



# Creole language structure between substrates and superstrates

Conference, Leipzig (Germany), 3-5 June 2005

[Conference Description](#) [Conference Program](#)

[List of Participants/ Abstracts](#)

## Invited speakers:

**Philip Baker** (University of  
Westminster/Sri Lanka)

**Claire Lefebvre** (Université du  
Québec à Montréal)

**Ingo Plag** (University of Siegen)

## Local Organizer:

**Susanne Michaelis** (Max Planck Institute  
for Evolutionary Anthropology)

**Claudia Schmidt** (Max Planck Institute  
for Evolutionary Anthropology)



## Conference Description

Papers presented at this conference will assess the relative importance of substrate vs. superstrate vs. second-language-universals influence in the creation of a creole language. Particularly relevant will be contributions that compare entire (sub)systems of creoles with their substrate(s) and superstrate(s), so that the nature and degree of the language mixture can be approached in a more systematic way.

One goal of the conference is to situate creole languages within a typology of contact-induced language change. Therefore not only creoles, but also pidgins and other contact languages will be discussed.

The papers will present data and analyses from all areas of language structure: lexical semantics, phonology, morphology, syntax and discourse. Any theoretical framework is welcome, as long as the paper also makes an empirical contribution.

The time allotted for presentation and discussion is 35 minutes.  
English and French are the preferred languages at the conference.

Further members of the Abstract-reading Committee:

**Ingrid Neumann-Holzschuh** (Universitaet Regensburg)

**Marlyse Baptista** (University of Georgia, Athens)

**Jacques Arends** (Universiteit van Amsterdam)

**John McWhorter** (UC Berkeley/ Manhattan Institute)

**Sibylle Kriegel** (Université de Provence, Aix-en-Provence)

# Conference Program

Thursday, 2 June

ca. 19.30 informal get-together in the restaurant ALTE NIKOLAISCHULE

Friday, 3 June

**8.30** Entrance Hall  
**registration begins**

**9.15** Lecture Hall  
**Welcome**  
by Bernard Comrie and Susanne Michaelis

**9.30 - 10.30** Lecture Hall  
Plenary Talk  
**Philip Baker** (University of Westminster / Sri Lanka)  
*Between and beyond substrates and superstrates.*

**10.30 - 11.00** **Coffee Break**

<b>SESSION I</b>	<b>chair: Juliette Blevins</b>	<b>chair: Joseph Farquharson</b>	<b>chair: Don Stilo</b>
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<b>11.00 - 11.35</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Uffmann, Christian</b> (University of Marburg)  <i>Vowel Epenthesis and Creole Syllable Structure.</i>	<b>Smith, Norval</b> (University of Amsterdam)  <i>The origin of the Portuguese words in Saramaccan.</i>	<b>Papen, Robert A.</b> (UQAM)  <i>Bilingual mixed languages: Are their phonologies mixed or not? The case of Michif.</i>

<b>11.40 - 12.15</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Rivera Castillo, Yolanda</b> (University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras)  <i>Vino viejo en odres nuevos" (old wine in new wineskin): Vowel Harmony in Creoles and Language Convergence.</i>	<b>Selbach, Rachel</b> (Universiteit van Amsterdam)  <i>When the lexifier is not the superstrate: Lingua Franca in Algiers (1600-1900).</i>	<b>Grant, Anthony</b> (Edge Hill (Lancaster University))  <i>Superficial versus substantive creolisation: the case of the Chamic languages.</i>

<b>12.20 - 12.55</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Schramm, Mareile</b> (Universität Siegen )  <i>Why creole syllables are not all simple: Superstrate and substrate influence in Caribbean creole syllable structure.</i>	<b>Güldemann, Tom</b> (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig)  <i>The alleged grammaticalization of quotative~complementizers in Atlantic creoles: a West African substrate perspective.</i>	
<b>13.00 - 15.00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
<b>SESSION II</b>	<b>chair: David Gil</b>	<b>chair: Annegret Bollée</b>	<b>chair: Jeffrey Good</b>
<b>15.00 - 15.35</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Maurer, Philippe</b> (Universität Zürich)  <i>The tonal behaviour of disyllabic nouns in Santomense.</i>	<b>Guillemin, Diana</b> (University of Queensland)  <i>A look at 'so' in Mauritian Creole: From possessive pronoun to emphatic determiner.</i>	<b>Rubino, Carl</b> (Washington DC)  <i>Zamboangueno Chavacano and the Potentive Mode: A Corpus-based Study.</i>
<b>15.40 - 16.15</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Prescod, Paula</b> (Université Paris III)  <i>The formation of deverbal nouns in Vincentian creole: morphological and phonological processes.</i>	<b>Kriegel, Sibylle, Ludwig, Ralph &amp; Henri, Fabiola</b> (Université de Provence, Universität Halle-Wittenberg & University of Mauritius)  <i>Coding ablative in Mauritian Creole.</i>	<b>Beld, Tony</b> (University of New Orleans)  <i>NegP: lexicalization versus grammaticalization in Louisiana Creole.</i>
<b>16.15 - 16.45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>16.45 - 17.20</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Armstrong, Clifton</b> (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras)  <i>Creolistics, second language acquisition research, and distinguishing the influences of language universals, superstrate and substrate on creole syllable structure.</i>	<b>Deprez, Viviane</b> (Rutgers University, New Jersey/ ISC (CNRS))  <i>Nominal Constituents in French Lexifier Creoles: probing the structuring role of grammaticalization.</i>	
<b>17.25 - 18.00</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Tadmor, Uri</b> (Universitas Atma Jaya, Jakarta)  <i>What kind of language is Semarangan?</i>	<b>Intumbo, Incanha</b> (University of Coimbra, Portugal)  <i>Guiné-Bissau Creole Portuguese, its superstrate and a substrate: a comparison of the structure of the noun phrase.</i>	

<b>ca. 19.30</b>	There will be a <b>Conference Dinner</b> in the restaurant STELZENHAUS. The restaurant is situated in Plagwitz, one of the most interesting former industrial parts of Leipzig, now in great demand amongst students, artists, architects and young families. The name "Stelzenhaus" is the reference to some one hundred columns on which the building is set above the little channel "Karl-Heine-Kanal".		
Saturday, 4 June			
<b>9.30 - 10.30</b>	Lecture Hall	Plenary Talk	
	<b>Claire Lefebvre (UQAM)</b> <i>The Principled Respective Contribution to Creole Languages of their Substrates and Superstrate(s).</i>		
<b>10.30 - 11.00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>SESSION III</b>	<b>chair: Bernard Comrie</b>	<b>chair: Grev Corbett</b>	<b>chair: Silvia Kouwenberg</b>
<b>11.00 - 11.35</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Neumann-Holzschuh, Ingrid</b> (Universität Regensburg)  <i>A la recherche du "superstrat". What Overseas French can and cannot tell us about the input to creolization.</i>	<b>Clements, Clancy</b> (Indiana University Bloomington)  <i>Living language-contact varieties as windows into the formation of pidgins and creoles.</i>	<b>Smith, Ian</b> (York University, Canada)  <i>Abduction, Mapping and Calquing as models of lexifier and substratum input in creoles.</i>
<b>11.40 - 12.15</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Kortmann, Bernd &amp; Szmrecsanyi, Benedikt</b> (Universität Freiburg)  <i>The quest for angloversals and vernacular universals in English-based Pidgins and Creoles.</i>	<b>Goury, Laurence &amp; Migge, Bettina</b> (Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement, Paris & University College Dublin/ CELIA)  <i>Towards a multi-perspective approach to the origin of Surinamese Creole TMA systems.</i>	<b>Ansaldo, Umberto</b> (University of Amsterdam)  <i>Perspectives on admixture and creolization. Elaboration of case in Kirinda Java.</i>
<b>12.20 - 12.55</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Huber, Magnus</b> (Universität Gießen)  <i>The role of West African adstrates in the origin and development of Atlantic English Creoles.</i>	<b>Siegel, Jeff</b> (University of New England)  <i>In praise of the cafeteria principle: Sources of substrate influence in Hawai'i Creole.</i>	<b>Aboh, Enoch Oladé</b> (University of Amsterdam)  <i>Pattern and feature competition: Toward a syntactic account to contact-induced transfer.</i>

<b>13.00 - 14.30</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
<b>SESSION IV</b>	<b>chair: Tom Gueldemann</b>	<b>chair: Claire Lefebvre</b>	<b>chair: Orin Gensler</b>
<b>14.30 - 15.05</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>den Besten, Hans</b> (University of Amsterdam)  <i>Pre-nominal possessives in three types of Afrikaans.</i>	<b>Bao, Zhiming</b> (National University of Singapore)  <i>Unproductive substrate features.</i>	<b>Kouwenberg, Silvia</b> (University of the West Indies)  <i>The problem of multiple substrates: the case of Jamaican Creole.</i>
<b>15.10 - 15.45</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Hagemeijer, Tjerk</b> (University of Lisbon)  <i>The origins of serialization in the Gulf of Guinea creoles.</i>	<b>Shimada, Tamami</b> (Kyoto University)  <i>Contact-induced Features in Hiberno-English: 'Non-cleft' Analysis of the 'tis ~ it is ... Construction.</i>	<b>Brousseau, Anne-Marie</b> (University of Toronto)  <i>Derivational morphology in St. Lucian: the early emergence of a mixed system.</i>
<b>15.50 - 16.25</b>	Lecture Hall	Seminar room H4.10	Seminar room U1.50
	<b>Gadelii, Karl Erland</b> (Göteborgs Universitet)  <i>Predicative constructions in French creoles.</i>	<b>Matthews, Stephen &amp; Smith, Geoff P.</b> (University of Hong Kong)  <i>Substrate influence as reflected in Chinese and English sources for China Coast Pidgin.</i>	<b>Braun, Maria</b> (Universität Siegen)  <i>Where from do creole languages get their word-formation resources? The case of Early Sranan.</i>
<b>16.30 - 17.00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>17.00 - 17.30</b>	Lecture Hall		
	informal presentation of <b><u><a href="#">The World Atlas of Language Structures - WALS</a></u></b> <b>an interactive cross-linguistic database for typological research</b> (Ed. by M. Haspelmath, M. S. Dryer, D. Gil, and B. Comrie / interactive electronic version: H.-J. Bibiko)  by Martin Haspelmath and Hans-Jörg Bibiko		
<b>17.30 - 18.00</b>	Lecture Hall		
	informal presentation of <b><u><a href="#">A Handbook of Varieties of English/A Multimedia Reference Tool</a></u></b> (Ed. by Bernd Kortmann & Edgar W. Schneider)  by Edgar Schneider and Benedikt Szmrecsanyi		

Sunday, 5 June

SESSION V	chair: Ingo Plag	chair: Philip Baker	chair: Uri Tadmor
9.30 - 10.05	Lecture Hall  <b>McWhorter, John</b> (UC Berkeley / Manhattan Institute)  <i>Revisiting the Creole Prototype: Signs of antiquity in older languages.</i>	Seminar room H4.10  <b>Holm, John &amp; Luís, Ana R.</b> (University of Coimbra, Portugal)  <i>Superstrate Inflections in the Portuguese-Based Creoles and the Nature of Creolization.</i>	Seminar room U1.50  <b>Mühlhäusler, Peter</b> (University of Adelaide)  <i>Categorial Multifunctionality in Pitkern - Norfolk and Tok Pisin.</i>
10.10 - 10.45	Lecture Hall  <b>Faraclas, Nicholas</b> (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras)  <i>Taking A Broader View of the Substrate: The Problematic Search for 'The One and Only' Substrate Source for Linguistic Features in Creole Languages.</i>	Seminar room H4.10  <b>McConvell, Patrick &amp; Meakins, Felicity &amp; O'Shannessy, Carmel</b> (AIATSIS & University of Melbourne & University of Sydney/ MPI of Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen)  <i>Kriol and mixed languages in Australia: constraining substrate and superstrate explanations of emergent structures.</i>	Seminar room U1.50  <b>Ehrhart, Sabine</b> (Universität Freiburg/ Université Paris III )  <i>The influence of substrate and superstrate in the case of two South Pacific Creole Languages: Tayo in New Caledonia and Palmerston English in the Cook Islands.</i>
10.45 - 11.15	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
11.15 - 11.50	Lecture Hall  <b>Gil, David</b> (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig)  <i>Creoles and Complexity: A Cross-Linguistic Experiment.</i>	Seminar room H4.10  <b>Wälchli, Bernhard</b> (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig)  <i>Verb serialization and other multiple verb constructions in motion events in creole and non-creole languages -- A typological approach.</i>	Seminar room U1.50  <b>Michaelis, Susanne</b> (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig)  <i>Valency patterns in Seychelles Creole: Where do they come from?</i>
12.00 - 13.00	MPI Lecture Hall  Plenary Talk  <b>Ingo Plag (Universität Siegen)</b>  <i>Creoles as interlanguages: Old fallacies and new insights concerning the role of substrate and superstrate in creole genesis</i>		
13.00	<b>Farewell</b>		

## List of Participants and Titles

### Plenary talks:

- Philip Baker**  
(University of Westminster/ Sri Lanka) *Between and beyond substrates and superstrates.*
- Claire Lefebvre**  
(Université du Québec à Montréal) *The Principled Respective Contribution to Creole Languages of their Substrates and Superstrate(s).*
- Ingo Plag**  
(University of Siegen) *Creoles as interlanguages: Old fallacies and new insights concerning the role of substrate and superstrate in creole genesis*

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- Armstrong, Clifton**  
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- Bao, Zhiming**  
(National University of Singapore) *Unproductive substrate features.*
- Beld, Tony**  
(University of New Orleans) *NegP: lexicalization -vs- grammaticalization in Louisiana Creole.*
- Braun, Maria**  
(University of Siegen) *Where from do creole languages get their word-formation resources? The case of Early Sranan.*
- Brousseau, Anne-Marie**  
(University of Toronto) *Derivational morphology in St.Lucian: the early emergence of a mixed system.*



- Clements, Clancy**  
(Indiana University Bloomington) *Living language-contact varieties as windows into the formation of pidgins and creoles.*
- den Besten, Hans**  
(University of Amsterdam) *Pre-nominal possessives in three types of Afrikaans.*
- Deprez, Vivianne**  
(Rutgers University, New Jersey & ISC (CNRS)) *Nominal Constituents in French Lexifier Creoles: probing the structuring role of grammaticalization.*
- Ehrhart, Sabine**  
(Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg & Université Paris III - Sorbonne Nouvelle) *The influence of substrate and superstrate in the case of two South Pacific Creole Languages: Tayo in New Caledonia and Palmerston English in the Cook Islands*
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(Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras) *Taking A Broader View of the Substrate: The Problematic Search for 'The One and Only' Substrate Source for Linguistic Features in Creole Languages.*
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Lancaster University *Superficial versus substantive creolisation: the case of the chamic languages.*
- Guedemann, Tom**  
(Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology) *The alleged grammaticalization of quotative~complementizers in Atlantic creoles: a West African substrate perspective.*
- Guillemin, Diana**  
(University of Queensland) *A look at so in Mauritian Creole: From possessive pronoun to emphatic determiner.*

- Hagemeijer, Tjerk**  
(University of Lisbon) *The origins of serialization in the Gulf of Guinea creoles.*
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(Universität Freiburg) *The quest for angloversals and vernacular universals in English-based Pidgins and Creoles.*
- Kouwenberg, Silvia**  
(University of the West Indies) *The problem of multiple substrates: the case of Jamaican Creole.*
- Kriegel, Sibylle and Ludwig, Ralph and Henri, Fabiola**  
(Université de Provence; Universität Halle-Wittenberg; University of Mauritius) *Coding ablative in Mauritian Creole.*
- Matthews, Stephen and Smith, Geoff P.**  
(University of Hong Kong) *Substrate influence as reflected in Chinese and English sources for China Coast Pidgin.*
- Maurer, Philippe**  
(Universität Zürich) *The tonal behaviour of disyllabic nouns in Santomense.*
- McConvell, Patrick and Meakins, Felicity and O'Shannessy, Carmel**  
(AIATSIS; University of Melbourne; University of Sydney & Max-Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen) *Kriol and mixed languages in Australia: constraining substrate and superstrate explanations of emergent structures.*
- McWhorter, John**  
(UC Berkeley / Manhattan Institute) *Revisiting the Creole Prototype: Signs of antiquity in older languages.*

- Michaelis, Susanne**  
(Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology)
- Valency patterns in Seychelles Creole: Where do they come from?*
- Mühlhäusler, Peter**  
(University of Adelaide)
- Categorial Multifunctionality in Pitkern - Norfolk and Tok Pisin.*
- Neumann-Holzschuh, Ingrid**  
(Universität Regensburg)
- A la recherche du "superstrat". What Overseas French can and cannot tell us about the input to creolization.*
- Papen, Robert A.**  
(L'Université du Québec à Montréal)
- Bilingual mixed languages: Are their phonologies mixed or not? The case of Michif.*
- Prescod, Paula**  
(Université Paris III)
- The formation of deverbal nouns in Vincentian creole: morphological and phonological processes.*
- Rivera Castillo, Yolanda**  
(University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras)
- Vino viejo en odres nuevos"(old wine in new wineskin): Vowel Harmony in Creoles and Language Convergence.*
- Roberge, Paul T.**  
(University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
- What goes on 'between superstrates and substrates' in creole formation?*
- Rubino, Carl**  
(Washington DC)
- Zamboangueno Chavacano and the Potentive Mode: A Corpus-based Study.*
- Schramm, Mareile**  
(Universität Siegen)
- Why creole syllables are not all simple: Superstrate and substrate influence in Caribbean creole syllable structure.*
- Selbach, Rachel**  
(University of Amsterdam)
- When the lexifier is not the superstrate: Lingua Franca in Algiers (1600-1900).*
- Shimada, Tamami**  
(Kyoto University)
- Contact-induced Features in Hiberno-English: 'Non-cleft' Analysis of the 'tis ~ it is ... Construction.*
- Siegel, Jeff**  
(University of New England)
- In praise of the cafeteria principle: Sources of substrate influence in Hawai'i Creole.*
- Smith, Ian**
- Abduction, Mapping and Calquing as models of*

(York University, Canada)

*lexifier and substratum input in creoles.*

**Smith, Norval**

(University of Amsterdam)

*The origin of the Portuguese words in Saramaccan.*

**Stern, Dieter**

(Humboldt Universität Berlin)

*wh-movement in Taimyr Pidgin Russian: Is it  
Substrate or Superstrate?*

**Tadmor, Uri**

(PKBB, Unika Atma Jaya)

*What kind of language is Semarangan?*

**Uffmann, Christian**

(University of Marburg)

*Vowel Epenthesis and Creole Syllable Structure.*

**Wälchli, Bernhard**

(Max Planck Institute for  
Evolutionary Anthropology)

*Verb serialization and other multiple verb  
constructions in motion events in creole and non-  
creole languages -- A typological approach.*