

PREFACE

A discipline is founded on systems of metaphors, created as knowledge bases by scholars within that discipline. These knowledge bases are then used as important tools to understand our society and world. Unfortunately, however, those knowledge bases, founded on systems of *metaphors* or technical terms uniquely defined within a discipline, are extremely stubborn, often preventing scholars from communicating with those from other disciplines. The belief that 'something should be done about these unfortunate situations started *Workshop 2000: Language, Text and Culture*, held on 3-4 February, 2000, at the University of Sydney. This small workshop, begun with just 24 participants in 2000, grew into an international one in 2002, when 60 participants got together in Sydney. In 2004, more than 70 scholars turned up in the workshop (*Workshop 2004: Language and Culture*) from eight different countries.

The organizing committee of the workshop, which named itself the *Sydney Network of Language and Culture* (SYNLAC) in 2003, has always made one important request to workshop leaders in leading their workshop, namely, to give a workshop in plain English, keeping technical terms to an absolute minimum. This is to ensure that workshop presenters can communicate with audiences from different disciplinary areas.

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The organizers of *Workshop 2004* selected 'Expression, Identity and Society' for its global theme. Taking into account that society creates, maintains, and modifies identities by expressions in many forms, e.g., written texts, pictures and architectures, SYNLAB thought that the relationship between expression, identity and society was a timely topic for discussion in the increasingly globalised world. *Workshop 2004* thus was programmed so that it could provide an interdisciplinary forum to discuss relationships between expression, identity and society. In this successful forum, 32 workshops were presented. The present issue of *Ilha do Desterro* selected six papers from those presentations.

The papers in this issue will navigate readers in this way: The first is Nanri's paper entitled 'the rhetorical organization and identity of Japanese editorial writers,' which explores the relationship between a group of elite journalists and their rhetorical patterns in Japan. The paper examines how senior newspaper journalists called *ronsetu iin* (editorial board members) presented and commented on an international crisis, demonstrates how innocuous editorials (which are supposed to be written by them) are, and argues that the innocuousness is caused by (not the journalistic but) the political identity of those senior 'journalists.' The second is the paper authored by Zhongwei Song, entitled 'ideological changes identified in and through linguistic expressions: what should stand for Korea in Chinese, *chaoxian* or *hanguo*?,' which brings us to a linguistic discussion between ideology and economy. This paper traces the history of reference to South and North Korea in China, and demonstrates that the wane and wax of the socialist ideology in China, which has been increasingly becoming market-oriented, determines how South and North Korea should be referred to in Chinese.

Henri Jeanjean's, the next paper, entitled 'language(s) and identity(ies) in French society,' presents a critical and detailed account of the relationship between the central government and regional languages in modern France. France is often assumed to be mono-lingual and mono-cultural. Henri's paper convincingly demonstrates that this assumption is nothing but a myth. The fourth paper is Seiko Yasumoto's

'the representation of women in Japanese written media.' It reports on how one of Japan's established and liberal magazines, *AERA*, represents 'women in Japanese society in relation to men with respect to the use of language.' One of the findings of the paper, the continued description of women subservient to men, gives an insight into the understanding of the ideology of media elite in Japanese society.

Approaching the workshop theme from quite a different perspective, the fifth paper, by Valentyna Skybina, carries out a daunting task, namely, construction of a model of lexical enrichment that accounts for linguistic variation within a language system. Her pains-taking effort to identify the process of lexical enrichment, which appears to be compatible with Tulvin's theory of memory, could be a breakthrough to our understanding of the working of our memory and the foundation of linguistic identity. In the last paper, "Echoes from teacher discourse: an inside-out perspective", Dellagnelo & Meurer analyse self-evaluative reports written by 4 Brazilian teacher-trainees in terms of how these trainees represent themselves and their students in classroom context. Drawing on the experiential grammar of systemic functional theory, the study suggests that the construal of teachers' and students' roles in the reports reveals teacher/student asymmetries and role relationships 'shaped by conceptions traditionally established by a culture of schooling which maintains the emphasis of teaching on the transmission of knowledge' rather than on joint projects of learning and teaching.

The present issue of *Ilha Do Desterro* also presents two book reviews. Paul Y. Cheung's review of '*Coagulated rhythm: the theoretical framework and aesthetic interpretation of Naxi musical iconography*' invites readers to the world of *dongba*, the script system used by the Naxi, 'one of 55 ethnolinguistic groupings in the People's Republic of China.' Lola Aronovich reviews '*Latin American Shakespeares*.' Seventeen essays in this book present a concise showcase of how Shakespeare has been studied and domesticated in Brazil.

What is important for us, members of SYNLAC, after the exploration of the relationship between expression, identity and society in this way is this: are readers navigated from one area of study to another

smoothly, following those authors' theories and arguments? In short, have we succeeded in, at least partially, breaking the stubbornness of *metaphors*? Oh, well. We cannot answer this question, but readers can.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the contributors, the anonymous reviewers and the editor-in-chief of *Ilha do Desterro*, Associate Professor Anelise Courseuil, for giving us an opportunity to publish papers presented at our workshop.

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