



ISCH COST Action IS1006 SignGram



STSM final report

Copenhagen, April 29 2014

Dear STSM coordinator,

This is to notify that the following STSM:

Beneficiary: Jette Hedegaard Kristoffersen, University College Capital, Copenhagen, Denmark

Host: Andrea Lackner, Alpen-Adria-University, Klagenfurt, Austria

Period: from 7th of April 2014 to 12th of April 2014

Place: Klagenfurt (Austria)

Reference code: COST-STSM-ECOST-STSM-IS1006-070414-041481

started and finished in the expected dates.

The main task of the STSM was to work on two concrete sections of the Blueprint and to discuss elicitation materials and methodological approaches and challenges for identifying semantic categories in sign languages.

As members of the SignGram's Work Group 3 (WG3) "Semantics", Andrea Lackner and I cooperated and worked on the blueprint chapters Tense and Turn Taking. We discussed individually written drafts on the two chapters. We wrote, completed and revised the two chapters, and we discussed issues concerning the blue print manual template and guidelines. We discussed elicitation methods focusing on the semantics of sign languages and we prepared contributions to discussion on non-manual coding of semantic categories.

Thus the content of the STSM was as follows:



- Writing/completing the chapter Tense for the blue print manual
- Writing/completing the chapter Turn taking for the blue print manual
- Revising the chapter on Tense
- Revising the chapter on Turn Talking
- Preparing contributions to discussion on methodology regarding identifying semantic categories for a workshop on non-manuals
- Discussing template and the organizing of subparts of the table of content for the manual of the blue print

To summer up, we produced two sample chapters for the blue print that we have submitted to the WG3 leader Markus Steinbach. Additionally, we have identified areas for discussing in WG3 and WG4 concerning the organizing of the subparts of the blue print manual. The outcome of this latter part is suggestions that have been submitted to Markus Steinbach for further discussion on the meetings at Venice June 2014.

In the Workshop on a cross-linguistic comparison of linguistic functions coded by non-manuals in sign languages arranged by the Centre for Sign Language and Deaf Communication (ZGH), Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt, I presented a talk on mouth actions as distinctive feature in Danish Sign Language, and discussed a way to categorize mouth actions in a way that serves the lexicographer task of providing the sufficient information on different possible mouth actions to the second language learner. Furthermore, Andrea and I contributed to the discussion on identifying semantic categories at the workshop.

To conclude, the STSM was very productive concerning both the actual COST tasks and writing the chapters for the manual of the blue print. What is more, we are also convinced, that the knowledge-exchange that started with this STSM, will have impact on our future work on nonmanuals. Also, discussing the template for the chapters in the semantic part of the blue print manual and the actually work flow which developed during the STSM on chapter writing, will have a positive impact on our future work on COST tasks.

All the best,
Jette Hedegaard Kristoffersen

