

Dr Elisabeth J. Kerr

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Education

- 2018–24 **PhD Linguistics**, *Leiden University*
Thesis: Tunen syntax and information structure
Committee: Dr Jenneke van der Wal, Prof. Maarten Mous (promotors); Prof. Sjef Barbiers, Dr Fatima Hamlaoui, Prof. Lutz Marten, Prof. Stavros Skopeteas (examiners)
Award date: 4th September 2024 (contract extensions for COVID-19/teaching/University Council)
- 2017–18 **MA Linguistics (Distinction)**, *SOAS, University of London*
Dissertation: A Dynamic Syntax account of the conjoint/disjoint alternation in Zulu (Distinction)
Supervisor: Prof. Lutz Marten
- 2014–17 **BA (Hons) Linguistics (First class)**, *King's College, University of Cambridge*
Dissertation: Focus marking in Ékegusií (Distinction)
Supervisor: Dr Craig Sailor

Employment

- Oct 2024–pres **FWO Junior Postdoctoral Fellow**, *Ghent University*
PI of *Modelling Bantu Analytic Morphosyntax* project, Ghent University Centre for Bantu Studies
- Aug 2023–Jul 2024 **Lecturer (docent)**, *Leiden University*
Lecturer and supervisor in morphology, syntax, and research methods
- Sep 2018–Sep 2024 **PhD candidate (promovendus)**, *Leiden University*
PhD researcher in 10-person international research team conducting research on syntax and information structure in Bantu (Niger-Congo) languages (BaSIS; PI Dr Jenneke van der Wal)

Experience and mobility

- Nov 2025–Feb 2026 **Invited Researcher**, *CNRS-LLACAN (UMR 8135)*
4-month research stay at CNRS research centre on African Languages and Cultures, Paris/Villejuif, for project on Cameroonian verb stems (under invitation of Dr Mark Van de Velde)
- Oct–Dec 2022 **Visiting Short-Term PhD Fellow**, *Potsdam University*
3-month research stay on SFB 1287 Consequences of Head-Argument Order on Syntax (CHAOS/C08) project (under invitation of Prof. Gisbert Fanselow)
- Sep 2020–Aug 2022 **University Council Member (Universiteitsraad)**, *Leiden University*
1 of 8 elected staff members of university council (party PhDoc; as Chair 2021/22)
- May–Jun 2018 **Consultant (computational linguistics)**, *Africa's Voices Foundation*
Consultant for natural language processing (NLP) workflow for Sheng data, improving data pre-processing for morphological and sentiment analysis in Python
- Jan 2018 **Research assistant (typology)**, *SOAS, University of London*
Research assistant for Leverhulme project Morphosyntactic Variation in Bantu: Typology, Contact and Change (PI Prof. Lutz Marten), coding parameter values from descriptive grammars
- Dec 2017–Jan 2018 **Research assistant (data analysis)**, *SOAS, University of London*
Research assistant to Dr Chege Githiora for analysis of Sheng sociolinguistic data
- Jul–Sep 2017 **Intern (computational linguistics)**, *Africa's Voices Foundation*
3-month internship and training programme via University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory and AVF offices in Cambridge/Nairobi, using Python to adapt NLP methods for Sheng data (data pre-processing/annotation/morphological analysis/sentiment analysis)

Jul–Sep 2013 **Research assistant (archives/dialectology)**, *King’s College, University of Cambridge*
Research assistant to Prof. Bert Vaux for Saltmarsh project in college library archives and for dialectology project on variation in modern English varieties

Publications

Articles

- to appear **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** and Koen Bostoen. The noncausal/causal alternation and the diachrony of verbal derivational morphology in Tunen and Nomaandé. *Africana Linguistica*, volume 32, to appear.
- 2026 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** Auxiliaries and analyticity in Northwestern Bantu. *Nordic Journal of African Studies*, volume 35, pages 7–42, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.53228/e7ym0958>.
- 2025 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** Review of Bloom Ström et al. (eds.) (2024) ‘Morphosyntactic Variation in Bantu’. *Journal of Historical Syntax*, volume 9, pages 1–17, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.18148/hs/2025.v9i19.261>.
- 2023 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** and Jenneke van der Wal. Indirect truth marking via backgrounding: Evidence from Bantu. *Zeitschrift für Sprachwissenschaft*, volume 42, pages 443–492, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1515/zfs-2023-2010>.
- 2023 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.**, Allen Asiimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, Ernest Nshemezimana, Zhen Li, and Jenneke van der Wal. Bantu word order between discourse and syntactic relations. *Linguistique et Langues Africaines*, volume 9, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.4000/lla.9496>.

Book chapters

- 2025 Jenneke Van der Wal, Allen Asiimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, **Elisabeth J. Kerr**, Zhen Li, Amani Lusekelo, Nelsa Nphantumbo, and Ernest Nshemezimana. On the expression of information structure in Bantu. In Jenneke Van der Wal, editor, *The expression of information structure in Bantu*, pages 1–51. Language Science Press, 2025. <https://www.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14833604>.
- 2025 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** The expression of information structure in Tunen. In Jenneke Van der Wal, editor, *The expression of information structure in Bantu*, pages 53–122. Language Science Press, 2025. <https://www.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14833606>.
- 2024 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** On OV and VO at the Bantu/Bantoid borderlands. In Yaqian Huang, Jun Jie Lim, Sharon Rose, Anthony Struthers-Young, and Nina Kaldhol, editors, *ACAL in SoCAL: Selected papers from the 53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics (Contemporary African Linguistics)*, pages 297–345. Language Science Press, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11210464>.
- 2020 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** (Non-)specificity and Case in Gorwaa: The -oo/-(h)ee suffix. In Astrid Van Alem, Mirella De Sisto, Elisabeth J. Kerr, and Joanna Wall, editors, *ConSOLE XXVIII: Proceedings of the 28th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (29-31 January 2020, Universitat Pompeu Fabra)*. Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, 2020.
- 2020 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** The grammaticalisation of a specific indefinite determiner: Prenominal -mòté in Tunen. In Jenneke van der Wal, Heleen J. Smits, Sara Petrollino, Victoria A.S. Nyst, and Maarten G. Kossmann, editors, *Essays on African languages and linguistics: In honour of Maarten Mous*. Leiden: African Studies Centre Leiden Occasional Publications, 2020.

Datasets

- 2026 Gilbert Palemagna Korot and **Elisabeth J. Kerr**. Dictionnaire vivant Atomb / Atomb Living Dictionary, 2026. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages, Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL), Endangered Language Fund, Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO). <https://livingdictionaries.app/atomb>.
- 2024 **Kerr, Elisabeth J.** Item “Recordings and database on Tunen syntax and information structure” in collection “Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS)”, 2024. *The Language Archive*. 1839/2c42e129-6032-4950-9e7a-7f0bde1596ae.

Edited volumes

- 2020 Astrid Van Alem, Mirella De Sisto De Sisto, **Elisabeth J. Kerr**, and Joanna Wall, editors. *ConSOLE XXVIII: Proceedings of the 28th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (29-31 January 2020, Universitat Pompeu Fabra)*. Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, 2020. <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/events/series/soleconsole-xxviii-2020>.
- 2019 Astrid Van Alem, Mirella De Sisto De Sisto, **Elisabeth J. Kerr**, and Joanna Wall, editors. *ConSOLE XXVII: Proceedings of the 27th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (21-23 February 2019, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)*. Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, 2019. <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/events/series/soleconsole-xxvii-2019>.
- 2023 Zhen Li, Allen Asiimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, **Elisabeth J. Kerr**, Ernest Nshemezimana, and Jenneke van der Wal, editors. *Bantu Universals and Variation*. Special issue *Linguistique et Langues Africaines (LLA)*, 9(1), 2023. <https://doi.org/10.4000/lla.4620>.

Fieldwork experience

In-situ fieldwork

- 2026 **Atomb [tff] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nomaandé [lem] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nyokon [nvo] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Bokito/Boneck/Ndikiniméki/Nyokon/Yaoundé, Cameroon (5 weeks)
- 2025 **Atomb [tff] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nomaandé [lem] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nyokon [nvo] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Bokito/Boneck/Ndikiniméki/Nefanté/Nyokon/Yaoundé, Cameroon (1.5 months)
- 2025 **Atomb [tff] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nomaandé [lem] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Nyokon [nvo] (Bantu, Niger-Congo), Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Boneck/Ndikiniméki/Nefanté/Nyokon/Tchekos/Yaoundé, Cameroon (2.5 months)
- 2024 **Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Ndikiniméki/Yaoundé, Cameroon (2 weeks)
- 2023 **Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Remote fieldwork via WhatsApp (ad-hoc)
- 2022 **Nyokon [nvo] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Yaoundé, Cameroon (1 week)
- 2021–22 **Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Ndikiniméki/Nefanté/Nomena/Yaoundé, Cameroon (3.5 months)
- 2020 **Ékegusií [guz] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Tharaka, Kenya (2 weeks)
- 2019 **Tunen [tvu] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Ndikiniméki/Yaoundé, Cameroon (3.5 months)

- 2017 **Ékegusií [guz] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Kisii, Kenya (5 weeks)
- 2016 **Ékegusií [guz] (Bantu, Niger-Congo)**
Kisii, Kenya (2.5 months)
- Fieldwork courses
- 2017/18 **Assamese [asm] (Indo-Aryan)**
SOAS, University of London field methods course (1 semester)
- 2015/16 **Manange [nmm] (Sino-Tibetan)**
University of Cambridge field methods seminars (2 semesters)

Teaching experience

Courses

- 2026 **African Historical Linguistics**, *Ghent University*, BA/MA
8-week course on African historical linguistics (course co-design/2 lectures)
- 2024 **Linguistics 2B: The Syntax of English**, *Leiden University*, BA
8-week course on English syntax and syntactic analysis (seminars)
- 2024 **Syntax 1**, *Leiden University*, BA/pre-master
16-week course on syntactic analysis in the generative framework (seminars)
- 2023 **Linguistics 1B: Analyzing English Words**, *Leiden University*, BA
7-week course on English morphology and morphological analysis (seminars/2 lectures)
- 2023 **Language Acquisition 5: Theories and Research Methods in Applied Linguistics**, *Leiden University*, BA
4-week final-year BA course on interviewing as a research method (course design/lectures/practical)
- 2023 **Language Acquisition 3: Functional Grammar**, *Leiden University*, BA
7-week course on English pedagogical and functional grammar (seminars)
- 2020 **Linguistics 3: The Syntax of English: Present and Past**, *Leiden University*, BA
12-week course covering generative syntactic theory and syntactic change from Old English to Present-Day English (seminars) [hybrid format]
- 2020 **Linguistics in Kenya Experience (LIKE) Field School**, *Tharaka University College*, BA/pre-master/MA
3-week field school on field methods, information structure, and Kenyan languages (course design/field school co-organisation/lectures/practical/mentoring)
- 2019 **Topics in Linguistics A: Information Structure**, *Leiden University*, ResMA
6-week MA course on information structure (course design/lectures) [with Jenneke van der Wal]

Guest lectures

- 2023 **Research Data Management**, *Leiden University*, PhD
Guest lecture on data management during field research for PhD candidates in Linguistics
- 2922 **Topics in Linguistics A: Information Structure**, *Leiden University*, ResMA
Guest lecture on referent tracking in MA course on IS [co-designed in 2019]
- 2019 **Descriptive Linguistics**, *Leiden University*, BA
Guest lecture on phonology problem set and tone analysis

Supervision

- 2024 **MA dissertation**, *Leiden University*
Linde Giljam: The encoding of referents in Bamana storytelling [co-supervised with Jenneke van der Wal]

- 2024 **BA dissertation**, *Leiden University*
Max Wassen: Subject inversion in Elhomwe
- 2023/24 **BA dissertation**, *Leiden University*
Annelies van Heemst: Noun classes in the Mvumbo variety of Kwasio [co-supervised with Hilde Gunnink]
- Examination
- 2023–2024 **BA/MA dissertations**, *Leiden University*
First reader for 2 dissertations on descriptive linguistics and second reader for 1 dissertation on syntax within the BA Linguistics programme
- Didactics qualifications
- 2024 **University Teaching Qualification (BKO)**, *Leiden University*
National teaching certificate for level required of an assistant professor, based on didactics training, teaching experience, course design, supervision experience, class observations, and written portfolio
- 2024 **Didactics certificate: Supervising thesis students**, *Leiden University*
12-hour didactics course on supervising BA/MA thesis students
- 2024 **Didactics certificate: Testing and assessment**, *Leiden University*
14-hour didactics course on using, designing and structuring assessments
- 2021 **Partial University Teaching Qualification (BKO deelcertificaat)**, *Leiden University*
University teaching certificate for PhDs based on didactics training, teaching experience, class observation, and written portfolio
- 2019 **Didactics certificate: Active learning and didactic skills**, *Leiden University*
28-hour didactics course taught by Cornelia de Haan, Bureau Coaching Hoger Onderwijs

Extra training

- 2026 **First aid (EHBO)**, *Ghent University Hospital*
- 2025 **Project Management**, *Ghent University*
- 2025 **ELAN / FLEx / Phonetic fieldwork**, *Ghent University*
- 2023 **Leiden Summer School in Languages and Linguistics**, *Leiden University*
- 2021 **NGO Safety and Security Training (HEAT)**, *Forth Global*
- 2021 **Leiden Summer School in Languages and Linguistics**, *Leiden University*
- 2021 **Qualitative Interviewing for PhDs**, *Leiden University*
- 2020 **LOT Summer School**, *Leiden University*
- 2019 **Leiden Summer School in Languages and Linguistics**, *Leiden University*
- 2019 **LOT Summer School**, *Utrecht University*
- 2018 **Discipline and Place in the Social Sciences and Humanities**, *Leiden Global*
- 2018 **Form-Meaning Mismatches in Natural Language Summer School**, *Georg-August Universität Göttingen*
- 2018 **Advanced Core Training in Linguistics Summer School (ACTL)**, *UCL*
- 2017 **The Crete Summer School of Linguistics (CreteLing)**, *University of Rethymnon*
- 2017 **Advanced Core Training in Linguistics Summer School (ACTL)**, *UCL*
- 2016 **6.00.1x Introduction to Computer Science and Programming using Python**, *MITx*

Presentations

Invited

- Jul 2026 **West African Word Order Workshop (WAWOW)**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
“OV/VO variation within a genealogical subgroup: The case of Mbam Bantu”
- Feb 2026 **Langage, langues et cultures d’Afrique seminar series**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
“Verb stem variation in Cameroonian Bantoid”
- Feb 2026 **Laboratoire de Linguistique Formelle LingLunch**, *CNRS-LLF*
“The successive roll-up approach under-generates FOFC-compliant disharmonic clausal word order”
- Oct 2025 **Tunen Workshop**, *Universität Bayreuth*
“The Tunen language: Classification and key characteristics”
- Jun 2025 **Workshop on Language Fieldwork**, *Georg-August-Universität Göttingen*
“Reflections on linguistic fieldwork: Epistemology, ‘failure’, resources, and recommendations” [keynote]
- Jun 2025 **1st Workshop on Endangered and Minoritized Languages**, *University of Minho*
“The impact of Bantu languages on generative syntactic theory”
- Feb 2025 **Department of African Languages and Linguistics seminars**, *Université de Yaoundé I*
“Les ordres OV/VO dans les langues bantu/bantoïdes camerounaises” [in French]
- Apr 2024 **18th T.W.I.S.T. student conference in linguistics**, *Leiden University*
“Reductionism in linguistic typology: Two case studies from word order variation” [keynote]
- Oct 2023 **Langage, langues et cultures d’Afrique seminar series**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
“OV in Bantu: The syntax of Tunen”
- Sep 2023 **Syntax Interface Lectures**, *Utrecht University*
“When object movement splits the noun phrase”
- Mar 2023 **SyntaxLab**, *University of Cambridge*
“Analysing Aux-O-V disharmony in Niger-Congo: The case of Tunen”
- Dec 2022 **Syntax/Semantik Kolloquium**, *Universität Potsdam*
“Derivations of disharmony: Mixed clausal headedness in West/Central Africa”
- Nov 2022 **Afrikinguistisches Kolloquium**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*
“Deriving S-Aux-O-V-X word orders in West/Central Africa”

Conferences/workshops

- May 2026 **57th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL57)**, *University at Buffalo*
“Testing for phonetic correlates of stem-initial prominence in Mbam Bantu”
- May 2026 **Third Conference on Bantoid Languages and Linguistics (Bantoid3)**, *University at Buffalo*
“The Bantoid diminutive verbal suffix in a comparative and typological perspective” [with Maarten Mous]
- Aug 2025 **58th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE58)**, *Université Bordeaux Montaigne*
“On Mbam wordhood and Niger-Congo morphosyntactic reconstruction”
- Aug 2025 **54th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL54)**, *Leiden University*
“Optional’ vowel harmony and the phonological word”
- Jun 2025 **26th Diachronic Generative Syntax Conference (DiGS26)**, *University of Oxford*
“Reconstructing changes to verbal synthesis without written records” [with Bernat Bardagil]
- May 2025 **Comparative Niger-Congo workshop**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
“Reconstructing intermediate stages of change in verbal synthesis in Niger-Congo”

- Aug 2024 **11th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL11)**, *University of Nairobi*
 “Split subjects in Mbam Bantu”
- Jun 2024 **25th Diachronic Generative Syntax Conference (DiGS25)**, *University of Mannheim*
 “The development of disharmonic clausal word order in Tunen”
- Jun 2024 **2nd Conference on Bantoid Languages and Linguistics (Banto2d)**, *Université de Yaoundé I*
 “The Mbam split subject construction”
- May 2024 **1st Leiden/Bielefeld Workshop on Comparative Syntax (LeiBieCoS)**, *Leiden University*
 “Deriving disharmonic clausal word order: Case studies from West/Central Africa”
- Jun 2023 **54th Annual Conference on African Languages and Linguistics (ACAL54)**, *University of Connecticut*
 “Analysing discontinuous DPs in Tunen: Contiguity violations not driven by IS?”
- Jun 2023 **54th Annual Conference on African Languages and Linguistics (ACAL54)**, *University of Connecticut*
 “Indirect truth marking via backgrounding: Evidence from Bantu” [with Jenneke van der Wal]
- Jun 2023 **Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS) Conference**, *Leiden University*
 “The (non-)influence of information structure on Tunen syntax”
- Jun 2023 **Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS) Conference**, *Leiden University*
 “Bantu word order between discourse and syntactic relations” [with Allen Asimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, Ernest Nshemezimana, Zhen Li & Jenneke van der Wal]
- Aug 2022 **51st Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL51)**, *Leiden University*
 “Tracking referents in Tunen texts”
- Aug 2022 **51st Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL51)**, *Leiden University*
 “Indirect truth marking in 10 Bantu languages” [with Jenneke van der Wal]
- Aug 2022 **55th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE55)**, *University of Bucharest*
 “Indirect truth marking in 10 Bantu languages” [with Jenneke van der Wal]
- Jun 2022 **9th International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu9)**, *Malawi University of Science and Technology*
 “Indirect truth marking in 10 Bantu languages” [with Jenneke van der Wal]
- Jun 2022 **9th International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu9)**, *Malawi University of Science and Technology*
 “Tracking referents in Tunen texts”
- Apr 2022 **53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL53)**, *UC San Diego*
 “On OV and VO at the Bantu/Bantoid borderlands”
- Mar 2022 **1st Conference on Bantoid Languages and Linguistics (Banto1d)**, *Universität Hamburg*
 “On OV and VO at the Bantu/Bantoid borderlands”
- Aug 2021 **2nd Conference of the Language Association of Eastern Africa (LAEA2)**, *University of Eldoret*
 “Investigating focus marking in Kenyan Bantu”
- Aug 2021 **2nd Conference of the Language Association of Eastern Africa (LAEA2)**, *University of Eldoret*
 “Collaborative linguistics: Experiences from the BaSIS project” [keynote, with Allen Asimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, Zhen Li, Amani Lusekelo, Ernest Nshemezimana & Jenneke van der Wal]

- Jun 2021 **10th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL10)**, *Leiden University*
“Discontinuous DPs in Tunen”
- Jun 2021 **10th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL10)**, *Leiden University*
“Bantu word order between discourse and syntactic relations” [with Allen Asiimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, Zhen Li & Jenneke van der Wal]
- Jun 2021 **8th International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu8)**, *University of Essex*
“Bare nouns and specificity disambiguation in Tunen”
- Apr 2021 **51st & 52nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL51-52)**, *University of Florida*
“Bantu word order between discourse and syntactic relations” [with Allen Asiimwe, Patrick Kanampiu, Zhen Li & Jenneke van der Wal]
- Aug 2020 **50th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL50)**, *Leiden University*
“á, à, é, è, ó, ô, ò, ñ: A puzzle in Tunen”
- Jan 2020 **28th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (CONSOLE28)**, *Universitat Pompeu Fabreu*
“(non-)specificity marking in Gorwaa” [poster presentation]
- Aug 2019 **49th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL49)**, *Leiden University*
“Specificity in Tunen”
- May 2018 **British Association of Applied Linguistics (BAAL) Language in Africa Special Interest Group (LIASIG) Conference**, *SOAS, University of London*
“African languages in digital spaces: Automatic textual analysis of a low-resource mixed language” [with Gladys W. H. Tyen, Univ. Cambridge Computer Laboratory]
- Apr 2018 **2nd Dynamic Syntax Conference**, *University of Edinburgh*
“Parsing the Bantu verb: The conjoint/disjoint alternation in Dynamic Syntax”
- Nov 2017 **Studentische Tagung Sprachwissenschaft (StuTS) 62**, *Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen*
“Fokus in Ékègùsìí und weiteren Bantusprachen aus Kenia” [in German]
- Apr 2017 **Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain (ULAB) 7**, *University of Cambridge*
“I doing was fieldwork: Focus and V-Aux order in Ékègùsìí”
- Apr 2016 **Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain (ULAB) 6**, *University of Aberdeen*
“Pronoun behaviour in Ékègùsìí, a Bantu language of South-West Kenya”
- Other
- Nov 2025 **ERC-BANG seminar series**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
“Niger-Congo constituent order alternations”
- May 2025 **BantUGent seminar series**, *Ghent University*
“FWO-MBAM: Preliminary fieldwork findings”
- Jan 2025 **BantUGent seminar series**, *Ghent University*
“OV et VO dans les langues bantoues/bantoïdes camounaises” [in French]
- Nov 2024 **Ghent Generative Grammar Group (G4)**, *Ghent University*
“On the roll-up account of FOFC and the generation of disharmonic word orders”
- Mar 2023 **Comparative Syntax (ComSyn) series**, *Leiden University*
“Tunen syntax within a structural typology of Aux-O-V word orders”
- Apr 2022 **LUCL PhD Symposium**, *Leiden University*
“Rethinking word order typology and some implications for theoretical syntax”

- Nov 2020 **LUCL PhD Symposium**, *Leiden University*
 “The grammar of discontinuity”
- Nov 2019 **Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS) Brainstorm Workshop**, *Leiden University*
 “Dative database”, “Objects in Tunen”, “Case diagnostics” [with BaSIS team], “Word order” [with BaSIS team]
- Nov 2019 **Comparative Syntax (ComSyn) series**, *Leiden University*
 “Clefts in Tunen: A biclausal account”
- Nov 2019 **LUCL PhD Symposium**, *Leiden University*
 “Diagnosing cleft structures in Tunen”

Conference/workshop co-organisation

- 2026 **11th International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu11)**, *Ghent University*
- 2026 **The effects of maximality constraints on verb structures workshop**, *Bantu11*
- 2026 **West African Word Order Workshop (WAWOW)**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
- 2021 **10th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL10)**, *Leiden University*
- 2021 **Bantu Universals and Variation workshop (BantUniVar)**, *WOCAL10*
- 2021 **29th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (CONSOLE29)**, *Leiden University*, (Chair of organising committee)
- 2020 **50th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics (CALL50)**, *Leiden University*
- 2019 **Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS) Brainstorm Workshop**, *Leiden University*
- 2017 **7th Conference of the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain (ULAB7)**, *University of Cambridge*

Grants, Fellowships & Awards

- 2025 **Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) long stay abroad grant**, CNRS (€6,732)
- 2025 **Endangered Language Fund (ELF) Language Legacies grant** (Atomb) (€2,885)
- 2025 **Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL) grant** (Atomb) (€953)
- 2024 **3-year junior postdoctoral fellowship** (MBAM project 1274225N, PI), FWO (€210,000)
- 2024 **Leiden University Fund (LUF) conference travel subsidy**, Leiden University (€1,143)
- 2022 **Visiting Short-Term PhD fellowship** (SFB 1287/C08), Universität Potsdam (€4,200)
- 2022 **1st place, EU Mission Arena 1: Adaptation to Climate Change, EU TalentOn** (€8,000) (https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/1st-eu-talenton-discover-all-winners-2022-09-17_en)
- 2017 **SOAS Faculty of Languages and Cultures Masters Scholarship** (£17,100)
- 2017 **The Philological Society Masters Bursary** (£4,000) [declined for SOAS scholarship]
- 2016 **King’s College Scholarship**, University of Cambridge (admitted as Scholar of College)
- 2016 **Undergraduate Travel Grant**, DTAL, University of Cambridge (£100)
- 2015 **Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Stipendium**, Universität Bonn (German language programme) (€850)
- 2015 **Fieldwork Grant**, King’s College, University of Cambridge (£1,200)

Academic Service

- 2025-pres **Editorial Board Member**, *Journal of Historical Syntax (JHS)*
- 2025-pres **Diachronic and Diatopic Linguistics (ΔiaLing) talk series co-organiser**, *Ghent University*
- 2025-pres **Ghent Generative Grammar Group (G4) talk series co-organiser**, *Ghent University*
- 2025–2026 **Bantoid syntax reading group co-organiser**, *CNRS-LLACAN*
- 2018–2023 **Comparative Syntax (ComSyn) talk series co-organiser**, *Leiden University*
- 2018–2022 **Bantu Syntax and Information Structure (BaSIS) reading group co-organiser**, *Leiden University*
- 2022 **Participant**, *EU TalentOn: Adaptation to Climate Change*, (5-day event)
- 2022 **Representative of young scientists**, *Tweede Kamer [Dutch parliament]*, (1-day event)
- 2020–2022 **Elected member of University Council (Universiteitsraadslid)**, *Leiden University*
Committee Finances & Infrastructure (F&H) (2020/21, 2021/22)
Committee Staff affairs, Student affairs, and Internationalisation (PS&I) (2020/21, 2021/22)
Ad-hoc committee Strategic Plan (2021)
Crisis management/COVID-19 response group (2021/22)
Representative of Leiden University in National PhD Association (PNN) (2020/21, 2021/22)
- 2018–2020 **Board member**, *Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (SOLE)*
- 2018–2020 **PhD Council Secretary**, *Leiden University Centre for Linguistics*
- 2017–2018 **MA Linguistics Student Representative**, *SOAS Faculty of Languages and Cultures*
- 2016–2018 **National Vice-Chair**, *Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain (ULAB)*
- 2016–2017 **Local Secretary**, *Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain (ULAB)*

Peer review

(NB: This section is updated only periodically)

- Articles **Afrika und Übersee**, *Cogent Arts & Humanities*, *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics (JALL)*, *Language in Africa*, *Nordic Journal of African Studies (NJAS)*, *SKASE Journal of Theoretical Linguistics*, *Studies in African Linguistics*, *Zeitschrift für Sprachwissenschaft*
- Book chapters **Cambridge Handbook for Comparative Syntax**, Mouton de Gruyter chapter on the syntax-phonology interface, Oxford University Press chapter on comparative syntax
- Proposals **Cambridge University Press**, **Palgrave Macmillan**
- Conference abstracts **29th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE29)**, **10th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL10)**, **11th International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu11)**

Outreach and media

- 2025-pres **Board member (Chargée du Partenariat en externe)**, *Association TunenUp* (<https://www.tunenup.com/>) [in Tunen/French]
- 2015-pres **Volunteer marker (Advanced level)**, *United Kingdom Linguistics Olympiad (UKLO)*
- 2026 **Déchiffreurs de Langues linguistics puzzle on Tunen**, *CNRS-LLACAN/LACITO*
Creation of linguistics olympiad-stlye linguistics puzzle for use in French schools [in French]
- 2025 **Atomb community orthography workshop**, *Centre International de Recherche et de Documentation sur les Traditions et les Langues Africaines (CERDOTOLA)*, *Yaoundé* (<https://www.bantugent.ugent.be/atomb-orthography-workshop-cerdotola/>) [in French]

- 2022 **Blog post**, *Stemmen van Afrika*
 “Waarom één op een lijkt in zoveel talen” (<https://stemmenvanafrika.nl/waarom-een-op-een-likt-in-zoveel-talen/>) [in Dutch]
- 2022 **Linguistics escape room**, *European City of Science Leiden 2022 Africa Day*
 Volunteer (<https://leiden2022.nl/activiteiten/stemmen-van-afrika-escape-room>) [in Dutch]
- 2022 **Blog post**, *Leiden Language Blog, Leiden University*
 “A day in the life of a field linguist” (<https://leidenlanguageblog.nl/articles/day-in-life>)
- 2021 **Newspaper article**, *de Mare*
 On the impact of travel policy on field researchers (<https://www.mareonline.nl/opinie/laat-ons-onderzoek-niet-verloren-gaan-sta-veldwerk-toe>) [in Dutch]
- 2019 **Linguistics escape room**, *Nacht van Ontdekkingen Science Festival, Leiden*
 Volunteer [in Dutch]
- 2017 **Blog post**, *Africa’s Voices Foundation*
 On using computational linguistics to investigate attitudes to Kenyan elections (<https://www.africasvoices.org/2017/09/20/computational-linguistics/>)
- 2017 **UK team member mentor**, *International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL)*

--- Languages and tech skills

- Languages English (native), Dutch (CEFR C2), French (CEFR C1), German (CEFR B2/C1), Swahili (intermediate), Tunen (fieldwork), Atomb (fieldwork), Nomaandé (fieldwork), Nyokon (fieldwork), Ékegusií (fieldwork)
- Tech skills Audacity, Dative database/OLD, EasyChair, ELAN, FLEEx, Google docs, L^AT_EX, Living Dictionaries, Microsoft Office, Praat, Python, R, Wordpress

--- Professional membership

- 2025–pres **Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT)**
- 2025–pres **Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE)**
- 2024–pres **Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL)**