



University of Silesia

24th International Conference on Foreign / Second Language Acquisition

Szczyrk, Poland, 17-19 May 2012

Language awareness in second/foreign language learning

First Circular

Dear Colleague,

The Institute of English at the University of Silesia is pleased to announce the 24th International Conference on Foreign and Second Language Acquisition. 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 2012 conference is ***Language awareness in second/foreign language learning***.

Language awareness is generally perceived as explicit knowledge about language and "conscious attention to properties of language and language use as an element of language education" (Fairclough 1992:2). However language awareness not only relates to the language as such, it also entails awareness of conceptual and formal aspects and emotional sensitivity with reference to affective domain of language use. This is determined not just by the interlocutor him or herself but by the cultural norms within which a given language functions. Language awareness also means social awareness of what is appropriate in a given context. Conference participants are invited to present papers on the above dimensions of S/FL awareness, as well as in the area of L1 awareness as a significant factor in L2/FL development.

Apart from the regular plenaries and individual thematic sessions, we would like to introduce two additional events during the coming conference. One of them will be a Ph. D. workshop led by professors **Aneta Pavlenko** (Temple University) and **Danuta Gabryś-Barker** (University of Silesia). All Ph. D. students interested in participating in this event are asked to send a 500 word description of their thesis proposal, which will then be presented by them (10 minutes) and discussed with the facilitators and other fellow students during the workshop. The other event is a joint workshop on how to prepare a book review for publication. This session is meant for younger and less experienced scholars in the field, but it is also open to all other participants of the conference.

Proposals for papers reporting on research related to the conference theme, or presenting more theoretical considerations regarding the issue, are welcome. We will also accept selected proposals in other areas of SLA research in addition to the leading theme. All those wishing to contribute papers or just to attend presentations and workshops are welcome to participate in the conference.

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

Prof. Ulrike Jessner (Innsbruck Universität, Innsbruck)

Prof. Hanna Komorowska (SWPS and University of Warsaw, Warsaw)

Prof. Aneta Pavlenko (Temple University, Philadelphia)

Prof. David Singleton (Trinity College, Dublin)

The event will be held in **Szczyrk**, a resort town in the Beskid Mountains of Southern Poland, from **17th to 19th May 2012** (arrival on Wednesday, **16th May**). The **new** conference venue will be **Hotel META**. All conference participants will be accommodated there. The details concerning the conference fee will be announced in the second circular soon.

Paper abstracts should be sent before **31 January 2012** to **our new e-mail address: szczyrkconference@gmail.com**. 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 (Baza2012.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 **<http://uranos.cto.us.edu.pl/~icfsla/>**

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

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