



Citizen Sociolinguistics as participatory practice – explorations and reflections

23.10.2025 (11-17 EEST) Cafe Aula Toivo - Zoom

Arkisuomien kielitietoisuudet ja muutos -hankkeen päätösseminaari
Final seminar of LANGAWARE (2023-25)

<https://research.tuni.fi/arkisuomet/>



“--**an epistemology** that recognises that people themselves know more than anyone else about why and how language matters to them, and that **they themselves are experts and can contribute** (with some training) as researchers, **in doing (socio)linguistic research.**”

Svendsen & Goodchild (2023), *Citizen (socio)linguistics: What we can learn from engaging young people as language researchers* (emphasis added)



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“Arkisuomet” ‘Dailyfinnish’ **Academic research group**

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Christoph Purschke

University of Luxembourg

Unn Røyneland University of Oslo

Barbara Soukup University of Vienna

Program

11:15 Opening

11:30 Kaarina Hippi & Johanna Vaattovaara: *Exploratory co-research on 'language regard' - academic and lay theories in dialogue*

12:00 Helmi Marttila: *Working for understanding subtitling as a task of paraprofessionals*

12:30 Olli Kuparinen: *Self-report method as means of monitoring linguistic change – findings and further ideas*

13:00 Lunch break (served at the venue)

14.00 Discussion session

14:30 Barbara Soukup, University of Vienna: *Citizen Science with Viennese high schoolers in the project 'VisibLL' - Outcomes, impacts, learnings*

15:15 Break with refreshments

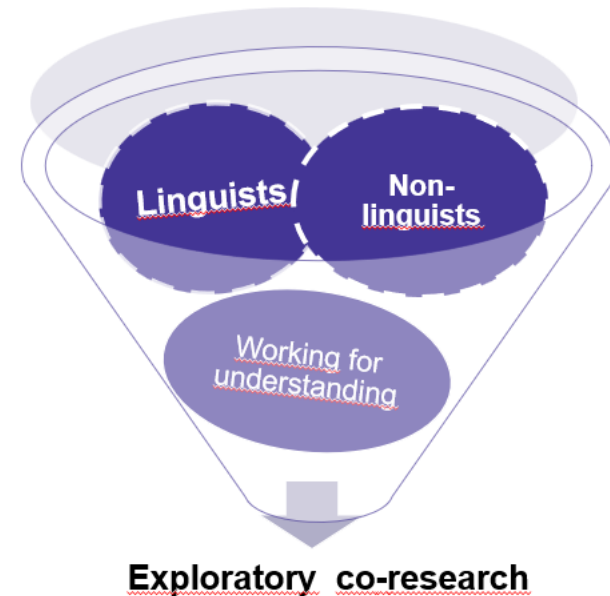
15:30 Christoph Purschke, University of Luxembourg: *Participation, motivation and social gaze control in the Lingscape project*

16.15 Unn Røyneland, University of Oslo: *Language activism and the role of scholars*

17:00 Closing

Arkisuomet - Project rationale

- Inclusive practices for studying linguistic variation and change
 - Co-investigating 'language regard' in everyday (poly)mediated social life in Finland – mainly qualitative, perceptual, reflective approach in the contexts of Finnish
 - New epistemologies and perspectives (Laihonen 2025)
 - Principles (good practices) of Citizen Science
ECSA (European Citizen Science Association) 2015; Heigl et al 2020
https://zenodo.org/records/5127534/files/ECSA_Ten_Principles_of_CS_English.pdf?download=1
 - Stretching from *folk linguistics* to *citizen linguistics*
 - **How do the L1 & L2 speakers of Finnish make sense of variation of Finnish in their everyday life-worlds?**
 - **Societal impact: transparency of lay theories of language and raising awareness of linguistic pluralism**
- >> How do we academic researchers make sense of what is made sense of together?**

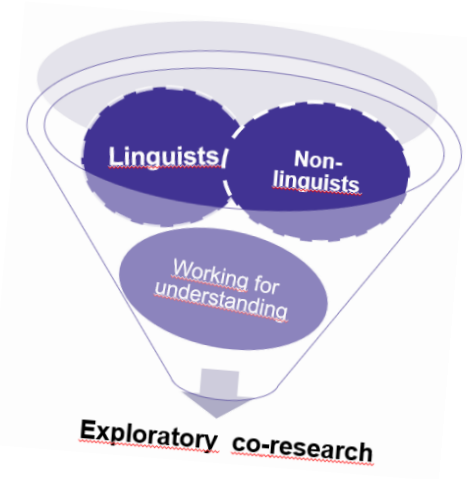
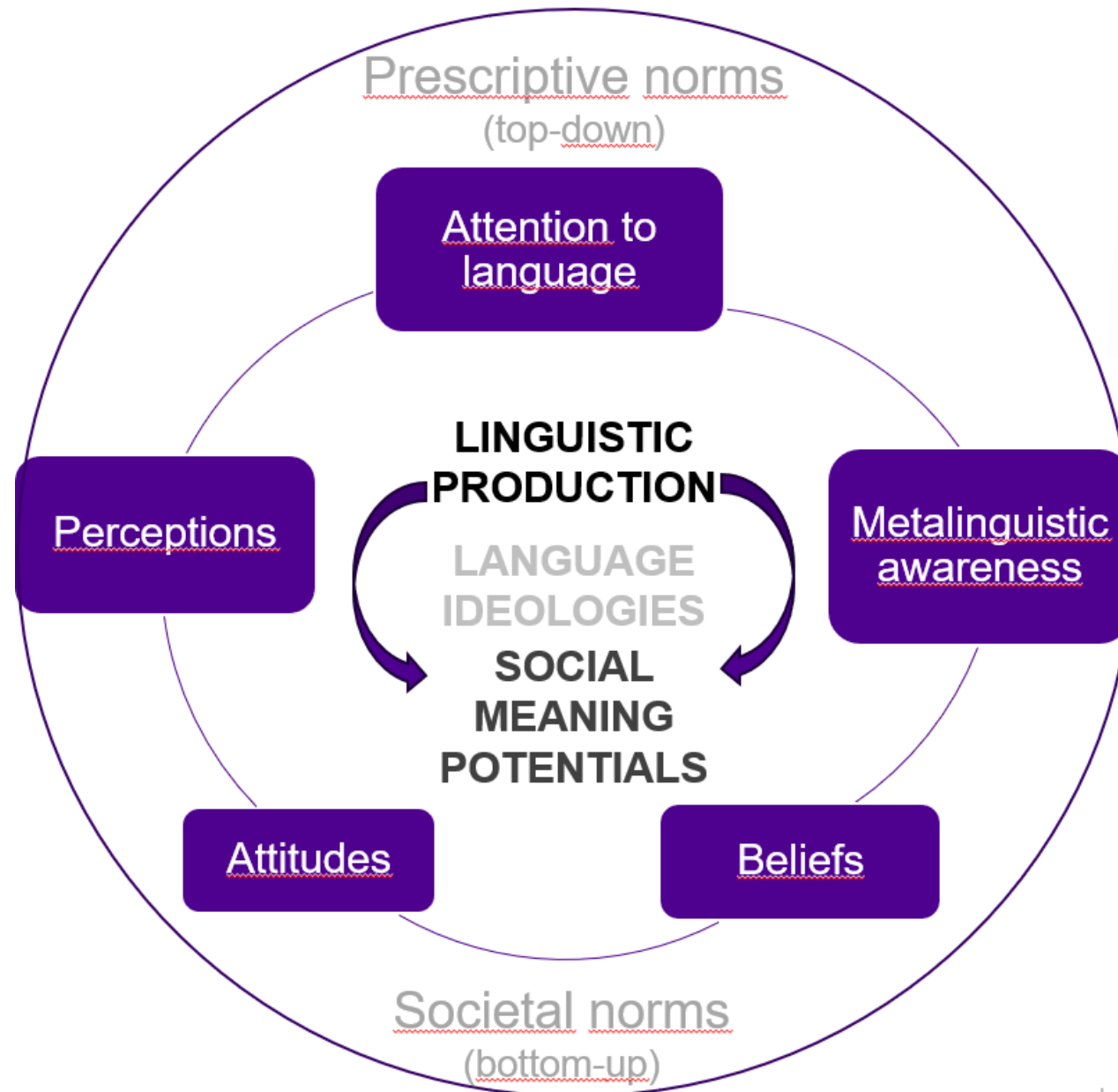


"A smaller number of participants enables **in-depth investigations** of the impact of **co-researching** and **co-producing** knowledge, as well as increased opportunities for **including the participants' research interests**"
Svedsen & Goodchild 2023
(emphasis added)

Co-addressing 'language regard'

Based on and inspired by

Preston 2011,
2013; Eckert 2008;
Johnstone 2016;
Piippo 2012; Woolard &
Schieffelin 1994; Irvine
1989





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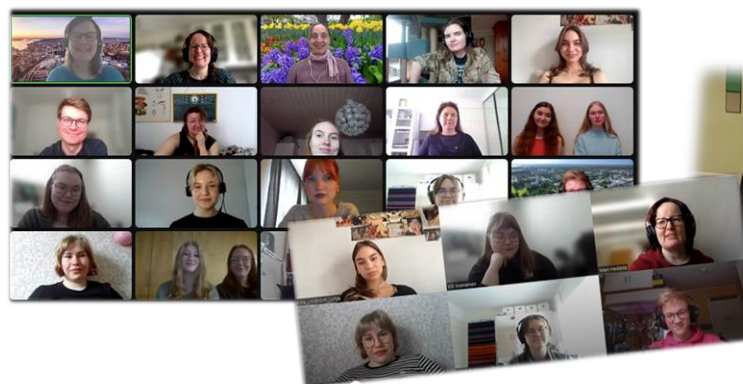
**National survey for
high schoolers
(N=1037)**



**Gathering experiences in
paraprofessional subtitling**

**Co-research with Finnish as L1 & L2
users in innovative learning
environments**

***Share your
Language Experience***
Open call for online collection



Collaborative reflections in varying groups

Some of the addressed questions

- What new can be learned in reflective dialogue(s) concerning *language regard*?
- How do our co-researchers approach ‘language’ in their everyday life-worlds
What happens in dialogue of academic and lay approaches to language?
 - Working for understanding e.g. ‘mixing languages’ as a phenomenon
 - Interaction and variation in f-to-f vs. digital environments
- What is the added value of the collaboration for participants - citizen scientists, professional scientists and *paraprofessionals*?
- What kind of language experience narratives are people eager to share as a response to our open call?
- How to combine language users’ self-report data and traditional real-time observation in the study of linguistic change?

Presentations: <https://research.tuni.fi/arkisuomet/esitelmat/>

Publications (published so far): <https://research.tuni.fi/arkisuomet/julkaisut/>

Publications with co-researchers

Article in a trade journal

Hippi, K., Kuusinen, H., Marwedel, R. & Vaattovaara, J. (2024).
Kieli, koulutus ja yhteiskunta 15(3).
[Language, Education and Society]



(<https://www.kieliverkosto.fi/fi>)

Kanssatutkimusta
työväenopistossa – yhdessä
tutkimassa ja oppimassa

<https://research.tuni.fi/arkisuomet/>

Podcast episode #39
Dialect myth busters

Episode with high schoolers
and student assistants:
*Experiences of the Work-
Practice-Program in the form
of participatory research*



#39: Lukiolaiset kanssatutkijoina: Kielitiede-TET osallistuvan tutkimuksen kokeiluna

Murremyytin murtajat

Kansalaistiede on nousussa tutkimuksen kehittämiseksi ja yhteiskunnallisen vuorovaikutuksen muotona. Mitä Arkisuomien kielitietoisuudet ja muutos -hankkeen...

Jun 19, 2024 • Finished ✓

♥ Collaboration with student assistants and MA researchers ♥



Venla Eriksson, Havu Kuusinen, Aino Lyijynen, Minna Salin, Oona Helistö, Elli Iivanainen, Taija Koivuniemi, Marjut Vuorinen, Emilia Karvonen, Havu Kuusinen