

**Research Unit for Multilingualism and  
Cross-Cultural Communication  
(RUMACCC)**

School of Languages and Linguistics,  
The University of Melbourne

**Annual Report 2007**

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### **1. Introduction**

2007 has been another busy and productive year for the Research Unit. RUMACCC continues to contribute in a significant way to the School of Languages and Linguistics, the Faculty of Arts and the University of Melbourne, as well as to the wider academic, and professional communities, and the general public. Its activities and functions also clearly work to achieve the Melbourne Model's goal of knowledge transfer through a wide range of research and other activities.

#### **1.1 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. 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 have been 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 book manuscript was submitted to CUP on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2007 for publication.

Work also continued on the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of research, this time focussing on address in intercultural communication in Europe. Questionnaire data at a number of conferences were collected and collated for analysis. Results will be presented in 2008.

#### **1.2 Raising Children in more than one language / Raising Deaf Children in more than one language**

In August a very successful *Raising Children in more than one language* seminar was held at the University of Melbourne in the Sidney Myer Asia Centre. Over two hundred people attended the seminar aimed at 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 were Dr Susanne Döpke, Assoc. Prof. Robert Debski and Prof. Michael Clyne.

No *Raising Deaf Children in more than one language* seminars were held in 2007.

### **1.3 Tenders and grant applications**

RUMACCC remains keen to develop and increase external funding opportunities and in 2007 applied for a number of grants. While RUMACCC has secured a number of contracts, we were also involved in an unsuccessful tender with the federal Department of Education, Employment and Training. For this tender application, RUMACCC combined forces with the Australian Council of State School Organizations based in Canberra, represented by Rupert McGregor. The staff at RUMACCC and ACSSO committed a substantial amount of time and effort into developing a well-researched and impressive tender for the project (title of tender). To our great disappointment, we were not successful in this instance.

While also unsuccessful in obtaining an ARC discovery grant for 2008 leading on from the ARC Address project, RUMACCC was successful in securing funding by way of a 2<sup>nd</sup> near-miss grant of \$16,951 under the Melbourne Research Grants Scheme for work in 2008 on the research project on intercultural address, *European Linguistic Encounters: Introductions and Address in an Intercultural Context*. RUMACCC also obtained two grants-in-aid from the School of Languages and Linguistics. One was for a research project on language data from the 2006 Australian Census, titled *Australia's Language Potential in the 2006 National Census*, and totaled \$2500.

During 2007 RUMACCC 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. The research project staff are also housed at RUMACCC.

### **1.4 Victorian government LOTE reports**

In 2006, the Victorian Department of Education contracted RUMACCC to produce the report *Languages Other Than English in government schools, 2006*. The report comprehensively examines the study of languages other than English in Victorian government primary and secondary schools, as well as the study of languages through the Victorian School of Languages and through Distance Education in Victoria. This report represents an important source of information for academics and researchers in the study of languages in Australia. The report was written by Yvette Slaughter, Sue Fernandez, Kate Fernandez and Raphie Kruse and can be downloaded from, <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/teachingresources/lote/research.htm>. Reports from previous years, including a number of reports produced through RUMACCC, can also be downloaded from the same website.

### **1.5 Victorian government ESL reports**

In 2006, the Victorian Department of Education contracted RUMACCC to produce the report *English as a second language in Victorian government schools, 2006*. The report comprehensively examines the provision of English as a second language classes for recently arrived immigrants within government primary and secondary schools in Victoria. The report details the countries of origin and languages spoken by students and the parents, the various services that these families can access, including translation, in-person, video or phone interpreting, as well as details of sources of funding and its expenditure. The report provides an informative overview of ESL teaching in government schools and highlights the diversity of students within Victorian schools. The report was written by Yvette Slaughter and Tony Johansson (Department of Education) and can be downloaded from:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/esl/resources/onlineeslreports.htm>.

Reports from previous years, including a number of reports produced through RUMACCC, can also be downloaded from the same website.

### **1.6 Report for the Victorian Government on Promoting the Benefits of Language Learning:**

In 2006 RUMACCC was contracted by the Victorian Department of Education and Training to compile materials for use in the promotion of languages learning, which is a key component of the 'National Statement and Plan for Languages Education in Australian Schools 2005-2008'. The aim of this report was to provide a succinct and accessible overview of key research on the benefits of learning a LOTE for teachers, school leaders and parents. The research was presented in five sections: the benefits of language learning for literacy development; cognitive benefits of language learning; culture, language and intercultural language learning; intercultural competency; age and second language learning. The report has been made available from 2007 on the MLTAV's website under 'Advocacy for languages' <http://www.mltav.asn.au/content/view/79/84/>.

### **1.7 Feature article: LOTE in Victorian schools:**

In 2007 RUMACCC was also contracted to complete a feature article on LOTE in Victorian schools. The feature article seeks to inform teachers and school leader about current research-based knowledge in LOTE teaching and learning. It presents research on the benefits of language learning - cognitive, academic, general educational and intercultural - and also examines effective LOTE teaching practices for primary and secondary students. Particular emphasis is given to the dimension of intercultural knowledge in the context of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.

### **1.8 Reports for the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)**

In 2007, RUMACCC undertook an exciting project for MCEETYA, involving the collation of languages participation data for all schools in Australia, including all government, Catholic and independent schools. The confidential reports titled, *The Study*

*of Languages Other Than English in Australia, 2005* and *The Study of Languages Other Than English in Australia, 2006*, represent the most comprehensive collection of such data for a number of years. This extremely challenging undertaking required extensive networking with federal and state bodies representing government, Catholic and independent schools in each state and territory. While the reports are confidential, RUMACCC hopes to gain permission to utilise some of the data collected for research purposes in the near future. The report also suggested a number of important research questions leading on from insights discovered during the collection of data and the writing of the reports, which RUMACCC hopes will be answered in future research projects in collaboration with MCEETYA.

### **1.9 RUMACCC Workshop**

In September RUMACCC organised a special half-day workshop entitled *Aspects of multilingualism and multiculturalism across 2 continents: Australia and Europe*. Three speakers from within the School of Languages and Linguistics, Dr. Sandra Kipp, Dr. Brigitte Lambert and Birgit Lang gave presentations, as well as one of RUMACCC's visiting scholars, Prof. Jacomine Nortier of Tilburg University in the Netherlands. A broad range of topics centred around a common tie of German language and culture were discussed at the workshop, ranging from community gardens in Germany to German-speaking refugee cabaret in Australia to German migration and language use in Melbourne. The workshop was very well received and inspired much discussion.

### **1.10 Thesis completion**

Yvette Slaughter completed her PhD in 2007. Her thesis, titled *The Study of Asian Languages in Two Australian States: Considerations for Language-in-Education Policy and Planning*, was supervised by Michael Clyne and Sandra Kipp. Students continuing PhDs are Meredith Bartlett, Ingrid Seebus and Sue Fernandez (co-supervision with Faculty of Education).

## **2. Visitors**

Prof. Jacomine Nortier (University of Utrecht)

## **3. Dissemination of research findings**

RUMACCC's staff continues to be very active with respect to both publications, presentations and media activity in Australia and overseas. Publications included one research monograph and two edited volumes.

## Reports produced in 2007

2007. *English as a second language in Victorian government schools, 2006*. Melbourne: Department of Education. Available from, <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/esl/resources/onlineeslreports.htm>

2007. *Languages Other Than English in Victorian government schools, 2006*. Melbourne: Department of Education. Available from, <http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/lem/lote/LOTEdata.htm>.

2007. *Promoting the benefits of language learning*. Report to the Department of Education and Training, January 2007. Available from the MLTAV website: <http://www.mltav.asn.au/content/view/79/84/>.

2007. *The Study of Languages Other Than English in Australia, 2005. A report to the Languages Education Working Party, Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs*. (Internal report: Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs).

2007. *The Study of Languages Other Than English in Australia, 2006. A report to the Languages Education Working Party, Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs*. (Internal report: Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs).

## Publications 2007

### *Books*

Norrby, C. & G. Håkansson (2007). *Andraspråksinläring och andraspråksanvändning. Svenska i och utanför Sverige*. [Second language acquisition and Second language use. Swedish in and outside Sweden. Studentlitteratur, Lund: 265pp.

### *Refereed Journal articles/ Book chapters*

Clyne, M. (2007a). From bilingual to linguist. In Mary Besemeres and Anna Wierzbicka (eds.), *Translating Lives*. St. Lucia: University of Queensland Press. 12-25.

Clyne, M. and S. Fernandez (2007b). Community language learning in Australia. In N. Van Deusen-Scholl and N. Hornberger (ed.), *Encyclopaedia of Language and Education*. Berlin: Springer, 169-181.

Clyne, M. (2007c). Words excusing exclusion of asylum seekers. In D. Lusher and N. Haslam (eds.), *Yearning to Breathe Freely: Seeking Asylum*. Melbourne: Federation Press, 198-207.

Clyne, M. (2007d). Sociolinguistic continuity from old to new homeland: factors in language maintenance and shift seen from the Australian situation. In J. Darquennes, *Festschrift for Peter Nelde*. (= *Plurilingua* 30) Hamburg: Asgard, 91-102.

Fernandez, S. and M. Clyne (2007). Tamil in Melbourne. *Journal of Multilingual and*

- Multicultural Development*. 28, 169-187.
- Fernandez, S (2007 fc) Feature article on LOTE in Victorian schools. To appear as a Research eLert, to be published online by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- Håkansson, G and C. Norrby (2007). Processability theory applied to spoken and written L2 Swedish in *Second Language Acquisition Research. Theory-Construction and Testing*, ed. F. Mansouri Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. pp. 81–94.
- Kipp, S. (2007). Community Languages and the 2001 Australian Census, In Anne Pauwels, Joanne Winter & Joseph Lo Bianco (eds) *Maintaining Minority Languages in Transnational Contexts*. Palgrave Macmillan: Basingstoke; 13-29.
- Norrby, C. and G. Håkansson (2007). Girl – lass or curl? Word associations in second language learners. *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics (ARAL)*. Vol 30:2.
- Norrby, C. and G. Håkansson (2007) The Interaction of Complexity and Grammatical Processing - The Case of Swedish as a Foreign Language. *International Review of Applied Linguistics (IRAL)* 45: pp. 45-68.
- Norrby, C., J. Nilsson and H. Nyblom (2007). Tilltal i svenskan. En jämförelse mellan svenskan i Sverige och Finland. [Address in Swedish. A comparison between Swedish in Sweden and in Forthc. In *Språk & Stil*.
- Slaughter, Y. (2007). The rise and fall of Indonesian in Australian schools: Implications for language policy and planning. *Asian Studies Review*, 31(3), 301-322.
- Slaughter, Y., and J. Hajek (2007). Community languages and LOTE provision in Victorian primary schools: Mix or match? *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*, 30(1), 7.1-7.22.

#### **Other articles**

- Clyne, M. (2007a). Don't let languages languish. *The Australian Higher Education Supplement*, 24 January 2007.
- Clyne, M. (2007b). 'Integration' replaces 'multiculturalism' in Howard's Australia. *The Melbourne Anglican* No. 446, 19, 21.
- Clyne, M. (2007c). Die unsichtbare Minderheit. In K Woznicki (ed.), *McDeutsch*. Berlin: Kulturverlag Kadmos, 67-70.
- Clyne, M. (2007d). Braucht Deutschland eine bewusstere, kohäsive Sprachenpolitik – Deutsch, Englisch als lingua franca und Mehrsprachigkeit? In *Braucht Deutschland eine bewusstere, kohäsive Sprachenpolitik?* Diskussionspapier der Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung 11/2007. Bonn: Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung. (Auch in: E-buch des Expertengesprächs. <http://www.avh.de/de/mnetzwerk/veranstalt/sprachenpolitik.htm>)
- Clyne, M. (2007e). Why we must fear core values: The case for languages. *Education Age*, 3 September 2007, p.20
- Clyne, M. (2007f). A for Anglican, B for Babel, C for challenge. *The Melbourne Anglican*, October 2007, p. 22.
- Clyne, M. (2007g). Multilingual Society with a Monolingual Mindset. Annual Lecture 2006. In *Proceedings 2006*. Canberra: The Australian Academy of Humanities, 119-132.
- Clyne, M. (2007h). Show-offs urgently required. *The Australian Higher Education Supplement*, 14 November 2007, p.26.

***In Press***

***Journal articles / book chapters***

Hajek, J. and J. Bowden. Waima'a: challenges for language documentation and maintenance in East Timor. In Margaret Florey (ed) *Endangered languages of Austronesia*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bowden, J. and J. Hajek. Not just Tetum - Language development in East Timor and the case of Waima'a. In M. Leach and D. Kingsbury (eds.) *East Timor: Beyond Independence*. Melbourne: Monash Asia Institute, 263-274.

***Refereed Conference Papers***

Schüpbach, D., J. Hajek, J. Warren, M. Clyne, H.-L. Kretzenbacher and C. Norrby, (2007). A cross-linguistic comparison of address use in four European languages: Intralingual and interlingual dimensions. In M. Laughren and I. Mushin (eds.), *ALS conference*, Brisbane, 2006.

***Conference presentations and lectures***

**Michael Clyne**

*January*

*Language and liturgy* (Sectional keynote) – Australian Academy of Liturgy, Adelaide

*February*

*Reflections of an academic linguist* – Keynote address at Rhizomes conference, University of Queensland

*Is the Dutch language surviving in Australia?* Erasmus Foundation, Melbourne

*March*

*Language of Exclusion* – To tutors and students, Trinity College, University of Melbourne

*May*

*Language of exclusion in Australia*. University of Oslo

*Pluricentric Languages*. University of ØstfØld, Halden, Norway

*The development of language potential*. University of Skövde, Sweden

*Variation and change in address in a number of European languages*. University of Skövde, Sweden

*Language support for migrants in Australia (in German)*, University of Hamburg

*May/June*

Papers presented at International Seminar on Bilingualism, Hamburg:

*Why Germany needs a coordinated language policy.*

*Three is too many in Australia*

*The use of corpora in comparative studies of language contact*

*June*

*Australia's Language Potential* (in German). University of Hamburg.  
*Language of exclusion in Australia*. University of Hamburg.

*August*

*Queensland's Language Potential*. University of Queensland  
*Research on community languages in Australia – an unfinished agenda*. University of Queensland.

*September*

*Multilingualism in times of worldwide migration* (in German); at conference on the Future of Languages, Berlin

*October*

*Australia's Language Potential* – To tutors and students, Trinity College, University of Melbourne  
*Multilingualism connecting Australians* - Keynote address – Community Languages Australia annual conference, Canberra  
*Canberra's language potential*. Canberra Languages Forum.  
*Languages in the school* – to parents at St. Leonard's College, Brighton Beach.

*November*

*Words excusing exclusion of asylum seekers*. Conference on asylum seekers, University of Melbourne  
*Why the decline in German? Can it be halted?* Keynote address, Association of German Teachers of Victoria Conference, Geelong

In addition:

*August/September* – taught *Issues in Language Contact* intensively on PhD program in Linguistics, University of Verona

*September* – discussion panel, MLTAV Languages Forum with politicians.

**Sue Fernandez**

*March*

*Getting back the baby, but leaving the bathwater: the role of focus-on-form in immersion programs*. Talk given at workshop - Victorian Bilingual Education: past, present and future perspectives – at Bayswater South Primary School, Bayswater.

*June*

*Literacy and LOTE* – talk given at meeting of LOTE Regional Project Officers, Statewide Resources Centre, Carlton.

**John Hajek**

*July*

*Between a rock and a hard place? The Ladin minority in the Romance-German linguistic border region of the Dolomites.* 11th International Conference on Minority Languages, Pécs. (with Leo Kretzenbacher)

### **Sandra Kipp**

*September*

*Migration, Language Use and Identity: German in Australia since the second world war.* Talk given at workshop - *Aspects of multilingualism and multiculturalism across 2 continents: Australia and Europe* at the University of Melbourne.

### **Catrin Norrby**

*July*

*Swedish interlanguage pragmatics – What is the key to pragmatically appropriate behaviour?* International Pragmatics Conference, Göteborg University, Sweden, 8-13 July 2007 (with Gisela Håkansson)

*Address in French, German and Swedish in comparison with English.* International Pragmatics Conference, Göteborg University, Sweden, 8-13 July 2007 (with Clyne, Kretzenbacher & Warren)

*November*

*Community Languages in Practice. Swedish in Australian secondary school.* Language, Education and Diversity Conference, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand, 21-24 November, 2007.

### **Doris Schüpbach**

*November*

*Immigrants from German-speaking Switzerland in Australia – Issues of language and identity.* Keynote address, State Conference of the Association of German Teachers of Victoria (AGTV), Geelong.

## **4. RUMACCC Staff**

Assoc. Prof. 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)

Assoc. Prof. Leslyanne Hawthorne (Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and 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

Suzanne Fernandez

Dr Jo-anne Hughson

Dr Brigitte Lambert

Dr Doris Schüpbach

Ingrid Seebus

Yvette Slaughter

**Overseas Research Assistants**

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**Honorary Fellows**

Dr Susanne Döpke

Dr Lesley Lee-Wong

Dr Anya Woods

**Visitors for 2008**

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