

## EDITORIAL PREFACE

This Volume of the *Belgrade BELLS* is dedicated to the notions of tradition and transformation that represented the central theme around which a number of scholars and researchers gathered together and contributed to at the *5th International Conference English Language and Literature Studies: Tradition and Transformation* organized by and held at the English Department of the University of Belgrade in October 2015. Difficult as it may be to define, *tradition*, primarily understood as cultural continuity in thought, beliefs, attitudes, customs, practices and institutions proved to be an inspiring trigger for more than 130 authors coming from the fields of theoretical and applied linguistics, translatology, literary and cultural studies. Quite naturally, observation of tradition inevitably reveals the existence of *change* and brings it into the picture – *change* seen both as process and result. Hence *transformation* as companion of *tradition* in the theme of the conference.

The first part of the Volume, Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, contains 11 articles from the fields of intercultural pragmatics, cognitive linguistics, construction grammar, second language acquisition and EFL methodology. It opens with **Ranko Bugarski's** review and comparison of the notions of tradition in linguistics and tradition in general, represented through some basic dichotomies, such as tradition vs modernity, oral vs written, authentic vs invented. **Istvan Kecskes** in his article *Idiom Principle in English as a Lingua Franca* steps out of the traditional understanding of *lingua franca* and introduces it as a specific concept in intercultural pragmatic domain, while answering the question of how (and to what extent successfully) non-native speakers find their way around the intricacies of formulaic language use when engaging in interactions in English with no native speakers participating. **Ana Bjelogrić** examines how force interactions (such as ATTRACTION and REPULSION) which include two entities – the Agonist and the Antagonist – are verbally expressed in English, taking into account both physical force and the exertion of force belonging to the abstract domain. Transgressing traditional accounts of the construction type N1 + *of a* + N2, **Jelena Vujić** and **Nenad Miladinović** provide a detailed analysis of it as constructional idiom and carry out a contrastive analysis of the genitive construction in English and Serbian.

**Richard Madsen's** article deals with the difficulties Danish university students face when using relative clauses in English, focusing not only on grammatically incorrect deviations from standard English, but also to stylistic nuances in the usage of English relative clauses. **Ana Tomović, Tamara Aralica** and **Katarina Rasulić** investigate the effects of the change introduced to the once traditional entrance exam to the English Department, by looking at the nature and degree of correlation between the candidates' entrance exam results and their results in the third year Contemporary English Integrated Skills course. Along the similar line, **Ivana Čorbić** presents and analyzes the effects of process writing taught in the traditional classroom and in the new digital environment provided by the Moodle platform, and points in particular to the issues of digital literacy and digital politeness. **Mirjana Vučković** and **Milica Prvulović** challenge the belief that the first choice in multiple choice test is usually the best one. An elaborate description of the simulation technique in teaching ESP has been provided by **Tatjana Marković**, and a thorough comparison of the results achieved by students taught in the traditional way and those who took part in the simulation project carried out by the author. The last two papers in the first section of the volume, although still in the broader domain of applied linguistics, tackle translation issues: **Pavel Dronov** and **Elena Krotova** embark upon a comprehensive analysis of phraseology, wordplay and cultural specificity in Nabokov's *Transparent Things*, and comment on particular translation strategies employed by Nabokov's Russian translator. **Mirjana Daničić**, on the other hand, focuses on pedagogical issues in teaching translation to university students, showing how traditional approach may be transformed and implemented for better output in written translation classes.

The second section of the Volume, Literary Studies, brings 9 articles in which tradition and transformation stand out clearly as motifs: **Milica Spremić** writes about J.R.R. Tolkien's venture into Arthurian literature by composing his *Fall of Arthur*, the unfinished poem based on the Arthurian tradition; **Svetozar Poštić** aligns Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Njegoš's *Mountain Wreath* in order to explore the creation of modern English and Serbian national identities. **Frederic Dumas** is also interested in identity issues, but explores tradition and transformation by looking into the humorous, though nostalgic aspects of Twain's *Roughing It*. **Ksenija Kondali** remains faithful to the idea of gendered identity, and explores it within the context of Jeanette Winterson's novel *The Daylight Gate*,

clearly laying out the transformation of historical novel. **Dipannita Datta**, by looking into the work of a number of women writers in India, explores and depicts a complex picture of transformed traditions in the vast Indian literature of postcolonial period. **Sandra Josipović** follows the transformation of immigrant identity and compares the traditional and contemporary cultural concepts in the translations of Gish Jen's short stories, while **Aleksandra V. Jovanović** and **Aleksandra Batričević** explore the notions of tradition and change in Ackroyd's labyrinthine story of *London: A Concise Biography*. Applying the cognitive *figure-ground* analytical optics along with deixis theory, **Mihai Mindra** investigates the transformation of American Neo-liberal fiction, his illustrative object being Jonathan Franzen's novel *Freedom*. Finally, **Bojana Gledić** in her article focuses on the transformation of Britishness as revealed in her observation of Graham Swift as a postcolonial storyteller.

The selection of articles in this Volume is an attempt to depict and represent the variety of the contributor's research interests and responses to the 'tradition – transformation' challenge. Unfortunately, the limitations of space prevented us from selecting all the articles that were given positive reviews, so we decided to dedicate the next Volume IX (2017) to the same theme, believing that the academic and scholarly public should not be deprived from getting acquainted with the valuable output of our contributors. Looking forward to the 2017 Volume, we present the readers with Volume VIII, hoping that reading it will be as pleasant and satisfying as editing this Volume has been.

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all our contributors without whose work and effort this Volume would not have been possible; to our reviewers who carefully read and commented on the articles; to our colleagues Charles Owen Robertson, Andrijana Bročić and Aleksandra Vukotić who took time to proofread them; the last but not the least, the Faculty of Philology, primarily the former Dean Prof. dr Aleksandra Vraneš for having supported the organization of the *ELLS: Tradition and Transformation Conference* and our present Dean, Prof. dr Ljiljana Marković for having heartily supported the publication of the Volume.

Belgrade, December 2016

Ivana Trbojević Milošević  
Editor of Belgrade Bells, Volume VIII