
Cozy Fieldwork Session – Final Report

In 2019, the Student Council of the Empirical Linguistics (*Fachschaft der Empirischen Sprachwissenschaft*) organized for the first time an event called Cozy Fieldwork Session – *Geschichten aus dem Feld* (Stories from the field). It was held at the Goethe University Frankfurt am Main on November 18th. In total 7 lecturers were invited to share their interesting experiences which they collected on fieldwork trips while documenting indigenous languages from different regions of the world. The talks were all given by lecturers and professors from the department of Empirical Linguistics and Africanistic Studies of Goethe University. The presentations took up to 30 minutes, including time for additional questions and a short discussion. The event contained the following talks:

- Prof. Dr. Jost Gippert: *Feldforschung montan und maritime: Kaukasus und Malediven* (Fieldwork montane and maritime: Caucasus and Maldives)
- Prof. Dr. Hermann Jungraithmayr: *Nordnigeria und Tschad* (Northern Nigeria and Tschad)
- Dr. Irina Nevskaya: *Feldforschung im Bergaltai* (Fieldwork in the Altai mountains)
- Prof. Dr. Bernd Nothofer: *Von Dorf zu Dorf in der ‚Malaiischen Welt‘* (From village to village in the ‚Malayan world‘)
- Prof. Dr. Sven Grawunder: *Warte!* (Wait!)
- Prof. Dr. Axel Fleisch: *Kenias Südküste. Über das Swahili, Mijikenda, und das Forschen mit Studierenden und Touristen.* (The southern coast of Kenya: On Swahili, Mijikenda and the research with students and tourists)
- Dr. Zakharia Pourtskhvanidze: *Wie aus Informanten plötzlich Feldforscher wurden* (How informants suddenly turned into fieldworkers)

The event was very well attended, with over 40 listeners. During the break between the presentations the guests could help themselves to drinks and snacks and had the chance to exchange views about the talks.

The event aimed at raising the awareness for indigenous languages, their documentation, preservation or revitalisation and also the need of urgent action before the death of a language. At the same time the listeners had the opportunity to listen to interesting and often amusing anecdotes. Because of the great interest of both lecturers and guests in the event it is already planned to organize a second event of this sort, this time in English, which will take place next year in February.