

Participation in 19th European Conference on Eye Movements

By Danielle Santos Wisintainer

Participating in the 19th European Conference on Eye Movements was an amazing experience. This year, the event took place in Wuppertal (August 20-24), a city in the north of Germany, it is known for its suspension railway, the Wuppertal Schwebebahn. The ECEM conference was hosted by the University of Wuppertal, Bergische Universität Wuppertal (BUW), a young and rapidly growing university.

The ECEM conference has taken place every two years since 1981 and its main goal is to join researchers from various areas, all using eye movement registration as a research tool to investigate reading, learning and problem solving, emotion and social cognition. This year's conference held preconference workshops on programing, analyzing, and modeling eye-tracking data.

On August 19th, I took part of the preconference workshop with the title "Combining eye tracking and EEG: from theory to practice" in order to learn more about the possibilities and limitations of this methodological approach. Moreover, I had the opportunity to talk to researchers who have already used those tools,

listening to their experiences and sharing mine as well.

The ECEM 2017 gathered important researchers who discussed issues related to oculomotor data from the perspective of the neurophysiological to the perceptual and the cognitive level. In addition, the main task was to exchange information about the current research, new equipment, and software.

In the conference, I presented a poster with the title "Literal and Figurative Language Processing: Evidence from Bilingual Sentence Reading" which aimed at investigating the contrast in the processing of figurative and literal language of phrasal verbs by 10 advanced speakers of English as a second language and 10 native speakers of English.

Presenting my study was a rewarding experience and I would not have gone so far without my research group, LABLING, and in particular without the support of my advisor Prof. Mailce Borges Mota. legitimization of scientific and artistic productions.



Second International Conference on Innovative Practice and Research in the Teaching of Foreign Language

By Rafael Zaccaron

On 28th and 29th September 2017, the second International Conference on Innovative Practice and Research in the Teaching of Foreign Language took place at Cordoba University in Monteria, Colombia. Considering that the focus of this event was on both technology and tasks, we took to the

opportunity to present individually the work we have been conducting for our master's. Rafael presented the outcome of the pilot study as well as some preliminary results of his piece of research, which is focused on the impact individual and collaborative strategic planning have on performance of an oral task by young learners of English, under the supervision of Dr. Raquel D'Ely and Dr. Donesca Xhafaj.

Daniel presented his ongoing study, entitled L2 vocabulary instruction: an assessment of mobile device applications, which he has been carrying out with professor Celso Henrique Soufen Tumolo as advisor. The presentation focused on explaining the preliminary results of the study while also providing suggestions on how to use the applications for the audience, composed mostly of EFL teachers.

This event was a fruitful moment for sharing research experiences and finding similarities between our research and the ones being implemented by our Colombian counterparts.

The congress started with the opening address by Rod Ellis, followed by the communication sessions and other guest speakers. In between the sessions, we had the pleasure of learning more about the Colombian educational system from the students of the university.

At the end of the event, it was established that the proceedings of the event will be published soon. Making the work presented in this conference available to a wider audience.



Rafael, Profa. Tatiana Becerra Posada (one of the organizers of the event) and Daniel at the Cordoba University in Monteria.

Upcoming Publications

By Sabrina Jorge

As Editor of the Special Issue of the bilingual journal *Language and Law/Linguagem e Direito*, I am delighted to announce that the issue is in press and will be published very shortly. The issue is dedicated to articles which discuss cases of violence against girls and women and the way they are treated by the legal system both in Brazil and in some English speaking countries. The issue includes articles by well-known Brazilian and international authorities. The journal is free access and can be accessed in [this link](#).

Below is a Contents List of the issue:

1. **Cultura do Estupro** - Lana Lage da Gama Lima
2. **Mulheres em Situação de Violência Conjugal: a denúncia de conflitos no meio doméstico** - Marcia Nunes Scarduelli
3. **Narrativas de violência de Gênero em Acórdãos do STJ sobre Lei Maria da Penha** - Lúcia Freitas e Veralúcia Pinheiro
4. **Argumentação e Estratégias Textual-Discursivas em uma Sentença Absolutória: violência machista contra a mulher** - Micheline Mattedi Tomazi e Ana Lúcia Tinoco Cabral
5. **A Representação da Mulher no Sistema Jurídico Penal: um estudo de caso a partir das análises das expressões referenciais** - Sheyla Canuto e Virgínia Colares
6. **"She was quite capable of asserting herself": Powerful Speech Styles and Assessments of Credibility in a Sexual Assault Trial** - Susan Ehrlich e Nicole Hildebrand-Edgar
7. **Witness Cross-examinations in Non-stranger Assault Crimes: an appraisal analysis** - Tammy Gales and Larry Solan
8. **(Mis)gendering and Naming Practices in Appellate Decisions in Santa Catarina's State Court** - Debora Figueiredo e Pedro Rieger
9. **"Go on cam but dnt be dirty": linguistic levels of identity assumption in undercover online operations against child sex abusers.-** Nicci MacLeod e Tim Grant

(Un)expected tones of a day

By Scharlene Clasen

It was a nice Saturday morning, the sunshine made the sky become pale blue and I felt happy when I realized that the week had ended and with it all the hard work. So, I started to make a coffee and suddenly the kitchen was not only lit but also scented. While I was drinking the coffee, my glasses steamed up. I found my experience so poetic that I wanted more poetry to stay in that way for more time.

On the Internet I began to search about manifestations related to other poetic experiences. I wanted to know what moves people... I found a page about comic strips that were related to different ways of expressing love. Some of them showed parenthood, others friendship...

In a certain point of my search I stumbled upon one that talked about how homophobia is irrational due to the fact that someone feels hate because you feel love. I felt enlightened by that idea, but, at the same time, blue by having to turn love to a weapon of resistance. Maybe it sounds powerful and poetic to resist with love, but not when you do this by obligation, when your only choices are this or pretend that you love someone else.

Then I scrolled down to see if someone had had the same sensation as me and what I saw was another punch in my stomach. There were some people arguing that "nobody deserves to see it in public spaces" or that "now, you can no longer express your opinion, because everything is homophobia" or that "comic strips should be funny and not talk about boring things". I couldn't believe in my eyes, and yet my glasses were not steamed up anymore, because I was not able to swallow my formerly warm coffee. It's hard when the idea that you have to justify why you deserve respect strikes your mind.

I raised my head and now the day was gray. The wind was bringing the rain smell into the kitchen. I closed the window.

Ode ao Cambirela

by Melina Pereira Savi

Ao sul, um evento geológico
Lógico que para a natureza a nomenclatura de nada serve
O que não significa que não possamos nomeá-lo,
chamá-lo de nosso
e criar uma história de origem
que caiba dentro dos nossos propósitos.

Quero tanto chegar perto
Mas o selvagem me amedronta
"Com razão", diria Lovelock
"Vá em frente", Snyder berra lá do alto.

A correnteza do riacho,
que para mim é só um lago raso,
para a cobra que serpenteia a margem é um Amazonas,
caudaloso e desafiador.

Gosto mesmo é de admirá-lo,
chamá-lo de meu e possuí-lo em meus sonhos
Nas minhas meditações,
imagino que exploro aquele monte vasto e sem fim
e que o cume me leva de encontro ao meu pai que,
de acordo com a minha filha,
é quem decide quando é hora
de molhar a natureza, pintar um arco-íris,
de fazer viver, fazer morrer.

Desenhos de Marina Amaral, nanquim sobre papel, sem título, 2011

Critical Review

“Arroz”

by Isis Miura Barbosa

Everyone has read that one book - or two, or a few - that touches you in a way or another, that gives you goosebumps or a peaceful feeling, that makes you cry or laugh out loud. Even if you don't read much, you probably have already found yourself smiling at something you were reading, and after turning the last page you were still smiling and reflecting on the message of said book or how a character reflects so much of your personality. “Arroz” left me with that exact feeling - among others- a sensation of having read something about myself.

In its 88 well-drawn pages, “Arroz” narrates the beginning of a friendship between two girls: Melina, an introvert who loves silence and works in a bookstore, and Amanda, an outgoing, popular and sociable English teacher. The comic book was written by Brazilian author Alexandra “Ale” Presser, an illustrator and comics lover/artist who decided to put her feelings in the form of sequential art, thus, producing “Arroz” in 2016.

The story you find inside an attractive cover is focused on a single subject: Friendship. While going through the black and white panels, the reader becomes captivated by the two main characters and the relationship they are establishing with each other. In a few pages, Presser was able to define the two girl's personalities, routines, and backgrounds in a funny and enjoyable way. The comic book brings a metaphor where Melina compares herself to the rice in a *PF**, arguing that the rice in that dish can only be enjoyed if sided with something more flavorful, such as beans or steak. She considers herself as bland as rice, and believes to be someone uninteresting and with nothing of actual value to add to someone else's life. But her relationship with Amanda changes her mind. The friendship becomes a turning point for Melina, and she discovers parts of her personality that were unknown to her until that point.

In a fluid narrative, “Arroz” does not count on tropes and action to portray an interesting story. It is a well-structured, easy read comic book that anyone can relate to. The lack of colors in the pages does not prevent the reader from having an enjoyable time; to the contrary, it shows how the author was capable of demonstrating the feelings and personalities of each character relying on her capacity as a great artist and storyteller.

*PF is a traditional Brazilian dish, usually composed of rice, beans, salad, french fries and some kind of animal protein. It is known for its low cost with a big amount of food served.

A Batman (re)start

by Sophia Rosa

Everyone knows that Batman is not only a universally acclaimed character, but one of the greatest heroes ever created – if not the greatest -, and I mean everyone. Even people who do not read comic books at all. Also, because of the publicity and love surrounding the character, it is well known that Bruce Wayne was just a little kid when his parents were randomly murdered in front of him, leading the boy to a life of loneliness, trauma, exhausting studies on forensic science, mastery on martial arts and extreme physical conditioning to accomplish the task of becoming the most feared and respected antihero of all time – or, at least, that is what we have learnt from Frank Miller's 1987 classic and must-read graphic novel *Batman: Year One*. Miller's origin story of the Batman was soon established as one of the best comic books ever written, and positively marked not only The Dark Age of Comics (1985-), but is also considered canon when it comes to the heroic and tragic journey of the Bat. So, imagine how the fans of the Dark Knight would react if someone told them that a new origin story was on its way?

The answer is: it depends.

There are a few writers that Batman fans would easily put their trust on (like Frank Miller himself, Neil Gaiman, Alan Moore, Grant Morrison, Jeph Loeb, Scott Snyder or Dennis O’Neil), but Geoff Johns was someone that probably no one could have guessed; and although John’s origin story of Superman was quite successful, readers of the Batman comics were rightfully anxious to see how the writer would deal with a darker and much more complex character – not mentioning, of course, the pressure on writing the early life of Bruce Wayne and his path to avenge the death of his parents when Miller’s classic was, and still is, very much alive in the hearts of Batman fans.

But in spite of all the negative comments surrounding Batman’s new origin story, the 2012 narrative presented by Geoff Johns was surprisingly and pleasantly good. Rewriting not just Bruce Wayne’s childhood and his early years as the Batman, Johns also tells us the origins and roles of some of the Caped Crusader’s well-known villains (such as the Penguin and the Riddler) in probably the most corrupt version of Gotham City ever portrayed in Batman’s comics. Let’s not forget, of course, the penciller’s remarkable work: Gary Frank’s art and design is rich in details, beautiful and macabre in the right measure – bestowing the reader with a realistic illustration style that matches perfectly the script of Geoff Johns’s *Batman: Earth One*. By focusing most of the time on Bruce’s struggle to face the murder of his parents and his hard, painful training to one day fight the crime in Gotham, Johns makes the boy and the man behind the Bat-like mask much more relatable than in any other story – sometimes even weak, depressed, hurt, scared, lost. Human.

Humanity, resilience, gruesome villains and significant criticism towards Gotham City’s dirty police department – Johns had all the ingredients to write a good story, and he did. Needless to say, *Earth One* was a huge success. The comic book soon hit #1 *New York Times* bestseller, and Johns proved himself worthy of this heavy – and privileged – responsibility that is becoming one of the best contemporary Batman writers. *Batman: Earth One* may not be perfect, and was not written to surpass Batman’s 1987 canon origin story in any way, but it presents itself as a great reading option equally to older fans of the Bat and to future ones as well. The Dark Age of Comics is forever remembered by Frank Miller’s works, but with Johns we just might be facing the start of a new Age.

In the News

PPGI has been very active in discussing gender concerns in both linguistic and literary studies, starting with the pioneering work by Professors Susana Funck and Carmen Rosa Caldas-Coulthard from the very beginning of our program. Nowadays, along with Profs. Carmen Rosa and Susana, Profs. Debora Figueiredo, Eliana Ávila, Viviane M. Heberle and Claudia Costa continue to investigate different aspects of gender. Notably, on Nov. 23, Profs. Susana Funck and Claudia Costa received honorary certificates for their outstanding work in the field, in the special ceremony to honor IEG (Instituto de Estudos de Gênero) at the Legislative Chamber of the State of Santa Catarina.

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