MICHAEL ASHBY (UCL): 'Northcote Whitridge Thomas on tone in Igbo (1914): A replication from the original field recordings'

Northcote Whitridge Thomas (1868–1936) was a British anthropologist who conducted extensive fieldwork in Nigeria and Sierra Leone in the years 1909–1914, collecting approximately 700 wax cylinder recordings of speech and music. His publications include significant early accounts of Igbo and other languages. Widely cited until the 1950s, this work has since fallen into oblivion, perhaps as a result of the harsh treatment Thomas received in the postcolonial critique of British anthropology.

For the detailed study of Igbo tones from his recordings, Thomas enlisted specialist colleagues in Britain. One report (1914) describes analysing the tones in collaboration with UCL phonetician Daniel Jones, using a technique which Jones had perfected a few years earlier.

A systematic replication confirms that the pitch levels and intervals noted by Thomas correspond closely with values extracted from the surviving recordings by present-day digital techniques. Thomas's long-neglected observations on Igbo may well be the earliest *replicable* pitch determinations for any tone language.

In a final section of the paper, Thomas's pioneering work is briefly considered in relation to two wide contexts: (1) colonial linguistics in Africa at the height of the British Empire, and (2) the protracted and often inept encounters between Western linguists and the many tone languages of the world.

Thomas, Northcote Whitridge. 1914. Some notes on the tones of the Ibo language of Nigeria. In Paul Édouard Passy & Daniel Jones (eds.), *Miscellanea Phonetica I*, 38–43. London: International Phonetic Association.

HANS BASBØLL (University of Southern Denmark) : 'Karl Verner as prosodist: the heritage from Høysgaard'

It is well known that Karl Verner (1846–1896) in many ways was influenced by Rasmus Rask (1787–1832), and these are famous names in 19th century linguistics. But the fact that both had learnt a lot from the university caretaker Jens Høysgaard (1698–1773), is not general knowledge. Høysgaard's work is large and very original, written in and on Danish, and synchronic, including a detailed Accentuated Grammar (1747) and a 500-page Syntax (1752), published anonymously. He was the discoverer of the Danish *stød* – a laryngeal syllable rhyme prosody with a complex grammatical distribution – not noticed by any grammarian before even though it had been there for several centuries. He gave important analyses of the Danish vowel system and the prosodic system. Høysgaard also published (under his own name) works on mathematics.

Karl Verner was occupied by accents and tones throughout his career. Through his letters (1903) we can follow how he studied Høysgaard's works intensely, and he registered the very many accentuated words Høysgaard indicated in his writing. Unfortunately, Verner did not publish anything of his planned studies on Danish *stød*

and Scandinavian tonal word accents (but cf. his Kock-review 1881). His project is documented in his letters, in particular to Vilhelm Thomsen (e.g. Verner 1903: 205-221). Karl Verner was, like Jens Høysgaard, a truly great phonetician, and at the end of his career, he studied mathematics and physics intensely and even constructed an instrument to phonometric investigations (1903: LXXIII-LXXX, 365-372).

ROMANAS BULATOVAS AND LARS NOOIJ (Maynooth University): '*Ex Oriente Lux: The Celtic Languages in Pallas' Little-Known, 18th Century, Russian Thesaurus*'

In 1787 the first instalment of a comparative thesaurus of some 200 languages saw the light of day in Saint Petersburg. This ground-breaking volume by the Prussian polymath Peter Simon Pallas was quickly followed by a second instalment just two years later. This rigorous lexical study, which anticipated the methodology of modern dialectal atlases, has remained largely unknown in Western Europe as it was never translated from Russian and only few original copies remain extant. This is very unfortunate as the work has been proven to give a reasonably faithful rendition of the included languages in several recent studies. Indeed, it constitutes the first ever written evidence of some exotic Asian languages. As such, this thesaurus is interesting not only for being one of the first experiments in lexicography, but also for its contents, which were gathered in the mid-18th century.

In our paper we will concentrate on the Celtic section only. The author defines seven Celtic languages: Celtic (sic!), Breton, "Basconian", Irish, Erse, Welsh and Cornish. Peculiarly the lexicographer stresses that his "Basconian", which is to be found in France, should be clearly separated from the Basque language found in Spain because the latter 'has nothing to do with Celtic languages'. Therefore, it is not immediately obvious what the languages "Basconian" and "Celtic" stand for. We will attempt to both uncover the sources of this compilation and to evaluate its usefulness for modern scholars of Celtic.

LIN CHALOZIN-DOVRAT (The Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Tel Aviv University): 'Grammar as science: Beauzée's theory of tense (1765) and the metaphysics of time'

Nicolas Beauzée's (1717-1789) groundbreaking theory of grammatical tense (1765), had a significant impact on the understanding of grammatical time as a complex system of reference, establishing order relations between the events described and the moment of speech. Beauzée's work had another distinctive trait: he meant it to be a metaphysical theory inspired by natural philosophy. I argue that Beauzée's numerous references to physics, astronomy, geography, geometry, and metaphysics, reflect an elaborate strategy of scientification, motivated by his ambition to develop a scientific theory of grammar. This endeavour is especially visible in his theory of tense, anchored in the Cartesian physical astronomy of Étienne-Simon de Gamaches (1740).

While Beauzée's original contribution to the theory of tense has found wide acknowledgment (Bartlett, 1975; Auroux, 1991; Le Guern, 2009; Fournier, 2013), few if any have recognized his allusions to science and metaphysics as fundamental to his grammatical theory. However, I argue that this is precisely where the power of

Beauzée's theory lies. Beauzée's aspiration to furnish a sound foundation for a science of grammar was inspired by the grand scientific enterprises of the seventeenth century. As time was the object of inquiry of classical mechanics, the analysis of grammatical time provided Beauzée the opportunity to devise a theory along similar lines. Through this theory, Beauzée pushed forward the notion of *General grammar*, and bequeathed to modern linguistics a pioneering model of structural analysis, that isolates a specific linguistic mechanism and accounts for its function.

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SABINE DOFF (University of Bremen): 'English Language Teacher Education in Germany 1945-1990'

English Language Education ("Englischdidaktik") is a relatively young academic discipline in Germany. After the Second World War it gradually developed, particularly in West Germany, and reached a first peak in the 1960s, when a significant number of Teacher Training Colleges ("Pädagogische Hochschulen") were established. This paper investigates in which ways the discipline matured in the following decades, focusing on the considerable expansion that took place in the 1960s and 1970s concerning new faculties, departments and institutes and, in particular, the topics and issues that were addressed. The analysis is primarily based on key texts that discuss the meta-level of the internal self-understanding of the discipline. It shows that both interdisciplinary orientation as well as the relationship between theory and practice of language teaching were salient factors in the evolution of English Language Education and thus English Language Teacher Education in post WW II West Germany.

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RACHEL FLETCHER (University of Glasgow): 'Defining the boundaries: the history of periodisation in dictionaries of Old English'

The nature and dating of the transition from Old to Middle English have long been a topic of academic discussion, and investigating the history of this discussion can yield useful insights into how different generations of scholars have conceptualised their field of enquiry. However, the majority of investigations into the development and canonisation of period boundaries in the history of English focus on the evidence of textbooks and grammars; less attention has been paid to how periodisation was expressed in other kinds of academic reference work.

In this paper, I argue that an interesting insight into the history and development of periodisation might be gained from an examination of scholarly dictionaries. After describing the significance of such works in the context of the wider field of historical linguistics, I present the preliminary findings of an investigation into how historical dictionaries from the seventeenth century onward have conceptualised the transition between Old English and Middle English. How have lexicographers reconciled – or failed to reconcile – the gradual nature of linguistic change with the definitive character expected of a dictionary? Looking at the continuities and changes in dictionary-makers' discussions of the period boundary, I build a picture of the evolving lexicographical tradition of periodisation and its relationship to other forms of scholarly activity.

ROBERT J. FOUSER (Independent Scholar, Providence, Rhode Island, USA): 'Yamaguchi Kiichiro and Naganuma Naoe and the Transmission and Development of Ideas About Teaching the Spoken Language in Japanese as a Second Language (JSL)'

In this paper, I will discuss the work of two noted 20th century teachers and researchers of Japanese as a second language. Yamaguchi Kiichiro (1878-1952) spent much of his career directing Japanese language programs in China, Korea, and Taiwan. Under the influence of the Direct Method developed by François Gouin, he rejected grammar-translation and stressed the importance of teaching the spoken language only in the target language. Naganuma Naoe (1894-1973), by contrast, spent most of his career teaching Japanese to native speakers of English. In the 1920s, he worked closely with Herold E. Palmer to develop English language learning materials. From the late 1920s, he applied Palmer's Oral Method to teaching Japanese to US Naval officers in Tokyo. After the World War II, he founded a Japanese language school and promoted his approach as the "Naganuma Method." Yamaguchi and Naganuma were both influenced by noted figures in the West who stressed the importance of teaching the spoken language. Yamaguchi, in particular, stressed the importance of sociolinguistic appropriateness and understanding the "spirit" of Japanese. This stands in contrast to the grammar-translation method that was used to teach other languages in Japan and that remains popular today. I will argue that Yamaguchi and Naganuma benefited from state sponsorship that grew out of Japan's rise as an imperial power and that this freed them from pressure to conform to dominant paradigm.

SILVIA FRIGENI (Sapienza, Università di Roma / Université Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris III): 'Between semantic and society: Émile Benveniste's *Vocabulaire des institutions indo-européennes*'

This project wants to outline the double side of the *Vocabulaire des institutions indo-européennes*, one of Émile Benveniste's masterpieces. It's a work of comparative grammar, mainly focused on words rather than phrases, but it's also a development of theses already shown in his researches on general linguistics.
I will discuss in details some passages of the six books that constitute the *Vocabulaire* in its entirety. My intention is to show how an apparently classic comparative study is put by Benveniste at the service of a more theoretical purpose, i.e. the study of the indo-european institutions within the scope of the language (in Benveniste's words, the «signification» of their words), excluding their reference to the objects, the «designation».

In doing so, Benveniste gives new importance to the etymology, which he sees as the only way to understand institutions and civilizations while remaining in the realm of language. This is in striking contrast with both an old tradition of research, which compared linguistic data and archeological finding in order to reconstruct a civilization, and the new wave of structuralism (in which Benveniste took part) that privileged structure over words.

In the *Vocabulaire*, etymology would become a fundamental instrument for building a theoretical research, based on an underlying linguistic theory. How Benveniste uses it to deal with concepts rather than with historical testimonies, thus making the semantic of the words the main approach to a given culture, is the theme that my project will try to argue.

TIM GIESLER (University of Bremen) and JOANNA PFINGSTHORN (University of Oldenburg): 'Peeking through the iron curtain: Methodological trends in Polish EFL textbooks (1947–1981)'

As Berlin (1990: 185) rightly points out, "no classroom pedagogy can long survive without in some way responding to its historical conditions". This dependency between the choice of teaching methods and the sociopolitical context of the classroom is particularly interesting in the case of the Soviet regime, which was continuously imposed on Poland from the onset of Stalinism to the fall of communism. Within roughly 45 years, the Sovietization of Polish foreign language classrooms led to a number of repercussions: Teaching and learning English was first officially discouraged in the 1950s following Stalin's claims of the Soviet Union's supremacy. A consequent lack of international ("Western") contact, which isolated the already relatively low number of language teachers from the rest of the world, led to a halt in the development of concepts and methods (cf. Bancroft, 1975; Mlikotin, 1967). Then, the thaw following Stalin's death in 1953 correlated with an increase in the importance of EFL. This transformation is partially reflected in the design of Polish EFL textbooks used in the era, where elements of the leading Soviet conscious-comparative method of the time (Shcherba, 1947) – the primacy of the spoken over the written word, pattern and conversational drills – mix with a stronger Western orientation towards cultural content, grammar-translation and the development of

mental capabilities. The aim of the paper is to provide an insight into the interplay of these various methodological trends as exemplified by EFL textbooks used in the Polish educational system from 1947 till 1981.

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CAMIEL HAMANS (Amsterdam University/Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań): 'Yiddish as a gibberish'

For centuries Amsterdam was seen as the 'Jerusalem of the West'. In Holland, and especially in Amsterdam Jews were accepted; they were not persecuted, did not have to live in a ghetto, their religion was not forbidden, and they even could make a living.

The first groups of Jews, which came to the Netherlands at the end of the 16th and 17th century, were from the Iberian Peninsula, the so-called Sephardim. Shortly after this group, Jews from Central and Eastern Europe sought refuge in the Netherlands. The mother tongue of these Ashkenazim was Yiddish.

Although the Jews enjoyed hospitality in Amsterdam, they lived in isolation and so Yiddish remained the first language within the Ashkenazim community.
Shortly after the French took over power in the Netherlands in 1795, a discussion started about real equal rights. A year later the National Assembly accepted full civil rights for all Dutch citizens, also the Jewish, the so called Gelykstaat 'equalization'. However, this was only a legal and therefore theoretical measure. Most of the Dutch Jews were not able to profit from their new rights, since they did not speak Dutch, but Yiddish. Therefore, a society of liberal Jews, Felix Liberate 'happy through freedom', advocated forbidding the use of Yiddish in school and synagogue. One of their arguments was the low status and the corrupted nature of this language. In this presentation it will be shown how Yiddish disappeared in the Netherlands and which arguments were used in the debate.

MICHAELA JACQUES (Harvard University): 'Syllables, Diphthongs, and the Transmission of the Medieval Welsh Bardic Grammars'

The collection of texts known as the Welsh bardic grammars are a group of vernacular treatises which serve to collect and organise information about the appropriate form and content of medieval Welsh poetic composition. Believed to have been first composed sometime in the thirteenth century (and certainly before c.1330), the grammars were recopied and often heavily reworked throughout the late medieval and early modern period. In each copy, the text is divided into sections, the first of which (about a third of the text) is a vernacular grammar largely based on the Latin grammatical tradition. However, within this portion, the section on syllables and diphthongs diverges from the Latin sources, and demonstrates a particular sensitivity to vernacular phonology. Like the rest of the text, this section varies in the manuscript record, with subsequent versions incorporating suggestive re-orderings, additions, and substitutions.

The bardic grammars are sorely understudied in general, and the later copies in particular have suffered from relative scholarly neglect. By examining the section on syllables and diphthongs as it appears across several manuscripts, including the earliest medieval copies (Peniarth 20, Jesus 111, Llanstephan 3) and some of the more major revisions that include this section (Bangor 1, Peniarth 51), this paper will identify these changes and situate them in their codicological and historical context. This focused study will allow us a window into the transmission of the Welsh bardic grammars in the late medieval period, and the changing milieu that produced them.

KEN-ICHI KADOOKA (Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan): 'Acceptance of Anton Marty's Semantics in Japan'

Anton Marty (1848 - 1914) is a Swiss linguist who established semantics as one of the linguistic branches. He followed Franz Brentano (1838 - 1917) from the field of psychology.

The most significant and interesting point in this paper from the viewpoint of history of linguistics is Marty's great influence in Japan, which is verified by the work on semantics (written in Japanese) by the late Professor Fumio Nakajima (1904 - 1999). In its preface, he states as follows (translation mine):

> In fact, Marty proceeded into this direction, developing a new field of semantics as one branch of linguistics. His essential concern for the linguistic philosophy is on what kinds of semantic units can be found in human languages. Marty defined the corresponding linguistic means as symbolic implication, statement and emotional expression.

This is to show that Nakajima (1939), titled as *Imiron* (semantics), directly followed Marty's way of thinking. In this paper, it is intended that how Professor Fumio Nakajima constructed the Japanese linguistics.

In section 1 of *Semantics*, he insists that "linguistic activities are the intentional announcements or expressions of his/her own mental lives" (p. 3). Then he introduces the concept of bifurcation of the linguistic activities such as follows (p. 8): Communication, meaning – Primarily and indirectly intended attachment of semiosis Announcement, expression – secondarily and directly intended attachment of semiosis. In other words, the primary intention of the human linguistic activities is to influence other people's mental lives (p. 4).

ROLF KEMMLER (Vila Real): 'The importance of the "Method Gaspey-Otto-Sauer" amongst Portuguese textbooks of the German language'

Since 1887, the German publishing house 'Julius Groos Verlag' put its stake on the Portuguese market for learners of the German language by simultaneously publishing both the conversation grammar *Nova Grammatica Allemã Theorica e Pratica* (Otto / Prévôt [1]1887) and *Grammatica Elementar Allemã* (Prévôt [1]1887). These grammars insert themselves in the so-called 'Method Gaspey-Otto-Sauer' (MGOS), a conversation 'method' belonging to Grammar Translation, originally founded by the editor Julius Groos (1822-1875) by means of the acquisition of the printing rights and subsequent publication of the methodically similar works of Thomas William Gaspey (1819-1872), Emil Otto (1813-1878) and Karl Marquard Sauer (1827-1896).

As a professor of Heidelberg University, Thomas Gaspey published a first textbook as a precursor to the MGOS conversation grammars titled *Der englische Selbstlehrer* (1845), followed shortly thereafter by his *Englische Conversations-Grammatik zum Schul- und Privatunterricht* ([1]1851, [14]1869). After having published some earlier textbooks of French and German as a foreign language since the 1830s, Emil Otto followed suit in the same year with his *Französische Conversations-Grammatik zum Schul- und Privatunterricht* ([1]1851, [2]1854), while the third instalment of the MGOS by Sauer was only offered somewhat later in the form of his *Neue italienische Conversations-Grammatik* (1857).

The Beginning of the MGOS conversation grammars for the German language had two instalments by Emil Otto, namely the *German Conversation-Grammar* ([1]1853, [10]1870), followed by the *Nouvelle grammaire allemande* ([1]1857, [2]1865). As the latter French grammar at least in some instances was used for the teaching of German in late 19th century Portugal, we will try offer an insight into how the publication of the vernacular versions of his textbook became an important factor to satisfy the demand for German textbooks by the Portuguese public from the late 19th to the mid 20th century.

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MARTIN KONVIČKA (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany): 'Good Grammar in Historical Linguistics'

In historical linguistics, a hierarchy of grammatical expressions is often posited according to which a periphrastic construction is regarded as less grammatical than a synthetic construction. Constructions involving auxiliaries are less grammatical than constructions involving inflectional affixes, for instance, which are often seen as examples of "good grammar" (Diewald 2010: 22).

Although often criticised, this hierarchy between more and less grammatical expressions has become the basis for several concepts in historical linguistics such as *secondary grammaticalisation, continued grammaticalisation, degrammaticalisation, antigrammaticalisation, regrammaticalisation* or *lateral shifts.*

In my paper, I will discuss the origins of this preference for synthetic structures and show that it can be traced back to two distinct, yet related, conceptual domains.

First, on a general level, the idea that synthetic structures are supposedly "better" can be seen as a reflex of the typological research of the nineteenth century (e.g. von Humboldt 1836). Isolating or analytic languages were in that period often analysed as less developed than languages with rich morphology.

Second, on a very concrete level, I will show that the good grammar bias in contemporary historical linguistics can originates from a single scientific article. Namely, from Kuryłowicz's (1965) text in which the above-mentioned hierarchy of grammatical expressions has been, inadvertently (cf. von Mengden 2016, 125), introduced.

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TORSTEN LEUSCHNER (Ghent University): 'A New "Thought Style" for Nationalism: German Language Statistics and Cartography, 1848-1871'

(Nearly) coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Der Deutschen Volkszahl und Sprachgebiet in Europa* (Böckh 1869) by Prussian demographer and internationally renowned statistician Richard Böckh (1824-1907), the present paper engages with the 19th century tradition of German language statistics and cartography, of which Böckh's work was the culmination, through the concept of "thought style" ("Denkstil", Fleck 1979[1935]). From the 1840s onwards, the advanced statistical and cartographic techniques pioneered respectively by Böckh, his friend, the cartographer Heinrich Kiepert (1818-1899), and others provided a new basis for the language-based construction of nationality, including linguistic minority groups. Although clearly proto-sociolinguistic in orientation, and offering an impressive *tour d'horizont* of the linguistic landscape of pre-20th century Europe, Böckh's work remained divorced from academic linguistics and philology. Driven originally by a desire to reliably determine the geographical extent and limits of the German nation in the

wake of the 1848 revolution, Böckh claimed an early version of linguistic rights for minority groups (German or otherwise) while insisting on the Herderian/Fichtean notion of language as the defining criterion of nationality and nationhood. The reception of his book reflected this ideological ambivalence: just as it helped prepare minds (and indeed politicians) for the annexation of Germanophone Alsace-Lorraine from France to the newly founded German Empire in 1871, representatives of the Polish minority in the Eastern provinces of Prussia were able to refer to categories established by Böckh when they demanded protection for the Polish *Volkssprache* (popular language) against the German *Staatssprache* (state language) during parliamentary debates over the Prussian Administrative Language Act (*Geschäftssprachengesetz*) in 1873. Drawing on literature from diverse disciplines, the present paper describes the ideas of Böckh and his collaborators for the first time in terms of a distinct, if transitional, 'thought style' which was to give way to notions of nationhood based in biology and race rather than demography, mind and language from the late 1870s onwards.

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in die Lehre vom Denkstil und Denkkollektiv, Basel: Schwabe.)

MARJORIE LORCH (Birkbeck, University of London) and SAMUEL H. GREENBLATT (Brown University): 'The role of the 19th century notion of propositional speech in neurolinguistic theory'

Few of the mid-19th century clinical writings on acquired impairments of language due to neurological damage (aphasia) contain any detailed linguistic analysis. The general practice was to state that the patient had a difficulty in spoken expression, sometimes including a few verbatim samples. Characterization of this disorder was typically framed either as a selective memory impairment of articulatory movements or an impairment of memory for words. From the 1860s onwards, the London physician John Hughlings Jackson (1835-1911) developed a distinction between 'emotional language', which included ejaculations and recurrent utterances (now referred to as formulaic language) and 'intellectual language', which was comprised of meaningful linguistic expressions.

Jackson framed his considerations of emotional vocal expression from an evolutionary and anthropological perspective, as developed by contemporaries such as Herbert Spencer (1820-1903) and Theodor Waitz (1821-1864). However, Jackson's original contribution to the understanding of aphasia was his observation that intellectual language consisted of sentential units rather than lexical elements. Jackson applied the notion of 'proposition', which had been considered philosophically by his contemporaries John Stuart Mill (1806-1873), Robert G. Latham (1812-1888) and William Thomson (1819-1890) to form an account of the

nature of the impairment in his aphasic patients. In doing so, he propounded a more detailed psychological and neurological conceptualization of the nature of expression in relation to thought by more fully specifying the nature of language. This paper will consider the sources of his ideas and examine the originality of Jackson's construction of aphasia as an impairment of propositional speech.

ANNELI LUHTALA (University of Helsinki): 'Two Pedagogical Grammars by Thomas Linacre'

Thomas Linacre composed two short pedagogical works on Latin grammar in English. The earlier of them, the *Progymnasmata grammatices vulgaria*, is an elementary Latin grammar in English, to which are prefixed Latin verses by Linacre himself, by Thomas More, and by William Lily. It has been dated either to 1512, 1515 or before 1517. The prefatory verses by Lily point to the existence of another version, "vitiated by errors and published under a false name". This is evidently the lost grammar prepared by Linacre for St. Paul's School, but rejected by Colet.
The second textbook, the *Rudimenta grammatices*, is largely regarded as an expanded version of the *Progymnasmata*. Linacre dedicated the *Rudimenta* to his pupil, the Princess Mary, and clearly designed or adpated it for her use. The earliest complete copy accessible is 'Rudimenta Grammatices Thomæ Linacri diligenter castigata denuo. Londini in ædibus Pynsonianis,' dated about 1523–4. George Buchanan, the Scottish humanist, translated the *Rudimenta* into Latin, and it was published by Robert Etienne in 1533. It passed through at least ten editions in France in thirty years, but there was never a second edition in England.

In my talk I will make an attempt to relate the pedagogical grammars of Linacre to the general development of Humanist grammar in England.

JAMES MCELVENNY (University of Edinburgh): 'Steinthal and the scientific study of language'

The linguistic work of H. Steinthal (1823–1899) is often seen as a continuation of themes stemming from Wilhelm von Humboldt (1767–1835), approached from a hybrid perspective combining elements of German idealism with the psychology of Johann Friedrich Herbart (1776–1841). While this view is of course not incorrect, it is incomplete. Steinthal was a peripheral participant in the philosophical debates leading to the emergence of Neo-Kantianism in the second half of the nineteenth century. The relevance of these debates to Steinthal and M. Lazarus' (1824–1903) *Völkerpsychologie* is often observed, but less well known are the ongoing adjustments Steinthal made to his linguistic theory in response to these debates. In this talk, we will examine the development of Steinthal's later linguistic thought in this context, drawing principally on the numerous reviews and replies he wrote for the *Zeitschrift für Völkerpsychologie und Sprachwissenschaft*, which he co-edited with Lazarus.

DAVID MOORE (University of Western Australia): 'A history of Dreamtime as an etymological illusion'

The languages of Central Australia were at the frontline of ethnographic research in the first decades of the twentieth century. The ethnographers Baldwin Spencer and Francis Gillen (1904:745) claimed that the meaning of the Aranda word *Alchera* is 'dream'. They invented the 'Dreamtime' (Wolfe 1991). Their mistranslation spread from the limited geographical region of Central Australia to the entire continent through pan-Aboriginality and local varieties of English (Moore 2016). The association of Aboriginal worldview with dreams is still widespread, for example, in the Macquarie Dictionary (2013:34): Alcheringa literally 'in the dreamtime'. From *altyerre* dream +-nge ablative suffix meaning 'from'.

The purpose of this paper is to explain Spencer and Gillen's *Alcheringa*:

1) the semantics of *Alchera*
2) the range of functions of the grammatical marker –nge, demonstrating the limitations of Spencer and Gillen's analysis.

I also examine some of the reception of the Dreamtime in Europe in the twentieth century, showing how the widespread adoption of an ethnographic key term reinforced the notion of 'primitive languages' in European scholarship.

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PÁDRAIC MORAN (NUI Galway): 'Etymological methods in *De origine scoticae linguae*'

De origine scoticae linguae 'On the origin of the Irish language' (O'Mulconry's Glossary) is a collection of c. 884 notes on Irish words, compiled around the early eighth century. These notes are mostly etymological. The majority derive Irish headwords from words in Latin, Greek or Hebrew, while a smaller group analyses headwords as compound words building on lexical resources with Irish. This paper will examine these etymological methods in detail, surveying 1) the extent to which they exhibit consistent methodologies, 2) the models followed, 3) the extent to which the proposed relationships are tenable according to modern linguistics. The paper will also reflect on the broader cultural discourse which the text both responded to and arguably helped to shape.

JASON O'RORKE (NUI Galway): 'On the notion of transitivity in the *Ars Prisciani*'

In the sixth century Priscian produced the first systematic description of transitivity (*transitio*) in Latin. According to Priscian, the transitive verb (*transitivum*) signifies an action that 'transitions' (*transit*) from one participant (*persona / homo*) to another. Modern scholars have long recognised that this understanding of transitivity draws heavily on Apollonius Dyscolus – a second-century grammarian who authored a treatise entitled Pερὶ sunt£xewj 'On syntax'. That said, Priscian's treatment of this notion is certainly not the same as Apollonius': there are, in fact, several subtle but significant differences that have been overlooked to date.

In this paper, I will examine Priscian's conceptualisation of transitivity and demonstrate exactly how it differs from Apollonius'. I will suggest that Priscian had access to a number of sources (other than Apollonius' work) that fundamentally affected his understanding of this notion. I will then proceed to identify some of the sources that may have influenced his ideas about transitivity.

ANDY PEETERMANS (KU Leuven): 'The representation of numerals in Novo-Hispanic and Peruvian missionary grammars'

While in the ancient, medieval and humanistic grammars of Europe numerals rarely received special attention, early modern missionary grammarians—for whom this Graeco-Latin tradition constituted the basic framework in/from which linguistic reflection took shape—often demonstrate a marked interest in their object languages' counting systems. From a practical and didactic point of view, this is understandable: numerals are a class of words that are of central importance for day-to-day interaction. Furthermore, they tend to be highly 'teachable', in the sense that they invite teachers and learners to look for patterns of analogy in the relationship between forms and meanings, which allows for more efficient learning.

When studying individual grammarians' treatments of numerals, several relevant questions can be asked. How do they fit into the overall structure of the grammar, and how much space is devoted to them? How much of this space goes to lexical listings, and how much to explanation or commentary? How are numerals categorized and labelled terminologically? Can any striking interpretational, descriptive or didactic strategies be identified? In this talk, questions such as these will be used to shed light on some broader questions about traditions of MG in New Spain and the Viceroyalty of Peru. Also, some brief excursions will be made to other American traditions of MG.

Ultimately, the broader questions to be tackled are: 1) Do treatments of numerals group into clearly identifiable 'traditions' or 'schools', presenting clear chains of influence? 2) How does the specificity of the ways numerals function in individual languages influence the description?

ANNA PYTLOWANY (University of Amsterdam): 'Introducing 'exotic' scripts in The Dutch Republic: adventurers, scholars, printers'

When, in the 17th century, Asia became a regular trading ground for the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the Dutch merchants and missionaries were suddenly faced with a plethora of new languages with their distinct writing systems. Although printing Indian languages in India started relatively early with Henrique Henriques' (1520---1600) *Doctrina Christiam*, printed in Goa in 1577 using Tamil types (Blackburn 2006: 34), the 'exotic' Indian scripts were not introduced to the European reader until later in the 17th century, often via Dutch networks. In an early overview of Indian languages and literature by Catholic and Protestant missionaries in Europe, Johann Gottfried Eichhorn (1807: 198---205) mentions the first printed words in Tamil by Philipus Baldaeus (1632---1671) from his *Naauwkeurige Beschryvinge der Indische Kusten Malabar ende Choramandel* (1672), and the first use of Grantham script in *Hortus Malabaricus* (from 1678) by Hendrik Adriaan van Reede (1636---1691). Eichhorn also brings up, among others, Adriaan Reland's (1676---1718) description of Sinhala from Ceylon (1706). In that early phase, the names of informants were still often mentioned in the books. But who were the VOC employees involved in the knowledge exchange? And what were the channels of knowledge transmission? In my presentation, I will focus on some lesser known Dutch linguistic manuscripts as well as their famous printed successors in order to uncover the forgotten connections between the VOC employees overseas and the scholars and printers in The Republic.

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GUTO RHYS (Independent Scholar): 'Etymology and the Pictish Language'

The Pictish language is a trümmersprache attested overwhelmingly in onomastics (the names of people and places) to which we can add a few lexical items which survived the language transition to Scottish Gaelic and some inscriptional material. Little, however, is beyond challenge. It is the etymological interpretation of these items which has provided interested parties with the material for developing their views on the linguistic grouping of Pictish. Interpretations over the past four hundred years range from prejudiced special pleading to misguided assertions to inspired insights. This presentation will provide an overview of the particular etymological interpretations from 1582–2017 which have formed the basis for developing

perceptions of Pictish. It will highlight how the developing discipline of historical etymology was employed to develop wildly differing views and will conclude with a summary of the modern consensus. Items discussed will include Caledoni, 'Aber-', 'Pit-' and words from the ogham inscriptions and Gaelic.

REBECA FERNÁNDEZ RODRÍGUEZ (Universiteit van Amsterdam) and MARÍA ALEJANDRA REGÚNAGA (CONICET/Universidad Nacional de la Pampa): 'Cultural definitions in 18th-20th-century Patagonian vocabularies (tehuelche)'

In bilingual lexicographical works sometimes there are no proper lexical 'equivalents'. This is particularly remarkable in the works including two different languages that are linguistically and culturally distant, such as those of indigenous languages described by Europeans. It is possible to find a significant in the target language that shares the meaning in the lemma, but many others need explanations or other descriptive resources in the target language in order to express the same meaning. The study of these strategies is very important for the specific terms of a certain culture, especially those of clothes, tools and objects of the community.

In this presentation we will analyze the definitions included in several vocabularies of Patagonian (Pineda 1791a,b; Santeliz es Pablo 1791; D'Orbigny 1789) and tehuelche (Schmid 1860; Bridges, 1898; Beauvoir 1915; Fernández Garay 2004), following Martinell (1992) and Medina (2003). Our aim is to compare formal aspects, metalanguage, descriptive resources and eventually encyclopedical appendix made by the lexicographers.

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FLORIS SOLLEVELD (Vossius Center for the History of Humanities and Sciences, University of Amsterdam): 'The alphabets and etymologies of Court de Gébelin'

Antoine Court de Gébelin's *Monde primitif analysé et comparé avec le Monde moderne* (9 vols., 1771-82) is one of the most curious products of Enlightenment scholarship. With daunting erudition, it seeks to reconstruct the self-evident, universal, pictographic alphabet of the ancients, to dispel false ideas by tracing words

back to their true meanings, and to unfold the allegorical genius of antiquity. Gébelin does so mainly by linguistic means: *Monde Primitif* includes volumes on general grammar and on the origin of language and writing, and etymological dictionaries of French, Latin, and Greek. Along with that, it covers numismatics, Roman agrarian laws, Greek mythology, the calendar, the zodiac, and the Tarot.

It is easy to poke fun at Gébelin's pansophic schemes, and by the time of his bankrupcy and somewhat lurid death, his contemporaries did. But Gébelin was also at the heart of the learned world and made significant contributions to then-current programmes and debates. He combined *grammaire générale* with *histoire philosophique;* he identified language families and genealogies and even spoke of sound shift laws. The line between bona fide scholarship, wild speculation, and sheer pseudoscience is hard to draw.

My presentation puts Gébelin's work in context. I analyse *Monde Primitif* as a hybrid and eclectic work which integrates all kinds of antiquarian and philological material, and which radicalizes the programme of Charles de Brosses' *Traité de la Formation mécanique des Langues* (1765). By tracing paper trails to earlier and later works, I show how hybrid works like *Monde Primitif* are particularly good indicators of shifts in scholarly method.

DAVID STIFTER (Maynooth University): 'Old Irish Etymology through the Ages'

The etymological study of Early Irish began already in the Old Irish period itself, under influence from Isidore of Seville's Etymologiae, and, because of its flexible hermeneutic potential, it enjoyed great popularity in the middle and early modern period. It is only with the rise of modern comparative linguistics, and esp. Indo-European linguistics in the second half of the 19th century, that the art of Irish etymology has attained scholarly riguour. Over the past 150 years, paradigm shifts within Indo-European studies and the development of modern technology have repeatedly changed the methods and the course of Irish etymological studies. The impact that these external factors had will be illustrated with examples.

MARGARET THOMAS (Boston College): 'Roots of the debate between "formalists" and "functionalists"'

Debate between 'formalist' and 'functionalist' approaches in linguistics roiled study of language in the United States in the late 1990s (Newmeyer 1998; Darnell *et al.* 1999; Carnie & Mendoza 2003). Controversies between formalists and functionalists broke out in many subfields: in the study of language typology; in analysis of child language data; in efforts to determine what counted as 'explanation' of a linguistic fact; in research on the biological foundations of language; in accounts of specific linguistic phenomena; and in discussion of whether linguistics is a branch of the natural sciences or whether it belongs among the social sciences or humanities. In the last decade the two sides seem to have agreed to disagree, without either party conceding ground to the other. Formalists continue to pursue generalizations about the abstract scaffolding behind human linguistic competence (*e.g.* Boeckx 2010; Moro 2016), while functionalists continue their case studies of how the exigencies of

communication impose a shape on texts and on natural speech (*e.g.* Everett 2012; Givón 2017).

Although functionalists display somewhat more historical curiosity than formalists (*cf.* Givón 2013; Newmeyer 1998: 26–27), neither side has seriously tried to determine whether the debate has a past—and if it does, how (dis)continuous that past is with its present-day manifestations. This presentation investigates sources of the formalism / functionalism controversy, with the goal of better understanding how its modern eruption is connected to earlier reflection on language, and why this clash between two approaches to the study of language is worth our attention.

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TOON VAN HAL (KU Leuven): 'The fate of polyglot Lord's Prayer collections at the turn of the nineteenth century'

From the sixteenth century onward, the Lord's Prayer was the default text sample in books mapping the world's languages. In the Early Modern period, a high number of polyglot Lord's Prayer collections were made, many of which reached the printing press and garnered a wide readership. Hence, this almost forgotten body of texts visualizes how the number of the world's languages known to Early Modern scholars gradually increased. At the turn of the nineteenth century, however, the genre met with several criticisms: the methods of the compilers were attacked or the sense of the undertaking as such was questioned. This paper aims to explore how these criticisms relate to the development of comparative linguistics as an academic discipline and whether or not this genre ceased to exist.

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MICAELA VERLATO (Independent Scholar, Göttingen): 'Wilhelm von Humboldt and Ancient Greek Accentuation'

This paper will examine an essay by Wilhelm von Humboldt "On the most general principles of word accentuation with particular regard to Greek accentuation theory," written in 1821 but first published in 1905 (Humboldt [1821] 1905). As its title shows, this essay was meant as a contribution to general linguistics. The focus on Ancient Greek is due to Humboldt's belief that this language shows the highest degree of perfection in its grammatical structure. Humboldt also believed that Greek has the most elaborate accentual system and he was especially interested in understanding the phonetic nature of the acute and the grave accent. To this end he discussed critically the works of contemporary scholars (Hermann 1801, among others) and studied Greek and Latin grammarians.

The aim of this paper is to present Humboldt's views on Greek accentuation in the context of early 19th century German scholarship as well as in the context of his theory of the word, in which accent plays a key role.

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ALINA VILLALVA and ESPERANÇA CARDEIRA (Faculdade de Letras-Centro de Linguística-Universidade de Lisboa): 'Etymology in a peculiar 18th century Portuguese dictionary'

Etymology is not a clear-cut concept. The AG adjective *etymos* meant 'true', but it evolved to the meaning 'true sense of a word according to its origin'. Yet, the interpretation of both 'true meaning' and 'origin of the word' is far from consensual. For ancient Greeks, 'true meaning' was related to the creation of things and their names. A few centuries later, Isidorus Sevillanus' *Etymologiæ* (7th AD) sorted a wide list of words alphabetically, often mingling meaning and etymology – he claimed, for instance, that the etymon of *homo* was *humus* because, according to the biblical testimony, God made man from clay.

Some Renaissance works reveal an awareness of the diachrony of words and the evolution of linguistic systems. This is the case of Nunes de Leão (1606), who refers to changes in 'letters' (e.g. Lat. *ecclesia* > Ptg. *igreja*), long before the establishment of the methods of modern etymology. Yet, a century later, Leibniz still regards etymology as the search for the hidden meaning of words. This tradition has kept numerous followers even up to the present, though it is somehow disregarded under the label of folk etymology.

In this paper, we will look at folk etymology as a contribution to the domain of word stories (not as a tool for diachronic research) by looking at a peculiar piece of the Portuguese lexicographic tradition (Lima & Bacellar's (1783) *Diccionario de Lingua Portugueza*), which presents fantastic etymologies based on eccentric morphological analysis.

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FRANK VONK (HAN University of Applied Sciences, Arnhem/Nijmegen): 'Philology, hermeneutics, and linguistic historiography: the cases of Boeckh, Benjamin, and Agamben'

During the last 200 years or so, philology has become a heavily debated discipline within the language sciences and it is still unclear in what way "philology" contributes to the language sciences. From one point of view its methodology offers keen readers to make a connection with past structures of cultural *res gestae*, in so far as they can be known (or unearthed) at all. From another point of view the only visible cultural products we nowadays have can be linked to the past as an actualization of possible decisions and developments in the past (potentialities). A hermeneutical method would be appropriate here to understand and describe possible historical developments of cultural phenomena, like languages, discourses, social relationships or cultural products in a wider sense (legal conventions, theological discussions, etc.). The Italian (legal) philosopher Giorgio Agamben has extensively published on and referred to philological methodology to make clear his own philosophical points of view. His ideas on the use and status of language, however, brings to light also some fundamental issues in philology, for instance if it can tell us something at all about the development of the cultural *res gestae* or that we have to be aware of quite arbitrary routings and decisions, telling us more about how *we*, nowadays, look at historical developments as possible objects of philological research and what that means for contemporary philological methodology. Is knowing what is or has been known possible at all?

JULIANA WEKEL (University of Reading): 'How to Compare Languages in Late Antiquity: Macrobius on the Differences of Latin and Greek Verbs'

Macrobius is one of the best-known scholars of late antiquity, especially for his *Saturnalia* and a commentary on Cicero's *Dream of Scipio*. Another work, which has received considerably less scholarly attention, is his treatise on the differences and similarities between the Latin and Greek verbs (*de uerborum utriusque linguae differentiis uel societatibus*). In my paper, I outline first how Macrobius positions himself within the Latin grammatical discourse. He is not a professional grammarian, but ultimately uses the same strategies to establish his authority: he concedes the highest authority to Vergil, the most important Latin author in late antiquity, and in the same breath displays his own confident command of Vergil's text by claiming that, for example, in all of Vergil there are only four words in which the final -*o* is shortened. This is used for a comparison to Greek, where the final -*ω* is always long.

Secondly, I discuss Macrobius' treatment of the Greek language in Latin. While Latin grammar was initially influenced by Greek, in the fifth century CE the Latin grammatical discourse was established in its own right. Macrobius contrasts the two languages by applying a paradigm that was, to him, primarily Latin, e. g. when discussing the Latin 'optative' (which originally found its way into Latin grammar only because it exists in the Greek language). The treatise is therefore early evidence of Latin grammar becoming a universally applicable paradigm that is useful beyond merely studying the Latin language.

GORDON WHITTAKER (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen): 'Of Chocolate and Cockroaches: Adventures in the Historical Etymology of Aztec Lexemes'

The Aztec language, Nahuatl, is notable as the most published and most discussed indigenous tongue of the Americas during the 16th century. Beginning very early after the conquest of Mexico, lexemic analysis by Spanish authors — clergymen and conquistadors alike — included, on the one hand, structured approaches to etymology and, on the other, isolated (and sometimes fanciful) attempts to derive words and names. Despite considerable advances in our understanding of the structure of Nahuatl, unstructured and speculative statements have continued to permeate not only the popular literature on vocabulary and names, but also academic studies of Nahuatl language and culture and treatises on Mexican toponymy. Many creative, fanciful and undocumented pronouncements on Nahuatl loanwords in world languages have entered standard etymological dictionaries of such languages as English and French. This presentation will illustrate and discuss etymological declarations on Nahuatl lexemes from the point of contact down to the present day.

NICHOLAS ZAIR (University of Cambridge): 'Etymological escapees; or, Can we trust the Roman grammarians?'

It is clear that part of the intellectual tool-box used by the C1st BC Roman grammarian Varro when he provided etymologies was the concept of a 'reconstructed' form which had existed in the past (e.g. Pfaffel 1987). Although it has not been strongly emphasised in the literature (except Russell 2005), subsequent

grammarians and glossators also used 'reconstructions'; sometimes, but by no means always, marked by the use of words like *quasi*, *ut*, *uelut*, as in (1).

(1)   non est 'cloaca', ut putatis, sed 'cluaca', quasi 'conluaca' (Marius Victorinus 105.4-5)
        "it is not *cloaca*, as you think, but *cluaca*, as if *conluaca*"

I will examine the criteria on which these 'reconstructed' forms are based, including synchronic patterns, older forms, and comparison with Greek. It follows that we should be particularly wary of apparently old forms preserved only in the grammatical tradition, since it is not clear that the grammarians necessarily considered the status of these 'reconstructions' to be different from actually attested words (or at any rate that grammarians working from earlier scholarly sources did not maintain a strong distinction), as in (2) and (3). In (3) *melitari* seems to have been created on the basis of Greek μελετᾶν 'consider'.

(2)   Horreum antiqui farreum dicebant a farre (Paul. *Fest.* p.91L)
        "*Horreum* ('granary') the ancients used to call a '*farreum*' from *far* ('grain')"

(3)   inter meditari et melitari hoc interest, quod meditamur animo, melitamur corpore (DPS 256)   "between *meditari* ('consider') and *melitari* this is the difference: that we consider with the mind, but we *melit-* with the body"

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