#13 | A prominent summer

Dear all,

summer is here and we are all looking forward to some vacation, be it to get some days off or to work even more intensely on our various research projects.

Before you take off to cooler places, we want to give you an overview over the last weeks, as June and July were just packed with exciting events. The CRC-retreat in Bad Honnef was surely a central one, but there was also the LingCologne organized by the Cologne Centre for Language Studies, the statistics sessions offered by our Mercator Fellow Bodo Winter and the successfully established monthly writing sessions for PhDs. The CRC was also present in the media recently and a bachelor thesis on prominence markers was awarded the faculty price. You can also enjoy some nice summer reading with the new CRC publications.

Although, we can just give an impression of the various bits and pieces of the amazing work each and everyone of you does for and within the CRC, it is with a great thank you, that we look on these events and news. It wouldn't have been possible without you!

In this sense, enjoy the summer!

Ana-Laura Lemke

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**Annual CRC retreat in Bad Honnef**

June 26-28, 2019
This year's CRC retreat was held in Bad Honnef from June 26-28, 2019 and brought together present CRC members and future collaboration partners across a wide range of topics. The main goal of this retreat was to discuss current project developments and outline the development of new questions for the second phase of the CRC.

The first day was dedicated to individual flash talks and poster presentations of the different projects, engaging everyone in vivid discussions on results and plans. We also used the opportunity to shoot some scenes for the upcoming image film on the CRC. The evening activity was improvised: while some took a swim in the nearby river Rhine, others had a go on knocking over the prominent king in the Viking chess game Kubb.

The World-Café Sessions were carried out during the second day. This format allowed hosts to present central key-words of their research to changing visitor groups who then discussed the respective keyword with fresh perspectives and ideas - allowing for a maximum of diverse exchange. It was often hard to interrupt the fruitful discussions and usher the travelers to their next destination after 30 minutes. Finally, the results were summarized and presented at the plenum.

The last day was dedicated to the development of the common framework for the second phase, defining the guiding research questions that make projects within the CRC unique while connecting them throughout the areas.

The retreat was a huge success and lay the best possible foundation for the upcoming work on the proposal for the continuation of the CRC Prominence in Language.
The CRC in the press

Klaus von Heusinger points out the relevance of research on prominence for everyone in an interview with Köln Stadt-Anzeiger.
What exactly does the CRC 1252 do? Which areas can profit from the basic research? Click the button below for the German newspaper article.

LingCologne2019: Multimodality
June 6-7, 2019

LingCologne2019: Multimodality focused on a multimodal view of language, providing insights into the interactions of different language modalities as well as the systems underlying these interactions.

The two-day conference took place in early June and was organized by the CCLS and supported by the CRC 1252 as well as the German Research Foundation. The conference offered an exciting program to the more than 210 participants: Eight keynote speakers set the tone, with two each giving their lecture on one of the areas of interest, that is the interaction between gesture and speech, gesture and sign, sign and speech or writing, and writing and speech, respectively. What is more, 33 interesting, topically diverse posters, which were selected from the Call for Posters, added to research questions regarding interactions on different language modalities. All talks and several poster presentations were simultaneously interpreted in English and German sign language (BSL and DGS), respectively. In the run-up to LingCologne2019, the German Sport University Cologne hosted a satellite workshop dedicated to behavioral analysis in linguistic research and the Neuropsychological Gesture (NEUROGES) Analysis System.

All told, LingCologne2019 reached its goal of bringing together and providing an opportunity for a discussion between linguists, psycholinguists and other specialists who present their work in relation to this theme. The meeting served as an arena for discussing particular cross-modal phenomena on the level of the above-mentioned interfaces and provided more insights into the interaction of language modalities and their use in different cultural settings.
Lena Pagel (A04) wins Faculty Prize

Lena Pagel, student assistant in project A04, wins faculty prize with her bachelor thesis. Her thesis "Eine artikulatorische Studie zur Prominenzmarkierung im Deutschen: Die Kinematik des Zungenrückens" arose within the scope of CRC-project A04. On September 14, 2019, she will be presenting her work through a poster at the workshop "4th Young Female Researchers in Speech" in Graz.

Statistics Workshop - Mercator Fellow Bodo Winter

As was the case in previous years, Mercator Fellow Bodo Winter offered a series of statistics workshops for members of the CRC. This time around the focus was on further developing people's programming and data visualization skills (e.g., writing tidyverse
style code, dealing with R markdown scripts, ggplot2, automatized text processing). On top of that, there was a refresher on the generalized linear model framework (including logistic regression, Poisson regression and mixed models) as well as a session on various cluster analysis techniques with a focus on Gaussian mixture models.

Sessions on July 4 and 5, 2019

**Fahime Same** (INF) and **Sara Meuser** (C05) offer regular training sessions for the composition of doctoral theses.

**Next sessions:**

- August 1 and 2
- September 5 and 6
Spring college for young linguists

- September 26 and 27
  All sessions begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.

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Summer reading - New CRC publications

**Joint publication of A05, B04 and C03:**


What are the linguistic means for expressing different types of foci such as (narrow) information focus and contrastive focus in Romance languages, and why are there such differing views on such a presumably clear-cut research subject? Bringing together original expert work from a variety of linguistic disciplines and perspectives such as language acquisition and language contact, this volume provides a state-of-the-art discussion on central issues of focus realization.

[Link to the publisher](https://archive.newsletter2go.com/?n2g=kd6cxqwj-4usu6mcn-3u4)

**Joint publication of A01, A03 and B05:**


Information structure is a relatively new field to linguistics and has only recently been studied for smaller and less described languages. This book is the first of its kind that brings together contributions on information structure in Austronesian languages. Current approaches from formal semantics, discourse studies, and intonational phonology are brought together with language specific and cross-linguistic expertise of Austronesian languages.
Anything new coming up? If you want to be featured in the next newsletter, please drop us line at: lemkea@uni-koeln.de or tell us your news personally.

Impressum:
SFB Prominence in Language
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Newsletter abbestellen