

**Achtung!**

Dies ist eine Internet-Sonderausgabe des  
„Report on a conference about the Use of Computers in Comparative Linguistics  
held at the University of Bamberg, June 12-14, 1992“  
von Jost Gippert (1992).

Sie sollte nicht zitiert werden. Zitate sind der Originalausgabe in  
„Languages of the World“ 4 = 1992/2, 56  
zu entnehmen.

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Jost Gippert, Frankfurt 2000-2001

Report on a conference about the  
**USE OF COMPUTERS IN COMPARATIVE  
LINGUISTICS**

held at the University of Bamberg, June 12 - 14, 1992

The here reported conference consisted of the following sections:

- a) Questions of encoding, norming and transfer of data across system boundaries
- b) Problems of text processing in Indo-European studies
- c) Discussion of principles and methods concerning an Indo-European text data base.

In section a), the main point of discussion was the possibility of integrating linguistic symbols used in Indo-European Studies and other disciplines of Comparative Linguistics into the new ISO-10646-norm. Dr. Johann Tischler and Jörg Brysch from Giessen University who have for long been in charge with this project reported about their efforts of collecting a set of necessary symbols for this purpose. In the discussion it turned out necessary that specialists of various fields of Comparative Linguistics should contribute their proposals in order to provide the new norm with a really exhausting set of linguistic symbols used. Everybody interested in participating in the collection of such a symbol set is invited to contact Prof. Dr. Johann Tischler, Vgl. Sprachwissenschaft, University of Giessen, Otto-Behagel-Str. 10 G, D-W-6300 Giessen.

The major topic of section b) were the facilities of linguistic text processing on DOS-computers as offered by WordPerfect for Windows and MS Windows 3.1. Dr. Klaus Boekels from Bamberg University delivered a presentation including a discussion of the divergences with respect to using the WordPerfect encoding system and Windows' True Type standard; additionally, the new linguistic and foreign languages adaptations as provided by Mikado for WordPerfect for Windows

(Printer Polyglott) were introduced. Everybody interested in this application may consult Mikado, Wielandstr. 1223, D-W-1000 Berlin 12.

Section c) mainly dealt with the project of an Indo-European text data base as founded by Dr. Jost Gippert from Bamberg University in Die Sprache 32, 1987 and 33, 1988. The project aims at making a large mass of texts in important ancient Indo-European languages such as Old Indic, Old Iranian, or Hittite available to all scholars that are interested in participating and willing to contribute parts of the corpus themselves. The discussion concentrated on the problems involved in participants using different computers or text processing systems and on finding the basis for a common encoding standard for such a thesaurus. Everybody interested is asked to contact Dr. Jost Gippert, Bamberg University, POB 1549, D-W-8600 Bamberg for further information. As an example of the advantages of investigating a text corpus with the computer, Dr. Michael Glünz from Berne University presented his computer programme for a metrical analysis of Persian Poetry. Dr. Glünz will organize a symposium on "Computers and Poetic Texts" in Berne, Switzerland, October 29-30 1992; his address is Islamwissenschaftliches Seminar, Universität Bern, Sternengässchen 1, CH-3011 Bern.

The next conference dealing with the use of computers in Comparative Linguistics will be organized by Dr. Petr Vavroušek at the University of Prague, Czechoslovakia; the provisional date will be November, 1993. The contact is Dr. Petr Vavroušek, Prague University, Oriental Institute, Celetná 20, CS-11100 Prague 1. (sent in by Dr. J. Gippert, Bamberg, June 92).