Preface

This collection of articles is meant to mark the next step forward in the research conducted within the framework of *Comparative Colonial Toponomastics* (CoCoTop). CoCoTop took shape in 2015 and has developed into a very productive international research program. The foundations of CoCoTop were laid in the seminal article by Stolz and Warnke (2015) the focus of which was still on the impact of German colonialism on the naming of geo-objects in official and semi-official documents of the colonial administration. Since this first study CoCoTop has made considerable progress as can be gathered from the subsequent edited volumes such as Dunker et al. (2017) and Stolz and Warnke (2018d). The contributions which go to the credit of the proponents of CoCoTop in Bremen cover a wide range of topics including theoretical and methodological aspects (Döschner 2018; Dunker 2017; Stolz and Warnke 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018a; Warnke et al. 2016) as well as numerous (inter alia comparative) empirical studies on colonial toponomastics (Levkovich 2018; Lesko and Sippola 2018; Otsuka 2018; Schuster 2018, 2019; Stolz and Warnke 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018b, 2018c, 2019; Stolz et al. 2016, 2019).

Our knowledge of the empirical side of the phenomenon has grown immensely. The increase of available data notwithstanding, we still ignore many manifestations of colonialism on the maps of former colonies and their modern successor states. However, the need for further dedicated research for CoCoTop does not only refer to the empirical facts but also has to do with methodology, theory, and interdisciplinary evaluation. CoCoTop has advanced but nevertheless the project is still in its initial stages.

Advances in comparative colonial toponomastics gives evidence of the growing internationalization of CoCoTop. The authors of the articles united in this edited volume are at home academically in the Italy, Denmark, Hungary, and Germany. Their scholarly papers help to widen the scope of our research program. This volume hosts studies which address topics that have hitherto not been given the attention they deserve. For the purpose of better orientation, the articles are distributed over four categories:

- I. General Toponomastics
- II. CoCoTop Studies
- III. Reports
- IV. Fresh Data

The collection is opened by **Valéria Tóth's** study of Hungarian toponyms which reflects the state of the art in general toponomastics and thus serves as a point

of reference for the ideas developed within our own framework. It is evident that these ideas do not necessarily agree with each and every point of view that is standard in general toponomastics. There is thus ample opportunity for further discussion between representatives of the two approaches.

Part II comprises those papers which look at phenomena which are relevant for furthering the course of CoCoTop. **Sandra Herling** compares the role of Spanish and French toponyms which were coined in 16th to 18th century in the territories claimed by Spain and France in what later became the United States of America. The author identifies shared properties and individual traits between the two colonial toponomasticons.

Marie A. Rieger zooms in on particular facet of the toponomasticon of the Usambara region in *Deutsch-Ostafrika*. The focus is on the records of place names kept by the Austrian geographer Oskar Baumann in the late 19th century. It is important to note that indigenous place names usually did not undergo significant changes.

The collaborative paper by **Ingo H. Warnke, Thomas Stolz, Jascha de Bloom and Nataliya Levkovych** focuses on the functional load of geo-classifiers in the German colonial toponomasticon by way of emphasizing that it makes sense to distinguish several types of geo-classifiers.

The second paper by members of the Bremen CoCoTop team, **Thomas Stolz and Nataliya Levkovych** presents the intriguing case of the Gani-islands (Northern Marianas) where the succession of several colonizer nations – Spain, Germany, Japan, United States – has failed to leave any traces in the local toponomasticon. What is more, there are also no indigenous place names in spite of the fact that the islands have been settled on and off.

Riccardo Contini and Luca D’Anna situate two Italian scholars of the Italian colonial period in Africa in the general discussion of colonial toponomastics. It is shown how Carlo Alfonso Nallino and Eugenio Griffini were responsible – sometimes in disagreement between them – for the shaping of the Libyan toponomasticon under the Italian regime.

Part III contains two reports on projects-to-be on Danish colonial toponomastics. **Johnny Grandjean Gøgsig Jakobsen and Ivalu Kristine Lidsmoes** provide a general overview of the empirically rich Danish colonial toponomasticon. The Danish colonial empire consisted of colonies on several continents including Greenland, the Danish Virgin Islands, forts in West Africa, and possessions in India.

Karoline Kühl and Iben Holmegaard Aastrup concentrate on the Danish Virgin Islands. They aim at describing the colonial toponomasticon of the Caribbean Islands under Danish rule with reference to models of linguistic ecology.

The fourth part outlines the findings of the first master thesis at the University of Bremen the topic of which is tightly connected to the aims of CoCoTop. **Anna Wolter** has taken stock of all those street names in Bremen, which can be related to German colonialism. These street names are given in an annotated alphabetic list to be used as a database for interested scholars.

Most of the papers in Parts I–II were presented on occasion of the Workshop “Colonial Toponomastics” on 24th and 25th September 2018 at the University of Bremen. The other papers (Parts III–IV) have been invited to complement the collection.

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