The Syntax of Idioms

- – Systematic study of (the syntactic flexibility of) idioms in 14 varieties of Dutch
- – Online searchable database
- – Focus on functional projections
- – Internal syntax (DP structure)
  - Idiomatically Combining Expressions vs. Idiomatic Phrases
  - In ICEs, determiners follow regular syntax
  - In IdPs, definite determiners are semantically vacuous
- – External syntax (idioms and phase size)
  - IdPs cannot staddle phase boundaries (DPs are not phases)
  - Some idioms depend on tense, aspect, modality, voice
  - Size of clause-internal phase varies cross-linguistically