

# **B.A.S. BRITISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES**

## **33rd edition**



**RSEAS**

**25–27 April, 2024**

**West University of Timișoara**

<https://bas.events.uvt.ro>

**WEST UNIVERSITY OF TIMIȘOARA  
FACULTY OF LETTERS, HISTORY AND THEOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

**BRITISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES / XXXIII**

**Conference Programme**

**TIMIȘOARA, APRIL 25-27, 2024**

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. **Larisa Avram**, University of Bucharest, Romania  
Prof. **Andrei Avram**, University of Bucharest, Romania  
Prof. **Pia Brînzeu**, West University of Timișoara, Romania  
Prof. **Daniel Dejica-Carțiș**, “Politehnica” University, Timișoara, Romania  
Prof. **Rodica Dimitriu**, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iași, Romania  
Prof. **Fernando Galván**, University of Alcalá, Spain  
Dr. **Mihăiță Horezeanu**, “King Khalid” University, Asir-Abha, Saudi Arabia  
Prof. **Smiljana Komar**, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Prof. **Ștefan Oltean**, “Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca  
Prof. **Hortensia Pârlog**, West University of Timișoara, Romania  
Prof. **Stephen Tapscott**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA  
Dr. **Slávka Tomaščíková**, “Pavol Jozef Šafárik University”, Košice, Slovakia  
Prof. **Ileana Șora Dimitriu**, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa  
Prof. **Titela Vîlceanu**, University of Craiova, Romania  
Prof. **Mihai Zdrenghea**, “Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca

## **CONFERENCE ORGANISERS**

**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures,  
West University of Timișoara**

## **CONFERENCE COORDINATORS**

**Hortensia Pârlog  
Luminița Frențiu  
Loredana Pungă  
Reghina Dascăl**

**Sponsored by  
West University of Timișoara; Faculty of Letters, History and Theology; Department of  
Modern Languages and Literatures; RSEAS.**

## **BAS KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

- 1991 None -  
1992 Andrei Bantaş, University of Sibiu, Romania  
1993 Andrei Bantaş, University of Sibiu  
Edward Thompson, University of Dundee, Scotland
- 1994 Valentine Cunningham, Corpus Christi, Oxford  
Roy Bird, University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Peter Funke, Technical University, Dresden  
Andrei Bantaş, University of Sibiu
- 1995 Terence Brown, Trinity College, Dublin  
Paul Armstrong, University of Oregon
- 1996 Roy Cross, British Council, Bucharest  
Eve Patten, Trinity College, Dublin  
Maria-Regina Kecht, University of Connecticut  
Yves-Marie Leonet, Catholic University of Louvain
- 1997 Stephen Tapscott, MIT, Literature Faculty  
Nigel Townson, British Council, Bucharest
- 1998 Helmut Bonheim, University of Köln  
Patrick McGrath, novelist
- 1999 Gordon Campbell, University of Leicester  
David Snelling, University of Trieste
- 2000 David Snelling, University of Trieste  
Alan Pulverness, Norwich Institute for Language Education
- 2001 Adolphe Haberer, University of Lyon  
Mihaela Anghelescu Irimia, University of Bucharest  
Ádám Nádasdy, ELTE Budapest
- 2002 Balz Engler, University of Basel  
David Snelling, University of Trieste
- 2003 Martin Kayman, Cardiff University  
Lachlan Mackenzie, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam  
Adolphe Haberer, University of Lyon
- 2004 Cay Dollerup, University of Copenhagen  
Norman Fairclough, Lancaster University  
Ştefan Avădanei, University of Iaşi
- 2005 Alan Munton, University of Plymouth  
Alexandra Cornilescu, University of Bucharest  
John Stotesbury, University of Joensuu, Finland
- 2006 Margaret Higonnet, University of Connecticut, Storrs  
Isil Baş, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul  
Tamás Bényei, University of Debrecen
- 2007 Irma Taavitsainen, University of Helsinki  
Jacques Ramel, University of Lyon 2

- 2008 Fernando Galván, University of Alcalá, Madrid  
Ranko Bugarski, University of Belgrade
- 2009 Liliane Louvel, University of Poitiers  
Allan James, Alpen-Adria University, Klagenfurt
- 2010 Zoltan Kövecses, ELTE, Budapest  
Francesco Ruiz de Mendoza, University of La Rioja, Logrono  
György Szönyi, University of Szeged  
Michelle Gadpaille, University of Ljubljana
- 2011 Maurizio Gotti, University of Bergamo  
Alberto Lázaro, University of Alcalá, Madrid
- 2012 David Crystal  
José Igor Prieto Arranz, University of Balearic Islands
- 2013 Susana Onega, University of Zaragoza  
Jean-Louis Duchet, University of Poitiers
- 2014 Marina Bondi, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia  
Giorgio Mariani, Sapienza University, Rome
- 2015 David Crystal
- 2016 Fernando Galván, University of Alcalá, Madrid  
Lachlan Mackenzie, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam  
Anna Mauranen, University of Helsinki
- 2017 Alexander Onysko, Alpen-Adria University, Klagenfurt  
Mircea Mihăieş, University of Timișoara  
Jeremy Parrott, University of Buckingham, UK
- 2018 Codrin Liviu Cuțitaru, “Al. I. Cuza” University, Iași  
Bledar Toska, “Ismael Qemali” University, Vlora, Albania  
William Issel, San Francisco State University
- 2019 Mona Baker, University of Manchester  
Marta Gibinska, Jagellonian University, Krakow  
Andrei Avram, University of Bucharest
- 2020 cancelled (pandemic)
- 2021 Aline Ferreira, University of Aveiro  
online Dirk Geeraerts, University of Leuven  
Vesna Goldsworthy, Exeter and East Anglia University  
Ștefan Oltean, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj  
Duncan Large, East Anglia University, Norwich
- 2022 Andreas Jucker, University of Zürich  
online Laurence Roussillion-Constanty, Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour  
Martin Will – President, Advanced International Translation Research Network  
Nicoletta Vasta, University of Udine
- 2023 Maria Socorro Suárez Lafuente, University of Oviedo  
hybrid Christian Mair, Freiburg University  
Ramunė Kasperė, Kaunas University of Technology
- 2024 Ruth Amossy, Tel Aviv University, ADARR  
Jorge Díaz-Cintas, University College London  
Jeremy Parrott, University of Buckingham  
Rareș Moldovan, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj

## **READERS**

### **Prose**

Tom Whalen, US  
Patrick McGrath, UK  
Hugo Hamilton, UK  
Kevin Smith, Ireland  
Pamela Alexander, US  
Mary Rechner, US  
Rebecca Janson, US  
Christopher Cairney, US/Turkey  
Rani Drew, UK  
William Issel, US  
Creative writing MA students (winners of the national creative writing contest)

### **Poetry**

Flavia Cosma, Canada  
Stephen Tapscott, US  
Roger Craik, US  
Panos Bosnakis, US/Greece (poetry performance)  
David Stark, US  
Robert Ward, US  
Claire Crabtree, US  
John Drew, UK (prose, poetry)  
Claudia Doroholschi, Romania  
Ross Donlon, Australia  
Ana Olos, Romania

## **DRAMA PERFORMANCE**

- students, West University, Timișoara
- students and teachers, Kragujevac, Serbia

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Thursday, April 25

- 9:00-10:00    **Registration\***
- 10:00 - 10:30    **Opening address**  
Professor Marilen Pirtea, Rector  
Professor Dana Percec, Dean, Faculty of Letters  
Professor Loredana Pungă, Event Manager  
Professor Titela Vîlceanu, RSEAS Chair
- 10:30 - 11:30    **Plenary lecture**  
Professor **Jeremy Parrott**, University of Buckingham  
***Dickens the Modernist***  
Moderator: Prof. **Dana Percec**  
**A01 Hall, ground floor**
- 11:30 - 12:00    Coffee break
- 12:00 - 13:00    **Plenary lecture**  
Professor **Rareş Moldovan**, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj  
***In the Ashes of Earth and the Absence of Empire: The Colonial Starfield***  
Moderator: Prof. **Cristina Chevereşan**  
**A01 Hall, ground floor**
- 13:00 – 14:00    Lunch break
- 14:00 – 16:30    Paper presentations
- 16:30 – 17:00    Coffee break
- 17:00 - 19:00    Paper presentations and workshops
- 19:30             Cocktail – UPT Casa Poli 2 Restaurant, 11, Mihai Eminescu Blvd.

### Friday, April 26

- 10:00 - 11:00    **Plenary lecture**  
Professor **Ruth Amossy**, Tel Aviv University, ADARR  
***Feeling and Reasoning in Contemporary Protest Slogans***  
Moderator: Dr **Diana Mădroane**  
**A01 Hall, ground floor**
- 11:00 - 11:30    Coffee break
- 11:30 - 12:30    **Plenary lecture**  
Professor **Jorge Díaz-Cintas**, University College London  
***Voices in Translation: Navigating Sensitive Language in Audiovisual Media***  
Moderator: Dr **Eliza Filimon**
- 12:30 – 13:30    Lunch break
- 13:30 – 15:30    Paper presentations
- 15:30 – 16:00    Coffee break

**\* The Registration desk is open in the main building of West University, in the entrance lobby, from 9.00 to 13.00 on Thursday and from 10.00 to 11.30 on Friday.**



16:00 –18:30 **PANEL 1: *At the Intersection of Corpus Linguistics and British and American Studies: Language, Literature and Culture***  
**Convenor:** Dr. habil. Mădălina Chitez, West University of Timișoara  
**Room: 248**

**PANEL 2: *Discourse and Civic Engagement. Sites, Modalities, Methods of Analysis***  
**Convenor:** Dr Irina Diana Mădroane, West University of Timișoara  
**Special guest convenor:** Prof. Ruth Amossy, Tel Aviv University, ADARR  
**Room: 203**

**ROUND TABLE: *Research Trends and Priorities in Translation Studies***  
**Coordinators:** Prof. dr. habil. Daniel Dejica, Politehnica University, Timișoara  
Prof.dr. Loredana Pungă, West University of Timișoara  
**Room: 204**

18:30 –19:30 **BOOK LAUNCH**  
**Hortensia Pârlog,**  
*Challenge, fun and glamour. Mic dicționar de cuvinte englezești (întâlnite în presa scrisă)*  
**Room A01**

20:00 Conference Dinner – Sky Rooftop Restaurant, 10, C. Brediceanu St.

**Saturday, April 27**

10:00-13:00 – guided walking tour

**Thursday, April 25, 14:00 -16:30**

<b>BRITISH LITERATURE</b> <b>Room: 201</b>	<b>AMERICAN LITERATURE</b> <b>Room:202</b>	<b>CULTURAL STUDIES</b> <b>Room:203</b>	<b>GENDER STUDIES</b> <b>Room:204</b>	<b>LANGUAGE STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 205</b>	<b>TRANSLATION STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 207</b>
<i>Moderator: Daniela Rogobete</i>	<i>Moderator: Adriana Raducanu</i>	<i>Moderator: Slavka Tomašcikova</i>	<i>Moderator: Catherine MacMillan</i>	<i>Moderator: Andrea Csillag</i>	<i>Moderator: Mihaela Cozma</i>
<b>Petru Ionescu</b> Ars Universalis: Romantic Literature as <i>Gesamtkunstwerk</i>	<b>Cristina Chevereșan</b> Mocking the Myth: From Philip Roth to Word Smith	<b>Thomas A. Williams</b> “I will take care of your children’s future”: Pre-service EFL Teachers Co-construct Their Identity	<b>Debalina Banerjee</b> Of Myths and Motherhood: The Reluctant Other in the Selected Novels of Anita Desai	<b>Mihaela Lazović and Predrag Novakov</b> Anglicisms in Romanian and Serbian Hospitality and Tourism Discourse	<b>Zulia Karini</b> Strategies in Transposing Dialect Utterances: The Theatrical Translation of John Steinbeck’s <i>Of Mice and Men</i>
<b>Dragoș Ivana</b> Think Social!: The Scottish Enlightenment and the Question of the Self	<b>Eliseo Guardado Salguero</b> A Further Exploration of the Metal Libretto and Its Plurimedial Potential in Four Metal Novels	<b>Iren Annus</b> The Dissection of Cottage Core – In the Name of Intersection	<b>Luiza Caraivan</b> South African Speculative Fiction: Towards Feminist Utopias in Dystopian Cities	<b>Alina Bugheșiu</b> Minced Oaths as Mirrors of Linguistic Creativity in English	<b>Ioana-Mădălina Lambrache</b> Translation, the Translator and Civic Engagement
<b>Octavian More</b> A Useful Arithmetic? Cartographies of Unrest in <i>Jane Eyre</i> and <i>Hard Times</i>	<b>Ioana Camelia Brustur</b> Exploring Fame, Infamy and Exile in Don DeLillo’s Novels <i>Mao II</i> and <i>Great Jones Street</i>	<b>Cristina Badiu</b> How to eat the rich? A Closer Inspection on the Rise in Popularity of “Eat the rich” and a Few Recipes	<b>Ana-Cristina Băniceru</b> “She’s awake” – Rewriting and Demythologizing the Monstrous Nature/Feminine in <i>Night Country</i>	<b>Alexandru Oravițan</b> The American Singular and the British Plural? An Update on the Subject-Predicate Concord Rule with Collective Nouns	<b>Aba-Carina Pârlog</b> Cultural Translation and Incongruence
<b>Cristina Dalgacev</b> Complex Family Relationships in <i>Nicholas Nickleby</i>	<b>Ahmet Koç</b> The Concept of Whiteness in American Young Adult Fiction: <i>All American Boys</i> and <i>The Hate U Give</i>	<b>Julius Rozenfeld</b> Perception of the USA at Secondary and Higher Education Institutions in the Eastern Slovak Region through Local and Global Media	<b>Raluca-Andreea Petruș</b> A Harsh Beginning: Immigrant Picture Brides in the United States	<b>Alina Ioana Morar</b> Translational Strategies in Teaching British English Pronunciation to Non-Native Speakers	<b>Denisa Ungurean-Mitroi</b> Irreplaceability: Why AI Will Never Fully Replace Legal Translation. A Case Study
<b>Iulia-Teodora Drișcu</b> C.S. Lewis’s Laugh at Modernism: The Št(r)eam of Consciousness in <i>The Shoddy Lands</i>	<b>Alexandru Budac</b> Ghost Light: The Strange Fabric of Reality in Cormac McCarthy’s <i>The Passenger</i>	<b>Ariadna Coelho</b> The Status of English Translators among the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries Crossing		<b>Dragomir Adriana</b> Literary Pragmatics and Translation. A Case Study	<b>Andrei Mohanu</b> AI Impact: Redefining the Potential of the Translation of Advertisements

**Thursday, April 25, 17:00 –19:00**

<b>BRITISH LITERATURE</b> <b>Room: 201</b>	<b>AMERICAN STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 202</b>	<b>CULTURAL STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 203</b>	<b>LANGUAGE STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 204</b>	<b>TRANSLATION STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 205</b>	<b>ELT</b> <b>Room: 207</b>
<i>Moderator: Adriana Raducanu</i>	<i>Moderator: Cristina Chevereșan</i>	<i>Moderator: Magdalena Ožarska</i>	<i>Moderator: Alina Bugheșiu</i>	<i>Moderator: Simona Șimon</i>	<i>Moderator: Valentina Mureșan</i>
<b>Michael Chapman</b> Does Shakespeare Endure? From the What of Character Recognition to the How of Structure	<b>Cristina Chevereșan</b> “Researching America from Timisoara 2023. Community Building, Innovation, Internationalization.” The American Studies Center Fulbright Project Wrap-Up Meeting  <b>Workshop</b>	<b>Sorin Ciutacu</b> From Byron to Brian. On Luddites and Neo-Luddites via Heidegger Visited Ever and Anon	<b>Andrea Csillag</b> Metaphorical Images of Separation, Integration and Proximity in English Expressions of Sadness	<b>Mihaela Cozma</b> Translated Children’s Books as Facts of the Target Language	<b>Volkan Mutlu</b> How Correctly do We Assess in Language and Literature Classes?
<b>Yildirim Ozsevgec</b> Gothic Cities in Crime Fiction: Ian Rankin’s Edinburgh and Ahmet Umit’s Istanbul		<b>Alexandru Maniu</b> Is Orwell Still Relevant?	<b>Sofija Stefanović</b> Nonce and Neological Formations: A Corpus Linguistics Study of Altered Carbon	<b>Andra-Simona Diaconu</b> Setting the Case of Polysemy in Legal Language and Translation	<b>Cornelia-Patricia Grigoraș</b> The State-of-the-Art of Teaching Technical Translation Today
<b>Daniela Rogobete</b> Liminal Spaces between Ethics and Silence in Aravind Adiga’s <i>Amnesty</i>		<b>Magdalena Ožarska</b> The Non-Dualist Life Narrative of No-Self: An Offshoot of Contemporary Spiritual Memoir	<b>Tamara Tošić</b> Evidentiality in Serbian and English academic journal papers: A contrastive case study	<b>Ruxandra Drăgan</b> Non-finite Forms in Translation	<b>Claudia Doroholschi, Cristina Baniceru and Loredana Bercuci</b> Computer Writes Back: Perceptions of Student-written vs LLM-generated Bachelor Thesis Conclusions
<b>Hamdi A. Serdar</b> <i>The Good Soldier</i> : A Case of Narratorial Appropriation of Somebody Else’s Story		<b>Eliza Filimon</b> Untangling the Ropes of Audio Description  <b>Workshop</b>	<b>Daniela-Angelica Bercian</b> The Diary of an English Teacher in Romania. Theoretical and Applied Perspectives	<b>Simona Șimon, Annamaria Kilyeni, Marcela Fărcașiu</b> Translating for Social Inclusion: the Case for Easy-to- read Translation (E2R)	
<b>Estella Ciobanu</b> To the Bare Bone: Anatomies of (Dis)Embodiment in Shakespeare				<b>Workshop</b>	

**Friday, April 26, 13:30-15:30**

<b>BRITISH LITERATURE</b> <b>Room: 201</b>	<b>AMERICAN LITERATURE</b> <b>Room: 202</b>	<b>CULTURAL STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 203</b>	<b>TRANSLATION STUDIES</b> <b>Room: 204</b>
<i>Moderator: Dragoș Ivana</i>	<i>Moderator: Loredana Bercuci</i>	<i>Moderator: Julius Rozenfeld</i>	<i>Moderator: Zulia Karini</i>
<b>Ileana Șora Dimitriu</b> Speculative Visions of the Future: The Case of Lauren Beukes (2020)	<b>Adriana Raducanu</b> Crimson Chronicles: Probing Illness and Politics in Dan Simmons' <i>Children of the Night</i>	<b>Monica Ruset Oanca</b> The Bestiary – a Medieval Genre	<b>Ariana Serafinceanu</b> An Interrogation into Untranslatability: Shakespeare's <i>The Phoenix and the Turtle</i>
<b>Elena Crașovan</b> Salman Rushdie's Postmodern Fairy Tales	<b>Milica Radenović</b> The Post-Truth World in Lorrie Moore's <i>I Am Homeless If This Is</i> <i>Not My Home</i>	<b>Narumi Yoshino</b> Cars on the Roads and Camels in the Desert: How Wharton Viewed Morocco	<b>Alina Rădoi</b> Literal or Literary Machine Translation? A Case Study: Winnie-the-Pooh
<b>Catherine MacMillan</b> Something's Burning (Out) in Monica Ali's <i>In the Kitchen</i> : Gabriel Lightfoot's Journey from 'Achievement-Subject' to 'Homo Sacer'	<b>Alexandru Pîrciu</b> Continuing the Search for the Neo-colonial Informant: Discourses of Oppression in <i>Krik! Krak!</i> and <i>How the Garcia</i> <i>Girls lost their Accents</i>	<b>Dana Crăciun</b> Conspiracy Theories as Responses to Critical Moments	<b>Andrea Putnoky</b> Judging a Book by Its Title - Yasunari Kawabata in Translation
<b>Florentina Anghel</b> The Colour of Trauma in John Logan's <i>Red</i>	<b>Oana Condurache</b> Western/Eastern Healing Paradigms- Amy Tan and Sandra Cisneros	<b>Cristian Șandor</b> The Importance of Being ... George	<b>Cristina Nicolae</b> Automated Subtitling – Friend or Foe? A Case Study
	<b>Loredana Bercuci</b> Falling into the Trauma Trap: 9/11 as Non-event in <i>Falling Man</i>	<b>Valentina Cadar</b> From Infamous to Famous: The Portrayal of Historical Figures in Modern TV Series – between Rehabilitation and Celebrity Culture. The Case of Henry VIII and Cesare Borgia	<b>Loredana Pungă</b> Technical translation competences - crossing the bridge from theory to the market
	<b>Raul Săran</b> Both Critic and Not: A Case Study of David Foster Wallace's Literary Reviews and Essays		

**Friday, April 26, 16:00-18:30**

<p><b>PANEL 1: <i>At the Intersection of Corpus Linguistics and British and American Studies: Language, Literature and Culture</i></b></p> <p><b>Convenor:</b> Dr. habil. Mădălina Chitez, West University of Timișoara</p> <p><b>Room: 248</b></p>	<p><b>PANEL 2: <i>Discourse and Civic Engagement. Sites, Modalities, Methods of Analysis</i></b></p> <p><b>Convenor:</b> Dr. Irina Diana Mădroane, West University of Timișoara  <b>Special guest convenor:</b> Prof. Ruth Amossy, Tel Aviv University, ADARR</p> <p><b>Room: 203</b></p>	<p><b>ROUND TABLE: <i>Research Trends and Priorities in Translation Studies</i></b></p> <p>PoliCAT - Politehnica Center for Advanced Translation Studies,  ISTTRAROM-TRANSLATIONES Research Center of the West University of Timișoara</p> <p><b>Coordinators:</b> Prof. dr. habil. Daniel Dejica, Politehnica University, Timișoara  Prof.dr.habil. Loredana Pungă, West University of Timișoara</p> <p><b>Room: 204</b></p>
<p><b>Participants:</b></p> <p><b>Iuliana Elena Asoltanei</b>  Dark Academia: Intersectional Narratives in Online Spaces and Literature  <b>Karla Csürös</b>  “We must only discuss work-associated things”: Workplace Discourse in <i>The Office</i> (2005-2013)  <b>Richard Gramanich Štromajer</b>  Context Matters: A Pragmatic Analysis of Queen Elizabeth II’s <i>Annus Horribilis</i> Speech  <b>Nodhar Hammami Ben Fradj</b>  Synthesizing Linguistics and Cultural Studies: A Dynamic Pedagogical Approach to Literary Analysis  <b>Gabriela Tucan</b>  Cognitive Literary Studies: At the Intersection of Literature, Cognition, and Linguistics</p>	<p><b>Participants:</b></p> <p><b>Beverley Jane Cornelius</b> and <b>Jean Rossmann</b>  Demythologising the Rhino: From Dürer to Venter, From Beast to Being  <b>Alexandru Higyed</b>  Place and (Dis)placement in Spoken Word Poetry – Def Poetry Jam and “place poetry”  <b>Alexandru I. Cărlan</b>  Evidentiary Practices and Visual Argumentation in <i>I Am Not Your Negro</i>  <b>Valentina Mureșan</b>  Students’ Cognitive Engagement in Linguistics Classes. Taking a Closer Look at Tertiary Level Learning Environments  <b>Irina Diana Mădroane</b>  The Role Model Narrative in American Community Journalism: Engagement through Identity-Building</p>	<p><b>Participants:</b></p> <p><b>Jorge Diaz Cintas</b>  <b>Georgiana Badea</b>  <b>Simona Șimon</b>  <b>Eliza Filimon</b>  <b>Luminița Frențiu</b>  <b>Mihaela Cozma</b>  <b>Cristina Nicolae</b></p>

**18:30 - 19:30**

**BOOK LAUNCH**

**Hortensia Pârlog,**

*Challenge, fun and glamour. Mic dicționar de cuvinte englezești (întâlnite în presa scrisă)*

Room A01

## ABSTRACTS

### Ruth Amossy

#### Feeling and Reasoning in Contemporary Protest Slogans – **keynote address**

This paper explores how arguments and emotions are embedded in very short utterances that do not allow any development. Can argumentation, defined as all the verbal means used to make the audience adhere to a thesis (Perelman & Olbrechts-Tyteca 1969), take place in a brief and lacunar statement? And how is pathos expressed and combined with logos in this kind of utterance? To answer these questions, I have selected the case of slogans as they are written, voiced, and graphically expressed in today's public demonstrations. I will try to account for their rational and emotional force by showing how logical arguments, as well as feelings, are expressed both through the explicit and implicit layers of the verbal and iconic discourse. In this process, we will see how the implicit layers that play a capital role in the protest utterances can be reconstructed in their interdiscursive space and socio-historical context.

To tackle these issues, I will first provide a short reminder of the definition of the slogan as a genre and revisit it to accommodate the case of the demonstration utterance. After a few reminders of what can count as an argument (logos) and how emotions are constructed in discourse (pathos), I will analyze a few examples of demonstration utterances in their verbal and iconic dimensions. This will allow us to identify the values that are the premise of the argument, the lever of the emotion, and the foundation of a collective identity that brings together, for the duration of a protest, heterogeneous groups that meet within the same claim.

### Florentina Anghel

#### The Colour of Trauma in John Logan's *Red*

Words and colours have intermingled in John Logan's play *Red* as an invite to listen to and watch how abstraction develops. John Logan builds his play around a memorable experience in abstract expressionist Mark Rothko's life that is his decision not to give his murals to the Four Seasons Restaurant, despite the consistent commission he was offered. Mark Rothko is outlined in contrast with a young associate he hires, a painter and an apprentice at the same time aiming at professionally evolving while working with Rothko. The play is an insightful exploration of the two characters' relation with painting, with each other, and with themselves, which also reveals the role of the disclosure of traumatic events. The analysis includes a presentation of the way in which trauma disclosure influences the relation between the two characters and leads to recovery based on social recognition, involvement, and less disapproval.

### Iren Annus

#### The Dissection of Cottage Core – In the Name of Intersection

Cottage core has gained enormous popularity in recent years, attracting a wide global audience from a range of social positions. This presentation takes a closer look at the core movement from an intersectional perspective to reveal the multiple ways in which it is entrenched in interlocking social hierarchies, often conferring romantic Victorian values, aesthetics, practices and discourses. It also addresses the ways in which, as a response, various excluded groups have begun to stake a claim on and subsequently engage in the construction of their own version of cottage core on the internet in an unexpected exercise of cultural appropriation, thus firing a new volley of alternatives in the geography of current culture wars. The presentation relies on theorists such as Kimberlé Crenshaw, Patricia H. Collins, Nira Yuval-Davis and Beverly Skeggs, among others.

### Iuliana Elena Asoltanei

#### Dark Academia: Intersectional Narratives in Online Spaces and Literature

This presentation conceptualizes Dark Academia as an increasingly prominent Internet aesthetic that has successfully transitioned into a distinct literary (sub)genre. Drawing from classic Campus and Gothic literature traditions, Dark Academia constructs narratives that develop individual identities framed intersectionally and moulded within the context of the eponymous (literary sub-)genre. Employing content analysis and postclassic narratology, this study approaches diverse posts from social media platforms (e.g. Tumblr, Instagram, etc.) and literary works such as Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*, or M. L. Rio's *If We Were Villains*. By comparing structural elements across the media and contrasting written language with visual storytelling, this study aims to delve deeper into contemporary narrative practices that facilitate intersectional interpretations of overarching themes and character archetypes.

## **Cristina Badiu**

### How to eat the rich? A Closer Inspection on the Rise in Popularity of “Eat the rich” and a Few Recipes

First used during the French Revolution, the phrase “When the people shall have nothing more to eat, they will eat the rich” has very much regained popularity in the past years due to the increase of disparities between the masses and the so-called 1%, as well as social media frequently getting to call out elitist, unrelatable behaviours. The tagline “Eat the rich” can also be observed on a creative-cultural level, in books, songs, and films. This paper will start by examining two films, *The Menu* and *Saltburn*, both exploring stories of rags-to-riches, belonging in the spaces of the wealthy, and the illusion of grandeur, in their efforts to be part of the discourse and make their mark on the subject, where they succeed and where they fail; then using them as a starting point for trying to find and answer the greater question: “How to eat the rich?”

## **Debalina Banerjee**

### Of Myths and Motherhood: The Reluctant Other in the Selected Novels of Anita Desai

Motherhood is always an absent presence in the novels of Anita Desai. Mothers dominate the unconscious. Much of the inner turmoil of Desai’s protagonists stems from either the absence of the mother or her over weaning presence. Usha Bande feels that the neurotic difficulties of Desai’s characters like Maya and Sita in *Cry, the Peacock* (1963) and *Where Shall We Go This Summer* (1975), spring from a motherless childhood. Interestingly, Desai’s fiction deconstructs the stereotypes of monolithic motherhood by exploring the different (m)otherhoods in the diverse socio-cultural milieu of India, as in *Clear Light of Day* (1980). Anita Desai in *Clear Light of Day* examines the paradoxical location of mother as both central and marginal, framed by the idea of mother, motherhood and mothering.

## **Ana-Cristina Băniceru**

### “She’s awake” – Rewriting and Demythologizing the Monstrous Nature/Feminine in *Night Country*

Until recently, most horror movies offered stereotypical depiction of women, in this sense being considered one of the most conservative genres. Lately, however, there has been a surge of movies which undermine these stereotypes, playing with the well-established tropes of the genre. One such example is the latest season of *True Detective*, Nic Pizzolatto’s American crime television series, *Night Country*, written and directed this time by a female director, Issa López, who wanted an alternative to the previous male-dominated cast: “Where *True Detective* is male and it’s sweaty, *Night Country* is cold and it’s dark and it’s female” (López 2023). By being cold, tough, uncompromising, and forbidding, both the land and especially the women defy any categorization. Now when ecofeminist concerns have become more urgent and ecofeminist theories more nuanced (see Mary Phillips and Nick Rumens 2016), the intersection between the fear of nature and the feminine encountered in horror movies needs reconsidering. Therefore, by using Estok’s ecophobia and Harrington’s gynae-horror, I argue that *Night Country* demystifies and demythologizes the categories of the monstrous nature/feminine to empower women who are far from the sexualized victims of the horror genre.

## **Daniela-Angelica Bercian**

### The Diary of an English Teacher in Romania. Theoretical and Applied Perspectives

The paper discusses the theoretical point of view of diary studies in teaching English as a foreign language. The journal provides important data about the professional evolution of the foreign language teacher both during and after the pandemic. It presents the analysis of a diary kept while teaching students at an upper secondary school level at a prestigious college in Timișoara, Romania.

## **Loredana Bercuci**

### Falling into the Trauma Trap: 9/11 as Non-event in *Falling Man*

Trauma is almost always at the center of 9/11 literature. An exemplary novel of the genre is *Falling Man* by Don DeLillo, in which trauma is depicted as a psychological disorder in the case of three of the novel’s characters, as well as a cultural disorder caused by the events of 9/11. The novel was amongst the most anticipated, best known and most discussed novels of the genre that has since been termed 9/11 literature. In the post-9/11 frenzy, Americans seemed eager for a cultural diagnosis of what had happened. This paper reads

the *Falling Man* through the lens of Badiou's conception of "event" to show that the novel produces a formulaic representation of (cultural) trauma.

### **Ioana Camelia Brustur**

Exploring Fame, Infamy and Exile in Don DeLillo's novels *Mao II* and *Great Jones Street*

This research delves into the themes of fame, infamy, and exile as portrayed in Don DeLillo's acclaimed novels, *Mao II* and *Great Jones Street*. Using an interdisciplinary approach, it will examine how DeLillo navigates the complexities of contemporary society, particularly within the realms of media, celebrity culture, and societal isolation. In *Mao II*, the protagonist Bill Gray grapples with the burdens of fame and the allure of seclusion, while in *Great Jones Street*, the character Bucky Wunderlick faces the paradox of fame and anonymity in his self-imposed exile. This study explores how DeLillo's narrative intends to emphasize the tensions between public recognition and personal identity, the allure of fame juxtaposed with the desire for solitude, and the existential crisis of individuals navigating the chaotic landscapes of postmodernity. Through a nuanced analysis of DeLillo's prose, this research aims to deepen our understanding of the postmodern celebrity's condition in front of fame, infamy and exile.

### **Alexandru Budac**

Ghost Light: The Strange Fabric of Reality in Cormac McCarthy's *The Passenger*

Cormac McCarthy's swan song touches upon the motifs of his whole career, from Melvillian ambition to Southern Gothic imagery, and from western tropes to apocalyptic foreboding. Nevertheless, *The Passenger* (2022) is his most arcane and abstract work. This is due not only to the amount of scientific knowledge around which McCarthy builds his intrigue, but to the specific issues that the main characters tackle philosophically, such as one's moral responsibility and capacity to forgive, transgressions in science and in the private life, the nature of reality and the degree to which poetic language may capture it.

### **Alina Bugheșiu**

Minced Oaths as Mirrors of Linguistic Creativity in English

The paper deals with minced oaths, a subcategory of euphemisms which consist of the alteration of the sound structure of words or phrases considered to be profanities in order to make them less offensive. Some of the lexicographic definitions of the term "minced oath" seem to suggest that profanities lose the expletive status as a result of the sound changes. This study aims at showing that such an interpretation overlooks the numerous semantic implications of the phonetic distortion. The shifts that occur on the level of the signifier trigger changes in the categorial positioning of the signified and enable the coinage of new linguistic signs. To support these statements, the paper relies on the frameworks of semantics, onomasiology, and psycholinguistics. Although the approach is mainly theoretical, examples collected from English dictionaries will be analysed to provide a clearer description of this instance of linguistic creativity.

### **Valentina Cadar**

From Infamous to Famous: The Portrayal of Historical Figures in Modern TV Series – between Rehabilitation and Celebrity Culture. The case of Henry VIII and Cesare Borgia

Recent historical revisionist tendencies have significantly influenced the modern audiences' views towards certain historical figures that have been regarded for centuries in a negative light. New insights into their lives and times provided by historiography have motivated the realm of fiction, both literature and film, to approach their stories from a different angle. This presentation aims to look at the portrayals of two famously infamous historical personalities, King Henry VIII and Cesare Borgia, as their image emerges from two recent well-known historical TV series, *The Spanish Princess* (2019), and *The Borgias* (2011), it will also discuss how these representations become embodiments of nostalgia in one of its contemporary manifestations, the celebrity culture, by taking into consideration and analyzing the most blatant historical inaccuracies attributed to these characters, and trying to account for the significance behind them, as well as their general demeanor and personality, by employing the methodological tools of contemporary cultural criticism.



## **Luiza Caraivan**

### South African Speculative Fiction: Towards Feminist Utopias in Dystopian Cities

The paper analyses contemporary South African speculative fiction that uses feminist utopias to create dystopian future cities. It also underlines the differences between Western/ American feminist utopias and the South African point of view. Within the South African context, the contribution of dystopian fiction to the field of literary studies has not been fully acknowledged due to the long history of colonial and apartheid segregation. However, Lauren Beukes' novels – *Moxyland* (2008), *Afterland* (2020) and *Bridge* (2023) – and Masande Ntshanga' *Triangulum* (2019) not only reinvent the South African dystopian fiction but also introduce feminist utopias with a twist.

## **Alexandru I. Cărlan**

### Evidentiary Practices and Visual Argumentation in *I Am Not Your Negro*

The paper discusses the relation between visual evidence and visual argumentation in the documentary movie *I Am Not Your Negro* (Raoul Peck, 2016), focusing particularly on the employment of archival image as a resource for “a presentist act of recovery” (Casmier, 2020) of the iconic figure of James Baldwin, in the broader context of the BLM movement. For certain subgenres of documentary cinema, employment of archival image, recorded testimony and other forms of found material is constitutive to the peculiar regime of truth of this cinema form. Treating such found materials as equivalents of Aristotelian inartistic proofs, documentary theorist Bill Nichols makes a case that they become evidence only inside a discourse that makes possible the emergence of an eventually convincing argument (Nichols, 2016). The paper continues this approach, focusing on the methodological challenges posed by this view and proposing a framework of analysis based on a dialectical view on argumentation and a CDA approach to recontextualization and multimodality. Two sequences of the movie are subjected to a close textual analysis, revealing how the audience is involved in the critical examination of the probative force of the evidence as both part of the presentist act of recovery and as a form of civic engagement.

## **Michael Chapman**

### Does Shakespeare Endure? From the What of Character Recognition to the How of Structure

Shakespeare endures on the stage, at arts festivals, in British ‘period’ films, in translations, and in ‘mainstream’ English departments. Sample exam question: ‘Behind his black skin, Othello is one of us’: that is, we recognise his universal human nature. That was the standard response prior to Derridean deconstructive analysis. It then became fashionable to apply the ‘revisionist’ reading according to which Shakespeare began to endure by default: Othello was not one of us while his author was a lackey of the Tudor ruling class. Shakespeare endures, nonetheless, not simply in the what of character recognition or, indeed, in the revisionist readings of deconstruction, but in the how of dramatic structure. It is a structure of different, juxtaposed theatrical conventions and worldviews. Its genius is that it captures the temper of our troubled times. The paper will explore such an argument.

## **Cristina Chevereșan**

### Mocking the Myth: From Philip Roth to Word Smith

Often read together with *Our Gang* (1971) and equally dismissed as a minor and rather frivolous piece in Philip Roth's impressive body of work, *The Great American Novel* (1973) may well be the most intertextual of his writings. The proposed paper will analyze the ways in which Roth's farcical creativity, alongside his undeniable erudition, bring forth and challenge the (American) literary tradition and conventional approaches to (hi)story-telling.

“Researching America from Timisoara 2023. Community Building, Innovation, Internationalization.” The American Studies Center Fulbright Project Wrap-Up Meeting – **workshop**

The proposed roundtable will conclude the first Fulbright Institutional Development Grant carried out at the West University of Timișoara, awarded to Fulbright Alumnae Cristina Chevereșan and Loredana Bercuci. Throughout the 2023/2024 academic year, under the supervision of the two project managers, the American Studies Center team has organized a series of community-oriented workshops, lectures, and training-sessions with reputed American specialists from Harvard, Yale, Virginia Commonwealth and Montana Tech Universities. Since this particular type of project is a national premiere, meant to enhance collaboration

between Romanian and American professors, researchers, academic and institutional administrators, the event will consist in a detailed presentation and discussion of the process, activities, outcomes, challenges, and conclusions. The American Studies Center members and collaborators will also participate in a Q&A session, providing practical information to all those interested in exploring such an opportunity in the future.

### **Estella Ciobanu**

To the Bare Bone: Anatomies of (Dis)Embodiment in Shakespeare

This article inventories and analyses references to bones in a fairly small Shakespearean corpus so as to identify their role in shaping an anatomical imaginary with symbolic valences. As part of a larger project to study whether Shakespeare's anatomical imaginary is – or is not – peculiar to the Bard (or his age), the article close reads such occurrences in tandem with the head terms' lexico- symbolic legacy. Furthermore, I compare some anatomical images in Shakespeare with those peppering Middle English biblical drama, to trace a likely continuum, if any, between the late medieval collective imagination of the body and violence and that permeating the Elizabethan age.

### **Sorin Ciutacu**

From Byron to Brian. On Luddites and Neo-Luddites via Heidegger Visited Ever and Anon

The paper sets out to retrace stretches of the long winding road of the intellectual history of technology over the past two centuries. It starts with Lord Byron's *Song for the Luddites* and their tenets, it discusses the newfangled hostile attitudes towards technology at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and finds their philosophical roots. The paper discusses their arguments through Martin Heidegger's philosophy couched in his work *Die Frage nach der Technik (The Question concerning Technology)* from 1954 and scrutinizes the aftermath of his ideas put forward by the Neo-Luddites' philosophers from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries: Lewis Mumford, Jacques Ellul, Hubert Dreyfus, Albert Borgmann, Don Ihde, Chellis Glendinning and, last but not least, Brian Merchant with his book *Blood in the Machine* (2023).

### **Ariadna Coelho**

The Status of English Translators among the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries Crossing

This research studies legal and social status of legal translators that work with the pair of languages Portuguese-English in the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries. This mixed method research consists of two studies: (i) archive and theoretical framework on legal translator; and (ii) a survey on legal and social status. To carry out the first study, we identified, described and comparatively analysed legal instruments that affects translators. To carry out the second study, we elaborated a survey aimed at the legal translator's perception of their legal and social status based on questions that verify translators' awareness of existing legislation on rules, duties, obligations, rights and protection of their profession and 7 quantitative and qualitative social parameters. By presenting our methodology, we intend to join in the discussion on further research on legal translators in other countries and communities, such as English-Speaking Countries or the Commonwealth.

### **Oana Condurache**

Western/Eastern Healing Paradigms: Amy Tan and Sandra Cisneros

It is an understatement to claim that American novels have become the paradigmatic blueprint of what Homi K. Bhabha would call the "third space - the interstitial or in-between space," where "the cutting edge of translation and negotiation" occurs (2004: 208). In Amy Tan's novel, *The Bonesetter's Daughter* (2001) and Sandra Cisneros's novel, *Caramelo* (2002), the third space is tainted by a ubiquitous plurality state in which characters gravitate. To navigate back and forth, between past and present, spirituality and rationality, the characters are constantly seeking to heal from a disruptive existence. However, for Chinese Americans and Mexican Americans healing is quite different while they struggle to merge Western procedures with Eastern medicine remedies. In these novels, the healing process involves the intervention of nature. Thus, psychosomatic laryngitis is considered a "wonderful process" (2001: 6) of voluntary silence and insomnia can be cured by the Wise Witch from the roads of Oaxaca (2002: 239). This presentation explores the core concept of ecofeminism in relation to the Western-Eastern dichotomy of medicine and healing, thereby offering examples of both connection and disconnection from nature in American novels.

## **Beverley Jane Cornelius and Jean Rossmann**

### **Demythologising the Rhino: From Dürer to Venter, From Beast to Being**

Eben Venter's 2023 novel *Decima* features Albrecht Dürer's *The Rhinoceros* (1515) on its cover, thereby invoking complex myths about rhinos and transporting them into the contemporary milieu of South Africa's rhino-poaching crisis. Across the globe, the "My Rhino is Not a Myth" exhibition in Timișoara (the 2023 European Cultural Capital) also draws from Dürer's work to explore the interplay between science, art, and fiction – a synchronous thematic echo with *Decima*. Historically, the rhino has served as a polyvocal symbol for human agendas, as in Eugène Ionesco's attack on post-war totalitarianism, where the rhino stands for mindless conformity. Venter, however, reimagines the rhino as a sentient protagonist, promoting eco-consciousness and urging ethical responsibility for nature, as well as for the narratives we construct about it. This paper examines how Venter demythologises the rhino, moving beyond traditional symbolism to reflect current ecological concerns.

## **Mihaela Cozma**

### **Translated Children's Books as Facts of the Target Language**

Translating books meant for children has come to be recognized as a field in its own right due to the important educational role of this activity and to the specific features presented by this type of translation. The paper will look at the Romanian translations of three famous English books destined for children with a view to providing insight regarding the strategies used by the translators in order to ensure the status of their target texts as "facts of the culture which hosts them" (Tourey 1995: 24).

## **Elena Crașovan**

### **Salman Rushdie's Postmodern Fairy Tales**

The paper reads Rushdie's 2023 novel, *Victory City* alongside his other postmodern fairy tales, analyzing the particular blending of fantasy and history in relation to contemporary realities. The mythical themes embedded in a metafictional narrative underline the deeply symbolic relation between political power and the power of words.

## **Dana Crăciun**

### **Conspiracy Theories as Responses to Critical Moments**

If in the early 1960s Richard Hofstadter saw conspiracy theorising mainly as a "paranoid", fringe phenomenon, the more consistent critical attention given to conspiracy theories in recent decades has shown that conspiracy theories have always played an important role in the history of the United States. This research has revealed convincingly the extent to which conspiracist thinking has marked the most important moments in the development of the country, feeding both into causal mechanisms but mainly into responses to such historical turning points. This paper will look at conspiracy theories as narratives whose mechanisms shape a certain type of response to critical events. It will argue that although they tend to be viewed mainly as explanatory responses to such situations, conspiracy narratives trigger a certain type of decoding, which leads to specific forms of engagement.

## **Andrea Csillag**

### **Metaphorical Images of Separation, Integration and Proximity in English Expressions of Sadness**

The paper studies the language of sadness with a special focus on the use of the prepositions *of* and *with* in English expressions of sadness. After showing that the basic meanings of *of* and *with* are separation, integration and proximity (Lindstromberg, 2010), respectively, it investigates how the meanings of the prepositions contribute to the meanings of phrases combining *of* or *with* with various sadness terms (*die of grief, an act of desperation, be full of sadness, be overcome with grief, cry out with despair, be filled with sadness*, etc.). The paper finds that the prepositions, which are mainly used in metaphors of sadness in English, have their own metaphorical meanings within the prepositional phrases describing a number of details of the sadness experience and identifies what these meanings are.

## **Karla Csürös**

“We must only discuss work-associated things”: Workplace Discourse in *The Office* (2005-2013)

Real-life workplace discourse is a well-established area of research (Drew and Heritage, 1993; Koester, 2006, 2010) with corpus linguistics providing some of the most fruitful methods of examining what people discuss in the workplace (Pickering et al., 2016). However, there is little research done in the area of fictional workplace discourse (Birthisel and Martin, 2013; Sarkar, 2020; Sumner et al., 2020). Given the worldwide popularity of workplace sitcoms and acknowledging the fact that television is said to represent and influence real-life discourse (Bednarek, 2015), this paper sets out to investigate the use of workplace-specific lexis in a workplace sitcom by taking a corpus-based approach to relevant keywords, n-grams and collocations in a corpus comprised of all dialogue lines from the American version of *The Office* (2005-2013). This study identifies and explores two types of workplace-specific discourses: general, i.e. professional vocabulary common to most workplaces, and specific terminology related to the minutiae of a paper business.

## **Cristina Dalgacev**

Complex Family Relationships in *Nicholas Nickleby*

Charles Dickens's novel is about the journey of Nicholas Nickleby, who loses his father and finds himself in the challenging situation where he has to make a living as a teacher at Dotheboys Hall, fighting his uncle Ralph Nickleby with courage and dignity. We analyze the cold relationship between Kate and Nicholas and their uncle, but also the complex father-son relationship between Ralph and Smike and that between Nicholas and Smike. The novel presents Dotheboys Hall, a terrifying place where abandoned and orphan boys are badly treated by Mr and Mrs Squeers, who call themselves their father and mother. The paper helps us better understand the delicate situation of Victorian children, but also how the lack of a secure attachment and affection during early childhood tremendously affects the life and future of children.

## **Andra-Simona Diaconu**

Setting the Case of Polysemy in Legal Language and Translation

Perhaps as much as synonymy, polysemy can be regarded as endemic to legal language. Accordingly, the paper focuses on the phenomenon of polysemy at the monolingual and a bilingual level, with specific reference to the EU law. The paper starts from defining and classifying polysemy as a phenomenon pertaining to both ordinary language and legal language (as a specialized language within the field of English for special purposes or ESP). The paper seeks to demonstrate that, in spite of the fact that specialised terms are considered to be less likely to give rise to multiple meanings, legal language brings evidence to the contrary. Furthermore, we shall demonstrate that the various specialized meanings of legal words may not coincide across languages on account of different semantic evolutions and due to socio-pragmatic constraints – the legal systems and the associated legal cultures are different.

## **Jorge Díaz-Cintas**

Voices in Translation: Navigating Sensitive Language in Audiovisual Media - **keynote address**

In recent decades, we have witnessed a rising interest in the cultural and ideological differences engendered in the act of translating, which, in the case of audiovisual productions, has come hand in hand with the growing representation on our screens of societies that are ever more inclusive and diverse. This, in turn, has given visibility to new, and not so new, ways of speaking whose transfer into other languages calls for the translator's empathy and sensitivity. This talk will focus on the challenges encountered when dealing with the translation of sensitive language, including areas such as taboo, inclusive, non-binary and racial language, and will illustrate some of the issues with examples from the fields of dubbing and subtitling.

## **Claudia Doroholschi, Cristina Băniceru and Loredana Bercuci**

Computer Writes Back: Perceptions of Student-written vs LLM-generated Bachelor Thesis Conclusions

Bachelor theses are a widespread end-of-program assessment tool. With the increasing availability of Large Language Models (LLMs), questions emerge on the one hand about the extent to which AI-based tools can help students produce good writing, and on the other hand about the ethical implications of AI use. In this study, we draw on data from interviews with supervisors and 3rd year students, who were asked to respond to conclusion sections from bachelor theses in English language and literature. Some of the conclusion sections are extracted from the larger ROGER corpus (<https://roger-corpus.org>), while others are generated by Open AI's GPT-4. This enables us to draw conclusions on how AI writing is perceived in comparison with student writing, and make pedagogical recommendations on bachelor thesis writing in educational contexts in which students have widespread access to LLMs and other AI-based tools.

## **Adriana Dragomir**

### Literary Pragmatics and Translation. A Case Study

The paper discusses the interface of literary studies, pragmatics and translation, with a special focus on literary pragmatics as an emerging (sub)field. Literary pragmatics can be said to bring to light different pragmatic backgrounds, such as the active-collaborative effort of the translator and the author, and underlying knowledge about the socio-cultural context of the production and reception of both the source text and target text. Literary translation should be regarded as involving pragmatic (literary language as language in use) and cultural elements to be adequately transferred into the target text. It is only through a pragmatic act of reading, interpreting and translating that literary translation may be regarded as a successful creation and recreation of the original text, meant to function as a bridge between cultures and eras – in this respect, we propose the translation of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* into Romanian as a case study.

## **Ruxandra Drăgan**

### Non-finite Forms in Translation

Non-finite forms (gerundial, participial and infinitival constructions) are compact types of clausal structures in English which lack regular equivalents in Romanian, hence their translation might prove problematic, especially in the case of *-ing* constructions, for which the Romanian gerund is often the wrong choice. The present paper investigates the translation of *-ing* constructions into Romanian in order to identify and categorize the range of syntactic patterns in Romanian, as well as possible translation issues.

## **Iulia-Teodora Drișcu**

### C.S. Lewis's Laugh at Modernism: The St(r)eam of Consciousness in *The Shoddy Lands*

Although C.S. Lewis wrote at the time Modernism was in bloom, he highly despised this literary movement, along with its psychological and literary innovations. This paper will explore some aspects of Lewis's short story *The Shoddy Lands* in the light of the stream of consciousness technique and reveal the author's aim in engaging with this modernist approach to literature.

## **Eliza Filimon**

### Untangling the Ropes of Audio Description - **workshop**

The workshop aims to raise awareness of the importance of audio description as a key mode of intralingual audiovisual translation and to give participants a hands-on approach to its formal constraints. A complex blend of multimodal components enables audiovisual productions to inform, entertain and educate audiences via the auditory channel and the visual channel. Given that most of the information is conveyed visually, the core AD audience, with limited or no access to the latter, can only benefit from Audio Description, an inclusive mode of AVT. The role of the audio-describer is to convey the information visually transmitted in the audiovisual production, through the auditory channel, thus allowing the blind and visually impaired to better decode what they cannot see in relation to what they can hear. The workshop aims to raise awareness of the importance of audio description as a key mode of intralingual audiovisual translation and to give participants a hands-on approach to its formal constraints.

## **Richard Gramanich Štromajer**

### Context Matters: A Pragmatic Analysis of Queen Elizabeth II's Annus Horribilis Speech

Pragmatics delves into language within its context, investigating how users create meaning. It explores the relationship between language and its users, drawing inspiration from the ideas of H. P. Grice (the Cooperative Principle, Implicature Theory). The phrase "annus horribilis" became widely known after Queen Elizabeth II addressed issues within the royal family in her 1992 speech of the same name. Using a qualitative analysis, this study examines the speech and related literature, concentrating on context and the speaker's intentions. Through discourse analysis, it examines linguistic features in order to understand their role in conveying meaning and evoking reactions. The analysis aims to comprehend the speech's context, speaker intentions, and the employment of linguistic devices such as understatement, all of which contribute to the construction of meaning.

## **Cornelia-Patricia Grigoraș**

### **The State-of-the-Art of Teaching Technical Translation Today**

The importance of technical translation today was illustrated in several seminal studies, according to which it represents 90% of the global market of translations (Kingscott 2002:247). The need for and relevance of research in the field of technical translation studies were signalled by Byrne (2006), who claimed that technical translation has been neglected in the literature of translation theory, and Dejica, Pungă, Badea and Vîlceanu (2022), who showed that there are only few PhD theses which investigate this type of LSP translation in Romania. This presentation is part of an ongoing PhD research project which aims at coming up with effective teaching and learning methods of technical translation in the digital era, focuses on the state-of-the-art teaching of technical translation today, and highlights future directions of research.

## **Eliseo Guardado Salguero**

### **A Further Exploration of the Metal Libretto and its Plurimedial Potential in Four Metal Novels**

The present article explores how both imagined and printed libretti are employed in four contemporary American, metal novels: *The Armageddon Chord* by Jeremy Wagner and three Death Metal Epic novels: I: *The Inverted Katabasis*, II: *Goat Song Sacrifice* and III: *Sinister Synthesizer* by Dean Swinford. The provided narratological analyses evidence that the majority of metal libretti are imagined in the narrations provided by both narrators David Fosberg in the Death Metal Epic novels and the unknown narrator in *The Armageddon Chord*. Also, such libretti function as a musical reinforcement in both *Necronomicon* sung in American death metal band Deicide's *Dead by Dawn* plus the fictional ancient Egyptian song *The Song of Sethis* plus other musical compositions. Hence, this study emphasizes the necessity of further exploring libretti in musico-literary works such as metal novels in order to fathom the further plurimedial connections between literature and music.

## **Nodhar Hammami Ben Fradj**

### **Synthesizing Linguistics and Cultural Studies: A Dynamic Pedagogical Approach to Literary Analysis**

The paper delves into the challenges faced by academics conforming to rigid disciplinary structures within the educational system. It recommends the use of an inclusive curriculum approach that merges linguistics and cultural studies in literary analysis, breaking free from these constraints to foster a more holistic learning environment. This interdisciplinary pedagogy aims to cultivate integrative thinking, engaging students in discursive practices that transcend binary notions of truth and moving beyond the reductionist policy yielded by academia's over-specialization. This paper demonstrates the enriching impact of integrating linguistics and cultural studies within literary analysis, using a case study in graduate-level teaching. Focused on nineteenth-century fiction, particularly Henry James's *The Bostonians* (1886) and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance* (1852), the course looks into the portrayal of female orators in American male-authored texts. Employing a blend of rhetorical, cultural, and literary studies, it explores the often overlooked figure of the female orator. By analyzing historical speeches through rhetorical theories and examining their fictional reproduction by female characters, this interdisciplinary approach reveals the potency of merging linguistic and cultural perspectives in literary interpretation. This method equips students to synthesize diverse insights, methods, and theories across disciplines. By empowering them with a comprehensive perspective, it enables students to tackle intricate research questions with a more nuanced and interdisciplinary understanding.

## **Alexandru Higyed**

### **Place and (Dis)placement in Spoken Word Poetry – Def Poetry Jam and “place poetry”**

The concept of “place poetry” reflects a poetic practice that explicitly engages with the geographical, cultural, and emotional dimensions of spaces. Spoken Word, then, through the “power of presence” (Allison 2014, 10), manages to (re)create spaces and place the audience in a certain context, as Ian Davidson says in his *Placing Poetry* (2013) that “the poem is actively placed in its context while it also produces the place it is in” (Davidson & Skoulding 2013, 1). In the following paper, I intend to analyze how spoken word poetry can create spaces, placing the audience in the context of the poem. As we will see, *Def Poetry Jam* performances are deeply entrenched in the (re)creation of peripheral spaces. Consequently, performance poetry emerges as a potent instrument for fostering public discourse that interlaces historical narratives, contemporary realities, and sociocultural contexts.

## **Petru Ionescu**

### Ars Universalis: Romantic Literature as *Gesamtkunstwerk*

The concept of *Gesamtkunstwerk*, or “total work of art”, defines interdisciplinary artistic creation, with multiple forms of art interweaving to create a unified and profound experience. The “total work of art” is interpreted through the lens of Romantic literature, and linked to the concept of universal art. Romanticism is defined by a profound yearning for unity and transcendence. Romantic literature, with its fascination for the sublime, the mystical, and the boundless realms of nature and emotion, goes beyond telling a story and evokes a holistic sensory and spiritual experience. This literature becomes a vessel for *ars universalis*, aiming to encapsulate the totality of human experience—melding the visual, the auditory, and the emotional into a cohesive whole. Romantic writers like William Blake, Coleridge, and Wordsworth, did not confine themselves to the written word alone; their works are examples of an interdisciplinary approach with references to music, painting, and the natural world, creating a multidimensional artistic expression.

## **Dragoş Ivana**

### Think Social!: The Scottish Enlightenment and the Question of the Self

The paper focuses on the study of both personal and collective identity, as understood and defined by the Scottish Enlightenment philosophers. Approached in tandem with another key concept, i.e. character, the self was constantly explored in its sociable aspects which David Hume had labelled as “the Science of Man”. My purpose is to delve into the Scottish writers’ study of sociability underlying human nature and to show that people’s understanding of the world and their place within revealed a new way of thinking and behaving in homogenous societies and that, consequently, the notion of character could develop simultaneously along an individual life and in society. Importantly enough, the literature of the time, particularly the novel, began to be employed as a tool for deciphering personal qualities in an ever-growing and mobile society in which character was, according to Hume’s “Science”, meant to elicit a sympathetic response from the audience.

## **Zulia Karini**

### Strategies in Transposing Dialect Utterances: The Theatrical Translation of John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*

Theatrical translation extends beyond linguistic interpretation, involving complex modifications to ensure the authenticity of the original work within the target language and cultural context. As part of the study, utterances from John Steinbeck’s novel *Of Mice and Men* were translated into Indonesian for a theatrical performance, where most of the characters in the novel spoke Southern American English (SAE). The paper illustrates how the translation strategies serve as a bridge between the source text and its presentation, reflecting the interaction between the written word and live performance. The result of a detailed qualitative analysis reveals that the Indonesian translator adopted ten different strategies to adapt dialect utterances from Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*. It is also found out that the translator involved adapting the source language text to conform to the linguistic and cultural norms of the target language. In the case of dialect features, the translator employed more domestication strategies in his translation. Domestication strategies aim to make the translation sound more natural and familiar to the target language audience. All in all, this study may be useful for translators working on other dialects and language pairs in the future.

## **Ahmet Koç**

### The Concept of Whiteness in American Young Adult Fiction: *All American Boys* and *The Hate U Give*

This study analyses the concept of whiteness and its function in two examples of young adult novels: *All American Boys* (2015) by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely and *The Hate U Give* (2017) by Angie Thomas. The novels offer ways of subverting how systemic oppression works by examining the white characters’ position regarding racial realities in contrast to their own privileged positions. The works emphasize the importance of understanding whiteness not just as a default or neutral position, but as a distinct social category with significant implications for the construction and experience of racial dynamics in American society. The two novels offer various instances of how white people approach issues faced by the African American community. The paper argues that whiteness is not only a racial identity but also a position from which injustice can be challenged through allyship or sustained through silence.

## **Ioana-Mădălina Lambrache**

### **Translation, the Translator and Civic Engagement**

The paper is intended to explore the civic engagement in the field of translation studies, with the very purpose of identifying recent developments in civic participation practices. Needless to say, Translation studies, in the way in which we approach it today, represents a broad, open-to-change field of research that conveys an enormous body of topics that are dealt with through different techniques and methods. In this context, we set out to investigate the well-established and alternative traditions, highlighting a new paradigm, that of translator-centred studies, which has at its core the dynamic notion of “translatorship”. The paper will discuss, from both diachronic and synchronic perspectives, the issue of translatorship as a civic engagement phenomenon, to be detected in other fields besides literary translation, where multiple translatorship is more often than not the case.

## **Mihaela Lazović and Predrag Novakov**

### **Anglicisms in Romanian and Serbian Hospitality and Tourism Discourse**

Being at the core of intercultural communication, hospitality and tourism industries have become the meeting point of different languages and cultures. Consequently, English terms, or Anglicisms, are commonly integrated into the Romanian and Serbian languages, particularly within tourism and hospitality contexts. This paper analyses the impact of Anglicisms on the Romanian and Serbian tourism and hospitality lexicons, offering insights into their assimilation within the respective discourses. Additionally, it deliberates upon the levels of adequacy of using Anglicisms in these contexts. The primary objective is to identify and analyse Anglicisms found in the tourism and hospitality terminology of these two languages. This study adopts a corpus-based approach, extracting data from various websites and promotional materials of Romanian and Serbian hotels, tourism organizations, and agencies.

## **Catherine MacMillan**

Something’s Burning (Out) in Monica Ali’s *In the Kitchen*: Gabriel Lightfoot’s Journey from ‘Achievement-Subject’ to ‘Homo Sacer’.

This paper reads Monica Ali’s 2009 novel *In the Kitchen* from the perspective of Byung-Chul Han’s philosophy of the ‘burnout society’ and Giorgio Agamben’s ‘Homo Sacer’, focusing on the protagonist Gabriel Lightfoot, an up-and-coming London chef. For Agamben, the contemporary world is characterised by ‘homines sacri’, figures of bare life simultaneously subject to the law but bereft of its protection. For Han, in contrast, contemporary society is populated by self-absorbed and self-exploiting ‘achievement subjects’ who make ‘homines sacri’ of themselves. In this context, Gabriel, with his obsessive focus on his career, is arguably an ‘achievement subject’ par excellence. However, Gabriel’s father’s diagnosis with terminal cancer and, especially, his connection with ‘homines sacri’ in Agamben’s terms, in the form of victims of London’s people-trafficking underworld, eventually drive him, via a nervous breakdown, to a re-evaluation of his life and his relationship with others.

## **Alexandru Maniu**

### **Is Orwell Still Relevant?**

The paper discusses the relevance of George Orwell in today’s Western climate of cancel culture, safe spaces, sensitivity trainings, increasing limitations to free speech, a militant approach to equity, language mystification and other such expressions of a radical political dogma that has permeated the Anglo-Saxon world. It investigates the ‘age-old’ dispute between the two major dystopian poles: Orwell’s brutal, Stalinist *1984* on the one hand, and Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World* on the other, which is claimed by many to better represent the state of affairs in the West nowadays. But before taking the creeping dystopian elements into consideration, the paper also looks at how Orwell is misused nowadays, owing to a superficial understanding of his work and him becoming a pop-cultural figure and a meme. Regardless, this paper is meant as a stern warning against the sliding of Western culture into forms of totalitarian thinking and law-making.



## **Irina Diana Mădroane**

### **The Role Model Narrative in American Community Journalism: Engagement through Identity-Building**

A longstanding crisis in American journalism, manifest in the closing down of local publications in the early 2000s and, especially, in the public's distrust in mainstream news, has led to an emergent paradigm that seeks to restore trust by engaging American communities in news-making (Robinson 2023). This shift brings along alternative public modalities of expression. Among them is the role model narrative, identified during my Fulbright project fieldwork as an important genre and format in the media serving communities of color (Madison365, The Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service, The Detroit Outlier Media). The present paper examines such narratives as symbolic resources for identity building and stigma counteracting, through the lens of epideictic rhetoric (Amossy 2010; Perelman & Olbrechts-Tyteca 1969), rhetorical citizenship enactment (Asen 2004; Kock & Villadsen 2012, 2014, 2017) and discourse analysis (Fairclough 2014; Kress & Van Leeuwen 2021).

## **Andrei Mohanu**

### **AI Impact: Redefining the Potential of the Translation of Advertisements**

In recent years, the field of translation technology has become more sophisticated to the point where it is a valuable tool for examining multilingual material in conjunction with advancements in a variety of fields. The changing landscape of translation studies has been greatly influenced by the advancement of translation technology, which has replaced outdated ideas while providing an extensive repertoire grounded in novel concepts. The paper delves into the potential of artificial intelligence (AI)-driven machine translation (MT) models. To train their algorithms and produce more natural, fluent, and semantically accurate translations, these models leverage large databases of human translations. Additionally, they exhibit flexibility in diverse contexts and domains, demonstrating mastery of complex grammatical structures, syntactic nuances, and specialized vocabulary. Admittedly, we envisage the potential of AI in the translation of advertisements.

## **Rareș Moldovan**

### **In the Ashes of Earth and the Absence of Empire: The Colonial *Starfield* - keynote address**

From *Foundation* to *Dune*, from *Star Trek* to *Star Wars* and beyond, science fiction has never strayed far from rehashing fictions of “Empire” and refunctioning colonial spaces and tropes in its world-building and plots. The same can be stated of videogames, not only those directly based on famous franchises, but also games without a tie-in to an established IP. This talk discusses *Starfield*, an action open-world RPG developed by Bethesda Games Studios and released in September 2023. Set three hundred years into the future, after the destruction of Earth by a mysterious cataclysm, and twenty years after a bloody “Colonial” space war, *Starfield* immerses the player in colonially constellated space, interestingly, however, in the absence of an “Empire” or of an imperial centre of power. Between two symbolic absences – old Earth and new Empire – colonial spectres (from the early modern to post-modern) haunt the game's reimagined history and lore, shape stories, quests, player choices, actions, and rewards. This talk explores *Starfield* as a recirculating field of colonial narratives and tropes at all levels of the game, from lore to world-building, social and power relations, gameplay, as well as the nature of the game as a product of the culture industry.

## **Alina Ioana Morar**

### **Translational Strategies in Teaching British English Pronunciation to Non-Native Speakers**

This study delves into the complex landscape of teaching British English pronunciation to non-native speakers internationally. Positioned at the crossroads of language pedagogy and cultural resonance, the study investigates translational strategies as pivotal tools in achieving linguistic harmony. The main objective is to unveil pragmatic insights, providing educators with reliable educational methodologies to navigate the challenges of this linguistic domain. With a specific focus on enhancing the empowerment of non-native speakers, this study aims to contribute to the understanding of mastering British English pronunciation.

## **Octavian More**

### **A Useful Arithmetic? Cartographies of Unrest in *Jane Eyre* and *Hard Times***

Despite belonging to the same generation of early Victorian novelists, Charlotte Brontë and Charles Dickens have traditionally been seen as opposite literary personalities, guided in their art by seemingly disparate aims and methods. Indeed, their preference for rural, respectively, urban settings appears to support this polarisation: the former emerges, principally, as a regional voice, while the latter, as a sharp-eyed inspector of industrial(ised) landscapes. However, this view is essentially reductionist, since their sustained interest in the literary potential of “spatiality” is an aspect that unites, rather than separates the two. To support this, in this paper we propose an examination of the most common tropes and devices through which the experience of confined and open spaces is rendered visible in two of their best-known novels, *Jane Eyre* and *Hard Times*, concomitantly arguing that they are employed effectively for both aesthetic purposes and as a powerful tool for social commentary.

## **Valentina Mureşan**

### **Students' Cognitive Engagement in Linguistics Classes. Taking a Closer Look at Tertiary Level Learning Environments**

The focus on formal linguistics and on the question of accuracy, in the context of a globally popular language, allows this research to bring into discussion the factors which help influence and shape students' cognitive engagement in linguistics classes, which are often of lesser interest to university students training in English language and literature, or perceived as extremely difficult. The present study starts from identifying possible personal and/or collective biases concerning formal linguistics training, through the help of a case study among a group of students at WUT and continues by exploring various deterrents from active engagement. Additionally, cognitive engagement in the study of English linguistics is also considered from the perspective of the emerging communication tools, software innovations and new communication modes, in order to discover good practices and affordances from social-media enabled learning or game-based learning. Such practices and technological affordances could contribute to the students' engagement in other social domains, beyond the educational context, provided that they are used responsibly and ethically, and critical competences are formed.

## **Volkan Mutlu**

### **How Correctly Do We Assess in Language and Literature Classes?**

Teaching is a planned activity that results in the permanent learning of desired subjects. As teachers, we use different techniques to help our students learn pre-determined topics and ensure this permanence. At the end of this process, how much they have learned is tried to be understood by using different tests. However, whether students really learn or they just memorize for the exam is a question. This study tries to find out the answer to this question by focusing on the students' test results. For this aim, three tests were applied to 78 students; the first one was before starting the course, the second one was their final exams, and the last one was a month after the final exam. By comparing the results, one can conclude that assessment in language and literature classes measures how much students studied for the exam rather than what they have learnt permanently.

## **Cristina Nicolae**

### **Automated Subtitling – Friend or Foe? A Case Study**

The acceleration of transformative solutions and the updated digital literacy are part of a (consumerist) translation market which increasingly tends to prioritize technology on account of productivity, cost-effective and time-effective expectations, simultaneously triggering heated debates on ethics-related concerns, best practices, educational, professional and social impact. The study looks into the use of AI in subtitling, with a focus on translation-related advantages and disadvantages, AI limitations, and the need for human intervention to upkeep audio-visual translation quality and accuracy. A further friend-or-foe perspective provided in this study concentrates on the use of automation in subtitles by Translation Studies BA students, examining its relevance and usefulness in student AVT education and training, aiming to determine whether it facilitates or hinders the process. The small-scale investigation requires AML students to post-edit AI generated subtitles and identify problematic issues while comparing their post-editing experience with a previous subtitling experience on the same subtitling platform.

## **Alexandru Oraviţan**

### **The American Singular and the British Plural? An Update on the Subject-Predicate Concord Rule with Collective Nouns**

In now-traditional reference works (e.g. Quirk et al. 1985) and corpus-based grammars (e.g. Biber et al. 1999; Biber et al. 2002), the consensus is that British English allows for either a singular or a plural verb after a singular collective noun (with a marked difference in meaning), while American English considers the singular to be the norm in this situation. This paper aims to examine the validity of this claim by resorting to a contrastive examination of singular collective nouns in the updated British National Corpus (BNC 2014) and the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA 2019). Additionally, this paper argues that recent corpus-based insights into the issue can serve as helpful pedagogical pointers when teaching the subject-predicate concord and collective nouns to English language learners.

## Magdalena Ożarska

### The Non-Dualist Life Narrative of No-Self: An Offshoot of Contemporary Spiritual Memoir

My current project is a generic study of the contemporary spiritual memoir from outside the world's major religions (i.e. mostly New Age) published between the 1990s and 2023. Within the spiritual quest paradigm common in this type of memoir, of particular importance are turning points that divide the narrative into a before and an after. In the classic, Christian spiritual memoir, only one turning point, the conversion, is needed. The spiritual memoirs that I study feature several turning points of various kinds: awakenings, as well as psychedelic and transcendental experiences, from which vital insights into what is taken to be the nature of reality can be gleaned. I look at selected late 20th- and early 21st-century accounts of non-dual awakenings:

Suzan Segal's *Collision with the Infinite: A Life Beyond the Personal Self* (1996); Tony Parsons' *The Open Secret* (1998); David Carse's *Perfect Brilliant Stillness* (2005); Richard Sylvester's *I Hope You Die Soon* (2006) and *Confessions of a Seeker* (2018); and Robert Saltzman's *Depending on No-Thing* (2019).

## Yildirim Ozsevgi

### Gothic Cities in Crime Fiction: Ian Rankin's Edinburgh and Ahmet Ümit's Istanbul

This paper is an exploration of the representations of Istanbul and Edinburgh as urban Gothic spaces in the novels of Ahmet Ümit and Ian Rankin. Ahmet Ümit's characterisation of Inspector Nevzat made him one of the leading figures of the golden age of detective fiction in Turkish literature. His crime novels, however, are undoubtedly the most important part of this series. The primary setting of his novels is "Istanbul", variously known as Byzantium or Constantinople. Ümit provides information and descriptions of various districts and historical and cultural monuments of Istanbul while constructing the plot. Ian Rankin, one of the most influential writers of Scottish crime fiction, uses urban space in his works, similar to Ahmet Ümit. Through his fictional character Rebus, Rankin creates a Gothic atmosphere in Edinburgh, which he chases as his setting, and he builds his crime story on this Gothic setting, at the same time presenting the reader with the historical and natural beauty of the city. However, Edinburgh and Istanbul have two personalities—one monstrous and the other kind and lovable. In other words, they have two distinct faces. Ahmet Ümit's Istanbul and Ian Rankin's Edinburgh reflect this duality, which is a characteristic of gothic fiction, in their crime stories. This study, thus, argues that, although their Edinburgh and Istanbul share many of the characteristics and conventions of the hard-boiled detective and police novel, they also contain a variety of Gothic concepts which share the common origins with crime fiction.

## Jeremy Parrott

### Dickens the Modernist – keynote address

The authorial career of Charles Dickens spans the period from the mid 1830s to his death in 1870, often considered as the heyday of bourgeois realist fiction. At the heart of the author's *oeuvre* and career stands the semi-autobiographical first-person narrative, *David Copperfield*, composed and published in parts between March 1849 and October 1850 and published in book form the following month. On the surface, the novel is an almost perfect example of the *Bildungsroman*, tracing a man's life from orphanhood, poverty and rejection to fame, modest wealth and happiness, via a series of peripetia. It has always been one of Dickens's most popular novels with the reading public and was the author's personal favourite, as he confessed in an 1867 revised preface to the work. It has also generated a great deal of critical attention in the form of scholarly articles. Surprisingly, however, there have never been any full-length studies devoted to this iconic work of world literature, until now. My 150,000-word monograph, *Copperfield Unbound*, which should be in print in autumn 2024, explores a range of hidden themes and symbolic layers in the novel which have previously escaped critical attention. The work's subtitle is 'a genetic study', and my approach has been to delve into the conscious and unconscious mind of the author in order to access the well-springs of Dickens's imagination. I read the novel in the original parts without initially consulting any critical literature or viewing any TV or film adaptations, but steeped myself in the author's life and correspondence up to 1850. The result has been a radically new reading of the novel, fully vindicating why Dickens himself preferred this book to all his others. In this talk I will be summarizing the conclusion to my study, in which I characterize *David Copperfield* not as a work of realism but as a major precursor of literary modernism. I will take specific scenes, textual details, names and characters and relate them to analogues in the works of Proust, Joyce, Kafka, Freud, Beckett, Roussel and Rushdie to show how a number of characteristically modernist techniques and preoccupations can be traced back to Dickens's mid-Victorian masterpiece.

## Alexandru Pîrciu

Continuing the Search for the Neo-colonial Informant: Discourses of Oppression in *Krik! Krak!* and *How the Garcia Girls lost their Accents*

My presentation will continue the work I began at the previous B.A.S conference when I developed the idea of the neo-colonial informant by analyzing the discourse directed at Africans in E. Danticat's *The Farming of Bones*. Drawing from Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's original colonial informant, I have described the neo-colonial informant as the discourse of oppression that was used by despotic regimes in third-world countries on other specific factions of the population. To be more precise, in the case of my analysis, we are talking about the Trujillo regime in the Dominican Republic. I have identified the regime presented in *The Farming of Bones* as othering society members from Dominican lower classes based on this colonial-mindset rooted discourse. From this, I concluded that the regime can be presumed to have fallen victim to the process of mimicry as described by Said. This year, I wish to broaden the picture and present separate layers where the influence of the neo-colonial informant is felt by presenting its consequences on the lower-class Dominican society. I will present the discourse as identified in the historiographic fiction comprised of Danticat's short story collection *Krik! Krak!*. Moreover, I will widen the understanding of the neo-colonial informant by presenting its influence on the Dominican upper classes as identified in J. Alvarez's *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*.

## Aba-Carina Pârlog

Cultural Translation and Incongruence

Generally, one can notice the problem of incongruence when the languages focused on during the process of translation belong to distinct language groups – Romance and Germanic, Finno-Ugric and Slavic, etc. The lack of a specific view upon an aspect or an element of life can result in the obligation of creating something similar with the help of TL signs in an attempt to bridge the gap between languages. Collective noun phrases (NPs) in the English language are specific of Anglo-Saxon culture and are difficult to render through common equivalence in a different language, because of the language gap determined by certain figurative perspectives on particular aspects, beings, objects, situations, phenomena of the world, etc. Although the Romanian language does at times have the possibility of expressing something (slightly) similar to various collective NPs, there are many an occasion when the NP remains without a TL echo.

## Raluca-Andreea Petruș

A Harsh Beginning: Immigrant Picture Brides in the United States

The Buddha in the Attic, Julie Otsuka's novel, portrays the various struggles of Japanese picture brides who immigrated to the U.S. in the twentieth century. In pursuit of a better life, they must adapt to a foreign land and accept the downsides of their newly-acquired status as married women and mothers. The historical context of World War II and the Japanese American imprisonment camps further complicate the already-existent tribulations of Japanese picture brides, i.e., shashin hanayome. The presentation highlights factors such as gender and ethnicity that push women into a marginal category in U.S. society, exacerbating the difficulty of adaptation.

## Loredana Pungă

Technical translation competences – crossing the bridge from theory to the market

The paper surveys the models of translation competences and the skills usually associated with them that are discussed in the Translation Studies literature as well as used as starting points in institutional translator training programmes (the PACTE holistic model, the TransComp (Göpferich's) model, the EMT framework, the EFFORT project model). These will be discussed in terms of their relevance for the translation market, from the employers' perspective, with a special focus on the science and technology domain.

## Andrea Putnoky

Judging a Book by Its Title - Yasunari Kawabata in Translation

A key aspect of understanding a novel lies in its title, a small but expressive piece chosen to represent it. As it is the first encounter the reader has with the work, its adaptation is one of the great responsibilities of translators. The focus of this article is on the English translations of novels written by Yasunari Kawabata. The author was chosen for his importance, as he was the first Japanese recipient of the Nobel Prize in Literature. His works have been the subject of major scholarly discussions; however, the titles of his novels have seldom been addressed. This paper aims to fill this gap by exploring the methods used while crafting a chronological timeline of English translations and retranslations. In doing so, the potential impact on audiences can be explored and speculations can be made, adding new data to the pre-existing knowledge in the field of literary translation.

## **Adriana Raducanu**

### **Crimson Chronicles: Probing Illness and Politics in Dan Simmons' *Children of the Night***

In Dan Simmons' *Children of the Night* (1992), medical research, vampire mythology, and political intrigue intertwine against post-Ceaușescu Romania's backdrop, liberated from communist rule. Dr. Kate Neuman investigates child deaths in Romanian orphanages, revealing a blood disorder in an adopted child, with links to vampire legends. Notably, Dracula intermittently appears, reflecting on his past and imminent demise. This paper explores the narrative's Gothic elements and its resonance with illness narratives, reminiscent of 'pathography,' prominent during the AIDS crisis. It argues that the personal vampiric tale symbolizes the bloodshed inherent in historical and contemporary political struggles.

## **Milica Radenović**

### **The Post-Truth World in Lorrie Moore's *I Am Homeless If This Is Not My Home***

This paper analyzes how the post-truth phenomenon shapes an individual living in an era in which emotions often feel more truthful than facts. Lorrie Moore's *I Am Homeless If This Is Not My Home* takes us back to 2016, when the word "post-truth" was voted as the word of the year by the Oxford Dictionary. Post-truth creates a society in which nothing seems certain or definitive. As the main character tries to navigate through the pain of losing his loved ones, the readers follow him on a strange road trip in a world where nothing appears to be factual or tangible — not even historical events or death. Finn wanders through the past and present in his search for meaning and understanding of life and death.

## **Alina Rădoi**

### **Literal or Literary Machine Translation? A Case Study: Winnie-the-Pooh**

Despite its widespread commercial use, machine translation has been sparsely employed on literary works, especially on children's literature. This study focuses on reader comprehension of a chapter from Winnie-the-Pooh translated from English into Romanian using DeepL. Machine translation evaluation should not only focus on fluency and adequacy, but also on how readers perceive the target text. Twenty-five participants have annotated the passages that were difficult to understand and those that were logical but contained grammatical or stylistic errors. The survey ended with three comprehensibility and three MT user opinion questions. It is important to see how readers interact with texts, particularly when it comes to stories translated into a low-resource language such as Romanian.

## **Daniela Rogobete**

### **Liminal Spaces between Ethics and Silence in Aravind Adiga's *Amnesty***

Aravind Adiga's 2020 novel *Amnesty* raises, as all his previous novels, another ethical problem and moral dilemma when illegal migration clashes with crime, corruption and injustice. This paper dwells on Adiga's fictional answers to the moral choice his protagonist is forced to make – when torn apart between his desire for justice and adherence to moral human values and the possibility to lose a hard-won piece of "paradise" he builds in Australia – and the answers our society formulates for this type of predicament.

## **Julius Rozenfeld**

### **Perception of the USA at Secondary and Higher Education Institutions in the Eastern Slovak Region through Local and Global Media**

"Anti-Americanism has emerged as a hostile response to America's growing influence but also to the spread of democracy and the global market" (Krastev 2004, 14) and was strengthened by the aggressive democracy promotion of the U.S. in different regions of the globe—primarily in the Middle East and Central Asia. Krastev (2004) differentiates two types of anti-Americanism: the first type is the anti-Americanism of the fanatical terrorists while "the second is the anti-Americanism of those who take to the streets and the media to campaign against America but who do not seek its destruction" (5). We are interested in the second type of anti-Americanism and would like to investigate its roots, understand its characteristics and measure to what extent it is present among the Slovak youth in the 14-23 age cohort in the region of Eastern Slovakia.

## **Monica Ruset Oanca**

### **The Bestiary – a Medieval Genre**

One of the most lavishly decorated books in the Middle Ages was the bestiary, a fact which attests not only to the people's interest in reading the information, but also their willingness to pay generously to be able to admire such works of art. This paper will compare the descriptions of several animals which are commonly found in such works (for instance, the pelican and the elephant). Some famous texts, like the 12th-century *Aberdeen Bestiary* (Aberdeen University Library MS 24), the 13th-century *Ashmole Bestiary* (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Ashmole 1511), or even the 15th-century *Bestiary of Anne Walshe* (Copenhagen, Kongelige Bibliotek Gl. kgl. Saml. 1633 4°), will be under scrutiny. The author will point out the scientific content (or rather the lack of it) which characterises the narrative depicting these animals and how the symbolic portrayal of these beasts served a spiritual purpose.

## **Raul Săran**

### **Both Critic and Not: A Case Study of David Foster Wallace's Literary Reviews and Essays**

While often described as a significant part of David Foster Wallace's contribution to American culture, his essays highlight some of the author's principles and values when it comes to American fiction, entertainment and the general status quo of the American society in the 1990s and 2000s. There are several essays where Wallace discusses literary works, from Franz Kafka and Zbigniew Herbert to John Updike and Cormac McCarthy, as well as essays based on the evolution of American fiction at the turn of the millennium. Based on a selected corpus of essays from three of his essay collections – *A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again*, *Consider the Lobster* and *Both Flesh and Not* – the purpose of the paper is to highlight and discuss the ways in which Wallace analyzes and understands literature not just as a writer, but also as an essayist and reviewer.

## **Ariana Serafinceanu**

### **An Interrogation into Untranslatability: Shakespeare's *The Phoenix and the Turtle***

Initially published in a volume of poetry centred round the phoenix-turtledove myth, Shakespeare's *The Phoenix and the Turtle* (1601) presents a pattern of structural and epistemological anomalies throughout. Shakespeare's use of trochees and grammatical deviations are consolidated by the text's metaphysical core, culminating in a translational challenge. The Romanian translations of the poem - Dan Grigorescu's 1982 and 2012 versions and George Volceanov's 2019 rendition – reveal the structural and conceptual tensions contained within the original text while simultaneously replicating them. This paper comparatively analyses those translations against the original text, interrogating the extent to which the Shakespearean poem remains inaccessible to its English-language and foreign audiences alike. The untranslatability of *The Phoenix and the Turtle* will thus be analysed through the prism of intralingual comparison in consideration of its dominant theme – the linguistically elusive 'essence' that exists between lovers.

## **Hamdi A. Serdar**

### ***The Good Soldier*: A Case of Narratorial Appropriation of Somebody Else's Story**

*The Good Soldier* by Ford Madox Ford is an early example of the modernist English fiction. It sets a fine example of unreliable, fragmented, and zigzagging narration. The narrator, John Dowell, is not the actual owner of the narrative. Although Dowell is in fact only a character among others in this narrative, he turns it into a story about himself. Dowell's claim to the narratorial ownership of a story which he hears from somebody else and which he turns into a story about himself combines perfectly with his claim to the narratorial ownership of a love affair with a girl who holds a central position in somebody else's fiction. Dowell turns out to be a narratorial usurper of somebody else's fiction as a whole. This study is therefore intended to discuss how Dowell slips into the narrative of somebody else and makes himself seem like the victim of all that has happened.

## **Sofija Stefanović**

### **Nonce and Neological Formations: A Corpus Linguistics Study of Altered Carbon**

This study is part of a PhD thesis which examines how occasionalisms in the English language tend to reflect the development of technology based on linguistic analyses of science fiction. *Altered Carbon* contains numerous nonce and neological formations, all carefully singled out and confirmed as such using the Oxford English Dictionary and Webster's. This paper will take a quantitative approach and consider these formations in three individual corpora (the pilot and its two sequels). Firstly, 912 nonce and neological constructions identified in the pilot novel shall be quantified and elaborated on based on frequency, meaningful interaction, and collocation networks within the first novel. Then, the same words shall be researched in both sequels, thereby providing answers about the creativity/productivity of these constructions and their reuse. Finally, this analysis will show us the status of occasionalisms in the overall *Altered Carbon* dialect. Data will be analysed using LanksBox, a computer programme.

## **Cristian Șandor**

### **The Importance of Being ... George**

The paper aims to investigate the life and reign of King George VI. Firstly, I will look at the personal aspect. Destined for life as a Prince, he was marred from early childhood by a terrible stammer that was going to affect his life, thus being regarded with pity by his subjects. However, soon after the death of his father, Prince Albert was crowned King, after the shocking abdication of his own elder brother and heir to the throne, Edward VIII. Secondly, historically speaking, the prospects of WWII were already looming at the horizon and the British Monarchy needed a trustworthy King, not one who was dedicated to a glamorous life, with little interest in public affairs and politics. That was when his figure stepped into the light and he became a symbol of British resistance. With the death of Queen Elizabeth II (2022), a lot of emphasis was laid on her life, both as a Princess and as a Sovereign. It would not have been complete without the emerging figure of her father, King George VI.

## **Simona Șimon, Annamaria Kilyeni and Marcela Fărcașiu**

### **Translating for Social Inclusion: the Case for Easy-to-read Translation (E2R) - workshop**

Current trends in translation studies and practice point to the latest newcomer in the field: Easy-to-read (E2R) translation. What exactly is E2R translation? What are its main features and underlying principles? Is it even translation "proper"? Who is involved in E2R translation and whom is it for? These are some of the questions that will be addressed at this workshop, in an attempt to familiarize participants with this new kind of translation. Additionally, in the second part of the workshop, participants will get the opportunity to engage in an easy-to-read translation assignment.

## **Ileana Șora Dimitriu**

### **Speculative Visions of the Future: The Case of Lauren Beukes (2020)**

Drawing on major crises of the world today, speculative fiction employs post-apocalyptic imagery with forebodings of human devastation. As an overview of such artistic visions, I will refer briefly to several representative works of the genre, for example, P.D. James's novel, *Children of Men* (1992); Naomi Alderman's *The Power* (2016); Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* (1985); Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* (2006). I then offer a close analysis of an innovative contribution to speculative fiction: Lauren Beukes's road novel, *Afterland* (2020). Whereas most post-apocalyptic fiction is ominously sombre, Beukes's artistic vision mingles social critique with dark humour, satire and sharp psychological scrutiny of an imagined matriarchal system of governance, repressive in its own way, but in which – against all odds – parental love subverts and redeems a narrative of dystopian life.

## **Tamara Tošić**

### **Evidentiality in Serbian and English Academic Journal Papers: A Contrastive Case Study**

Evidentiality as a category refers to the linguistic marking of information source. Though Serbian and English are not languages with obligatory evidentials, certain genres demand heavy use of evidential strategies. One such genre is academic writing, where it is vital to signal the source of the provided information. Therefore, this presentation will describe a case study which compares the manner in which bilingual Serbian authors use evidential strategies in their academic journal papers written in Serbian and English. For the purposes of this study, a parallel corpus was compiled, containing 10 articles in Serbian and 10 articles in English authored by 10 Serbian researchers. The corpus analysis was conducted manually so as to prioritize valuable qualitative data. The aim of the study is to ascertain how similar or different the Serbian and English corpora are in terms of evidentiality and to attempt to demystify the academic genre writing rules.

## **Gabriela Tucan**

### **Cognitive Literary Studies: At the Intersection of Literature, Cognition, and Linguistics**

The paper aims to show the main tenets of the relatively new discipline of Cognitive Literary Studies (CLS). What has been called 'the cognitive turn' in literature highlights a series of cognitive processes of language, such as conceptual blending or extended cognition, which recipients typically use to make sense of literary texts. This perspective underlines the significant impact of cognitive approaches and theories on the study of literature. However, the question can be reformulated to shed light on how literature contributes new insights to cognitive sciences. In the end, literature provides multifaceted and complex representations of the human mind, a feat less commonly achieved by other disciplines. Humanists can thus make accessible a wide array of mental models to scientific research. The intersection of literary language, cognition, and linguistics, all encapsulated in the new field of CLS, reveals literature's appeal to the human mind and its capacity to reflect upon cognition.

## **Denisa Ungurean-Mitroi**

### **Irreplaceability: Why AI Will Never Fully Replace Legal Translation. A Case Study**

Technology has come a long way in the field of translation and while at first translators found it very helpful nowadays it threatens to replace them. Or at least some of them. The present paper underscores why this replacement in the case of legal translation is not an option and how current trends are shifting the perspective within the context of Artificial Intelligence and ChatGPT. A comparison between legal text translations done by human translators versus the same texts translated by a trained AI chatbot stands as the subject of case study and its results aim at pointing out the good, the bad and the ugly sides of using Artificial Intelligence in the field of legal translation.

## **Thomas A. Williams**

### **"I will take care of your children's future": Pre-service EFL Teachers Co-construct Their Identity**

Proceeding from Bruner (1987) and Fougère (2008) on the construction of identity through self-narrative, the paper will present findings from qualitative research on narratives produced by a small group of Hungarians from the Vojvodina/Vajdaság region of Serbia studying to become EFL teachers at the University of Szeged in Hungary. How do they construct their identity as future EFL teachers? As English speakers? As Hungarians from Vojvodina/Vajdaság? And, indeed, as Hungarians? Themes explored will include: sensemaking (the process of an ever-changing understanding of an ever-changing identity); a sense of belonging with a focus on insideness and outsideness, competence and role fulfilment, and centre and periphery dynamics; questioning and learning about the self; and development and change, including heterotopias and the 'third space', and dwelling in-between. In demonstrating how the participants tell their identity, the findings may have implications for foreign language learners and teachers, administrators, teacher trainers, and educational policymakers.

## **Narumi Yoshino**

### **Cars on the Roads and Camels in the Desert: How Wharton Viewed Morocco**

Edith Wharton, an American novelist of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, is also known as an enthusiastic traveler. It is noteworthy that Wharton found herself in this period, when convenience and efficiency in mobility were evolving at an ever-increasing pace. The expansion of the possibilities of physical mobility changed the way Victorian women behaved and thought, which subsequently influenced Wharton herself. In today's standpoint, she could be identified as a "cosmopolitan" with a global outlook in her time; and this had much to do with the emergence of automobile as a means of transportation. Yet Wharton's cosmopolitanism had its limits also. The automobile as a mode of transportation that contributed to her acquisition of a cosmopolitan vision may ironically have exposed her imperialism and Orientalism when the vehicle travel took her to Morocco, one of the French protectorates then. This paper discusses the extent to which Wharton's Moroccan travelogue demonstrates her cosmopolitanism and where its limits lie.



## **PANELS**

### **Discourse and Civic Engagement. Sites, Modalities, Methods of Analysis**

Against the backdrop of polarization, disinformation and mistrust, how we engage and are engaged on issues of public concern, in everyday and public discourse(s), are questions of utmost significance in current research. This panel seeks contributions from the field of discourse studies, or from related fields, that explore civic engagement in a range of domains, including, but not limited to, politics, media and communication, culture, translation, education. Our goals will be to identify recent developments in civic participation practices and to discuss how they can be meaningfully studied from discourse-based perspectives.

**Convenor:** Dr. Irina Diana Mădroane, West University of Timișoara

**Special guest convenor:** Prof. Ruth Amossy, Tel Aviv University, ADARR

### **At the Intersection of Corpus Linguistics and British and American Studies: Language, Literature and Culture**

The panel fosters a scholarly forum for multidisciplinary exchange of ideas between the corpus linguistics approaches and British and American literature and cultural studies. Interdisciplinary dialogues, such as those encompassing political sciences and history, and the incorporation of cutting-edge technologies at the confluence of these disciplines, also fall within the scope of this symposium. Theoretical, experimental and computational contributions are welcome.

**Convenor:** Dr. habil. Mădălina Chitez, West University of Timișoara

## **ROUND TABLE**

### **Research Trends and Priorities in Translation Studies**

Influenced by globalization, new technologies and ever-growing market demands, translation has evolved rapidly in the past decades, both as a discipline of research and as a profession. All conference participants are invited to join this round table to discuss and find answers to a series of issues which include, but are not limited to national/European priority areas for research in TS (translation and technology, multimedia translation, genre translation, translation quality assessment, etc.), priorities and trends in TS research (empirical, fact-finding, theory-building, technology-driven, product or process-based, etc.), cross-country types of academic-based research in TS (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels) or relevance of TS research for professionals working in the language industry.

**Coordinators:** Prof. dr. habil. Daniel Dejica, Politehnica University, Timișoara

Prof. dr. habil. Loredana Pungă, West University of Timișoara

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## Conference Proceedings

Every year, we publish a selected number of the papers presented at the “British and American Studies” Conference. We intend to do the same this year. Our editors, though, have imposed a very tight deadline for the submission to the three volumes.

Therefore, if you want to have your paper considered for publication, send it by September 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 as follows (please check against the deadlines published on journal websites - for *Gender Studies* the deadline is 15 July 2024):

➤ for BAS to Professor Hortensia Pârlog, University of Timișoara, English Department, Bd. V. Pârvan 4, 300223 Timișoara, Romania, as a hard copy as well as electronically in Word (.doc, .rtf), to [bas.journal@gmail.com](mailto:bas.journal@gmail.com) (British and American Literature, Cultural Studies, Linguistics). Please refer to the B.A.S. British and American Studies Instructions to Authors section: [https://bas.journals.uvt.ro/wp-content/uploads/Style\\_Sheet\\_BAS\\_May2023.pdf](https://bas.journals.uvt.ro/wp-content/uploads/Style_Sheet_BAS_May2023.pdf)

➤ for the RJES to Dr Eliza Filimon, University of Timișoara, English Department, Bd. V. Pârvan 4, 300223 Timișoara, Romania, electronically in Word (.doc, .rtf), to [rjes.journal@gmail.com](mailto:rjes.journal@gmail.com) (ELT, ESP, Translation Studies, British and American Literature, Cultural Studies, Linguistics). Please refer to the For Authors section (then select “Instructions for Authors”) on the publisher’s webpage: <https://sciendo.com/journal/RJES>

➤ for Gender Studies to the Editorial Manager submission system on the journal’s webpage (<https://sciendo.com/journal/GENST?content-tab=how-to-submit>). Please follow the Instructions for Authors at <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/genst/genst-overview.xml> (To download Instructions for Authors, please click on the “For Authors” tab and select the document from the dropdown list.). Please note that the deadline for the 2024 issue of the *Gender Studies* journal is 15 July 2024. Manuscripts submitted in September will most likely be processed for the 2025 issue. For inquiries only, you may contact Dr. Irina Diana Mădroane at [irina.madroane@e-uvt.ro](mailto:irina.madroane@e-uvt.ro)

**Please send your contribution to one journal only.**

**All your submitted papers should observe the indications below.**

Prior to publication, papers will be refereed by an editorial committee.

**Acceptance and confirmation of publication will be sent to you in April 2025 at the latest.**

## BAS – Timișoara 25-27 April 2024

### Information for Participants

The *BAS* Secretariat

office hours: - Thursday, 25.04 - 10:00 - 13:00

Friday, 26.04 – 10:00 -11:30

main building UVT, 4, V. Pârvan Blvd., entrance lobby

Mobile +40 744 792238

### Registration Fee

For the payment of your registration fee, please contact:

The *BAS* Secretariat

You will receive your conference badge and participant bag containing the programme. **Participants are required to wear their badge throughout the conference and social events.**

If you have any questions or require assistance at any time during the conference, please ask a member of the conference administration team.

### Local Transport

The conference venue is within walking distance (5-20 minutes) from your accommodation sites.

Reliable taxis are: Tudo - tel. 0256-945; Fan – 0256-944; Radio - tel. 0256-940;

Visit <http://www.timisoara.ro> to view useful information and the map of Timisoara.

### Conference Venue

The following *BAS Timișoara 2024* events will be held in the main building of West University: Timișoara, 4, Pârvan Bd. The cocktail on Thursday night will be held at UPT Casa Poli 2 Restaurant, 11, Mihai Eminescu Blvd.

- Registration - West University main building, entrance lobby
- Plenary Sessions - A01
- Concurrent Sessions – main building West University, rooms according to the programme

## Conference Opening Times

Thursday, April 25 – 9.00 - 13.00 – registration\*  
10.00 - 10.30 – opening address  
10.30 - 11.30 - keynote lecture  
11.30 - 12.00 – coffee break  
12.00 - 13.00 – keynote lecture  
13.00 -14.00 - lunch break  
14.00 – 16.30 – concurrent sessions  
16.30- 17.00 – coffee break  
17.00- 19.00 – concurrent sessions

Friday, April 26 – 10:00 -11:30 – registration\*  
10:00 -11:00 – keynote lecture  
11:00 -11:30 - coffee break  
11:30 -12:30 – keynote lecture  
12:30 -13:30 – lunch break  
13:30 –15:30 – concurrent sessions  
15:30 -16:00 – coffee break  
16:00 –18:30 – panels/round table

**\* The Registration desk is open in the main building of West University, in the entrance lobby, from 9.00 to 13.00 on Thursday and from 10.00 to 11.30 on Friday.**

Conference dinner (for those who register) – 20:00 Sky Rooftop Restaurant

Saturday, April 27 – guided walking tour

- departure time 10:00

## Smoke Free Legislation

Smoke free legislation states that virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces in Romania will be smoke free. This includes cafes, restaurants, bars, hotels and public institutions.  
At the conference venue smoking is only permitted outside the building.

## Photocopy Service

No free photocopying is available. The nearest photocopying services are a 10 minutes walk from the University.

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## Information for Presenters

### Presentation Date, Time and Room

The timing and the room of your presentation will be confirmed by e-mail. The first figure in the room number indicates the floor.

A full copy of the provisional programme is available at: <http://bas.events.uvt.ro/>

If you have any queries, please contact Reghina Dascăl at: [reghina\\_dascal@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:reghina_dascal@yahoo.co.uk)

### Presentation Rooms

All presentation rooms have a theatre-style layout, i.e. tables or desks, and chairs are in rows facing the presenter. Rooms can each sit approx. 30 people.

### Presentation Equipment

All presentation rooms have the following equipment:

- Laptop
- Projectors (beamers) and LCD screens with HDMI connectors; please note that in order to be easily visible on LCD screens font size should be reasonably large (e.g. 24 and up for Arial)
- Whiteboard

### Presentation Equipment: Technical Specifications

Every laptop has:

- Microsoft Windows 10 or 11 operating system
- Microsoft Office 2016 to 2021 / MS Office 365
- (if requested in advance) CD/DVD drive

**Internet connection**

If your home institution is affiliated to the Eduroam network, you should be able to connect with your home login credentials to the Eduroam WI-FI network available in all University buildings and on campus. If you do not have an Eduroam account, you can use the UVT-Guest network, for which you do not need a username and password. Note that on the UVT-Guest network the internet speed is limited and you need to reconnect every 60 minutes.

**Timing**

Speakers in elective sessions are allotted 20 minutes for their presentation and 10 minutes for discussions.

It is important that each presentation finishes at the time specified to allow the next presenter to start on time and have his/her full 20 minutes. The session moderator will assist presenters with their timing by holding a sign to indicate that it is nearing the end.

In every presentation room, a member of the conference administration team will be available to assist participants before, during and after their presentation.

**Cancellation**

Should a presentation or attendance be cancelled for some reason, please inform the BAS organisers by March 30. If a presenter hasn't registered one hour before the start of his/her presentation, it will be assumed that the presentation won't take place and a "cancelled" notice will be displayed.

**Special thanks to the members and students of the English Department involved in the organization of this conference**

Conference chairperson: **Hortensia Pârlog**

Event manager: **Loredana Pungă**

Scientific programme coordinator: **Reghina Dascăl**

Registration coordinator: **Luminița Frențiu**

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