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SLJN

NEWSLETTER

no. 47 April 2008

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All materials to be published (reports, reviews, short articles etc.) should be sent to the above address.

## 1. SLIN Conferences and Seminars

The 14th SLIN National Conference will be held at the University of Florence, on 22-24 January 2009 and will deal with "The language of private and public communication in a historical perspective"

Plenary lectures will be delivered by **Laura Wright** and **Ingrid Tiekens-Boon van Ostade**.

Papers on synchronic/diachronic aspects of texts and genres ranging from Old English to Late Modern English will be welcomed.

The following topic areas are recommended:

- public and private correspondence
- media history
- official documentation
- religious texts
- diaries and travelogues
- political speeches and debates

Abstracts for 20-minute presentations should be at least 300 words in length (references excluded).

The deadline for proposals is **30 May 2008**. Acceptance of proposals can be expected by 15 July 2008.

The abstracts should be sent as email attachments to the following three addresses:

Prof. Gabriella Del Lungo <[gabriella.dellungo@unifi.it](mailto:gabriella.dellungo@unifi.it)>

Prof. Nicholas Brownlees <[nicholas.brownlees@unifi.it](mailto:nicholas.brownlees@unifi.it)>

Prof. John Denton <[jdenton58@hotmail.com](mailto:jdenton58@hotmail.com)>

Selected papers from the conference will be published.

Further information is available at the SLIN 14 website: [www.slin14.info](http://www.slin14.info)

## 2. HEL and other (English) linguistics conferences and seminars

### *New entries*

§ **ICOME 6** (6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Middle English) is going to be hosted by the University of Cambridge on **22-24 July, 2008**. The website of the conference providing any information needed can be consulted at [www.english.cam.ac.uk/icom6/](http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/icom6/)

Early booking ensures accommodation at Clare College, Cambridge.

§§ **Isle 1** (First Bi-ennial Conference of the International Society for the Linguistics of English) will be held at the University of Freiburg, Germany, on 8-11 October, 2008.

The title is **“The Linguistics of English: Setting the Agenda”**.

- e-mail: [isle2008@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:isle2008@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de)
- homepage: <http://www.isle2008.uni-freiburg.de>
- fax: +49+761-203-3367
- post: ISLE 2008  
Englisches Seminar  
Universität Freiburg  
D-79085 Freiburg  
Germany

## 1. Abstracts for papers and posters: the reviewing process

We are gratified that our calls for thematic workshops and individual papers and posters met with an enthusiastic response from the community, so that – by the time the deadline came round – we had received a total of more than 270 proposals for papers, practically all of them relevant to the conference themes and most promising high quality. The local organising committee, in consultation with the ISLE executive, has reviewed all submissions. Where a particular contribution was submitted as a paper proposal but seemed suitable to the poster format, we have invited people to change their format. A list of all papers and posters accepted for presentation will be available on the conference web-page by the end of February at the latest. (All those who have submitted an abstract have of course been notified individually.)

As for communication with participants in the individual workshops and thematic sessions, this is still mainly through the respective guest convenors at the moment, but we hope to establish individual links with all conference participants in due course.

In spite of our best efforts, we regret that we have not been able to accommodate all submissions. We do sincerely hope that those colleagues concerned will not stay away from the conference or, even worse, withdraw from ISLE, one of the most promising new professional associations in the field, which is going to be formally constituted in its first business meeting.

## 2. Travel and accommodation

To accommodate as many contributions as possible we have added two sessions to the originally envisaged three and re-designated Wednesday, 8 October, as a regular working day. This means that, if at all possible, we would encourage you to arrive and register on Tuesday, 7 October, in the afternoon or early evening.

We have pre-booked a sizable number of rooms in the hotels listed below, which are available at preferential rates to ISLE participants. The rooms will be held until 31 March 2008 and be provided on a first-come first-served basis. If you want to make use of this offer, please contact the central booking desk, indicating that you are an ISLE-participant, by

**phone: 0049-761-30807**

**fax: 0049-761-37874**

**e-mail: [info@uni-hotels.de](mailto:info@uni-hotels.de), or**

**visit [www.uni-hotels.de](http://www.uni-hotels.de).**

Hotel Barbara\*\*\* single room € 69, double room € 98  
(if used as a single: € 79)

Hotel am Stadtgarten\*\*\* single room € 79,  
if used as a double room € 98

Stadthotel Freiburg Kolping single room € 79, double room € 98

Intercity Hotel\*\*\* single room € 85,  
if used as a double room € 102

Central Hotel\*\*\*\* single room € 89,  
if used as a double room € 124

Hotel Oberkirch\*\*\*\* single room € 69, double room € 124

Park Hotel Post\*\*\*\* single room € 89,  
if used as a double room € 124

Hotel Rheingold\*\*\*\* single room € 89,  
is used as a double room € 124

These hotels are all located within walking distance (5-10 minutes) of the conference venue.

If you prefer to make your **own arrangements**, you can call **0049-761-88581-145** or consult [www.freiburg-tourist.de](http://www.freiburg-tourist.de).

For students and others operating on a tight budget a limited number of rooms (double, can be shared) is available in a sports facility ca. 5 km from the centre of Freiburg (but well-connected by public transport). Please let [isle2008@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:isle2008@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de) know if you are interested.

### **Registration**

By 30 April we would like to have your definitive registrations, so as to make it easier for us to plan the further logistics of the conference. (Late registration is possible but will involve a higher fee.)

If you have pre-registered already, you confirm your registration by transferring the conference fee to the conference account, giving under "intended purpose" your name and "ISLE 2008." Participants who have not provided pre-registration information yet are asked to do so, using the form provided on the conference web-page.

### **Conference account:**

Account holder: Prof. Christian Mair  
Account number: 046023861  
Sort code: 680 700 24 (Deutsche Bank Freiburg)

For international transfers use:

IBAN: DE78 680 700 240 0460238 61  
BIC SWIFT: DEUT DE DBFRE

Please avoid sending cheques. We regret that credit card facilities are not available.

**Conference fee:**

The basic conference fee is € 70,- (€ 35,- for students with proof of I.D.).

Add € 40,- per person to this amount if you wish to book the conference dinner, to take place on Friday 10 October. Capacity for this event is limited to 200 places, which will be filled on a first-come first-served basis.

Add € 50,- per person if you want to secure a place on the post-conference trip on Saturday afternoon. This will take us from Freiburg across the river Rhine into the neighbouring French Alsace region, known both for its impressive historic monuments and its unique tradition in food and wine.

NB: Workshop convenors are asked to make sure that participants in "their" events register in time, as we do not have the relevant contact details in all cases. From 1 May 2008 late registration will be possible – at a rate of € 100,- – until the available capacity of ca. 350 participants is filled.

**If you have further or more specific questions concerning any of the above or ISLE 1 in general, please do not hesitate to contact either Bernd Kortmann or Christian Mair directly. The two of us and the entire local organising committee are very much looking forward to welcoming you in Freiburg in October.**

**Bernd Kortmann    Christian Mair**  
(bernd.kortmann@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de)  
(christian.mair@anglistik.uni-freiburg.de).

*Reminders and updatings*

**§ CIL 18: The 18th International Congress of Linguists**

The 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Linguists will be held **from July 21 through 26, 2008, at Korea University, Seoul, Korea**. Those who are interested in submitting abstract to the Parallel Sessions, Workshops, and/or General Sessions are invited to apply. You may refer to the following description and directions.

Ik-Hwan Lee, Chai-song Hong  
Co-Chairs, CIL18 Organizing Committee  
Jong-Yurl Yoon  
Chair, CIL18 Program Committee

For more information, please visit our website (<http://cil18.org>).

**§§ ICEHL (International Conference on English Historical Linguistics)  
15, 24 – 30 August 2008**

will take place at the **University of Munich, Germany**.

By now, the organisation of the conference is well under way.

**Programme**

⇒ **General programme** (Monday, 25 – Thursday, 28 August 2008): A large number of high quality abstracts have been accepted for presentation in the general programme (for details on the time slots, see

⇒ **Plenary lectures** (Monday, 25 – Thursday, 28 August 2008): We are particularly pleased that the following scholars have agreed to give plenary lectures:

**Marina Dossena**, Bergamo: "Dialect and Vernacular Forms in Late Modern English"

**Philip Durkin**, Oxford: "Etymology and the OED: Problems and Solutions"

**Teresa Fanego**, Santiago de Compostela: "Diachrony and Usage: English Verbs of Manner of Motion"

**Thomas Kohnen**, Cologne: "Historical Text Linguistics: Investigating Language Change in Texts and Genres"

⇒ **Workshops** (Friday, 29 August 2008): There will be six workshops on a wide variety of topics. For details on the workshops, which are open to all delegates, see [www.icehl.de/workshops](http://www.icehl.de/workshops); the workshop convenors are fully responsible for the respective programmes.

### Sessions

There will be four or five parallel sessions for the general programme, and six parallel sessions for the six workshops on Friday.

### Equipment

All conference rooms are equipped with a beamer, an OHP and a white/blackboard. Please ensure that you have a sufficient number of handouts for your paper. There are plenty of copy-shops in the university area.

## 2. **Social Programme**

Apart from the conference warming reception (Sunday) and conference dinner (Thursday), there will be receptions, tours of the city, half-day excursions on Wednesday afternoon and a full-day and a half-day excursion on Saturday. For details, see our website and the registration form.

## 3. **Accommodation**

We strongly advise you **to book accommodation as soon as possible**, in particular if you are planning to stay until the very end of the conference (for details and recommendations, see [www.icehl.de/accommodation](http://www.icehl.de/accommodation)). Munich is busy at all times of the year, but particularly busy in August.

## 4. **Registration and Fees**

For regular participants the **conference fee** is € 120,00 (and € 160,00 for late registration after 1 July 2008). For students it is € 60,00 (late registration after 1 July: € 80,00).

Apart from access to all presentations and the book exhibit, this fee covers the conference pack, the book of abstracts, coffee breaks, and the conference receptions. We strongly ask you to pay the bill by bank transfer, as we have to charge an extra of 5 % handling costs for credit payments.

All cancellations should be notified in writing not later than 1 August 2008. In any case, a cancellation fee of € 30,00 will be charged. Reimbursements will be by bank transfer after the Conference closure.



## Excursions

### Excursions on Wednesday (27 August) afternoon

#### 1. Monastery and Beer Garden Andechs

(bus and/or hiking trip 13.00 - ca. 20.00; max. 30 participants)

Located on the Holy Mountain above the eastern shore of Lake, the Benedictine monastery of Andechs has been - with its brewery, beer garden, monastery restaurant, and not least its rich cultural offerings - a cherished destination for pilgrims (not only beer pilgrims!) for more than half a millennium (<http://www.andechs.de>).

We take the fast train (public transport) from Munich to Herrsching and then a bus will take you directly to the Holy Mountain or - if you prefer some exercise - you may join us for an about 1 (1/2) hour walk through the beautiful Kiental valley to the Holy Mountain. Although you don't need to be a trained mountaineer to manage the walk, you should bring walking shoes and rain wear. For all participants, there is a guided tour through the chapel and church at 16.00, followed by socializing in the beer garden or Brewery Restaurant.

Guide: *Ursula Lenker*

Cost: € 16 (food and drinks not included)

#### 2. Burghausen

(bus trip)

Burghausen is a small town with a large castle, overlooking the river Salzach, which forms the border between Germany and Austria. On the way back we will visit Altoetting, the most famous shrine in Bavaria. Departure (university): 13:00h  
After arriving in Burghausen (ca. 15:15h), we will cross both the river

and the border to Austria and go up the hill to the vista point to catch a glimpse of the castle's full length. After that you will have the opportunity of enjoying a cup of coffee in Burghausen's historical town centre. At approximately 16:30h a guided tour (in English) of the medieval castle (the longest castle in Germany) will follow (ca. 60 minutes).

We will leave the castle at 17:45h and go to Altoetting, the most famous pilgrimage site in Bavaria. There you will have the opportunity of visiting the shrine and walking around the centre.

A typical Bavarian Dinner will be served in the famous "Hotel zur Post" directly at "Kapellplatz". You can choose between roast pork and bread dumplings or a vegetarian dish.

Departure is around: 20:15h.

Arrival in Munich is approximately at 22:00h.

Burghausen:

<http://tourismus.burghausen.de/content/index.cfm/fuseaction/9.dsp.0.1.0.0.0.0.Sehenswuerdigkeiten-der-Stadt-Burghausen-Hauptseite.html>

Altoetting: <http://www.altoetting.de/>

Guide: *Gaby Waxenberger*

Cost: € 41,00 (dinner included)

#### 3. Freising

(bus trip 13.00 - ca. 20.30)

The picturesque city of Freising - its foundations date back to the Bronze Age - is located about an hour north of Munich. The diocesan town is among the oldest cities in Southern Germany and famous not only for its Cathedral but also for the Weihenstephan brewery, the oldest brewery in the world. But these are not the only sights of cultural and historical significance that Freising has to offer (see also <http://www.freising.de>).

The bus will take us from the university directly to the Weihenstephan

brewery, where we will take part in a one-hour guided tour through the world's oldest brewery (<http://www.brauerei-weihenstephan.de/>). Our next stop will be the magnificent cathedral library on the Domberg of Freising, whose foundations go back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century (<http://www.wzw.tum.de/dombibliothek/>). Finally, we will visit the cathedral itself (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freising>), before we return to the Weihenstephan Brewery to have dinner in a typical Bavarian restaurant.

Guide: *Robert Mailhammer*

**Cost: € 33,00 (food and drinks not included)**

#### **4. Ingolstadt**

(bus trip; 13.00 – ca. 20.00)

Ingolstadt (about an hour north of Munich, on the Danube) is a historic town with town wall, minster, medieval castles and 19th century fortifications. Munich university originated in Ingolstadt in 1472; the most famous (fictitious) student was probably Frankenstein; the baroque anatomy building now houses a museum. But Ingolstadt also has a more modern side to it: It is the home of *Audi*, and it is the home town of Hans Sauer.

<http://www2.ingolstadt.de/>

Guide: *Hans Sauer*

**Cost: € 43,00 (dinner included)**

### **5. Munich: Pinakothek der Moderne**

(guided tour; 14.00 (!) – ca. 15.30)

With four major museums presenting art, works on paper, architecture and design under one roof, the Pinakothek der Moderne is one of the world's greatest collections of 20th and 21st century art.

<http://www.pinakothek.de/pinakothek-der-moderne/>

Guide: *Ulrike Krischke*

**Cost: € 14,00**

### **6. Munich: Nymphenburg Castle**

(13.00 – ca. 18.00)

On this trip you can experience Munich's famous baroque castle, *Nymphenburg Palace*. The palace and the pavilions situated in the royal park constitute the former summer residence of the Bavarian dukes and kings. We show you the treasures of the Wittelsbach family, who ruled Bavaria for more than 700 years. One of the highlights on our guided tour of the castle is the renowned 'gallery of beauties' of King Ludwig I. In addition, we pay a visit to the *Marstall-Museum* with its array of state coaches and sleighs before we take a stroll through the royal gardens on our way to the royal park buildings; *Amalien-, Baden- and Pagodenburg* form the group of three impressive pavilions intended for banquets, meditation and retreat. After the tour you are invited to take a walk in the gardens of *Nymphenburg Palace* or join in a cup of coffee at the *Palmenhaus*.

<http://www.schloesser.bayern.de/>

Guide: *Wolfgang Mager*

**Cost: € 15,00 (food and drinks not included)**

## Excursions on Saturday (30 August)

### **1. Salzburg**

(bus trip: 8.00 – ca. 22.00)

Salzburg is magnificently situated on a river between the mountains. It boasts a continuous tradition since prehistoric times. It was settled by Celts and occupied by the Romans; it had an early Christian community and is one of the oldest episcopal sees in the German-speaking countries - it also has the oldest pub/restaurant (Peterskeller, ca. 800 A.D.). It is full of medieval and baroque monuments, with the fortress Hohensalzburg overlooking the city. Nowadays, Salzburg is thriving on the fame of its best-known son, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and on the Salzburg festival. We shall explore some of the more important sites, and, of course, also have lunch and a light supper.

<http://www.salzburg.info/>

Guide: *Hans Sauer (and others)*

**Cost: € 70,00 (lunch and a light supper included)**

2. Munich: Nymphenburg castle

(9.00 – ca. 14.00; for description, see Wednesday no.6)

**Hans Sauer, Ursula Lenker, and the organizing committee**

§§§ The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea will be held at the University of Bologna at Forlì, Italy, from 17th to 20th September 2008.

The Meeting will be devoted to *Languages in Contrast. Grammar, Translation, Corpora*. Issues to be addressed during the meeting include but are not limited to: - new perspectives on grammatical description;

comparative and contrastive lexico-grammar, with special attention paid to the languages of Europe involved in the process of translation. - methodological and theoretical reflections on translation (both aimed to improve translation practices and to shed light on the structure and functioning of the languages involved). - corpus tools and methodologies at the service of both linguistic description and translation.

### **INVITED SPEAKERS:**

**Enrique Bernandez, Madrid**

**Pier Marco Bertinetto, Pisa**

**Bernard Comrie, Leipzig**

**Gaston Gross, Paris XIII**

**Barbara Lewandowska, Lodz**

### **GENERAL SESSIONS: ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

Abstracts are solicited for 20-minute oral presentations to be presented in parallel sessions (followed by ten minutes for discussion) and for poster presentations.

### **ABSTRACT SPECIFICATIONS**

All abstracts should be maximum 500 words (about one page) in English, including references, and they should specify research question(s), approach/method/data, and (expected) results. Each proposal will be reviewed anonymously. Notifications of the Scientific Committee's decisions will be sent out by **30<sup>th</sup> April 2008**. Submissions will be made electronically. The body of your email message should contain the following information: - author name(s) - affiliation(s) - full

mailing address - telephone number - fax number - email address - title of presentation - three keywords - language of the oral presentation - presenter(s) name (person/s who will be making the presentation) Preferred format: a) oral presentation b) poster c) preference for oral presentation but willing to do a poster (time slots for spoken presentations may be limited). For further information look into: <http://sle2008.sitlec.unibo.it>.

### 3. Bibliographical information

#### § Raymond Hickey

##### *Irish English. History and Present-Day Forms*

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Series: Studies in English Language

Published November 2007

#### **Hardback**

English has been spoken in Ireland for over 800 years, making Irish English the oldest variety of the language outside Britain. This book traces the development of English in Ireland, both north and south, from the late middle ages to the present day. Drawing on authentic data ranging from medieval literature to authentic contemporary examples, it reveals how Irish English arose, how it has developed, and how it continues to change. A variety of central issues are considered in detail, such as the nature of language contact and the shift from Irish to English, the sociolinguistically-motivated changes in present-day Dublin English, the special features of Ulster Scots, and the transportation of Irish English to overseas locations as diverse as Canada, the United States, and Australia. Presenting a comprehensive survey of Irish English at all levels of linguistics, this book will be invaluable to historical linguists, sociolinguists, syntacticians and phonologists alike.

CONTENTS: 1. Introduction; 2. History I: The coming of the English; 3. History II: The settlement of Ulster; 4. The emergence of Irish English; 5. Present-day Irish English; 6. Transportation overseas; 7. Appendixes.

§§ Peter Beale

*A Dictionary of English Manuscript Terminology 1450 to 2000*

Oxford: Oxford University Press

Published December 2007

**Hardback**

This is the first *Dictionary of English Manuscript Terminology* ever to be published. Dealing with the subject of documentation - which affects everyone's lives (from every-day letters, notes, and shopping lists to far-reaching legal instruments, if not autograph literary masterpieces) - Peter Beal defines, in a lively and accessible style, some 1,500 terms relating to manuscripts and their production and use in Britain from 1450 to the present day. The entries, which range in length from one line to nearly a hundred lines each, cover terms defining types of manuscript, their physical features and materials, writing implements, writing surfaces, scribes and other writing agents, scripts, postal markings, and seals, as well as subjects relating to literature, bibliography, archives, palaeography, the editing and printing of manuscripts, dating, conservation, and such fields as cartography, commerce, heraldry, law, and military and naval matters. The book includes 96 illustrations showing many of the features described.

CONTENTS: Preface; Acknowledgements; Illustrations; A Dictionary of English Manuscript Terminology 1450-2000; Select Bibliography.

§§§ Edgar W. Schneider

*Postcolonial English*

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Published 2007

**Hardback**

The global spread of English has resulted in the emergence of a diverse range of postcolonial varieties around the world. Postcolonial English provides a clear and original account of the evolution of these varieties, exploring the historical, social and ecological factors that have shaped all levels of their structure. It argues that while these Englishes have developed new and unique properties which differ greatly from one location to another, their spread and diversification can in fact be explained by a single underlying process, which builds upon the constant relationships and communication needs of the colonizers, the colonized, and other parties. Outlining the stages and characteristics of this process, it applies them in detail to English in sixteen different countries across all continents as well as, in a separate chapter, to a history of American English.

Of key interest to sociolinguists, dialectologists, historical linguists and syntacticians alike, this book provides a fascinating new picture of the growth and evolution of English around the globe.

CONTENTS: 1. Introduction; 2. Charting the territory: Postcolonial English as a field of linguistic investigation; 3. The evolution of postcolonial English: The dynamic model; 4. Linguistic aspects of nativization; 5. Countries along the cycle: Case studies; 6. The cycle in hindsight: The emergence of American English; 7. Conclusion.

§§§§ Jeremy Smith

*Sound Change and the History of English*

Oxford: Oxford University Press

Published: June 2007

**Paperback**

This book addresses the question: why do sound changes happen when and where they do? Jeremy Smith discusses the origins of a series of sound changes in English. He relates his arguments to larger questions about the nature of explanation in history and historical linguistics, and examines the interplay between sound change and social change. Drawing on the latest research in the linguistics and history he shows how insights in one field illuminate the other. After the opening chapter describing the book's approach and a general theoretical framework for the study of sound change, the author discusses problems of evidence and considers the nature of phonological processes. He then presents detailed investigations of major sound-changes from three transitional periods: first, when English emerged as a language distinct from the other West Germanic varieties; secondly, during the transition from Old to Middle English; and thirdly during the time when Middle English evolved into Early Modern English. The book is written with minimal use of jargon and offers clear definitions of complex notions. It will appeal to all serious students of English historical linguistics, from advanced undergraduate to researcher.

§§§§§ Edited by David Graddol, Dick Leith, Joan Swann, Martin Rhys, Julia Gillen

*Changing English*

Routledge

Published: November 2007

**Paperback**

Changing English examines the history of English from its origins in the fifth century to the present day. It focuses on the radical changes that have taken place in the structure of English over a millennium and a half, detailing the influences of migration, colonialism and many other historical, social and cultural phenomena. Expert authors illustrate and analyze dialects, accents and the shifting styles of individual speakers as they respond to changing circumstances. The reader is introduced to many key debates relating to the English language, illustrated by specific examples of data in context.

Including key material retained from the earlier bestselling book, *English: History, Diversity and Change*, this new book has been thoroughly reorganised and updated with entirely new material. *Changing English*: explains basic concepts, easily located through a comprehensive index; includes contributions by experts in the field, such as David Crystal, David Graddol, Dick Leith, Lynda Mugglestone and Joan Swann; contains a range of source material and commissioned readings to supplement chapters.

§§§§§§§§ Maria Jose Esteve Ramos

*English Medical Vocabulary in Ophthalmology. A Historical Review*

Series: LINCOM Studies in English Linguistics 13

Published: 2008

Publisher: Lincom GmbH: <http://www.lincom.eu>

**Paperback**

The study of scientific language and literature has been a major trend within the wider field of English studies, and a lot of research has focused on the study of its lexicon in each period from a synchronic perspective.

However, a diachronic review of a specific field of science had only been undertaken in specific periods of the language, and not much attention had been paid to the evolution of a subspecialty from its early origin to our present day use. This work attempts a study of the lexicon referred to anatomy and disease terms from a morphological and etymological point of view. Results suggest that the presence of the native lexicon may be higher than expected, and that the language of ophthalmology presents its own characteristics since as early as Old English, defining the specialised area with a terminology of its own, a version of what is nowadays called ESP. Seven texts, each of them belonging to the main periods of the language, have been selected in order to extract the data. Interesting conclusions regarding the composition of medical vocabulary prove that the historical perspective enhances and implements the modern idea of the Latinate predominance in this area.

§§§§§§§§§§ Axel Hübler

*The Nonverbal Shift in Early Modern English Conversation*

Pragmatics & Beyond New Series 154

Published 2007

**Hardback**

This is the first historical investigation on the nonverbal component of conversation. In the courtly society of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century England, it is argued that a drift appeared toward an increased use of prosodic means of expression at the expense of gestural means. Direct evidence is provided by courtesy books and personal documents of the time, indirect evidence by developments in the English lexicon. The rationale of the argument is cognitively grounded; given the integral role of gestures in thinking-for-speaking, it rests on an isomorphism between gestural and prosodic behavior that is established semiotically and elaborated by insights from neurocognitive frequency theory and task dynamics. The proposal is rounded off by an illustration from present-day conversational data and the proof of its adaptability to current theories of language change. The cross-disciplinary approach addresses all those interested in (historical) pragmatics, cognitive linguistics, cultural semantics, semiotics, or language change.

CONTENTS: Introduction; Subjecting the body to control; Are gestures dispensable?; The touchstone of real life; Words for gestures?; Turning to the vocal mode; Pieces of historical evidence for a prosodic turn; Repercussions of the prosodic turn in the lexicon; Prince and petit bourgeois: A virtual picture; Recast into a conjectural history of modal change; Bibliography; Author index; Subject index.

§§§§§§§§ **Silta 2008**

To wade through all the literature that has been produced about the English language since its global prominence has quite truly become a cumbersome task. In relief comes *Linguistica Inglese: studi recenti e prospettive di ricerca*, the latest issue of the scholarly journal *SILTA* (*Studi Italiani di Linguistica Teorica e Applicata*, anno XXXVII, 2008, fasc. 1).

Edited by Giovanni Iamartino, this volume means to aid scholars and researchers by outlining the state of the art in the last 10-15 years' work in the field of English Linguistics. Indeed, after the editor's introduction, there follow twelve chapters dedicated to the diverse and fundamental areas of the discipline, each managed by some of their experts. More precisely, Phonetics and Phonology by C. Gagliardi, Morphology by A. Bertacca, Syntax by C. Broccias, Lexis by S. Nuccorini and L. Pinnavaia, Semantics and Pragmatics by M. Bertuccelli Papi and A. Baicchi, Text Linguistics and Discourse Analysis by S. Bruti and L. Merlini Barbaresi, the Varieties of English by M.L. Maggioni and P. Tornaghi, English for Special Purposes by G. Cortese and M. Solly, Historical Linguistics by M. Dossena and R. Dury, Corpus Linguistics by E. Tognini Bonelli, S. Cacchiani and G. Diani, Translation Studies by M. Ulrych and S. Anselmi, and lastly, English as a Foreign Language by L. Pedrazzini.

Each chapter features an introductory section in which the conceptual and main bibliographical cornerstones of the subject are delivered, a second section records the most significant bibliographical production both in Anglo-Saxon countries and in Italy, a third section presents the main periodicals, scientific associations and conferences attached to each area of the discipline, while a concluding section puts forward possible new lines of research.

In this way the volume is most suited to a scholarly readership whose objectives and interests may differ accordingly. To specialists, this book will provide the motivation and most recent bibliographical information for new researches in their area of the discipline, while providing new data on those less known. Graduate, PhD and postgraduate students will

find the essential theoretical grounding and bibliographical references necessary for the accomplishment of their linguistic studies. Teachers and trainee teachers will undoubtedly benefit from the theoretical and bibliographical information when preparing lesson plans.

Readers of the *SLIN* Newsletter will be able to purchase the volume at a slightly discounted price by filling in the accompanying form and sending it to the Publisher.