

allein das Kupferabbau-Projekt verteidigen, nachdem die deutschen Anteilseigner der Ok Tedi Kupfermine, die Degussa, die Metallgesellschaft und die der Bundesregierung gehörende Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG) ihre Teilnahme vornehm abgesagt hatten. Sie hatten aber ein Gegengutachten geschickt, das die Genauigkeit der Starnberger Studie bezweifelt und ihr Glaubwürdigkeit abspricht. "Nachhaltige Schädigungen des Flußsystems sind (...) bisher nicht bekannt", heißt es darin.

Schützenhilfe erhielten hingegen die Verfasser der Starnberger Studie durch eine überraschend auf eigene Kosten angereiste Gruppe aus Vertretern der Provinzregierung und Anwohnern des verseuchten Flusses. Sie berichteten über die Zerstörung der Lebensgrundlage von 70.000 Flußbewohnern. Farmer Alex Maun: "Die braune Brühe des Ok Tedi ist ungenießbar, es gibt kaum noch Fische. Durch die tonnenweisen Ablagerungen im Fluß tritt er über die Ufer und vergiftet unsere fruchtbarsten Äcker."

Sie forderten einen Damm gegen die Erzabfälle der Mine, damit keine Schwermetalle mehr in den Fluß gelangten. Darüber hinaus wollten sie für die erlittene Beeinträchtigung von den Minenbetreibern entschädigt werden.

Den Bau eines Damms stellte Justizminister Narakobi wegen seiner geschätzten Kosten von einer Milliarde Mark in Frage. Allerdings, so räumte er ein, wolle er sich in "drei bis vier Jahren für Neuverhandlungen mit den Minenbetreibern einsetzen", sagte er. Nicht äußern wollte er sich hingegen zum Fernbleiben der deutschen Anteilseigner, die 25 Prozent an der Mine halten.

Daß der Damm nicht gebaut werden wird, ist sich der Mitautor der Studie, Professor Lutz Castell, sicher. Die Entschädigung sei für den Konzern immer noch billiger, rechnete er vor, selbst wenn viele Anwohner durch Vergiftung sterben sollten. Denn ein Menschenleben in Papua-Neuguinea werde international nur mit 20.000 Mark berechnet.

Ein deutsches Leben gilt hingegen 750.000 Mark wert. Daher sei klar, meint Castell, daß eine derartige Anlage in Europa nicht genehmigungsfähig wäre, wie nach seinen Angaben selbst die Betreiber der Ok Tedi Mine einräumen.

Bemerkenswert war auf der Tagung noch, daß vor allem die Regierungsvertreter eine Zuspitzung der Diskussion um die Mine fürchteten. Zu sehr schwebte der Konflikt um die Erzmine auf der Insel Bougainville im Raume, die nach Widerstand der Anwohner 1989 geschlossen werden mußte. Ein herber Einnahmeverlust für die Regierung damals.

Unterdessen zeigt sich, daß der Organisationsgrad der Anwohner des Ok Tedi Flußes steigt, haben sie doch inzwischen Kontakte zu europäischen Umweltgruppen geknüpft. Offenbar befürchten auch die Minenbetreiber wachsende Spannungen. Wie auf der Tagung zu erfahren war, soll die Produktion der Mine stillschweigend um etwa 50 Prozent hochgefahren worden sein.

Albrecht Winter

The Second Annual Southeast Asian Linguistic Society Meeting
Arizona State University, Tempe, 14.-16. Mai 1992

The Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS) held its second annual meeting May 14-16, 1992, on the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. A

parasession devoted to "Teaching ESL to Students of Southeast Asian Descent" preceded the regular meeting on May 13. Ranging from the general to specific, topics included the teacher's role in students' acquisition of language and culture, cultural factors involved in student drop-out phenomenon, Vietnamese language and culture, Hmong language lessons, education and gender among Khmer refugees, and Khmer literacy and language acquisition. While directed primarily toward ESL teachers in Arizona, the session proved to be stimulating and valuable to a wider audience.

Beginning on May 14, the regular session convened, featuring two invited guest speakers, Robert Blust from the University of Hawaii and Jerry Edmondson from the University of Texas at Arlington. In his presentation "Obstruent epenthesis and the unity of phonological features," Blust argued that true obstruent epenthesis occurs regularly in Austronesian languages and that it should be regarded as a true form of phonological change.

Edmondson directed his attention to the mainland and the Zhuang language of Guangxi and Yunnan provinces. Relying upon unpublished Chinese sources and his own fieldwork, Edmondson spoke on "Change and variation in Zhuang". His discussion focused on the similarities and differences of Zhuang at various geographic localities and their role in the historical sound changes that have led to the present language.

Although the regular session papers were grouped around the traditional areas of phonology, syntax, historical/comparative, and discourse, a number of subtopics emerged within each of the panels. Relative clause formation and noun phrase construction tended to dominate the syntax panels. Analyzing the Austronesian language Wetan in "Relative clauses in Wetan," Kathie Carpenter concluded that functions of restrictive and non-restrictive modification are completely separate and that only restrictive modification is represented by forms traditionally regarded as restrictive, with different formal devices used if the head noun is agent or non-agent. Elisabeth Riddle, in her paper on White Hmong, "Relativization and parataxis in Hmong," examined the form and discourse function/distribution of restrictive relative clauses, arguing that the inclusion of relative markers increased the degree of referential specificity of the modified noun phrase and that the exclusion of relative markers reflected the overall tendency for parataxis in the language. Noun phrase construction provided the topic for Josephine An in "A functional analysis of subjecthood in Tagalog" and for Martha Ratliff in "Topicalized noun phrases in White Hmong." Through a quantitative analysis, An maintained that the morphosyntactic devices found in Tagalog oral and written discourse support the claim that Tagalog shows syntactic ergativity. Ratliff's analysis of topicalized noun phrases helped to delineate the syntactic flexibility shown by Hmong and to clarify the understanding of Hmong's position on the topic-prominent and subject-prominent scale. Also addressing the topic of noun phrases and their constructions in "On intensional vs. extensional grammatical categories," Alexis Manaster-Ramer argued for the existence of a subject category in Southeast Asian languages and claimed that agents and subjects, while individually distinct, nevertheless reveal close similarities to the same categories in non-Southeast Asian languages.

Franz Muller-Gotama directed his attention to the close relationship between particles and topics and their role in discourse in Sundanese. Utilizing data from

Sundanese narratives and his own fieldwork in "The Sundanese particles *mah*, *teh*, and *tea*, Muller-Gotama demonstrated that Sundanese has a system of topic and focus markers (the particles *mah*, *teh*, and *tea*) which has no counterpart in Bahasa Indonesia and that the existence of this system represents a major typological contrast between the two closely related languages.

In a paper with a transformational grammar framework, "Is *hay* 'to give' really a benefactive-causative in Thai," Udom Warotamasikkhadit made the claim that the verb preceding the verb *hay* in fact dictates its benefactive or causative function.

Two papers looked at both syntax and morphology. David Solnit, in "On Karen: when is an affix not a morpheme?" analyzed the role of affixes and their functions in Karen. In "The Khmer nominalizing/causativizing infix," Eric Schiller turned his attention to Old and Middle Khmer, claiming Khmer infixes to be clitics at the morphological level and their appearance to be the result of morphosyntactic and phonotactic requirements.

Two distinct papers made up the phonology panel. Drawing upon tonogenesis theory in "Tonogenesis in the Huihui (Chamic) language of Hainan," Graham Thurgood focused upon the tonal system of Huihui as it developed from the partial register system of Proto-Chamic. His analysis and conclusions supported the theory that tones seem to evolve from an earlier registral system. Looking at larger phonological units, Shobhana L. Chelliah examined fast speech in Manipuri. Her "Uses of fast speech phenomenon in grammatical description of Manipuri" revealed how fast speech affects the morphologicalization (through phonological merger) of syntactic units.

In a lively historical/comparative panel, Paul Benedict, in "Retrograde reconstruction in Southeast Asia," drew upon examples from the Austro-Tai families of Kadai and Miao-Yao to reconstruct proto-forms that had been obscured through the monosyllabization process. James Matisoff also scrutinized proto-forms, but in the Sino-Tibetan family. In "Sino-Tibetan laryngeals: a ha! ?uh-?uh," he examined and analyzed etyma for which *h-, *ʔ-, or *zero-initial had to be posited. Gerard Diffloth brought in still another language family when he discussed "Mon-Khmer etymologies." Turning to diachronic development of semantics in "V-N compounds with bodyparts in Thai," Ngampit Jagacinski compiled a collection of two-syllable compounds and investigated the development of the formatives and the relationship between the formatives and the derived compound. Her analysis drew upon the interdependency of meaning of the formatives, the logically possible meanings, and the metaphorical meanings.

In the discourse panel, both John F. Hartmann and Carol Compton considered pronouns in Tai languages. Hartmann's "Discourse analysis of Tai-Dam narrative" focused upon the strategies of pronominal usage and how those pronouns provided structure and coherence to a traditional Tai-Dam poetic narrative. Turning to contemporary Lao in "Choosing Lao pronouns for conversational purposes: negotiating and establishing relationships verbally," Carol Compton determined those social and situational factors that influenced the speakers in their choice of standard and kinship pronouns. Todd Schmidt also looked at a Tai language. His "Sequentiality discourse analysis of Thai verb complexes" provided evidence for the claim that the sequentiality of the story line in Thai narratives is shown through serial verbs in clauses. Providing a capstone to the

panel, Hal Schiffman explored the question of language change and diglossia, discussing how diglossia in Southeast Asia may affect overt language policy and how cultural and historical conditions underlie general language policy.

Given the large number of papers analyzing reduplication, a separate panel was created. Absorbing and probing, the papers provided new insights into a common topic. Donald A. Burquest, in "Patterns of reduplication in some languages of Maluku," examined reduplication in terms of a metrical approach in the Austronesian languages Meher, Roma, and Tugun. In a different approach, Ronald Zack's "Reduplication in Hiligaynon" dealt with the functional uses of reduplicative patterns and how those patterns in Hiligaynon differ from those in Tagalog. Also working with an Austronesian language, Alan Stevens, in "Madurese Reduplication Revisited," analyzed Madurese reduplicative processes as a left-to-right association, and not as truncation or compounding. Outside the Austronesian world, Peansiri E. Vongvipanond turned to Thai with "Semantic reduplication in Thai." In her presentation, Vongvipanond maintained that Thai reduplication operates at both the lexical and syntactic level and that the semantic motivation remains the same at both levels --- to introduce new or temporarily introduced concepts.

Like the first SEALS conference in 1991, SEALS II provided a lively format for a collection of insightful and stimulating papers. With a wide range of topics and languages covered, the conference appealed to both specialists and generalists in Southeast Asian linguistics. Linguistics can look forward to the third annual meeting, with the side for the meeting in 1993 to be announced at a later date. Papers from the SEALS II conference will be published by the Programm for Southeast Asian Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. The proceedings from the first SEALS conference are also available from the Program at a cost of US\$ 20.00.

Thomas John Hudak

Nepal-Tag "40 Jahre Entwicklungshilfe in Nepal"

Königswinter-Ittenbach, 23. Mai 1992

Das Jubiläum der Deutsch-Nepalischen Gesellschaft e.V., Köln, war Anlaß zu einem Nepal-Tag (Symposium) unter dem Generalthema "40 Jahre Entwicklungshilfe in Nepal", der am 23. Mai 1992 in den Räumen der Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung in Königswinter-Ittenbach stattfand. Da sich die Gesellschaft in erster Linie bemüht, fundiertes Wissen über dieses Land zu vermitteln, war eine Reihe erster Nepal-Kenner aus verschiedenen Fachgebieten eingeladen, um aus ihrer Erfahrung einen Beitrag zu leisten. Der nepalerfahrene Schweizer Geologe Toni Hagen sprach die Laudatio auf die Gesellschaft und ihren Gründer-Präsidenten Siegfried Kretschmar, die eine Erfolgs-/Mißerfolgsanalyse von Projekten und eine kritische Würdigung des Tourismus mit einschloß. Den Festvortrag zum Thema "Wirtschaftliche Entwicklung, Partizipation und Dezentralisation" hielt Bruno Knall vom Südasien-Institut Heidelberg. Diese Thematik diente einer Analyse der entwicklungspolitischen Gegenwart Nepals, das seit kurzen (erneut) den Weg einer Mehrparteiendemokratie geht. Es wurde deutlich, daß ein Land