

Rodrigo Ranero

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Education

- 2016— PhD in Linguistics (expected in 2021)
University of Maryland, College Park
Advisors: [Maria Polinsky](#) & [Omer Preminger](#)
- 2016, 2017 University of Maryland Summer Field School
1-month intensive Kaqchikel immersion program in Guatemala
- 2015 MPhil, *with distinction*, Theoretical and Applied Linguistics
University of Cambridge (Downing College)
Advisor: [Jenneke van der Wal](#)
- 2014 BA, *magna cum laude*, Linguistics and Cognitive Science
Pomona College
Advisor: [Meredith Landman](#)
- 2012 EGG summer school in Linguistics (Wrocław, Poland)

Research Interests

BROAD syntax, morphology, language documentation, language revitalization
NARROW identity condition on ellipsis, (optional) agreement, syntactic ergativity, linearization, Mayan, Bantu

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- In prep Voice Mismatches in Kaqchikel Sluicing: Consequences for Syntactic Parallelism
In prep [with Gesoel Mendes] Chain Reduction via Substitution: Evidence from K'ichean
In prep [with Paulina Lyskawa] Optional Agreement in Santiago Tz'utujil is Syntactic
Under review The eventive core is *not* special in ellipsis: A reply to Rudin (2018)

PROCEEDINGS PAPERS (*PAPER UNDERWENT PEER-REVIEW)

- In press * Deriving an Object Dislocation Asymmetry in Luganda. In *Theory and Description in African Linguistics: Selected Proceedings of the 47th Annual Conference on*

- African Linguistics*, edited by Emily Clem, Peter Jenks, and Hannah Sande. Berlin: Language Science Press.
- 2018 * [with Meredith Landman] Focus Marking in Kuria. In *African linguistics on the prairie: Selected papers from the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, edited by Jason Kandybowicz, Travis Major, Harold Torrence, and Phillip T. Duncan, 393-412. Berlin: Language Science Press.
- 2017 [with Jamie Douglas & Michelle Sheehan] Two Types of Syntactic Ergativity in Mayan. In *Proceedings of GLOW in Asia XI: Volume 2*, edited by Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine, 41-56. Cambridge, MA: MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.
- 2015 * [with Michael Diercks & Mary Paster] Evidence for a Clitic Analysis of Object Markers in Kuria. In *Selected Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, edited by Ruth Kramer, Elizabeth Zsiga, and One Boyer, 52-70. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED MATERIALS

- 2014 [Talking Dictionaries of Guatemala](#) (co-author of 22 dictionaries)
- 2013 [with COPXIG] [Alyamalh Xinka - Wirimalh Xinka—Módulo II: Morfología](#). Guatemala City, Guatemala: Editorial Cholsamaj. 124 pp.
- 2012 [with COPXIG] [Alyamalh Xinka - Wirimalh Xinka—Módulo I: Guía de Ortografía y Pronunciación](#). Guatemala City, Guatemala: Editorial Cholsamaj. 52pp.

OTHER

- 2018 Review of Eguren, Luis, Olga Fernández-Soriano, and Amaya Mendikoetxea eds. (2016) Rethinking Parameters. *Linguistic Variation* 18:1, 197-204.
- 2015 [with Mary Paster] [CASL Introductory Sketches for African Languages: Maay](#). Technical Report 2.9B, DO050: University of Maryland-CASL.
- 2013 Review of Haider, Hubert (2012) Symmetry Breaking in Syntax. *California Linguistic Notes*. Volume XXXVIII, No.1 Spring 2013

Awards and Honors

EXTERNAL

- 2018 [Jacobs Research Funds](#) [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa]
- 2018 [Cosmos Club Foundation Scholarship](#)
- 2017 [Firebird Foundation Fellowship](#) [with Yolanda Estrada]
- 2013 [Donald A. Strauss Public Service Scholarship](#)
- 2013 [Davis Projects for Peace Grant](#)

INTERNAL

- 2016—2021 [UMD Flagship Fellowship](#)
- 2016 [Arts and Humanities \(ARHU\) Graduate Student Travel Award](#)
- 2016 [Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Award](#)
- 2016 [Pomona College Sherwood Heiser Fellowship](#)
- 2014—2015 [Downing Scholarship](#)
- 2014 [Glass Linguistics Prize](#)
- 2014 [Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma of California](#)

- 2013 Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Project (SURP) Grant
 2012 Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Project (SURP) Grant

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

- 2016 *La Lingüística Generativa y la Evolución del Lenguaje*. Universidad San Carlos; Guatemala City, Guatemala.
 2016 *Fundamentos de la Lingüística: Adquisición, Variación y Evolución del Lenguaje*. Universidad del Valle de Guatemala; Guatemala City, Guatemala.
 2013 *Retos del Análisis Estructural del Idioma Xinka*. X Congreso de Estudios Mayas. Guatemala City, Guatemala.
 2013 [with Mary Paster] *The Reclamation of Rumsen*. Indigenous Languages Symposium, Pomona College.
 2013 *The Reclamation of Xinka*. Indigenous Languages Symposium, Pomona College.

REFEREED TALKS

- 2019 *Voice Mismatches in Kaqchikel (Mayan) Sluicing*. Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of the Languages of the Americas (WSCLA) 24. University of Maryland.
 2019 [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa] *Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujil (Mayan) is syntactic*. Contrasts and Oppositions in 'Free' Linguistic Phenomena—Workshop at DGfS 2019, Bremen, Germany.
 2018 [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa] *Derivando la Concordancia Opcional en los Idiomas Mayas de Oriente*. Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 5, Antigua Guatemala.
 2018 [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa] *Microvariation in Eastern Mayan number agreement*. Cambridge Comparative Syntax (CamCoS) 7, University of Cambridge.
 2017 [with Gesoel Mendes] *Restrictions on Adjunct Extraction: Microvariation in Mayan*. Cambridge Comparative Syntax (CamCoS) 6, University of Cambridge.
 2017 [with Gesoel Mendes] *Adjunct Extraction: A View from Mayan*. Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS) 43, University of California, Berkeley. ()
 2017 [with Gesoel Mendes] *Adjunct Extraction in Kaqchikel and Tz'utujil*. Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Austin, TX.
 2016 [with Jamie Douglas and Michelle Sheehan] *Derivando la Ergatividad Sintáctica en los Idiomas Mayas*. Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 4, Universidad de Oriente, México.
 2016 [with Gesoel Mendes] *La Extracción de Adjuntos en Kaqchikel y Tz'utujil*. Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 4, Universidad de Oriente, México.
 2016 *The syntax of object dislocation in Luganda*. 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), University of California, Berkeley.
 2014 [with Meredith Landman] *On focus marking in Kuria*. 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), University of Kansas.
 2013 [with Michael Diercks and Rebekah Cramerus] *On object marking in Kikuria*. 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), Georgetown University.

REFEREED POSTERS

- 2019 [with Paulina Lyskawa] *A Mayan Diagnostic for the Unergative vs. Unaccusative Distinction*. Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) 42, University of Oslo.
- 2018 [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa] *Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujiil (Mayan): The effects of animacy and grammatical function*. LSA 2018, Salt Lake City.
- 2017 [with Jamie Douglas and Michelle Sheehan] *Two Kinds of Syntactic Ergativity in Mayan*. Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) Asia XI, National University of Singapore.

OTHER

- 2019 *Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujiil (Mayan) is syntactic*. S-Lab, University of Maryland.
- 2019 *The eventive core is not special in ellipsis*. ECO-5, University of Maryland.
- 2018 *Voice mismatches in sluicing—a Mayan perspective*. S-Lab, University of Maryland.
- 2018 [with Theodore Levin and Paulina Lyskawa] *Opcionalidad en la Conjugación Verbal del Tz'utujiil de Santiago*. Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Altiplano.
- 2018 *No Optionality in Syntax—A View from Mayan Number Agreement*. S-Lab, University of Maryland.
- 2018 *How A-movement can lead to extraction restrictions*. Asymmetries 2018, DGfS workshop at Stuttgart University. Michelle Sheehan (invited speaker) presenting joint work with Jamie Douglas and Rodrigo Ranero.
- 2017 [with Paulina Lyskawa] *Thinking like a fieldworker: number agreement in Tz'utujiil Mayan*. Language Science Lunch Talks (LSLT), University of Maryland.
- 2016 [with Gesoel Mendes] *Adjunct extraction: a view from Mayan*. Language Science Lunch Talks (LSLT), University of Maryland.
- 2014 *The Reclamation of Xinka*. 26th Annual SURP Conference, Pomona College.
- 2013 *Returning from the Edge: The Revitalization of Xinka*. 25th Annual SURP Conference, Pomona College.

Teaching

ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Fall 2018 LING 321: Phonology I, UMD
Instructor: Margaret Antonisse
Duties: Occasional lecturing, grading, weekly office hours.
- Spring 2018 LING 311: Syntax I, UMD
Instructor: Tonia Bleam
Duties: Grading, weekly office hours.
- Fall 2017 LING 200: Introductory Linguistics, UMD
Instructor: Margaret Antonisse
Duties: Leading discussion session, grading, weekly office hours.
- Spring 2014 LGCS 105: Syntax, Pomona College
Instructor: Meredith Landman

- Duties: Grading, weekly office hours.
 Fall 2013 LGCS 010: Introduction to Linguistics, Pomona College
 Instructor: Meredith Landman
 Duties: Grading, weekly office hours.
 Spring 2013 LGCS 010: Introduction to Linguistics, Pomona College
 Instructor: Meredith Landman
 Duties: Grading, weekly office hours
 Fall 2012 LGCS 010: Introduction to Linguistics, Pomona College
 Instructor: Meredith Landman
 Duties: Grading, weekly office hours.

OTHER

- Spring 2011—Spanish Language Fellow, Pomona College [FLRC](#). Duties included tutoring
 Fall 2014 Spanish students (all levels).

Research

FIELDWORK

- 2016— Work with Tz’utujil and Kaqchikel language consultants in Santiago Atitlán, Patzún, Tecpán, and Sumpango (Guatemala), through UMD’s [Guatemala Field Station](#).
 2014—2015 Work with Luganda language consultant in Cambridge, UK.
 2013—2014 Work with Maay language consultants in San Diego, CA.
 2012—2014 Work with Kuria language consultant in Claremont, CA.

PROJECT COORDINATOR

- 2012—2015 Language reclamation project with the Xinka community in Chiquimulilla, Guatemala. Duties included compiling and analyzing material on Xinka, writing textbooks, leading teacher trainings, and establishing a partnership with the Guatemalan Ministry of Education. In collaboration with the *Consejo del Pueblo Xinka de Guatemala* (COPXIG).

MENTORING

- 2018— Co-mentored (with Paulina Lyskawa) one undergraduate NSF-funded RA. Duties included meeting weekly with student and preparing her for research trips in Guatemala during 2018 and 2019.

ASSISTANTSHIP

- 2019— For Howard Lasnik. Duties included revising handouts for colloquium talks and compiling the bibliography and index for an upcoming book.
 2012—2013 For Mary Paster. Assist members of the [Rumsen tribe](#) in establishing a language reclamation project. Duties included compiling and analyzing material on the Rumsen language and teaching weekly language classes at the tribal office.

Service

- 2019 Journal reviewing: *Diachronica* (1 manuscript)
2018— WSCLA 24 steering committee member. UMD Linguistics Department.
2017—2018 Colloquium committee co-chair (with Mina Hirzel). UMD Linguistics Department.
2017—2018 Mayfest Workshop (*Nayfest*) steering committee chair. UMD Linguistics Department.
2017 Language Science Day steering committee member. UMD Language Science Center.
2016—2018 Research Committee member. UMD Language Science Center.
2014 Workshop facilitator. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages and Academy of Mayan Languages of Guatemala (ALMG).

Language Proficiency

- Spanish (*native*)
English (*fluent*)
Italian (*advanced*)
French, Kaqchikel (*intermediate*)
German, Mandarin (*beginner*)
Tz'utujil, Kaqchikel, Luganda, Maay, Kuria (*elicitation*)
Xinka, Rumsen (*research knowledge*)

References

Professor Maria Polinsky
Linguistics Department, UMD
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Associate Professor Mary Paster
LGCS Department, Pomona College
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Associate Professor Omer Preminger
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Last updated: 03-26-2019