|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  **Research Networking Programmes**  |
|  |
|  |

**Short Visit Grant** [x]  **or** **Exchange Visit Grant** [ ]

***(please tick the relevant box)***

**Scientific Report**

**Scientific report (one single document in WORD or PDF file) should be submitted online within one month of the event. It should not exceed eight A4 pages.**

***Proposal Title****:* Aspects of Automatic Compound Processing

 ***Application Reference N°:*** 5570

1. **Purpose of the visit**

This project had one broad scientific aim, namely to gain insight in compound semantics by unifying perspectives from computational semantics (i.e. Ó Séaghdha, 2008), typological studies (i.e. Scalise & Bisetto, 2009), and construction-based approaches to word-formation (i.e. specifically cognitive grammar (Langacker, 2008) and construction morphology (Booij, 2010)). More specifically, we wanted to:

1. ascertain whether it is possible to map the computational semantic categories of Ó Séaghdha (2008) on Scalise & Bisetto’s (2009) taxonomy of grammatical relations that hold between compound constituents; and

2. present these mappings as a categorisation network (à la cognitive grammar) of compound semantics, based on corpus data (i.e. in a “bottom-up”, usage-based approach).

Based on the above, we have aimed to produce the following deliverables:

1. A presentation of our findings at a relevant conference/symposium;

2. A publication presenting our findings and insights; and

3. As contribution to the CompoNet database (http://componet.sslmit.unibo.it/), a fully-fledged database of Afrikaans compounds, as well as a revised database of Dutch compounds (based on the insights of the project).

1. **Description of the work carried out during the visit**

During my visit to the University of Antwerp (Belgium), Ben Verhoeven (a PhD student) and I worked together on the following activities (with inputs by Prof Daelemans):

1. We commenced by jointly analysing and annotating existing Dutch items in the CompoNet database, in order to correct such items. This lead us to start looking critically at Scalise & Bisetto's (2009) framework.

2. Subsequently, we spent a lot of time on reading various articles, chapters and books on compound classification and compound semantics from various perspectives. On a daily basis we discussed our findings from the literature, and also jointly analysed corpus data from Afrikaans and Dutch in order to categorise such data in a unified way (based on our insights).

3. This enabled us to come up with very interesting and exciting adjustments of Scalise & Bisetto's (2009) framework, which is now being incorporated in a protocol to annotate data according to our new framework.

4. We submitted an abstract to the 2nd Southern African Microlinguistics Workshop, to be held in October 2013 in South Africa, where we will present our results. [We wanted to present our findings in Dubrovnik in September 2013, but due to lecturing responsibilities and financial restrictions, it will not be possible.] Also, we worked on an outline for the presentation, as well as an outline for a scholarly article in a journal.

5. Shortly after the visit we also submitted a funding application to the South African National Research Foundation for Drs. Ben Verhoeven to visit South Africa at the end of November 2013, in order to complete the project. Results of the application is not yet known.

In terms of concrete outputs, the following deliverables have been produced:

1. An abstract for a presentation of our findings at a South African workshop. The abstract has already been accepted.

2. Content for a new protocol on how to analyse and annotate compounds. This content are now being incorporated in a protocol (not yet available).

3. An outline for a scholarly publication presenting our findings and insights. We hope to finish writing this article before the end of 2013.

4. A revised version of the Dutch version of the CompoNet database (http://componet.sslmit.unibo.it/), correcting some minor mistakes. Plans for a fully-fledged database of Afrikaans and Dutch compounds based on our new insights have also been made.

1. **Description of the main results obtained**

 Results will be described in the to-be presented paper and scholarly publication; we therefore don't want to give too much details here, as it is still work in progress. For now we can mention that we adapted Scalise & Bisetto's (2009) framework in order to: (a) clarify some aspects that were not clear from their descriptions; and (b) to allow for cases that were not discussed in their framework (e.g. to allow for so-called "compounding compounds"). We have also mapped their framework on semantic descriptions, and formulated all major patterns in terms of Construction Morphology formalism.

1. **Future collaboration with host institution (if applicable)**

 Work on the project continue, as indicated above. We have already applied for funding from the South African National Research Foundation, which will enable Drs Ben Verhoeven to visit South Africa in November 2013. During this period we will hopefully finalise and submit the scholarly article.

1. **Projected publications / articles resulting or to result from the grant *(ESF must be acknowledged in publications resulting from the grantee’s work in relation with the grant)***

(1) Protocol for annotation (to be released in October 2013)

(2) Presentation at microlinguistics workshop in South Africa (to be presented end of October 2013)

(3) Scholarly journal article (to be finalised during November 2013)

1. **Other comments (if any)**