

Besuchen Sie hier die [Webversion](#).



#27 | Longer days and changing times

Dear all,

Another year has started, another semester is about to end. For many of us, a busy winter semester is coming to a close and a well-deserved semester break lies ahead. The CRC has started this new year with Petra Schumacher as new spokesperson and has already completed a Miniklausur as well as a General Meeting earlier this month.

Just now, we seem to finally be arriving at the crossroads towards a post-pandemic routine. Since some of us might still be wondering what our daily lives will again look like, others are already planning a return to in-person events. This makes us look forward to meeting up again soon, getting to know some colleagues for the first time in real life. In both the outside and virtual world, notable parts of our work have continued successfully throughout this time and we are delighted to keep announcing and sharing the CRC's latest news and publications alongside with insights from our staff and guests.

Since we seem to have overcome the hardest times of the pandemic, a cautious dose of optimism is re-entering back into our lives. Today is "Weiberfastnacht", the beginning of a traditional Carnival week here in Cologne and in other parts of the Rhineland. Once again, familiar but different. We're sending you a careful and hopeful "Alaaf"! 🕊️

Best wishes,
Britt Krukau

Getting to know...



Petra Schumacher (speaker of the CRC; A01, C07, C09, Z)

1. When I think of the CRC, I think of..

profound discussions and fruitful collaborative research. It also brings back memories of our late colleague Beatrice Primus who shaped our notion of prominence and whose enthusiasm was contagious.

2. The things I look forward to most when returning to the office are...

meeting people for a cappuccino at Pika and continuing setting up my new interactive EEG lab.

3. This is my favorite word/expression, and here's why:

I have a new favorite word on a weekly basis these days because I am amazed by the vocabulary spurt of my son. This week's favorite is „Tonnerwetter“ - an interjection used by Dr. Brumm in a children's book (from German „Donnerwetter“, lit. „thunderstorm“, English „Wow“).

**Katsumasa Ito (Guest)**

Katsumasa Ito is a visiting researcher working with Klaus von Heusinger (B04, C04), who is in Germany from November 2021 to December 2022 with a Postdoc scholarship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. But now it is best if he introduces himself:

"My name is Katsumasa Ito and I am from Japan. My research interest is syntax and semantics of the left periphery / CP-field of a clause. The phenomena which I am investigating (or I have investigated) are exclamative clauses, discourse particles, quotations, factive clauses and adverbial clauses. In Cologne I am concentrating on exclamative clauses in German, especially those with "alles" and "nicht"."

1. When I think of the CRC, I think of...

the people who are so enthusiastic for research and always ready for the discussion. I am really inspired by them!

2. The things I look forward to most when returning to the office are...

academic conferences on site.

3. This is my favorite word/expression, and here's why:

“Wir müssen wissen. Wir werden wissen.“ (We must know. We will know.)

This is a word of David Hilbert, a German mathematician. It expresses Hilbert's attitude that he believed there is no such thing as an unsolvable problem in science. Maybe it was intended for mathematics, but I would like to believe it is also the case in linguistics. Sometimes we are faced with a difficult problem which seems to be impossible to solve, but with this word in mind, I would like to try to find an answer without giving up.

Staff news **Simon Roessig (Postdoc A04)**

Simon Roessig was not only awarded the Offermann-Hergarten Prize of the University of Cologne for his dissertation on 'Categoriality and continuity in prosodic prominence'. He also received a Walter Benjamin fellowship by the DFG (German Research Foundation) to join the Department of Linguistics at



Cornell University (Ithaca, New York, USA) for two years. Starting from summer 2022, he will be working on his research project investigating prosodic prominence relations from a task dynamics perspective in collaboration with Professor Sam Tilsen. The CRC is proud of Simon's achievements, and delighted to learn more about his journey towards the fellowship, and his objects for his research stay in the U.S. 🇺🇸

1. You have been granted a "Walter-Benjamin-Fellowship" by the DFG. What makes this programme interesting for you as a researcher at your stage?

The Walter-Benjamin Fellowship allows me to realize my own research project at an institution of my choice. This freedom is a great chance for me to grow as a researcher. Going to Cornell for two years is a great opportunity to learn in an inspiring intellectual environment. It is also an opportunity for me to learn outside of the academic world. I'll be moving with my wife and son which makes it a great personal adventure as well.

2. Can you briefly describe the process of the proposal?

Right after publishing my doctoral thesis, in early 2021, I began to figure out what is important for me as a post doc and whom I wanted to work with. The CRC and the phonetics lab in Cologne provide a great academic environment. After completing my PhD, however, the time had come for something new. Moreover, I knew that I wanted to spend some time abroad.

In March 2021, I started to talk to Sam Tilsen at Cornell, and began writing the proposal in April. Writing up a research project from scratch was quite challenging at first but then turned out to be really a fun and exciting thing to do. Many of my ideas about dynamical models naturally appear quite technical at first. So, getting these things across was one of the major goals for me. I believe visualizations help a lot in communicating complex models and ideas, so I really spent a lot of time on the figures.

3. Now that you were awarded the fellowship, what are your objectives for the next two years?

I have quite a concrete plan for my research project which is about prominence relations and involves experimental investigations as well as modeling.

I also hope to get involved in collaborations with people at Cornell in projects that open up new perspectives for me and challenge my skills.

First of all, of course, we have to get to Ithaca, which I hope will be much easier for us than for Odysseus.

4. Why do you think research on linguistics is important?

It's a beautiful field because of its unique mixture of humanities and science components. Learning about language and speech opens up windows to many interesting aspects of cognition, some of which may be unique to language and some of which are general to human cognition.

I think communication is simply fascinating. For me as a phonetician in particular, it is mind blowing how humans use acoustic signals. It's such a rich and variable source of

information but it's amazing how good humans are at using it.



Sabine Reuters (former PhD, B06) successfully defended her dissertation on *Aufmerksamkeit, Prominenz und Sprachproduktion – eine experimentelle Untersuchung jüngerer und älterer Erwachsener* on December 22, 2021! Congratulations, Sabine! 🎓🎉

Past Conferences, Workshops and Lectures

- N. Peck, Constantijn Kaland and T. Mark Ellison held a poster presentation at the 1st International Conference of Tone and Intonation, which took place in a hybrid format online and in Sønderborg, Denmark from December 6-9, 2021. The presentation was about *An initial exploration of the interaction of tone and intonation in Kera 'a*.
- Jason Bishop (CRC Mercator Fellow) held a lecture in the [CCLS Lecture Series](#) on January 10. Jason talked about *What can individual differences teach us about prosody's role in language and language processing?* and afterwards, there was a lively discussion with Jason and CRC members.
- Robert Voigt (student assistant working with Klaus von Heusinger) very successfully held a poster presentation with the title *Contrast and the pronominal use of the demonstratives der and dieser in German* on the ConSOLE 30 Conference, Nantes (France), which took place online from January 25-27.
- The CRC was also represented at the [44th Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society](#), taking place online February 23-25, with our guest Anna Pineda giving a talk on *Dialectal differences in the development of differential object marking in the diachrony of Catalan* and Jakob Egetenmeyer (C02) speaking on *Overshooting the narrative goal: The case of TAM forms in football language*.

Upcoming Conferences, Workshops and Lectures

- Project C06 is organizing the [22nd Szklarska Poreba Workshop On the roots of Pragmasemantics](#) which will be held in an online-format on March 4-7, 2022. On top of the general theme, this year's special theme is *Speech Action in Society*.
- Judith Schlenter and Martina Penke will give a talk at this year's [TeaP](#) (Tagung experimentell arbeitender Psycholog:innen; Conference of Experimental Psychologists), which will take place online March 20-23 and is organized by the University of Cologne.

Their talk is titled *How animacy and literacy affect picture naming*.

- C07 will hold two presentations at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2022), which is organized by the University of California, Santa Cruz and will take place online March 24-26. The first presentation is held by Ingmar Brilmayer and Petra Schumacher on *First-person pronouns as rigid designators: The resolution of self-reference is unaffected by the presence of referential competitors as evidenced by event-related potentials* and the second talk is presented by Magdalena Repp, Clare Patterson, Petra Schumacher and is titled *Famous protagonists interfere with discourse topicality during pronoun resolution*.
- Project B06 will also attend the HSP 2022, namely Judith Schlenker and Martina Penke will present a poster on *How visual properties of the patient affect the description of transitive events*.
- On March 25-26, the [19th Staps](#) (Sprachwissenschaftliche Tagung für Promotionsstudierende) will take place online. This year it is co-organized by Barbara Zeyer (PhD, B06).
- Bodo Winter (CRC Mercator Fellow) will visit Cologne on June 7-10 and hold a workshop on statistics (details will follow).

CLIP Workshop

Project C04, together with the Center for Language, Information and Philosophy ([CLIP](#)), organized a workshop on NP-Deletion on February 9-10, 2022, which hosted guest lectures by Phoevos Panagiotidis (Nicosia/Cyprus), Jason Merchant (Chicago), and Andrés Saab (Buenos Aires). The aim of the workshop was to investigate the syntactic conditions and the discourse pragmatic conditions of NP deletion and to embed them into the prominence-based model in the framework of the Dual-Process Activation Model.



Center for Language,
Information and Philosophy

9.2.2022 | 16:00-17:00 (CET)

Phoevos Panagiotidis
University of Cyprus

9.2.2022 | 17:30-18:30 (CET)

Andrés Leandro Saab
Universidad de Buenos Aires

10.2.2022 | 16:00-17:00 (CET)

Jason Merchant
University of Chicago

10.2.2022 | 17:30-18:30 (CET)

Frederike Weeber
University of Cologne

To participate, please register by e-mailing
goekben.konuk@uni-koeln.de

Workshop on
NP-Deletion

organized by
Klaus von Heusinger
and **Gökben Konuk**,
German Linguistics at
the University of Cologne



clip.uni-koeln.de



Köln Marathon 

The CRC now has its first relay team! A group of CRC members



are participating in this year's [Köln Marathon](#) on October 2. We wish you good luck with the preparations! 🏃🏃

T24

SFB 1252 Prominence in Language

RUN 🏃

Some info from project Z

Z



- There are some changes in the Gender Board: Semra Kizilkaya will take Judith Schlenter's position as PostDoc representative and Magdalena Repp was elected as doctoral representative. Find all members of the Gender Board and information on their work [here](#)
- Recently our new FAQ folder was launched on Sciebo. It is supposed to be the first place to go if you have any questions concerning e.g. the reimbursements of expenses or travel reimbursements. If you do not have access to the Sciebo folder yet or if you have questions, which aren't mentioned in the FAQs yet, please contact the Helpdesk: sfb1252-helpdesk@uni-koeln.de
- Project Z is looking for a student assistant with focus on communication and website. If you know anyone who might be interested, please forward the job advertisement to them. Find all vacancies [here](#)

Glossa Psycholinguistics is now available online!



Glossa Psycholinguistics, which publishes articles in the field of psycholinguistics focusing on any level of linguistic analysis and using a variety of methods and approaches, is now available online. [The CRC supported the Open Access efforts](#) and we are happy to see the first articles published. Browse them [here](#).

Recent publications

- Bunčić, Daniel. 2020. Agent prominence and movement in Russian third person plural impersonals (“indefinite-personal sentences”). *Die Welt der Slaven: Internationale Halbjahresschrift für Slavistik* 65(2). 297–311. | [B01](#)
- Chen, Guanyi, Fahime Same & Kees van Deemter. 2021. [What can Neural Referential Form Selectors Learn?](#) In *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Natural Language Generation*, 154–166. Aberdeen, Scotland, UK: Association for Computational Linguistics. [pdf](#) | [INF](#)
- Himmelmann, Nikolaus P. 2022. [Prosodic phrasing and the emergence of phrase structure](#). *Linguistics*. | [B05](#)
- Kaland, Constantijn. 2021. [The perception of word stress cues in Papuan Malay: A typological perspective and experimental investigation](#). *Laboratory Phonology* 12(1). 1–33. | [A03](#)
- Patterson, Clare, Petra B. Schumacher, Bruno Nicenboim, Johannes Hagen & Andrew Kehler. 2021. [A Bayesian Approach to German Personal and Demonstrative Pronouns](#). *Frontiers in Psychology* 12, 672927. | [C07](#)
- Schlenker, Judith, Yulia Esaulova, Sarah Dolscheid & Martina Penke. 2022. [Ambiguity in case marking does not affect the description of transitive events in German: Evidence from sentence production and eye-tracking](#). *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*. | [B06](#)
- Thies, Tabea, Anne Hermes & Doris Mücke. 2022. [Compensation in Time and Space: Prominence Marking in Aging and Disease](#). *Languages* 7(1). 21. [pdf](#) | [A04](#)
- Uth, Melanie. 2021. Same or different? Prosodic prominence and information structure in Yucatecan Spanish in picture-based elicitation compared to natural speech. In Alexander Teixeira Kalkhoff, Maria Selig & Christine Mooshammer (eds.), *Prosody and conceptual variation*, 75–91. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang. | [A05](#)

Anything new coming up? If you want to be featured in the next newsletter, please drop us line at: ewindbe1@uni-koeln.de (Eva Windbergs) or bkrukau1@uni-koeln.de (Britt Krukau).

Impressum:
 SFB Prominence in Language
 Luxemburger Str. 299
 50939 Köln
 Newsletter abbestellen