Ashraf Khamis

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EDUCATION

MPhil, Master of Advanced Studies in Linguistics (Sep 2013 – Sep 2014)
KU Leuven, Ghent University, Vrije Universiteit Brussel & University of Antwerp, Belgium

- Major: cognitive and functional linguistics (Faculty of Arts, KU Leuven)
- Grade: magna cum laude (79.8%)
- Thesis: *Further and Farther: Competition or Functional Differentiation?*
- Advisor: Hendrik De Smet

MA, Master of Linguistics and Literature: English (Sep 2012 – Sep 2013)
Faculty of Arts, KU Leuven, Belgium

- Grade: magna cum laude (80%)
- Thesis: *Nominal and Verbal Gerunds with Genitive Subjects in Present-Day English: A Comparative Corpus Study*
- Advisor: Liesbet Heyvaert

BA & Education, Applied English Linguistics (Sep 2002 – May 2006)
Faculty of Education, Alexandria University, Egypt

- Grade: good (69.3%)

HONORS & AWARDS

- "GradUS global" grant for research visits abroad (Saarland University, Feb 2016 – Mar 2016)
- Roger Dillemans Scholarship for academic excellence (KU Leuven, Oct 2013 – Jul 2014)
- First-in-class honors (KU Leuven, Sep 2013)
- Second-in-class honors (Alexandria University, May 2006)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Researcher (Oct 2014 – Present)
Dept. of Applied Linguistics, Translation and Interpreting, Saarland University, Germany

- Compile a diachronic corpus of scientific English covering the period 1665–1869
- Train and evaluate computational models to normalize historical spelling variation
- Conduct literature reviews and prepare manuscripts for publication
- Present ongoing research and interim results at international conferences and workshops
- Maintain internal documentation and wikis for software tools and meeting protocols

Visiting Researcher (Feb 2016 – Apr 2016)
Fun*Cog, Dept. of English and American Studies, University of Vienna, Austria

- Perform a frequency distribution analysis of nominalizations in a word embedding model

- Report on the findings in writing and in a "GradUS global" poster session

Research Intern (Feb 2014 – Jun 2014)

Quantitative Lexicology and Variational Linguistics, Dept. of Linguistics, KU Leuven, Belgium

- Collect, annotate, analyze, and interpret corpus data on cross-dialectal variation in English verb complementation
- Integrate research findings into a theoretical-descriptive report and a data-based paper

Freelance Copywriter and Editor (Feb 2008 – Apr 2012)

Upwork (Formerly oDesk), Online Work Platform

- Create commercial Web content and manage news aggregation websites
- Research and write B2B case studies, white papers, and SEO articles for online publication
- Edit and proofread legal and business books, technical HR reports, and software manuals
- Translate between English and Arabic when and as needed

Customer Service Advisor and Shift Supervisor (Apr 2007 – Jun 2008)

Book Depository, London, UK

- Answer general inquiries and receive, manage, and process customer orders
- Liaise with other departments and suppliers to ensure a smooth customer experience
- Train and supervise four customer service personnel

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- B1: *Information Density and Scientific Literacy in English – Synchronic and Diachronic Perspectives* in DFG-funded SFB 1102: *Information Density and Linguistic Encoding* (Saarland University, Oct 2014 – Present)
- FWO-funded *Exploring probabilistic grammar(s) in varieties of English around the world* (KU Leuven, Feb 2014 – Jun 2014)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Conferences & Workshops

- Kermes, Hannah, Stefania Degaetano-Ortlieb, Ashraf Khamis, Jörg Knappen & Elke Teich. 2016. The Royal Society Corpus: Towards a high-quality corpus for studying diachronic variation in scientific writing. *Digital Humanities (DH)*, Jul 11–16, 2016. Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland.
- Degaetano-Ortlieb, Stefania, Hannah Kermes, Ashraf Khamis, Jörg Knappen & Elke Teich. 2016. The Royal Society Corpus: From uncharted data to corpus. *The 10th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC)*, May 23–28, 2016. Grand Hotel Bernardin Conference Center, Portorož, Slovenia.
- Degaetano-Ortlieb, Stefania, Hannah Kermes, Ashraf Khamis, Noam Ordan & Elke Teich. 2015. The taming of the data: Using text mining in building a corpus for diachronic analysis. *From Data to Evidence (d2e)*, Oct 19–22, 2015. University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland.
- Degaetano-Ortlieb, Stefania, Hannah Kermes, Ashraf Khamis, Jörg Knappen, Noam Ordan & Elke Teich. 2015. Information Density in Scientific Writing: A Diachronic Perspective. *The 42nd International Systemic Functional Congress (ISFC)*, Jul 27–31, 2015. RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany.
- Khamis, Ashraf, Stefania Degaetano-Ortlieb, Hannah Kermes, Jörg Knappen, Noam Ordan & Elke Teich. 2015. A resource for the diachronic study of scientific English: Introducing the Royal

- Society Corpus. *The 8th International Corpus Linguistics Conference (CL)*, Jul 21–24, 2015. Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK.
- Khamis, Ashraf. 2015. Cross-dialectal variation in English verb complementation: A multivariate corpus analysis. *The 13th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC)*, Jul 20–25, 2015. Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.
- Degaetano-Ortlieb, Stefania, Hannah Kermes, Ashraf Khamis & Elke Teich. 2015. Information Density in Scientific Writing: Exploring the SciTex Corpus. *Academic Corpora: Development, Exploration and Application Workshop*, Jul 20, 2015. Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK.

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

Paper

- Cross-dialectal variation in English verb complementation: A multivariate corpus analysis. *The 13th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC)*, Jul 21, 2015. Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.

Poster

- A resource for the diachronic study of scientific English: Introducing the Royal Society Corpus. *The 8th International Corpus Linguistics Conference (CL)*, Jul 23, 2015. Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK.

LANGUAGES

- Arabic: native
- English: fluent (near-native)
- German: intermediate
- French: elementary

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming/markup languages: R, HTML/XML, CSS
- Corpus query/analysis/annotation tools: CQP/CQL language, CQPweb/BNCweb, BYU Corpora, Sketch Engine, AntConc, WebAnno
- Word processing/spreadsheet/desktop publishing/presentation software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative suite
- Content management systems/frameworks: WordPress, Joomla, Drupal, TYPO3
- Web hosting service/analytics: GitHub, Google Analytics, WordPress Stats

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Linguistic Society of America (2015 – Present)