, August 4-8. The workshop was organized inter alia by Charlotte Gooskens, Sebastian Kürschner, and chaired by John Nerbonne.

CoNLL 2008, Conference on Natural Language Learning, Manchester, August 16-17, 2008. John Nerbonne, member of program committee.

KRAQ 2008, Knowledge and Reasoning for Question-Answering, Manchester, August 23. Gosse Bouma, member of program committee.

As part of the 15th World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA), Essen, August 24-29, Hilde Hacquebord was convenor of AILA Symposium Diagnosing Language Proficiency, and Marjolijn Verpoor organized the AILA theme session Cognitive Linguistics in the Second Language Classroom. Kees de Bot was convenor of the symposium The contribution of Neuro-Imaging research to theories of Second Language Development, and Jan Berenst was convenor of the panel: The use and development of academic discourse practices.


Science of Aphasia 9, Chalkidiki (Greece), September 20-25. Roel Jonkers, chair of program committee.

33rd Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, October 31 - November 2. Gerard Bol, reviewer.


3.1.4 Visiting scholars

The following scholars visited CLCG during 2008:

Adriana Cardoso, Lisbon, visited Mark de Vries on April 1- June 1 for collaboration in syntactic research.

Dr. Vanja Klijajevic, Games and Media Group, HOT lab, Carleton University, Ottawa, visited Roelien Bastiaanse April 1 - December 31 to collaborate on a Test for Assessing Time Reference (TART).

Esteve Valls Alecha, University of Barcelona, collaborated with John Nerbonne, Jelena Prokic and Martijn Wieling on Sept. 1- December 20, on the analysis of Catalan pronunciation variation. He was funded by the University of Barcelona.

Isabel García del Réal, University of the Basque Country, Vitoria, visited Angeliek van Hout December 11-18 for collaboration on pilot experiments on tense and aspect. She was funded by the COST A33 network (see internationalization).
Julia Ose, University of Frankfurt, visited Angeliek van Hout April 21-29 for collaboration on children’s acquisition of tense, aspect and telicity. She was funded by the COST A33 network (see internationalization).

Leen Impe, University of Leuven, visited Charlotte Gooskens and Sebastian Kürschner from November 20-24. She collaborated on the analysis of intelligibility and delivered a CLCG colloquium. She was funded by the intelligibility in the Low Lands project, sponsored by the Vlaams-Nederlands Comité (VNC).

Marie Pourquiè, Laboratoire Jacques-Lordat, Université de Toulouse, visited Roelien Bastiaanse from April 14 until October 1 to collaborate on a Test for Assessing Time Reference (TART). She was funded by AMID: Aide à la Mobilité Internationale des Doctorants from the Scientific Council of the Université Toulouse-Le Mirail and the Institute Jacques Lordat.

Prof. Jude Lubega, University of Makerere, visited John Nerbonne October 10-14 to collaborate in the project Building ICT Research Capacity in Uganda. Lubega became involved with Proscovia Olango’s project on document enrichment. His funding came from the NUFFIC.

Prof. Cynthia Thompson, Northwestern University, visited Roelien Bastiaanse April 14 - July 15 as an NWO guest researcher to collaborate on crosslinguistic analyses of aphasia.

Vasiliki Koukoulioti, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, visited Roelien Bastiaanse from February 1 until July 1 to collaborate on a Test for Assessing Time Reference (TART). She was funded by a scholarship from the State Scholarship Foundation (I.K.Y.) for postgraduate studies; LLP/Erasmus scholarship for visiting Groningen.

Several CLCG researchers participate in Socrates and Erasmus exchanges, e.g. Maria Czibere hosted Dr. Tamás Fakas, Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, Budapest, September 11-20, and Charlotte Gooskens hosted dr. Ulla Börestam, University of Uppsala, April 14-18.

### 3.1.5 Linguistics Colloquium

In 2008, as part of the Linguistics Colloquium the following lectures were given. The organization was provided by Gerard Bol, Diana Dimitrova, Therese Leinonen, Markus Egg, and Herman Heringa.

- Valia Kordoni, Universität des Saarlandes: Between Lexicon and Syntax: Acquisition and Validation of Multiword Expressions for Robust Grammar Engineering, March 7.
- Albert Oosterhof, University of Ghent: Emergence and grammaticalisation of a definite zero article in Groningen dialects, April 4.
- Janneke ter Beek, University of Groningen: Transparency and infinitival complements, 11 April.
- Anette Rosenbach, Universität Paderborn: Priming and language change, 18 April.
- Cornelia Hamann, Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg: (Un)successful subordination in typical and atypical acquisition of French, 9 May.
- Irina Sekerina, CUNY College of Staten Island: Eye Movements During Spoken-Word Recognition in Russian Children, 13 June.
- Antal van den Bosch, University of Tilburg: Implicit Linguistics, 19 September.
- Noor van Leusen, Radboud University Nijmegen: Logical Description Grammar, 26 September.
• Sarah van Vliet, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam: *Proper nouns and pronouns. Reference maintenance in Dutch written narrative discourse*, 10 October.
• Leen Impe, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven: *Objective and Subjective Determinants of Mutual Comprehensibility between Dutch Language Varieties*, 21 November.
• Ora Matushansky, University of Utrecht: *From Case to case*, 19 December.

### 3.1.6 Other lectures

• *DIUG Lectures* delivered by Richard S. Kayne (NYU), Groningen, 9 and 10 December organized by the Dependency in Universal Grammar research project.

### 3.2 CLCG-Publications

The many publications of CLCG members in 2008 may be found on the institute’s website [http://www.rug.nl/let/onderzoek/onderzoeksinstituten/clcg/ “Annual Reports”](http://www.rug.nl/let/onderzoek/onderzoeksinstituten/clcg/), in the digital appendix to this report.

In 2008 six new volumes in the series of Groningen dissertations in linguistics (GRODIL) appeared, including the first co-production with the LOT dissertation series.

• *Starting a Sentence in Dutch: A corpus study of subject- and object-fronting* (Gerlof Bouma).
• *Open your eyes and listen carefully. Auditory and audiovisual speech perception and the McGurk effect in Dutch speakers with and without aphasia* (Julia Klitsch).
• *Restructuring and Infinitival Complements in Dutch* (Janneke ter Beek) LOT-GRODIL.
• *Off-line Answer Extraction for Question Answering* (Jori Mur).
• *Automatic Lexico-Semantic Acquisition for Question Answering* (Lonneke van der Plas).

### 3.3 PhD Training Program

The CLCG PhD training program requires all graduate students to submit a twenty-five-page document after approximately ten months. This document serves as the basis of an evaluation as to whether the project should continue. In general the twenty-five pages are expected to define the problem under investigation, review relevant work, and present a research plan for the remainder of the project. Crucial experiments should be designed and crucial prior work replicated. PhD students were evaluated under this regime again in 2008. In short the acceptance of the report functions as an admission to PhD candidacy.

Twelve new PhD projects began in 2008. The PhD students, together with the source of funding for their project, their dissertation project and supervisors, are listed in part III.

The graduate students are positive about the first year report described at the beginning of this section. The graduate students agree that this should improve the success of their studies and their preparation for careers in linguistics. The faculty decided to extend this system of institutional monitoring so that a preliminary report is expected at the end of six months, and additional annual reports are expected at the ends of the second and third years as well. This system has been implemented in 2008.
In Table 3 PhD students are listed together with their project over a period of ten years.

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Table 3. PhD projects 1999-2008. D=defense; S=stopped; Projects in progress are marked light-grey. Begin and end dates of project financing are shown.

### 3.3.1 Graduate students

The graduate students (22 research master and 36 PhD) had one meeting with the director and the chair of the advisory board on 4 September 2008.

The meeting was dominated by the topic ‘interaction’. In his word of welcome Director John Nerbonne recommended that PhD students take advantage of each other’s interest and expertise and learn from each other. The question was raised how the interaction between PhD and Research Masters students could be improved. A couple of students volunteered to discuss and take care of the issue of a google group or the creation of a common webpage. Furthermore, GRASP, the Groningen Association for PhD students was introduced and membership (low fee) recommended. The main concerns of GRASP are student rights and interests. Finally, social events like weekly sports were announced. Everybody was invited to a drink together after the meeting.

### 3.4 Postdocs

The following researchers were active in 2008 (postdocs except where noted otherwise): Van Bezooijen, Kürschner, Tiedemann, Tjong Kim Sang, Zinger (Computational Linguistics); Bienfait, Ghonem-Woets, Hollebrandse, (LANSPAN); Koster (Neurolinguistics); Fortuny, de Vries (Syntax and Semantics).
Part Two
4 Research Groups

4.1 Computational Linguistics

The computational linguistics group focuses on language processing by computer, both from a theoretical, experimental and applied perspective.

In 2005 two members of the CLCG group on phonology and phonetics joined the computational linguistics group, as suggested by the external evaluation committee 1998-2004. As a result, phonology and phonetics is an additional research focus, in particular focusing on computational methods in those areas. In the external evaluation 1998-2004, the computational linguistics group obtained the maximum score (5, 5, 5, 5). As a benefit, the group qualified for an annual “Parelsubsidië”, which enabled us to offer a PhD position to Kostadin Cholakov for a project entitled “Automated Methods for Extending the Lexicon of Deep Grammars”.

Staff Members
Leonie Bosveld, Gosse Bouma, Dicky Gilbers, Charlotte Gooskens, John Nerbonne, and Gertjan van Noord (coordinator)

Graduate Students and postdocs
Renée van Bezooijen (postdoc), Kostadin Cholakov, Çağri Çöltekin, John Kizito, Daniel de Kok, Gideon Kotzé, Sebastian Kürschner (postdoc), Therese Leinonen, Jori Mur, Peter Nabende, Barbara Plank, Lonneke van der Plas, Jelena Prokić, Anja Schüppert, Jörg Tiedemann (postdoc), Tim Van de Cruys, Martijn Wieling, Yan Zhao, Sveta Zinger (postdoc)

Associated Member
Geoffrey Andogah, Ismail Fahmi

Research results

Bouma and his group continued their research in the “Question Answering using Dependency Relations” (QADR) project of the NWO Interactive Multimodal Information eXtraction (IMIX) Programme, which ended in 2008. The programme was reviewed by international reviewers Ed Hovy, Jon Oberlander, Norbert Reithinger and Steve Young. The overall programme was reviewed positively. With respect to the QADR project the experts conclude:

“The QADR project showed good research at current international levels, with a good balance of novel research and engineering or implementation. It revealed numerous publications and extensive collaboration with partners inside and outside IMIX. The research included syntax for passage-level IR, IE, and coreference for QA, learning extraction patterns using seeds, estimating semantic similarity of words for QA matching, learning synonyms, recognizing definition sentences, and learning categories using appositives, and more. This impressive amount of work yielded solid and shared results in several of these areas and numerous publications.”

The two PhD students funded by QADR finished their dissertations in 2008. Jori Mur received her degree for a thesis entitled “Off-line answer extraction for Question Answering”. Lonneke van der Plas received her degree for “Automatic Lexico-semantic acquisition for question answering”. The PhD project of Ismail Fahmi is closely related to QADR. His thesis on “Automatic Term Recognition and Relation Identification for Medical Ontology Learning” was completed in 2008 and will be defended in 2009.
STEVIN is a long-term research program for Dutch language and speech technology, financed by both the Flemish and Dutch governments and coordinated by the Nederlandse Taalunie. Three projects in which Groningen participated were formally completed in 2008. In STEVIN IRME, van Noord, Bouma and Begoña Villada (postdoc) studied the identification and classification of fixed expressions, in a cooperation with Utrecht University and Van Dale Lexicography. In STEVIN COREA, Bouma worked on automatic pronoun resolution in a cooperation with University of Antwerp. In STEVIN D-Coi, van Noord worked on the syntactic annotation of written Dutch (with various partners).

CLCG participates in four on-going STEVIN projects. STEVIN LASSY (van Noord, Bouma, Tjong Kim Sang in cooperation with KU Leuven) is about syntactic annotation of Dutch corpora. LASSY initiated the organization of the international Treebanks and Linguistic Theory (TLT) conference to be held in Groningen in January 2009. STEVIN DAISY (van Noord, PhD project Daniel de Kok (per september 2008), cooperation with KU Leuven and Q-Go) is concerned with automatic summarization. STEVIN PACO-MT (Tiedemann, PhD project Gideon Kotzé (per september 2008), cooperation with KU Leuven) aims at building a hybrid machine translation system combining data-driven and rule-driven paradigms. STEVIN DUOMAN (van Noord in cooperation with UvA, TrendLight, GridLine and University College Ghent) aims at the development of a set of Dutch language resources and tools for identifying and aggregating sentiments in online data sources.

With a participation in not fewer than 7 STEVIN projects, the computational linguistics group of CLCG is the most prominent research group in STEVIN. In the STEVIN mid-term review of June 2008, the program was evaluated extremely positively by the international assessment panel (IAP). We quote the final paragraph of the management summary of the review report:

“[…] the IAP assesses the first phase of the STEVIN programme as very successful, with excellent work done so far, which looks very promising for the results in the second phase. Moreover, STEVIN clearly provides an outstanding service to the Dutch language. Although still a lot of work needs to be done to allow the continued use of the Dutch language in ICT, funders and participants should be proud of their accomplishments so far.”

An important aspect of the success of the IMIX and STEVIN projects is the development in Groningen over the last decade of the Alpino parser for Dutch. This parser has become a de-facto standard tool for the automatic syntactic analysis of Dutch texts, and it is used by various other research groups in the Netherlands and elsewhere. Wouter van Atteveldt at the VU used the Alpino parser for automated semantic network analysis. Van Noord was a member of the reading committee of his PhD Thesis “Semantic Network Analysis: Techniques for Extracting, Representing and Querying Media Content”. Alpino also serves as a common platform for researchers in the computational linguistics group of the CLCG. Tim Van de Cruys presented several papers at international workshops in the area of learning lexical semantics, using large amounts of data, annotated by the Alpino parser. Barbara Plank studies domain adaptation of parsing models, and uses Alpino for her various experiments. A first study was accepted for publication at a COLING workshop last summer. A further study was recently accepted for the upcoming ACL student session in Athens.

An important focus of the computational linguistics group remains the work on computational dialectology. Charlotte Gooskens continued her NWO-Vidi project on ‘semi-communication’. By means of phonetic and lexical distance measurements Charlotte Gooskens investigates how well Scandinavians understand each other’s languages, and, more generally, which
factors determine intelligibility of closely related languages. A related NWO project (cooperation with KU Leuven and RUNijmegen) investigates the mutual intelligibility of language varieties in the low lands. Research in this direction resulted in several publications by Sebastian Kürschner, Charlotte Gooskens, and John Nerbonne, with a variety of co-authors indicating that there is a lot of cooperation (both within the group and with researchers outside of Groningen).

Marco Spruit defended his thesis “Quantitative Perspectives on Syntactic Variation in Dutch Dialects” in Amsterdam, where Hans Bennis and John Nerbonne were supervisors. Gooskens, Nerbonne and Kürschner organized a two-day session at the 13th “Methods in Dialectology” conference in Aug. in Leeds where 60 people attended. Nerbonne continued his collaboration with the population geneticists and anthropologists at the Musée de l’Homme, Paris, where he spent July as a visiting professor. He also assumed duties on the editorial board of Human Biology.

The Building ICT Research Capacity project, sponsored by the NUFFIC, entered its second year with John Nerbonne as director. There are two PhD projects at the computational linguistics group sponsored by this project, one on using automatic alignment techniques for transliteration, and a second on enriching documents automatically for e-learning.

The Computational Linguistics group also studies visualization aspects of structured language data. In cooperation with Mark de Vries (Syntax and Semantics), Bosveld has proposed and tested several alternative syntax tree visualizations. The results were presented at the international conference Diagrams 2008.

Academic Publications

Dr. Leonie M. Bosveld-de Smet


Dr Gosse Bouma


Dr. Dicky G. Gilbers


Dr. Charlotte Gooskens


Gideon J. Kotzé


Dr. Sebastian Kürschner


Prof. dr. ir. John Nerbonne


Dr. Gertjan van Noord


**Barbara Plank**


**Dr. Jörg Tiedemann**


**Dr. ir. Erik Tjong Kim Sang**


**Drs. Tim Van de Cruys**


Professional Publications

Dr. Charlotte Gooskens


Dr. Sebastian Kürschner


Prof. dr. ir. John Nerbonne


Dr. Gertjan van Noord


Lectures

Dr. Leonie M. Bosveld-de Smet


Dr Gosse Bouma

Dr. Dicky G. Gilbers


Dr. Charlotte Gooskens


Dr. Sebastian Kürschner


Sebastian Kürschner, Charlotte Gooskens, Hinka Altema. ‘Voetbal je mee?’ - A corpus-based, contrastive study on verbal conversion of noun compounds. TIN-dag, University of Utrecht. 2nd February 2008.

Sebastian Kürschner, Renata Szczepaniak. Introduction to the workshop “Linking elements - origin, change, and functionalization”. International Morphology Meeting 13, Universität Wien, Vienna. 5th February 2008.


Therese Leinonen


Therese Leinonen. Dialektometrisk analys av vokaluttal i svenska dialekter. Seminarium, Institutionen för lingvistik, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg. 4th November 2008. [invited]

Therese Leinonen. Dialektometrisk analys av vokaluttal i svenska dialekter. Lecture at the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland, Helsinki. 7th November 2008.


Prof. dr. ir. John Nerbonne

Therese Leinonen, John Nerbonne. Large Scale Pronunciation Comparison. Symposium Taal- en Spraakvariatie, Meertens Institute, Amsterdam. 5th June 2008. [invited]


John Nerbonne. Building ICT Research Capacity through Collaboration. *‘Building a sustainable ICT Training and Research Capacity in the Public Universities of Uganda’ (Closing Workshop, NUFFIC NPT)*, University of Makerere, Kampala, Uganda. 3rd July 2008. [invited]


John Nerbonne. Alfa’s, informatici, en alfa-informatici. *Alfa-informatica Alumni Day*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 18th December 2008. [invited]


**Dr. Gertjan van Noord**

Gertjan van Noord. Self-trained Bilexical Preferences for Improved Syntactic Disambiguation. *CoLi Colloquium*, University of the Saarland, Saarbruecken, Saarbruecken. 10th July 2008. [invited]


**Jelena Prokic, MA**


**Anja Schüppert MA**


**Dr. Jörg Tiedemann**


Jörg Tiedemann. Parallel corpora, sentence & word alignment. Machine Translation course, University of Zurich, Zurich. 9th April 2008. [invited]

Dr. Erik Tjong Kim Sang


Other Research Activities

Dr. Gosse Bouma

- Member of Nederlandse Taalunie, steering committee on term extraction, Den Haag.
- Member of RUG ICT strategiecommissie, Groningen.

Dr. Dicky G. Gilbers

- Editor of TABU, Nederlands Instituut, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Groningen.

Dr. Charlotte Gooskens

- Member of Scientific committee Sociolinguistic symposium 17, Amsterdam.
- Participant in promotion of Charlotte Giesbers. Radboud University Nijmegen, Centre for Language Studies, 26th June 2008. Title: Dialecten op de grens van twee talen - Een dialectologisch en sociolinguïstisch onderzoek in het Kleverlands dialectgebied.

Prof. dr. ir. John Nerbonne

- Proposal reviewer (SPIN program) of Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), Amsterdam. Jan, 2008.
• Member of Wetenschapscommissie (Scientific Advisory Board), Meertens, Amsterdam, July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2013.
• Member of Scientific Advisory Board (Wissenschaftlicher Beirat) of Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim.
• Member of Board of Stichting voor Taal- en Spraaktechnologie (TST), Den Haag. Note: TST supervises the STEVIN program (NWO/Taalunie/Economics Ministry).
• Member of International Advisory Board of Swedish Graduate School in Language Technology (GSLT), Göteborg.
• Member of Selection Committee of Huygens Fellowships, NUFFIC/ Den Haag.
• Member of Executive Committee of Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing, London.
• Member of editorial board of *journal Human Biology*, Wayne State University, Detroit.
• Member of editorial board of *book series Natural Language Processing*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam/Philadelphia.
• Participant in promotion of Lavinia Mihaela Slabu. 11th January 2008. Title: *Auditory Processing in the Brainstem and Audiovisual Integration in Humans studied with fMRI*. Member of examination committee (oppositie).
• Promotor of Marco René Spruit. Universiteit van Amsterdam, Faculteit de Geesteswetenschappen, 26th March 2008. Title: *Quantitative Perspectives on Syntactic Variation in Dutch Dialects*.
• Promotor of Lonneke van der Plas. 23rd October 2008. Title: *Lexical Acquisition for Question-Answering Systems*.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Charlotte Giesbers’s PhD Thesis. Radboud University Nijmegen, Letteren, 26th June 2008. Title: *Dialecten op de grens van twee talen. Een dialectologisch en sociolinguïstisch onderzoek in het Kleverlands dialectgebied*.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Gerlof Bouma’s PhD Thesis. 21st February 2008. Title: *Starting a Sentence in Dutch. A Corpus Study of Subject- and Object-Fronting*.

**Dr. Gertjan van Noord**

• Member of NWO programmacommissie Interactive Multimedia Information Retrieval, Den Haag.
• Member of EACL (European Chapter of the ACL) nominating committee, -.
• Member; maintainer web-site of CLIN Working Group, -.
• Member editorial board of *Computer Speech and Language*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, Boston, etc.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Wouter van Atteveldt’s PhD Thesis. Vrije
  Universiteit, Amsterdam, Sociale Wetenschappen, 17th November 2008. Title: *Semantic
  Network Analysis: Techniques for Extracting, Representing and Querying Media Content*.

**Dr. Jörg Tiedemann**

• Participant in promotion of Maria Holmqvist. Linköping University, Departement of
  Computer Science, 18th December 2008. Title: *Word Alignment by Re-using Parallel Phrases* (Degree of Litentiate of Philosophy), Opponent of the defense.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Felipe Sánchez Martínez’s PhD Thesis.
  University of Alicante, Departament de Llenguatges i Sistemes Informàtics, 30th June
  2008. Title: *Using unsupervised corpus-based methods to build rule-based machine translation systems*.

**dr.ir. Erik Tjong Kim Sang**

• Information Officer of ACL’s Special Interest Group on Natural Language Learning, online.
4.2 Discourse and Communication

This group combines research in pragmatic discourse analysis with the study of communication in institutional settings, i.e., in and around organizations, in the media, and on the Internet. The research focuses on the use of language and non-verbal semiotic systems in specific, esp. institutional and intercultural, communicative contexts, including face-to-face interactions, telephone conversations, written, visual, and audio-visual communication. Interactions are considered as situated, culture- and context-sensitive joint actions of the participants. Media are analysed in terms of their specific functionalities such as semiotic capacities, interactivity, and permanency. Cultural factors studied include institutional roles, ethnic, geographical, and socio-economic background, as well as gender.

The group has regular monthly meetings with presentations by internal and external speakers. Some members participate in the bi-weekly meetings of the Experimental Linguistics Group and some occasionally attend LANSPAN colloquia.

Staff members
Marcel Bax, Jeanine Deen, Markus Egg (coordinator), Titus Ensink, John Hoeks, Harrie Mazeland, Gisela Redeker, Christoph Sauer

Graduate Students
Christina Englert, Ildikó Berzlánovich, Diana Dimitrova, Peter Kühnlein, Ryan Taylor

Associated member
Henrike Padmos

Research results

Text and context
In the NWO Project Modeling Textual Organization (MTO), Berzlánovich, Egg, Kühnlein, and Redeker continued to build up a corpus of expository and persuasive texts that will be annotated with respect to coherence structure and cohesion. The annotation work started with the determination of segmentation rules and intensive training in Rhetorical Structure Analysis directed by Redeker. Kühnlein presented an exploratory study of cases where a syntactically subordinate clause dominates its matrix clause in the discourse-structural (rhetorical) hierarchy. Berzlánovich developed an analytical framework for lexical cohesion analysis and genre-structure analysis of the corpus. She conducted a pilot study on the alignment of coherence and lexical cohesion, which she presented at three conferences and in a publication. Egg and Michaela Regneri (research student from Saarbrücken) explored the efficient processing of underspecified discourse representations. The cooperation with the Computational Linguistics group will be intensified with a joint PhD project on discourse parsing and summarization in the framework of this project (to start in 2009).

Egg continued his work on aspectual semantics (several lemmas in the series Wörterbücher zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft), on semantic underspecification (a major article in the forthcoming HSK Semantics Handbook), and on semantic interfaces (several presentations and workshop contributions).

Hoeks continued his collaboration with Petra Hendriks (Syntax and Semantics) on two major projects: (i) production and comprehension of anaphors in special groups of language users (e.g. elderly people and children), and (ii) the computation of scalar implicatures across the life-span. He also worked with Laurie Stowe (Neurolinguistics) on the neural basis of syntax and spelling using ERPs (Event Related brain Potentials).
Two PhD projects supervised by John Hoeks focus on the processing of spoken language. Diana Dimitrova continued her PhD research on intonational marking of contrastive information with a follow-up study investigating the prosodic correlates of semantic abnormality and contrast in Bulgarian. She showed that Bulgarian behaves identically to Dutch: Conceptual violations such as “blue bananas” are expressed as the most prominent elements on the prosodic level, overruling the accentual marking of contrastive focus. Further experiments are being conducted on the interrelation between prosody and abnormality in Dutch. Furthermore, three ERP experiments on the neural correlates of prosody are under preparation for 2009. Ryan Taylor started his PhD project on the processing of anaphors in spoken language. He reported his MA research in a paper under review for the Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology and wrote a paper for CogSci 2009 about the referent of object pronouns (under review). Taylor has been organizing the newly created Experimental Linguistics Group that will foster the cooperation with Syntax and Semantics and Neurolinguistics.

Interactive Discourse
The central focus of this line of research is the question how the design of utterances contributes to the organization of talk in interaction. Mazeland gave talks on quoting in meeting talk and on coalition-building in argumentative talk at two international conferences, and also two talks at the VIOT conference (Amsterdam), one on declarative tags and one on turn-taking in professional interpreter-mediated talk (together with Dorien van de Mieroop, Lessius Antwerpen). For the 17th Sociolinguistics Symposium (3-5 April, 2008 Amsterdam), Mazeland was vice chair of the organizing committee and also organized a panel on meeting talk. He gave a data session at Wisconsin University in Madison, and participated regularly in CA data sessions of the Language and Cognition group of the MPI Nijmegen. Mazeland continued his collaboration with IDS Mannheim with data sessions on turn-construction formats and multimodal organization of talk in meetings, reformulations, and the Dutch tag *hoor.*

Christina Englert started her PhD project on Language and aging (principal supervisor: Mazeland). She investigates the construction and recognizability of the social category ‘elderly’ through forms and practices of talk. The main research question is: Do elderly people display forms of interactional organization and uses of linguistic practices that are characteristic for and/or constitutive of the social identity of being elderly? She gave a talk on “Language and aging” at the Studentische Tagung in Münster and submitted a paper on “Questions in Dutch” to the Journal of Pragmatics (under review).”

A major improvement of the resources for interaction analysis has been realized by the implementation of a multi-user version of the transcription management system Transana on the network of the University of Groningen, initiated and directed by Mazeland, who also supervised the production of a seven-hour corpus of transcriptions of Dutch and English news interviews in the Transana database for both educational and research purposes.

Marcel Bax continued his pragma-semiotic research on ritual language behaviour, the history of indirect language use, and the evolution of discourse genres. He published an article about enthymematic reasoning as a meaning-making strategy in spoken discourse. A journal article on the ritual substratum of discursive rationality and a paper on ritual politeness display in early modern Dutch letter-writing are in press. Bax will contribute the chapter on ritual interaction to the new Handbook of Pragmatics (Mouton de Gruyter, 2010). In preparation is an essay on 17th-century Dutch correspondence manuals and their relation to epistolary face-work (in collaboration with Nanne Streekstra, LVLC/ICOG).
**Mediated communication**

Sauer investigated the relationship between verbal discourse and media features in a corpus of documentary films, by combining functional-pragmatic, psycholinguistic and social-semiotic approaches. As a specific part of this investigation, he studied how audiences get access to the *common ground* of actors in the documentary (interviewers and interviewees, experts, presenters etc.) by verbal means (*overhearer design*), and by visual representations (*audience design*). Included were the rhetorical role of memory (*memoria*) and the visual support of argumentation.

Ensink finished his project on the assessment of quotations in the courtroom with a comprehensive paper (submitted for publication) and presented an invited overview of his research into commemorative discourse.

Language use in computer-mediated communication was investigated by Redeker and by Ensink. Redeker studied the use of expressive and relational communication, in particular humor, in instant messaging among male and female friends. She found some differences between male-male and female-female dyads, but much larger differences between those two conditions and mixed-gender dyads, especially in the amount and kind of humor. Ensink started an investigation of the genre characteristics and use of argumentative fora (e.g. discussion fora on newspaper sites) on the internet.

**Communication and Culture**

In the final volume of results from the NWO MPS/Social Cohesion project *Interaction in the Multicultural/Multilingual Classroom as a Means of Inclusion and Exclusion*, Deen and Nienke Zuidema (former MA student in Communication Sciences) demonstrate processes of inclusion and exclusion in the students’ group work and show that group work is not a sufficient condition for learning in interaction. Berenst (LANSPAN) and Mazeland analyzed teachers’ construction of pupil-identity types in staff meetings.

**Academic Publications**

*Dr. Marcel M. H. Bax*


*Ildikó Berzlánovich*


*Dr. Jeanine Y. Deen*


**Diana V. Dimitrova**


**Dr. Markus Egg**


**Christina K. Englert**


**Dr. John C.J. Hoeks**


Drs Peter Kuehnlein


dr. H.J. Mazeland


Prof. dr. Gisela Redeker


Dr. Christoph Sauer


Professional Publications

Dr. Jeanine Y. Deen


Dr. Markus Egg

Drs Peter Kuehnlein


Lectures

Dr. Marcel M. H. Bax


Ildikó Berzlánovich


Diana V. Dimitrova


Diana Dimitrova. The Neural Correlates of Prosody. EEG meeting, BCN NeuroImaging Center, Groningen, The Netherlands. 15th April 2008.


Diana Dimitrova. The Neural Correlates of Prosody. BCN retreat, University of Groningen, Odoorn, The Netherlands. 3rd April 2008.
Dr. Markus Egg

Note: The lecture lasted from 11 to 15 Aug.
Sebastian Bücking, Markus Egg. The semantics of event nominalisation. 8. Tagung zur Ereignissemantik, Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim. 12th December 2008. [invited]
Markus Egg. Scope below the word level. Institutskolloquium Computerlinguistik, Universität des Saarlandes, Saarbrücken. 6th November 2008. [invited]

Christina K. Englert


Dr. Titus Ensink

Dr. John C.J. Hoeks


Drs Peter Kuehnlein


dr. H.J. Mazeland

Harrie Mazeland. Quoting in meetings. Sociolinguistics Symposium 17, panel on meeting talk, Meertens Instituut, Amsterdam. 4th March 2008.


Prof. dr. Gisela Redeker


**Dr. Christoph Sauer**


**Mr. Ryan C. Taylor**


**Other Research Activities**

**Dr. Marcel M. H. Bax**

- Member of the board of *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*, Benjamins, Amsterdam/Philadelphia.

**Dr. Markus Egg**

- Member of Programme Committee CSSP 2007, Paris.
- Member of Programme Committee Sinn und Bedeutung 12, Oslo.
- Member of Programm Committee for the Workshop "Ontologies and semantic lexica in automated discourse analysis" (GLDV 07), Tübingen.
- Member of Program Committee for the Fourth ACL-SIGSEM Workshop on Prepositions, Prague.
- Member of Programme Committee Mathematics of Linguistics (MOL) 7, Toronto.
- Member of Programme Committee of CLIN-17, Leuven.
- Member of Programme Committee of NAACL/HLT, New York.
- PC member for both the semantics and the pragmatics area of Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics 2008, Columbus, Ohio, USA.
- PC member of Coling 2008, Manchester.
- Member of search committee professorship in Computational Psycholinguistics, Ruhr-Universität Bochum.
- PC member of 13th Sinn und Bedeutung conference, Universität Stuttgart.
- Reviewer for project proposals of Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), Den Haag.
- PC member of Constraints in Discourse 2008, Universität Potsdam.

**Dr. John C.J. Hoeks**

- Member of Editorial Board for LOT publications, Utrecht.
- Member of the Reading Committee of Marte Otten’s PhD Thesis. University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Psychology, 1st April 2008. Title: *Discourse-based lexical anticipation: the nature and contextual basis of linguistic predictions in language comprehension.*
Drs Peter Kuehnlein

Dr. H.J. Mazeland
- Member of Editorial Board of *Tijdschrift voor Taalbeheersing*, Van Gorcum, Assen.

Prof. dr. Gisela Redeker
- Member of Raad van Bestuur, Donald Smits Centrum voor Informatie Technologie, Groningen.
- Member of Pool of Reviewers, European Science Foundation, Strasbourg Cedex.
- Member of Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), The Hague. Assessment committee for the ‘competition’ of the NWO Division for the Social Sciences (MaGW), and reviewer for the NWO Humanities (GW) open competition.
- Consulting editor of *Linguistik Online*, Elke Hentschel, Bern.
  URL: http://www.linguistik-online.de/
- Member of the editorial board of *Poetics: Journal of Empirical Research on Culture, the Media and the Arts*, Elsevier, Amsterdam.
- Member of the editorial board (“redactieraad”) of *Tijdschrift voor Communicatiewetenschap*, Boom, Meppel.
- Member of the Reading Committee of Elizabeth B. de Groot’s PhD Thesis. Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, Faculty of Arts, 11th June 2008. Title: *English Annual Reports in Europe: A study on the identification and reception of genre characteristics in multimodal annual reports originating in the Netherlands and in the United Kingdom.*

Dr. Christoph Sauer
- Member of Internationale Semiotische Herbst-Akademie, Oldenburg (Germany).
4.3. Language and Literacy Development Across the Life Span

The research group Language and Literacy Development across the Life Span (in short: LANSPAN) focuses on empirical research into the development of language and literacy across the life span. The group’s research deals with development in both first and second or foreign languages and addresses various aspects of knowledge and use of language and literacy. Development is studied across the lifetime, in various contexts (home, school) and with a focus on individual and situational variables that affect learning. LANSPAN includes both theoretical and applied linguists in the field of French, German, and English as a Foreign language and Dutch as a First (NT1) and Second language (NT2) who share a concern for first/second/foreign language acquisition, language attrition and language learning in educational settings.

The research group has a very active program of lectures – the LANSPAN colloquia. In the course of 2008 the organization of the colloquia passed from Jacqueline van Kruiningen and Xiaoyan Xu to Myrte Gosen and Veerle Baaijen. In addition, the Acquisition Lab had its bi-weekly meetings on research in first language acquisition. The Labs are planned by Angeliek van Hout. Members of LANSPAN and Discourse and Communication (Jan Berenst, Marjolein Deunk, Harrie Mazeland, Jacqueline van Kruiningen, Aletta Kwant and Henrike Padmos) have regular data sessions that focus on the analysis of interactional data. LANSPAN welcomed Veerle Baaijen, Myrte Gosen and Hetty Kuiper as new members. Nanette Bienfait left LANSPAN for a teaching position at Piter Jelles Gymnasium in Leeuwarden; Karen Gphonem-Woets left LANSPAN for project work in Tilburg.

Staff members
Jan Berenst, Kees de Bot, Pieter Breuker, Kees de Glopper (coordinator), Hilde Hacquebord, Bart Hollebrandse, Angeliek van Hout, Wander Lowie, Monika Schmid, Marjolijn Verspoor

Graduate Students and Postdocs
Veerle Baaijen, Nanette Bienfait (postdoc), Tal Caspi, Marjolein Deunk, Karen Gphonem-Woets (postdoc), Myrte Gosen, Farah van der Kooi, Jacqueline van Kruiningen, Hetty Kuiper (res.), Aletta Kwant, Hanneke Loerts, Rasmus Steinkrauss, Gulsen Yilmaz, Xiaoyan Xu

Associated members

Research results
In 2008 the research group has made progress in several areas. Our description of research activities and outcomes focuses on the main streams of research in the program.

Language development in L1. Research on first language development takes different theoretical perspectives (generative syntax, model-theoretic semantics, optimality theory and usage based grammar) and uses different types of data on child language (both experimental data and dense observational data from natural settings). Bart Hollebrandse continued his EU-sponsored research on the development of the Tense and Aspect system in European languages and on embedding in language and Theory of Mind in Dutch, Dutch Sign Language and Teiwa. Angeliek van Hout continued her research on the acquisition of aspect and on English definite and indefinite noun phrases. She started a new research project which involves the adaptation of an English language development screening tool called GAPS for Dutch. Rasmus Steinkrauss has nearly completed his dissertation on the L1 acquisition of
WH-questions in German. The focus lies on the impact of the input on the development of the question constructions.

**Development of language use in preschool and kindergarten.** Research on the development of language use in preschool and kindergarten studies how different situations or participation frames contribute to language development. The focus is on the communicative interaction that takes place in situations where young children are engaged in play, work or book reading and on the learning opportunities and learning effects these situations provide. Marjolein Deunk wrote papers on interactions and language use during different activities in preschool classrooms, which will be the core chapters of her dissertation. In her project on picture books and the social and emotional development of young children, Aletta Kwant ran an experiment in 10 experimental and 10 control grade 1 and grade 2 classrooms. Karen Ghonem-Woets worked on a review of the literature on genre, text and picture characteristics that contribute to learning from picture books and on a survey on the use of picture books in kindergarten classrooms. Myrte Gosen started as a new PhD student. She investigates learning processes of 4-6 year old children in interactions during the reading aloud of picture books at kindergarten. Hetty Kuiper compares spontaneous and instructed sessions where teachers from grade 1 or 2 read and discuss picture books with their class. Jan Berenst explored the discursive mediation of learning processes (regarding morality and literacy) of young children in classroom interaction and in peer interaction during work, reading and play settings, and analyzed the development of some conversational devices that are involved. Kees de Glopper coordinated the work on the picture books research programme.

**Second language learning, bilingualism and dynamic systems theory.** Research on second language learning, bilingualism and dynamic systems theory aims to describe and explain processes of second or foreign language learning in various settings (school and non-school). Dynamic systems theory is used to account for language development as a process of self-organization under highly constrained inputs. Intra-individual variability is used as an indicator of developmental transitions. Kees de Bot, Wander Lowie en Marjolijn Verspoor continued their research on the application of dynamic systems theory on second language development, in particular with respect to variation in development and the stability of representations in the bilingual lexicon. This has resulted in several publications, including a special issue of *The Modern Language Review*. In 2008 Tal Caspi finished compiling data from several case studies of lexical acquisition and writing development for her longitudinal investigation of development and variation in nonnative English writing and lexicon. With Wander Lowie she has taken up dynamic computer modeling of L2 data, resulting in a series of publications on this issue. In their projects on the development of bilingual proficiency among migrants of Turkish and Moroccan background Farah van der Kooi and Gulsen Yılmaz collected data from their experimental groups in the Netherlands and their control groups in Morocco and Turkey, respectively. Hanneke Loerts started her investigation of how successful adult L2 learners of Dutch are in acquiring the grammatical gender feature. Learners whose L1 does not instantiate gender grammatically (Turkish) will be compared to learners whose L1 does have this feature (Polish). Gender agreement will be measured by means of ERPs, eyetracking and in free speech.

**The development of bilingual education in the Netherlands.** In recent years there has been a tremendous growth in the number of schools offering different types of bilingual education. Research in these schools focuses on the development of proficiency in the target language and the mother tongue. In addition there are projects on quality assessment in these schools and teacher qualifications. Kees de Bot and Marjolijn Verspoor continued their research into (early) bilingual education.
Language, literacy and learning. Research on language, literacy and learning studies how reading, writing and oral communication contribute to learning in primary, secondary and higher education and in the workplace. The focus is on processes of communication and knowledge construction and on the way reading, writing and talking are learned and/or used by learners and teachers. In her study on collaborative thinking and professional development Jacqueline van Kruijningen concentrated on micro-analyses of the construction of mutual understanding. Nanette Bienfait continued her study into the development of teachers' interactional behaviour and cognitions on classroom interaction, in cooperation with Berend Stellingwerf, Jan Berenst and Kees de Glopper. Veerle Baaijen started her project in which she investigates how undergraduate students create meaning and change their knowledge in the course of writing argumentative texts. Hilde Hacquebord continued her research and development work on internet-based Dutch language tests for the intake and diagnosis of L1 and L2 pupils (Diataal). She worked on the development of report formats for teachers, and on a guide for teachers' diagnostic classroom assessment. A new project is the development of a reading test for primary schools. Kees de Glopper continued his research on knowledge and speed factors in L1, L2 and EFL and reading and writing. Pieter Breuker continued his work on the teaching of Frisian in Dutch schools.

Language attrition. Research on theoretical and methodological issues of the attrition of skills and proficiency in first and second languages. The focus is on the attempt to move towards a holistic model of language attrition which takes into account both linguistic/theoretical and extra-/sociolinguistics aspects of language attrition, as well as on the design of a standardized, cross-linguistically applicable test battery. During the year of 2008, Xiaoyan Xu finished the last round of data collection in China and also the second in the Dutch control group. Meanwhile, preliminary data analyses have been conducted. Monika Schmid is working on the link between attrition and L2 acquisition, and attempting to implement this in the development of her research activities, in particular through international links and collaborations.

Academic Publications

Dr. Jan Berenst


Prof. Dr. Kees de Bot


Dr. Pieter Breuker


Dr. Bart Hollebrandse


Dr. Hilde I. Hacquebord


Prof. dr. Kees de Glopper


Prof. Dr. Angeliek van Hout


Angeliek van Hout, Masaaki Kamiya, and Thomas Roeper. Connecting English and Japanese nominalizations: Covert movement, reconstruction and Edge theory. *Groninger Arbeiten*
Dr. Wander Lowie


Dr. Monika S. Schmid


Dr. Marjolijn H. Verspoor


**Professional Publications**

**Dr. Jan Berenst**


**Prof. Dr. Kees de Bot**


**Dr. Pieter Breuker**


**Prof. dr. Kees de Glopper**


**Dr. Hilde I. Hacquebord**


**Dr. Bart Hollebrandse**


**Lectures**

**V.M. Baaijen, MA**


**Dr. Jan Berenst**


Jan Berenst. Lezen als een bijzondere vorm van taalgebruik (Reading as a special kind of language use). Conferentie “Lezen, wat werkt echt?”. Educatief Centrum Noord en Oost (ECNO), Groningen. 5th April 2008. [invited]


**Prof. Dr. Kees de Bot**


Kees de Bot. Early foreign language teaching in the Netherlands, how little is enough? *workshop English as a foreign language*, Universität Augsburg, Augsburg. 15th December 2008. [invited]

drs. Marjolein I. Deunk

Marjolein Deunk. Early academic discourse practices during craft assignments in preschool. *Language and Literacy Development Across the Lifespan (LANSPLAN)*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 9th April 2008. [invited]

Prof. dr. Kees de Glopper


Myrte N. Gosen, MA


Dr. Hilde I. Hacquebord

Dr. Bart Hollebrandse

Roeper, Thomas, Hollebrandse, Bart. Recursion as a Restrictive Semantic Interface. Biosemantics, University of Amsterdam and University of Leiden, Leiden. 13th September 2008. [invited]
Hollebrandse, Bart. Testing production and comprehension of Tense. COST A33 meeting Aarhus, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark. 2nd October 2008. [invited]
Hollebrandse, Bart. Recursion the Cornerstone of Language and Cognition. BCN lectures, University of Groningen, Groningen. 5th September 2008. [invited]

Dr. Angeliek van Hout


Dr. Wander Lowie

**Dr. Monika S. Schmid**


**Rasmus Steinkrauss M.A.**


Rasmus Steinkrauss. The Acquisition of “was…für” Questions by a German-learning Child. *LANSPAN Colloquium*, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Groningen. 8th May 2008. [invited]


**Dr. Marjolijn H. Verspoor**


**Drs. Xiaoyan Xu**

Xiaoyan Xu. English retention/attrition in Chinese learners - a structural equation model. *the 15th World Congress of Applied Linguistics*, University of Essen, Essen, Germany. 25th August 2008. [invited]

**Other Research Activities**

**Dr. Jan Berenst**

- Member of the board of *Tijdschrift voor Taalbeheersing*, Koninklijke Van Gorcum, Assen.
• Editor of *Taal Lezen Primair*, Ten Brink, Meppel.

**Prof. Dr. Kees de Bot**

• Editor of *Studies in Bilingualism*, JOHN Benjamins, Amsterdam/Philadelphia.
• Editor of *The Modern Language Journal Special Issue on Dynamic Systems and SLA*, Blackwell, Oxford.
• Co-editor of *Gesture: Special issue on Gesture and language development*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Mw. Machteld Moonen’s PhD Thesis. University of Utrecht, IVLOS, 26th September 2008. Title: *Testing the multifeature hypothesis*.
• Member of the Reading Committee of Ingrid Sleebus’s PhD Thesis. University of Melbourne, Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, 18th June 2008. Title: “*Dinkum Dutch Aussies*” *Language and identity among elderly Dutch-Australians*.

**Dr. Pieter Breuker**

• Member of the board of *Us Wurk*, FFYRUG, Groningen.

**Dr. Hilde I. Hacquebord**

• Member of Platform Onderwijs Nederlands, Nederlande Taalunie, Den Haag.
• Member of Werkgroep laaggeletterdheid, Den Haag.
• Member of Jury Wetenschapswinkelprijs, Utrecht.
• Member of Jury Anela scriptieprijs, Utrecht.
• Adviseur onderzoek of CPS, Amersfoort.
• Gastredacteur of *Remediaal- themanummer dyslexie*, Betelgeuze, Zoetermeer.
• Lid hoofdredactie of *Taalatelier*, Betelgeuze, Zoetermeer.
• Member of the Editorial Board of *Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching*, Routledge, Colchester, UK.

**Dr. Bart Hollebrandse**

• Member of COST A33, Berlin.
• Member of Characterizing Human Language by its Structural Complexity, Berlin.

**Dr. Angeliek van Hout**

• Member of COST A33 Core Group, Berlin. Note: COST A33 is an EU research network in 30 European countries, on Crosslinguistically Robust Stages of Children’s Linguistic Performance.
• Work Group leader of COST A33 Workgroup on Tense and Aspect, Berlin. Note: The Tense and Aspect workgroup includes about 40 participants representing 24 languages.
• Member of CHLaSC Management Committee, FP6 research collaboration, Berlin. Note: Characterizing Human Language by Structural Complexity (CHLaSC) is a FP6 research collaboration in the NEST Pathfinder Initiative “What it means to be human” and involves collaboration between ZAS, Berlin, University of Potsdam, St. Andrews College and University of Groningen.
• Associate editor of *Language Acquisition*, Psychology Press/Taylor & Francis Group, Philadelphia.

**Dr. Wander Lowie**

• Editorial board of *Toegepaste Taalwetenschap in Artikelen*, Nederlandse Vereniging van Toegepaste Taalwetenschap (Anéla), Tilburg.
• Editor of *Learning and Individual Differences*, Elsevier, Amsterdam.
  Note: Review.
• Reviewer of *Language Sciences*, Elsevier, Amsterdam.

**Dr. Monika S. Schmid**

• Member of De Jonge Academie (KNAW), Amsterdam.

**Rasmus Steinkrauss M.A.**

• Member of International Cognitive Linguistics Association (ICLA), Amsterdam.
• Member of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS), Braunschweig.

**Dr. Marjolijn H. Verspoor**

• Treasurer of Anela, Amsterdam.
• Editor of *Converging Evidence in Language and Communication Research*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
• Member of the board of *Cognitive Linguistics in Practice*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
• Member of the board of *Annual review of Cognitive Linguistics*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
4.4. Language Variation and Language Change

This research group studies synchronic and diachronic variation in Indo-European and Finno-Ugric addressing issues in a “bottom-up” approach, i.e. starting with the collection and analysis of a solid body of data and examining its implications for theoretical claims. Members of this group thus contribute to a better understanding of both the language families they specialize in and to a number of theoretical issues concerning synchronic variation, diachronic variation and language change.

Staff members
Agnes de Bie-KerékJartó, Hélène Brijnen, Bram ten Cate, Maria Czibere, Cornelius Hasselblatt, Tette Hofstra, Peter Houtzagers, Bob de Jonge, Alexandra Lenz, Geart van der Meer, Hermann Niebaum, Muriel Norde (coord.), Siemon Reker, Nanne Streekstra, Gerry Wakker.

In 2008, two senior LVLC members (Wakker and Norde) became full professors. Hofstra and Van der Meer retired.

PhD-students
Karin Beijering, Tim Kallenborn, Remco van Pareren.

Associated members
Stéphanie Bakker.

Research results
Several members concern themselves with contact-induced change, including dialect contact and Sprachbund phenomena in Germanic, Romance, Slavic and Finno-Ugric.

Hofstra continued his work on Volume III (P-Ö) of the Lexicon of the earliest Germanic loanwords in Balto-Finnic languages (in cooperation with Sirkka-Liisa Hahmo, Greifswald). Houtzagers did fieldwork in two marginal areas of Burgenland Cakavian, viz. in Moravia and Slovakia. A preliminary analysis of the data suggests important implications for the chronology of the development of Burgenland Croatian.

Hasselblatt continued his work on a research survey of situations of language contact involving Uralic languages. A third edition of his Grammatisches Wörterbuch des Estnischen. (Veröffentlichungen der Societas Uralo-Altaica 77) appeared.

Van Pareren continued his PhD project on mechanisms of syntactic change in Mordvin. In Dec. he completed an introductory chapter, including the definition of impersonal constructions.

De Jonge continued his line of research on Spanish and Italian linguistics, initiating a project with colleagues from Nantes, with whom a conference on contact between Italy and Latin America will be held in 2009. De Jonge has also been working on a volume with the working title Independent Evidence in Sign-Based Linguistics.

Brijnen researched the effects of globalization on Upper Sorbian, in particular, the novel hybrid compounds consisting of an English and a Sorbian component.

Czibere continued her comparative sociolinguistic research which is concerned with (native) languages and identity, education and language politics.
Other researchers focus on language-internal variation in specific languages or families.

Wakker was co-promotor (and daily supervisor) of R. van Meurs’ PhD-thesis De Odyssee van Klassieke culturele vorming (KCV). De implementatie van KCV nader beschouwd. She continued working with the CNRS Groupe de Recherche sur la syntaxe greque, and together with Holwerda, Regtuit and van der Wetering she finished the new series of books Kosmos (a new method to learn Ancient Greek) by publishing a volume on the grammar of Ancient Greek. Wakker was appointed full professor of Ancient Greek linguistics by the University of Groningen on the 1st of August 2008.

Niebaum published a new reference work (with H. Bloemhoff, J. van der Kooi and S. Reker) entitled Handboek Nedersaksische Taal- en Letterkunde (Van Gorcum), the result of a joint project by scholars from the universities of Groningen, Leiden, Utrecht, and Antwerpen, and regional research institutes IJsselacademie Kampen, Staring Instituut Doetinchem, Stellingwarver Schrieversronte Oldeberkoop, Drents Archief Assen, Van Deinse Instituut Enschede). The book was officially presented to the Dutch Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Ronald Plasterk, on March 31st, 2008.

Reker published a set of five anthologies (Goud volk), comprising 1300 pages, which was officially presented at the opening of the Lezen en schrijven ien Grunneger toal exhibit in the University Library in Groningen, on March 21st, 2008. He has started a new project on the history of the Groningen language, building a database of older forms of written Gronings.

Ten Cate continued his research on the verbal categories of tense, mood and aspect in German, focusing on “aspect” in aspectless languages such as German. Streekstra continued his research on 17th century Dutch nominal declension and changes (around 1600) in the semantic field of nouns describing mental states.

De Bie continued her research in cognitive semantics and the role of semantics in foreign language education, particularly in teaching Hungarian as a foreign language.

Norde finished her degrammaticalization monograph, in which she presents a typology based on all known cases of degrammaticalization, and examines their implications for unidirectionality claims. The book will be published by Oxford University Press and will appear in September 2009. Norde was appointed full professor of Scandinavian Languages and Literature on July 1, 2008.

Beijering continued her work on epistemic adverbs within her PhD project “Expressions of epistemic modality in Mainland Scandinavian”. Together with Charlotte Gooskens (Computational Linguistics, CLCG) and Wilbert Heeringa (Meertens Institute) she gave a talk at the 13th Methods in Dialectology (Leeds) and submitted two papers resulting from her MA thesis on intelligibility between closely related language varieties.

In 2008, two new members joined the group: Alexandra Lenz (Rosalind Franklin Fellow), and Tim Kallenborn (PhD student). Their projects will be described in more detail below.

Alexandra Lenz researches the dialect syntax of areal varieties (dialects and regiolects) of German and other West Germanic languages, especially in the following two projects:

“Syntax and semantics of transfer verbs in German and other West Germanic languages” focuses on the synchronic and diachronic variation and change in the network of transfer verbs in Germanic languages based on various historical corpora. Lenz also conducted a special speech production experiment in various West Germanic languages. The results of the
experiment support the hypothesis that - among the languages analysed so far - Luxembourgish is definitely the language featuring the highest frequencies and productivity of *kréien* ‘get’ passives, or SEMI-PASSIVES. With regard to the German language area, clear areal differences between the North, the Middle and the South became evident. Whereas the construction can be used with ditransitive and dative verbs in the West Middle area, the *kriegen/bekommen* ‘get’ passive is restricted to ditransitive verbs in Low German and Upper German. Rather similar preferences of ditransitiva with transfer semantics are observed in the Dutch of North Holland. In contrast to their German neighbours, the Low Saxon informants from the North Netherlands realized a semi-passive only in the case of a prototypical recipient, i.e., in the case of transfer verbs with a movement of the transferred entity towards the perspectivized figure.

“German Dialect Syntax” is conducted by Lenz in collaboration with Jürg Fleischer (Marburg) and Helmut Weiβ (Frankfurt). Lenz has started a project on German Dialect Syntax with a first emphasis on Hessian Dialects (in West Middle German). A catalogue of typical Hessian phenomena has been compiled and questionnaires have been developed and improved by conducting various pretests. This methodological preparatory work was done in collaboration with the Elvira Glaser’s (Zürich) project “Syntactic Atlas of Swiss German” as well as Sjef Barbiers (Meertens Instituut); Josef Bayer and Ellen Brandner (Konstanz); Heinrich Dingeldein, Joachim Herrgen and Jürgen Erich Schmidt (Marburg); Ludwig Eichinger (Institut für deutsche Sprache, Mannheim); Stephan Elspaß (Augsburg); Günther Grewendorf (Frankfurt); Mark L. Louden (Madison–Wisconsin); Franz Patocka (Wien); Cecilia Poletto (Venice); and Stefan Rabanus (Verona).

Tim Kallenborn's PhD project, “Dialect syntax of the Moselle-Franconian language area” aims at a better understanding of Moselle-Franconian dialect syntax. Kallenborn visited the Forschungszentrum für deutsche Sprache – Deutscher Sprachatlas in Marburg to examine existing literature on Moselle-Franconian dialects (mostly from the first half of the 19th century) with an eye to identifying suitable syntactic phenomena. Kallenborn intends to analyse these phenomena using empirical speech data from the online Zwirner-Korpus. His project is related to the Syntax hessischer Dialekte project of Jürg Fleischer, Alexandra Lenz and Helmut Weiβ.

**Research activities**
Members of LVLC meet regularly to present work in progress and to assess new developments in the field. The “Grammaticalization Reading Group” (organized by Beijering) convenes every other week to discuss grammaticalization, lexicalization and related phenomena. The “Current Approaches to Language Variation and Language Change” (organized by Lenz) featured lectures by Bob Kirsner and Alexandra Lenz which were attended by members of other research groups as well.

**Academic Publications**

*Karin Beijering MA*

Dr. Agnes de Bie - Kerekjarto


Dr. Abraham P. ten Cate


Dr. Mária Czibere


Prof. dr. Cornelius Hasselblatt


Prof. dr. Tette Hofstra


Dr. H.P. Houtzagers


Dr. Alexandra N. Lenz


Prof. dr. Hermann Niebaum


Prof. dr. Muriel Norde


Prof. dr. Siemon J.H. Reker


Prof. Dr. Gerry C. Wakker


Professional Publications

Prof. dr. Tette Hofstra


Dr. Bob de Jonge

Dr. Alexandra N. Lenz


Prof. dr. Hermann Niebaum


Prof. dr. Siemon J.H. Reker


Prof. Dr. Gerry C. Wakker


**Lectures**

*Karin Beijering MA*


*Dr. Abraham P. ten Cate*

Abraham P. ten Cate. 100 Jahre deutsche Grammatik in den Niederlanden. *100 Jahre Germanistik in Utrecht*, Utrecht, Utrecht, Universiteitsmuseum. 5th June 2008. [invited]

*Dr. Mária Czibere*


*Prof. dr. Tette Hofstra*


*Dr. Bob de Jonge*


**Dr. Alexandra N. Lenz**


Alexandra N. Lenz. (Subjektive) Salienz und (objektive) linguistische Kriterien im Vergleich. *Perceptual Dialectology*, University Kiel, Germany. 23rd May 2008. [invited]


Alexandra N. Lenz. Dialekte und Regiolekte an der Jahrtausendwende. guest lecture, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Wien), Austria. 20th November 2008. [invited]

Alexandra N. Lenz. Zum BEKOMMEN-Passiv im Bairischen. guest lecture, university of Wien, Austria. 21st November 2008. [invited]


**Prof. dr. Hermann Niebaum**


**Prof. dr. Muriel Norde**


**Dr. Nanne F. Streekstra**

Marcel Bax, Nanne Streekstra. The very model of epistolary civility; A socio-pragmatic approach to one bourgeois-gentilhomme’s distinct uses of politeness strategies in the context of early modern Dutch letter-writing. 4th *International Symposium on Politeness*, University of Budapest, Budapest, Hungary. 2nd July 2008. [invited]

Nanne Streekstra, Marcel Bax. Knippen, kopiëren en plakken in retroperspectief; Briefmodellen, briefgenres en epistolaire beleefdheid in de Gouden Eeuw. *VIOT 2008*: 68
Taalbeheersing, the next level, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam. 
18th December 2008. [invited]

Prof. Dr. Gerry C. Wakker

Gerry Wakker. ‘So, well the, I therfore argue ...’. Text structuring devices in Ancient Greek. invited guest speaker within the lecture series Indoeuropean Linguistics, Cambridge University, Cambridge. 22nd October 2008. [invited]

Other Research Activities

Dr. Agnes de Bie - Kerekjarto

- Member of Nemzetközi Magyarsag tudományi Tarsasag (International Association of Hungarian Studies) Magyar Szemiotikai Tarsasag, Budapest.
- Member of the board of Tanulmanyok, University of Novi Sad, Serbia, Novi Sad, Serbia.

Dr. Mária Czibere

- Editor, translator of Historia pro futuro, Bencés Kiadó, Pannonhalma, Hungary.

Prof. dr. Cornelius Hasselblatt

- Secretary of Societas Uralo-Altaica, Göttingen.
- Member of International Committee of Finno-Ugric Congresses, global.

Prof. dr. Tette Hofstra


Dr. Bob de Jonge

- Regional Delegate for the Netherlands, Belgium, England and the Scandinavian countries of Asociación de Lingüística y Filología de América Latina (ALFAL), Santiago de Chile.
- Member of the Reading Committee of Elisabeth Mauder’s PhD Thesis. University of Leiden, Faculteit der Letteren, 4th September 2008. Title: Pronoun use in Latin American Spanish; a data engineer’s view on le and lo.

Dr. Alexandra N. Lenz

- Editor (together with Klaus J. Mattheier) of Dialektsoziologie / Social Dialectology / Sociologie du Dialecte, Max Niemeyer, Tübingen.

Prof. dr. Hermann Niebaum

- Chair of Institut für niederdeutsche Sprache, Bremen.
- Member of the board of Verein für niederdeutsche Sprachforschung, Bielefeld.
- Member of the board of Verein für geschichtliche Landeskunde, Osnabrück.
- Editor of Jahrbuch des Vereins für niederdeutsche Sprachforschung, Wachholtz, Neumünster.
• Member of the board of *Taal en Tongval*, Vakgroep Nederlandse Taalkunde, Gent.

Prof. dr. Siemon J.H. Reker

• Co-editor of *Handboek Nedersaksische Taal- en Letterkunde*, Van Gorcum, Assen.

Prof. Dr. Gerry C. Wakker

• Co-promotor of R. van Meurs. 3rd March 2008. Title: *De Odyssee van Klassieke culturele vorming (KCV). De implementatie van KCV nader beschouwd.*
4.5. Neurolinguistics

The Neurolinguistics research Group is concerned with the organization of language in the brain, through the study of aphasia, developmental disorders in spoken and written language, as well as through experimental approaches to language processing. The focus is on the comprehension and production of various aspects of verbs (in developmental disorders and aphasia), on phonological disorders (in aphasia, apraxia of speech and dyslexia), on sentence processing (in non-brain damaged and aphasic speakers, as well as in patients with Parkinson’s Disease) and on ambiguity resolution (in normal speakers and schizophrenic patients). Our approach is to use a wide range of methods (offline and online tasks, spontaneous speech analysis, event related potentials, functional magnetic imaging, reaction times etc.) in order to understand and describe human language processing through a number of specific populations of subjects and close collaboration between subgroups. The members who are working on speech and language disorders closely collaborate with clinical linguists and speech therapists at schools and rehabilitation centers.

Staff members
Roelien Bastiaanse (coordinator), Gerard Bol, Roel Jonkers, Laurie Stowe

Graduate students and postdocs
Katrien Colman, Dörthe Hessler, Maria Trofimova, Marlous Westra (until 31-08-2008), Tuba Yarbay Duman

Associated members
Evelien Krikhaar, Claartje Slofstra-Bremer

Research results

In the Aphasia subgroup, two projects have been finished: (1) Primary Progressive Aphasia (in collaboration with the Erasmus University Rotterdam; funded by the Dutch Aphasia Foundation); (2) Efficacy of treatment with the training program Verb Production at the Word and Sentence Level, a project in collaboration with the Center for Rehabilitation Beatrixoord, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG), Revalidatie Friesland, Beetsterzwaag and Rehabilitation Center De Vogellanden, in Zwolle, financially supported by the Dutch Aphasia Foundation and Foundation Beatrixoord.

A new project has been started (initiated by Roel Jonkers) on the assessment and treatment of apraxia of speech, in collaboration with most of the groups in the “Efficacy project” above.

In the field of auditory perception deficits, Julia Klitsch finished her project on auditory perception in aphasia and healthy adults, graduating in April, 2008. A workshop was organized in conjunction with the thesis defense, with two speakers from the US and one from Serbia. Hessler, who started a new PhD project late in 2007, ran her first experiments in 2008.

The main topic of studies in aphasiology, however, remains verb and sentence production in crosslinguistic perspective. In 2008, papers were published on Dutch, Italian and Turkish. At the end of 2008 two PhD students were finishing their theses (Trofimova on prepositional case assignment in Russian fluent and non-fluent aphasia and Yarbay Duman on agrammatism in Turkish). A number of international aphasiological researchers at all levels (MA, PhD, postdoc and full professor) visited the neurolinguistic lab from April to June 2008. They spoke a variety of languages, which motivated the group to start a new international, cross-linguistic project on ‘time reference in aphasia’ which Roelien Bastiaanse leads. A test has been developed: the TART (Test for Assessment of Time Reference in Aphasia). At the
end of 2008, there were 13 language versions of the TART, including Basque, Indonesian, Chinese, and Russian. One of the visitors who participates in this project was Prof. Cynthia K. Thompson (Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA). Her visit was sponsored by a grant from NWO. For the project on language functioning in Parkinson's Disease (PD; collaboration with Prof. Leenders, Neurology, UMCG, and funded by the International Parkinson Foundation), the subproject on neuro imaging has finished, despite the technical problems that arose at the NIC. The entire project will be finished in Spring 2009.

The research of **Experimental Linguistics** in 2007-2008 focused on the processing of syntactic commitments and the processing of syntactic structure in idioms. Two studies on Chinese were carried out in collaboration with Hua-Chen Wang (processing of split locatives) and Yifei He (processing of classifiers) revealing aspects of processing syntactic expectations which will be written up and submitted soon. Two additional studies addressed how our knowledge of the syntactic structure of idiomatic phrases is applied: idioms can impose syntactic constraints which are not derivable from the syntax of the language in general, and which must be learned as part of the representation of the idiom. Publications in 2008 concerned earlier studies on second language processing of syntactic structure in collaboration with Laura Sabourin (*University of Ottawa*) and an fMRI study on verb generation with Dirk den Ouden. The second language acquisition line will be continued in collaboration with Hanneke Loerts and Dr. Monika Schmid. An additional line on prosody and comprehension is being pursued in collaboration with Dr. John Hoeks, Diana Dimitrova and Ryan Taylor.

In the field of **Developmental Language Disorders**, a grant application has been submitted to NWO by Gerard Bol. The proposed project addressed the underlying grammatical disorder in language impaired children. The dyslexia team ceased to exist as a team. In 2008, all the researchers left. The longitudinal study continues and by March 2009, a new researcher will be hired, to continue this research line.

**Collaboration**

Within the group, there is close collaboration between Jonkers and Bastiaanse, since the both work on aphasia. Bastiaanse and Bol collaborate on the project on underlying grammatical disorders in language impaired children. Together they are working on the publication of a test that will be published for the clinical field. Bastiaanse and Stowe collaborate considerably on the Parkinson project, where Bastiaanse is the promoter, and Stowe supervises the fMRI-project.

Since September 2008, the weekly Neurolinguistic meetings are paired with the bi-weekly meetings of the group on experimental linguistics (ELG, coordinated by Ryan Taylor of the Discourse and Communication group). In 2008 Bastiaanse and Bouma (Computational Linguistics) completed a project on the effect of frequency and grammatical complexity in agrammatic speech production. This study will be published in *Brain and Language*. Stowe is co-supervising the PhD project of Hanneke Loerts, who is a member of the LANSPAN group. She also closely collaborates with John Hoeks (Discourse and Communication) on several projects, including the PhD projects of Diana Dimitrova and Ryan Taylor.

Bastiaanse and Bol also cooperate outside CLCG, collaborating with Dr Lutje Spelberg of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Bastiaanse further works with Dr. Bouma (Neuropsychology of the same faculty) to set up relationships with the Center for Speech Pathology and Neurorehabilitation in Moscow and Moskow State University. There is ample collaboration with the Medical Faculty: with Prof. Dr. Leenders (Neurology) on the
Parkinson’s project and with Dr. Post of the department of Epidemiology. Stowe is associated with the Neuro Imaging Center (NIC) that is connected to the Medical Faculty as well as carrying out some experiments in collaboration with the Dept. of Psychiatry. Bastiaanse is a member of the board of the School for Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience (BCN).

Finally, Bastiaanse is involved in many international projects, for example, the Aphasia Bank project (funded by NIH), the international Mental Lexicon research group, the Science of Aphasia conference series. In 2008, Jonkers was the Chair of the Scientific Committee of this conference. Stowe collaborates on the processing of different dialects with Hartsuiker (University of Gent) and on second language processing with Sabourin (University of Ottawa). Currently she is involved in setting up a European collaboration on Neurolinguistics of Bilingualism.

**Valorisation of knowledge**
As mentioned above, the aphasia group (Bastiaanse and Jonkers) collaborates with clinical researchers to disseminate the results of their scientific work into the clinical field. They are principle investigators of projects on the development of assessment materials and on the efficacy of treatment programs. Their work is widely acknowledged and generously sponsored by the Dutch Aphasia Foundation and NWO. The Dutch publications have been translated to several other languages.

Bol and Bastiaanse are working on the children’s version of the Dutch Verb and Sentence Test. In 2008 the children’s version has been completed and was standardized on more than 200 normally developing children from 8-12 years old. For this project they collaborated with the departments of Speech Therapy of the Hanzehogeschool (Groningen) and the Hogeschool van Arnhem and Nijmegen.

Similarly one of the main goals of the proposed European collaboration on Neurolinguistics of Bilingualism is to make research results available to educators.

**Academic Publications**

**Prof. dr. Roelien Bastiaanse**


Pieter Been


Dr. Gerard W. Bol


Dörte A. Hessler


Dr. Roel Jonkers


Dr. Laurie A. Stowe


Drs. Tuba Yarbay Duman


Professional Publications

Prof. dr. Roelien Bastiaanse


Dr. Gerard W. Bol


Dr. Roel Jonkers


Lectures

Prof. dr. Roelien Bastiaanse

Roelien Bastiaanse. The TARTproject: a crosslinguistic study of time reference in aphasia. *International PhD workshop on crosslinguistic aspects of aphasia*, Universität Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany. 4th July 2008. [invited]

Pieter Been

**Dr. Gerard W. Bol**


**Drs. Katrien S.F. Colman**


**Dörte A. Hessler**


**Dr. Roel Jonkers**


**Evelien Krikhaar**


**Dr. Laurie A. Stowe**

Stowe, Laurie A. Reading the right word. *colloquium*, Radboud University, Nijmegen. 28th August 2008. [invited]


Laurie A. Stowe. Long Distance Dependencies: Beyond WH-Movement. Psychology Department colloquium series and Neuroscience colloquium series, Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania. 10th December 2008. [invited]


Yarbay Duman, T. Evaluation of the cross-linguistic data through student presentations. European Masters in Clinical Linguistics (EMCL), University of Groningen, Groningen. 4th March 2008. [invited]

Yarbay Duman, T. Inflectional Deficits in Agrammatic Aphasia. European Masters in Clinical Linguistics (EMCL), University of Groningen, Groningen. 29th January 2008. [invited]


Other Research Activities

Prof. dr. Roelien Bastiaanse

- Member of the membership committee of Academy of Aphasia, Minneapolis.
- Board member of Stichting Afasie Nederland, Westervoort.
- Member of Mental lexicon, Montreal.
- Member of Aphasia Databank, Pittsburgh.
- Member of Multilingual Multidisciplinary Studies on Brain and Language (MMSBL), Postdam.
- Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)/ Humanities, Den Haag.
- Book review’s editor of Aphasiology, Psychology Press, London.
- Member of the editorial board of Brain and Language, Academic Press, New York, NY/San Diego, CA.
- Member of the editorial board of Mental Lexicon, John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam.
- Member of the editorial board of Neurolinguistik, HochschulVerlag, Freiburg.
- Lid wetenschappelijke adviesraad of Neuropraxis, Bohn Stafleu Van Loghum, Houten.
- Editor of Afasiologie, Stichting Afasie Nederland, Westervoort.
Dr. Gerard W. Bol

- Beoordelaar van onderzoeksaanvragen Gebied Geesteswetenschappen of NWO, Den Haag.
- Beoordelaar van aanvraag of United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation, Jerusalem, Israel.
- Beoordelaar van subsidie-aanvraag of Johanna Kinderfonds, Arnhem.
- (Proof)reader of Gebarentaalwetenschap: een inleiding, Van Tricht, Deventer.

Drs. Katrien S.F. Colman

- Member of the editorial staff of Afasiologie. Referatenblad voor taalpathologie, Stichting Afasie Nederland, Amsterdam.

Dr. Roel Jonkers

- Member of the Editorial Board of Stem-, Spraak- en taalpathology, Nijmegen University Press, Nijmegen.

Dr. Laurie A. Stowe

4.6. Syntax and Semantics

The Syntax and Semantics group studies syntactic and semantic phenomena with a view to understanding the nature of the human language faculty. The group aims to contribute to the development of syntactic and semantic theory, working within a theoretical paradigm and seeking to advance the theory by investigating its consequences and proposing generalizations, sharpenings and improvements. Joint research activities of members of this group address a) the foundations of syntactic structure, including syntactic dependency and complex syntactic structures, as well as their (universal/parametrized) realization across languages; and b) the semantics and cognition of interpretive processes, including interpretation/production asymmetries in first language acquisition.

In the year 2008, the Syntax & Semantics continued to organize a weekly research seminar, where members presented their own ongoing research and discussed current developments in syntactic and semantic theory. In addition, the PhD students from the Syntax and Semantics group organized a Syntax Semantics Reading Group, aiming to enhance the knowledge and understanding of fundamental texts in theoretical syntax and semantics. The meetings attracted a number participants from other groups as well.

Staff members
Reineke Bok-Bennema, Ger de Haan, Petra Hendriks, Jack Hoeksema, Brigitte Kampers-Manhe, Jan Koster, Alice ter Meulen, Arie Molendijk, Jan-Wouter Zwart (coordinator), Frans Zwarts

Postdocs and graduate students
Aysa Arylova, Gisi Cannizzaro, Jordi Fortuny Andreu (postdoc), Herman Heringa, Charlotte Koster (postdoc), Sanne Kuijper, Marlies Kluck, Evgenia Markovskaya, Jacolien van Rij, Ankelien Schippers, Radek Šimík, Mark de Vries (postdoc)

Associated members
Janneke ter Beek, Erik-Jan Smits

Research results

The NWO/Vici project ‘Asymmetries in Grammar’, led by Hendriks, went into its second year. This project investigates potential asymmetries between production and comprehension in language acquisition, sentence processing, and autism spectrum disorders. Three of the four subprojects are now on their way, with Koster (postdoc), Kuijper (promovendus) and Cannizzaro (promovendus) as the investigators, and John Hoeks (Discourse and Communication) as an associated researcher. For the subproject on autism carried out by Kuijper, the Vici-project collaborates with Catharina Hartman and Ruud Minderaa of Accare.

Gisi Cannizzaro carried out a pilot study to investigate word order in early child language, specifically the production and comprehension of subject-object order in Dutch preschoolers, in order to determine if young children show a comprehension delay with respect to this word order. Sanne Kuijper started her PhD project on production and comprehension in children with ASD and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Kuijper compiled a test battery for the experiments to start in March 2009. Furthermore she tested typically developing children on the comprehension and production of contrastive stress. Charlotte Koster also joined the project in 2008. The bi-directional OT model predicts that mature speakers are able to take the hearer’s options into account when deciding which referring expressions to use for existing topics (pronouns) and new topics (full NPs). If young speakers are unable to optimize bidirectionally, they will overproduce pronoun forms which become
non-recoverable for hearers. As hearers, children will be insensitive to a speaker’s full NP marking of discourse topic shifts. First production and comprehension experiments with 4-6 year old children and adults confirmed these predictions.

Hendriks also finished a co-authored book manuscript resulting from the NWO/Cognition project ‘Conflicts in Interpretation’ (which ended in 2006), that will be published by Equinox Publishers in 2009. With several researchers at other universities in the Netherlands (Nijmegen, Utrecht, Amsterdam) as well as in Germany (ZAS Berlin), Hendriks continued her investigations in the area of Optimality Theory and interpretation. Furthermore, Hendriks continued her collaboration with the department of Artificial Intelligence (Jennifer Spenader, Rineke Verbrugge, Hedderik van Rijn), which resulted in several articles. In particular, a new line of research was initiated exploring the possibilities of using cognitive modeling to investigate the process of language acquisition. As part of this line of research, Jacolien van Rij started her PhD project on the acquisition of pronouns and reflexives.

The NWO/Vidi project “The Syntax of Nonsubordination” continued to be led by de Vries. In this context, Kluck, Heringa and de Vries investigated the possibility of syntactic multidomiance as an explanatory device in a variety of constructions, in particular cleft amalgams, appositions, and backward conjunction reduction. Kluck focused on the interaction between Right Node Raising (RNR) and Extraposition (joint work with de Vries), and on opacity phenomena and interpretive aspects of syntactic amalgams. The research gave rise to an analysis that combines a multidomiance approach to RNR and a specifying coordination approach to Extraposition. Kluck also proposed an analysis of amalgams in terms of parentheticals that syntactically share a constituent with their host, supported by the interpretive properties of amalgams. Kluck spent a semester at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), working on opacity/transparency amalgams of the type 'Pete bought God knows how many books in Amsterdam', and started a project on multidomiance and indices based on binding facts in RNR.

Šimík continued working primarily with de Vries, researching wh-words and indefinites from the perspective of the syntax/semantics/discourse interface. On the syntax side, he investigated the properties of an unusual kind of wh-movement which targets the edge of vP. This movement is utilized in modal existential wh-constructions and multiple interrogatives and its semantic effect is characterized as “escaping narrow focus”. On the semantics side, he was concerned with issues related to the semantic scope of bare wh-indefinites and the interpretation of multiple interrogatives. On the discourse side, he investigated the relation between definiteness and focus. He started collaborating with Maria Aloni (ILLC, Amsterdam) and her project ‘Indefinites and Beyond’, conducting some corpus research concerning Czech negative polarity and free choice items.

De Vries also explored a generalized view on dislocation and parenthesis, and the nature of secondary propositions. His hypothesis is that the linear ordering of parenthetical material with respect to the host clause is not a crucial distinction; more important is the difference between those phrases that are interpreted as a parenthetical secondary predicate and those that are not. In collaboration with Heringa and guest researcher Adriana Cardoso (from Lisbon), he also investigated the structure of appositions and non-restrictive relative clauses from this perspective.

The NWO-funded research program “Dependency in Universal Grammar” continued under the supervision of Zwart. In this context, Zwart and Fortuny studied the foundations of phrase structure theory in terms of set theory and mereology, and looked into the principles of structure-to-order conversion. Arylova and Markovskaya collected data on dependency
marking in the nominal and clausal domain, and intern Noreen Dijkmeijer extended Zwart’s earlier survey of constituent order and coordination in the project sample of 269 languages.

Arylova studied agreement in ergative languages and, as a spin-off from the agreement debate, Russian possessive PPs. The general target of her investigation included external possession (adnominal PPs), possessive doubling, and predicative possession, and in her research on the predicative possession construction she looked into the argument structure and the subject status of the possessive PP. Markovskaya investigated syntactic asymmetries between phi-features (Gender, Number, Person) cross-linguistically. The aim of the study is to show that these asymmetries might follow from the design of the basic primitives, whereby gender and number are viewed as grammatical features, whereas person is taken to be an inherent feature on (pro)nomininals.

Zwart continued his research on the nature of syntactic derivation, pursuing the consequences of a system of layered derivations in various domains. In this connection, he investigated points of connection between generative grammar and construction grammar approaches. He also continued to pursue the concept of a maximally simple structure building operation, now in the context of a top-down derivational model.

Hoeksema continued his work on negative and positive polarity items, exploring the large database of natural occurrences of such items that he collected over the last 18 years. Together with Schippers, he has been working on the history of long-distance movement in Dutch. In collaboration with Donna Jo Napoli (Swarthmore College) he pursued the topic of taboo expressions. Schippers investigated long-distance movement dependencies, focusing on the diachronic and synchronic change that can be observed regarding these constructions. In the completion phase of his dissertation, Erik-Jan Smits continued to work on children’s interpretation of quantifiers and their understanding and usage of pragmatic principles in this respect.

Fortuny worked with Bernat Corominas-Murtra (Complex System Lab, Universitat Pompeu Fabra) on the definition of the nesting machine and on the set-theoretical formulation of the basic relations commonly attributed to linguistic expressions in configurational syntactic models and the device of chains postulated in current transformational grammar to represent distance relations. They began to study another application of the nesting machine in the field of information source theory. Fortuny, in collaboration with Àngel Gallego (Grup de Lingüística Teòrica, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), began to prepare the edition of a volume on minimalist syntax, to appear in Catalan Journal of Linguistics. Fortuny has collaborated with Bernat Corominas-Murtra and Ricard Solé (Complex System Lab, Universitat Pompeu Fabra) on a review of ecophysical models of language competition and language change.

Bok-Bennema continued her research on the remnant movement of ‘verbal complexes’ in Romance, with special attention to Spanish. She investigated in particular the implications of Phase Theory for the transparency manifested by the complements of the restructuring verbs involved in such complexes.

Jan Koster worked on a reappraisal of classical word order theories of Dutch, particularly on underlying OV order and Verb Second as a single movement of V to C. Furthermore, he wrote a critical article about current biological interpretations of linguistic theory. Both activities were part of a strictly lexical development of grammar.
Academic Publications

Dr. Jordi Fortuny


Prof. dr. Petra Hendriks


H. Heringa MA


Dr. Jack Hoeksema


Dr. Brigitte A.A. Kampers-Manhe


**Frans Zwarts**


**Professional Publications**

**Prof. dr. G.J. de Haan**


**Dr. Jack Hoeksema**


**Dr. C.J.W. Zwart**


Lectures

**Dr. R. Bok-Bennema**

Reineke Bok-Bennema. Restructuring verbs, L-positions and phases in Spanish. *18th Colloquium on Generative Grammar*, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon. 18th April 2008.

**C.L. Cannizzaro, MA**


**Dr. Jordi Fortuny**

Jordi Fortuny, Jan-Wouter Zwart. Deriving the LCA. *Tin-dag*, University of Utrecht, Utrecht. 2nd February 2008.

Jordi Fortuny. The nesting machine. *Merge: the derivation of order and structure*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 6th June 2008. [invited]

**Prof. dr. Petra Hendriks**

Petra Hendriks. The use of referring expressions across the lifespan. *Symposium Linguistic Variation Across the Lifespan*, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA. 3rd May 2008.


Jacolien van Rij, Petra Hendriks, Jennifer Spenader, Hedderik van Rijn. From group results to individual patterns in pronoun comprehension. *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD) 33*, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 2nd November 2008.


**H. Heringa MA**


Dr. Jack Hoeksema

Jack Hoeksema. Scrambled or Sunny Side Up? *Speaker and hearer perspectives on word order*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 22nd February 2008. [invited]

Drs. M.E. Kluck

Marlies Kluck. Amalgams as sharing parentheticals. *TABU day 2008*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 6th June 2008.
Note: Alternate presentation.

Dr. Charlotte Koster


Prof. dr. J. Koster


Drs. Sanne J.M. Kuijper


Evgenia Markovskaya. Discussion of G.Ramchand’s “First Phase Syntax”. *Syntax and Semantics promovendi reading group*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 8th April 2008.

**Prof. dr. Alice G.B. ter Meulen**


**Jacolien van Rij MSc.**


Jacolien van Rij, Petra Hendriks, Jennifer Spenader, Hedderik van Rijn. From group results to individual patterns in pronoun comprehension. *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD) 33*, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 2nd November 2008.

**Radek Šimík, Mgr.**


**Dr. Mark de Vries**


de Vries, Mark. ‘Uh’ and other interjections as non-canonical quotations. *TABU-day*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 6th June 2008.

**Dr. C.J.W. Zwart**


Jordi Fortuny, Jan-Wouter Zwart. Deriving the LCA. *Taalkunde in Nederland-dag*, Utrecht University, Utrecht. 2nd February 2008.


Jan-Wouter Zwart. Prospects for top-down derivation. *Merge: the derivation of structure and order*, University of Groningen, Groningen. 5th June 2008. [invited]


**Other Research Activities**

**Dr. R. Bok-Bennema**

- Member of Core Group Going Romance, Utrecht.

**Prof. dr. G.J. de Haan**

- Chair of advisory board Bureau Groninger Taal en Cultuur, Groningen.
- Member of advisory board Grensoverschrijdende StreektaLEN, Kampen.
- Member of advisory board Modern Grammar of Dutch, Tilburg.
- Member of boards of control of several endowed professorships, Groningen.
  
  Title: *Mechanisms of language change. Vowel reduction in 15th century frisian*.
  
  Note: Second promotor prof. dr. J. Hoekstra.
Prof. dr. Petra Hendriks

- Member of Redactieraad Kennislink Taalwetenschappen, www.kennislink.nl.
- Member of Programme Committee European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI) 2008, Hamburg, Germany.
- Promotor of Gerlof Bouma. 21st February 2008. Title: *Starting a Sentence in Dutch: A corpus study of subject- and object-fronting (cum laude).*
- Member of the Reading Committee of Jori Mur’s PhD Thesis. 23rd October 2008. Title: *Off-line answer extraction for Question Answering.*
- Participant in promotion of Julia Klitsch. 17th April 2008. Title: *Open your eyes and listen carefully. Auditory and audiovisual speech perception and the McGurk effect in Dutch speakers with and without aphasia.* Member of examination committee (oppositie).
- Participant in promotion of Janneke ter Beek. 19th May 2008. Title: *Restructuring and infinitival complements in Dutch.* Member of examination committee.

Dr. Jack Hoeksema

- Member of NWO Vici committee, The Hague.
- Member of LOT Education committee, Utrecht.
- Editor of *Tabu*, Leerstoelgroep Nederlandse Taalkunde, Groningen, Groningen.
- Member of the Board of Advisors of *Advanced Linguistics Series*, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.
- Member of Editorial Board of *Nederlandse Taalkunde*, Van Gorcum, Assen.
- Promotor of Gerlof Bouma. 21st February 2008. Title: *Starting a Sentence in Dutch: A corpus study of subject- and object-fronting (cum laude).*

Dr. Brigitte A.A. Kampers-Manhe

- Member of Core group Going Romance, The Netherlands.

Prof. dr. J. Koster

- Editor of *SGG*, Mouton De Gruyter, Berlin.

Prof. dr. Alice G.B. ter Meulen

- Member of SALT 2008 review committee, USA.
- Member of Austrian Science Foundation research infrastructures IV international panel, Vienna.
- President of European Society for Philosophy and Psychology ESPP, .
- Member Section Literature & Linguistics of Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences KNAW, Amsterdam.
- Board member of Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences KNAW, Committee on Cognitive science, Amsterdam.
- Member (until 1/9/08 of Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research NWO, Algemeen Bestuur, den Haag.
- Member scientific advisory board of European Institute for Interdisciplinary research, Paris.
- Member Humanities review board of European Science Foundation, Strasbourg.
- Member of Uil-OTS scientific advisory board UU, Utrecht.
- Member editorial board of *Oxford Studies on Time in Language and Thought*, Oxford University Press, Oxford/NYC.
- Participant in promotion of Gerlof Bouma. RUG Letteren, 21st February 2008. Member of examination committee.

*Dr. A. Molendijk*

- Member odf scientific committee of Cahiers Chronos, Amsterdam.

*Radek Šimík, Mgr.*

- Member of Algemene Vereniging voor Taalwetenschap (AVT), Leiden.
- Member of Landelijke Onderzoekschool Taalwetenschap (LOT), Utrecht.

*Dr. C.J.W. Zwart*

- Member of Redactieraad Kennislink Taalwetenschappen, Kennislink.nl.
Part Three
## 5. Research Staff 2008

### Computational Linguistics

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### Discourse and Communication

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### Language and Literacy Development across the Life Span

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Tests for Specialized Language, Comprehension, Vocabulary

Hollebrandse, dr. B.
BCN asst’ professor Contr.res temporary 15-04-06 15-04-09
Characterizing Human Language by Structural Complexity

Hout, dr. A. van
BCN asst’ professor faculty
Acquisition of Aspect

Kooi, F. van der, MSc
LOT PhD student NWO temporary 01-08-07 31-07-11
Language, Multilingualism and Integration

Kuiper, H., MA
researcher NWO temporary
Analaysis of learnability of picture books in different school session settings

Kwant, drs. L.P.
LOT PhD student NWO temporary 01-10-05 01-10-09
Picture books and the social emotional development of infants

Loerts, H., MA
BCN PhD student burs temporary 01-09-08 31-08-12
L2-acquisition of grammatical gender: role of the L1 and age of acquisition

Lowie, dr. W.
BCN/LOT asst’ professor faculty
Acquisition of Interlanguage Morphology; Vocabulary & 2nd language acquisition

Schmid, dr. W.
BCN/LOT asst’ professor faculty
Language loss and development of multilingualism in migrants

Steinkrauss, R. MA
BCN PhD student UE burs temporary 01-01-05 31-12-08
First Language Acquisition of German

Verspoor, dr. M.H.
LOT asst’ professor faculty
Form and Meaning in Complement Clauses

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Language, Multilingualism and Integration

Xu, X. MA
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Language loss and language use in EFL by Chinese learners

**Language Variation and Language Change**

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95
Reker, prof. dr. S.J.H. | LOT | full professor | faculty | Groningen Language and Culture  
Streekstra, dr. N.F. | LOT | ass’t professor | faculty | Grammar of 17th century Dutch  
Wakker, prof. dr. G.C. | LOT | full professor | faculty | Semantico-Pragmatics of Aspectual Difference

### Neurolinguistics

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### Syntax and Semantics

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