



University of Silesia

29th International Conference on Foreign / Second Language Acquisition

Szczyrk, Poland, 18th-20th May 2017

***The impact of learning environments
on second language acquisition and foreign language learning***

First Circular

Dear Colleague,

The Institute of English at the University of Silesia is pleased to announce the *29th International Conference on Foreign and Second Language Acquisition (ICFSLA)*. Traditionally, this conference focuses on research in second language acquisition and foreign language learning, concentrating each year on different aspects of the research field. The leading theme of the 2017 conference is:

***The impact of learning environments on
second language acquisition and foreign language learning***

The choice of the topic was determined by the significance of learning environment(s) in relation to language acquisition/learning processes. We aim to raise our awareness as teachers, mentors and learners of the complexity of this issue. We would like to look at the conditions necessary to build environments that would support both the learning and growth of language users/learners in the context of instructed as well as uninstructed language development. Proposals for presentations can embrace both cognitive and affective aspects of building such an environment - at school but also beyond – in the community and within a family. We are also anticipating papers researching barriers in the learning environment(s) that impede the process of language development such as expectations, resources, assessment or culture, to name just a few. It would also be interesting to open up a discussion on educational policies responsible for creating schools which respond well to their learners by offering both a friendly and propitious environment for learner growth.

As many of our regular Szczyrk conference participants research multilingualism and work within multilingual educational settings, as usual we welcome proposals related with **multilingualism research** in a separate session(s).

We also welcome and accept selected proposals **in other areas of SLA research** in addition to the main conference theme.

All those wishing to contribute papers, or just wanting to attend presentations and workshops, are invited to participate in the conference.

This year, instead of our regular Ph.D. workshop, we would like to introduce **a new form of presentation for Ph.D. students**. Interested prospective candidates are asked to prepare a poster of their projects and share them with the other conference participants and, more importantly, with academic supervisors in order to receive a response and some constructive feedback.

Another innovation for our conference session will be **a session with academic publishers**, from whom inexperienced young scholars can get information, advice and guidance on how to prepare texts for publication in an academic journal.

We are pleased to announce that the following scholars have agreed to present plenary papers at our conference:

- **Prof. Jasone Cenoz** (*University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian/Donostia*)
- **Prof. Gessica De Angelis** (*Trinity College, Dublin*)
- **Prof. Durk Gorter** (*University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian/Donostia*)
- **Prof. Ewa Piechurska-Kuciel** (*Opole University*)
- **Prof. Simone Pfenninger** (*University of Salzburg*)
- **Prof. David Singleton** (*University of Pannonia, Veszprem/Trinity College, Dublin*)

The event will be held in **Szczyrk**, a well-known (to many of you) resort town in the Beskidy Mountains of Southern Poland and the dates are: **18th to 20th May 2017** (with as usual the possibility of an earlier arrival on Wednesday, **17th May**). The conference venue will be the **Hotel META**. All conference participants can be accommodated there, but if for any reason you prefer to choose different accommodation or don't require any at all, please indicate this on your registration form. Details concerning the conference fee will be announced in the *Second Circular* in February 2017.

Paper abstracts should be sent before 20th February **2017** to our e-mail address: szczyrkconference2017@gmail.com. You will be notified about **the acceptance by the end of February**.

The registration form, including the paper abstract, should be sent as an attachment to an e-mail. Additionally, to facilitate the procedure of building the conference database, all participants are kindly asked to type their entry details into an Excel document (baza2017.xls), filling in all the columns in the second row below the blue headings, and send it back as a separate attachment, changing its name to SurnameName.xls (in Excel 2003 format). Both documents necessary for registration can be downloaded from our webpage at www.icfsla.us.edu.pl

Conference Organisers

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For conference-related matters, please contact the Conference Organisers, at the following address:

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