

Preface

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The 6th Austrian Students' Conference for Linguistics (ASCL) was held in 2013 from November 29th to December 1st. It did not only give all participants the possibility to learn about new and exciting linguistic ideas and projects from young international academics (42 presentations from 15 countries), but also to openly discuss the presentations (talks and posters) with peers during coffee breaks and the leisure programme.

We thank all the participants for the open and constructive atmosphere, making this conference a unique and unforgettable experience. Special thanks go to our keynote speakers Katharina Hartmann (University of Vienna) and Hubert Haider (University of Salzburg) for their contributions and cooperative input. Furthermore, we want to thank the “Wiener Linguistische Gazette” for giving us the possibility to publish the conference proceedings containing the articles of 16 ASCL-participants.

These articles deal with five important linguistic fields: Discourse Analysis, Language Policy, Semantics, Morphosyntax in a quantitative approach and Syntax. In the first section, targeting Discourse Analysis, two linguistic analyses of different forms of cultural productions (the novel “Der Steppenwolf” by Hermann Hesse analysed by Aigerim Rakhimzhanova and the BBC-series “Downton-Abbey” treated by Elisabeth Senft) are presented. Furthermore, two excerpts of doctoral theses can be found. The first one, by Andrea Sedlaczek, contains a multimodal evaluation of Austrian broadcasting (ORF) reports concerning climate change, the latter, by Vladan Shutanovac, treats an inter-cultural and ethnopragmatic study of speech acts.

The paper by Susanne Mayer, representing the section on Language Policy, investigates the question whether Hawai'ian is a dying language and presents a study among native speakers and experts. The semantics-section contains the article of Kata Wohlmuth and her approach to the distributivity and the verbal particle in Hungarian.

The morpho-syntactic part of the proceedings comprises articles by Eva van den Bemd concerning an experimental language learning study, Milena Mihajlović with a computational

morphology approach to Croatian noun inflection, and Albert Ventayol Boada analysing clitics in Polish.

Finally, the section on syntax divided into formal and empirical approaches represents the largest part of this publication with seven articles in total. A wide range of topics is presented: Júlia Keresztes investigates object-drop in Hungarian, Sabine Laszakovits the Turkish topic-marker and Andrew Murphy the German “*w...w*-Copy Construction”. Réka Köcsky, using X-bar-theory, works on the relation between music and language. The publication concludes with the empirical studies of Bernadett Modrián-Horváth on the comparative sentence-level description of information structure in Hungarian and German and with the article by Marion Dotter dealing with syntactic and lexical “synchronization” in an interactive speech setting.

We wish the reader a pleasant and fascinating time with this publication and hope that it will be able to convey the exciting days we had at the ASCL 2013.

The organizers of the ASCL 2013

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