



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA

PGR Symposium Programme 2012

**Thursday 17th May 2012
9am to 4.15pm – Room A46, Trent**

AND

**Friday 18th May 2012
9am to 6pm – Room A46, Trent**

Thursday 17th May 2012
9am to 4.15pm – Room A46 Trent

9.00am – WELCOME

9.15am Session One – Chair – Teva Vidal

Eleanor Rye

Title: Medieval minor names and dialect in the Wirral.

Abstract: My research examines the linguistic impact of Scandinavian settlement in areas of England, principally by looking at the minor names (for instance, field names) of these areas. This presentation will first introduce the material I use and how I work with it. I will then discuss what the results of my investigation of the medieval minor names of the Wirral (Cheshire) might reveal about Scandinavian settlement in the region.

Graham Collis

Title: Saxon and Anglo-Saxon Settlement in the Pas-de-Calais. The Place-name evidence.

Abstract: The settlement history of North-western Europe in the so-called Dark Ages (or Migration Period) is still unclear despite much academic work to establish a pattern of events and movements. Amongst the movements mentioned in historical and archaeological sources are those of Saxons and Anglo-Saxons. I am examining the place-name evidence (in particular) in respect of the Pas-de-Calais.

Elizaveta Matveeva

Title: The problem of genre in *Hrólfs saga kraka* and related texts.

Abstract: The purpose of the paper is to examine the surviving sources of *Hrólfs saga kraka*, a late *foraldarsaga* that has roots in a long literary tradition and goes back to early Scandinavian heroic poetry. A hypothetical outline of the lost sources of the text will be given, observing the Skjöldung legendary tradition from the literary-historical point of view and revealing the *foraldarsaga* patterns of treating the old legendary material. This way, this work aims to examine the peculiar *foraldarsaga* type that we find in *Hrólfs saga kraka*, analyze its genre and its patterns of treating the older tradition.

10.30am – COFFEE BREAK

11.00am Session Two – Chair – Sam Haddow

Ed Downey

Title: Loyalist Visual Media in the 1790s.

Abstract: This paper will examine loyalist visual media produced during the 1790s. Visual propaganda was a key site of ideological contest in the aftermath of the French revolution. It is very difficult to fully appreciate the literature of this period without also enquiring into this form of cultural expression. This paper will attempt to give a brief overview of the sustained and varied use of counterrevolutionary prints, cartoons and caricatures at the close of the 18th century.

Paul Whickman

Title: 1817: A Bad Year to be a 'Blasphemer'.

Abstract: This paper has two main aims. Firstly, it emphasises the importance of 1817 in a study of both Romantic period print history and print history in general. 1817, for instance, was the year of the pirating of Robert Southey's *Wat Tyler*. The resulting court case set the precedent that copyright could not be granted to seditious or blasphemous texts. 1817 was also the year in which the bookseller and writer William Hone faced trial for blasphemy and Percy Shelley lost custody of his children due to the 'blasphemy' of his 1813 poem *Queen Mab*.

This paper then offers a reading of Shelley's poem *Laon and Cythna*, a poem which was suppressed due to blasphemy and hastily revised for publication. The paper also considers Shelley's possible motivations for writing such a poem in light of the situation of 1817.

Laura Nixon

Title: Dutiful or deviant: representations of womanhood in Carmen Sylva's *Shadows on Love's Dial* (1895).

Abstract: Despite her celebrity status and diverse body of work, Carmen Sylva (1843-1916) has largely gone unnoticed within contemporary criticism. Yet her work, frequently translated and published within Britain, allowed her to contribute to the increasingly debated issue of the woman's role within society. Using examples from her collection of short stories, *Shadows on Love's Dial*, this paper will examine Sylva's depictions of womanhood, to argue that in considering these aspects of her work, we gain insight not only into *fin de siècle* women's writing, but also into the development of British literary culture.

12.15pm – LUNCH

1.15pm Session Three – Chair – Joe Anderton

Soudabeh Ananisarab

Title: The Malvern Theatre Festival.

Abstract: My thesis explores the development of the Malvern Theatre Festival, a major European theatrical event of the interwar years, and its connection to George Bernard Shaw. This year, my research has predominantly focused on examining the early twentieth century context which led to the establishment of this Festival. Furthermore, in order to identify some of the Festival's major features such as target audience and financial success, I have analysed the correspondence between the two managers of the festival, Sir Barry Jackson and Roy Limbert, which has revealed a series of internal conflicts resulting in Jackson's departure from the Festival.

Sam Haddow

Title: *The Riots*, and the rise of verbatim theatre.

Abstract: In September last year, Gillian Slovo wrote a verbatim (documentary) play about the August riots. She interviewed police officers, politicians, London residents, community leaders and took anonymous testimonies from some rioters themselves. She edited these interviews into a play, which was staged in October and proclaimed itself a substitute for the public enquiry that the government never held. This paper will ask how Slovo's play was able to make this claim, briefly examining the rise in verbatim theatre over recent years, and taking a critical look at some of the claims it has made in order to become so influential.

Jemima Matthews

Title: Recycling the Riverine: Turning the early modern Thames outside in and inside out.

Abstract: The early modern riverfront unsettled stable notions of 'inside' and 'outside' space. Through privies, river stairs, and Bankside lodgings, the lived spaces of London extended into and physically entered the water. Simultaneously through the labour of riverine trades Thames water and associated products and processes entered the city in various guises.

The immersion of Falstaff in the Thames in Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* will be analysed alongside archival sources in order to challenge simplistic constructions of riverine spaces. I argue that, through the concertinaing of spaces and processes, the Thames is continually turned inside out and outside in.

2.15pm – COFFEE BREAK

2.45pm Session Four – Chair – Paul Whickman

Klaudia Lee

Title: Broken World: (Re) Interpreting the Tragedy of Madame Defarge in a Cross-cultural Context.

Abstract: This paper seeks to examine the way in which *A Tale of Two Cities*, a historical novel which Charles Dickens uses to comment on contemporary politics, was adapted for the Chinese readership in the early twentieth century. It will pay particular attention to the characterization of Madame Defarge in this adaptive process, exploring the extent to which the changes that were introduced to this complex figure – the portrayal of whom underpins the conflictual nature of *A Tale* – in a different cultural context might have unsettled, or even undermined, the politics of the original text.

Louise Chamberlain

Title: 'Birmingham is what I think with': Urban Environments in the Poetry of Roy Fisher.

Abstract: This paper will introduce the concept of 'urban environments' in contemporary poetry through the example of Roy Fisher. Fisher is exemplary in his poetic representations of intersections between the natural and the urban: yet despite this he has been called 'the poet laureate of the urban-prosaic'. I will argue instead that he is part of a larger movement of contemporary nature poetry which transverses the natural-urban binary, as he represents what Maria Kaika calls 'the city of flows'. Fisher's poetry interrogates the notion that the city is merely an urban construct. Here, I extend the notion of 'urban ecocriticism' into contemporary poetry as I re-consider the binaries of 'urban poetry' and 'nature poetry'.

Elaine Hudson

Title: The Spoils of Henry James.

Abstract: Four 'Henry James novels' appeared between 2002 and 2005 (*Felony* (2002); *The Master* (2004); *Author, Author* (2004) and *The Typewriter's Tale* (2005)). The authors of three of these (David Lodge, Colm Tóibín and Michiel Heyns) responded to the proliferation of 'Henry James novels' by writing about their own experiences of writing *Author, Author*, *The Master* and *The Typewriter's Tale* respectively, which are themselves about the experience of being a writer. Through a close reading of the three essays, I shall consider how their self-consciousness can offer a useful starting point for considering the significance not only of the 'Henry James novel', but of all biographical novels about writers that have appeared in recent years.

Kavitha Ganesan

Title: Fragmented identity: Nation Formation to Ethnonationalism in Adibah Amin's *This End of the Rainbow*.

Abstract: This presentation is part of a research in progress on contemporary (2000-2010) Malaysian life-writing in English by female writers of varying ethnic backgrounds. The aim of this presentation is to examine one such work, *This End of the Rainbow*,

TEotR (2006), which covers the last twelve years, i.e. 1945-1957, before the country gained its independence from the British colonisers. Written by Adibah Amin, a writer of Malay ethnic origin, this presentation wishes to situate the narrative as a discourse on nation building. In so doing, it will unfold the contradiction at the crux of the text which holds elements of ethno-nationalism, or more specifically, Malay nationalism.

4.00pm – CONCLUSION

Friday 18th May 2012
9am to 6pm – Room A46, Trent

9.00am – WELCOME

9.15am Session Five – Chair – Daniel Hunt

Tianshuang Ge

Title: Hedges in the Written English of Chinese Learners: A Corpus Assisted Comparison between Non-native Speakers and Native Speakers.

Abstract: This paper introduces my doctoral research, an attempt to investigate the concordance analysis and discourse analysis of hedging devices in Chinese and British student English assignments. The paper presents an overview of the project to date, including methodological issues which are under consideration.

The data for this study are assignments written by British and Chinese University students which built up the Native corpus and non-native corpus. An initial analysis was carried out to test how corpus linguistics and discourse analysis work together in order to gain an insight into the use of hedging devices in students assignments.

Caty Worlock-Pope

Title: Placing *come* and *go*: which approach qualitative or quantitative?

Abstract: Sinclair suggests 'until we are able to disambiguate different usages [...] the results of statistical analysis will be blurred' (Krishnamurthy 2004: xxii). This paper will argue that there is benefit in combining both a quantitative and qualitative approach to investigating the usages of the words *come* and *go* in spoken and written language in a selection of World Englishes. By combining these two approaches I will show that there is possibly more difference within the Englishes than between; that the words are used to both explicitly and implicitly organise the text; and, that there is deictic shift in sports reporting.

Krishnamurthy, R. (Ed.) (1970/2004) *English Collocation Studies: The OSTI Report*. London and New York: Continuum.

Kholood Saigh

Title: Knowledge of morphological word families by ESL learners.

Abstract: Some teachers and researchers may assume that when a learner knows one member of a word family (e.g., stimulate), the other members (e.g., stimulant, stimulative) are relatively easy to learn. However, the small amount of previous research has suggested that L2 learners often have problems producing the various derivative forms within a word family. This study examined the ability of 53 mixed group of ESL learners to produce and recognize appropriate derivatives in the four major word classes (i.e., noun, verb, adjective, and adverb) for 16 prompt words and also examined how this type of knowledge is related to the vocabulary size of those learners.

(Session Five continued)

Hilde van Zeeland

Title: Incidental vocabulary acquisition from L2 listening.

Abstract: Recent studies on incidental vocabulary acquisition from L2 reading have used multiple vocabulary tests to provide insight into the acquisition of different vocabulary knowledge dimensions. It has been found that some knowledge dimensions are acquired with fewer occurrences than others (i.e. word form is generally acquired before meaning). The current study is the first one to apply this dimensional framework to the listening context. It explored the incidental acquisition of three vocabulary dimensions through L2 listening: form recognition, grammar recognition, and meaning recall. Results showed gains varied between knowledge dimensions, emphasising the importance of using different vocabulary tests.

10.30am – COFFEE BREAK

11.00am Session Six – Chair – Pawel Szudarski

Letty Chan

Title: The use of mental imagery in L2 motivation.

Abstract: This paper surveys the mechanisms of mental imagery, the conditions in which it can be used optimally, and how it can be used as a powerful motivational tool for language learners. The conditions in which mental imagery can be used optimally to increase students' L2 motivation will also be delineated.

Frea Waninge

Title: Researching emotions in the language classroom.

Abstract: Research into emotions in language learning can be tricky, requires border-crossing between psychology, education and linguistics. In all three fields emotions are often ignored, mostly because of the lack of a definition: emotions are 'fuzzy' concepts and therefore difficult to research. Yet every teacher will confirm their importance: a bored student equals an unmotivated student. Emotions are closely related to motivation, up to the point where younger language learners cannot properly distinguish language learning motivation from emotion. This presentation gives an overview of emotion research and proposes a new tool to measure emotion during a classroom session.

Chenjing You

Title: The Review of L2 Motivational Self System.

Abstract: The presentation will be on the brief literature review of Dornyei's L2 Motivational Self System which was crystallised from two distinct theoretical paradigms of motivational psychology and L2 motivation research. Then its three components as well as its empirical validation research will be examined. Finally, the practical implication as well as my own research will be presented.

Wipapan Ngampraman

Title: World Englishes: A Case Study of English used on signs in Tourist Attractions in Thailand.

Abstract: This research focuses on English used on signs in tourist attractions in Thailand. As a main tourist destination, English is used across Thailand for wider communications. English used in Thai contexts can be generally found. Thai English can be difficult to understand to overseas tourists and lead to the miscommunication between Thai people and their visitors. The study aims at finding the patterns of Thai English and explaining why this exists through the deployment of sociolinguistic and World Englishes frameworks, while a corpus of signs and multimodality, including interviews and observations, are used as analytical tools.

12.00pm – LUNCH

1.15pm Session Seven – Chair – Tony Fisher

Daniel Hunt

Title: “Well they’re seeking a quick fix aren’t they?”: Negotiating treatment decisions and patient identities in cases of uncertain depression.

Abstract: While ever-multiplying pharmaceutical studies present depression and its treatment is a matter of brain chemistry, the beliefs of practising clinicians remain largely unexplored. This lacuna is surprising given that the understandings and opinions of healthcare professionals are of direct relevance to patients and their recovery. With this in mind, I present findings from recent focus group meetings with local GPs. Concentrating particularly on their discussions of antidepressants and alternative treatments; I consider the tensions that arise when attempting to reconcile understandings of an abstract medical diagnosis with the experiences of treating individuals whose suffering is located within complex socio-cultural contexts.

Eric (Yen-Liang) Lin

Title: Mind the Gap: EFL Textbook Dialogues vs. Naturally Occurring Discourse.

Abstract: This study identifies the most common recurrent sequences in a sample of EFL textbooks used in secondary schools in Taiwan and contrasts them with naturally occurring face-to-face intercultural communication among adolescents. Each of the high-frequency sequences is examined in its context to identify the pragmatic functions. Keyness method is further used to reveal the overuse and underuse of formulaic sequences in the textbook corpus as compared with natural occurring discourse. Pedagogical implications for teaching spoken language will finally be discussed.

Malgorzata Chalupnik

Title: Workplace environment and observer’s paradox.

Abstract: This workplace investigation focuses on issues such as observer’s paradox and self-censorship. By looking at extracts which indicate that the participants’ awareness of being recorded is heightened and by analysing their reactions in those situations, particularly when participants insist on continuing the recording, I attempt to examine the way workplace culture is enacted and challenged by members of an IT community of practice in their workplace environment.

2.15pm – COFFEE BREAK

2.45pm Session Eight – Chair – Wenjuan Yuan

Chloe Harrison

Title: 'The idea of trees': Expectation, Construal and Degrees of Reality in Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*.

Abstract: This investigation explores how the Cognitive Grammar processes of *specificity* and *focusing* work together to create expectation regarding how degrees of reality are linguistically manifested in Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*. An extract from the text will be examined and inferences about how construal works to portray negation and degrees of reality will be made using data from online reviews, mainly concerning the generation of discourse expectation, as examples of 'real reader' response. The analysis shows how construal processes play a crucial role in following a narrative, helping a reader to conceptualise information concerning character, scene and action in the fictional universe.

Yaxiao Cui

Title: Shifts of narrative perspective in the fiction of Virginia Woolf.

Abstract: A prominent feature of Virginia Woolf's work is the presentation of multiple perspectives: perspectives of different characters and the narrator's voice weave together, and one perspective shifts to another in a unique way. In my study, I look at the linguistic markers that signal the shifts of narrative perspective. Specifically, I look at the following aspects: parentheticals, conjunctives, repetition, the use of brackets, and the interaction of different modes of speech and thought presentation. Furthermore, I want to investigate the effects of the shifts in narrative perspective and how this can be connected to Woolf's theory of fiction.

Davide Castiglione

Title: 'Difficult' poetry: a stylistic and semantic investigation.

Abstract: XX century poetry is regarded as 'difficult' by both critics and common readers. Such a widespread perception – which has often given rise to charges of elitism – has been surprisingly under-investigated so far. The present study aims to shed light on this issue 1) by investigating the relationship between this perception (inferable from critical commentaries and reader responses) and the quality of semantic infringement at work, and 2) by investigating the relationship between these semantic infringements and the stylistic features conveying them. To this end, a wide, pertinent and heterogeneous corpus of poetic texts is analysed.

Lorenzo Mastropiero

Title: Corpus Stylistics and Translation Studies: a corpus-based study of *Heart of Darkness* and its Italian translations.

Abstract: My research explores the crossroads between corpus stylistics and translation studies through the analysis of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and its Italian translations. This paper will focus on an introductory presentation of my topic, illustrating the main aims and its methodological framework. In particular, it tries to explain the reasons and to show the advantages in adopting a corpus stylistics approach

to a contrastive analysis of original and translations. Moreover, some partial results of the research will be provided as an example of what my work aims at.

4.00pm – Conclusion & Coffee/Pre-lecture drinks

5.00pm – CRAL Lecture – Professor Norbert Schmitt