

## **Dr. Tania E. Strahan**

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### **Qualifications**

- PhD                      2002, Department of Linguistics, The University of Melbourne  
Thesis: Long-distance reflexives in Norwegian  
Supervisors: Assoc Prof Lesley Stirling, Prof Nick Evans, Prof Peter Austin, Dr Dominique Estival  
My examiners described my thesis as 'a very impressive work', 'very interesting to the research community' and 'by far the most comprehensive empirical investigation of Long Distance Reflexives (LDR) in Norwegian – and perhaps any language – undertaken so far'. They also called my approach and the effort I devoted to getting new data 'refreshing'.
- BA (Hons)            1997, First class honours in Linguistics and German, The University of Melbourne  
Thesis: Some aspects of the phonetics and phonology of a West Norwegian dialect spoken in Valen, Kvinnherad  
Supervisors: Prof Janet Fletcher, Prof Nick Evans

### **Academic appointments**

- 2007-2009          Postdoctoral Researcher, Nordic Microcomparative Syntax (NORMS), Syntactic Variation Group, The University of Iceland
- 2003-2007          Lecturer/Subject Co-ordinator (full subject responsibilities): La Trobe University, The University of Melbourne, Monash University (see list of subjects on pages 6-8)  
Research Assistant: La Trobe University (Publications Assistant, Editorial Assistant), Monash University (Maluku Endangered Language Project)
- 2002-2003          Tutor, Department of Linguistics, The University of Melbourne & Deakin University

### **Grants**

- 2004                      Faculty grant, La Trobe University, for presentation of conference paper in Sweden
- 1999                      School of Languages Postgraduate Travel Support Scheme, The University of Melbourne, fieldwork travel assistance
- 1999                      Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, The University of Melbourne, fieldwork assistance

## Awards

*Minnefondet av 8. mai 1970 scholarship* (The Memorial Fund) 'A bursary for one year's residence in Norway at a folk high school. This commemorative fund was established on the 25th anniversary of the Liberation of Norway, 8 May 1945, by the Norwegian Storting (National Assembly).' Only 25 are given out each year. [http://www.folkehogskole.no/index.php?page\\_id=47](http://www.folkehogskole.no/index.php?page_id=47).

## Academic scholarship

NORMS Postdoctoral fellowship (12 months)  
Melbourne Research Scholarship for doctoral study (3½ years)

## Visiting fellowship

May 12-16 2008     Institutt for lingvistiske og nordiske studier (ILN), Det Humanistiske Fakultet, Universitet i Oslo  
Dec03-Jan04        Linguistics Program, La Trobe University

## Honorary Associate

Jan04-Dec09        Linguistics Program, La Trobe University  
Nov05-Apr06        School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University

## Research Assistant work

Editorial Assistant for Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area journal, 2006-7 (vol 29-30)  
ELDP, Maluku project November 2005-2006  
Preparation of ARC Federation Fellowship grant, July-September 2005  
Publications Assistant for editing and production of books 'Evidentiality', 'Serial Verbs' and occasional papers, RCLT

## Publications

### BOOK (DEST A1)

2003                Long-distance reflexives in Norwegian, a quantitative study. LINCOS Studies in Germanic Linguistics 20. 190pp. ISBN 3 89586 709 8.

### EDITED BOOK (\* INDICATES REFEREED)

\* *in progress* With Lesley Stirling and Susan Douglas. Narrative in intimate societies. Studies in Narrative series, John Benjamins.

### JOURNAL ARTICLE (\* INDICATES REFEREED – DEST C1)

\*2008                'They' in Australian English: non-gender-specific or specifically non-gendered?, Australian Journal of Linguistics. Vol. 28.1, pp19-31.

\*2008                A three-way contrast in rounding, in La Trobe Working Papers. In K. Rickard, J. Pelkey & C. Yang (Eds.) La Trobe Working Papers in Linguistics, Vol 12. Melbourne: La Trobe University.  
[<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/linguistics/publications.html>]

- \*2000 The distribution of reflexive pronouns in Norwegian, in Melbourne Papers in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, Vol. 0, pp15-30.

## SPECIAL ISSUE JOURNAL ARTICLES (\* INDICATES REFEREED – DEST C1)

- \*2008 Sjá þá han mannen! On the definiteness and specificity of Scandinavian pronoun demonstratives. Special Issue of Nordic Journal of Linguistics, December 2008, edited by Lars-Olof Delsing and Kersti Börjas.
- \*2001 The Distribution of Reflexive Pronouns in Norwegian, in Lesley Stirling and Peter K. Austin (eds) Australian Journal of Linguistics, Vol. 21, No.1, pp159-169.
- \**submitted for review* November 2007. The specific article in Norwegian. Special issue of AJL, edited by Marie Fellbaum-Körpi. Submitted November 2007.
- in progress* Long-distance reflexives in Scandinavian: Typologies and 'stereotypologies'. Special issue of NJL (?), edited by Camilla Wide and Pål Kr. Eriksen.

## EDITOR OF SPECIAL ISSUE JOURNAL (\* INDICATES REFEREED – DEST C1)

- \**in progress* With Peter Svenonius, Kristine Bentzen, Jeffrey Parrott, Øystein Vangsnes, Caroline Heycock, Janne Bondi Johannessen and Jógvan í Lon Jacobsen. Papers on Faroese (Working title). *Nordlyd*, University of Tromsø.

## PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PAPERS (\* INDICATES REFEREED – DEST C1)

- \*2007 Long-distance reflexives in Norwegian: Lectal variation and speaker attitudes, in Mushin, Ilana and Mary Laughren (eds), Selected papers from the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Australian Linguistic Society. Brisbane, 7-9 July, 2006.
- \*2006 Beer, doonas, books and blankets: Contrasting reflexives and pronouns in locative PPs in Australian English, Online proceedings of ALS 2005.
- 2005 Intonational phrases and reflexives in Norwegian, Nordic Prosody IX, P. Lang: Germany.
- \*2000 The Distribution of Reflexive Pronouns in Norwegian, in Melbourne Papers in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, Vol. 0, Issue 2.
- \*1999 Reflexives in Norwegian, in Melbourne Papers in Linguistics, Vol. 18, pp73-80.

## WORKING PAPERS (\* INDICATES REFEREED – DEST C1)

- \*2009 (*in progress*) Reflexives: Faroese versus Icelandic. In *Nordlyd*, edited by Peter Svenonius, Tania E. Strahan, Kristine Bentzen, Jeffrey Parrott, Øystein Vangsnes, Caroline Heycock, Janne Bondi Johannessen and Jógvan í Lon Jacobsen. University of Tromsø. ISSN: 1503-8599, URI: urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-7619.

## BOOK CHAPTER

- forthcoming* Að beygja sig aftur á íslensku og norsku: Long-distance reflexives in Icelandic and Norwegian.

## BOOK REVIEW

- 2008 Review of 'Cognitive Linguistics Investigations: Across languages, fields and philosophical boundaries, edited by June Luchjenbroers, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2006, xiii + 334 pages'. Australian Journal of Linguistics.

## CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP AND RESEARCH SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- forthcoming* • Reflexives in Reykjavik, April 2009
- 2008 • Outside-in functional uncertainty – a different look at binding. *Abstract due 15/2/2009*. LFG 14 conference, July 13-16, Trinity College, UK
- 2008 **g]**•The evidence of long-distance reflexives in Norwegian and the nature of parameters: Is overt case-marking related to long-distance binding? NORMS Revisiting Parameters: Holmberg and Platzack (1995) Reloaded, Lund, October 16-17, organised by Peter Svenonius, Lars-Olof Delsing and Halldor Ármann Sigurðsson.
- f]**•Binding intrigue in Scandinavian. NORMS Grand-meeting, Reports from postdoctoral researchers. Sanderbjerg, Denmark, August 2008.
- e]**•Long-distance reflexives in Scandinavian: Typologies and 'stereotypologies'. NORMS Workshop on Typology and Nordic Dialect Variation, Helsinki, June 5-6 2008, organised by Camilla Wide and Pål Kr. Eriksen.
- d]**•Discourse functions of the specific demonstrative in Norwegian. Oslo Research Seminar, 14/5/2008.
- c]**•Long-distance reflexives in Scandinavian: Typologies and 'stereotypologies'. Oslo, 15/5/2008.
- b]**•'They' in Australian English: non-gender-specific or specifically non-gendered?, Icelandic Linguistic Society seminar series, 29 April.
- a]**•Að beygja sig aftur á íslensku og norsku: Long-distance reflexives in Icelandic and Norwegian. Hugvísindafing, Háskóli Íslands (The University of Iceland), Reykjavík, 4-5/4/2008.
- 2007 **f]**•LDR in Norwegian: a comparison between seg and sin. Pronouns, Binding and Anaphora Workshop, Háskóli Íslands (The University of Iceland), 8-9/12/2007.
- e]**• with Lesley Stirling. Where does a conversational narrative start? Discourse Analysis Down Under: New foundations in professional discourses, 3rd Symposium on Discourse Analysis, Monash University Clayton, 9/11/2007.
- d]**•Specificity and DPs/NPs with human referents in Norwegian, Definiteness and Specificity Workshop, ALS, Adelaide, 26-28/9/7.
- c]**•'They' in Australian English: non-gender-specific or specifically non-gendered?, Discourse Group seminar series (repeated at Monash University research seminar series).
- b]**•"I love all the Traralgon boys!" Multiparty ownership and conarration of narratives, La Trobe University research seminar series.
- a]**•Story openings in context, Approaches to Narrative Research Methods Symposium and Workshop, Victoria University.
- 2006 **d]**•What the hell was in that wine? Multiparty conarration by elite women basketballers, Narratives workshop, The University of Melbourne.
- c]**•Linguistic correlates of long-distance reflexives in Norwegian, Discourse Group seminar series.
- b]**•Long-distance reflexives in Norwegian: Lectal variation and speaker attitudes, ALS, Brisbane (published in refereed online proceedings) 7-9/7/6.
- a]**•Lectal variation in Norwegian Long-distance reflexives, La Trobe University research seminar series, 25/5/6.
- 2005 •Beer, doonas, books and blankets: Contrasting reflexives and pronouns in locative PPs in Australian English, ALS, Melbourne (published in refereed online proceedings 2006).

- 2004 •Intonational phrases and reflexives in Norwegian, Nordic Prosody IX, Lund, Sweden (published in proceedings 2005).
- 2003 •Correlations between reflexives and intonation, La Trobe University research seminar series.
- 1999 **b]**•The Distribution of Reflexive Pronouns in Norwegian, Anaphora Workshop, The University of Melbourne (published in AJL 2001).  
**a]**•Long-distance Reflexives, Melbourne University Linguistics and Applied Linguistics Postgraduate Association (MULALPGA) Conference (published in MPLAL 2000).

#### GUEST LECTURES AND SEMINARS

- 2008 Australian English, Ensk Málsaga (English Historical Linguistics), The University of Iceland (1 lecture)
- 2006 Practical issues in transcription, Linguistics Program, La Trobe University (Honours seminar)
- 2005 The Germanic languages, Linguistics Program, La Trobe University (4 lectures)
- 2003 Norwegian for students of Swedish, Dept of German and Swedish, The University of Melbourne
- 2002 Quantitative Research Methods, Dept of Linguistics, Deakin University
- 2001 Norwegian for students of Swedish, Dept of German and Swedish, The University of Melbourne
- 2000 Norwegian and the Scandinavian languages, for students of Historical German Linguistics, Dept of German and Swedish, The University of Melbourne
- 1998 Norwegian and the Scandinavian languages, for students of Historical German Linguistics, Dept of German and Swedish, The University of Melbourne

#### Current research projects

*Seg and sin in the Scandinavian languages*, postdoctoral research.

*Statistical analyses of long-distance reflexives in Norwegian*, papers on differences between possessive and objective reflexive, specific dialectal variation

*Women's talk in elite basketballers*, work in progress (ethics approval granted from La Trobe University)

*Acoustic analysis of 3-way stop contrast in Chaozhou (Jieyang) dialect*, work in progress, with Hui-Ling Xu

#### Seminars

- 2004 Honours seminar series: Beginning an Honours thesis – data collection; Writing a research proposal; Using MS Word to format a thesis; Data storage and analysis using MS Access and MS Excel; Structure of a thesis

## Current and future research interests

I have a wide range of research interests, including syntax, discourse analysis, pragmatics, phonetics and phonology. I have recently begun work with Hui-Ling Xu in the La Trobe Chinese Department working on tone sandhi in the Jieyang (Chaozhou) Chinese dialect. We intend to do an acoustic analysis of the tones and describe the rules governing the tone changes in this dialect.

I am particularly interested in the limitations of formal syntactic theories, and how semantic, pragmatic and prosodic information is used in the resolution of anaphoric relations. I have published a paper on correlations between intonational phrases and reflexives, and I am preparing another paper on meaning differences between reflexives and pronouns. I am also currently working on a paper describing possessor phrases in Norwegian in terms of Abney's DP hypothesis.

I have begun a project analysing the speech of elite women basketballers during warm-up at trainings. Interestingly, while some aspects of their talk is very atypical of women's talk as reported in the literature (by eg Jennifer Coates and Deborah Tannen), other aspects are very typical.

As stated earlier, I am interested in Cantonese syntax, in particular the morpheme *tou* (high level tone): native speakers claim it means 'also', but it occurs far more frequently as some kind of apparent grammatical marker. It seems to have similarities to Mandarin *jiang* and *bei* (as reported by Hilary Chappell), but this use is not recorded in Matthews and Yip's *Cantonese: a comprehensive grammar*, nor in any other source I have yet to find. Despite this, it occurs frequently in natural speech, and in short stories designed for learners of Cantonese, but without any explanation. Hilary Chappell also has a corpus of Cantonese that I can use to search for more examples of *tou*.

I would also like to investigate minimal responses in Norwegian and Icelandic, since this seems to be an area of cultural difference from Australian English speakers. This investigation would be in collaboration with Dr Julie Reid.

## Teaching

I have taught courses in the following areas (\* indicates course co-ordination):

- 2007      **\*Grammar and Discourse in Applied Linguistics**, masters course, The University of Melbourne  
             **\*Nature of Language A**, first year, La Trobe  
             **\*Syntax**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne (co-coordinator)  
             **Syntax**, second and third year, Monash University  
             **Semantics**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne
- 2006      **\*Grammar and Discourse in Applied Linguistics**, masters course, The University of Melbourne  
             **Nature of Language B, Semantics module**, first year, La Trobe  
             **Syntax**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne
- 2005      **\*Semantics**, second and third year, La Trobe University  
             **1020 Introduction to Language, Phonetics and phonology module, Semantics module**, first year, Monash University  
             **Nature of Language B, Semantics module**, first year, La Trobe  
             **\*Grammar and Discourse in Applied Linguistics**, masters course, The University of Melbourne

- Syntax**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne  
**Introduction to Language**, first year, The University of Melbourne
- 2004 \***English Today**, first year, La Trobe University  
 \***Language, communication and the sexes**, second and third year, Monash Uni  
 \***Honours Co-ordination** and seminar presentations, La Trobe University  
**Nature of Language B, Phonetics and phonology module**, first year, La Trobe  
 \***Phonetics and Phonology**, second and third year, La Trobe University  
 \***Syntax**, second and third year, La Trobe University
- 2003 \***Phonetics and Phonology**, second and third year, La Trobe University  
 \***Discourse and Pragmatics**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne  
 \***Syntax**, second and third year, La Trobe University  
**Nature of Language B, Phonetics and phonology module**, first year, La Trobe
- Syntax**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne  
**Linguistics of English**, first year, The University of Melbourne  
**Exploring Speech**, first year Education/Linguistics, Deakin University  
**Professional Skills Program**, first and second year, Dept of Information Systems, The University of Melbourne
- 1998-2003 **Norwegian & the Scandinavian Languages**, Guest Lecturer, The University of Melbourne
- 2002 **Exploring Texts**, first year Education/Linguistics, Deakin University  
**Linguistic Research Methods**, Honours, Deakin University  
**Language and Media**, second and third year, The University of Melbourne  
**Professional Skills Program**, first and second year, Dept of Information Systems, The University of Melbourne  
**Learning Skills Adviser**, all levels, The University of Melbourne
- 1995-2001 **English as a Second Language**, volunteer home tutor, Adult Migrant Education Scheme (a government-run service)
- 1996-8 **English, English as a Second Language, Mathematics, German**; final-year high-school students, Melbourne University Summer School for students from disadvantaged backgrounds
- 1995-8 **English, English as a Second Language, Mathematics**; private home tutor

I have a personal philosophy that linguistics is a practical discipline, hence I include exercises and practical work in my lectures as well as tutorials. I always use the internet as an extra resource for my students, including posting syllabuses and links to other useful websites. For phonetics, I have found the internet very useful for setting transcription assignments, where data is otherwise very awkward for students to access. Student evaluations of my teaching are consistently positive, typical comments include that I

explain difficult concepts well, that I am friendly and approachable, and that 'it is a joy to have such an enthusiastic lecturer'.

I take my teaching seriously – it is wonderful to see my students applying their linguistic knowledge in exercises and outside of class (which happens frequently). I have attended inductions and workshops at The University of Melbourne and La Trobe University on topics such as maintaining a harmonious atmosphere in tutorials, the supervisor-student relationship, and principles and practices of teaching and learning, and have done the first subject in the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education.

I have also taught in the Professional Skills Program in the Department of Information Systems at The University of Melbourne, where we workshopped a variety of topics such as teamwork, running successful meetings, setting and achieving goals, communicating globally (ie cross-cultural communication), conflict resolution and giving successful presentations.

### **Teaching Interests and Teaching Evaluations**

As shown in my Teaching Experience above, I am interested in teaching a wide range of linguistic subjects. In particular, I enjoy teaching introductory linguistics, formal syntax, phonetics and Germanic linguistics, although I can also teach subjects such as dialectology, anaphora, historical linguistics and sociolinguistics in areas such as discourse analysis and crosscultural communication.

Student feedback about my teaching style is very positive. Students comment favourably on my enthusiasm, my knowledge of my subjects, my friendliness and approachability, my interest in my students to the extent that I normally learn everyone's name, my interest in and enthusiasm for the subject which can be a factor in them deciding to continue with linguistics, and the degree to which I prepare my students for their assessment tasks. I have also completed the first subject of the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, which consisted of several research projects in learning in higher education, syllabus design, assessment and teaching methods in higher education. I have noticed in particular since completing this subject that students' satisfaction with their assessment has become very high, with an average typically above 4.7 out of 5.

### **Supervision**

I have supervised one Masters student to completion (2006) and one Honours student to completion (2003).

### **Major administrative responsibilities**

Honours program co-ordinator, 2004

### **Service to the profession and linguistic community**

- English proof-reader for non-native linguists, especially on Scandinavian syntax
- reviewer of academic papers since 2004
- examiner of Honours and Masters minor theses at La Trobe University and The University of Melbourne since 2003
- assessor of applications for postgraduate study at La Trobe University
- referee for Australian Linguistics Society online proceedings

- chair at Australian Linguistics Society conference since 2005
- referee for Melbourne Papers in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics since 2003
- editor-in-chief of Melbourne Papers in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics 2000-2002
- editor of Melbourne Papers in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics 1999
- member of Argot (Student Linguistics Club at The University of Melbourne)
- co-instigator of the re-establishment La Trobe University's Linguistics Society Club
- participation in Open Days at La Trobe University and The University of Melbourne promoting Linguistics
- helper at ALI at The University of Melbourne, 2001
- helper at ALS at Monash University, city campus, 2005
- helper at Tenth Australian International Conference on Speech Science & Technology, Macquarie University, 2004
- proof-reader of manuscripts for non-native speaker of English writing on extinct Venezuelan and Californian languages (Wetoi, Maipuri, Waikuri)

### Referees

Associate Professor Lesley Stirling  
(Supervisor of PhD)  
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