



Coordinators: Alexandra Aikhenvald, Péter Maitz
Special Workshop in D3 -063
Wednesday 11 July 2018

13.45 Official Opening
14.00

Abstracts

a) Australian participants:

1.

Language and variety mixing in diasporic Hmong

In its diaspora context in Australia and the United States, Laotian Hmong (H Mien) is experiencing elements of mixing not only between its two varieties, White Hmong and Blue(/Green) Mong, but also with English. Mixing between White and Blue varieties involves usage of morphemes from the other variety of both open and closed c

b) German participants:

1. Péter Maitz

Boarding school creoles and the mixed language debate

There is a small group of contact languages including, for instance, Tayo (Ehrhart 1993), Bilingual Navajo (Schaengold 2003), Roper River Kriol (Harris 1986) or Unserdeutsch (Maitz & Volker 2017) that share the rather unusual property of having emerged in a boarding school environment. Even though these languages have very similar histories, some of them are classified as mixed languages while others are listed among creoles. Apart from the variety of circumstances of language genesis that make these languages borderline cases among contact languages, the main reason for this inconsistent classification might be the lack of clear definitions and typologies for both creole and mixed languages. In my paper, I will take a critical look at both the affected languages and the criteria behind their classification in the relevant literature. By doing so, I will try to make a small contribution to the consistent classification of these boarding school languages and at the same time, to the identification of the necessary and sufficient criteria for the distinctive definition of different types of contact languages.

2. Péter Maitz / Siegwalt Lindenfelser

Simplification in language contact: Evidence from Unserdeutsch

