"LANGUAGE USE ACROSS TIME:
What you didn't know you've always wanted to know
about historical pragmatics"

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Abstracts

PLENARY PRESENTATIONS

Andreas H. JUCKER (Clare Hall, Cambridge and University of Zurich; ahjucker@es.uzh.ch)

Workshop

"Methods in historical pragmatics: corpus-based speech act research"

Research in historical pragmatics depends on the availability of suitable data, usually in the form of computer-readable corpora. Experimental methods or introspection cannot be used. But the usual corpus-linguistic tools face very considerable challenges when they are applied to pragmatically salient entities, as for instance speech acts. Speech acts are defined according to their functional profile, but corpus searches depend on precisely formulated search strings and a mapping algorithm between such search strings and specific language functions. In recent years, a growing body of research has shown that speech functions are only loosely tied to specific linguistic forms. Very often functions are discursively assigned by interactants to specific utterances in the course of a verbal exchange, as, for instance, when an utterance is taken either as a compliment or as an insult by a listener even if was not meant as such by the speaker. Various solutions have been proposed for these challenges. In this workshop, we will work with salutations and with compliments. Salutations generally have very little propositional content and rely on a relatively small set of linguistic forms that can be used to realise them while compliments are generally propositionally rich and can be realised in a large number of different ways. We will look at some of the complexities of both cases and carry out hands-on categorisation tasks to explore the methodologies that rely on typical surface patterns and on metacommunicative expressions. We will discuss both the power of these methods and their analytical limitations (cf. Jucker, Taavitsainen 2014a, 2014b; Jucker forthcoming 2018).

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Andreas H. JUCKER (Clare Hall, Cambridge and University of Zurich; ahjucker@es.uzh.ch)

Lecture

"From 'I cry you mercy' to 'Oops, sorry': apologies in the history of English"

Speech acts are fuzzy entities. Their functional profiles may vary between different varieties, genres or modalities of a language; they may change diachronically and they may be embedded in fluctuating repertoires of neighbouring speech acts. At the same time a broad range of linguistic resources may be available to realise them at any given time or in any specific context. This makes it challenging to trace histories of speech acts with corpus-linguistic tools.

Apologies are a case in point in spite of their seemingly straightforward functional profile. They usually require an offender who takes responsibility for some actual or perceived offence affecting an offended other party, together with a remedy and an expression of regret. But in actual contexts, the situation is often more complicated. Apologies may shade off into general expressions of sorrow, regret or distress or into so-called spill cries, and the range of such neighbouring speech acts seems to have changed in the course of time.

In this paper, I want to show how apologies have developed in the history of English. I will take the findings of Jucker and Taavitsainen (2008) as a starting point, but I will focus mainly on how they have developed in the two centuries covered by the *Corpus of Historical American English* (COHA) from 1810 to 2010. Previous research has claimed that in Present-day English apologies tend to be realised by a small set of formulae based on just a handful of lexical items, such as *sorry*, *excuse*, *apologise* and *pardon* (Deutschmann 2003: 36). However, the results from COHA and other relevant corpora suggest that the situation is more complicated. Historically there are forms such as "(God) bless the mark" or "(God) save the mark"; "I cry you mercy" or "by your leave", which were regularly used to apologise. More recently, new forms have appeared, such as "oops, sorry", "my bad", or "soz.", an abbreviation of "sorry" originally restricted, according to the OED, to the "language of electronic communications", but which today is already used more widely and often in combination with an informal term of address, as for instance in such forms as "soz. bro". In their entirety, the available corpus evidence strongly suggests that it is not only the realisation patterns of apologies that have changed over the centuries, but also the functional spectrum of apologies and the range of neighbouring speech acts.

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Irma TAAVITSAINEN (University of Helsinki; irma.taavitsainen@helsinki.fi)

Lecture

"Genre dynamics in Late Modern English: a (socio)pragmatic assessment"

The aim of my talk is to chart genre dynamics in medical writing from the Royal Society period (1662-) up to 1800. Genres are inherently dynamic cultural schemata, used by discourse communities to organize knowledge and experience through language. They unfold with more or less conventionalized linguistic expressions that display variation and undergo change. By focusing on the core question of continuity and change, I hope to cast some new light on the diachronic developments of medical writing in a multi-layered view. Genres show how knowledge is disseminated to professional medical doctors, polite society members, and clients of the growing medical market at the time of rising consumerism. In the course of time sociocultural needs change, and genres change accordingly. My focus is on the historical contexts of genres, their various characteristics and how they contributed to genre dynamics in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

I shall adopt the prototype approach to genres and apply multiple methods, including meta-communicative expression analysis, corpus linguistics and (socio)pragmatic discourse analysis to relate the emerging patterns to the broadening audiences of the time. A broad repertoire of texts is needed for historical genre analysis so that they can be assessed in relation to one another within the whole domain. My data comes from the novel digital corpus of *Late Modern English Medical Texts 1700-1800* (Taavitsainen et al. forthcoming 2018) and *Early Modern Medical Texts* (Taavitsainen et al. 2010). Genres created for the Royal Society discourse community continued in use, but new genres were created for the polite society, and some were prompted by the widening market for more heterogeneous writers and readers. The label "essay" was frequently employed as a label of professional medical texts for learned audiences, often with connotations of modesty (with the meaning 'a draft'). Other labels include "dissertation" (without the present connotations), "pamphlet" (also overlapping with essay), and "oration" and "lecture" referring to the mode of original presentation. Old genres like recipes and case studies continue, but new genres like "histories" branched off and the traditional structure of recipes derived from the medieval period became modified. Scholastic top genres found afterlives in popular literature with e.g. advice based on medical astrology and prognostications.

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FULL PAPERS

George Aaron BROADWELL (University of Florida; broadwell@ufl.edu)

"Reconstructing honorific usage in 17th century indigenous Florida texts"

Timucua is an extinct indigenous language of Florida. Based on Timucua language translations of European moral stories dating back to the 17th century (75,000 words), we are able to reconstruct an extensive system of honorific marking. This appears to be sensitive to the social status of the various characters in the stories (layperson, secular authority, regular authority, saint, deity), and provides insights into the pragmatic system of the Timucua language, as well as the indigenous social stratification which it probably reflects.

Maj-Britt Mosegaard HANSEN (The University of Manchester; Maj-Britt.MosegaardHansen@manchester.ac.uk)

"Cycles of pragmaticalization: the case of Latin nunc and French *or/maintenant*"

In this paper, I analyze the evolution of the Latin adverb/discourse marker NUNC and its Old and Modern French equivalents, *or* and *maintenant*, markers whose source meanings are in all cases temporal-deictic, equivalent to English *now*. On the basis of a number of existing individual studies of each of these three etymologically unrelated items (principally, Bertin 2001; Loobuyck no date; Mellet 2008; Nef 1980; Ollier 1988, 1989, 1990, 2000a/b; Risselada 1996), I show that they have successively developed a range of strikingly similar, albeit not identical, discourse-pragmatic uses. I conclude that the diachronic changes undergone by these three items together constitute a cycle of pragmaticalization of a type that I call *onomasiological* (Hansen forthcoming). I suggest that cyclic developments at the level of semantics and pragmatics take place because source items that are semantically similar will favor similar types of contextual inferences. This observation is of broader relevance to a key methodological issue in historical pragmatics, in as much as it supports the applicability of the Uniformitarian Principle (Labov 1994) when explaining changes at the level of linguistic meaning (Taavitsainen, Jucker 2008).

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Yuanyuan JIN (The University of Tokyo; kinengen@yahoo.co.jp)

"Non-clause comment markers in Japanese: through the formation and Development of "-niwa" type"

Linguistic forms with the function of comment in English have been discussed both particularly and systemically. Such expressions in Japanese, however, have not been deeply analyzed. In this paper, linguistic forms with the function of comment are named *comment markers*, and "-niwa type" comment markers in Japanese are discussed as examples of non-clause comment markers from a diachronic perspective. The results of this study lead to the following conclusions:

1. The procedure of the formation and development of non-clause comment markers in Japanese is as follows: verbal adverb > sentence adverb > comment marker. This procedure is consistent with the Unidirectionality Hypothesis, which is usually discussed in grammaticalization studies.
2. In Japanese, "-niwa" type used as comment marker does exists, but is quite limited.
3. Unlike the system of comment markers in English, in Japanese, comment clauses are used earlier than non-clause comment markers.

Hyun Jung KOO (Sangmyung University; hyunjkoo@smu.ac.kr)
Seongha RHEE (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies; srhee@hufs.ac.kr)

"From self-talk to grammar: emergence of multiple paradigms from self-quoted questions in Korean"

Korean has a large inventory of sentence-final particles and connectives whose origins are ultimately traceable to quotative constructions. These self-quoted questions take the form of direct quote, i.e., without any linkers, developing into grammatical constructions far removed from their original quotative function. Once these forms became modal markers, most of them also began to develop into clausal connectives simply by replacing their collocational sentence-enders with connectives. In a more dramatic fashion, the self-quoted questions formed a paradigm of connectives, dramatic in that they appear in bare forms with no host verbs. This development is largely due to the role of discursive strategies. The development also involves functional change, attributable to pragmatic inferencing and analogy. The development of these constructions triggered the development of multiple forms in other paradigms through analogy by virtue of their semantic and morphosyntactic resemblances. These constructions grammaticalized into grammatical markers in the semantic domains of evidentiality, epistemicity, and emotional stance, such as inferential, speaker's tentativeness in volition, evaluation of states of affairs, apprehensive emotion, etc., as well as the more discursive functions of dramatizing a narrative or engaging the audience by means of feigned interactivity, i.e., posing self-raised questions and volunteering answers to them.

Víctor LARA BERMEJO (University of Bern; viktoresc@hotmail.com)
Ana GUILHERME (New University of Lisbon; anabrugui@gmail.com)

"The complexity in the politeness system of European Portuguese"

European Portuguese presents quite a complex politeness system. In principle, we rely on a triadic paradigm of forms of address for singular (*tu*: informal; *você*: non-intimate; *o senhor*: formal) and a dichotomy in plural (*vocês*: informal; *os senhores*: formal). However, not all authors agree on this division. Some state that *você* is no longer used and has become offensive or is restricted to upper-class speakers; furthermore, the plural paradigm is said to be attested only in the south of the country, while the northern part possesses an archaic system based on three terms: *vós*: informal; *vocês*: non-intimate; *os senhores*: formal. Additionally, *vocês* can induce a double agreement pattern, which can even vary depending on the geographical area within Portugal. In order to pinpoint the current forms of address system in European Portuguese and compare their evolution during the last century, we have collected data from dialect atlases, corpora and specific fieldwork. The results show that the mentioned complexity is still attested nowadays, and point out different tendencies. On the one hand, the plural system is split into two: one attested in the north and another in the south. The southern paradigm, however, is spreading northwards; on the other hand, the double agreement attested in *vocês* is disappearing as a result of favouring the usage of a single one that extends gradually throughout syntax. In addition, new strategies have emerged in non-intimate contexts that were not produced in the early 20th century.

Eric MELAC (University Paul Valéry Montpellier 3; eric.melac@gmail.com)
Debra ZIEGELER (University Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3; dpziegeler@gmail.com)
Volker GAST (Jena University; volker.gast@uni-jena.de)

"Clause-final either: the illegitimate child of nonconformism and prescriptivism"

The paper aims to investigate the emergence of clause-final *either* in English from a functionalist perspective. We use both qualitative and quantitative data from two historical corpora (CLMETS and COHA). The examples are classified by genre, register and source so as to examine the evolution of usage and socio-linguistic prestige of this construction. Our investigation will provide further evidence in support of the hypothesis that the emergence of *either* in the right periphery illustrates a rare case of successful prescriptivism, namely the replacement of clause-final *neither* by clause-final *either* corresponding to the increasing stigmatisation of multiple negation in English (Jespersen 1917; Tieken-Boon 2006; Fitzmaurice 2012). The socio-historical evidence available from prescriptive grammars of the 18th century reveals that the confinement of clause-final *neither* to the non-standard dialects of the time was most likely due to reasons based on folk logic, therefore motivating its replacement by *either* in more educated dialects (van Gelderen 2010; Fitzmaurice 2012). This replacement seems to have occurred smoothly because *either/neither* had already formed a paradigmatic pair in other syntagmatic configurations (as determiners, pronouns, and conjunctions). Finally, the data collected will offer further explanation on the role of replacement strategies in grammatical change.

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Akiko OKAMURA (Takasaki City University of Economics; okamura.akiko@gmail.com)

"Have globalization and the spread of English influenced address forms in Japan?"

This study aims to investigate the use of Japanese address forms between men and women over the past forty years. To observe the historical change of address forms between males and females, in formal and informal contexts, and familiar and less familiar relationships, data were collected from three types of sources: questionnaires, interviews and Japanese movies.

The results showed that men and women used family names to call their classmates in a school context more often twenty years ago, that is, before the late 1990s. The respondents stated that first name use was mostly limited to the same gender. However, the results showed that, after the turn of the century, first names started being used across genders to show familiarity at school.

It is interesting to note that the change coincided with the time when the world was undergoing globalization. It seems that people's mobility and the internet, which symbolizes globalization, helped to spread English address forms, which in turn affected Japanese address forms in schools. The shift may also have been aided by the global trend to promote a less gender-biased society.

Seongha RHEE (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies; srhee@hufs.ac.kr)

"The way of truth: The case of pragmaticalization of certain discourse markers in Korean"

Korean has a large inventory of discourse markers (DMs) that carry diverse discursive functions. These DMs develop from various source lexemes and constructions. Among such classes of DM sources is one that makes reference to truth and its closely related concepts, fact, act and reality, such as *cham* 'true', *chammal* 'true word', *cengmal* 'correct word', *cincca* 'genuine thing', *silun* 'fact is', etc. A diachronic investigation on the development of these DMs reveals a number of interesting aspects of semantic and functional change in the course of their pragmaticalization. For instance, in terms of semantic change, these forms have undergone the process of abstraction and intersubjectification. In terms of structural properties, they have undergone change in morphosyntactic positionality. Furthermore, they came to have differential specialization with distinctive prosody. For instance, the DMs at the left-periphery are often followed by a short pause, thus signaling the higher-order nature of their referring function. When they occur at the right-periphery, however, they often accompany a trailing kind of intonation as if the speakers were employing ellipsis, thus signaling that they are unable to complete the utterance due to overwhelming emotions such as irritation, frustration, etc.

Judith ROADS (University of Birmingham; jroads64@gmail.com)

"Some pragmatic aspects of historical minute-making: the distinctiveness of the Quaker approach"

I present findings from a socio-pragmatic investigation into the historical practice of administrative minute-writing as developed by Quakers over three centuries. Why, what and how have Quakers developed (and still rely on) their unusual decision-recording practice, based as it is on its theological underpinning? I explore communicative patterns related to textual production circumstances, speech acts and stance-marking. Findings are compared with historical datasets from non-Quaker institutions. Results of the study show how present-dayQuaker minutes still evince the linguistic usages first developed in the late seventeenth century, notably tense use, assertive and directive speech acts, and stance indicators. This contrasts with normal business textbook requirements.

Stefan SCHNEIDER (Karl Franzens University of Graz; stefan.schneider@uni-graz.at)

"From verbs to verbal markers: Historical development in Spanish"

The paper analyzes four Spanish cognitive verbs (*creo*, *imagino*, *pienso* and *supongo*) in the texts of the *Corpus del Nuevo diccionario histórico* (Instituto de Investigación Rafael Lapesa de la Real Academia Española 2013) and follows their evolution from Old Spanish to contemporary Spanish. It focuses on the first person singular of the present indicative which has a strong tendency to develop into a verbal marker with mitigating function. The main research questions of the paper are: Which constructional patterns occur with which verb or, in other words, how does the constructional network for each verb look like? How do these patterns and the networks they constitute develop diachronically? Which pragmatic stages are there on the pathway towards the mitigating function? The analysis shows that each verb passes through two pragmatic stages before it appears as a verbal marker. First, the verb acquires the capability to have a proposition as its argument. Second, the verb acquires an epistemic meaning.

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Horst SIMON (Free University of Berlin; horst.simon@fu-berlin.de);
Julia HUEBNER (Free University of Berlin; julia.huebner@fu-berlin.de)

"Pragmatic awareness in the 17th century: foreign language experts on appropriate linguistic behaviour"

In the study of historical pragmatics there is no guarantee that the "modern" interpretation of utterances occurring in older texts is valid. There will still be some vagueness which can hardly be overcome, since we have no access either to the speakers or to the original context of utterance. The aim of our study is to demonstrate a way to broaden the perspective on historical pragmatics by taking into account metapragmatic comments by the original historical users of the respective languages.

Our study is based on a corpus of 250 multilingual textbooks for teaching modern foreign languages from the Early Modern period. They can be understood as metapragmatics per se since they not only contain relatively authentic speech examples, but they also explain and comment on language specific communicative routines.

Various aspects of historical pragmatics such as politeness phenomena in address, greetings and other speech act types are worth paying attention to. With the help of our findings, it is possible to get an insight into the conception of pragmatic knowledge. We provide not only evidence for what the authors considered an appropriate way of communication, but also for their awareness of different norms and the resulting pragmatic variation.

Vittorio TANTUCCI (Lancaster University; v.tantucci@lancs.ac.uk)

"An evolutionary approach to the semasiological change of the Mandarin 吧-ba particle

This paper focuses on the pragmatics of overt influence attempts (cf. Reich 2011, 2012; Tantucci 2016a, 2017) and their cognitive relationship with semasiological change (i.e. Traugott & Dasher 2002). The analysis is centred on the recent history of the Mandarin 吧-ba sentence-final particle, starting from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) up to its present-day usage. Corpus-based data from the CCL Center for Chinese Linguistics Peking corpus highlight a progressive shift from an original directive usage towards a later assertive employment. In the latter case, the speaker/writer (Sp/w) 'invites' the addressee/reader (Ad/r) to agree with his/her statement on the basis of what is 'socially' or 'interpersonally' expected to be true/sensible. The cooperatively 'expected action' originally prompted by the particle will then turn into a cooperatively 'expected certainty' in later usages. From an evolutionary perspective, at every stage of the cline there emerges the Sp/w's consistent attempt to exert social influence on the Ad/r in the form of a co-act proposal (cf. Reich 2011, Tantucci 2016b, Tantucci 2017).

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WORK-IN-PROGRESS REPORTS

Ruti BARDENSTEIN (Tel Aviv University; ruti.bardenstein@gmail.com)

"The grammaticization path of intensifying discourse markers: the case of *be'etsem* ('actually')"

Our research provides a diachronic grammaticization path of *be'etsem* from its early use in the bible, Mishnah (3rd century) and Talmud (5th century) to its varied use in Modern Hebrew. We argue that the syntactic categorical use and semantic meaning change of an intensifying adverbial is pragmatically motivated by its core function, the 'persistence' (Hopper 1991) of the grammaticization path. Indeed, it is their initial function that motivates the change and motivates their connection to their multiple synchronic uses, as a result of activating the intensification function into new contexts. We suggest that while the connection of an intensifying discourse marker to its initial meaning may, on the one hand, be preserved (partially or fully), or may, on the other hand, bleach and fade, the pragmatic function holds forever.

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Daniela CESIRI ("Ca' Foscari" University of Venice; daniela.cesiri@unive.it)

"Discursive practices in feminist speeches: a diachronic analysis from the Late Modern period to the present day"

The study analyses a corpus of 12 speeches delivered by feminist activists. The speakers are chosen as representative personalities of the third waves in which the feminist movement is commonly divided. The speeches are investigated by means of corpus linguistics methods of analysis so as to identify discursive practices. The aim is to establish the diachronic evolution of these practices from the Late Modern period to the present day. The corpus data are analysed by taking into consideration the variables of the period of time in which the speeches were delivered and the age of the speakers. The findings show that, in the three waves, the speeches are characterised by the use of the terms *women* and *rights*, which mark the general commitment of the feminist movement to the empowerment of women. A closer look at the individual periods shows that each wave is characterised by words that reflect an interest in more specific socio-political issues, e.g. *vote* and *suffrage* (first wave), *oppress* and *power* (second wave), *gender* and *education* (third wave). Age also appears to be a relevant factor in shaping discursive practices. Indeed, the more mature speakers show a preference for terms denoting abstract ideas, while the younger speakers prefer reference to more tangible concepts.

Nuria CALVO CORTES (Complutense University of Madrid; ncalvo@filol.ucm.es)

"*Seduction and Misfortune*: politeness in petitions by 18th century British servants with (il)legitimate children"

The present study analyses a corpus of fifty petitions by women who had a child and pleaded that he/she would be accepted in the Foundling Hospital in London. These women wrote, or had somebody to write for them, formal and informal petitions to men who were in a higher position and in charge of granting them their needs.

The focus of the analysis is politeness, and addresses three questions: whether there are similarities and/or differences between the formal and the informal petitions in relation to the presence of face threatening acts and the possible use of mitigating strategies; if the petition letters show the influence of the linguistic prescribers of the time, mainly those who wrote letter writing manuals; and whether differences in politeness strategies correlated with the possible different authorship of the texts, namely the women themselves or somebody else.

The findings show that the level of formality of the petitions only slightly conditioned their politeness; that the letter writing guides mainly influenced the formulation of the formal petitions, and that the few differences shown in politeness strategies across the texts may not be a determinant factor for the identification of the authors of the petitions.

Linda GENNIES (Free University of Berlin; linda.gennies@fu-berlin.de)
Tanja ACKERMANN (Free University of Berlin; tanja.ackermann@fu-berlin.de)

"It is the leather that is to blame": a guide to handling complaints and accusations in the Early Modern period"

On the basis of a corpus of foreign language textbooks from the Early Modern period, this paper examines certain asymmetrical communicative situations, such as bargaining, collecting debts or customer complaints, in which the speakers choose to protect their own face first, before saving the similarly threatened face of their interlocutors. By comparing the communicative practices adopted in dialogues from different textbooks, in which the relevant sociopragmatic variables are controlled for, we aim to show that this self-protecting communicative routine is not to be construed as a stereotypical display of the ill-mannered, inferior craftsperson aimed at amusing the nobility, but rather as an authentic representation of Early Modern everyday business encounters.

Severin HOF (University of Zurich; severin.hof@sglp.uzh.ch)

"Language ideology in ancient Greek drama"

This paper aims to make a methodological contribution to historical pragmatics by demonstrating, in an exemplary fashion, the applicability of a modern concept, derived from research into living languages, to an ancient literary text, the tragedy *Ajax* by Sophocles (497/96-406/5 BC; Finglass 2011). The concept is that of 'language ideology' as laid down by Susan Gal and Judith Irvine (2000), and I undertake to demonstrate how it can help to make sense of difficult meta-linguistic utterances on female lament in the play. When viewed within this theoretical framework, these utterances betray their ideological nature, which helps us better understand the play both in itself and in the context in which it was produced and received. The findings show the usefulness of the theory here adopted when applied to culturally and temporally remote literary material.

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Mike INGHAM (Lingnan University, Hong Kong; mikeinghmike@gmail.com)

"Ambiguity and semantic roles in Shakespeare:
Towards a pragmatics of dramatic interpretation for second language speakers"

This paper explores difficulties in the decoding of pragmatic propositional meaning that inevitably arise given the historical variations between the language of Shakespearean verse drama and its contemporary context of reception, specifically among English as a Second Language audiences and readers. My paper explores this phenomenon from a pedagogical perspective by investigating ambiguity over semantic roles, speech acts and implicatures that create confusion for the non-expert audience or reader. The data is drawn from an empirical survey and creative work with tertiary students. The paper proposes an active and heuristic methodology for the teaching and learning of pragmatics related to semantic roles in Shakespearean drama.

Joanna KOPACZYK (University of Glasgow; joanna.kopaczyk@glasgow.ac.uk)

"The discursive construction of insult in flyting and slander"

This paper offers a new consideration of discursively constructed pragmatic space of insults in literary and legal texts from early modern Scotland. The framework proposed by Jucker and Taavitsainen (2000) is first applied to sixteenth-century literary flytings (cf. Bawcutt 1983) by David Lyndsay (Chalmers 1806) and by Montgomerie and Polwart (Stevenson 1910). Then it is backed up with Shuy's (2009) framework for the analysis of defamatory language in the analysis of slander cases (Pitcairn 1833) which offered a less consequential alternative to witchcraft prosecution when the Witchcraft Act was in force in Scotland (1563-1735). The close reading of selected examples shows how the dividing line between literary construction, (un)intentional insult and legally binding accusation can be shifted and redeployed depending on the contextual ramifications and the linguistic choices.

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Gunther MARTIN (University of Zurich; gunther.martin@uzh.ch)
Federica IURESCIA (University of Zurich; federica.iurescia@sglp.uzh.ch)

"Closing conflicts: discourse strategies across Greek and Roman tragedies"

Pre-closing and closing sequences are a standard feature of conversations, permitting a harmonious end to an exchange. As Schegloff and Sacks put it, a conversation "does not simply end, but is brought to a close". Closing sequences have been studied intensively in many contexts of occurrence. Their absence, in turn, is a strong indicator of some irregularity, potentially a conflict between the interlocutors.

This paper deals with closing sequences in ancient tragedy. According to the rules of the genre, tragedies deal with conflicts that do not find a peaceful resolution, barring a few exceptions. There is thus a significant number of conversations in which no agreement is reached. Often, the close of the dialogues does not follow the regular patterns. Instead, the non-negotiated and unmediated end affirms the non-cooperative nature of the dialogue.

This paper looks specifically at how the close of the conversation is managed where disagreement persists, in an approach that considers both the specificity of the individual situation and broad diachronic developments. It thus offers a contribution to the systemization of termination of dialogue, complementing in particular the wide field of studies on closing procedures with a survey of texts in which these procedures are not observed.

POSTERS

Marco BIASIO (University of Padua; marco.biasio.1@phd.unipd.it)

"The etiquette of aspect: how and why prositi survived unchanged"

Basing on the linguistic and extralinguistic data gathered from the Laurentian Codex of the Tale of Bygone Years (1377) and the corpus of birch bark letters unearthed in and around the territories of north-western Russia (11th-15th centuries), this paper aims at investigating the possible reasons for the absence of preverbed (proto-)perfective non-past forms of the simplex verb *prositi* 'to ask (for)' in directive speech acts, namely requests (*pros'by*) and orders (*zakazy*). It is argued that the aforementioned aspectual restriction can be accounted for on the basis of sociolinguistic rather than bare morphosemantic evidence, namely the correspondent lack of a proper allocutionary pronoun consistent with the etiquette of hierarchically-oriented social relationships.

Gunther MARTIN (University of Zurich; gunther.martin@uzh.ch)
Federica IURESCIA (University of Zurich; federica.iurescia@sglp.uzh.ch)
Severin HOF (University of Zurich; severin.hof@sglp.uzh.ch)

"The pragmatics of dialogue in ancient tragedy"

The present work presents a research project financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation to investigate the pragmatics in the tragedy of ancient Greece and Rome. Investigations, in particular into patterns of coherence and metapragmatics, open new ways into the study of the corpus: firstly, by analysing and categorizing particular phenomena, secondly by producing data that can then be used to assess the significance of the material in a given unit of investigation (an author, play, or scene). In this way it enhances the reliability of interpretations and shows general trends, the dependence on particular factors, among others the diachronic dimension.

Yury NIKIFOROV ("K.D. Ushinsky" Yaroslavl State Pedagogical University; nikifor2108@yandex.ru)

**"The language of the Russian historian and the culture of representing the historical text
at the turn of the XIXth and XXth centuries: the evolution of discursive practices in cultural memory"**

The present work aims to analyze the evolution of discursive practices in the culture of the presentation of the historical text by Russian historians at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. The following research questions are addressed:
1. What genres of scientific literature did Russian historians at the turn of the XIXth and XXth centuries use?
2. What were the rules for registering the results of historical research?
3. What were the features of historians' scientific discourse?
4. What scientific values were conveyed in the process of presenting the historical material?
The theoretical approach of the research is related to the concepts of 'linguistic turning' – as presented in the classic works of R. Barth, J. Derrida, H. White, M. Foucault and other researchers – and intellectual history. The analysis of 10 works by 5 scholars show that the historians' language reflects their ideological views.

Viktoriya TRUBNIKOVA (University of Padua; victoriya.trubnikova@phd.unipd.it)

""Please", "thank you", "excuse me" — why can't you behave naturally?":
linguistic politeness in post-revolutionary Soviet Russia"

The aim of this work is to define the main tendencies in linguistic politeness in post-revolutionary Soviet Russia during the 1920s. The discursive analysis of fictional dialogues from Mikhail Bulgakov's *the Heart of a Dog* ([1925] 2015) considers the micro level of conversation dynamics in its pragmalinguistic and sociopragmatic aspects, as well as the macro level of the ethical interpretation of the main characters. Professor Preobrazhenskiy and an artificially created Sharikov represent two different archetypes of an old tsarist epoch and an emerging Bolshevik regime. The analysis reveals the features of the interactional behavioural norms of the chosen period of investigation.

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Claudia ZBENOVICH (Hadassah College, Jerusalem; claudia.zbenovich@gmail.com)

"Tracing the causes for pragmatic change in the students-professor interaction:
Russian and Israeli university discourse during the last 70 years"

The paper seeks to investigate the background causes of a recent shift in the communicative practices of university professors and their students. The change is marked by a decrease in the modes of conventional verbal behavior that presupposes the professor's ultimate authority in academic discourse and a simultaneous increase in students' informality in their interactions with faculty members. The study aims to explore the phenomenon cross-linguistically and cross-culturally through two case studies – Russian and Israeli – and to trace the analysis of discursive practices back to the mid-twentieth century, when the modes of academic interaction in both cultural domains attested to the preference of normativity and a tendency toward clear discursive hierarchies. The paper focuses on the evolution of rhetorical argumentation strategies, the realization of speech acts and politeness formulae, shifts in the co-existence of public and private modes of the talk, and respective roles of the participants in interaction. The study adopts a communicative-pragmatic perspective with a complementary diachronic function-to-form and form-to-function approach.