



***Engaged humanities in Europe: Capacity building for participatory research in linguistic-cultural heritage***

*Humanistyka Zaangażowana w Europie: budowanie potencjału dla partycypacyjnych badań dziedzictwa językowo-kulturowego*



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ENGHUM project

**Training session 1**

**March 7-8, 2016**

**Capacity-building in methodology and theory of transdisciplinary research on cultural and linguistic heritage**

Budowanie potencjału w zakresie metodologii i teorii transdyscyplinarnych badań nad kulturowym i językowym dziedzictwem

**ul. Dobra 72, Room 9**  
Wydział "Artes Liberales"  
Uniwersytet Warszawski

Monday, March 7th      hours: 16.00-19.30 | poniedziałek, 7 marca

Wednesday, March 8th

hours: 10.00-17.00 | wtorek, 8 marca

godz.: 16.00-19.30

godz: 10.00-17.00

## Program

### **7 March**

- 16:00–16:15 Welcome & Opening remarks
- 16:15–17:45 Konrad Rybka, University of Amsterdam – **See the forest AND the trees: Language documentation driven by semantic domains**
- 17:45–18:00 Break
- 18:00–19:00 Julia Sallabank, SOAS, University of London (online) – **Language Documentation and Revitalisation: partners or just good friends?**

### **8 March**

- 10:00–11:30 Maarten Jansen & Omar Aguilar Sánchez, Leiden University – **Reintegrating Cultural Memory in Mesoamerica**
- 11:30–11:45 Break
- 11:45–13:15 Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Slavic Studies – **Researching young peoples' minority language practices**
- 13:15–14:00 Lunch
- 14:00–15:30 Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska – **Locally based and institutionally supported communities of practices (CoP) and their role in minority language revitalization**
- 15:30–15:45 Break
- 15:45–16:45 Closing discussion

Abstracts:

Julia Sallabank, SOAS, University of London (online) – **Language Documentation and Revitalisation: partners or just good friends?**

The main issue of the speech is to indicate cultural and scientific aspects of language revitalization. Study of language revitalization is certainly a valid academic field in its own right, as anthropology or documentation are. It is important to see the indirect nature of links between language documentation and language planning and to be conscious of the specific relationship between documentation and revitalisation.

Konrad Rybka – **See the forest AND the trees: Language documentation driven by semantic domains**

In this talk, I want to depart from the traditional, and idealized, view of language documentation defined as the creation of a comprehensive, all-encompassing record of a language across various semantic domains (eg. Himmelmann 1998). Instead, I want to discuss a model in which a specific semantic domain stands focal to a joint, interdisciplinary documentation endeavor. I will draw extensively on my experiences with documenting the domain of landscape in Lokono, a critically endangered Arawakan language spoken in Suriname, Guyana, and French Guiana. I will argue for the benefits of the domain-driven model, which allows an in-depth analysis of a specific domain and lends itself better to knowledge utilization, while providing a comprehensive-enough overview of the language system as a whole.

Jensen & Aguilar Sánchez – **Reintegrating Cultural Memory in Mesoamerica**

The endangered situation of languages is to a large extent the consequence of complex historical processes in the past and of adverse educative policies of the modern state. In the case of Indigenous Peoples, such as in Mexico, colonialism has initiated a process of destruction, expropriation, fragmentation and discrimination, which has resulted in a disjunction between a people and its linguistic, literary, and cultural-historical heritage as a whole. Language revitalisation, therefore, needs to be combined with efforts towards the reintegration of the cultural memory of the peoples concerned. This implies a research focus on cultural continuity as well as a strong participation of indigenous experts (in line with the principles of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples). This presentation will give an introductory impression of experiences with this type of approach in the context of the research on Mesoamerican pictorial manuscripts, ceremonial discourse and oral traditions (particularly in Ñuu Dzau, the Mixtec region) at the Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University.

Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska – **Researching young peoples' minority language practices**

Presentation of the research methodology and theoretical background as well as the most important results concerning the way young people begin to engage in community life, to use a minority language and to be involved in its protection with some suggestions how such research could be useful for local minority language projects and policies. The theory and practical examples of the communities of practice and their role will be presented based on personal experience and a 3 year research project on minority language activism among young people belonging to 4 European minority language communities: Kashubs in Poland; Upper Sorbs in Germany; Bretons in France and the Welsh.

Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska – **Locally based and institutionally supported communities of practices (CoP) and their role in minority language revitalization**

Moderated workshop (discussion + examples) on the application of research on minority language activism and young people's language practices by local communities and policy makers.