

## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS Papers on Slovene Topics

### American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Chicago IL, 2-5 November 1989

*Jadranka Gvozdanić* (University of Amsterdam), "On the Position of Resian among the Western Slovene Dialects: Facts and Analyses."

The main linguistic issues concerning Resian synchrony and diachrony and the diachronic relation between Resian and the other western Slovene dialects are the following: a) the phonemes of the various Resian subdialects, their phonetic and distributional properties, and their diachronic sources; b) the question of whether the Slovene progressive accent shift can be shown to have taken place in Resian, if synchronic distributional data are evaluated against the background of their diachronic sources and analogies operative within and across paradigms; c) the phonetic characterization of the so-called *zasopli* vowels and their diachronic origin.

Concerning a), recent fieldwork has shown that four Resian subdialects can be distinguished. Concerning b), the following types of data are indicative: nominal paradigms, prepositional phrases, adjectives vs. adverbs, and *-l* participles, especially with prefixes. Concerning c) synchronically, the *zasopli* vowels are centralized. Diachronically, the origin of the mid *zasopli* vowels, as a part of a complex vowel shift, must be related to the lengthening of the nonfinal short accents which took place in Resia not later than about 1500, at the same time at which the beginning of language contacts with Friulian can be dated, as witnessed by Friulian loanwords in Resian. These phenomena mark the end of the developments in which Resian participated together with the other western Slovene dialects.

*Han Steenwijk* (University of Amsterdam), "Osojane/Oseacco (Val di Resia): Tracing a Sound Change."

In the speech samples of the (female) informants from this village, I found phonologically relevant variation. Native Speaker (NS) 1 has an accented vowel system with three degrees of openness in the mid vowels, back as well as fronted. NS 2 and NS 3 here have only two degrees of openness while NS 4 occupies a half-way position.

Common Slovene *\*-ĕ* results in /æ/ with NS 1 and merges with the reflex of *\*á*, *\*â* into /a/ with the other NSs. Common Slovene *\*-à* gives /â/ with NS 1, /ə/ with NSs 2 and 3 and /e/ with NS 4. In a diachronic description, system 1 is the older one that developed into system 2/3 via system 4. However, NS 4 is three years older than NS 1; NSs 2 and 3 are approximately 20 years younger. Age is therefore not the only decisive factor for the distribution of this variation.

Regarding the inventories, system 2/3 is identical to the Solbica/Stolvizza system; system 4 is identical to the system for Bela/San Giorgio. System 1 and the Njiva/Gniva system stand alone. Regarding the distribution, all systems show individual developments.