Varieties of English in the Indo-Pacific --- English in Contact Annual Report 2015-2016

VEIP-EIC

1. Scoping of VEIP-EIC research 2015-16

Since the endorsement of VEIP by the Union Academique Internationale (May 2015), and by the Conseil International de la Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines (September 2015), two meetings of the VEIP research network have been held: ---in Sydney at Macquarie University (November 2015) and

---in Freiburg at the Institute of Advanced Studies (June 2016)

with members from several teams participating in person or attending via skype.

At both two-day meetings, multiple research projects on post-colonial Englishes were introduced (see #2 below), with discussions on the wealth of linguistic issues relating to language contact in each region. The expanded acronym *VEIP-EIC* brings this to the surface; and several key issues inherent in language contact, past and present, were identified as common focuses of research interest, identified thematically in #3 below.

The ongoing VEIP-EIC agenda was discussed, including presentations at regional conferences, and a third VEIP meeting to be held in Sydney in February 2017. This will allow us to prepare for the CIPSH-UNESCO conference in August 2017, where we will be presenting innovative humanistic and sociocultural research on new Englishes, and involving emergent researchers in the Indo-Pacific region. VEIP-EIC research and its concern with language contact and change in regional contexts lends itself to the CIPSH themes of cultural identity and diversity, and coincides with UNESCO's interest in engaging with social transitions in post-colonial contexts.

Other ways of communicating VEIP-EIC research were also discussed, including the website now being developed at Macquarie University, and monographs to be prepared during the next three years; see below #4. A list of relevant research papers produced by VEIP-EIC members in 2015/6 is attached as an Appendix #6.

2. Regional collaborative projects associated with VEIP research partners, starting from the Pacific

- 1. Melanesian English: descriptive and theoretical aspects of Englishes of Papua New Guinea, Torres Strait Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Leaders: Jeff Siegel, Bernd Kortmann
- 2. Micronesian English: the emergence of new varieties of English in Palau, Saipan, Kiribati, Guam, Kosrae and Nauru. Leaders: David Britain, Kazuko Matsumoto
- 3. Fiji: sociolinguistics of Fiji English, the Indian diaspora. Leader: Marianne Hundt et al.
- 4. The Philippines: codeswitching patterns and sociolinguistic profiles among bi- and multilingual students, and multilingual education policy. Leaders: Loy Lising, Pam Peters
- 5. HongKong + Mainland China, Taiwan: From post-colonial English to the "expanding" circle; China English and English education. Leaders: Carolin Biewer, Kathleen Ahrens
- 6. Singapore: English in contact, sociocultural aspects. Leader: Edgar Schneider, Sarah Buschfeld
- 7. ASEAN: English as a regional lingua franca, as a tool in Asian education. Leader: Andy Kirkpatrick
- 8. India/Sri Lanka: epicentral relationships between Indian English and other Englishes of South Asia. Leaders: Joybrato Mukherjee, Tobias Bernaisch, Sandra Goetz.
- 9. Uganda: African and Indian Englishes in contact, then and now: sociolinguistic, attitudinal constraints and outcomes in a multilingual, postcolonial context. Leader: Christine Meierkord
- 10. South Africa: New grammatical constructions in South African English: innovation, conventionalisation, legitimisation and the challenges posed by hybridity in language contact. Leaders: Haidee Kruger, Bertus van Rooy
- 11. Australia: codeswitching among bilingual and heterolingual Australia students and citizens. Leaders: Pam Peters, Kate Burridge

12. Australia: Hansard as a diachronic corpus of spoken Australian English. Leaders: Haidee Kruger, Adam Smith

3. Shared VEIP-EIC thematic interests across the Indo-Pacific regions

Common research themes emerged from the papers and discussions at the two VEIP meetings, inviting interregional comparisons on the nature and extent of contact between English and other languages/varieties in individual contexts, and its linguistic and cultural impacts; the role of bilingual and multilingual speakers in different age groups; and the role of written records as evidence of language contact past and present (in newspapers, translations, official records). Six themes have so far been identified as focuses of interest in four or more regions:

- A. Codeswitching, as a linguistic/sociolinguistic phenomenon, and context of language change; the extent to which it involves conventionalised regional elements or individual repertoires (regional projects #4, #6, #7, #10, #11).
- B. Global and regional linguistic epicentres, their contexts of communication (regional projects #2, #5, #8, #9, #10, #11)
- C. Hansard/parliamentary records as diachronic corpora, their value as sources of spoken and written data on colonial and post-colonial Englishes (regional projects #4, #8, #10, #12)
- D. Language policy and education in post-colonial countries of the Indo-Pacific (regional projects #1, #4, #5, #7)
- E. Cultural reflections of contact in language innovation and change (regional projects #4, #6, #8, #9)
- F. Comparative processes in the emergence of regional and functional varieties of English (#2, #4, #6, #7, #11)

4. Communicating VEIP-EIC research

A dedicated VEIP-EIC website is being constructed at Macquarie University, to serve as a hub for information about the project, and linguistic research published by its members. See Appendix for publications from 2015-2016.

New monographs on English in contact in the Indo-Pacific region, in preparation or at proposal stage with publisher:

- De Gruyter Mouton series *Dialects of English* (co-edited by Bernd Kortmann): forthcoming monographs (2016-2020) include studies of Micronesian Englishes, Norfuk/Pitcairn
- Cambridge University Press: an edited monograph on *Englishes in Contact in the Indo-Pacific* co-edited by Pam Peters & Kate Burridge (2017-18)

5. Individual project funding: secured, applied for in 2016

secured: for Project 8 (Bernaisch) from the German Research Foundation, for a project on "Pragmatic nativisation in spoken Sri Lankan English: a corpus-based study" (2017-19).

applied for: Project 11 (Peters, Burridge, Kruger) from the Australian Research Council for a project on "Multilingual perspectives on communicating in English" (2017-19)

6. Appendix: selected publications by VEIP-EIC members 2015-16

Monographs

Bernaisch, Tobias (2015) *The Lexis and Lexicogrammar of Sri Lankan English* [Varieties of English Around the World G54]. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Biewer, Carolin (2015) South Pacific Englishes: A Sociolinguistic and Morphosyntactic Profile of Fiji English, Samoan English and Cook Islands English [Varieties of English around the World G52].

Meierkord, Christiane, Isingoma, Bebwa & Namyalo, Saudah (eds) (2016); *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate.* Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Williams, Jeffrey; Schneider, Edgar; Trudgill, Peter & Schreier, Daniel (eds) (2015) Further Studies in the Lesser-known Varieties of English (Studies in English Language). Cambridge, U.K: Cambridge University Press.

Articles in refereed journals and anthologies

Bernaisch, Tobias & Christopher Koch (2016) Attitudes towards Englishes in India. World Englishes 35(1), 118–132.

Britain, David & Matsumoto, Kazuko (2015) Palauan English. In Jeff Williams, Edgar Schneider, Peter Trudgill and Daniel Schreier (eds) *Further Studies in the Lesser Known Varieties of English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 305-343.

Deshors, Sandra C., Sandra Götz & Samantha Laporte (eds) (2016) *International Journal of Learner Corpus Research* 2(2): Special issue on "Corpus-Linguistic Perspectives on Linguistic Innovations in Non-Native Englishes".

Deshors, Sandra C., Sandra Götz & Samantha Laporte (2016) Linguistic innovations in EFL and ESL: rethinking the linguistic creativity of non-native English speakers. *International Journal of Learner Corpus Research* 2(2), 131–150.

Gries, Stefan Th. & Tobias Bernaisch (2016) Exploring epicentres empirically: focus on South Asian Englishes. *English World-Wide* 37(1), 1–25.

Isingoma, Bebwa; Meierkord, Christiane (2016) Ugandan English - challenges to, and input for, current theories. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate,* xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Kruger, Haidee & Van Rooy, Bertus (2016) Constrained language: A multidimensional analysis of translated English and a non-native indigenised variety of English. *English World-Wide* 37(1): 26-57.

Kruger, Haidee & Van Rooy, Bertus (2016). Syntactic and pragmatic transfer effects in reported-speech constructions in three contact varieties of English influenced by Afrikaans. *Language Sciences*, 56: 118-131.

Kruger, Haidee & Van Rooy, Bertus (2016) Editorial practice and the progressive in Black South African English. *World Englishes*, doi: 10.1111/weng.12202

Namyalo, Saudah; Isingoma, Bebwa; Meierkord, Christiane (2016) Towards assessing the space of English in Uganda's linguistic ecology: facts and issues. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate*, xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Meierkord, Christiane (2016) A social history of English(es) in Uganda. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate,* xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Meierkord, Christiane (2016) Diphthongs in Ugandan English: Evidence for and against variety status and Interactions across Englishes. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate*, xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Meierkord, Christiane (2016) Speech acts in Ugandan English social letters: Investigating the influence of socio-cultural context. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate*, xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Mukherjee, Joybrato & Tobias Bernaisch (2015) Cultural keywords in context: a pilot study of linguistic acculturation in South Asian Englishes. In Peter Collins (ed.) *Grammatical Change in English World-Wide*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins. 411–435.

Namyalo, Saudah; Isingoma, Bebwa; Meierkord, Christiane (2016) Towards assessing the space of English in Uganda's linguistic ecology: facts and issues. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate*, xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Peters, Pam (2015) Dual adverbs in Australian English. In Peter Collins (ed.) *Grammatical Change in English World-Wide*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 179-204.

Peters, Pam in press (2016) Epilogue: on establishing the standard language, and standard languages. In I Tieken-Boon van Ostade & C Percy (eds.), *Prescription and Tradition in Language: establishing standards across time and space*. Oxford, Multilingual Matters, 355-366

Schneider, Edgar (2016) Hybrid Englishes: An exploratory survey. In *World Englishes* online June 2016. DOI: 10.1111/weng.12204

Schneider, Edgar (2016) World Englishes on YouTube: treasure trove or nightmare? In Elena Seoane & Cristina Suárez-Gómez, eds., *World Englishes: New Theoretical and Methodological Considerations.* Amsterdam, Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 253-281.

Schneider, Edgar (fc 2016) Focus on language contact. In Laurel Brinton, ed. *English Historical Linguistics*: *Perspectives and Approaches*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Schneider, Edgar (2016) World Englishes and ELF. In Marie-Luise Pitzl and Tuth Osimk-Teasdale, eds., *English as a Lingua Franca: Perspectives and Prospects*. Berlin, Boston: de Gruyter Mouton

Schneider, Edgar (2016) Grassroots Englishes in tourism interactions. *English Today* 32(3) 2016, 2-10. [includes data from Indonesia and India as well as Tanzania]

Ssempuuma, Jude; Isingoma, Bebwa; Meierkord, Christiane (2016) The use of the progressive in Ugandan English. In Christiane Meierkord, Bebwa Isingoma & Saudah Namyalo (eds), *Ugandan English: Its Sociolinguistics, Structure and Uses in a Globalising Post-protectorate*, xx-xx. Amsterdam: John Benjamins [Varieties of English Around the World G59]

Van Rooy, Bertus & Kruger, Haidee (2016, in press) The innovative progressive aspect of Black South African English: The role of language proficiency and normative processes. *International Journal of Learner Corpus Research*, 2(2): 205-228.

Van Rooy, Bertus & Piotrowska, Caroline (2015) The development of an extended time period meaning of the progressive in Black South African English. In: Collins, Peter (ed.) *Grammatical Change in English World-Wide*. Amsterdam: Benjamins. 465-483