

Series editor's preface

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**Language and Slavery: A social and linguistic history of the
Suriname creoles**

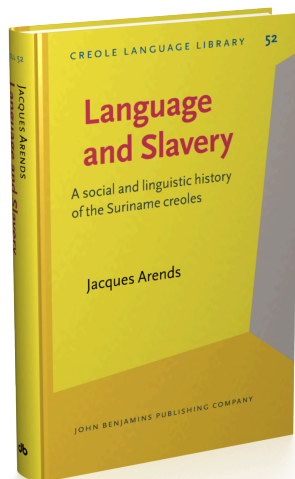
Jacques Arends

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When John Singler decided to stand down as a co-editor of the Creole Language Library in the early 00s, he approached me to see if I would be willing to replace him. We both understood that this would be contingent on whether the other editor of CLL at the time, Jacques Arends, and I believed we could work well together.

I knew Jacques by sight from meetings of the Society of Pidgin and Creole Linguistics but primarily I knew his work. His textbook (in the CLL series) was the text in the course on pidgins and creoles that I took as a PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania. I was also deeply sympathetic to the arguments he made about the gradual development of creoles based on his careful demographic and corpus-based research. I liked that he was willing to recognise when others' research raised problems or issues for his theory.

Jacques and I met and chatted about the Creole Language Library at the next conference we both attended in Amsterdam in 2004. I learnt then that he combined a steely professional rigour with an affectionate view of life. I came away from the meeting reassured and looking forward to the prospect of working with and learning from him as his co-editor in the series. It was not to be.

When I agreed to work with Jacques on the series, I agreed to give it at least six years. This year, it has been more than a decade. As I prepare to hand on the role of editing the Creole Language Library this year, I am terribly happy to see this volume go to press. This is the second volume we have had the pleasure of publishing in the Creole Language Library that celebrates Jacques Arends' profound scholarly contribution to the field of creolistics (see also CLL 34, 2009).

It speaks volumes for Jacques Arends that his colleagues have been moved to secure his invaluable intellectual legacy for future researchers in the field. Many of the people involved in editing this volume have done so at considerable effort – over and above their other work and their busy lives. It is truly a labour of love, for a man who knew quite a lot about that emotion.

Miriam Meyerhoff
August 2016

