
INTRODUCTION

The English Department of the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade, marks its 80th anniversary in December 2009 by organizing the international conference *English Language and Literature studies: Image, Identity, Reality* (ELLSIIR) and issuing the first volume of what we believe is going to become yet another standard activity of the Department, a new scholarly journal entitled *Belgrade English Language and Literature Studies* (*Belgrade BELLS*).

The journal is to be published annually in an endeavour to offer an international forum for current investigations in English theoretical and applied linguistics, as well as Anglophone literary and cultural studies, and to intensify the already existing dynamic exchange of ideas among scholars of diverse linguistic and literary orientations.

In the first issue of *Belgrade BELLS*, we are pleased to present fourteen articles by distinguished scholars from Serbia and abroad. We mention with pride that some of these scholars significantly contributed to the academic exchange at the international conferences previously organized by the English Department in Belgrade. Our warmest thanks go undividedly to all *Belgrade BELLS* contributors, whom we mention following the order of the Table of Contents in the first issue.

The *Theoretical and Applied Linguistics* section of this volume consists of the following seven articles: Ronald Langacker (University of California, San Diego, USA) looks into the interrelatedness of spatial and functional aspects of prepositional meaning and argues in favour of the relative primacy of the former over the latter within a broader context of grammar viewed as a product and instrument of embodied cognition. Kasia Jaszczolt (University of Cambridge, UK) examines different default views of utterance interpretation and provides a possible typology of default meanings based on the source of the salient interpretation. Marek Kuźniak (University of Wrocław, Poland) tackles some controversies in the treatment of aspect from the perspective of cognitive linguistics and presents a critical review of Radden and Dirven's account of aspect as situation type. Zoltán Kövecses (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary) reveals the powerful and creative role of metaphors in real discourse, which becomes apparent once metaphors stop being viewed solely as entrenched conceptual correspondences manifested by highly conventionalized linguistic expressions. Snežana

Bilbija (University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina) analyses specific morphological, syntactic and semantic properties of the political discourse produced by the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ranko Bugarski (University of Belgrade, Serbia) presents a brief discussion of the status and use of English in the European Union and the Council of Europe, offers a linguistic profile of 'Euro-English' and assesses the status of native as against non-native English in the European institutions. Anne Katz (Education Design Group, USA) focuses on the fact recently brought to the attention of teaching specialists that assessment and learning can be integrated in the foreign language classroom in such a way as to promote student achievement.

The *Literary and Cultural Studies* section of this volume consists of the following seven articles: Lee Clark Mitchell (Princeton University, USA) explores the path trodden by the reader of great literature, a path that leads from the aesthetic to the ethical and back. Stephen Regan's (University of Durham, UK) topic is autobiography and memoir in modern Irish literature, with its distinctive and specific traits breathing out Irish identity. Writing about Shakespeare's borrowings, Veselin Kostić (University of Belgrade, Serbia) explains and illustrates the principle of imitation (in the sense of *imitatio*, not *mimesis*) that worked throughout and after the Renaissance. Vladislava Gordić Petković (University of Novi Sad, Serbia) chose works of fiction from various epochs to examine the diverse narrative strategies used to represent female characters within a variety of settings. Zoran Paunović (University of Belgrade, Serbia) explores complex metaphorical meanings of food in Joyce's *Ulysses*, thus providing a refined analysis of Leopold Bloom's most intricate feelings. Vesna Lopičić (University of Niš, Serbia) examines the effects of character profiling based on the ethnic stereotype in a globally sold videogame. Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak's (University of Wrocław, Poland) article presents the autobiography of Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins, the author of the first personal and communal narrative written by a Native American woman.

This issue concludes with an extensive interview with David Crystal, renowned professor and linguistic celebrity, conducted by Katarina Rasulić during his visit to the Faculty of Philology, Belgrade in November 2008.

We believe that *Belgrade BELLS* will reflect and contribute to the rich and variable experience of individual and team research by presenting the theoretical and methodological developments in the fields of linguistic, literary and cultural explorations. We sincerely hope that this first volume sparkles up and motivates future contributions.

Belgrade, October 2009

The Editors