

2005 Annual Report

Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural Communication

School of Languages
The University of Melbourne

1. Introduction

The Research Unit continued in 2005 its focus: (1) on the development of a research culture involving academic staff from a number of departments, RUMACCC research staff, PhD students, and visiting scholars from all over the world; and (2) the interaction between research on language in society on the one hand and community links, and policy advice to university structures, government and to communities, especially in the educational field, on the other. We have continued to be active and successful despite the disruption of two physical moves in 2005 and the problems and uncertainties they brought with them.

1.1 Community Languages in Early 21st Australia (ARC discovery grant)

This project encompasses several sub-projects, all of which have made significant progress during the past year. The research relating to community languages resources in the media, libraries, public services and education has concluded, resulting in two forthcoming journal articles. The Hungarian sub-project has been completed and an article is to appear in *ITL – Review of Applied Linguistics*, with the final focus group for the Tamil sub-project completed in October 2005. Researchers in the Hungarian and Tamil studies are Michael Clyne and Sue Fernandez, with additional research assistance from Tibor Endrody and Judy Hajdu for Hungarian, and Anusha Premarajah for Tamil. Ingrid Seebus is currently conducting new Dutch interviews with Dutch-English bilinguals who completed similar interviews in 1971 and again in 1986.

The project has also produced a book, *Australia's Language Potential*, published by UNSW Press in September, with a book launch held at the joint national ALAA and ALS conference.

1.2 Address in some Western European Languages (ARC Discovery grant)

This project concerns changes in the address systems (pronouns, first names/titles/surnames, letter heads) in three languages, French, German and Swedish and to what extent the existing address paradigms reflect sociopolitical change. Address is an integral part of interpersonal communication as it both reflects and influences social relations and hierarchies. The study of address systems thus has significance for linguistics and others researching social structures and social change.

Within the domain of address, the project focuses on such issues as regional, national, social, generational and gender variation, language contact, and political factors. A range of data collection techniques are being used in the project, including: participant observation, focus groups, social network interviews, an internet survey of companies on address in the workplace and language specific chat groups on address forms. The researchers are Leo Kretzenbacher, Catrin Norrby, Jane Warren, and Michael Clyne. The local RAs are Doris Schupbach, Jo-anne Hughson and Leo Conroy and there are in-country RAs in Göteborg, Leipzig, Mannheim, Toulouse, Paris, Va(a)sa, and Vienna. The project has progressed well throughout 2005. Data is still being processed and analysed. Several journal publications based on the first wave of data received have been or are in the process of being published (see publications* below). A further article is currently being considered by an international journal.

The Address project has also received a book contract from Cambridge University Press.

A special symposium on the Address project was also held at this year's national ALAA conference in Melbourne and convened by John Hajek. We have recently received word that our proposal for a workshop at the International sociolinguistics conference, to be held in Limerick, Ireland in 2006, has been accepted and will be convened by Catrin Norrby and Jane Warren.

1.3 Scandinavian Languages in Australia

This project, run by Catrin Norrby, with the assistance of Belinda Ross and supported by grants-in-aid from the School of Languages SOL is largely completed. Data collection, questionnaires with Swedish LOTE students, took place over 2 years, 2003 and 2004. The preliminary results have been presented at a conference and the results are currently being written up for publication.

A further plan is to expand the project to include other parts of Scandinavian / Swedish life in Melbourne, focusing on the Swedish church as the hub of much of the Scandinavian activities.

1.4 Raising Children in more than one language / Raising Deaf Children in more than one language

By the end of 2005, RUMACCC will have conducted 9 seminars this year for parents, medical personnel, teachers and social workers. Funding and support has been provided by Community Languages Australia, the Victorian Multicultural Commission and Deaf Access Victoria. Speakers at *the Raising Children in more than one language* seminars are Susanne Döpke, Robert Debski and Michael Clyne. Seminars have been held at the University of Melbourne and Geelong and a further seminar is to be held in Clayton at All Saints Parish in early December. The *Raising Deaf Children in more than one language* seminars, presented by Meredith Bartlett and Sandra Leane have been held in several regional and metropolitan locations in Victoria including Sale, Shepparton, Horsham and Geelong, with a further seminar held in Sydney.

The *Raising Deaf Children Bilingually* booklet produced by Meredith Bartlett and Sandra Leane has been reprinted and the *Growing Up with English Plus* video has been reproduced with captions through funding made available by Deaf Children Australia. The video is now available through the University of Melbourne 'e-showcase' website and bookshop.

1.5 Victorian government LOTE reports

The Department of Education and Training has contracted RUMACCC to produce the 2004 and 2005 Annual LOTE in government schools reports. The reports are intended to present a comprehensive overview of language study in Victorian government schools and will be published in 2006. Some of the results of the 2003 report, also produced by RUMACCC, were presented by Yvette Slaughter and John Hajek at the national ALAA conference in September 2005, generating considerable interest.

1.6 Symposium for Professor Michael Clyne

The major activity for RUMACCC for the first few months of 2005 involved the organization of a special symposium on 1st April, in honour of the retirement of Professor Michael Clyne, former Director of RUMACCC. Activities included a full day symposium with papers presented by Michael's former students and colleagues and the presentation of a volume with tributes from friends and colleagues around the world. The symposium was followed by a drinks event at University House.

1.7 Awards

Professor Clyne was also elected Foreign Member to the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences in the Netherlands in April 2005. Assoc. Prof. John Hajek was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Congratulations to Michael and John for this achievements.

1.8 Move to 245 Cardigan St

After moving to 138 Cardigan St in January 2005, RUMACCC was moved again in August 2005 to 245 Cardigan St. Both these moves were very disruptive and took considerable time and energy away from the main focuses of RUMACCC.

1.9 Tenders and grant applications

RUMACCC is keen to develop and increase external funding opportunities and in 2005 applied for a number of external grants. While RUMACCC has secured a number of contracts, we were also involved in an unsuccessful tender with DE&T looking at bilingual education in Victorian schools. RUMACCC has also applied unsuccessfully for an ARC discovery grant, leading on from the current ARC Address project, but the given the project's importance for better understanding intercultural contact, it will be resubmitted in 2006. RUMACCC also joined with the School of Languages and other parts of the university for a special ARC funded project through the Australian Academy of the Humanities which will focus on *ab initio* or beginner language courses in Australian universities.

RUMACCC has also established a relationship with the Australian Council of State School Organizations based in Canberra. Rupert McGregor, the Projects Manager at ACSSO is keen to work collaboratively with RUMACCC in 2006.

1.10 Thesis completion

Doris Schupbach, Jo Anne Hughson, Jovana Dimitrijevic and Ainslie Ingles all completed PhDs in 2005 under the supervision of a number of RUMACCC staff, namely, Prof. Michael Clyne, Assoc. Prof. John Hajek, Dr Catrin Norrby and Dr Jane Warren.

2. Visitors

RUMACCC has hosted a number of eminent visitors in 2005, who presented a number of interesting lectures and workshops.

- Prof. Beat Glauser (University of Heidelberg). Beat gave a talk to the Dept of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics titled, *Contact advertisements and multi-word pre-modifiers in the English-speaking world*.
- Assoc. Prof. Zeynep Johnson Beykont (Bogazici University, Turkey)
- Prof. Guus Extra (Tilburg University)
- Dr Jane Warren (University of Melbourne)
- Dr Jo Winter (University of Western Australia)
- Prof. Anne Pauwels (Dean of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, University of Western Australia). Both Jo and Anne gave a seminar to a very appreciative group of post-graduates during their stay.
- Assoc. Prof. Gisela Håkansson (Lund University, Sweden)
- Assoc. Prof. Ulla Börenstam (University of Uppsala). During her stay, Ulla gave an interdepartmental talk titled, *Interscandinavian comprehension from different angles*.
- Assoc. Prof. Gary Barkhuizen (University of Auckland)

All visitors contributed substantially to the RUMACCC research culture, sharing their ideas and providing valuable advice to staff, research assistants, and PhD students.

3. Dissemination of research findings

Publications 2005

Books

Belo, M. C.A., J. Bowden, J. HAJEK, N. Himmelmann, and A. V. Tilman. 2005. (eds). *Glosáriu Waima'a Caisido*. Baucau: Publicações Matebian.

Clyne, M. 2005 *Australia's Language Potential*. Sydney: University of New South Wales Press.

Journal articles/ Book chapters

- Clyne, M. 2005a. Eliniko stin Avstralia. In R. Tsokalidou and M. Pappas (eds.), *Themata taftotitas stin elliniki diaspora: Glossa kai logotehnia*. Metehmio, Athens.
- Clyne, M. 2005b. Language policy (pp. 402-3); Language demography and use (p.403). In Andrew Brown-May and Shurlee Swain (eds.), *The Encyclopaedia of Melbourne*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne.
- Clyne, M. 2005c. Sharing community languages – utopian dream or realistic vision? In P. Bruthiaux et al (ed), *Directions in Applied Linguistics*. Multilingual Matters, Clevedon, 42-55.
- Clyne, M. 2005d. Sprachdemographie und Sprachpolitik in Australien: Das wechselhafte Schicksal von Einwanderersprachen. *IMIS-Beträge* 26, 11-28.
- Clyne, M. 2005e. The use of exclusionary language to manipulate opinion – John Howard, asylum seekers and the re-emergence of political incorrectness in Australia. *Journal of Language and Politics* 4, 173-196.
- Clyne, M. and S Kipp, 2005a. On the Somali Language in Australia. *Migration Action* 27, 19-22.
- Clyne, M. and S. Kipp, 2005b. Expressing Filipino identity in Melbourne. In E. van Leewen (ed.), *Festschrift fur Heinrich Kelz*. Narr, Tübingen.
- Hajek, J. 2005. Timor Lorosae: Language Situation. In K. Brown (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 2nd ed., London: Elsevier. p.718.
- Håkansson, G. & Norrby, C. 2005. Grammar and pragmatics – Swedish as a foreign language. In Foster-Cohen, S. (eds.). *EUROSLA Yearbook. Annual Conference of the European Second Language Association*. Vol. 5 2005. Benjamins. 137–161.
- Håkansson, G. & Norrby, C. 2005. Flicka - dricka eller tjej? Ordassociationer hos andraspråksinlärare. In: Byrman, G., Einarsson, J., Hammarbäck, S., Lindgren, M. & Stille, P. (red) *Svenskans beskrivning 27. Förhandlingar vid Tjugosjunde sammankomsten för svenskans beskrivning*. Växjö University Press. 125-134.
- Håkansson, G. & Norrby, C. (in press). Svenska i och utanför Sverige – spelar miljön någon roll för andraspråksinläring? *Nordens språk som andraspråk*.
- Lee-Wong, S. 2005. Raising awareness of hedging in Chinese business letters: linguistic symbol of precision or politeness. *Linguistics Insights: Asian Discourses* (eds) Francesca Bargiela-Chiappini & Maurizio Goth. Peter Lang.
- Lee-Wong, S. & Shu, L. 2005. A study of Singaporeans perceptions of sexual harassment from a cross-cultural perspective. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, Vol. 35 No 4. pp.699-717.
- Norrby, C. 2005. Du, ni, titel eller förnamn? *Språkbruk* 2/2005. 5–10.
- Slaughter, Y. 2005. Public perceptions of Asian languages in Australia. In May, S., Franken, M., & Barnard, R. (eds.), *LED2003: Refereed Conference Proceedings of the 1st International Conference on Language, Education and Diversity*. Hamilton: Wilf Malcolm Institute of Educational Research, University of Waikato.

**In Press
Books**

- M. Clyne and S. Kipp, *Tiles in a Multilingual Mosaic: Macedonian, Somali and Filipino in Melbourne*. Pacific Linguistics, expected 2006.

Journal articles / book chapters

- Clyne, M. Some exploratory comments relating sociolinguistic typology to language shift. In (ed.) L. Thorburg and J. Fuller (eds.), *Studies on Contact Linguistics: Essays in Honor of Glenn G. Gilbert*. Lang, Frankfurt.
- Clyne, M. The Dutch language in Australia – Some comparisons with other community languages. In N. Peters (ed.), *The Dutch Down Under*. CCH Kluwer, Sydney.
- Clyne, M. 2006. Empowerment through community languages – a challenge. In M. Pütz, J.A.Fishman and M. Neff (eds.), *Along the Routes to Power: Exploration of the Empowerment through Language*. Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin.
- Clyne, M. and S. Fernandez. 2005. Period of residence as a factor in language maintenance: Hungarian-English bilinguals in Australia. *ITL Review of Applied Linguistics*.
- Hajek, J. On the Edge of the Pacific: Indonesia and East Timor. In D. Cunningham, D. Ingram & K. Sumbuk (eds) *Language Diversity in the Pacific*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
- Kipp, S & Norrby, C. (eds.). 2006. Community Languages in Practice in Australia. Special Issue of *International Journal of the Sociology of Language (IJSL)* vol. 180.
- Norrby, C & Søndergaard, B. 2006. Language maintenance and shift in the Danish community in Melbourne. I Kipp, S & Norrby, C. (eds.) *Community Languages in Practice in Australia. International Journal of the Sociology of Language (IJSL)* 2: 2006.

Conference presentations and lectures

Michael Clyne

- March Address, between typology and changing cultural values. RCLT, LaTrobe University.
- March The value of bilingual education. Bayswater South Primary School
- April Hungarian in Australia. Comenius University of Bratislava
- May Research methodology for school-based research on community languages (in German) – University of Cologne
- May German-Dutch communication patterns (in German and Dutch) - Keynote address at conference on borders of communication, Kleve
- June L. Kretzenbacher and M Clyne – Dilemmas of address in German - at ICLAVE conference, Amsterdam
- August Helping 21st century Australians overcome the hurdle of monolingualism – Geelong Grammar School
- September Strategies for consideration. Symposium on Promotion of the Teaching of Dutch, Victorian School of Languages.
- September Address – Variation patterns in some Western European languages. University of Queensland.
- September The changing fate of community languages in Australia. University of Queensland.
- September The role of the Victorian School of Languages in a multilingual Victoria – at 70th anniversary of the VSL
- September Are we making a difference? On the role of the linguist/applied linguist in Australia. Keynote address at conferences of Applied Linguistic Association of Australia and the Australian Linguistic Society.
- September A comparative project on address. Address symposium, ALAA conference.
- September L Kretzenbacher, M Clyne and D Schupbach – Pronominal address in German: rules, anarchy and embarrassment potential. Address symposium, ALAA conference.
- October Italian in Australia – where do we stand? Istituto Italiano di Cultura.
- November Words excusing exclusion – Conference on asylum seekers, Monash University
- December ? languages in Australia – an uncompleted research agenda. – Discourses of learning, learning of discourses conference.
- December Words that exclude people – critical thinking seminar, Trinity College, University of Melbourne.
- December Australia's language potential, talk to Victorian School of Languages teachers.

John Hajek

- June Not just Tetum - Language development in East Timor and the case of Waima'a. *East Timor Studies Symposium*. Victoria University. Melbourne. (with J. Bowden)
- June Language contact and convergence in East Timor: the case of Tetun Dili. International Workshop on Grammars in Contact: a cross-linguistic perspective. La Trobe University, Melbourne.
- September Community Language or Language Awareness: Competing Agendas? (with Y. Slaughter) 30th Annual Congress of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia, Melbourne.

Yvette Slaughter

- September Community Language or Language Awareness: Competing Agendas? (with J. Hajek) 30th Annual Congress of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia, Melbourne.

Media presentations

Michael Clyne

- February Bilingualism – Bengali program, SBS Radio
- March Cognitive benefits of bilingualism – 3AW
- March The value of bilingualism – ABC, 774
- July Globlish, 3AW
- July Globlish, 6PR
- October Australia's Language Potential, SBS Radio (Worldview)
- November Bilingual education, SBS Radio
- November Australia's language potential, Radio National, Lingua Franca
- November Australia's language potential (in German), SBS, Radio German Program

M Clyne, C Norrby, L Kretzenbacher, J Warren

- November Address, Radio National, The Europeans

4. RUMACCC Staff

- Associate Professor John Hajek, (Director)
- Dr Catrin Norrby, (Deputy Director)
- Prof. Michael Clyne (Professorial Fellow)

RUMACCC Advisory Committee:

- Assoc. Prof. John Hajek (Director, Chair)
- Dr Michèle de Courcy (Department of Language and Literacy Education)
- Associate Professor Lesleyanne Hawthorne (Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, & Health Sciences)
- Dr Catrin Norrby (Deputy Director)
- Wendy Morris (DET)
- Assoc. Prof. Gillian Wigglesworth
- Stefan Romaniw (Community Languages Australia)

RUMACCC Executive Committee

- Assoc. Prof. John Hajek (Chair)
- Associate Professor Robert Debski
- Suzanne Fernandez
- Dr Sandra Kipp
- Dr Leo Kretzenbacher
- Dr Catrin Norrby
- Dr Jane Warren

Other research staff

Meredith Bartlett
Leo Conroy
Tibor Endrody
Suzanne Fernandez
Dr Judy Hadju
Dr Jo-Anne Hughson
Tina Issakidis
Brigitte Lambert
Sandra Leane
Dr Doris Schüpbach
Ingrid Seebus
Yvette Slaughter

Overseas Research Assistants

Isabelle Boubel
Kristin Gogolak
Emmanuelle Guérin
Maria Hansson
Jenny Nilsson
Heidi Nyblom
Maria Weissenböck

Honorary Fellows

Dr Susanne Döpke
Dr Lesley Lee-Wong
Dr Anya Woods

Visitors for 2006

David Bradley (LaTrobe University)
Werner Kallmeyer (University of Mannheim)
Leigh Oakes (University of London)
Claudia Riehl (University of Cologne)
Guus Extra (Tilburg University)
John Roberts