

# EvoLang 2010

*The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Evolution of Language will be held at Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands*

**The City of Utrecht** is located in the heart of the Netherlands and originated from a Roman settlement founded in 48 AD. In the Middle Ages it developed into a Dutch city that ranked first in size and importance up until the 16th century. Today, Utrecht still has many churches, houses and canals that date from this period of prosperity and that gives the inner city a mediaeval character. Utrecht now is the fourth largest city with almost 300,000 inhabitants. Utrecht has a rich cultural life and is one of the most dynamic economic regions in the country. Its atmosphere is strongly influenced by the university and other institutions of Higher Education with in total over 60.000 students.

**Utrecht University**, founded in 1636, has developed into one of Europe's leading research universities and the largest university in the Netherlands with over 28.000 students and almost 4.000 academic staff. Utrecht University is firmly founded on academic traditions and has liaisons with universities and research centres all over the world. Utrecht University is linked to the names of many prominent academics among whom Buys Ballot, Donders, Rudolf Magnus, Van Unnik, Freudenthal and De Wied. The list also includes a number of Nobel Prize winners among its alumni and staff; the latest was awarded in 1999 for theoretical physics, Gerard 't Hooft.

**Based on faculty priority areas**, Utrecht

University has selected 15 thematic clusters of research: research focus areas. These areas consist of multidisciplinary clusters bringing together top-class research groups in each thematic field:

1. Brain, Cognition and Behaviour
2. Cardiovascular Research
3. Conflicts and Human Rights
4. Coordinating Societal Change
5. Cultures and Identities
6. Drug Innovation
7. Earth and Sustainability
8. Epidemiology
9. Foundations of Natural Science
10. Growth and Differentiation
11. History and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities
12. Infection and Immunity
13. Information Technologies in Science and Society
14. Life Sciences and Biocomplexity
15. Origins and Impacts of Institutions

**The Utrecht institute of Linguistics OTS**

**(UiL OTS)** is a faculty research institute part of the Brain, Cognition and Behaviour research area. It is located in the heart of the city and has approximately 100 affiliated researchers, including 19 full professors, 15 postdocs and approximately 40 PhD students.



UiL OTS aims at developing scientific expertise in the systems underlying language, speech and their use. The institute's objective is threefold: to increase our understanding of language and speech, to train researchers who will be able to make a valuable contribution to this field of knowledge, and to share our knowledge with institutions beyond the academic world.

At UiL OTS, the human language faculty is studied from a wide range of perspectives. UiL OTS seeks to exploit the synergies between these various areas to the full. In our research, the following general question is fundamental: What are the cognitive faculties underlying the structure and use of human language, and what principles govern their interaction? We

aim to have a strong international position in the following areas: Language architecture and its modelling, Language acquisition, and Psycholinguistics.

In both teaching and research, UiL OTS is active in setting up collaborative activities with groups beyond the institute itself, not only within the field of linguistics, but also with other disciplines such as logic, computer science, neuroscience, biology, psychology and sociology.

#### Local organizing committee:

Bart de Boer (Amsterdam)  
Rudie Botha (Utrecht / Stellenbosch)  
Martin Everaert (Utrecht)  
Marieke Schouwstra (Utrecht)  
Henriëtte de Swart (Utrecht)  
Maggie Tallerman (Newcastle)  
Jelle Zuidema (Amsterdam)  
Tanja Schols (Utrecht)



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#### Evolang 2010's venue

will be in the centre of the city.

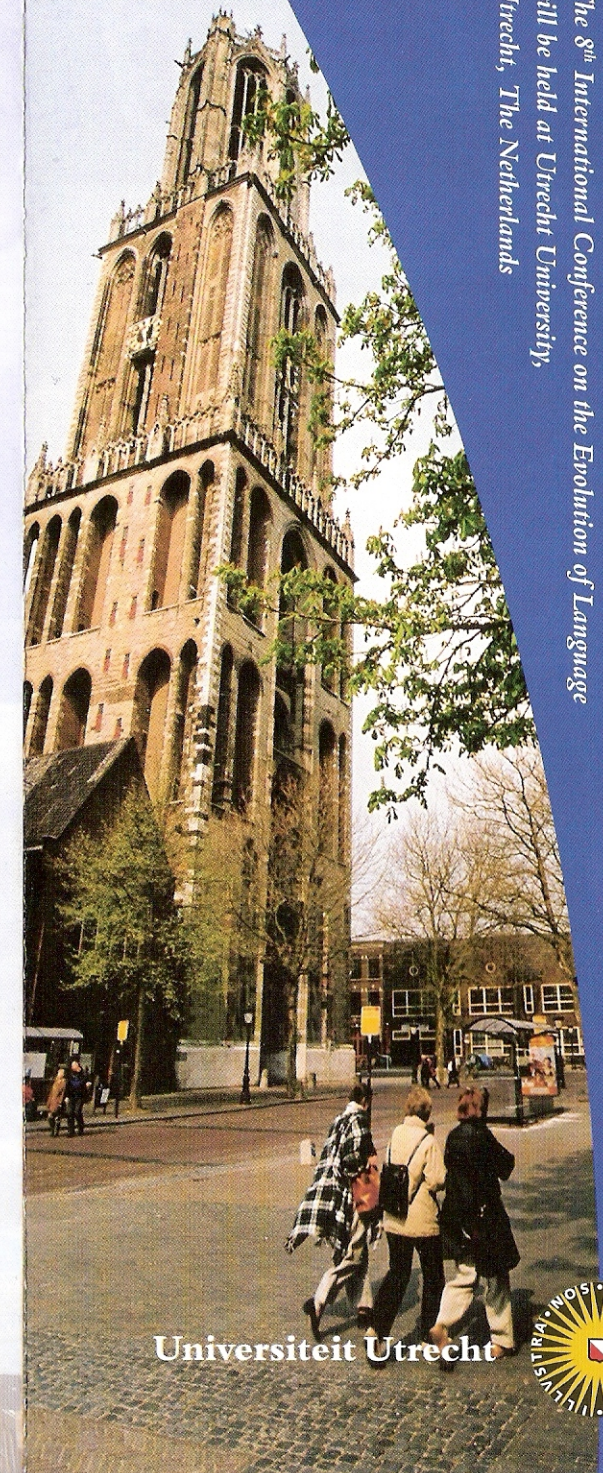


#### How to get to Utrecht?

Utrecht is easy to reach as it is centrally situated in The Netherlands and lies at the hub of the Dutch motorway and railway networks. Utrecht also offers air travellers good road and rail connections with Schiphol Airport (Amsterdam). There is a direct train connection between the airport and Utrecht Central Station. It only takes you 25 minutes to travel to Utrecht.

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Universiteit Utrecht

