

Report 2014 of the ACLC research group: Revitalizing Older Linguistic Documentation

Coordinator: Dr. O.J. (Otto) Zwartjes

Web page: <http://aclc.uva.nl/research/groups/groups/groups/content/folder/revitalizing-older-linguistic-documentation/revitalizing-older-linguistic-documentation.html>

<http://www.uva.nl/over-de-uva/organisatie/medewerkers/content/z/w/o.j.zwartjes/o.j.zwartjes.html>

Current external funding:

NWO-VENI Liesbeth Zack until 2015

Participants in 2014:

ACLC-Staff

Otto Zwartjes (ACLC), senior researcher, coordinator

Astrid Alexander- Bakkerus (ACLC), senior researcher

Norval Smith (ACLC), senior researcher

Manfred Woidich (ACLC), senior researcher

Liesbeth Zack (ACLC/ NWO), senior researcher

ACLC PhD candidates (2014)

Anna Pytlowany (PhD)

What the 'lost' manuscripts of Joan Josua Ketelaar can tell us about Dutch Colonial linguistics.

Roxana Sarion (PhD)

A diachronic account of Cariban: evidence from the 17th century missionary linguistic corpora in the Province of New Andalusia.

External Staff

Cristina Altman (São Paulo, Brasil)

Sabine Dedenbach-Salazar Sáenz (St. Andrews, Scotland)

José Antonio Flores Farfán (CIESAS, Mexico)

Toon van Hal (Leuven, Belgium)

Henning Klöter (Göttingen, Germany)

Gonçalo Fernandes (Universidade de Trás-os-montes e Alto Douro, Portugal)

Rebeca Fernández Rodríguez (Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal)

Joaquín Sueiro Justel (Universidade de Vigo, Spain)

Description of the research group:

The members of the group investigate older texts (colonial, postcolonial, missionary and non-missionary, word lists of travelers and historians) with the following objectives: historical linguistics, the history of linguistics and sociocultural analysis. The aim of historical linguistics is to describe older stages of languages as well as (processes of) language change, while the history of linguistics studies early thinking on languages and linguistics. Linguistic documentation is a crucial part of both branches. These studies are often interrelated with those of the cultural context in which colonial societies developed.

The members who work on missionary linguistics focus on the European expansion, colonisation and Christianisation after the discovery of the New World, which was accompanied by the study and recording of the native languages of the Americas. In the same period, Christian missionary activities culminated in Asia. Almost without exception, grammars, dictionaries and doctrinal texts in the indigenous languages were composed by missionaries for missionaries. The results of recent research demonstrate that many missionaries, if not most, had an excellent command of these 'exotic' languages and often focused on the idiosyncratic features of the native languages; they also approached the challenge of comprehending indigenous cultures through their languages. The work of these missionaries was hardly known in the Old World and, until today, many works have never been studied nor analysed in a satisfactory way. Other members work on non-missionary texts with the same objective, such as the pre-modern description of colloquial Arabic as it was spoken in Egypt and the disclosure of linguistic and ethnographic documentation in the Americas and the Philippines and networks of transcontinental information in the 18th century.

Areas of interest:

Historiography of Linguistics

Historiography of Missionary Linguistics (Phonology, Morphosyntax, Lexicography, Pragmatics)

Sociohistorical and Historical Anthropological Linguistics

Linguistics of Ethnohistory

Colonial, Postcolonial and Pre-modern Linguistics

Linguistic Documentation

Descriptive Linguistics

Typology

Translation Studies

Lexicology, Lexicography and Semantics

Early-modern documentation of linguistic variation and change.

Research highlights in 2014:

In 2014 the major activity was the 8th International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, in co-operation with Rodolfo Cerrón-Palomino and Álvaro Ezcurra of the “Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú”, in Lima, Peru, with presentations by the members Joaquín Sueiro Justel, Rebeca Fernández Rodríguez, Anna Pytlowany and Roxana Sarion and a key-note lecture by Otto Zwartjes. Scholars participated from all over the world, but this time there was more attention for linguistic documentation in the Andes. <<http://congreso.pucp.edu.pe/linguistica-misionera/>>

In 2014, the proceedings of the Vth International Workshop of the “ROLD-Research group”, edited by Astrid Alexander-Bakkerus and Liesbeth Zack, have been published in the journal *Linguistics in Amsterdam* (Vol. 7, nr. 2). with contributions by Rebeca Fernández Rodríguez and Roxana Sarion (ACLCL):<<http://www.linguisticsinamsterdam.nl/cgi/t/text/text-index?c=aclcl;sid=2216d7828c1e1bf8ee185fa287bbddf5;tpl=browse-toc-07.tpl>>

Otto Zwartjes co-edited with Klaus Zimmermann (University of Bremen) and Martina Schrader-Kniffki (Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität Mainz) the proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Missionary Linguistics . Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins. [=Studies in the History of the Language Sciences vol. 122: *Missionary Linguistics V/ Lingüística V: Translation theories and practices. Selected papers from the Seventh International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Bremen, 28 February – 2 March 2012.* In this volume, the introductory chapter was written by Otto

Zwartjes; it also includes papers written by Joaquín Sueiro Justel and Rebeca Fernández Rodríguez. Finally, in the series *Lingüística misionera* (Vervuert & Iberoamericana) with Otto Zwartjes as general editor, three more volumes were published.

Some key publications:

- Fernández Rodríguez, Rebeca. 2014. "Lexicography in the Philippines (1600-1800)". *Historiographia Linguistica*. 41.1, 1-32.
- Sueiro Justel, Joaquín & María Dolores Riveiro Lema, eds. 2014. *Andrés López. Arte de la lengua de Pangasinan (1690)*. Edición crítica, estudio preliminar e índices temáticos. Madrid/ Frankfurt: Iberoamericana / Vervuert.
- Sueiro Justel, Joaquín, ed. 2014. *Fray Alonso de Métrida. Arte de la lengua bisaya hiliguayna de la isla de Panay.(1818). Arte de la lengua bisaya hiligayna de la isla de Panay, corregido y aumentado por Fray José Aparicio (1894)*. Edición crítica y estudio preliminar. Madrid/ Frankfurt: Iberoamericana / Vervuert.
- Sueiro Justel, Joaquín & María Dolores Riveiro Lema, eds. 2014. *Fray Sebastián de Totanés. Arte de la lengua tagala y manual tagalog para la administración de los santos sacramentos (1745)*. Edición crítica y estudio preliminar. Madrid/ Frankfurt: Iberoamericana / Vervuert.
- Zack, Liesbeth. 2014. "Key to mass literacy or professor's hobby? Fiske's project to write Egyptian Arabic with the Latin alphabet". *Al-ʿArabiyya* 47.1-19.
- Zwartjes, Otto. 2014. "The Missionaries' Contribution to Translation Studies in the Spanish Colonial period: The *Mise en page* of translated texts and its functions in foreign language teaching". In Otto Zwartjes, Klaus Zimmermann & Martina Schrader-Kniffki, eds.: *Missionary Linguistics V/ Lingüística V: Translation theories and practices. Selected papers from the Seventh International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Bremen, 28 February – 2 March 2012*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, pp. 1-50.
- Zwartjes, Otto. 2014. "El *Vocabulario de letra china* de Francisco Díaz (ca. 1643) y la lexicografía hispano-asiática". *Boletín Hispánico Helvético: Historia, teoría(s), practices culturales* 23: 57-100.
- Zwartjes, Otto. 2014. "More on "Arabic Linguistic Terminology in Pedro de Alcalá". *Historiographia Linguistica* 41:2/3. 247-297.
- Zwartjes, Otto. 2014. "Una comparación entre la *Gramática turca* (1799) de Juan Antonio Romero y la *Grammaire turque* (1730) del jesuita Jean-Baptiste Holdermann". In Rebeca Barriga Villanueva & Esther Herrera Zendejas, eds.: *Lenguas, estructuras y hablantes. Estudios en Homenaje a Thomas C. Smith-Stark*. México: El Colegio de México/ Centro de Estudios Lingüísticos y Literarios. Vol. 1, sección II, pp. 451-482.

Valorisation

- Interview with Otto Zwartjes by TV UTAD at XIIIth ICHOLS (2014): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYnQszdV5xU>
- Interview with Liesbeth Zack on Radio 1, in: Met het oog op morgen, 17 December 2014, on the occasion of UN Arabic Language Day http://www.npo.nl/nos-met-het-oog-op-morgen/17-12-2014/RBX_NOS_556078 (starts around min. 40:45)

- Several press announcements and interviews in newspapers and science blogs on the occasion of the discovery of the oldest bilingual Ilokano dictionary, *Tesoro del idioma Ilocano* (1781-1784[1710]) by Rebeca Fernández Rodríguez: *Diario de León* (Spain) (http://www.diariodeleon.es/noticias/bierzo/diccionario-perdido-estaba-palacio-real_888714.html), *Cienciahoje* (Portugal).