

Loretta Marie O'Connor

Curriculum Vitae, December 2011

Afdeling Taalwetenschap/Department of Linguistics
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US citizen, legal resident of the Netherlands

Current position

Post-doctoral Researcher, Languages of South America Research Group
and **Project Coordinator**
Traces of Contact Project (ERC Advanced Grant to Pieter Muysken, P.I.)
Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands

Academic credentials

- Ph.D.** Linguistics, University of California-Santa Barbara, 2004
Dissertation: *Motion, transfer and transformation: The grammar of change in Lowland Chontal*
- M.A.** African Languages and Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1991
Thesis: *The position of Makua: a linguistic geography of Bantu phonology*
- B.A.** Spanish Language and Literature, Western Illinois University, 1976

Research and teaching interests

- The intersection of language, culture and cognition; grammatical categories and patterns of use; typology, morphosyntax, lexical semantics, discourse
- Language contact, change and variation; sociolinguistics and multilingualism; the genetic and historical classification of languages
- Descriptive and documentary linguistics, applied anthropology; endangered and minority languages, languages and cultures in transition; fieldwork methodology, technology and ethics
- Computational tools and models for investigating language prehistory
- The expression of space, change, static location, possession, and agency
- Mesoamerican languages, South American languages, Bantu languages

Other training

Stanford University, Stanford, CA. LSA Summer Institute, 2007
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands
Doctoral fellowship, Language and Cognition research group, 2002-2004
University of California, Santa Barbara, CA. LSA Summer Institute, 2001
Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, IL. A.A.S. in Business Data Processing, 1983

Language research and field experience

- 2004-2007 **Linguist**, Lowland Chontal language and cultural heritage documentation project. *Post-doctorate funded by the Volkswagen Foundation and hosted by University of Hamburg Department of Mesoamerican Studies.*
- 1997-2003 **Linguist**, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico. *Funded by the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (2002, 2003), a UC-Mexus Dissertation Grant (1999) and three Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grants (1997, 2000, 2001).*
- 1996 Summer **Linguist**, Bolivian Documentation Project, Tumichukua, Beni, Bolivia. *Funded by Bolivian Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, Bolivian Ministry of Education, and Harvard Institute for International Development, project director Dr. Colette Grinevald.*
- 1995 Summer **Linguist**, Mixe-Zoquean Documentation Project, Catemaco, Veracruz, Mexico. *Funded by National Science Foundation, principal investigators Dr. Terrence Kaufman and Dr. John Justeson.*
- 1989 Summer **Research assistant**, Kimbundu-Portuguese-English Dictionary project, *Department of African Languages and Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Supervisor, Dr. J. Hazel Carter.*

Teaching and training experience

- 2011-present **Lecturer**, Intensive English Program, Radboud in'to Languages, RU, Nijmegen.
- 2011 **Teacher**, Introduction to Phylogenetic Methods for Linguists, LOT Summer School course, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, June (in prep).
- 2008-2009 **Teacher**, English, and **Trainer**, cross-cultural relations and communication, Language Training Center, Nijmegen, and Plieger Training, Assen, Netherlands.
- 1997-2006 **Teacher**, short courses in linguistics, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico.
- 1983-2001 **Trainer**, software and information technology, Galesburg, IL; Madison, WI; Santa Barbara, CA.
- 1995-1997 **Teaching assistant**, *Language and Society, Introduction to Linguistics*, Department of Linguistics, University of California at Santa Barbara.
- 1996 **Teacher**, *First course in basic linguistics for the indigenous communities of the Bolivian eastern lowlands*, Tumichukua, Beni, Bolivia.
- 1977-80 **Teacher**, English and Spanish, free-lance, Madrid and Almería, Spain.
- 1976-77 **Teacher**, English as a second language, BRIAM Language Institute, Madrid, Spain.

Professional experience in the private sector and government

- 1995-2001 **Computer programmer/analyst**, University of California at Santa Barbara. Information Systems & Computing department.
- 1992 **Intern**, Political/Economic Sections, US Embassy, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 1987-1994 **Computer programmer/analyst**, University of Wisconsin at Madison. Division of Information Technology.
- 1983-1987 **Business data processing manager**, The Register-Mail newspaper, Galesburg, IL.
- 1981-1983 **Newsroom data technician**, The Register-Mail newspaper, Galesburg, IL.

Fellowship and grant awards

- 2009 NEH-NSF Documenting Endangered Languages Fellowship
- 2004-2007 Post-doctoral Grant for the Documentation of Endangered Languages, Volkswagen Foundation DoBeS initiative, hosted by University of Hamburg
- 2004-2006 Individual Post-doctoral Fellowship, Endangered Languages Documentation Program, Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Program/SOAS (declined)
- 2002-2004 Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics Dissertation Fellowship, Nijmegen
- 2001 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship, UCSB
- 2000-2001 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Assistantship, UCSB
- 2000 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, UCSB
- 1999 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship, UCSB (declined)
- 1999-2000 UC-MEXUS Dissertation Grant, UCSB
- 1997 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, UCSB
- 1997 Outstanding Faculty Member, UCSB Residence Halls Association
- 1997 Graduate Student Association Excellence in Teaching Award nominee, UCSB
- 1994-1997 University of California Regents' Special Fellowship, UCSB
- 1994 Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Junior Fellowship, UCSB
- 1990 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, UW
- 1989 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, UW
- 1988 Kemper K. Knapp Fellowship, UW
- 1976 A.L. Knoblauch Outstanding Foreign Language Student, WIU
- 1975 Western Illinois University Foundation Scholarship,
- 1974 Western Illinois University Foundation Scholarship
- 1974 Blenda K. Olson Outstanding Western Illinois University Freshman

Publications: books

- in press *Chontal de la baja de Oaxaca*, México: Centro para la Investigación para la Integración Social. Contribution on Lowland Chontal to Archivo de Lenguas Indígenas de México, also in electronic version at www.colmex.mx/alim/.
- 2007 *Motion, transfer, and transformation: The grammar of change in Lowland Chontal*. Studies in Language Companion Series 95, John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Publications: book chapters

- in review Language Profile: Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca. In *How Languages Work*, an introductory linguistics textbook, C. Genetti, ed. Cambridge University Press.
- in press Take it up, down, and away: Encoding placement and removal in Lowland Chontal. Book chapter in *Events of “putting” and “taking”: A crosslinguistic perspective*, A. Kopecka and B. Narasimhan (eds), John Benjamins Typological Studies in Language series.
- 2009 All typologies leak: Predicates of change in Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca. In *New Challenges in Typology 2: Transcending the Borders and Refining the Distinctions*, P. Epps and A. Arkhipov (eds), Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 343-363.
- 2006 Sobre los predicados complejos en el chontal de la baja. In *Historia y Etnografía entre los Chontales de Oaxaca*, A. Oseguera ed. Oaxaca: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, 119-161. (On complex predicates in Lowland Chontal, contribution to a volume on Chontal studies.)
- 2004 Going getting tired: Associated motion through space and time in Lowland Chontal. In *Language, Culture and Mind*, M. Achard & S. Kemmer, eds., Stanford: CSLI publications, 181-198.
- 2000 Bosquejo gramatical preliminar del Chontal de la Baja. In *Toj'me'me' lajltyaygi: Hablemos nuestra lengua*. Oaxaca, Mexico: Instituto Nacional Indigenista, 39-81. (First grammatical sketch of Lowland Chontal in Spanish).

Publications: journal articles

- 2009 The phonetic structures of Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca (third author, with Ian Maddieson and Heriberto Avelino). *International Journal of American Linguistics* 75.1: 71-103.
- 2008 The land remembers: Landscape terms and place names in Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca, Mexico (first author, with Peter Kröfges). *Language Sciences* 30, 291-315.
- 2007 Chop, shred, split apart: Cutting and breaking in Lowland Chontal. *Cognitive Linguistics* 18-2, 219-230.

Publications: electronic archives

- 2010 Chontal-English Dictionary and Diccionario Chontal-Español, in online electronic archive Documentation of Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca Language and Culture. DoBeS Archive, MPI Nijmegen. 2000 entries, 150 pages, printable and interactive versions, corpus1.mpi.nl/ds/imdi_browser.
- 2007 with Peter Kröfges, www.mpi.nl/DOBES/projects/chontal/project, informational and archival website of the Lowland Chontal Documentation Project, Volkswagen

Foundation DoBeS Endangered Language Documentation Program.

Publications: conference proceedings

- 2008 De verbos y satélites: La expresión del movimiento en el chontal de la Baja. *Memorias del Coloquio Francisco Belmar: Las lenguas Otomangués y Oaxaqueñas ante el Siglo XXI*. Oaxaca: Instituto Estatal de Educación Pública de Oaxaca. (Of verbs and satellites: The expression of motion in Lowland Chontal.)
- 2000 Aspectual classes and non-agentive morphosyntax in Lowland Chontal. *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Berkeley Linguistics Society meeting*, special session on the semantic and syntax of languages of the Americas, University of California-Berkeley.
- 2000 Classificatory verbs of transfer in Lowland Chontal. *Proceedings of the Second Annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages*, Santa Barbara Working Papers.
- 1999 The agentive system of Lowland Chontal. *Proceedings of the First Annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages*, Santa Barbara Working Papers.

Publications: reviews

- 2010 Una revisión crítica de *Estudio del chontal* por el licenciado Francisco Belmar, 1900, Oaxaca: serie de Lenguas del estado de Oaxaca. In *El filólogo de Tlaxiaco: Un homenaje académica a Francisco Belmar*, F. Barriga Puente, ed., México: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, 79-86.
- 2007 Review of Bhat (2004), Pronouns, *Journal of Pragmatics* 39, 612-616.
- 2006 Review of Talmy (2000), Toward a cognitive semantics: Concept structuring systems, Volume I, and Typology and process in concept structuring, Volume II. *Journal of Pragmatics* 38, 1126-1134.
- 1998 Review of Pasch (1994). Sango. The national official language of the Central African Republic. *International Journal of Pidgins and Creole Languages*, 12.2, 342-347.

Workshops organized

- 2011 "Large-scale comparative research on South American languages and cultures: Multi-dimensional computational visualizations of relationships in the data." RU, Nijmegen, Netherlands, September.
- 2011 "Guaporé-Mamoré Tertulia." RU, Nijmegen, Netherlands, January.
- 2010 "IT Methods for Investigating the History of Contact in Amazonia." Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands, May.

Conference and workshop presentations

- 2011 "Dependency-sensitive typological distance." Workshop on Comparing Approaches to Measuring Linguistic Difference, Gothenburg, Sweden, October. (second author, with Harald Hammarström)
- 2011 "Languages of the Intermediate Area in conceptual and physical space." Workshop on Language in Space: Geographic Perspectives on Language Diversity and Diachrony, Boulder, CO, July.
- 2011 "I'd rather scrub these hubcaps: On the relevance of documentation in the speaker community." NWO-Endangered Languages Program, Leiden University, Netherlands, April.
- 2011 "With the speakers, by the speakers, for... the grandchildren." Poster presented at International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation (ICLDC-2), Honolulu, Hawaii, February.
- 2011 "Can't see the features for the trees: On interpreting phylogenetic representations of linguistic data." Paper presented at Taalkunde in Nederland-Dag, Utrecht, Netherlands, February.
- 2010 "Comparison of structural features and lexical data: A case study in the classification of North American Indian languages" (second author, with Olga Krasnoukhova). Paper presented at the First conference on ASJP and Language Prehistory, MPI-Leipzig, Germany, September.
- 2010 "Multiple action in Lowland Chontal" (second author, with Jocelyn Ballantyne). Paper presented at the Workshop on Pluractionality: Towards a typology of verbal plurality, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, Netherlands, August.
- 2010 "A multi-disciplinary approach to areal and historical linguistics: Units and methods." Colloquium presented to the Americanists in the Netherlands group, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands, February.
- 2009 "Current perspectives on the peopling of South America." Colloquium presented to the Languages in Time and Space research group, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands, October.
- 2008 "The contact connection: Complex verbal predicates in Chontal of Oaxaca." Paper presented at Multi-verb constructions in the Americas workshop, Nijmegen, Netherlands, October.
- 2007 "All typologies leak: The functions of satellite-framing in a verb-framed language of southern Mexico." Invited presentation at Laboratoire Dynamique de Langage workshop on Path, DDL-CNRS, Université Lyon 2, France, November.
- 2007 "My feet hurt from the waist down: Lexicon and categorization of body parts in Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca." Paper presented at the annual SSILA/LSA meeting,

Anaheim, CA, January.

- 2006 "De verbos y satélites: La expresión del movimiento en el chontal de la Baja." Paper presented at the Coloquio Francisco Belmar: Las lenguas Otomangués y Oaxaqueñas ante el Siglo XXI, Biblioteca Francisco de Burgoa de la Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico, April.
- 2006 "Any way you slice it: Verbs of cutting and breaking in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at CELCNA meeting, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, April.
- 2006 "The phonetic structures of Oaxaca Chontal." With Ian Maddieson and Heriberto Avelino, paper presented (by Heriberto Avelino) at the annual SSILA/LSA meeting, Albuquerque, NM, January.
- 2005 "Conjugaciones verbales: flexión y derivación." Workshop talk presented to bilingual educators, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, November.
- 2005 "Introducción a los predicados complejos en el chontal de la baja." Class presented to bilingual educators, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, October.
- 2005 "La colección de nombres y verbos para el diccionario." Workshop talk presented to bilingual educators, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, October.
- 2005 "Semantic alignment of participants in Lowland Chontal." Poster presented at The Typology of Stative-Active Languages workshop, MPI-Leipzig, Germany, May.
- 2004 "Elaboration of path in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at annual SSILA/LSA meeting, special session on the expression of path in languages of the Americas, Boston, MA, January.
- 2003 "Trajectories and directional vectors in Lowland Chontal." Talk presented to the Max Planck Gesellschaft Fachbeirat, MPI-Nijmegen, Netherlands, October.
- 2003 "Complex predicates in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at annual SSILA/LSA meeting, special session on complex predicates in the Americas, Atlanta, GA, January.
- 2002 "Manner-salience and state change in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at High Desert Linguistics Society conference, University of New Mexico, November.
- 2002 "Going getting tired: Motion through space, evolution through time in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at Conceptual Structure and Discourse in Language conference, Rice University, October.
- 2000 "Cómo usar el bosquejo gramatical del chontal de la baja." Workshop on the first Spanish-language grammatical description of Lowland Chontal, organized and presented to bilingual educators, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, June.
- 2000 "Aspectual classes and non-agentive morphosyntax in Lowland Chontal." Paper

presented at the 26th Annual Berkeley Linguistics Society meeting, University of California-Berkeley, February.

- 1999 "Classificatory verbs of transfer in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at the Second Annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, University of California-Santa Barbara, May.
- 1998 "Verbal agreement marking in Lowland Chontal." Paper presented at the First Annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, University of California-Santa Barbara, May.
- 1998 "La investigación lingüística: cómo coleccionar sustantivos y verbos para un diccionario del chontal de la baja." Workshop talk presented to bilingual educators and candidates, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, March.
- 1998 "Para normalizar y estandarizar el alfabeto del chontal de la baja." Workshop organized and presented to bilingual educators, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, January.
- 1994 "Category and concept in language." Paper presented at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, Junior Fellows Conference, UCSB.

Invited presentations

- 2011 "Traces of contact: Language contact studies and historical linguistics." Invited lecture, University of California-Berkeley Linguistics department, February.
- 2009 "Endangered languages: What are they, and why we care." Invited presentation to the Nijmegen Rotary Club, Nijmegen, Netherlands, November.
- 2007 "All typologies leak: Predicate types in Lowland Chontal of Oaxaca." Invited presentation in the Linguistics and English Language Seminar Series, University of Manchester, November.
- 2007 "Linguistic typology." Guest lecture to the Language Form and Meaning class, Utrecht University College, Utrecht, The Netherlands, October.
- 2006 "On verbs, satellites, and other contributions from the field." Invited presentation at Laboratoire Dynamique de Langage, DDL-CNRS, Université Lyon 2, Lyon, France, December.
- 2006 "Estudio de idioma y patrimonio cultural del chontal de la costa: Resultados del proyecto." With Peter Kroefges, presentation of findings and distribution of the products of the documentation project to the Chontal community in San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, June.
- 2006 "Dancing with the alligator: Endangered language fieldwork in southern Mexico." Presentation at Utrecht University College, Utrecht, Netherlands, February.

- 2005 "Language documentation in the Chontalpa: with the speakers, by the speakers, for the speakers." Invited presentation at the Götter, Gräber und Globalisierung: Indianisches Leben in Mesoamerika Ringvorlesung (lecture series on Mesoamerican language and culture), University of Hamburg, December.
- 2005 "La documentación del chontal de la baja: Métodos y motivos." Invited presentation at Biblioteca Francisco de Burgoa of the Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico, November.
- 2005 "Language and cultural heritage: The Lowland Chontal Documentation Project." Colloquium co-presented with Peter Kroefges at University of Hamburg Mesoamerican Studies Center, Hamburg, Germany, January.
- 2003 "Parts of speech in Lowland Chontal." Presentation at Americanist colloquium series, Katholik University of Nijmegen, Netherlands, March.
- 2002 "Methodologies of semantic typology investigation at MPI-Nijmegen." Guest lecture presented to the Semantics class, UCSB, fall term.
- 2002 "Compound predicates in Lowland Chontal." Presentation in the Pearls at Peril colloquium series, Leiden University, Netherlands, May.
- 2002 "Indicating participant structure in Lowland Chontal." Presentation at Americanist colloquium, Katholik University of Nijmegen, Netherlands, April.
- 2001 Research progress report. Invited talk to the elders and Chontal Cultural Committee, Instituto Nacional Indigenista, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, April.
- 2001 "Compound verbs of directional motion in Lowland Chontal." Colloquium presented to the Department of Linguistics, UCSB, January.
- 2000 "Verbos clasificatorios de movimiento en el chontal de la baja." Invited presentation to the Colegio de México/Seminario de Lenguas Indígenas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, May.
- 2000 Research progress report. Invited talk to the elders and Chontal Cultural Committee, Instituto Nacional Indigenista, San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, April.
- 1998 "Why language is important." Invited presentation to LINK program students, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI, October.
- 1998 "Motion verbs, aspectual morphemes, and other cultural puzzles of fieldwork with the Lowland Chontales." Presentation to the Native American Indian Languages group, UCSB, April.
- 1998 "El alfabeto del chontal de la baja." Alphabet normalization proposal presented to municipal authorities, cultural committee, and bilingual education community,

San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico, March.

- 1997 "Minority languages of California." Guest lecture to Language and Society class, UCSB, spring term.
- 1996 "Language acquisition." Guest lecture to Introduction to Linguistics class, UCSB, fall term.
- 1994 "Working overseas." Invited panel discussant, Volunteer/Work/Teach Abroad program, Travel and Campus Outreach Volunteer Services, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 1993 "Working overseas." Presentation at International Studies program International Jobs Day, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 1991-93 "African languages and culture." Invited presentations in elementary schools, Madison, WI.

Peer review

Grant proposal: *National Science Foundation, Endangered Language Documentation Program*

Article manuscript: *Language Sciences, Studies in Language, Cognitive Linguistics*.

Chapter manuscript: *New Challenges in Typology 2* (Mouton de Gruyter), *Events of "putting" and "taking" (John Benjamins)*.

Other professional service

- 2006 Invited participant, Encuentro Binacional sobre Lenguas Indígenas en Riesgo de Desaparición. Organizational meeting, INALI and Mexico-North, Mexico City D.F., September.
- 2001 Volunteer, LSA Institute 2001, UCSB.
- 1999 Graduate student representative, Committee to revise departmental guidelines and requirements, Department of Linguistics, UCSB.
- 1999 Volunteer, Second annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, Department of Linguistics, UCSB.
- 1997-2000 Mentor, Women in Linguistics Mentorship Association.
- 1997 Panel member, new student peer orientation, Department of Linguistics, UCSB.
- 1997 Graduate student representative, Search Committee for Humanities Dean, UCSB.
- 1997 Volunteer, Himalayan Languages Symposium, Department of Linguistics, UCSB.
- 1996-97 Graduate student representative to the Graduate Students Association, UCSB.
- 1995-96 Graduate student representative to the faculty, Department of Linguistics, UCSB.
- 1992 Organizer, Avenues of Dissent in a Democracy workshop, Embassy of the United States, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Languages

English (native); Spanish (fluent); Lowland Chontal, Dutch, and French (good reading skills, fair comprehension and speaking skills); Shona and Portuguese (passive skills);

Tamil (field methods course); Santa María Chimalapa Zoque, Movima, and Lowland Chontal (on-site fieldwork).

Professional memberships

Association for Linguistic Typology

Linguistics Society of America

Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas

Algemene Vereniging voor Taal Wetenschap (Dutch Assn of General Linguistics)