

Research interests

My research is inspired by the question 'what determines our grammar and its variation across languages?'. Formulating our thoughts in sentences is for a large part restricted by the syntactic rules of the language we speak. Another force that shapes our sentences, however, is the packaging of information: what is the most important bit of information, and how do I convey that to my interlocutor? This interface between morphosyntax and pragmatics, and particularly the crosslinguistic variation in this area, keeps fascinating me.

Key research terms: comparative generative morphosyntax, information structure, Bantu languages, grammaticalisation, formal typology

Academic employment

- 2020-current Senior University Lecturer at Leiden University
- 2017-2020 University Lecturer at Leiden University
- 2016-2017 Lecturer on Linguistics at Harvard University
- 2011-2016 Research Associate at the University of Cambridge, on the ERC-funded project 'Rethinking Comparative Syntax' (PI Ian Roberts)
- 2012-2016 Research Fellow at Darwin College, Cambridge.
- 2009-2011 Post-doctoral researcher at the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren (Belgium), on the Interuniversity Attraction Pole 'Grammaticalization and (Inter)Subjectification'.

Education

- 2004-2009 Ph.D. at the Leiden University Centre for Linguistics; Ph.D. thesis 'Word order and information structure in Makhuwa-Enahara' (supervisors Lisa Cheng and Thilo Schadeberg).
- 2000-2004 M.A. in African linguistics at Leiden University; M.A. thesis 'Lusoga phonology'.

Online

Prefinal versions of publications as well as links to media and institutions can be found on my personal site <https://jennekevanderwal.com>. Further information on my current research project 'Bantu Syntax and Information Structure' can be found on the project site <https://bantusyntaxinformationstructure.com>. My ORCID is 0000-0003-1136-5884.

Publications**To appear**

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. The conjoint/disjoint alternation. (invited for The Oxford Guide to the Bantu Languages)
- Asiimwe, Allen, and Jenneke van der Wal. The multifunctionality of the particle -o in Rukiga. To appear in Nordic Journal of African Studies.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke, and Aurélio Simango. Subject inversion in Changana.

Submitted

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. A featural typology of Bantu subject and object marking. (Book contract at Oxford University Press).
- Fuchs, Zuzanna, and Jenneke van der Wal. Gender on little n in Bantu.

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. How to find information structure. In Skopeteas, Stavros, Firmin Ahoua, and Dafydd Gibbon (eds.), *Linguistic Fieldwork and Language Documentation, A Course Book on Foundational and Advanced Skills*.
Van der Wal, Jenneke. On the use of idioms for testing focus.
Bárány, András, and Jenneke van der Wal. We don't Agree (only) upwards.

2020

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. From macroparameters to nanoparameters – a comparative Bantu case study. In Bárány, András, Theresa Biberauer, Jamie Douglas, and Sten Vikner (eds.), *Syntactic architecture and its consequences I: Syntax inside the grammar*, 25-60. Berlin: Language Science Press.
Van der Wal, Jenneke. Review of Van de Velde, Mark, Koen Bostoen, Derek Nurse and Gérard Philippson (eds.), *The Bantu Languages*, second edition. London: Routledge. *Linguistic Typology* 24(2). 399-412.
Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2020. The AWSOM correlation in comparative Bantu object marking. In Katharina Hartmann, Johannes Mursell, and Peter W. Smith (eds.), *Agree to agree: Agreement in the Minimalist Program*, 199-234. Open Generative Syntax, Language Science Press.
Van der Wal, Jenneke, and Allen Asiimwe. 2020. The residue of the conjoint/disjoint alternation in Rukiga. *Studies in African Linguistics* 49(1). 43-59.

2019

- Ahn, Dorothy, and Jenneke van der Wal. 2019. What does that Lugwere demonstrative refer to? A semantic analysis of proximity and exteriority. *Studies in African Linguistics* 48(1). 1-24.
Holmberg, Anders, Michelle Sheehan, and Jenneke van der Wal. 2019. Movement from the double object construction is not fully symmetrical. *Linguistic Inquiry* 50(4). 677-721.

2018

- Sheehan, Michelle and Jenneke van der Wal. 2018. Evidence for nominal licensing in caseless languages. *Journal of Linguistics* 54. 527-589.

2017

- Van der Wal, Jenneke and Larry Hyman (eds). 2017. *The conjoint/disjoint alternation in Bantu*. Trends in Linguistics series. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
Van der Wal, Jenneke. What is the conjoint/disjoint alternation? Parameters of crosslinguistic variation. In Van der Wal, Jenneke and Larry Hyman (eds), *The conjoint/disjoint alternation in Bantu*, 14-60. Trends in Linguistics series. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
Gibson, Hannah, Andriana Koumbarou, Lutz Marten and Jenneke van der Wal. 2017. Locating the Bantu conjoint/disjoint alternation in a typology of focus marking. In Van der Wal, Jenneke and Larry Hyman (eds), *The conjoint/disjoint alternation in Bantu*, 61-99. Trends in Linguistics series. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2017. Flexibility in symmetry: An implicational relation in Bantu double object constructions. In Sheehan, Michelle and Laura R. Bailey (eds.), *Order and structure in syntax II: Subjecthood and argument structure*, 115–152. Berlin: Language Science Press.

2016

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2016. Diagnosing focus. *Studies in Language* 40(2), 259-301.

- Sheehan, Michelle and Jenneke van der Wal. 2016. Do we need abstract Case? In Kim, Kyeong-min et al. (eds), *Proceedings of the 33rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 351-360. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke and Saudah Namyalo. 2016. The interaction of two focus marking strategies in Luganda. In Doris L. Payne, Sara Pacchiarotti & Mokaya Bosire (eds.), *Diversity in African languages*, 355-377. Berlin: Language Science Press.

2015

- Van der Wal, Jenneke and Jacky Maniacky. 2015. How 'person' got into focus. *Linguistics* 53(1), 1-52.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2015. Information structure, (inter)subjectivity and objectification. *Journal of Linguistics* 14(2), 425-464.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke and Tonjes Veenstra. 2015. The long and short of verb alternations in Mauritian Creole and Bantu languages. *Folia Linguistica* 49(1), 85-116.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2015. A note on the (non-existing) passive in Matengo. *Linguistique et Langues Africaines* 1, 81-98.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2015. Evidence for abstract Case in Bantu. *Lingua* 165, 109-132.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2015. Bantu Syntax. Oxford Handbooks Online.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2015. Bantu object clitics as defective goals. *Revue Roumaine de Linguistique* LX(2-3), 277-296.

2014

- Devos, Maud and Jenneke van der Wal (eds). 2014. *COME and GO off the beaten grammaticalization path*. Berlin: De Gruyter.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2014. Tests for focus. In El Zarka, Dina and Steffen Heidinger (eds), *Grazer Linguistischer Studien*, 105-134.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2014. Subordinate clauses and exclusive focus in Makhuwa. In Van Gijn, Rik, Jeremy Hammond, Dejan Matić, Saskia van Putten & Ana Vilacy Galucio (eds), *Information Structure and Reference Tracking in Complex Sentences*, 45-70. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Marten, Lutz and Jenneke van der Wal. 2014. A typology of Bantu subject inversion. *Linguistic Variation* 14(2), 318-368.

2013

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2013. (Inter)subjectification and demonstratives as pragmatic particles. *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*, 1-44.

2012

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2012. Location, time, condition: grammaticalisation of a demonstrative in Makhuwa. *Africana Linguistica* XVIII, 235-259.
- Kavari, Jekura, Lutz Marten and Jenneke van der Wal. 2012. Tone cases in Otjiherero: head-complement relations, linear order, and information structure. *Africana Linguistica* XVIII, 315-353.
- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2012. Subject agreement and the EPP in Bantu Agreeing Inversion. *Cambridge Occasional Papers in Linguistics* 6, 201-236.

2011

- Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2011. Focus excluding alternatives: conjoint/disjoint marking in Makhuwa. *Lingua* 121(11), 1734-1750.

Buell, Leston, Kristina Riedel and Jenneke van der Wal. 2011. What the Bantu languages can tell us about word order and movement. *Lingua* 121(5), 689-701.

Buell, Leston, Kristina Riedel and Jenneke van der Wal (eds). 2011. Movement and word order in Bantu. Special issue of *Lingua* 121(5).

2010

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2010. The Makhuwa non-subject relative as a participial modifier. *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics* 31(2), 205-231.

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2010. Functions of demonstratives in Makhuwa narratives. *Africana Linguistica* XVI, 183-213.

Devos, Maud and Jenneke van der Wal. 2010. 'Go' on a rare grammaticalisation path to focus. In Nouwen, Rick and Jacqueline van Kampen, *Linguistics in the Netherlands* 27, 45-58. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2010. Review of 'Information structure, meaning and form', edited by Kerstin Schwabe and Susanne Winkler. *Linguistische Berichte* 222, 253-256.

2009

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2009. *Word order and information structure in Makhuwa-Enahara*. Utrecht: LOT.

2008

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2008. Agreement inthetic sentences in Bantu and Romance. In De Cat, Cecile and Katherine Demuth (eds) *The Bantu-Romance Connection. A comparative investigation of verbal agreement, DPs and information structure*, 323-350. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

2006

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2006. Predicative tone lowering in Makhuwa. 2006. In Van de Weijer, Jeroen and Bettelou Los (eds), *Linguistics in the Netherlands* 23, 224-236. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Van der Wal, Jenneke. 2006. The disjoint verb form and an empty Immediate After Verb position in Makhuwa. In Downing, Laura, Lutz Marten and Sabine Zerbian (eds), *ZASPiL* 43, 233-256.

In preparation

Asiimwe, Allen, Maria Kouneli, and Jenneke van der Wal. The augment in Rukiga as polydefiniteness.

Invited lectures

27-28 April 2020. Invited speaker at workshop 'Syntactic asymmetries in African languages'. Potsdam. (Postponed for COVID-19)

The phoenix probe. 8-9 November 2018. Invited speaker at workshop 'Multiple Agreement across Domains', ZAS Berlin.

Bantu split agreement alignment. 4 June 2018. Invited to the Linguistics Colloquium at Frankfurt University.

Resetting object marking parameters in Bantu. 6-8 September 2017. Invited plenary speaker at Diachronic Generative Syntax (DiGS) conference, Stellenbosch University.

Investigating focus marking in Luganda and Lingala. 3 May 2017. Invited for Bantu Workshop. McGill University, Montréal.

The need for an alternative system of nominal licensing in Bantu. 30 March - 2 April 2017. Invited plenary speaker at the Annual Conference on African Linguistics. Indiana University.

- The AWSOM and RANDOM in Bantu object marking. 11 January 2017. Invited for the IGRA Colloquium series, University of Leipzig.
- The need for an alternative system of nominal licensing in Bantu. 29 November 2016. Invited for job presentation at the University of Oxford.
- Beyond the cracks in the system: An alternative system of Case licensing in Bantu. 18 November 2016. Invited at the University of Minnesota.
- On the elicitation of focus and information structure in fieldwork. 10 November 2016. Invited at the Fieldwork Group, Harvard University and MIT.
- Two reasons to be suspicious of surface form-meaning mapping in focus constructions. 5-8 July 2016. Invited at conference 'The semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian languages'. University of Tübingen.
- Idioms and Bantu syntax. Invited at workshop on idioms. 12-13 November. University of Potsdam.
- What you see is (not) what you get: on the interface between information structure and syntax. 5-6 November 2015. Keynote speaker at the Manchester Forum in Linguistics, University of Manchester.
- How to elicit information structure in fieldwork? An illustration from focus strategies in Luganda. 12 February 2015. Invited at the Fieldwork Forum, University of California at Berkeley.
- Disentangling focus constructions in Luganda. 5 February 2015. Invited at the Linguistics Society of Cambridge.
- Morphological marking of term focus. 28-29 March 2014. Keynote speaker at Workshop on information structure in head-marking languages, Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen.
- A typology of Bantu subject inversion (with Lutz Marten). 12-15 June 2013. Plenary lecture, Bantu 5, Paris.
- Structuring parameters in comparative Bantu subject inversion. 4 June 2013. Invited at University of Potsdam.
- Subordinate clauses and exclusive focus in Makhuwa: no independent information structure? 5 March 2013. Invited at the Institute for Linguistics and Language Studies, University of Manchester.
- Subordinate clauses and focus in Makhuwa. 15 February 2012. Invited at Newcastle University.
- Focus on conjugations: conjoint and disjoint verb forms in Bantu. 29 October 2011. Invited at the 6th South of England LFG meeting, London.
- Focus encoded in grammar: the case of Bantu verb forms. 3 August 2011. Invited at Nagoya University, Nagoya.

Academic activities

- 2018-present Secretary of the Algemene Vereniging voor Taalwetenschap (Dutch Linguistics Association)
- January 2015 Committee member for Adrian Research Fellowship competition, Darwin College Cambridge.
- 2012-2016 Member of the Education and Research Committee at Darwin College Cambridge.
- 2013-2014 Member of the Finance Committee at Darwin College Cambridge.
- 2007- 2008 Member of the University Council of Leiden University, and chairman of the PhD fraction.
- 2003-2004 Secretary of the Education committee of the African Linguistics department, Leiden.
- June 2013 Guest researcher at the University of Potsdam (in the project of Prof. Dr. Gisbert Fanselow).
- Feb 2010 Guest researcher at the Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Berlin (with Dr. Tonjes Veenstra).

- 2019-present Member of Editorial board of *Linguistic Variation*
 2017-present Member of Editorial Board of *Syntax*
- 2009-2012 Editor of *Africana Linguistica*.
 2006-2008 Editor of the Leiden Working Papers in Linguistics.
- 2006-present Peer reviewing of manuscripts for journals:
Syntax, *Linguistic Inquiry*, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*, *Lingua*, *Glossa*, *Linguistic Variation*, *Linguistics*, *Journal of Linguistics*, *Studies in Language*, *Africana Linguistica*, *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*, *Proceedings of ACAL*, *Studies in African Linguistics*, *South African Journal of African Linguistics*.
- 2014-present Peer reviewing of proposals for British Academy, Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), US National Science Foundation.
- 2015-2018 External project advisor for Leverhulme project
 'Morphosyntactic variation in Bantu: typology, contact and change' (Principal Investigator Lutz Marten, SOAS).

Professional development

- Autumn 2019 Course 'Situational Leadership', by Aletta Wubben at Leiden University.
- May 2019 Basic Teaching Qualification (BKO) for Dutch universities.
- Autumn 2018 Course 'Supervising PhD candidates', HRM Learning and Development, Leiden University.
- 30 Nov 2018 Training 'Basic project management', HRM Learning and Development, Leiden University.
- 24 Nov 2015 Training 'Undergraduate admissions', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge.
- Autumn 2014 Course 'Becoming a research leader', Leadership Foundation, at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge.
- 21 May 2014 Training 'MBTI: Understanding Personality in a Research Environment', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge.
- February 2014 Training 'Making the most of meetings', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge
- February 2013 Training 'Solving research problems creatively', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge.
- May 2012 Training 'Effective Research Presentations', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge.
- October 2011 Training 'Undergraduate supervisions', Personal and Professional Development, University of Cambridge.
- September 2008 Training 'Effective Time Management', Leiden University.
- Spring 2007 Course 'Effective Teaching in Higher Education', ICLON, Leiden University.
- Spring 2006 Course 'Writing Academic English', Leiden University.

Linguistics teaching

Summerschools

- 5-25 January 2020 Co-organiser and instructor of the 'Linguistics In Kenya Experience', a three-week field school for collaborative linguistic fieldwork with students from Leiden University, Tharaka University College, and Chuka University.
 See the [news report](#) and [website](#).

- 6-10 August 2018 University of Abidjan, course 'Investigating information structure in the field' (invited by the project "La Langue en Contexte: Documentation, Description, Application").
- 17-22 June 2018 Potsdam Summerschool 'Limits of variability in language', course 'Variation in Bantu morphosyntax'.

Leiden University

- Autumn 2019 Topic 'Information structure', Research Master Linguistics, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics (co-taught with Elisabeth Kerr).
- Autumn 2018 Taaltypologie, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics.
- Spring 2018 Syntaxis 1, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics.

Harvard University

- Spring 2017 Ling 117r Field methods course on Lugwere, Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.
- Spring 2017 Ling 156 Structure of Bantu, Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.
- Autumn 2016 Ling 148 Language universals, Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.
- Autumn 2016 Ling 102 Sentence structure, Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.
- Autumn 2016 Reading group on Focus and Features, Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.

University of Cambridge

- 2015-2016 Fieldwork seminar undergraduate and graduate students (with Joe Perry) on Manange.
- 2014-2015 Supervisions 2nd and 3rd year students for Li17 'Language Typology', DTAL Cambridge.
- Autumn 2014 Supervision first year students Li2 'Structures and Meanings' (Introduction to syntax), DTAL Cambridge.
- Autumn 2014 Lectures Li17 'Language typology', DTAL Cambridge.
- 2013/2014 Supervisions 2nd and 3rd year students for Li17 'Language Typology', DTAL Cambridge.
- Autumn 2013 Coordinator and lecturer of Li2 'Structures and meanings' (Introduction to syntax), DTAL Cambridge.
- January 2013 Lectures Li17 'Language typology', DTAL Cambridge.
- Autumn 2012 Coordinator and lecturer of Li2 'Structures and meanings' (introduction to syntax), DTAL Cambridge.
- 2012-2013 Supervisions 2nd year students Li17 'Language typology', DTAL Cambridge.
- Spring 2012 Supervisions 1st year students semantics/pragmatics, DTAL Cambridge.
- Spring 2012 Lectures in MPhil seminar on null arguments, DTAL Cambridge.
- Autumn 2011 Lectures Li2 'Structures and Meanings' (Introduction to syntax), DTAL Cambridge.

Other

- August 2010 'Introduction à la structure informationnelle' (whole day for PhD and staff), Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren.
- Autumn 2007 Third-year course 'Vorm en betekenis' (form and meaning), focusing on information structure, Department of Linguistics, Leiden University.

Supervision

Elisabeth Kerr	PhD dissertation 'Information structure in Tunen', Leiden University. Co-supervised with Maarten Mous (ongoing).
Zhen Li	PhD dissertation 'Information structure in Teke-Kukuya', Leiden University. Co-supervised with Maarten Mous (ongoing).
Rich Boutwell	PhD dissertation 'A grammar of Ncane', Leiden University (completed 2020). Co-supervised with Maarten Mous.
Tim Bazalgette	PhD dissertation 'Algorithmic acquisition of focus parameters', University of Cambridge (completed 2015). Co-supervised with Ian Roberts and Theresa Biberauer.
David Iorio	PhD dissertation 'Subject and object marking in Bembe', University of Newcastle (completed 2014). Co-supervised with Anders Holmberg.
Martha Wechsler	MPhil dissertation 'Case assignment in applicative, causative, and double object constructions' (completed 2016).
Rodrigo Ranero	MPhil dissertation 'The syntax of dislocated objects in Luganda', University of Cambridge (completed 2015).

PhD examination

Andreas Joswig	'The Majang language', Leiden University, 2019.
Raed Al-Janabi	'Ditransitives in Iraqi Arabi and English', University of Newcastle, 2019.
Franca Wesseling	'There is more' (on Dutch expletive 'er'), Utrecht University, 2018.
Ana Gauché	'A relevance-theoretic analysis of selected South African English pragmatic markers and their cultural significance', Stellenbosch University, 2017.

Transferrable skills teaching

October 2019	PhD students workshop 'How to not procrastinate', LUCL.
May 2017	Graduate students workshop 'How to not procrastinate', Department of Linguistics, Harvard University.
2015-2016	Professional skills workshops 'How to not procrastinate' and 'How to stay confident in Cambridge', Darwin College Cambridge.
May 2016	'Managing procrastination', University of Cambridge Researcher Development Programme.
January 2016	MPhil training 'Presentation skills', DTAL Cambridge.
September 2015	PhD training 'How to not procrastinate', DTAL Cambridge.
	LAGB Summer School training 'How to not procrastinate: understand your motivations for procrastination and effectively manage them'.
2014-2015	Professional skills workshops 'How to give an effective presentation' and 'How to not procrastinate', Darwin College Cambridge.
November 2014	PhD training seminar 'How to write a good abstract', DTAL Cambridge.
February 2014	Professional skills workshop 'How to not procrastinate', Darwin College Cambridge.
Jan/Feb 2013	PhD training seminars 'Presenting research without losing your audience' and 'Visual support in presentations', Darwin College Cambridge.

- January 2013 PhD seminar 'The worst powerpoint ever', DTAL Cambridge.
- February 2012 PhD training seminar 'How to write a good abstract' together with John Williams, DTAL Cambridge.

Grants and awards

- 2019 African Studies Assembly grant for a Field School in Kenya, together with Peter Muriungi (Tharaka University College, Kenya).
- 2017-2022 NWO grant Vidi (Innovational Research Incentives Scheme). Project 'Bantu Syntax and Information Structure' (BaSIS).
- 2017 Derek Bok Teaching and Learning Centre (Harvard) Certificate of Excellence in Teaching
- 2016 LUCL grant Profile Area 'Language Diversity', Leiden University Centre for Linguistics (declined).
- September 2014 SLE 47th Annual Meeting - Best presentation by a postdoctoral researcher, second prize.
- Summer 2014 Alborada Trust grant for cooperation with Dr Saudah Namyalo (Makerere University, Uganda). Project 'The morphosyntax of information structure in Luganda'.
- March 2011 Grant for a short stay abroad from Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek Vlaanderen (FWO).
- October 2008 Grant for conference travel from Leiden University Fund (LUF).

Conference organisation

- June 2021 Co-organiser of workshop 'Bantunivar' on universals and variation in Bantu languages, at WOCAL 10, Leiden
- June 2020 Co-organiser of workshop on Definiteness in Bantu languages, with Eva-Marie Bloom-Ström, Allen Asiimwe, and Jochen Zeller, at Bantu 8, Essex.
- (postponed for COVID19)
- July 2018 Co-organiser of workshop on Information structure in Bantu languages, with Allen Asiimwe, at Sintu 7, Cape Town.
- June 2016 Organiser of workshop 'Bantu Objects and Object Marking' (BOOM!), at Bantu 6, Helsinki.
- May 2016 Co-organiser of the fifth Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 5).
- Sept 2015 Co-organiser of themed session 'Differential marking: implications for Case and Agree' at the 48th meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, Leiden.
- May 2015 Co-organiser of the fourth Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 4).
- Jan 2015 Co-organiser of Comparative Syntax workshop with University of York (CoSy 3).
- Nov 2014 Co-organiser of the workshop 'Syntactic Variation', Bucharest.
- May 2014 Co-organiser of the third Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 3).
- Feb 2014 Co-organiser of Comparative Syntax workshop with University of York (CoSy 2).
- Dec 2013 Initiator and co-organiser of Comparative Syntax workshop with University of York (CoSy).
- October 2013 Co-organiser of workshop 'Comparative syntax of English', Darwin College, Cambridge.

- August 2013 Co-organiser of themed session 'Subtypes of thetic expressions in a comparative perspective' within Annual meeting of the LAGB.
- May 2013 Co-organiser of the second Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 2).
- August 2012 Co-organiser of workshop 'Parametric variation in discourse-configurationality' within 45th meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, Stockholm, Sweden.
- May 2012 Co-organiser of the first Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 1).
- Sept 2011 Co-organiser of workshop 'Come and go off the beaten grammaticalisation path' within 44th meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, Logroño, Spain.
- March 2009 Organiser of the workshop 'Inversion constructions in Bantu', Tervuren.
- March 2008 Co-organiser of the conference 'Movement and word order in Bantu', Leiden.

Fieldwork

- <postponed> Fieldwork on Nyakyusa in Mbeya, Tanzania (with Amani Lusekelo)
- <postponed> Fieldwork on Kirundi in Bujumbura, Burundi (with Ernest Nshemezimana)
- December 2019 Fieldwork on Kĩĩtharaka in Marimanti, Kenya (with Patrick Kanampiu)
- August 2019 Fieldwork on Makhuwa at Ilha de Moçambique, Mozambique.
- July 2019 Fieldwork on Copi in Chidenguele, Mozambique (with Nelsa Nhantumbo).
- June 2019 Fieldwork on Changana in Magude, Mozambique (with Aurélio Simango).
- January 2019 Fieldwork on Rukiga in Kabale, Uganda (with Allen Asiimwe).
- Spring 2017 Data collection and field methods class on Lugwere, Cambridge MA.
- August 2014 Fieldwork on Luganda in Kampala and Masaka, Uganda (with Saudah Namyalo).
- 2013 Data collection on Matengo at the Institute of Education UCL, London.
- March 2011 Fieldwork on Makhuwa at Ilha de Moçambique, Mozambique.
- Jan-Feb 2008 Fieldwork on Makhuwa at Ilha de Moçambique, Mozambique.
- Sept-Dec 2006 Fieldwork on Makhuwa at Ilha de Moçambique, Mozambique.
- Apr-Sept 2005 Fieldwork on Makhuwa at Ilha de Moçambique, Mozambique.
- Summer 2003 Fieldwork on Lusoga in Jinja, Uganda.

Language skills

(In approximate descending order of competence)

Dutch (native speaker), English, Portuguese, French, German, Swahili

- March-Apr 2020 Lessons French via Italki.
- April-June 2019 Lessons Portuguese via Italki.
- Autumn 2010 Course 'French at work', level B1, training institute of the Belgian federal government (OFO/IFA, Brussels).

- February 2005 Intensive course Portuguese, University of Coimbra (Portugal).
 July 2002 Advanced course Swahili, Zanzibar (Tanzania).

Outreach

- 2019-current Editor of Dutch blog 'Stemmen van Afrika'
 2013-current Posts on the Dutch blog 'Stemmen van Afrika', about Bantu syntax
[Dubbelgangers](#)
[Een eekhoorn met twee staarten](#)
[Matroesjkawoorden](#)
[Naamwoorden parkeren in Bantoetalen](#)
[Download de app voor meer werkwoordfuncties](#)
[Het lijdend voorwerp en de arrogantiemeter](#)
- Sept 2020 Presentation at Wetenschapsfestival Stedelijk Gymnasium Den Bosch.
 Sept 2019 'Escape from Linguistics' – escape room with African language puzzles at the Nacht van Ontdekkingen, Leiden.
 June 2019 'Wat onmogelijke talen ons kunnen vertellen over menselijke Taal' - talk at Wijhese Heeren Sociëteit.
 June 2016 Linguistic fieldwork puzzles in African languages - Insight event, Cambridge Admissions Office, Sidney Sussex College.
 March 2016 'Bantu objects and the arrogance hierarchy' - Linguistics Masterclass at Corpus Christi College Cambridge.
 Oct 2015 'The youths on the wheel' - interactive talk on Ugandan youth language, with Saudah Namyalo, Festival of Ideas, University of Cambridge.
 2012, '13, '14 'Lingquitzics' with ReCoS at the Festival of Ideas, University of Cambridge - Family Fortunes, Who wants to be a millionaire and Blockbusters with linguistics questions.
 March 2014 'Puzzles and patterns in language' - interactive talk on English, Beja and Makuwa, with ReCoS.
 Oct 2013 'Frontiers of linguistic fieldwork' - interactive talk on Bantu object markers, with András Bárány, at the Festival of Ideas, University of Cambridge.
 September 2008 Presentation about African languages at the 'Dag van de Talen' (Day of Languages).

Vita

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