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## International Quantitative Linguistics Association

### I. Next QUALICO

IQLA Council received a number of very interesting proposals in response to the call for organizers of next QUALICO (2014). The Council decided that QUALICO 2014 is to be held in Olomouc, the Czech Republic. Further details will be released in the following months.

### II. QUALICO 2012 – Picture Gallery and Proceedings

QUALICO 2012, held in Belgrade, Serbia, was a success. A picture gallery has been created at the IQLA website where you can view various conference highlights (<http://www.iqla.org/gallery/index.html>).

The conference proceedings are in the final stage of preparation and are expected to be published by the end of 2012.

### III. 56th annual conference of Mathematical Linguistic Society of Japan (MLSJ)



The 56<sup>th</sup> annual conference of Mathematical Linguistic Society of Japan (MLSJ) was held on September 29th, 2012 at Nagoya University. Local organizer was Prof. K. Tamaoka, known as the editor of *Corpus Studies on Japanese Kanji* (Glottometrics, vol.10).

During the conference there were paper sessions and a symposium titled "What the mathematical linguistics of Japanese and the Mathematical Linguistic Society of Japan should provide". In the first session 6 papers were presented, and in the second session Haruko Sanada, an IQLA International Representative and Liaison, gave a short presentation, introduced IQLA and presented messages from IQLA board members to MLSJ. The messages – from Dr. Kelih and Profs. Vulanović, Embleton, Köhler, and Altmann encourage publication exchange between IQLA and

MLSJ and invite MLSJ members to contribute QL papers to JQL, join IQLA, participate in QUALICO conferences, and develop joint research projects with IQLA members. One member of the audience requested a lecture and a handbook on the Altmann-Fitter software for Japanese members. It was agreed that it would be useful to prepare such a handbook for QL beginners.

#### IV. Glottometrics 24, 2012

Journal *Glottometrics* has just published its 24<sup>th</sup> volume with the following contents:

**Karl-Heinz Best:** Diversifikation der starken Verben im Deutschen, 1-4

**Vadim S. Baevskij:** Non-traditional approach to the study of the rhythmicity of Russian verse, 5-11

**Zhao Xiaodong:** Vocabulary growth of content words of ESP and General English. A contrastive study based on CMTE and BNC, 12-24

**Ioan-Iovitz Popescu, Zuzana Martináková-Rendeková, Gabriel Altmann:** Stratification in musical texts based on rank-frequency distribution of tone pitches, 25-40

**Arjuna Tuzzi, Ioan-Iovitz Popescu, Peter Zörnig, Gabriel Altmann:** Aspects of the behaviour of parts-of-speech in Italian texts, 41-69

**Emmerich Kelih, Peter Zörnig:** Models of morph lengths: Discrete and continuous approaches, 70-78

**Wang Hua:** Length and complexity of NPs in Written English, 79-87

#### *History of Quantitative Linguistics*

**Peter Grzybek:** Harry Dexter Kitson (1886-1959), 88-94

#### **Book Reviews**

**Gordana Đuraš:** Generalized Poisson models for word length frequencies in texts of Slavic languages. Diss. University of Graz. Reviewed by **E. Nemcová**, 95-96

**Emmerich Kelih:** Die Silbe in slawischen Sprachen. München - Berlin - Washington D.C.: Sagner. 188 pp. Reviewed by **E. Nemcová**, 97-99

#### V. New Journal in Quantitative Linguistics

Journal of Language Modelling is a free (no publication fees) open-access peer-reviewed journal aiming to bridge the gap between theoretical linguistics and natural language processing. Although typical articles are concerned with linguistic generalizations, either with their application in natural language processing, or with their discovery in language corpora, possible topics range from linguistic analyses, which are sufficiently precise to be implementable, to mathematical models of aspects of language, and further, to computational systems making non-trivial use of linguistic insights.

Papers are reviewed within less than three months of their receipt, and they appear as soon as they have been accepted. Accepted articles are collected in annual volumes consisting of two semi-annual numbers with continuous page numbering. All papers are carefully refereed by at least three reviewers (including at least one member of the Editorial Board) and they are only accepted if they adhere to the high scientific, typographic and stylistic standards.

Apart from full-length articles, the journal also accepts squibs and polemics with other papers, as well as book reviews. All

journal content appears on a Creative Commons license (by default: Creative Commons Attribution 3.0). Journal link: <http://bach.ipipan.waw.pl/ojs/index.php/JLM>

## **VI. Victor Vasilyevich Levickij (1938-2012)**



On September 6, 2012, Ukrainian linguist professor Victor Vasilyevich Levickij passed away at the age of 74. Victor Vasilyevich was born on April 2, 1938, in Leninakan, Armenia (former USSR). He graduated from the Faculty of Foreign Languages, University of Chernivtsi (Ukraine) after studying there from 1955-1960. He received his Ph.D. in 1966 from the Moscow Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages and then continued his academic career at the University of Chernivtsi (Department of Germanic Languages, now Department of Germanic, General and Comparative Linguistics). From 1968-1974 he held the position of an associate professor, and after his postdoctoral lecture qualification (habilitation, doctoral dissertation) he continued as full professor and chair of the Department of Germanic, General and Comparative Linguistics until 2012. Furthermore, during 1983-1993, he was the Dean of Faculty of Foreign Languages. Victor Vasilyevich was a distinguished expert in several fields of linguistics

(phonetics, sound symbolism, psycholinguistics, morphology, stylistics, etymology, and comparative linguistics, with a focus on Germanic, Slavic and Romance languages). In quantitative linguistics he is known for his statistical approaches to sound symbolism and lexical semantics, and generally, he was a marvelous promoter of quantitative methods in text and speech analysis in the Ukraine and, more widely, in the former USSR. He was a full member of the International Quantitative Linguistics Association for many years. A more detailed obituary and his bibliography will be published in *Glottology* 4, 2 in 2013. With Victor Vasilyevich's death the International Quantitative Linguistics Association has lost a highly distinguished and experienced member. His open minded and cordial nature will remain in our memory.

## **VII. New members: Thorsten Roelcke – a biographical note**



Thorsten Roelcke, born in 1965 in Heidelberg (Germany), studied German Philology and Philosophy at the University of Heidelberg. His doctoral thesis (published in 1988) was a study on Kant's epistemological terminology in the *Critique of Pure Reason*; the habilitation treatise (published in 1994) is concerned with models of drama communication in the works of Dürrenmatt, Handke, and

Weiss. Roelcke worked as a research fellow and adjunct professor at the Universities of Heidelberg (1989–2001) and Freiburg/Br. (2001–2003), further he was a teacher for German, History, and Philosophy at the Kolleg St. Blasien (2003–2008). Since 2008 he has been a professor for German Linguistics and Language Didactics at the University of Education in Freiburg/Br. Roelcke's main research interests include terminology and LSP, language variation and typology, and the history of the German language. New approaches in quantitative linguistics deal with terminologization, i.e. constitution of terminological systems in LSP-texts, and adnominal modifiers. He is the editor of the book series *Linguistik – Impulse und Tendenzen* and the journals *Glottology* and *Informationen Deutsch als Fremdsprache*. Selected monographs and editorial works: *Die Terminologie der Erkenntnisvermögen* (1989); *Dramatische Kommunikation* (1994); *Periodisierung der deutschen Sprachgeschichte* (1995); *Fachsprachen* (1999, 3rd ed. 2010); *Sprachgeschichte als Kulturgeschichte* (ed. 1999); *Das Wort* (ed. 2001); *Variationstypologie / Variation Typology* (ed. 2003); *Sprachliche Kürze* (ed. 2007); *Typologische Variation im Deutschen* (2011); *Definitionen und Termini* (in print).

### **VIII. A student awarded for academic excellence**

Rosie Knight, (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Lancaster University, UK) has been awarded the inaugural Anna Siewierska Memorial Prize for the graduating BA student with the highest overall average. Rosie graduated in July 2012 with a First in English Language and Sociolinguistics, gaining an exceptionally high mark for her dissertation on 'Laws governing rank frequency and

stratification in English texts' supervised by Prof. Andrew Wilson.

### **IX. Quantitative Linguistics projects database**

Quantitative Linguistics study is an active research area and many scholars from all over the world are currently involved in research projects on national, European or even international levels. IQLA is planning to create a separate section in the IQLA homepage dedicated to on-going research projects in Quantitative Linguistics where everyone can be informed about current projects, preprints, data, software, etc. You are kindly requested to send to [secretary@iqla.org](mailto:secretary@iqla.org) the title of the project you are involved in, a small abstract about its goals, host institution and country, type of the project (national, European, International), possible partners, and some contact information (web page of the project, email of the project's coordinator, etc.).

### **X. Announcement – Call for contributions to the translation of the Wikipedia article on “Quantitative Linguistics”**

Wikipedia is currently the most important encyclopedic source worldwide with more than 100,000 volunteers working in 270 languages. Quantitative linguistics article appears only in 6 languages (English, German, Chinese, Russian, Serbian and a short text in Czech). IQLA encourages its members to translate the German/English version of the Quantitative Linguistics article in their mother-tongue establishing the multilingual Wikipedia appearance of our discipline.

### **XI. Announcement – Call for “news”**

We kindly ask all IQLA members to inform [secretary@iqla.org](mailto:secretary@iqla.org) about recent or new projects, publications, conferences, personal news, etc., in QL and related research fields. It is planned to publish this information on the IQLA web pages and in the next available IQLA newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2013.

Editor: George Mikros