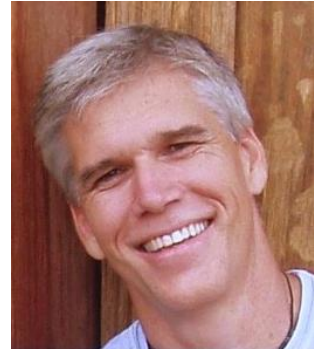


David Eberhard

Ph.D. Linguistics, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 2009

David Eberhard is passionate about minority languages and those who speak them. Before coming to Thailand in 2013, he spent 18 years doing linguistic research and language development for the Mamaindê, a small endangered Nambikwara language of west-central Brazil. His descriptive work heavily focuses on the phonology and morphology of this highly poly-synthetic language family. Besides field linguistics in Amazonian languages (and the concomitant task of learning to speak those languages), his research has more recently concentrated on new approaches to language vitality assessment, language conservation and language development of endangered languages in general. This emphasis not only values language diversity, but it stresses the need for



community ownership, and the importance of realistic, sustainable language use goals that take into account the current vitality of all languages in a community's repertoire. Dr. Eberhard has developed and offered community based language development workshops to promote language awareness among mother tongue speakers of endangered language communities in numerous countries / regions, including the following: Brazil (Amazonia), Malaysia (Sabah, Sarawak, West Malaysia); Papua New Guinea (Sepik, Central Highlands); Indonesia (Central Java), and São Tomé e Príncipe (West Africa). Responsible language description and language development must both begin with the desires of the community of speakers at the center. When this is ensured, both researcher and community gain a greater appreciation and wonder for all languages, in particular the smallest ones. As Eberhard reminds his students, language is the 'sound of relationship'.

Current projects:

- Minority Language Communities, Language Shift, and Identity: Exploring factors which condition identity when a traditional language is lost.
- Teaching the Sustainable Use Model of language development through workshops in various places around the world, focusing on case studies of local language communities undergoing language shift.

Publications:

Forthcoming. Evidentiality in Nambikwara Family. In Alexandra Aikhenvald (Ed.) *Handbook on Evidentiality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Forthcoming. With Leo Wetzels and Stella Telles. The Nambikwara Language Family. In Epps, Patience and Lev Michael (Eds.) *Amazonian Languages. An International Handbook*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.

Forthcoming. With Leo Wetzels and Januacele da Costa. *A Comparative Sketch of the Nambikwara Languages and the Reconstruction of the Proto-Nambikwara Segment System*. Utrecht: LOT.

Forthcoming. The Sustainable Use Model and the languages of Sabah. *Proceedings of the 12th International Borneo Research Council Conference, August 5-7, 2014, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia*: UNIMAS Press.

2017. Theory and Praxis in Community Based Language Development: preliminary findings from applications of the Guide for Planning the Future of Our Language. *Open Linguistics*, 3(1), 251-264. ([Available online](#))

2016. With Stan Anonby. A tale of two worlds: A comparative study of language ecologies in Asia and the Americas. *Language Documentation & Conservation* 10, 601-628. ([Available online](#))

2013. *Em defesa das línguas minoritárias* [In defense of minority languages]. SIL Brazil. <http://www-01.sil.org/americas/brasil/publcns/ling/LingDef.pdf>
2012. The Mamainde Tense/Evidentiality System. *Word Structure* 5.2, 129-164.
2009. *Mamainde Grammar: A Northern Nambikwara language and its cultural context*. Ph.D. dissertation. Utrecht, Netherlands: LOT Publications. ([Available online](#))
2008. Mamainde Coda Processes. In Mary Ruth Wise (Ed.) *50th Anniversary of SIL Linguistics in Brazil*. Dallas: SIL.
2007. Mamainde Tone – an account of plateauing, floating tones, and toneless syllables in an Amazonian language. In W. Leo Wetzels (Ed.) *Language Endangerment and Endangered Languages and Cultures of the Andean-Amazonian Border Area*. Leiden, The Netherlands: Publications of the Research School of Asian, African, and Amerindian Studies (CNWS), 225-308.
1995. *Mamainde Stress: the need for strata*. SIL Publications in Linguistics Series 129. Dallas: SIL and University of Texas at Arlington.

Conference presentations:

2015. *Minority Language Communities, Language Shift, and Identity*. Keynote address to the International Conference on Bilingualism. Surabaya, Indonesia, Linguistic Society of Indonesia. November 2015.
2014. *The Sustainable Use Model and the languages of Sabah*. Paper presented at the 12th International Borneo Research Council Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia August 5-7, 2014.
2012. *Mamaindê Evidentiality*. Paper presented at the SLE 2012 – Societ Linguistic de Europe, Stockholm, Sweden, August 2012.
2011. *Pre-oralized nasal codas in Mamaindê: and the Oral Vowel Enhancement Proposal*. Presented at the Conference on the Phonology of Endangered Languages, CUNY, NY, January 2011.
2004. *Mamaindê Tone – an Optimality account of plateauing, floating tones, and toneless syllables in an Amazonian language*. Paper presented at the Symposium on Languages and Cultures in the Andean/Amazonian Border, August 2004, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam.
- 2004 – *Mamaindê Prestopped Nasals – an Optimality account of vowel dominance and a proposal for the Identical Rhyme constraint*. Presented at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, April 2004, University of Kentucky.

Other works:

2015. *With Charlie Hanawalt, Bryan Varenkamp, and Carletta Roche. The Guide to Planning the Future of Our Language*. Dallas: SIL International. <http://www.leadimpact.org/language/#the-future-of-our-language>. SIL.
- 2004 – *Mamaindê Tone – an Optimality account of plateauing, floating tones, and toneless syllables in an Amazonian language*. Special lecture held at the Linguistic Colloquia, Summer Institute of Linguistics, July 2004, Eugene, Oregon.