

Das Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
und das Dekanat der Philologisch-Kulturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät der Universität Wien

beehren sich, zu einem

Gastvortrag von

Prof. em. Lachlan Mackenzie
(VU Amsterdam)

**“Is there a *pluralia tantum*
subcategory of nominal gerunds?”**

einzuladen.

Abstract: This talk considers the possibility that by virtue of their invariable suffix *-ings* English nominal gerunds such as *surroundings* that can only appear in the plural (*pluralia tantum* nominal gerunds or PTNGs) can be regarded as a subcategory of nominal gerunds. It is shown that the set of PTNGs is semantically very disparate with regard to the verb that underwent nominalization in the course of their formation. Differences are observed in a very large corpus with regard to the quantifiers and other items that co-occur with PTNGs, namely quantifiers regularly associated with plural count (e.g. *many*) or with mass nouns (e.g. *much*), but there is ultimately too much variability among PTNGs for the totality of them to be a candidate for category status.

Wann: Dienstag, 2. Oktober 2018 um 10:00 Uhr

**Wo: Besprechungsraum, Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
Universität Wien, Spitalgasse 2-4, Hof 8.3, 1090 Wien**

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ute Smit
(Vorstand des Instituts für Anglistik
und Amerikanistik)

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Melanie Malzahn
(Dekanin der Phil.-Kult. Fakultät)