



TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAŞOV
FACULTY OF LETTERS



**FIFTEENTH CONFERENCE ON BRITISH AND
AMERICAN STUDIES**

INVESTIGATING LANGUAGE AS SOCIAL (INTER)ACTION

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

BRAŞOV
12-13 MAY 2017

Plenary speaker

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The Bilingual Turn, Brain Science and Language

What is language? As a "higher order" cognitive activity, is it the result of other cognitive processes at work, a kind of byproduct? Is it independent of other cognition? What relationship does language have to thought and speech? In this talk, I present an overview of the bilingual perspective on language and offer insights from current neurolinguistic study that bear directly on the matter of language in the mind.

Presentations

Contact Linguistics / Sociolinguistics

Andrei A. Avram, University of Bucharest (andrei.avram@lils.unibuc.ro)**Early Jamaican Creole Syllable Structure: An Optimality-Theoretic Account**

The paper investigates the syllable structure of early Jamaican Creole. The data consist of early written records covering a period ranging from 1781 (the date of the earliest known text in Jamaican Creole) to late 19th century (Russell 1868, Lalla 1986, Cassidy 1961, D'Costa & Lalla 1989, Lalla & D'Costa 1990, Avram 2015) as well as of other early attestations (Cassidy & Le Page 2009). The analysis is couched in an Optimality-theoretic framework and focuses on the resolution of illicit /s/-initial onset clusters, complex codas, and simplex codas. Three repair strategies are identified: consonant deletion, epenthesis and paragoge (see also Meade 1995, Avram 1999, 2005). Also discussed is the quality of intrusive vowels and the factors determining their selection (see also Avram 2005). The findings are discussed with reference to the syllable structure of other early varieties of creole languages (e.g. Avram 2005, Plag & Scramm 2006, Schramm 2015) as well as to the modern variety of Jamaican Creole (Akers 1981, Devonish & Harry 2008).

Marinela Burada, *Transilvania* University of Braşov (marinela.burada@gmail.com)**Interference and Codemixing in Present-Day Romanian. Notes on the Anglo-Romanian Contact Situation**

The impact that English has in the course of time had on Romanian, and especially the influence it exercised during the last three decades or so have engaged the attention of many specialists. The discussions have predominantly focused on the lexicon-grammatical aspects of borrowings (e.g., the fields discourse that Anglicisms were imported into, the discernible patterns of adaptation to and degrees of integration in the fabric of our language), with some authors conjecturing on the suitability of their adoption into Romanian. Generally speaking, the linguistic analysis of borrowing relies on hindsight and takes into account longer time spans. Codemixing, on the other hand, has been studied as a synchronic phenomenon associated with bilingual spoken interactions, and has mainly been the object of psycholinguistic and sociolinguistic research. Starting from a number of instances found in Romanian

language texts, the present contribution takes a pragmatic approach by looking into the possible motivation of borrowing and codemixing seen in close relation to the types of discourse and language registers.

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Verbal Anglicisms in Romanian. Usage, Problems and Solutions

This presentation addresses the less-assimilated English-based loan verbs from present-day Romanian that still exhibit different conjugation patterns among native speakers, mainly those specific to the first and the fourth Romanian conjugations (e.g. a uploadui / a uploada, a googla / a google-ui).

Several theoretical studies have argued that most recent loan verbs are assimilated to the first conjugation (Florea 2002, Ardeleanu Cruceru 2003), but nevertheless speakers do use different inflection markers, leading to norming and/or standardization problems.

A questionnaire where subjects were asked to order sentences that contained different forms of recent verbal loan words according to their preference (of use) was applied in order to shed some light on the reasons that trigger such an oscillation, thus helping linguists normatize the verbs.

The preliminary results show that even if there is a clear tendency towards the first conjugation, native speakers seem to prefer the fourth conjugation for at least some verbal Anglicisms, and that this difference may be due the register, i.e. familiar vs. formal.

Keywords: Anglicisms, verbs, assimilation, language change, psycholinguistic testing

*This work was supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research and Innovation, CNCS – UEFISCDI, project number PN-II-RU-TE-2014-4-2480

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Anglicism Usage in a Swedish Daily Blog

The influence of English has come to dominate many aspects of the Swedish media, particularly the spoken language in daily video blogs uploaded on YouTube. The present paper presents a quantitative analysis of Anglicisms found in the speech of the popular Swedish video blogger Therese Lindgren over the course of one month. The analysis aims at identifying the frequency of Anglicisms on all the levels of the language and categorizing them following the typological classification of linguistic borrowings proposed by Capuz (1997) It is also argued that the use of Anglicisms is a sociolinguistic function in the construction of social identity through language (Ochs 1993).

Language Acquisition

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The Acquisition of Recursive Nominal Modifiers by Romanian-Hungarian Bilinguals

The acquisition of recursive structures has recently turned into a widely researched topic. Recent studies on the production and comprehension of recursive nominal modifiers revealed that these complex structures are vulnerable in both L1 (Pérez-Leroux et al. 2012) and L2 acquisition (Nelson 2016), but the presence of overt recursive markers may facilitate the acquisition process (Sevcenco, Avram 2016). Our study extends the investigation to acquisition in a bilingual context (2L1). We focus on the comprehension of recursive nominal modifiers, locative PPs and relative clauses in Romanian by 5 year-old Romanian-Hungarian bilingual children. Though 2L1 follows the same route as L1 acquisition, many studies also have shown that bilingual development might be either delayed or boosted by crosslinguistic interference effects. Investigating the acquisition of recursive

structures by bilingual children can shed light on the interplay between the core property of human language, recursion (Hauser, Chomsky, Fitch 2002), and dual linguistic input. We address the following questions: (i) is the route of the acquisition of recursive nominal modifiers in a 2L1 context similar to the one in monolingual acquisition?; (ii) does this route reflect crosslinguistic interference effects?; (iii) is this route affected by principles which are not specific to the language faculty?

Ioana Stoicescu, Mihaela Zamfirescu, University of Bucharest (iodu2004@yahoo.co.uk)

Sensitivity to Negative and Positive Polarity in Child Romanian

This pilot study explores the acquisition of polarity items by typically-developing Romanian-speaking children. The polarity items investigated are *deja* “already”, *încă* “yet/still”, *doar* “only”, and *decât* “only”. The paper presents evidence from longitudinal corpora of child Romanian that polarity items are generally produced in an adult-like fashion, which points to the children’s awareness of the related licensing conditions. The adult input is analysed in order to assess its relevance for the children’s early knowledge. The tendencies present in the input are, however, not enough for the children to identify the licensing constraints in the absence of negative evidence. This learnability problem might be solved if it is demonstrated that children start from a restrictive licensing hypothesis, governed by the Subset Principle.

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The Acquisition of Epistemic Modality in a Bilingual Context

It is the accepted view in the literature that deontic and dynamic modality is attested early, and epistemic modality somewhat later (Avram 1999, Papafragou 1998). Nevertheless, Cournane (2015) shows that epistemic meanings (lexical modals, etc.) emerge quite early, albeit these first uses qualify propositions about physical events rather than mental states entertained by the child or others. The present paper examines the acquisition path of epistemic modality in the case of three Romanian-Hungarian bilingual children on the basis of longitudinal corpora (ages 1;3-3;6, 1;3-2;8, 4;8-7;6) and narratives (ages 5;7-5;9, 4;1-4;3, 8;10-9;0). The findings are that in Romanian epistemic reasoning is indeed available before the third birthday, although a gradual process of maturation is noticeable between the second and the fourth birthday. A marked difference is observable however between the languages, with the weaker language, Hungarian, lagging behind as regards the acquisition of (epistemic) modality.

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Language Studies

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Two Types of Complement for One Aspectual Verb

From among the class of aspectual verbs, which in (modern) Romanian overwhelmingly select subjunctive complements, argued to be non-phasal, ‘a termina’ is probably the most interesting, in that it prefers supine complements which exhibit restructuring properties (clitic climbing, long passive, unavailable clitic (Agr) and Neg), properties unavailable for subjunctive in Romanian. However, it can also take subjunctive complements – albeit less so than its ‘sisters’. The paper focuses on the syntactic and semantic differences between these two complements

(restructuring and non-restructuring), trying to ascertain whether they are in free alternation or whether the choice of one type of complement is motivated by other (syntactic or semantic) reasons. While there are cases where the two complements do seem to alternate freely, we focus on cases when the choice of a subjunctive over a restructuring supine is motivated syntactically and may also bring about a change in the meaning of the selecting verb, switching its semantics from one of completion to merely cessation. In brief, we argue that the (more marked?) choice of a non-restructuring complement (i.e., the subjunctive) brings along a widening of possibilities: verbs with inherent reflexive clitics, the series-of events reading, unbounded situation types and weak referential object DPs.

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Delimited Events and the in-time Adverbial

The aim of the presentation is to provide an explanation as to why some Hungarian delimited VPs are not compatible with the in-time adverbial. The focus is on VPs of the type *V egyet* 'one.ACC', where an intransitive verb is followed by a non-theta marked Accusative constituent, which takes the direct object position and acts as a situation delimiter. Although, according to the canonical time adverbial test, telic delimited events are compatible with the in-time adverbial, a VP such as *sétáltam egyet két óra alatt* 'walked one.ACC in two hours' is ungrammatical. The explanation lies in the incompatibility between the indefinite quantity, length or duration expressed by the fake object (in this case *egyet* 'one.ACC' gives rise to an interpretation such as 'a walking event of an indefinite length/duration') and the definite length or duration expressed by a time adverbial such as *in two hours*. Further proof of this is that the same VP is compatible with other in-time adverbials where the complement of P denotes an indefinite length or duration; e.g. *ennyi idő alatt* 'in/during this amount of time' or a *rendelkezésemre álló idő alatt* 'during the time at my disposal'.

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Romanian Aspectual Verbs and Restructuring. The Case of *a termina*

According to Grano (2015), there is a cross-linguistic correlation between exhaustive control and restructuring effects. On his analysis, restructuring verbs head a functional projection. Romanian aspectual verbs are verbs of exhaustive control. But Alboiu (2007) explicitly rejects a functional restructuring analysis of obligatory control verbs in this language. She argues, instead, for a movement analysis of control (Hornstein 1999) reminiscent of raising. In this paper I examine the behaviour of Romanian aspectual verbs with a focus on those which describe the end of an activity and which merge with a supine complement (*a înceta* 'cease, stop', *a termina* 'end, stop', *a isprăvi* 'end, stop', *a sfârşi* 'end'). I show that these aspectual verbs are verbs of obligatory control and that they pass several restructuring tests (Rizzi 1982, Wurmbrand 2017), confirming Grano's (2015) correlation. But the Romanian data do not straightforwardly support a functional verb analysis of restructuring predicates nor do they fully reject a movement analysis of control reminiscent of raising.

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On the Similarity between Manner of Speaking Verbs and Factive Verbs

Manner of speaking verbs (*murmur*, *whisper*, *shout*) refer "to intended acts of communication by speech and describing physical characteristics of the speech act" (Zwicky 1971). They have been argued to induce island effects and to ban complementizer omission, two syntactic phenomena which have been correlated in the literature (Erteschik-Shir, 1972; Stowell, 1981; Snyder, 1992). Both properties also hold for another semantic class of verbs, namely factive verbs (*remember*, *regret*, *realize*). However, although manner of speaking verbs behave on a par with factive verbs syntactically, their complement is construed non-factively (Zwicky 1971). This suggests that the similar syntactic behaviour of these two classes of verbs might either not be accounted for in terms of semantics or that the relevant semantic feature is not factivity. In this paper, I argue that the relevant semantic feature which the two classes share is presuppositionality. I evaluate to what extent an analysis of manner of speaking verbs as overt

definite presuppositional verbs (verbs that have an NP layer that selects a CP, Kastner 2015) can account for the above mentioned syntactic properties of manner of speaking verbs and for their similarity with factive verbs.

Mihaela Tănase-Dogaru, University of Bucharest (mihaela.dogaru@gmail.com)

Modern Romanian Negative Polarity Items: the Case of *decât*

One of the recent pet peeves of linguists and non-linguists alike is “decât” “only / but” used in syntactically affirmative sentences of the type: “Am văzut decât un film” “I have only seen a film”, where the affirmative polarity item is felt to be “doar” “only / but”. The present paper does two jobs. First, it inventories the contexts in which “decât” appears with this seemingly ‘affirmative’ meaning and it claims that there are two basic contexts of occurrence: one where the item heads a DP and one where the items appears in sentence-initial position. Second, the paper claims that, contrary to popular belief, “decât” is still a negative polarity item, licensed by a silent negative word / phrase.

Language Teaching and Language Learning

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Creative Use of English, a Way to Raise Interest in ELT?

The purpose of this paper is to look at the creative use of English in other languages. The cases analysed will be those of Bilingual creativity in Russia: English-Russian language play (from the paper written by Rivlina, 2015) and The creative use of English in Japanese punning (from the paper written by Scherling, 2016). In the two papers, the creative use of English refers to the use of Anglicisms in Russian and Japanese. The use of Anglicisms in these two languages can be of special interest from the point of view of psycholinguistics applied to the domain of English Language Teaching. One research question can be related to the fact that Russian and Japanese have a different kind of alphabet from that of English. Does the use of Anglicisms facilitate the access to learning English for Russian and Japanese? How can Anglicisms be used to motivate students to learn English as a foreign language? Has this aspect been explored and used in the classroom until now, and if so, with what results? A hypothesis proposed by this paper is that Anglicisms make English as a foreign language more friendly and familiar.

Lexicography and terminology

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Collaborative Lexicography in Romania: Two Different Approaches

This paper focuses on the concept of collaborative lexicography and the users' role in current lexicographic practice in general and in the Romanian context. The discussion will be centered on two Romanian collaborative projects, i.e. *dexonline* and *123urban.ro*, which illustrate different approaches to user-involvement in dictionary-making, as evidenced by a short survey based on the following criteria: aim and authorship, relationship with official lexicography, lemmata selection, entry structure, content accuracy and reliability. We do not intend to assess the quality of the two projects, but to highlight the principles applied by the volunteers involved in their compilation, and their attitudes towards dictionary-making

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“Dictionarese” or not Really? An Interplay between Neutrality and Idiosyncrasy

Launched in 1999, the online dictionary Urban Dictionary emerged as a satirical dictionary in the tradition of Ambrose Bierce's *The Devil's Dictionary* (1911). However, beyond its satirical intent, this e-dictionary has become a popular reference tool (often consulted by journalists) and a valuable resource for registering contemporary slang (Coleman and Peckham 2014). Taking its cues from previous research (Battenburg 2017), the present paper focuses on the interplay between idiosyncrasy and neutrality in the definitions offered by Urban Dictionary. The aim of this paper is to underline that Urban Dictionary draws in fact on an already existing anthological dimension present in the history of traditional lexicography. Urban Dictionary may be envisaged as a revival of this anthological dimension, which was apparent in eighteenth-century dictionaries such as Samuel Johnson's 1755 text, *The Dictionary of the English Language*, and was subsequently avoided by nineteenth-century scholarly dictionaries such as the OED.

Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis

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The Native Village – A Comparative Analysis of Its Representation in American and Romanian Rural Newspapers

The starting point of this paper is that some of the most important functions that newspapers have are to reproduce the community's values, provide social consensus and reinforce our beliefs and values. Thus, this paper aims to identify in a comparative manner the way in which the rural communities from two different regions (The Appalachian Mountains and the Western Carpathians) are represented in local newspapers. The paper starts from the linguistic strategies used by the journalists in their articles (lexical choices, dialogism, spatial and temporal point of view, type of argumentation) and moves to the values that are associated with the native village.

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Next-mention Biases and the Implicit Causality of Verbs

The knowledge that humans possess about the world is not randomly stored in memory, but is packed into units or scripts, which include information about objects, situations and sequences of situations (Bartlett 1932, Schank and Abelson 1977, Alba and Hasher 1983). In the present study I use a multi-sentence story-continuation task to explore to what extent script knowledge activated by different verb types impacts referential continuity and the structure of events.

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Tourism Discourse, a Path to Writing Worlds

In this paper we attempt to investigate how tourism discourse may contribute to building up an image of the world, more precisely how tourists' narratives may contribute to enriching geographical knowledge. Visitor books of eco-tour owners have been analysed to serve the purpose of our analysis. Essentially, we have used metaphors in tourism discourse to gain insight into the tourists' imagined geographies. The research is grounded in semiotic analysis as a way to understand the role metaphors as iconic indexes play in the indexing experiences of tourists when coming into contact with the elements of natural and cultural landscape. In essence, the underlying purpose of the research is to show that metaphors represent a way to 'bring new things into the world', and to create new cognitions.

Translation and Interpretation Studies

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The Translation of Patient Information Leaflets

Medical translation has always been deemed a significant challenge to translators, since it requires specialized translator training and heightened awareness of all the categories of target readers (patients, experts, students, etc.), with their distinct needs and expectations. In this light, a good example is the translation of patient information leaflets (PILs). In the case of PILs, the difficulty of translation does not necessarily reside in the special terminology, but in the translator's task to address two seemingly opposing objectives: the obligation to be as faithful as possible to the content of the source text and consideration given to aspects of lay-friendliness, since PILs are mainly targeted at patients. This paper aims to discuss a number of extratextual factors related to PILs and their impact on the translation process (e.g. compliance with the Community and the domestic legislation in the field). It will also look into the main challenges faced by the translator, who has to adopt the translation strategies imposed by this special text type, while constantly bearing in mind the needs of the target text readership.

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Collective Nouns in Conference Interpreting

The aim of the present paper is twofold: to present the syntax of Agreement in English and Romanian and to discuss cases that might possibly lead to difficulties in translating and interpreting texts from English to Romanian and vice versa.

'Agreement (or concord) is a relationship of matching or systematic covariation of the features of constituents of a syntactic construct — the constituents are said to agree in ϕ features: N-features (where "N" is a cover for person, number, gender), case (Latin *illarum duarum bonarum feminarum* "of those two good women", with genitive feminine plural marked throughout)' (den Dikken, 2003), or gender in Romanian (*Florile au fost oferite elevilor.* – The flowers were given to the students.).

In English and Romanian, the major agreement controller is the sentence subject, the major agreement targets are verbs and pronouns, and the major agreement category is number.

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