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PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION AND TRANSLATION STUDIES

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Foreword:

Digitally competent in social sciences and humanities

The latest edition of the international scientific conference *Professional Communication and Translation Studies*, held in March 2023 in Timişoara connected the city, once again, with the world, through technology and passion for the fields of communication sciences and philology. It took place against the background of Timişoara's running its European Capital of Culture program, adding thus an academic extension to the vibrant cultural life of the city. Moreover, the Faculty of Communication Studies, celebrated its 30th anniversary of teaching and research programs in social sciences and humanities at Politehnica University of Timisoara.

The novelty of the 13th edition of the conference is that it inaugurated a new, hybrid format, hosting live online and on-site presentations, workshops and networking events around the topic Digital Culture. Communication and Translation (DIGITAL CULTURE, COMMUNICATION AND TRANSLATION). It attracted over 130 participants from 18 countries. The organising scientific committee benefitted from prestigious scientific partnerships: two academies, three professional associations and six important research centers from Romania and Belgium. It is worth highlighting that this was the very first cooperation between the established scientific committee and the two research centers created at Politehnica University of Timisoara, namely the Politehnica Center for Advanced Translation Studies (PoliCAT) and the Interdisciplinary Research Center for Communication and Sustainability (PoliCom). The latter ones research digital media as broadly as possible, bringing together work from different disciplines, with different foci and theoretical frameworks. The conference maintains its commitment to celebrating multilingualism, its working languages being English, French, German, and Romanian. This proceedings volume publishes 11 articles in English, five in German and two articles in French, covering the whole spectrum of the axes proposed by the conference: professional communication, linguistics, translation and pedagogy of foreign languages.

The present volume invites reflections and debates on media and communication theories, approaches, research methods that are challenged by digital culture and require new (or maybe renewed) methods of investigation. It also contributes to building and strengthening digital humanities and it offers food for thought on educational sciences, oriented towards digitally competent audiences. The titles of the papers, included in this volume after peer review, reflect the diversity in topics, methodological approaches, scientific inquiry interests in the vast realm of social sciences and humanities, reunited under the roof of genuine passion for science, teaching and knowledge sharing. The keywords used to grasp the essence of the presentations reflect the contribution brought mainly by European scholars to investigate the topics included in the volume (Figure 1 below).



Figure 1. Research interests reflected by the keywords, at a glance.

It is often said that implementing and living digital culture makes organisations better, stronger, more resilient. Among the main features of digital culture there are free, instantaneous circulation of ideas, open access and collaborative attitudes. This volume provides instances of these features in action. The results are accessible openly, free of charge, and very close to the scientific event where they were first brought to the attention of the academic community. Moreover, once the volume has been published, the editors will work towards allocating DOI numbers to each paper in order to enhance the reach of a consolidated public of researchers, as it is already the case with the papers published in the previous editions of *Professional Communication and Translation Studies* (issues 14 and 15).

Timișoara, December 2023

The editors

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LIST OF ABSTRACTS IN ENGLISH

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN LANGUAGE TEACHING Angelica Daniela BERCIAN

Abstract: The theme of the knowledge project refers to the analysis of the efficiency on e-learning platforms and the impact exerted on the levels of pre-university education, with emphasis on opportunities for professional and personal development of both teachers and educable. Interviews with the involved parts, questionnaires applied to teachers, students, parents and leading staff, individual observation information about the topic in discussion in articles gathered by other researchers and study cases will bring an important amount of data that will be analysed and interpreted in order to answer the hypothesis of the academic research.

Keywords: challenge; e-learning platform; online teaching; performance; teacher training, methods; progress.

ARE EASY-TO-READ TRAINING AND STANDARDS IN SYNC? Rocío BERNABÉ. Óscar GARCÍA

Abstract: After two Erasmus+ projects researching the competencies of Easy-to-Read professionals and two standards published - one international and one national, the question arises whether training and requirements are developing in sync. This article explores standards and skills cards that describe the competencies creators, facilitators, and validators of Easy-to-Read content have or should acquire during training. Specifically, this case study seeks to identify whether the skills cards created during the Erasmus+ projects EASIT and TRAIN2VALIDATE account for the competencies set out in the international standard ISO/IEC DIS 23859-1 Guidance on making written text easy to read and the Spanish standard UNE 153101 EX Easy to read. Firstly, the study uses primary and secondary data to determine the comparability of the standards and training programmes in terms of goals, processes, and professional roles. Secondly, the content is annotated to identify whether there is a common understanding of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that professionals should demonstrate. The results show that standards and training programmes including working contexts and cross-functional areas, such as safety and hygiene. **Keywords**: Easy-to-Read; skills cards; standards; training.

NEW PR TOOLS: INSTITUTIONAL CULTURAL BLOGS Stefana CIORTEA-NEAMŢIU

Abstract: Blogs began as individual online journals; however, they are now increasingly used by institutions as well and have thus become institutional blogs, instruments of marketing and public relations. As such, they have lost their original character. What content do they offer? How is the institutional blog used to tell stories and increase public interest in the institution, build communities of interest around it, and solidify relationships between people? These questions will be explored through examples of blogs from cultural institutions, with a focus on museums.

Keywords: institutional blog; cultural institution; museum; content; storytelling.

NATIVE ADVERTISING AS RHETORICAL CAMOUFLAGE

Daniel CIUREL

Abstract: This paper aims to identify the rhetorical strategies of the paid covert advertising that matches the aspect and function of the digital media environment in which it appears. With an expanding use of new formats on different platforms and devices, native advertising is a creative alternative to traditional digital ads. The disguised advertisements can effectively avoid both ad blockers and consumer resistance to persuasion, as they are less intrusive forms of commercial content. Native advertising is a hybrid genre, which tends to blur the boundaries between promotional and editorial content, digital news outlets and advertising agencies, publishers and marketers, because of its use of rhetorical camouflage.

Keywords: native advertising; rhetoric; digital media, news; stealth marketing; deception; persuasion knowledge.

THE EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES Monica CONDRUZ-BACESCU

Abstract: The paper focuses on the educational challenges of digital technologies. The emergence of easier-to-use and more accessible mobile devices and services, along with the desire to adapt education to the generation of digital children, with completely new expectations regarding the education process, has led to a significant change in the way that the act of learning is understood and practiced at school. In the field of education, as in others, the reflection on the development of modern means of communication would only gain from the teachings of the theory of cultural industries, but also of the sociology of technical innovation or the history of communication' means. Major changes are predicted to take place, some actually happen and are part of everyday life. New concepts became common words in the nowadays vocabulary: blended learning, e-learning, distance education, online education. In conclusion, the transformation of the educational process and the evolution towards the digital school involve ensuring access to administrative solutions for management and teachers, transparency for parents and digital study tools for students and teaching staff, in an environment that allows collaboration and effective communication between all parties involved.

Keywords: digital technologies; blended learning; e-learning; educational challenges; knowledge; platforms.

EU ENGLISH CURRENT STATUS WITHIN EU BODIES, ITS IMPACT AND SPREAD IN EUROPE Teodora FLORICĂ DRAGOTĂ

Abstract: While "Englishes" have continuously developed around the world with their own vocabulary and grammar particularities, Euro-English has made no exception. English is no longer the property of the traditional "natives" while the role of English as the continent's lingua franca meets the need for effective and efficient communication in and out the EU bodies. Although some (Eurosceptics) have predicted that Brexit would mark the decline of its use in EU institutions, EU English has also been subject to some pejorative labels such as Brussels language, Eurolegalese or Eurish. others claim that communications in the EU is fairer in English, shaping into a more and more neutral language that serves as a catalyst one and that it has the chance to become everyone's second language.

Keywords: EU English; lingua franca; impact; spread.

TEACHING EFL TO THE DIGITAL-BORN GENERATION. CHALLENGES AND EXPECTATIONS Cornelia-Patricia GRIGORAȘ, Daniel DEJICA

Abstract: This paper is part of a wider research and targets the present demand for using technology in teaching English. The relevance of the study is justified not only by the pandemic and post-pandemic backgrounds regarding the use of technology in teaching EFL, but also by the needs and expectations of the new generation we teach. One of our main objectives is to come up with tangible digital solutions, which may complement existing technology in EFL classes include, but are not limited to a better learning processes. Some of the advantages of using technology in EFL classes include, but are not limited to a better learning process, more interactive lessons, reduction of time spent by teachers preparing the lessons, improvement of the students' learning quality, decrease in dependence on the teacher, increase towards the positive attitude upon EFL and access to the information available on learning platforms.

Keywords: teaching EFL; communicative language teaching, communicative approach, digital-born generation, language and technology, Z-generation; digital platforms.

HOW METAPHORS CAN MAKE TERMS AND TRANSLATIONS MORE ENJOYABLE Maria-Dana GROSSECK

Abstract: In a technologically advanced society focused on innovation and development of cutting-edge products, the future translator must have written and oral communication skills in the technical field in both Romanian and German. Recognizing the peculiarities of technical texts in a foreign language, consulting technical material written in a foreign language (reports, technical specifications, projects, specifications, etc.), developing the ability to use technical terminology in a foreign language are a must. Robots are an integral part of our everyday life. Whether they can help older people to maintain their mobility and independence for as long as possible, or whether they replace human labor in the automotive industry, or both at the same time, almost nothing is impossible anymore. Machines make a decisive contribution to maintaining the quality of life and thus they have also made room for themselves in everyday life. Their description, their components, their functionality is transferred to us humans, shape our actions and speech. The means they use, technology, industrialization and medicine, are to be explained in this article.

Keywords: technical translation, technology, vocabulary, lexicology, metaphor, terminology, language for special purposes.

TEACHING INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE: STEREOTYPES, PREJUDICES AND CLICHÉS Anca MAGHEŢIU, Patrick LAVRITS

Abstract: Stereotyping is a phenomenon found in all human societies. We encounter clichés and prejudices all the time: in advertising, in the news, in the tabloid media. Dealing with negative and positive stereotypes is essential in teaching intercultural competence, as both stem from our selective perception and are associated with feelings. Such a discussion is therefore mostly affective, i.e. own experiences, experiences and perspectives are included. This paper aims to show how stereotypes are taught in the subject German – Intercultural Communication, how students are made aware of cultural differences and how this promotes intercultural competence. Clichés about people, countries and facts can also have a communicative function: they are a shortcut to understanding.

Keywords: German as a foreign language; intercultural communication; stereotypes; prejudices.

NEW MEDIA LITERACY: YOUTH IN THE DIGITAL WORLD Sonia MALOŞ, Denisa LĂCĂTUŞ

Abstract: In today's world of information and communication technology, the Generation Z, also known as digital natives, has found itself. In 2021, 95% of young people in the EU used the internet daily (Eurostat, 2022). To navigate the overwhelming amount of information, teenagers need to demonstrate media literacy. The progress of media and technology requires an increasing number of digital skills, and media literacy has taken on many forms and shapes in recent years. In this context, this literature review focuses on the transition from media literacy of the 1990s (Aufderheide, 1993) to the new, digital media literacy. Our primary results indicate that new media literacy is a cornerstone in the ongoing development and education of young people.

Keywords: media literacy; literacy; digital natives; digital media; media consumption.

LINGUISTIC PECULIARITIES AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES IN THE CURRENT ROMANIAN GERMAN PRESS. AN ANALYSIS OF THE SECTIONS LOCAL AND DOMESTIC POLITICS Meda MUCUNDORFEANU, Marius MAUER

Abstract: The foreign German press has hardly been studied scientifically so far, although it offers a considerable amount of potential, especially due to its intercultural profile. The diverse linguistic-cultural background constellations that appear in this type of press language are rather unexplored and can offer numerous insights into the culture and identity of their target group. Consequently, this paper offers a small insight into the press language used and the linguistic peculiarities of the Romanian-German press using the example of the daily newspaper Allgemeine Deutsche Zeitung für Rumänien, which has been in existence for more than seventy years.

Keywords: press language; Romanian-German press; coverage; linguistic peculiarities.

LISTENING AND SPEAKING. THEIR IMPORTANCE IN LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES. THE CASE OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE

Eliona NAQO

Abstract: This paper aims to present the importance of speaking and listening and to improve the art of communication in Italian language. *Listening is* an immediate and spontaneous activity, exercised by the man from the first moments of life. Furthermore, in the modern world, oral communication is the most widespread form of information transmission, so it is very important to refine our ability in listening and to be able understand the various types of information that we receive. *Speaking* is a daily activity. *Listening and speaking skills* allow us to communicate effectively with others. Communication involves more than the ability to simply talk and hear other people. It is essential to have good listening and speaking skills, as this will allow us to adapt our language to suit certain situations and improve our ability to successfully share our thoughts while also considering the views of others.

Keywords: listening; speaking; Italian language; skills.

TRANSLATORS AS PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATORS

Andreea PELE

Abstract: Effective communication is necessary for successful translation and translation work. The ability to successfully communicate across a variety of contexts and languages is vital for translators given the growing significance of information globalization. Translators are essential in promoting global dialogue because they help people from different cultures and countries understand one another. Professional communication skills are essential for translators since accurate translations are the cornerstone of

successful translation services and satisfied clients. This paper will focus on the value of effective communication in the translation industry and provide practical advice for developing these skills. **Keywords:** professional communication; translation.

FROM ONE CRISIS TO THE NEXT: TERMINOLOGY CREATION AND METAPHORICAL CONCEPTUALISATION. REFLECTIONS ON THE DYNAMICS OF PERMACRISIS LANGUAGE Luciana PENTELIUC-COTOSMAN

Abstract: Abstract: As part of the linguistic preoccupations aroused for some time by the various manifestations of the permacrisis, our research focuses essentially on the metaphorical expressions linked to the economic crisis, the pandemic and the war, which it approaches from a diachronic and comparative, socio-cultural and transdisciplinary perspective, making it possible to shed light on the exchanges and interdomain migrations, as well as on the recurrence and durability of certain conceptual metaphors firmly anchored in the collective imaginary of the crisis. Based on a corpus drawn from the French press, both general and specialised, from the nineteenth century to the present day, our research follows this line of thought and leads to some observations on the dynamics of the language of crisis, combining change and permanence, short and long time, terminological neology and metaphorical conceptualisation. **Keywords:** crisis; metaphor; conceptual metaphor; diachrony; transdisciplinarity; imaginary.

COMPANION WEBSITES IN PROFESSIONAL FRENCH TEACHING AND LEARNING Mihaela POPESCU

Abstract: Digital resources currently represent essential tools in the teaching/learning of professional French. The methods used in language classes or in autonomous learning are often accompanied by numerous digital resources such as CDs, DVDs, e-books, etc. In this article we analyse the companion websites designed by editors for the teaching/learning of professional French. Our analysis focuses on two types of companion websites: those which integrate the method in digital format and those which offer numerous activities for learners to work on independently.

Keywords: professional French, digital resources, companion sites, professional French methods

A CASE STUDY ON CANCEL CULTURE DISCOURSE: THE THEATRE OF THE ABSURD Ana SCALCĂU

Abstract: The present paper has two main objectives: one is to explore the ways in which political correctness may affect the world of the theatre, the other is to observe the characteristics of the cancel culture discourse. I define cancel culture as one of the many manifestations of political correctness which refers either to promoting or boycotting people and their work for politically correct reasons. The paper is divided into three parts: a presentation of the immediate context in which the discourse was created, a description of the linguistic features of discourse and an analysis of these characteristics from a pragmatic, rhetorical and logical perspective.

Keywords: cancel culture/call-out culture; political correctness; amplified pathos; binary structures.

DIGITAL DIPLOMACY IN THE POST WEB 2.0 ERA Diana STRÎMBEANU

Abstract: Media platforms are being increasingly used in the communication between states. Nowadays, Twitter is one of the platforms that state representatives rely on to communicate with their counterparts abroad. At the same time, we are witnessing an information revolution that allows the emergence of new social media platforms that facilitate communication between various entities, also offering total transparency. This new dynamic allowed the emergence of new research methods that adapted to the new technologies. This paper will indicate how the sentiment analysis method successfully identified trends and patterns in China's discourse on Twitter. Furthermore, we will demonstrate the importance of digital diplomacy and which methods are best suited for the Twitter platform in order to assess the diplomatic strategy of a state.

Keywords: digital diplomacy; e-diplomacy; Twitter; social media; wolf warrior diplomacy.

MENTAL TRANSLATION AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNICATIVE LANGUAGE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Adriana TOMA, Daniel DEJICA

Abstract: The aim of this article is to present a series of analytical considerations concerning the use of mental translation in communicative teaching and learning English as a foreign language. The main part of the article focuses on the literature review concerning the impact of mental translation method on students'

language acquisition level during their English learning practice. The existing research on this topic has shown that learners use mental translation as a strategy to compare and establish similarities and differences between their first language and the foreign language. Learners create a translational field where they store the results of the similarities and differences between their native language and the foreign language. These mental translation results become some procedural knowledge, stored in their long-term memory. While communicating in a foreign language, learners automatically reuse the information previously stored in their translational field. The last part of the article contains some directions of research in relation to the use of mental translation in communicative language learning and teaching.

Keywords: mental translation, translational zone, foreign language acquisition, communicative language teaching strategies, communicative language learning strategies

AUDIO DESCRIPTION GUIDELINES: UNE 153020 STANDARD AND NETFLIX STYLE GUIDE Aida TORRE LÓPEZ

Abstract: The rise of streaming platforms has led to an increase in the number of products in the audiovisual sector. A large amount of information is transmitted through this type of products, which at the same time are a popular source of entertainment, so it is essential that everyone can have access to them. This article presents a study focused on one of the most popular media accessibility services: audio description (AD). It provides a classification of different aspects to be considered when providing AD in accordance with different international guides, as well as a comparison between the AD standard applicable in Spain, the UNE 153020, and the guidelines of one of today's streaming giants, Netflix. The final aim of this study is to determine whether the two guides could be compatible when it comes to developing an AD in Spain. **Keywords:** audio description; audio description guidelines; media accessibility; audiovisual translation; UNE 153020; Netflix.

