



SPACE WITH A VIEW

Conference of the TOPOS Research Group
University of Pannonia, FMPSS, EASI
Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Veszprém Regional Branch
Building B, Conference Center
November 17, 2016

The TOPOS research workshop was established in 2012 by the English and American Studies Institute of the Faculty of Modern Philology and Social Sciences of the University of Pannonia with the intention of creating an opportunity for those who are interested in exploring space and place from different perspectives. So far we have organized four conferences in the topic of iconic places, urban spaces, and in that of the concept of elsewhere. Last year we had the honour to be able to host the 13th biennial conference of the European Association for the Study of Australia. The four issues of our journal, TOPOS may also be viewed as marking the stations of the scholarly journey on which we embarked in 2012.

As a closing event of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Institute, on November 17, 2016 we wish to acquaint those interested with the latest research results achieved by the staff and students of the Institute at a conference where a selection of papers on space-related questions will be presented.

PROGRAMME:

9.30 – 11.00

SZENTGYÖRGYI, Szilárd, PhD: Talking Powerful: Dialects in American Politics
FORINTOS, Éva, PhD: The *Homes* of Hungarian Substandard Varieties
CZEGLÉDI, Sándor, PhD: Language Policy Dimensions of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election Campaign

11:15 – 13:00

BÚS, Éva, PhD: One man's home is another man's prison. Problems of spatial perception in Hamlet
HORTOBÁGYI, Ildikó, PhD: De- and Re-Contextualizing New York City
PINTÉR, Márta, PhD: Mai sztereotípiák, nyolcszáz éves gyökerekkel
SZABÓ F., Andrea, PhD: Gótikus terek: A vadnyugat

14:00 – 16:00

KOVÁCS, Tímea: *Star Trek* and the Edenic Tradition
CILIKE, Kittí: Youtube and Education
NÉMETH, Nikoletta: Electoral College Reform Attempts in Federal Level Legislative Proposals
UGRÓ, Tamás: Accents and Dialects in Fantasy
IHÁSZ, Petra: British and American Varieties of English among University Students
HARMAT, Ádám: Transformation of Gendered Spaces - A shift between Victorian and Modern women's spatial position
RÁBAI, Dalma: A kertvárosi konyha



BÚS, Éva, PhD: One man's home is another man's prison. Problems of spatial perception in Hamlet

As a tragedy Shakespeare's Hamlet is structured along the recognizable plot pattern that characterizes the genre: it offers an insight into how the life of the people in the world of the drama gets dislocated from a relatively peaceful position and how, after a series of events, it concludes in failure, devastation, suffering, and death. A closer look at the individual activities that constitute the plot seems to reveal the surprising fact, however, that several of them fail to qualify as tragic in a traditional sense. For example, significant characters are presented while carrying out parts of their daily routine, a phenomenon rarely featuring in other Shakespeare tragedies. Seeking to understand the possible reasons behind the presence of these fairly untragic activities in the plot of a great tragedy I decided to focus on the locations where the action as such takes place and came to the conclusion that with the exception of a few events they all happen in places that the people in the play perceive and identify as 'home'. In spite of their common denominator, namely the place where they all live their life, the characters perceive and understand it in a variety of ways, and they tend to adjust their behaviour and deeds to their spatial perception. This will inevitably result in the simultaneous presence of conflicting understandings of the concept of 'home' in the play, which in turn may also offer some explanation for the prince's controversial behaviour.

CZEGLÉDI, Sándor, PhD: Language Policy Dimensions of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election Campaign

The presentation examines the documents related to the 2016 U.S. presidential elections in the American Presidency Project database (maintained by John Woolley and Gerhard Peters) from a language policy perspective, focusing on the official party platforms, debates, campaign speeches, statements and press releases of the individual candidates.

CILIKE, Kitti: Youtube and Education

Napjainkban az Internet és a közösségi média életünk szerves részévé vált, minden nap használjuk kommunikációs vagy szórakozási céllal. Az egyik legismertebb ezek közül a YouTube, egy széles körben alkalmazott videómegosztó portál. Kutatásom során azt vettem górcső alá, hogy az itt megosztott oktató jellegű videók mennyire alkalmasak tantermi célokra.

FORINTOS, Éva, PhD: The *Homes* of Hungarian Substandard Varieties

In my paper I investigate how the written language (Hungarian) of a minority group (L1) functions outside its traditional setting in central Europe in an environment where an alternative language (L2) is used (for example English within Australia, New Zealand, Canada, or the UK). The phenomenon of an intraregional language contact situation occurs where Hungarian immigrants live among the dominant language speaking population of the respective country. The two languages involved are genealogically non-related and structurally-typologically non-identical languages. The studies of interlingual lexical contact phenomena reveal differences between Standard Hungarian and the substandard Hungarian language



varieties as a result of the influence of the English language on the aforementioned Hungarian community languages.

HARMAT, Ádám: Transformation of Gendered Spaces - A shift between Victorian and Modern women's spatial position

The aim of the research is to find out how women's spaces have transformed from Victorian to Modern times. It covers two basic fields which are spatial and gender studies. Also, it aims to introduce my own term, which is metaspace.

HORTOBÁGYI, Ildikó, PhD: De- and Re-Contextualizing New York City

The presentation outlines an interdisciplinary approach to American history and civilization through elements of popular culture. The song entitled *Empire State of Mind* offers sound grounds for tackling pervasive sociolinguistic, geo-political and economic issues against the backdrop of diversity in a multicultural society.

IHÁSZ, Petra: British and American Varieties of English among University Students

The English language has got quite many dialects of which British and American are the most widespread. In my paper I intend to present how much Hungarian university students are exposed to American English and British English as well as its linguistic background.

KOVÁCS, Tímea: Star Trek and the Edenic Tradition

The present study focuses on a dichotomy of the representation of nature in select American works from the early 17th century to our contemporary time with special reference to the *Star Trek* movies' universe.

Taking the Puritan view of nature and its legacies as the starting point of my research as well as by referring to Thomas Cole's (1833-36) *The Course of Empire*, and the Transcendentalist views on the power of nature, I argue that the *Star Trek* movies continue the tradition of portraying a duality of American Nature; which they do so by also reflecting on our contemporary society.

NÉMETH, Nikoletta: Electoral College Reform Attempts in Federal Level Legislative Proposals

The paper reviews Electoral College reform attempts as reflected in federal level legislative proposals introduced in the Federal Congress of the United States and compares them with recent state level initiatives.

PINTÉR, Márta: Mai sztereotípiák, nyolcszáz éves gyökerekkel

A Daily Telegraph által közzétett felmérési eredmények tükrében (2000. június 29) az írekről Angliában élő sztereotípiák túlnyomóan negatívak. A leggyakoribb angol általánosítások szerint az írek „iszákosak, lusták, buták, vadak és csalók.” Prezentációm rövid történelmi utazásra invitál, amely felvillantja, miképpen gyökereznek ezek a mai sztereotípiák Írország



angol gyarmatosításának kezdeti igazolásában és a gyarmatosítás ideológiájának 12. század végi megfogalmazásában.

RÁBAI, Dalma: A kertvárosi konyha

Előadásomban bemutatom, hogyan változtak a női szerepek a második világháborút követően az Egyesült Államokban, párhuzamba állítva az amerikai kertvárosi konyha változásaival. Ismertetem, hogy milyen szerepeket töltötték be a nők a 17. századtól kezdve a 20. század első feléig, majd összehasonlítom a második világháború után kialakuló női szerepekkel. Az előadásom célkitűzése bizonyítani, hogy a második világháború után kiemelkedő kertvárosi konyha arra ösztönözte a nőket, hogy térjenek vissza hagyományos szerepeikhez.

SZABÓ F., Andrea, PhD: Gótikus terek: A vadnyugat

A gótika kritikatörténetében a gótikus tér elméletei már nagyon korán megjelentek. Ezekben elsősorban a belső terek (vár, várbörtön, folyosó, pince, labirintus, stb.) élveztek központi szerepet megalapozva azt a közhelyet, hogy gótika alapvetően klausztrofóbiás műfaj. Előadásomban Cormac McCarthy sok vitát generáló *Véres délkörök* c. kortárs klasszikus regényét tárgyalom, melyben egyrészt bemutatom azt a kritikai kontextust, amely a mű első fogadtatásának időpillanatát jellemzette, majd kísérletet teszek a regény vadnyugatábrázolásáról folytatott diszkurzust eltéríteni, míg végül a gótikus térkoncepció elméleteinek keretén belül értelmezni.

SZENTGYÖRGYI, Szilárd, PhD: Talking Powerful: Dialects in American Politics

The paper addresses the issue of dialectal varieties of English in the United States and their phonetic and lexical differences. Based on this discussion we are going to focus on the dialects/accents of some recent historical-political figures - Dr. Martin Luther King, JFK, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama - and find out what varieties they use(d) when they address(ed) the public and how their dialects relate to (Standard) General American.

UGRÓ, Tamás: Accents and Dialects in Fantasy

My paper looks at how accents and dialects of English are used in the fantasy genre, particularly in movies and video games. There seems to be a trend for certain fictional characters and ethnicities in the genre to speak with the same accent, regardless of appearing in unrelated works, and this trend, I argue, seems to have been set by the *Lord of the Rings* movie trilogy.