

Call for Papers

International Conference

(CSF Workshop)

Variationist linguistics meets Contact linguistics

Conference Centre Monte Verità in Ascona, Switzerland

20–23 May 2018

Theme

The conference is dedicated to the heterogeneous and dynamic nature of language(s) as seen from the perspective of variationist linguistics and contact linguistics. This conference will focus mainly on the linguistic contact between various varieties of German and other languages (such as English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Russian), but papers on other language contact constellations are appreciated as well.

Recent studies show several commonalities between both domains (language variation and contact) and their research paradigms (s. Britain 2010, Kerswill 2010, Légèise/Chamoreau 2013, Ravindranath 2015). Actual language use and its situational-functional cultural contexts as well as the dynamic, theoretical-empirical versions of central concepts (such as variation/variety, inner and outer multilingualism, switching/shifting/mixing) are just as much key focus areas of both disciplines as are methodological questions of data acquisition, corpus development and data processing. The conference would like to pursue the complex relationship between language-internal variation, the contact between varieties and languages as well as language-external factors. A particular emphasis is placed on contributions that explore contact-based or contact-supported variation phenomena – be they grammatical, lexical or phonological – and therefore connect perspectives of variationist and contact linguistics together. The main goal of the conference is to assemble researchers from the fields of variationist and contact linguistics and to create and support potential synergies to facilitate the theoretical and methodological convergence of the two fields.

Invited Speakers

Tania Kouteva (University of Düsseldorf / University College London), Péter Maitz (University of Augsburg), Peter Rosenberg (Viadrina European University Frankfurt/Oder)

Participants

The conference addresses researchers from the fields of contact linguistics and variationist linguistics who have a strong interest in interdisciplinary dialogue. All participants are required to provide a scientific contribution to the conference, either in the form of a presentation or a poster. Attendance is limited to 30 people in order to facilitate intensive discussions.

Types of Contributions

Presentation

A total of four main presentations as well as 12 further presentations are included in the program. The latter are each 25 minutes long and followed by a short discussion (5 minutes). After each presentation block consisting of two presentations time is allotted for an extensive discussion (30 Min.).

Poster

Posters with the format A0 (portrait format) will be presented in the context of a poster session (2 hours). The presenters are available for a 5 minutes oral introduction. A total of 10 Posters are foreseen.

Composition and Submission of Abstracts

Administration will be handled over ConfTool (<https://www.conftool.pro/ascona2018/>). Participants will need to set up an individual user account. Contribution proposals will be submitted over this account. Proposals must be written in an anonymous form and may not exceed 3,500 characters (including empty spaces, but excluding max. 3 bibliographical references).

Submission deadline: 15 November 2017

Conference Languages

The languages of the conference are German and English.

CSF Awards

A prize for the best presentation and best poster will be awarded among the participating young researchers (PhD/doctorate not yet complete). The *CSF Award* is endowed with 250,- Swiss francs for each prize. The selection will be made by a jury consisting of a committee of six persons.

Publication and submission deadline

It is foreseen that (selected) contributions (each ca. 20 pages) will be published in a thematic volume (English language, *double-blind review*) entitled “VARIATIONist linguistics meets CONTACT linguistics”, which is part of the series “Vienna Studies in Linguistics” (Vienna University Press).

Submission deadline: 31 August 2018

Contribution towards Expenses (includes Accommodation)

Thanks to generous financial support the cost contribution has been reduced to 250,- Swiss francs. The fee is to be paid via credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, PostFinance), PayPal or Paysafecard after the acceptance of the contribution and during the registration period.

The following are **included** in the contribution towards expenses:

- Conference fee
- Accommodation at Bauhaus-Hotel Monte Verità, a highly-rated hotel located on a hill above Ascona with a panoramic view of the Lago Maggiore (for more information about Hotel and Conference Centre Monte Verità, please visit the conference homepage: <http://www.monteverita.org/>)
- Meals: breakfast, lunch (includes mineral water and coffee or tea), warm dinner (includes mineral water, wine and coffee or tea)
- Conference Dinner with regional specialties in in one of the local restaurants
- Coffee breaks
- Welcome drink

- Return bus transfer between the train station Locarno and the Conference Centre Monte Verità
- Conference materials

Not included in the conference fee:

- Travel costs between point of departure and Locarno
- Drinks at the conference dinner
- Insurance (accident or theft)

Timeline

1. Presentations and Posters

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| ▪ Submission deadline for abstracts | 15 November 2017 |
| ▪ Results of the evaluation procedure | 30 November 2017 |
| ▪ Registration | 1 December 2017–15 January 2018 |
| ▪ Conference | 20–23 May 2018 |

2. Publication

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| ▪ Submission deadline for articles | 31 August 2018 |
| ▪ Results of the evaluation procedure | 31 December 2018 |
| ▪ Book publication | 2019 |

Information About the Conference

Organisational Committee

Mateusz Maselko (Geneva) and Alexandra N. Lenz (Vienna)

Université de Genève (UNIGE)

Faculté des Lettres

Département de langue et de littérature allemandes

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1205 Genève

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Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)

Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities (ACDH)

Department “Variation and Change of German in Austria (VaWaDiÖ)”

Postgasse 7-9

1010 Wien

Austria

Important Websites

Web: <http://www.unige.ch/ascona2018/>

Registration: <https://www.conftool.pro/ascona2018/>

Email: ascona2018@unige.ch

Venue

Hotel Complex and Conference Centre Monte Verità

Strada Collina 84

6612 Ascona

Switzerland

Recommended outward journey: take a flight to either Lugano, Milan or Zurich and from there take the train to Locarno.