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# Foreword

The printing process and publication of volume 16 of *ESP Across Cultures* took place while the coronavirus pandemic was raging across the world. While deeply affecting everybody's lives on a daily basis, it was still possible to go ahead with publication without undue difficulty, a situation made easier by the fact that the journal is published online.

This current volume is comprised of nine papers, each dealing with some aspect of specialized discourse seen from a cross-cultural stance.

In the first paper, Hamid Abdalla Arabi explores the rhetorical organization of the Discussion section in Research Articles written in Arabic and English. The results show that the move structure in Arabic texts tends to be simpler while it is generally more complex in the English group. The two sets of texts also vary at the sub-move or step level. The main objective of the study has been "to explicate the general tendency of rhetorical moves deployment and the extent to which the moves fit their communicative purposes in the two sets of Discussions". According to the author, the findings have pedagogical implications that can be incorporated into academic writing instructions.

In her paper, Paola Brusasco looks at the language of online gambling, more specifically the variety of poker known as Texas Hold'em. After observing that the role of English as a lingua franca in the jargon of players has resulted in "heavy Anglicization of this form of specialized Italian discourse through direct and indirect lexical borrowing", her analysis focuses on adapted loan verbs in Italian specialized blogs and forums. She concludes that Italian online players "share a specialized jargon that draws abundantly on English terminology, dynamically adapting verbs at morphological, semantic and syntactic levels", given that English is "the indispensable medium for both credibility within the community and actual participation in the game."

Stefania Consonni examines and compares the English and Italian texts of patient package inserts of antidepressants in the United States and in Italy. She investigates in particular the grammatical and lexical construction of deontic and epistemic modality, with the aim of highlighting "the linguistic strategies codifying both the pharmacological management of depression and the role of patients and doctors in the therapeutic process". She concludes that while US literature tends to differentiate between "the legitimate and authoritative conduct" expected from members of the medical professional and the respect of safety rules expected from patients, Italian literature makes no such distinction.

Cristiano Furiassi analyses the "false oenological Anglicism" *Super Tuscan*, showing, through corpora, that the expression is circulating in languages other than English and Italian, particularly French, Spanish and German. He shows that *Super Tuscan* "is indeed a fully-fledged internationalism (or Europeanism), not only because it is widespread in several languages in its English-looking form but also as it is largely encountered as adapted to the spelling conventions of these recipient languages." The author argues that the producers of Super Tuscan wines have successfully exploited

“an English-looking and English-sounding phrase in order to designate a new style of Italian wine” and positively connote it by providing it with a “cosmopolitan allure”.

In his paper, Pietro Manzella looks at the challenges arising from the translation of industrial relations concepts from English into Italian. More specifically, he examines a dataset of 60 sustainability reports produced by companies, to see how the concept of ‘whistleblowing’ is rendered in Italian. He observes that “industrial relations as a discipline has developed its own lexicon, which at times differs significantly from the legal one”. The author concludes that, in the case of the term ‘whistleblowing’, “the recourse to a periphrasis, either with or without the word used in the source text, can be regarded as a better translation technique than simply leaving the word in its untranslated form”.

Licia Masoni describes a writing exercise carried out in English by a group of Italian fourth-year trainee teachers involved in nursery and primary education, in the context of using narrative in the EFL primary classroom. Students were required to work with the language and metaphors of children’s literature and fairy tales, and were asked to write an original fairy tale inspired by their language learning history. The author argues that a “structured metaphorical approach to reflecting on the relationship between EFL learners and teachers” may “help students see how their multiple identities as learners, future teachers and present observers of other teachers’ work, can act together to turn them into successful and nurturing EFL teachers.”

In their paper Neslihan Onder-Ozdemir and Huseyin Ozdemir investigate, from a genre analysis perspective, the Results, Discussion and Conclusion sections of empirical research articles from the disciplines of Applied Mathematics and Economics. Their main finding highlights the difference in role in the Discussion section of the target disciplines. Their findings also show the need to consult specialist informants in genre analysis, thus differing from the claim made by Askehave and Swales (2001). The authors argue that “the Discussion section in Mathematics may be a good example to show the positive effects of collaboration with specialists while addressing genre analysis.”

Margaret Rasulo’s study explores how the effects of a rift in political representation triggered by the 2008 financial crisis forced national leaders in the United States and the United Kingdom “to rethink their political agendas, each according to their own cultural context and background, in an effort to intercept ‘the people’, who strongly believed they had lost their voice”. The author has compiled a corpus of electoral and special-issue speeches of two US presidents and two British prime ministers from 2009 to 2018, and her study provides a detailed analysis of the similarities and differences in the type of populist rhetoric employed by leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.

In the final paper, Michele Russo and Mariantonietta Fiore examine the pastoral elements and their linguistic realization in British Romantic poetry which are set against “the decidedly different geographic and linguistic environment of Russia in the Romantic period”. Using a methodological approach based on Sapir (2007) and Bakhtin (1979), the authors compare Wordsworth’s and Clare’s idyllic depictions of the British countryside with Pushkin’s poem of 1833 recounting the flooding in Saint Petersburg in 1824. Russo and Fiore conclude that “already by the turn of the 19th century the discourses of far-seeing poets and men of letters had alerted humankind to the

necessity of preserving the environment and the natural configuration of the rural landscape.”

Once again, I would like to thank the members of the Editorial Board for their invaluable work of refereeing papers and for their suggestions on how to improve the journal. I would also like to thank all those scholars who are not members of the Editorial Board but who have kindly agreed to referee papers for our journal. The last time we publicly thanked external referees was in issue 15 (2018). Since then the following scholars have all reviewed papers for the journal:

Fiona Dalziel  
Marie Delaney  
Massimiliano Demata  
John Gibbons  
Irina Khoutyz  
Ivana Maria Lorenzetti  
Geraldine Ludbrook

Nancy Marder  
Silvia Gilardoni  
Luciana Pedrazzini  
Laura Pinnavaia  
Camella Rising  
Flora Sisti  
Alessandra Vicentini

I hope you will enjoy the current issue of this journal, and please feel free to access all previous issues.

Christopher Williams  
(Chief Editor)