POSITION FOR DOCTORAL STUDENT
(wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin / wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter)

We invite applications for a PhD position available from April 2018, within a new project on **"Morphosyntax and word order in majority English across heritage speakers" (MoWOME)**. This is a 65% position (i.e., salary is 65% of an E13 position on the German TV-L scale - http://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/tv-l/west/). The duration of the appointment will be 3 years.

MoWOME is part of the new Research Unit "Emerging Grammars in Contact Language Situations: A Comparative Approach" (RUEG), funded by the German Research Foundation (FOR 2537). RUEG will investigate the linguistic systems and linguistic resources of heritage speakers in both of their languages across different language pairs, registers, and age groups. We will investigate speakers of Greek, Russian, and Turkish as heritage languages in Germany and the U.S., in addition to German as a heritage language in the U.S., as well as the use of the majority languages English and German by these speakers. MoWOME is responsible for the English part of the overall Research Unit, and will work integrally with the other projects responsible for other languages to facilitate comparative analyses. It will focus in particular on noncanonical morphosyntax (e.g., articles, agreement morphology) and word order (e.g., verb-object order, topicalization). For more information see: http://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/dspdg/projekte/rueg.html

RUEG provides an exciting infrastructure including an interdisciplinary network of researchers, frequent retreats and workshops with team members, and funding opportunities for conference visits, summer schools, hosting international experts, etc.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the organization and execution of English-language data collection from heritage speakers of Greek, Russian, and Turkish in the U.S.; English-language data processing, annotation, and analysis; organization of lab meetings; participation in lab exchanges and retreats; participation in presentations and publications; organization of input for transfer activities; and participation in conference organization. The successful candidate is also expected to write a doctoral dissertation within the three-year period on a topic related to MoWOME. Note that the PhD degree in Germany is based on the dissertation alone; no coursework is explicitly required.

Applicants should have the following:
  - Master's degree in linguistics or a related discipline (completed or submitted)
  - fluent command of English (native or near-native)
  - ability to travel at least twice to the U.S. for data collection (funding provided)
  - excellent attention to detail and organizational skills

Additional assets include:
  - excellent interpersonal skills for recruiting and testing participants
  - experience with collecting, transcribing, and analyzing linguistic data
  - familiarity with travel in the U.S.
  - at least a working knowledge of German
  - some knowledge of Greek, Russian, and/or Turkish
  - interest in heritage language acquisition and/or English in multilingual settings
  - interest in grammatical analysis and the interaction of grammatical and pragmatic
    patterns

The position will be housed in the Psycholinguistics and Language Development Group at the University of Kaiserslautern (http://www.sowi.uni-kl.de/psycholinguistics/home/). Current research in the group includes L1 and bilingual/L2 acquisition and processing of morphosyntax in children and adults, using both on-line and off-line methods, with a focus on cross-linguistic comparison. The group is an active part of the Center for Cognitive Science (http://www.uni-kl.de/cognitivescience/home/), and is engaged in interdisciplinary research with other members of the Center.

Kaiserslautern is a city of 100,000 inhabitants, with numerous cultural and leisure time options, an active city center, and a relatively low cost of living. It borders the largest forest in Germany with great facilities for mountain biking, jogging, and walking. It is also close to one of Germany's main wine regions (Pfalz) and to several large cities (40 minutes to Mannheim, 1.5 hours to Frankfurt, 2 hours to Stuttgart, 2.5 hours to Paris). For more information:
https://www.kaiserslautern.de/tourismus_freizeit_kultur/tourismus/index.html.en

The University of Kaiserslautern is seeking to increase the proportion of women in scientific positions, and thus applications from women are strongly encouraged. Applications from candidates with children are also welcome. People with an immigration background are specifically encouraged to apply. Given equivalent qualifications and experience, applicants with disabilities will be hired first (disability certification should be included if available).

Please send your application by February 21, 2018 to <allen@sowi.uni-kl.de>.
Applications should include the following:
(1) statement of research interests and motivation
(2) full CV including list of publications and presentations
(3) copies of academic transcripts
(4) contact information for at least two potential references who are familiar with your academic work
(5) Master's thesis
Late applications might be considered. Interviews (by Skype) will take place in late February 2018.

For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. Shanley Allen <allen@sowi.uni-kl.de>.