

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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Dr. Elena Buja's research activity is mainly focused on child language (L1) acquisition and sociolinguistics. Her recent work deals with aspects of bilingualism within the Hungarian minority and among the Moldovans living in Romania, such as attitudes toward bilingualism, code-mixing and code-switching, as well as linguistic transfer. She also investigated the acquisition by the Romanian children of various aspects of their mother tongue, such as the verbal categories of tense and aspect or of the pronominal and adverbial clitics, as well as the role of connectors in children's narratives.

She is the author of three books and has published a number of articles both in Romania and abroad. Her most recent publications are: *Relating Events in Narrative. A Case Study of Romanian* (Transilvania University Publishing House, Brasov, 2008), *Aspecte lingvistice ale bilingvismului in comunitatile maghiare din Romania*, in Horvath, I., Todor, E. (eds.), 2008, *O evaluare a politicilor de producere a bilingvismului*, (Editura Limes, Cluj Napoca, 2008), *Attitudes toward Bilingualism: A Case Study of the Moldovan-Russian Bilinguals*, in the Proceedings of the 1st International Conference on Linguistic and Intercultural Education (CLIE-2008, Alba-Iulia), *On the Acquisition of ASPECT by Romanian Children*, in the Proceeding of the Conference of American and British Studies, Transilvania University, (Transilvania University Publishing House, Brasov, 2008).

Elena Buja is currently involved in an international project entitled *Multilingualism in Europe as a Resource for Immigration – Dialogue Initiative among the Universities of the Mediterranean* (MERIDIUM), aimed at improving the cultural and social inclusion of immigrant students and workers in receptor countries in Mediterranean Europe. The project is coordinated by the University for Foreigners of Perugia (Italy).

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Colin Calleja is a lecturer at the University of Malta, Faculty of Education. He is the coordinator of the Programme in Teaching for Diversity in the Department of Primary Education and National coordinator of the Let Me Learn Programme. Mr. Calleja has been involved in a number of EU projects dealing with differentiated instruction and lifelong learning. He is currently the national coordinator of eSPICES – a project based on research and pedagogy on Intercultural Communication training. He is currently involved with non-governmental organization selected by EU to monitor racism in Malta. Mr. Calleja monitors the Education component. He is the author of *Differentiating Instruction in the Primary*

Classroom: A Whole School Approach in Achieving Excellence (2005), co-editor of the book *Understanding Children and Youth at Risk: Narrative of Hope* (2006) and co-author of the handbook for teacher trainers entitled *Differentiated Teaching Module: Preparing Trainee Teachers to Respond to Pupil Diversity – Teacher Trainees Handbook* (2007).

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Zahra Alimoraddastkhezr has got her MA in TEFL from Shiraz University. She has got her BA in TEFL from Shiraz University. Her areas of interest are: Discourse Analysis (DA & CDA) and Language Learning. She is presently a PhD student of TEFL at Shiraz University.

Martin EHALA

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Martin Ehala defended his PhD at the University of Cambridge on the theory of language change in 1996. Since 2008, he has been working for the University of Tartu (Estonia) as a senior researcher.

He has published widely on aspects of the structure of Estonian, as well as language changes in Estonian. Recently his focus has shifted towards the Estonian linguistic environment and ethnolinguistic vitality. He has developed an original model for assessing ethnolinguistic vitality. In this field, he has conducted a number of research and development projects, such as “*The analysis, modelling and control of the Estonian linguistic environment*” (2003-2007), “*New language learning system in Tallinn University*” (2006-2008), “*Ethnolinguistic vitality and identity construction: Estonia in the context of other Baltic countries*” (2008-2011).

Besides research, Martin Ehala has been actively engaged in developing methods of teaching Estonian as a mother tongue; he has authored six secondary school textbooks of Estonian and a number of teaching aids and materials. In 2003, he was awarded the Educational Prize of the President of Estonia for his works in the field of mother tongue teaching.

Since 2006, Martin Ehala has been a member of the Estonian Research Council and the head of the expert panel in humanities.

All his publications are downloadable at

<https://www.etis.ee/portaal/isikuPublikatsioonid.aspx?TextBoxName=ehala&PersonVID=37540&lang=en&FromUrl0=isikud.aspx>

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Having studied in Berlin and Vienna, Ulrike Freywald graduated with a Magister Artium in German Linguistics, Historical Linguistics and Communication Studies from Humboldt-University Berlin and Free University Berlin in 2005. During her studies she has specialised in syntax and phenomena of ongoing language change.

In 2006 she was awarded a Graduate scholarship by the Berlin Federal State. In 2007 she took

up a position as an Assistant Lecturer in the German Department at University of Potsdam. Since 2008, she is working on the project “Grammatical reduction and information structural preferences in a contact variety of German: Kiezdeutsch” (PI: Heike Wiese), which is part of the Collaborative Research Center “Information Structure” of the University of Potsdam and Humboldt-University Berlin.

Her research interests lie in syntactic theory, the syntax-pragmatics interface, information structure, and language change and variation. In her PhD thesis she works on the syntax and pragmatics of subordinate clauses in German.

Since 2006 she has been teaching German linguistics at Humboldt-University Berlin and the University of Potsdam.

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Dr. Joachim Grzega, born 1971, studied languages at the universities of Eichstätt (Germany), Salt Lake City (USA), Paris-Sorbonne (France) and Graz (Austria). He received his PhD in in Romance, English and German Linguistics in 2000 from the University of Eichstätt. Since 1998 he has been teaching English and contrastive linguistics the Katholische Universität Eichstätt, with interim professorships in Münster, Bayreuth, Erfurt and Freiburg. His research fields are: Eurolinguistics, cross-cultural pragmatics, intercultural communication, historical lexicology and pragmatics, language teaching, academic teaching, linguistics and socioeconomic issues. He has been an advisor for journalists on linguistic issues. Among the books he has written mention should be made of *EuroLinguistischer Parcours: Kernwissen zur europäischen Sprachkultur*. Frankfurt/Main: IKO. He has also published numerous articles in various specialist journals. He has founded and now hosts two internet platforms: *EuroLinguistiX (ELiX)* (<http://www.eurolinguistix.com>) and *Onomasiology Online (OnOn)* (<http://www.onomasiology.de>); both platforms include an academic journal of which he is the editor-in-chief. He invented the concept of *Basic Global English (BGE)* and coordinates the respective third-party funded *BGE* projects (<http://www.basicglobalenglish.com>) (one of which was integrated into a COMENIUS project). He has also taught at college and at a primary school and is the coordinator of the didactic project *LdL* [= acronym for German *Lernen durch Lehren* ‘Learning by Teaching’] (<http://www.ldl.de>). Joachim Grzega is also head of the *Academy for SocioEconomic Linguistics* (<http://www.asecoli.com>).

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Sjaak Kroon (1954) holds a chair of Multilingualism in the Multicultural Society at the Faculty of Humanities, Tilburg University, The Netherlands. He is head of the Department of Language and Culture Studies and a member of Babylon, the Tilburg University Centre for Studies of the Multicultural Society. His main teaching and research interests and activities are in the field of multilingualism, literacy, and language policy.

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Professor PhDr. Gabriela Miššíková, PhD. teaches at the Department of English and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, UCP Nitra, Slovakia. She teaches linguistics to students majoring in English language and literature, and translation and interpreting. Her main research area is Stylistics and Pragmatics. In addition to publishing widely on stylistic and pragmatic approaches to translation she is author of *Stylistická analýza textu* (Stylistic Analysis of Text, 1999), *Linguistic Stylistics* (2003), and *Working with Texts in Stylistics* (2004) and chief editor of *Topics in Linguistics*. Her latest monograph *Analysing Translation as Text and Discourse* (Prague, 2007) focuses on the space between what our words mean and how we actually use language to communicate. She is currently Head of Department of English and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia. She is Head of Committee for doctoral exams in subject field: Theory of Teaching English language and literature, and Member of Committee for doctoral exams and dissertations in subject field: Translation and Interpreting. Dr. Miššíková is in charge of scientific research projects (i.e. KEGA, VEGA, CGA) and main coordinator of Socrates-Erasmus Exchange programmes with universities in Great Britain, Denmark, Germany, Czech Republic, Greece, etc. She is also Director of Interpreting Institute, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia.

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Marie J. Myers (Doctorate in Psychology of Language, Communication and Pedagogical Intervention, Université de Strasbourg, France) gives courses at the B.Ed level (French and English Second/Foreign Languages, Elementary to Advanced) and at the graduate level (Language and Communication, Language Learning/ Teaching Research). Her research interests include language development and assessment (with and without the latest computer technologies) from curricular, cognitive and cultural perspectives; pragmalinguistics and sociopragmatics; the grammar of pictures.

She also has experience as a classroom teacher (France and Canada) and chair of languages (Canada and Germany) and has given graduate courses in Singapore, Australia, Malaysia and VietNam.

She began her work in Linguistics at the University of Strasbourg, a center of very active language research and language policy development because of the proximity of the European Council and Parliament.

A Canada Council Doctoral Fellowship brought her to Canada where she conducted research

for the Languages Bureau and the University of Ottawa. She participated in the Vive Le Français textbook series with Addison-Wesley from 1976-1985. She was a member of the National Study of Core French Language Syllabus Team in Canada.

Before coming to Queen's in 1992 she was a Tenured Associate Professor in the French Department at Dalhousie University. Her recent work includes: *Pragmalinguistic Features of advanced Dialogue in L2*. (2009). John Benjamins Publishers (Under review) and *Les Nouveaux Arrivants dans le Milieu Scolaire de Langue Française en Ontario*. (2006) Research monograph, Ministry of Education of Ontario.

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Kerstin Paul studied German Linguistics and Literature as well as Chemistry and Educational Studies at the University of Potsdam and graduated with a teacher exam in 2008. Afterwards, she was awarded a PhD scholarship by the German National Academic Foundation.

In her research she focuses on youth language and multiethnic varieties, language variation, folk linguistics, and didactics of language teaching. In her PhD thesis she deals with the multiethnolect “Kiezdeutsch” as well as with related perceptions and educational implications.

She has been teaching German linguistics at University of Potsdam since 2008. Within her work at the Chair for Contemporary German Language (Prof. Heike Wiese), she has co-founded the informational portal <<http://www.kiezdeutsch.de>>, which has been developed especially for teachers and students. Moreover, she conducted several school projects on the subject of youth language in general and of Kiezdeutsch in particular.

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Emilia Plăcintar, PhD in linguistics, is associate professor with the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration and teaches business English, oral business communication, and professional communication in the fields of politics and international relations.

Her main research pursuits lie in the fields of conversation analysis, the pragmatics of business discourse, and intercultural communication in business and international relations.

She is the author of the book *A Pragmatic Approach to Conversation Analysis: Applications to Business Communication* (2005) and the co-author of *English-Romanian / Romanian-English Dictionary* (1997/2004). She has designed a series of pioneer course books such as *English for Business and Economics* (2007), *Professional Communication: Politics and International Relations* (2006), and *English for European Studies* (2005). She has published a series of articles on institutional discourse, business conversation, intercultural communication, and politeness strategies in business talk, and contributed lectures to international conferences in Sweden, the Czech Republic, Germany, South Africa, and Poland.

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Nasser Rashidi has got his BA in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) from Shiraz University in 1991. He has got his MA in TEFL from the same university in 1995. He received his PhD in TEFL from Shiraz University in 2002. He is presently the academic member of the Department of Foreign Languages and Linguistics at Shiraz University. His area of research is TEFL including language teaching and testing, discourse analysis and sociolinguistics. He has written a book and about 14 articles on topics in the areas mentioned.

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Dr. Alcina Sousa is Assistant Professor at the English and German Studies Department, at the University of Madeira, where she is currently lecturing Applied Linguistics, Communication Skills, Textual Analysis and English language courses, including ESP Courses (Tourism and Leisure; Science and Law) at undergraduate level. She is the Course Director of the English and Business Studies Degree (1st Cycle) as well as the Erasmus Departmental Coordinator (English Area). She holds a Ph.D. in English Linguistics (University of Madeira, Portugal, 2005), entitled “Developing Reading Strategies based on Literary Texts - The Diary Novel: Sue Townsend’s Adrian Mole’s Saga”. She has attended courses and seminars in the United Kingdom (University of Nottingham and University of Aberdeen), Italy (Tuscan Word Centre, in Italy, run by Prof. John Sinclair), Spain (Pompeu Fabra University, Faculty of Humanities, Barcelona), and Portugal (Faculty of Letters, University of Lisbon, run by Prof. Jim Martin), in the fields of “language as a literary medium”, stylistics, critical reading, corpus linguistics and discourse analysis. Her research interests include, besides the linguistics/literature interface and language and identity issues, discourse analysis, stylistics and critical and creative reading in various domains, also drawing on literary discourse (diary fiction), on humour and the analysis of specialized corpora, on which she has published several articles in Portugal and abroad in refereed journals, proceedings of international meetings and book chapters. She has also been involved with the use of corpus linguistics, the analysis of exploratory data (empirical studies, questionnaires), specialized corpora, namely business texts and urban planning, involving multidisciplinary research, and having presented research results and run seminars in Portugal and Brazil. She has taken part in research projects on a national (NEAG founding member, University of Madeira; “A Moderna Diferença” / “The Modern Difference” – CEAUL/ University of Lisbon Centre for English Studies [Foundation for Science and Technology Grant, Portugal) and international level (Poetics and Linguistics Association - PEDSIG Group; “Estudos sobre o Humor” / “Studying Humour”, University of Madeira, Carlo Collodi Foundation and The University of Nottingham). She is one of the founding members and member of the scientific committee of the multidisciplinary and cross-linguistic research group on “Estudos sobre o Humor” / “Studying Humour” and is now coordinating the publication of the proceedings of the I International Conference on Humour: “Humour That Unites, Humour That Divides” (Madeira University, Jan. 2008).

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Dr. Massimiliano Spotti is a researcher at the Dept. of Culture, Faculty of Humanities, Tilburg University, The Netherlands as well as a member of the board of Babylon - Centre of Studies of the Multicultural Society, at the same university. He has defended a PhD in linguistic ethnography entitled: *Developing Identities: Identity construction in multicultural primary classrooms in the Netherlands and Flanders*. Published in 2007 by Aksant, Amsterdam.

His research interests deal with the indexicalisation of identities through meta-discourse and language use in regular primary multicultural school classrooms, as well as with language testing for residence and citizenship to newly arrived migrants (see Extra, G., M. Spotti & P. van Avermaet (2009) (Eds.) *Language Testing, Migration and Citizenship: Cross National Perspectives on Integration Regimes*.

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From Sept. 2008 to May 2009 he has been a post-doctoral at the Dept. of Languages, Jyväskylä University, Finland.

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Eva Wittenberg's research interests lie in variants of contemporary German, and in the broader architecture of linguistic theory, especially the interface of semantics and syntax. She has studied at Potsdam University, Humboldt University Berlin and the Università di Bologna, and has conducted research at Yale University and Tufts University. As of fall 2009, she will study the psychological evaluation of linguistic theory at Tufts, Yale, and Potsdam University, supported by a grant of the European Recovery Program (German National Academic Foundation), before moving on to a Ph.D. Eva is the holder of several scholarships by the German Academic Exchange Service, the European Union, and the Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst.

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Anastassia Zabrodskaja received her degree Doctor of Philosophy (Linguistics) from Tallinn University (Tallinn, Estonia) in December 2009, defending a doctoral thesis "*Russian-Estonian language contacts: Grammatical aspects of language use and change*" with distinction (*laudatur*). She has taught *Linguistics*, *Cross-Cultural Communication* and related courses in Tallinn University and Narva College of Tartu University (Narva, Estonia). Her scholarly interests comprise language contact, dynamics and change in Estonia (incl. bilingual teaching, code-switching, multilingual conversation, second language acquisition, linguistic

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Anastassia works as a researcher at Tallinn University Institute of Estonian Language and Culture, as a guest lecturer at Narva College of Tartu University and as a training provider (e.g. *Cross-Cultural Communication, Teaching and Learning in Multicultural Groups*) at the Centre for Management and Human Resources Development of Tallinn University Open University. In December 2008, she got an award “Training Provider of the Year at Tallinn University”.

She has been involved in the following research and development projects: “*The analysis, modelling and control of the Estonian linguistic environment*” (2003–2007), “*Child language, interlanguage and code-switching corpora creation and description*” (2005–2008), “*New language learning system in Tallinn University*” (2006–2008), “*AILA Research Network on Multilingualism in Post-Soviet Countries*” (2006–2010), “*Ethnolinguistic vitality and identity construction: Estonia in the context of other Baltic countries*” (2008–2011), “*Russian-Estonian and English-Estonian code-switching and code-copying corpora creation and management*” (2009–2013), “*3M Identities in Motion Network: Multilingualism, Multiculturalism and Mobility in Nordic and Baltic countries*” (2009–2011).

She is a Division Leader on multicultural teamwork in education of the Estonian Academy of Young Scientists and an official delegate of the Estonian Academy of Young Scientists to the European Council of doctoral candidates and young researchers (Eurodoc).

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Professor Igor Ž. Žagar studied philosophy, sociology, and linguistics in Ljubljana, Paris, and Antwerp. He received his doctoral degree in Sociology of Culture from the University of Ljubljana. He is a Senior Research Fellow (and the Head of the Centre for Discourse Studies) at the Educational Research Institute, and Professor in Rhetoric and Argumentation at the Faculty of the Humanities, University of Primorska. He has been invited to lecture at different universities in Belgium, United States, Italy, China, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Spain and Russia and has organised various panels and contributed numerous lectures at international conferences.

His interests lie in pragmatics (speech act theory, (critical) discourse analysis), argumentation, and rhetoric. He is (co)author and editor of ten books (e.g. *Argumentation in language and the Slovenian connective pa*, Antwerp papers in linguistics, 84. Antwerp: University, IPra Research Center, 1995), chapters in books and about a hundred articles. Recently, he contributed a chapter to *Discourse and Transformation in Central and Eastern Europe* (edited by A. Galasinska and M. Krzyzanowski), Palgrave, 2008, *The European Public Sphere and the Media* (edited by A. Triandafyllidou, R. Wodak and M. Krzyzanowski), Palgrave (May 2009), and a special issue of *Journalism Studies*, to be published in February 2009 (title: *Division and Struggles of the Slovenian Journalistic Guild*).

Professor Žagar has carried out a series of research projects in linguistic pragmatics, argumentation, media analysis, as well as in special didactics.

More information on Professor Igor Ž. Žagar may be accessed at <http://www.igorzagar.net>.