



**Society for Pidgin and Creole Languages**  
**Virtual Winter Meeting**  
**January 12 – 13, 2023**

**Programme**

**Thursday, 12 January**

**Morning**

**Session 1: Historical Linguistics**

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

Chair: Bettina Migge (University College Dublin)

7:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks

8:00 *Kevin Martens Wong (Korda Kristang)* Ardansa Arenjah: Uncovering a New, Thriving History of the Kristang Language in Colonial Singapore through Archival Research, 1864-1945.

8:30 *Susanne Maria Michaelis (Leipzig University)*. Avertive Constructions in Seychelles Creole and Beyond.

9:00 *Mikael Parkvall (Stockholm University) and Bart Jacobs (Jagiellonian University Krakow)*. Berbice Dutch: A Case of Serial Glottogenesis.

9:30 *Joseph Farquharson (University of the West Indies, Mona)*. Past Time Reference in Jamaican between Superstrate and Substrate.

**Break 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

## Session 2A: Naming Practices: Terminology and Ideology Panel

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

Chair: Eeva Sippola (University of Helsinki)

- 10:30 *Carsten Levisen (Roskilde University)*. Keyword in the Contact Zone: Metalinguistics and the Multipolar Turn.
- 11:00 *Fresco Sam-Sin (Utrecht University)*, *Hermine Haman (Utrecht University)*, *Jeroen van Rapenhorst (Utrecht University)* & *Margot van den Berg (Utrecht University)*. Names, Ideologies and Community Engagement in the Making of a New Online Sranantongo-Dutch Dictionary.
- 11:30 *Joseph Jean François Nunez (SEDYL (UMR 8202)/INALCO/USPC/CNRS)*. Naming Practices in Continental Upper Guinea Creoles.
- 12:00 *Paula Prescod (Université de Picardie Jules Verne)*. From Naming Languages in Places to Naming Places in Languages: Alternate Place-Names and Place-Name Alterations as Examples of (Counter-) Ideologies.
- 12:30 *Peter Bakker (Aarhus University)*. Names for Contact Languages: A Historical Overview of the Evolution of Terminology in the Field.

## Session 2B: Text/Corpus Linguistics and Language Documentation

Room: Zoom Room B: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/65641923306>

Chair: J. Clancy Clements (Indiana University, Bloomington)

- 10:30 *Shesly Python (State University of Haiti/INSPE Academy of Guadeloupe)*. Describe Personality using Words Referring to Body Parts in Haitian Creole.
- 11:00 *Li Lin (National University of Singapore)*. The Contact Induced Variation of Singapore English Definiteness.
- 11:30 *Jesse Stewart (University of Saskatchewan)*. Cotopaxi Media Lengua is Still Very Much Alive.

**Lunch**            **1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Note:              Return promptly for the afternoon session.

**Thursday, 12 January**

**Afternoon**

**Session 3A: Voices from When Creole and Spanish Collide: Language and Cultural Contact in the Caribbean Panel**

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

Chair: Susanne Michaelis (Leipzig University)

Panel Moderators: Veronique Lacoste, Glenda-Alicia Leung, Miki Loschky

- 1:30 *Felisha Bahadur (Mathesius Academy of Fine Art and Design), Glenda Leung (None), & Rhea Ramjohn (Black Brown Berlin)*. Sisters of the Shell: The Prologue.
- 2:00 *Marisol Joseph-Haynes (University of Puerto Rico), Yolanda Rivera-Castillo (University of Puerto Rico) & Camille Wagner-Rodriguez (None)*. Limonese Creole: Properties of a Thriving Language.
- 2:30 *Angela Bartens (University of Turku) & Monique Schoch Angel (Universidad Nacional de Colombia and Piknini Foundation)*. Language Contact/Conflict, Language Ownership, and Ethnolinguistic Vitality on San Andrés and Old Providence.
- 3:00 *Angela Bartens (University of Turku) & Falcon Restrepo Ramos (Minnesota State University)*. Spanish-English/Creole contact in San Andrés and Providence through Linguistic Landscapes.

**Session 3B: Morphology and Syntax**

Room: Zoom Room B: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/65641923306>

Chair: Joseph Jean François Nunez (SEDYL (UMR 8202)/INALCO/USPC/CNRS)

- 1:30 *Stéphane Térosier (Leiden University)*. The Syntax and Pragmatics of the Clausal Determiner in Martinican Creole Wh-Questions.
- 2:00 *Erin Kamatz (SUNY at Buffalo)*. Guadeloupean Bay ‘Give’: Proposition or Serial Verb?
- 2:30 *Fabiola Henri (University of Buffalo), Delphine Tribout (University of Lille) & Florence Villoing (University of Nanterre)*. Verbal Morphology in Guadeloupean Creole: Arguments for a Complex Organization.
- 3:00 *Patricia Cabredo Hofherr (UMR 7023 – SFL (CNRS & U. Paris 8))*. Give Constructions in Haitian.
- 3:30 *Junior Pierre Eden Fevrier (INSPE, University of the Antilles/Faculty de Linguistique Appliquée FLA, UEH)*. A Comparison of the Derivational Prefix de- in Haitian and Guadeloupean Creole.

## Friday, 13 January

### Morning

#### Session 4A: Phonology

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

Chair: Rocky Meade (University of the West Indies, Mona)

7:45 Opening Remarks and Updates

8:00 *Taniya-Joy Wilkins (University of the West Indies, Mona)*. Sociolinguistic Influence on Phonological Development in Jamaican Children.

9:00 *Nancy Chiagolum Odiegwa (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)*. Gradience in Iconicity: Evidence from Total Reduplication in Nigerian Pidgin.

9:30 *Nickesha Dawkins (University of the West Indies, Cave Hill)*. Linguistic Appreciation via the Accommodation of Pidgin and Creole Phonology by British and American Pop Artists: The Case of ED Sheeran vs. Ishawna and Fireboy, and Justin Bieber vs. Tems & Wizkid.

#### Session 4B: Semantics, Discourse Analysis and Psycholinguistics

Room: Zoom Room B: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/65641923306>

Chair: Stefano Manfredi (CNRS)

8:00 *José Pérez (University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez)*. Factative and Lexical Aspect in Guadeloupean Creole: Substrate Inheritance.

8:30 *Melanie Green (University of Sussex) & Rose Bridle (University of Sussex)*. The Cameroon Pidgin English Lexicon: A Preliminary Survey.

9:00 *Hannah Davidson (University of Oxford) & Sandra Paoli (University of Oxford)*. Discourse Markers Based on 'dir' (to say) in Mauritian Creole.

9:30 *John Lipski (Pennsylvania State University)*. What Palenquero can Tell Us about (Spanish) Morphological Inflection: Empirical Results.

**Break 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

## Session 5A: Hawai'i Creole Panel

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

Chair: Joseph Farquharson (University of the West Indies, Mona)

- 10:30 *Eve Okura Koller (University of Hawaii at Manoa)*. Sociolinguistics and Perceptions of Politeness: Hawaiian Creole English 'Try.'
- 11:00 *Kristen Urada (University of Hawaii at Manoa)*. Humbalala! A Case Study of Hawai'i Creole Variation on Social Media.
- 11:30 *Christina Higgins (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)*, *Scott Andrada (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)*, *Kristen Urada (University of Hawaii at Manoa)* & *Micah Mizukami (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)*. Sociolinguistics Style in Face-to-Face Interactions vs. Social Media: Discourse Functions of BRAH in Pidgin (Hawai'i Creole).
- 12:00 *Christoph Neuenschwander (University of Bern)*. "That Outcast from the Temple of Languages:" Babel as a Topos in Metalinguistic Debates on Hawai'i Creole.

## Session 5B: Language Acquisition & Anthropological Linguistics

Room: Zoom Room B: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/65641923306>

Chair: Eliot Raynor (Princeton University)

- 10:30 *Trecel Messam (University of the West Indies, Mona)*. Effects of the Second Language on the First: An Examination of Stability in Attrition after 10 Years.
- 11:00 *Michal Gluszkowski (Nicolaus Copernicus University)*. From Code-Mixing to Mixed Language: On the Ideolectal Differences among Polish-Russian Bilingual Speakers in Siberia.
- 11:30 *Rashana Lydner (University of Virginia)*. Jamaican Comedy: Cultural Translation of TikTok Trends.

## Closing Remarks 12:30 – 12:40 p.m.

Room: Zoom Room A: <https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/63888601405>

## Short Abstracts

**Angela Bartens** (University of Turku)

**Falcon Restrepo Ramos** (Minnesota State University)

*Spanish-English/Creole contact in San Andrés and Providence through Linguistic Landscapes*

The study deals with the linguistic landscapes of San Andrés and Old Providence (Colombia) from a qualitative point of view and aims at contributing towards the methodological discussion in Linguistic Landscape Studies. We compiled two corpora:

1. A 2015 corpus from San Andrés consisting of 378 photos of different signs, 161 of which contain information in both Spanish and English/Creole.
2. A 2017-2018 corpus of geotagged pictures of public signage taken in the islands of San Andres and Old Providence. The corpus consists of 1,877 photographs coded according to linguistic function and location.

Minoritized and endangered languages, ethnolinguistic vitality, and language making constitute key concepts of our discussion.

**Angela Bartens** (University of Turku)

**Monique Schoch Angel** (Universidad Nacional de Colombia and Pknini Foundation)

*Language contact/conflict, language ownership, and ethnolinguistic vitality on San Andrés and Old Providence*

In the present study, we report on the English/Creole-Spanish language contact/conflict situation in the San Andrés and Old Providence speech communities. Our data was collected from the internet, most importantly Facebook.

A radical change in attitudes has occurred over the past approximately twenty years, resulting in cultural and linguistic reaffirmation by the Raizals. As a result, the question of the ownership of language has become of utmost importance. We argue that an integrative approach to, for example, language teaching, is of fundamental importance for the vitality of Creole. We also address the discussion on whether the language should be written or not.

**Patricia Cabredo Hofherr** (UMR 7023 – SFL, CNRS & U. Paris 8)

*GIVE-constructions in Haitian*

The analysis of Serial verb constructions has been central in studies of Creole languages (Sebba 1987).

The present study examines constructions with BA(Y) ‘give’ in Haitian Creole. I provide evidence that BA(Y) appears in three distinct configurations with contrasting syntactic and semantic properties:

- BA(Y) +NP specifying the recipient of a ditransitive predicate like *voye* ‘send’
- BA(Y) +NP specifying the command-giver of an order
- BA(Y) + clause introducing transfer of the theme and a final clause

Particularly striking is the fact that BA(Y) may introduce clauses even though Haitian Creole is not a clausal serial verb language (Veenstra & Muysken 2017).

**Nancy Chiagolum Odiogwu** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

*Gradience in iconicity: Evidence from total reduplicative constructions in Nigerian pidgin*

The goal of this present study is to show that iconicity is graded in nature, and that alongside arbitrariness, it is a significant feature of human language. Using examples of total reduplication in Nigerian Pidgin, this study demonstrates that the degree of iconicity of any given reduplicative is largely correlated with the word class to which its simplex form belongs.

The results also shed light on typical pathways that reduplicatives follow in processes of grammaticalization, whereby isomorphism appears attenuated due to varying language-internal factors that are specific to individual languages.

**Hannah Davidson** (University of Oxford)

**Sandra Paoli** (University of Oxford)

*Discourse markers based on dir ‘to say’ in Mauritian Creole (Discourse Analysis)*

We investigate the hypothesis that discourse markers based on ‘dir’ in Mauritian Creole (*koumadir*, *dizon* and *savedir*) share common properties. Based on dialogic contexts, we loosely employ a canonical approach to analyse which features are present or absent with each marker. *Koumadir* exclusively appears in Creole, *dizon* (with a French parallel *disons*) displays the same properties across the two languages, and *savedir* can occur in both French (*ça veut dire*) and Creole, but it has developed further formal and functional characteristics in Creole. Ultimately, the initial hypothesis of a shared core cannot be sustained.

**Nickesha T. Dawkins** (University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus)

*Linguistic appreciation via the accommodation of Pidgin and Creole Phonology by British And American Pop artists: The case of ED Sheeran vs. Ishawna and Fireboy, and Justin Bieber vs. Tems & Wizkid.*

Nigerian Pidgin and Jamaican Creole phonology have been quite noticeable in popular Pop songs recently released by Ed Sheeran ft. Fireboy and Justin Bieber ft. Tems and Wizkid. In contrast to the popular belief that artists need to sing songs in “English” to crossover into the American/international musical mainstream market, this study reveals that singing songs in the artists’ native tongues can also crossover musical ‘borderlines’. This current paper looks at this linguistic appreciation through the ‘lens’ of accommodation theory as it shows the apparent appreciation for this type of language as it relates to its phonological style in popular musical culture.

**Joseph T. Farquharson** (The University of the West Indies, Mona)

*Past time reference in Jamaican between superstrate and substrate*

Although Creole languages like Haitian and Saramaccan have been closely compared with putative substrate languages, Jamaican has not received equivalent treatment. There is still a need to compare Jamaican with its putative substrate languages as well as the English dialect(s) instrumental in its formation. This paper conducts the necessary comparison by focusing on a basic version of past time reference in Jamaican, Akan, Ewe, Yoruba, Igbo, Wolof, and the Somerset dialect of English. The lexifier is shown to play an important role in past time reference, contributing not only material, but also crucial syntactico-semantic information; however, the substrate languages play a heavier role in shaping final outcome.

**Junior Pierre Eden Février** (State University of Haiti)

*A comparison of the Derivational Prefix de- in Haitian and Guadeloupian Creole*

Haitian and Guadeloupian Creoles have inherited a substantial proportion of their lexicon from French. The prefix *dé-* has two standard meanings in French: the opposite meaning whereby the prefixation of *dé-* generates an antonym, and the intensive meaning whereby the prefix *dé-* amplifies. The present study investigated the meaning of this prefix in both Haitian and Guadeloupian Creoles using both lexical entries in dictionaries and recordings of native speakers. The results of the analyses demonstrate that the range of meanings differ in the two creoles, with respect to both the meanings borrowed from French and additional meanings that differ from French.



**Michał Gluszkowski** (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń)

*From code-mixing to mixed language. On the idiolectal differences among Polish-Russian bilingual speakers in Siberia*

The Polish variety used in Vershina, a village in Irkutsk Oblast', founded by voluntary settlers from Little Poland before the World War I is a contact language, characterized by a large number of loanwords as well as code switching and mixing. Although it does not meet the criteria of the classic definitions of the pidgin and Creole languages, to some extent it may be considered a mixed variety. The aim of the paper is to answer the question at what stage from code-mixing to mixed language is the Lesser Polish dialect in Vershina.

**Melanie Green** (University of Sussex)

**Rose Bridle** (University of Sussex)

*The Cameroon Pidgin English Lexicon: A Preliminary Survey*

This paper uses data from the 240,000-word spoken corpus of Cameroon Pidgin English (Green et al. 2016) to present a survey of the CPE lexicon. English-origin expressions make up approx. 90% of the lexicon, while substrate influence is uneven, clustering in culture-specific semantic fields. Besides English, the lexicon contains words originating from other non-indigenous colonial languages, indigenous Cameroonian languages and other West African languages spoken further afield. Local languages may also influence the semantic scope of some English-origin words in terms of word class, multifunctionality and valency properties, as discussed in Green and Ozón (2019).

**Fabiola Henri** (SUNY-University at Buffalo)

**Delphine Tribout** (Université de Lille)

**Florence Villoing** (Université Paris Nanterre)

*Verbal Morphology in Guadeloupean Creole. Arguments for a complex organization*

Building on Henri et al. (2020)'s work on derivational complexity in French-related creoles and examination of recent databases (Deglas 2022; Henri 2019) and corpora (Missud 2018), this paper cast a wider perspective of verbal morphology whereby inflectional and derivational morphology interact via a complex system of stem alternations in Guadeloupean Creole. We show that suffixation requires a verbal short stem, while prefixation, compounding and conversion argue for a verbal long stem beside the short one. Moreover, we show that in some varieties of Guadeloupean Creole, verbs exhibit more than one single form.

**Christina Higgins** (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)  
**Scott Andrada** (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)  
**Kristen Urada** (University of Hawaii at Manoa)  
**Micah Mizukami** (University of Hawai'i at Manoa).

*Sociolinguistic style in face-to-face interactions vs. social media: Discourse functions of BRAH in Pidgin (Hawaii Creole)*

This paper examines the sociopragmatic functions of BRAH, a discourse marker (DM) in Hawaii Creole, a language referred to as Pidgin by its speakers. We draw on a corpus of discourse data involving face-to-face interactions to analyze the range of functions that BRAH serves in discourse, and we compare these to the uses of BRAH in a corpus of transcripts of social media videos produced by influencers in Hawaii. We discuss our findings in light of recent scholarship on mediatized language and language “in real life” (Androutsopolous, 2017; Peng, 2020; Stæhr et al., 2019).

**Erin Karnatz** (SUNY University at Buffalo)

*Guadeloupean bay ‘give’: preposition or serial verb?*

In this paper, we revisit the question of whether bay ‘give’ has grammaticalized into a preposition in constructions involving its combination with other verbs. Based on recent fieldwork data, we establish a three-way divide among the verbs depending on the type of constructions they appear in: 1) Double Object Constructions only, 2) Indirect Object Constructions only, and 3) those that can occur as both. Semantic differences were found with cases where both *bay* and *pou* were possible, clearly arguing against previous assumptions that the bay construction is equivalent to the prepositional one.

**Eve Okura Koller** (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa)

*Hawaiian Creole English and Sociolinguistics: Perceptions of politeness and Hawai'i Pidgin “try”*

Hymes 1973 introduces linguistic inequality as a topic of academic inquiry. Sato 1989 addressed language attitudes towards Hawaiian Creole English (HCE), while Marlow and Giles 2010 explore social pressures to abandon HCE. This study investigates how HCE speakers and monolingual Standard American English (SAE) speakers interpret degrees of politeness and friendliness of HCE “try” and variants of SAE requests (e.g. “Could you...”, etc.). Participants were asked to rate items for politeness. Rather than abandoning HCE, an understanding of HCE’s linguistic distinction from SAE is essential for effective cross-

cultural communication and positive intercultural relations between HCE and SAE speakers in Hawai'i.

**Carsten Levisen** (Roskilde University)

*Keywords in the contact zone: Metalinguistics and the multipolar turn*

This paper offers a critical reflection on the terminology of contact linguistics and provides a new analysis of metalinguistic keywords. Constructs such as “language”, “creole”, “variety”, and “dialect” have dominated the discourse of modern linguistics, and postmodern alternatives such as a “linguaging” and constructs based on “poly-“, “pluri-“, “metro-“, “super-“, and “trans-“ have sought to nuance these. But the wealth of words coined *about* the contact zone pale into insignificance when compared to the metalinguistic words coined *in* the contact zone. The paper calls for a multipolar turn in metalinguistics in which multiple keywords from multiple contact zones are all given priority.

**John Lipski** (The Pennsylvania State University)

*What Palenquero can tell us about (Spanish) morphological inflection: Empirical results*

Bilingual speakers of Spanish and the Afro-Colombian creole language Palenquero toggle between the two lexically cognate languages. Spanish exhibits gender and number inflection on modifiers as well as person-number agreement on verbs, while Palenquero has no morphological agreement. By experimentally priming Spanish-like morphological agreement with cognate or identical Palenquero roots, Spanish-like feminine gender marking and regular verb inflection induced in Palenquero show no lexical frequency effects, consistent with decompositional models in which Spanish agreement morphemes are added to lexically stored stems. Spanish irregular verb forms appear to be stored in full form (large main effect for lexical frequency).

**Rashana Lydner** (University of Virginia)

*Jamaican comedy: Cultural translation of TikTok trends*

Grounded generally in the space of Jamaican TikTok, my paper explores how TikTok videos are culturally translated for a Jamaican audience and how Jamaican-specific videos may also be legible to outsiders. To engage with popular trends and make them more accessible to Jamaican audiences, Jamaican TikTokers have remade popular videos. These performances bring up questions surrounding transmodal stylization (Goodwin & Alim, 2010), language stylization (Coupland, 2001), and enregisterment (Agha, 2007) since Jamaican TikTokers use Jamaican creole, body language, and facial expression to translate

social roles such as nationality, gender, sexuality, race, and class into legible Jamaican signs.

**Kevin Martens Wong** (Kodrah Kristang and Merlionsman Coaching & Consulting)

*Ardansa arenjah: Uncovering a new, thriving history of the Kristang language in colonial Singapore through archival research, 1864-1945*

This paper overturns previous suggestions that Kristang lacked vitality in colonial Singapore, and demonstrates instead rich, diverse and sustained usage among the Portuguese-Eurasian community, also known colloquially as the ‘Portuguese’ or ‘Lower Six’, until the Japanese Occupation. Using the Singapore National Library Board’s NewspaperSG online archive, the earliest known attestation of Kristang in Singapore is conclusively revised to 1864 instead of 1886; this, together with further material from the 1870s and 1880s, suggests a much stronger sense of in-group identity among the brown-skinned Portuguese-Eurasians in Singapore vis-à-vis the white-skinned British-Eurasian, ‘Indo-Briton’ or ‘Upper Ten’ identity than was previously alluded to.

**Trecel Messam** (University of the West Indies, Mona)

*Effects of the second Language on the first: An examination of stability in attrition after 10 years*

When languages collide, a naturally occurring phenomenon is language attrition. In the context of first language attrition, the native language of the immigrant becomes subject to change and loss.

In this paper, data solicited from Jamaican L2 users of Papiamentu who have been residing in Curaçao for 10 years and over, and who have been functioning in this Papiamentu-dominant environment, are examined to determine the stability of attrition in this context after the 10-year period. A comparison is made with data gathered from other Jamaican L2 users who have been residing in Curaçao under similar conditions for periods under 10 years. Through such an examination, the correlation between years of residence and L1 attrition in Creole contact is brought to forefront.

**Susanne Maria Michaelis** (Leipzig University & MPI-EVA, Leipzig)

*Avertive constructions in Seychelles Creole and beyond*

In this paper, I will discuss avertive constructions (also called *negative purpose clauses* or *'lest' clauses*) in several creole languages.

(1) Seychelles Creole (Bollée & Rosalie 1994:130)

*Mon oule toultan reste debout pangar mon lenz a kraze.*  
1SG want always stay up LEST POSS.1SG cloth FUT wrinkle  
'I always wanted to stay up lest my cloth gets wrinkled.'

I will focus on Seychelles Creole, but I will also consider other creole languages to investigate the source constructions of the avertive markers matter-wise, but also pattern-wise. The question is whether this construction is inherited by the lexifiers and/or substrates (with potential convergence) or constitutes an innovation in these high-contact languages.

**Joseph Jean François Nunez** (Sedyl Inalco-CNRS)

*Naming practices in Continental Upper Guinea Creoles*

Among Upper Guinea Creoles (UGC), Casamance Creole and Guinea-Bissau Creole are those traditionally spoken in multilingual and multiethnic areas in the mainland (see Juillard 1995). These Creoles are called locally by native speakers *kriyol* or *lingu kriston*, Christian language, (see Rouge 1985, Kihm 1994, Nunez 2015 and Biagui 2018). On the other hand, speakers of the other linguistic groups use terms unknown in the scientific field, to designate these creole languages and their own speakers. These terms can have positive or negative meanings as we can see it in a multiethnic contact area (Léglise & Migge:2006).

**Christoph Neuenschwander** (University of Bern)

*“That outcast from the temple of languages”: Babel as a topos in metalinguistic debates on Hawai‘i Creole*

Language myths play an important role in the reproduction of language ideologies. In this paper, I examine the story of Babel, arguably the most influential Western myth about multilingualism. I trace Babel’s transformation from pre-colonial European discourses to the new socio-political contexts of the colonial Pacific. Focusing on Hawai‘i Creole, I investigate how Babel is invoked and instrumentalised in different ways in discussions of linguistic diversity. Even though the story of Babel is employed very differently in the examples presented, I argue that its essential function as a *topos* remains stable: to provide a ready-made argument about multilingualism.

**Paula Prescod** (Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France)

*From naming languages in places to naming places in languages: alternate place-names and place-name alterations as examples of (counter-)ideologies*

Names are given to entities to facilitate human interactions with each other and to enable

individuals to have a better grasp of their own existence and their ecology. Speakers of a non-prestigious language very rarely consulted in naming their own language and the places they inhabit. In this talk I first explore how official place-names inform us about the power relations that existed between the different linguistic groups – Arawak/Kalina, French, English, “African”, ... – that shaped the history of St Vincent. Then, I examine how alternative and altered place-names given by the locals help challenge the ideologies imposed by colonialists.

**Shesly Python** (State University of Haiti)

*Describing personality using words referring to body parts in Haitian Creole*

The Haitian Creole lexicon includes expressions formed with body part words that refer to personality. Those expressions involve a noun referring to a body part combined with another noun, an adjective, an adverb, a preposition to form and refer to people’s moral character. Using the uninterruptibility and the immutability tests from Bourvier (2000) criteria, experimental data collected on native speakers of Haitian Creole residing in Haiti enabled us to determine whether the word combinations that these expressions form constitute compounds or Noun Phrases. The results reveal that the participants treat word combination referring to a personality trait as compound words.

**Stéphane Térosier** (Leiden University Centre for Linguistics)

*The syntax and semantics of the clausal determiner in Martinican Creole wh-questions*

Martinican Creole possesses a class of wh-questions which is characterized by the presence in sentence-final position of a clausal determiner homophonous with the definite article. From a pragmatic standpoint, these questions are characterized by three main properties: (a) they cannot be uttered out of the blue; (b) they do not tolerate *nothing*-type answers; and (c) they convey an additional expressive content. These characteristics can all be traced back to properties of the clausal determiner. Like its nominal counterpart, it is strongly anaphoric properties. Its e-merge position in the left periphery further accounts for its interaction with illocutionary force.

**Kristen Urada** (University of Hawaii at Manoa)

*Humbalala! A case study of Hawaii Creole variation on social media*

Hawaii Creole, commonly referred to as Pidgin (henceforth Pidgin), is spoken by locals in addition to the state’s two official languages, Hawaiian and English. While these three

languages are used throughout the state, the extent to which they are used varies by region as demonstrated by Drager and Grama's (2014) map task study in which local residents identified areas they perceive to be associated with a particular language. This study further investigates the association between language use and region with data from social media on people's reported usage of *humbalala* across each Hawaiian island.