

CASTL is a Norwegian Centre of Excellence (CoE).

The CoE scheme was initiated by the Research Council of Norway, and the designation in 2002 of 13 Centres of Excellence marked the conclusion of the most far-reaching selection process ever to envelop Norwegian research.

The scheme entails that outstanding research groups, operating under co-ordinated management and research plans will receive long-term funding to engage in world-class basic research. The CoEs will receive annual grants from the Research Council averaging 10 to 20 million NOK for a maximum of ten years, based on host institution pledges to cover a considerable proportion of the CoEs' expenditures. Moreover, the CoEs are free to raise funding from other sources.

The CoEs will be evaluated by international experts in 2006.

CASTL is housed at the Faculty of Humanities at The University of Tromsø. The Center exists alongside other departments, and in tight collaboration with the Department of Linguistics. It enjoys the full infrastructural support of the university, and a high degree of autonomy in budgetary and management related issues. The Center has its own board, and is run on a daily basis by the Director and its own administrative staff.

The University of Tromsø is the northernmost university in the world and serves as a vital source of research and education both nationally and internationally.

I like the continuum from MA student to PhD student to post-doc to professor to researcher. Just the sheer number of people doing linguistics is amazing, and the interactions are wonderfully energetic.

Lisa Travis, McGill University

It was great to find that theoretical ideas in phonology are really taken seriously, and that so much is going on there.

Patrick Honeybone, University of Edinburgh

The group of linguists at Tromsø is the most interactive group of researchers I have seen. Everyone there talks to everyone else there about linguistics every single day.

Edwin Williams, Princeton University

CASTL is a hospitable and energetic linguistics group ...

--David Lightfoot

CASTL has the potential to be one of the best departments in the world.

Elan Dresher, University of Toronto

A word from the leadership

Our guests over the past year describe CASTL as a vibrant, enthusiastic and energetic research center. In our quest to develop even further during 2004, we've been joined by several new colleagues, coming from places as far away as the Kenya, Japan, the United States, England, Ireland, Spain, Germany ... even Sweden – not to mention Tromsø!

This annual report gives you a glimpse of the activities at CASTL during 2004, including a few words about the visitors we've hosted and the events we've organized, along with some statistics about the scientific activities we've pursued. We also go beyond the statistics and give you a taste of the research that's been done here this year.

In addition to our activities in Tromsø, CASTL's staff have been out in the world, presenting our work and participating in international projects. One highlight was GLOW 27, held in Thessaloniki in April, where CASTL was responsible for six of the lectures at that highly competitive conference – an unprecedented level of representation for a single institution.

The achievements we describe here reflect not only the strong commitment and hard work of every individual connected to CASTL. They also reflect the unwavering support of the Norwegian Research Council, The University of Tromsø, and the Faculty of Humanities. We recognize the privileges our funding organizations provide, and the responsibilities which accompany them. To all of you who have made 2004 a brilliant year at CASTL – economic and scientific supporters alike – *tusen hjertelig takk skal dere ha!*



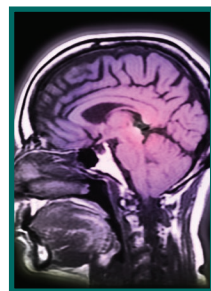
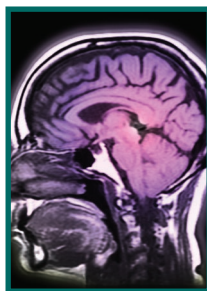
Curt Rice

Curt Rice
Director



Kirsti Koch Christensen

Kirsti Koch Christensen
Chair of the Board of Directors



The Work

As a vigorous and productive Norwegian Center of Excellence, CASTL has been called to meet two intimately related but different challenges.

Our primary challenge is to conduct research on the human language faculty, uncovering fundamental properties which hold not just of individual languages, but of human language in general. To do this, we continually reevaluate our conception and practice of the method we call selective global comparison, as well as the specific research questions we use this method to pursue.

We also experiment with the way that we do our research, and this is where the second challenge lies. CASTL's research agenda is organized into projects, around which research teams are built. These teams represent researchers at all stages of their careers: faculty members,

'...CASTL's research agenda is organized into projects, around which research teams are built.'

post-doctoral fellows, Ph.D. students and Master's students. The teams have frequent meetings – building on our conception of how a lab in the humanities might work.

These two challenges have a natural connection. Our scientific projects regarding linguistic variation can achieve greater coverage through team-based research. And our vision of experimenting with the organization of research invites us to consider projects

which easily lend themselves to a coherent division of labor.

The projects at CASTL begin with a carefully developed theoretical question before moving onto deep empirical studies. Taking an example from one of our projects, the nanosyntax team spent much of 2004 developing

'...A consequence of the nano-syntax team's work is a new perspective on variation in language.'

a theory that accomodates the results of two decades of work in our field on the the details of syntactic structures. In particular, a morpheme is seen as

spelling out more than one position in the syntactic structure, and variation consists of identifying the exact stretch of structure which any particular morpheme spells out.

A consequence of this team's work is a new perspective on variation in language. This team wrapped up 2004 with

work mapping out a part of syntax based on their new theory.

In its next stage, this project will begin with careful study of the twelve languages represented in our local research community. At the beginning, the strategy will be to study the properties and range of variation of a single morpheme, -able. When variation in syntax is reduced to variation in the stretch of structure which any

particular morpheme expresses, then fine-grained research on specific morphemes is necessary.

Preliminary results provide a tentative illustration of this theory of variation: differences between the English and Swedish versions of -able include the inability of Swedish -bar to take a by-phrase. In English, one can say that *a book is readable by the first-year students* while in Swedish it is ungrammatical to say that *boken er läsbar av förståsstudenter*. This difference can be elegantly expressed through the hypothesis that the Swedish -bar spells out a smaller portion of the tree than the English -able.

When our work on the languages in our immediate environment reaches a certain stage, we

identify additional languages unrelated to our local sample that are particularly interesting because of some specific property.

To take another example, our project on verb phrases has examined causative constructions in a way that illustrates

'...The team working on causatives in 2004 delved into Nivkh, Urdu, Japanese, Kitharaka, Amharic, Malagasy, Northern Saami, and Salish.'

the method of selective global comparison. First, the literature on causative constructions in African, Austronesian, American Indian, South Asian, East Asian, Uralic, and other languages was sifted through. Then various individual languages are selected for more focused investigation. The team working on causatives in 2004 delved into Nivkh, Urdu, Japanese, Kitharaka, Amharic, Malagasy, Northern Saami, and Salish. The team

organized an international workshop in November, where some of CASTL's work was presented and where we were exposed to the work of distinguished guests from foreign universities presenting on the relevant structures in different language families.

We approach the halfway mark of our initial five-year grant with an increasingly focused strategy for meeting our two core challenges. We know we've made progress because our research – and our way of doing research – attracts the attention of the international scientific community in our field. We enter 2005 committed to pushing ahead and fulfilling even more of our responsibilities as a Norwegian Center of Excellence.

Researcher Training School

A recent international evaluation of doctoral education in Norway suggested that new attempts should be made to structure this education. The Board of Directors at the University of Tromsø asked a national committee in 2004 to identify three groups on campus which would be asked to develop new structures for Ph.D. education. CASTL has been selected as one of these groups, and we are now moving forward with plans for our researcher training school.

During 2004, students at CASTL participated in research teams throughout the year. In addition, many of our students participate in interna-

tional short courses, such as the LOT schools in The Netherlands and the EGG summer school. Several guests were brought to Tromsø to teach or to participate in workshops, adding more to the educational offerings here. Highlights from this year include the Lightfoot & Smolensky Lectures. This weeklong course – a cooperative effort between CASTL and the Department of Psychology – brought David Lightfoot (Georgetown) and Paul Smolensky (Johns Hopkins) to speak on topics related to language and the brain. In October, Marc van Oostendorp (Meertens Institute, Amsterdam) and David Adger (Queen Mary, London)

taught an intensive course on Variation in Language, addressing the heart of the CASTL project.

We also think of workshops and conferences as playing an important role in our students' education, and landmarks from 2004 include the Workshop on Null Subjects and the Workshop on Argument Structure. One of the highlights of CASTL's year was hosting the 13th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe, which brought students from all over the continent to Tromsø, where they presented their cutting edge research to an eager audience.

The People

Senior Researchers



Professor Curt Rice,
Senior Researcher and Director
Phonological theory, OT, metrical theory, comparative Germanic phonology.



Professor Peter Svenonius
The semantics-syntax interface



Professor Knut Tarald Taraldsen
Syntactic theory, Scandinavian and Romance syntax



Associate Professor Ove Lorentz
Phonological theory, OT, Scandinavian and Sámi phonology



Professor Michal Starke
Syntax



Professor Anders Holmberg (Adjunct Professor)
Syntax

Research Fellows (Ph.D. students)



Kristine Bentzen
Comparative syntax, the relationship between syntax and morphology, first language acquisition



Sylvia Blaho
Phonological representation, Government Phonology, voicing-related phenomena, syllabic consonants



Peter Muriungi
General Bantu syntax, the syntax of focus, the syntax of questions



Kaori Takamine
Syntax



Madeleine Halmøy
Comparative syntax, nominal predicates, NP/DP-structure

Bjørn Lundquist
Syntax, double object constructions and modality.

Postdoctoral Research Fellows/Researchers



Bruce Morén
Phonological representation, feature theory, weight theory, tone theory, consonant-vowel comparison, phonetics-phonology interface, Sign Language linguistics



Luisa Marti
Semantics, syntax (context, anaphora, quantification, focus, null constituents, indefinites)

Øystein Nilsen
Syntax, semantics, lexical categories

Affiliates

Klaus Abels, Associate Professor
Merete Anderssen, Ph.D. student
Helene N. Andreassen, Research Assistant
Berit Anne Bals, Ph.D. student
Patrik Bye, Associate Professor
Thorbjörg Hróarsdóttir, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Vyara Istratkova, Ph.D. student
Patrycja Jablonska, Ph.D. student
Martin Krämer, Associate Professor
Chantal Lyche, Professor
Tore Nettet, Professor
Gillian Ramchand, Professor
Yulya Rodina, Ph.D. student
Eugenia Romanova, Ph.D. student
Trond Trosterud, Researcher
Mai Tungseth, Ph.D. student
Øystein A. Vangsnes, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Marit R. Westergaard, Associate Professor



The Teams

The research at CASTL is organized into several subprojects, as outlined in the 2003 Annual Report. These are carried out in teams including one or more of the Senior Researchers or experienced researchers, one of whom is designated as team leader.

The following teams were in operation in 2004:

Acquisition & Language Change, Team leader: Marit R. Westergaard
The Phonology –Morphology Interface, Team leader: Curt Rice
Universal Scales and Hierarchies, Team leader: Ove Lorentz
The Organisation of the Clause: VP, Team leader: Peter Svenonius
Nanosyntax, Team leader: Michal Starke
Architectures of noun Phrases, Team leader: Tarald Taraldsen
Division of Labor, Team leader: Patrik Bye

Administrative staff

Asbjørn Bartnes, Head of Administration
Anne Dahl, Executive Officer



Board of Directors

Professor Kirsti Koch Christensen, University of Bergen (chair)
Professor Peter Svenonius, CASTL
Professor Rolf Gaasland, University of Tromsø
Associate Professor Paula Fikkert, Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen
Professor Höskuldur Thráinsson, Háskóli Íslands

Substitute representative:
Professor Guglielmo Cinque, Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia



['output']

The Output

List of selected articles 2004

Klaus Abels:
Why Surprise-Predicates do not Embed
Polar Interrogatives
Linguistische Arbeitsberichte Leipzig
(vol. 81)

Klaus Abels:
Deriving selectional properties of ‘ex-
clamative’ predicaties
Proceedings of the Workshop on the
syntax, semantics and Pragmatics of
Questions

Berit Anne Bals:
The acquisition of grade alternation in
North Saami
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
papers on language & linguistics

Kristine Bentzen:
Cues and economy in the acquisition of
verb movement
Nordlyd, Tromsø University Working
Papers in Language Acquisition

Anne Dahl:
Negative evidence in L2 acquisition
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
Papers in Language Acquisition

Anders Holmberg & Thorbjörg Hróars-
dóttir:
Agreement and movement in Icelandic
raising constructions
Lingua

Thorbjorg Hroarsdottir:
Cues and expressions
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
papers on language & linguistics

Chantal Lyche:
Le corpus PFC (Phonologie du français
contemporain) pour un renouvelle-
ment des données phonologiques
LIDIL 31

Chantal Lyche et al:
Pour une transcription prosodique
normalisée au sein du projet PFC
in Isabelle Marlien and Bernard Bel
(eds.) *Proceedings of the 25th Journées
d’Etude sur la Parole*

Tore Nessel:
Case Assignment and Image Schemas:
Russian Temporal Adverbials
Studies in Language

Tore Nessel:
The Assignment of Gender and Declen-
sion to Russian Nouns in Soft Conso-
nants
Journal of Slavic Linguistics

Tore Nessel:
Vowel reduction in optimality theory
Journal of Linguistics

Øystein Nilsen:
Domains for Adverbs
Lingua 114 Special issue: *Taking up the
gauntlet-Adverbs across frameworks* (
ed: A. Alexiadou)

Michal Starke:
On the Inexistence of Specifiers and the
Nature of Heads
in Adriana Belletti (ed): *“Structures
and Beyond”*

Peter Svenonius:
Swedish particles and directional
prepositions: Grammar in Focus
Festschrift for Christer Platzack

Peter Svenonius:
On the edge
in D. Adger (ed.) et al: *“Peripheries:
Syntactic Edges and their Effects”*

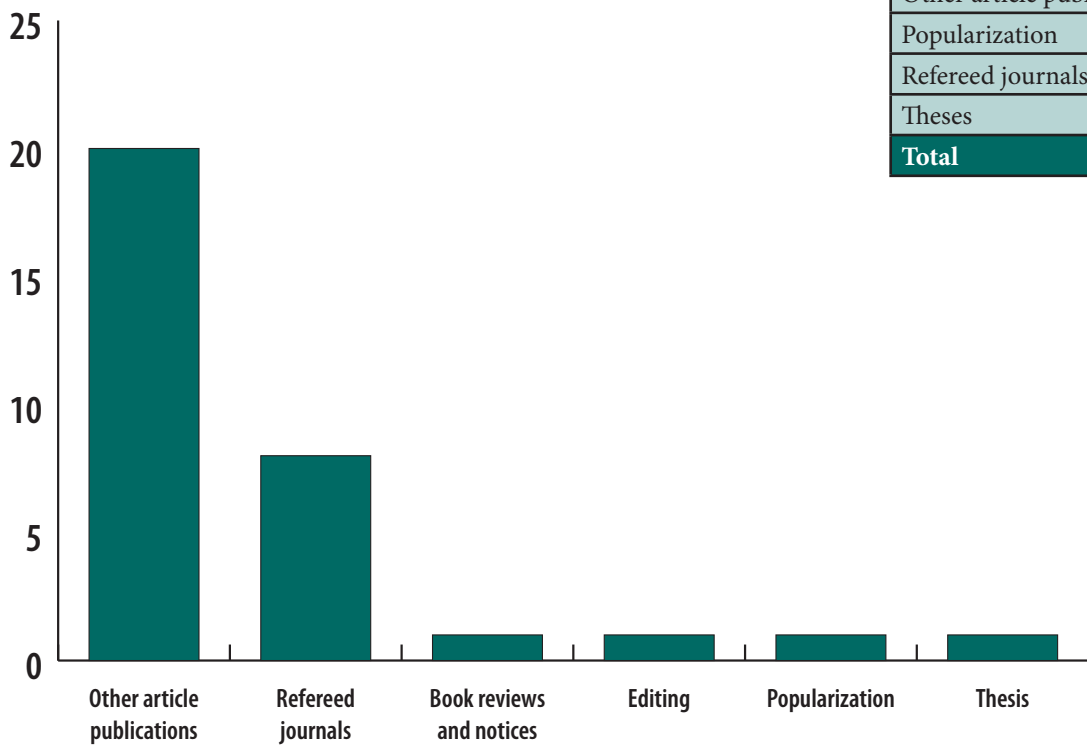
Peter Svenonius:
Slavic prefixes and morphology: An
introduction to the Nordlyd volume
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
papers on language & linguistics

Peter Svenonius:
Slavic prefixes inside and outside VP
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
papers on language & linguistics

Øystein A. Vangsnes:
On wh-questions and V2 across Nor-
wegian dialects: a survey and some
speculations
*Working Papers in Scandinavian
Syntax*

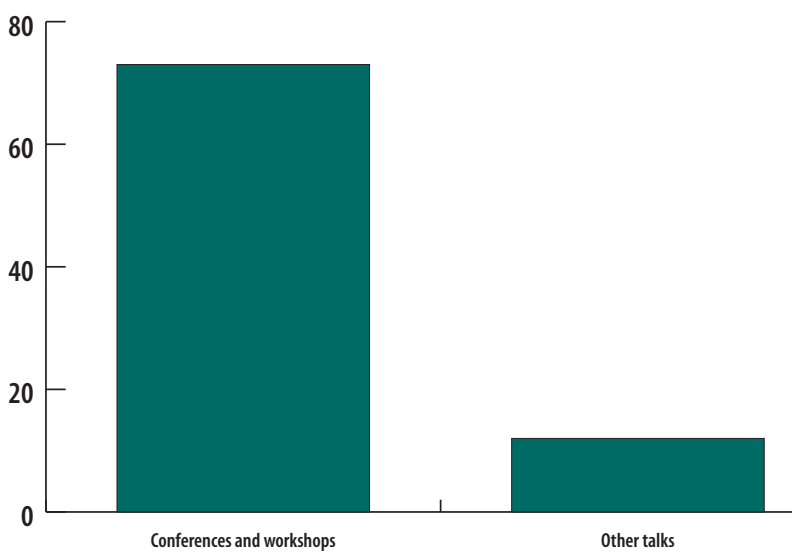
Marit R. Westergaard:
The Interaction of Input and UG in
the Acquisition of Verb Movement in a
Dialect of Norwegian
Nordlyd, Tromsø University working
papers on language & linguistics

Publications 2004



Book reviews & notices	1
Editing	1
Other article publications	20
Popularization	1
Refereed journals	8
Theses	1
Total	32

Presentations 2004



Conferences & workshops	73
Other talks	12
Total	85

Conferences - Workshops - Seminars

Workshop on Null Subjects, (February 7)

This was a one-day workshop with 6 speakers. Invited speakers were Anders Holmberg (Durham/Tromsø), Theresa Biberauer (Cambridge), Ian Roberts (Cambridge) and George Tsoulas (York). Local speakers were Peter Svenonius and Tarald Taraldsen.

Approximately 40 students and re-searchers attended the workshop.

Lightfoot and Smolensky Lectures (March 8-12)

This was an intensive one-week course taught by Professors David Lightfoot and Paul Smolensky. Professor Lightfoot's lectures were entitled Language and Cognitive Physiology, and were a further development of the theories presented in his book The Language Organ: Linguistics as Cognitive Physiology (Cambridge University Press).

Professor Smolensky's lectures were entitled Language and Cognitive Architecture, and were presentations of some of the work appearing in his forthcoming book The harmonic mind: From neural computation to optimality-theoretic grammar (MIT Press).

The lectures were intended for doctoral students, but open to interested parties at all levels.

Approximately 40 people attended these lectures.

This course was financed by the Norwegian Research Council, the Center for Advanced Study in Theoretical Linguistics, and the Department of Psychology.

Master's Miniconference (May 28)

The Master's Miniconference was an opportunity for several of our students to present their newly completed thesis research projects. The seminar was entirely internal, with about seven talks and close to twenty participants.

Variation in Language (October 4-8)

This seminar was a national Research Training Seminar co-hosted by CASTL and the Department of Linguistics. The one-week intensive course was intended for doctoral students, but open to interested parties at all levels. Speakers in the course were Professor David Adger (Queen Mary, London) and Professor Marc van Oostendorp (Meertens Institute, Amsterdam).

The last day of this week was a Workshop on Variation, with invited speakers Jen Smith (York) and Øystein Vangsnes (Tromsø).

Registered participants: 48

The Variation in Language week was generously supported by NFU-H.

Argument structure workshop (November 4-6)

This was a three-day workshop with sixteen lectures. Participants from elsewhere were Lisa Travis (McGill), Sam Mchombo (UC Berkeley), John Bowers (Cornell), Mila Vulchanova (NTNU), Leonard Babby (Princeton), Elena Anagnostopoulou (Crete), Raffaella Folli and Heidi Harley (Cambridge), Mikael Vinka (Umeå) and Edwin Williams (Princeton). The speakers from CASTL were Tarald Taraldsen, Vyara Istratkova, Gillian Ramchand, Eugenia Romanova,

Patrycja Jablonska, Peter Svenonius and Mai Tungseth.

There were 40 participants in this workshop.

ConSOLE XIII (December 2-4)

CASTL was the host for this three-day conference. ConSOLE is the annual Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe. It is organised by a different European university every year, providing a forum for students of linguistics from all over the world to present independent research. This conference is exploding in popularity, and the CASTL event drew 160 abstracts of which 22 were selected for presentation. Four invited talks were also given, by Charles Reiss (Concordia University), Elan Dresher (Toronto), Michal Starke (CASTL) and Gillian Ramchand (CASTL).

65 participants attended the conference.

The CASTL Colloquium Series

The CASTL Colloquium series continued throughout 2004 with Thursday evening lectures. These lectures are both held by locals and invited speakers.

In 2004, a total of 31 talks were given. 21 talks were given by invited speakers.

It's a fantastic research atmosphere – but whatever you do, don't offer to buy a round of drinks - you'll need a second mortgage to pay for it.

Jennifer Smith, University of York

The numbers

All numbers in thousand NOK		
Income	Grant from The Norwegian Research Council	6 487
	Grant from The University of Tromsø	3 162
	Additional grants (from applications)	176
	SUM Income	9 825
Expences	Labor costs	6 042
	Academic staff	5 519
	Administrative staff	523
	Operational expenses	1 314
	Research assistants	82
	Conferences and workshops	143
	Board meetings	44
	Hiring	55
	Travel	734
	Guest lecturers	103
	Various expenses	153
	Indirect costs	1 067
	SUM Expenses	8 423
	TOTAL	1 402

CASTLs invited guests 2004

Anagnostopoulou, Elena, University of Crete
Abels, Klaus, University of Leipzig
Adger, David, Queen Mary College, London
Babby, Leonard, Princeton University
Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo, University of Newcastle
Biberauer, Theresa, Cambridge University
Bowers, John, Cornell University
Clahsen, Harald, University of Essex
Dresher, Elan, University of Toronto
Enger, Hans-Olav, Høgskolen i Stavanger
Filip, Hana, Standford University
Folli, Raffaella, University of Cambridge
Grinevald, Colette, Université Lumière Lyon2
Honeybone, Patrick, University of Edinburgh
Janda, Laura, University of North Carolina
Lekakou Marika, University College London
Lightfoot, David, Georgetown University
Mchombo, Sam, University of California, Berkeley

Miozzo, Michele, Columbia University
Ogden, Richard, University of York
Oostendorp, Marc van, Meertens Institute
Ota, Mits, University of Edinburgh
Pancheva, Roumi, University of Southern California
Ramchand, Gillian, Oxford University
Reiss, Charles, Concordia University, Montreal
Roberts, Ian, Cambridge University
Smith, Jennifer, University of York
Smolensky, Paul, Johns Hopkins University
Spencer, Andrew, University of Essex
Travis, Lisa, McGill University
Tsoulas, George, University of York
Vihman, Marilyn, University of Wales, Bangor
Vinka, Mikael, University of Umeå
Vulchanova, Mila, NTNU
Williams, Edwin, Princeton University

CASTL events in 2005

Spring:

Old World Conference in Phonology 2
January 20-22

The Pesetsky Lectures
March 14-16

Paradigms in Phonology: Contrast, Analogy, and Defectivity
April 25-29

The Structure of Bantu
May 30-June 3

Fall:

Phonological Variation: The Case of French
August 25-27

Workshop on Freedom of Analysis
August

Workshop on Lexical Decomposition in fine-grained syntactic structures
October

It is a very pleasant place to do advanced research in linguistics.

*Sam Mchombo,
Berkeley*

The CASTL faculty members and their students maintain very close and active links with the rest of the academic world.

*Andrew Spencer,
University of
Essex*

Tromsø now has the most vibrant linguistics program in Europe. It is astounding how active and involved the faculty are with the students, especially since they also maintain research profiles of the highest caliber. In my opinion, Tromsø is THE place to study generative linguistics in Europe.

*Charles Reiss,
Concordia University,
Montreal*

Tromsø has the most vibrant and exciting research culture that I have ever experienced, a warm and collegial atmosphere, and a stunningly beautiful natural setting.

*Ricardo Bermúdez-Otero,
University of
Newcastle*



CASTL

Center for Advanced Study
in Theoretical Linguistics

Annual Report 2004