International Conference
Critical Discourse and Linguistic Variation.
Cultural and linguistic stereotypes
Suceava, 23-24 July 2015

The ***Critical Discourse and Linguistic Variation*** International Conference, now at Fifth edition, proposes to PhD students, and all those interested, a general and integrative thematic under the title ***Cultural and linguistic stereotypes***

Stereotypes are a common buzz-word in fields varying from medicine to didactics, all dealing with ways to avoid patterns. Anthropology, for example, addresses the issue of cultural stereotypes that would ensure consistency and individualization of a social, ethnic, or cultural group, or of a community. A constitutive element of the human thought, stereotypes take the form of either myths as self-referential and justifying discourses, or prejudices as generalized and simplified speech acts. In a narrow sense, a stereotype involves both the mechanical repetition of forms, generated by a lack of originality (which would result in an oversimplified expression), and the taking for granted, without personal interpretation, of an idea, considered valuable. With relatively similar meanings, there are also the concepts of *cliché*, *pattern* –as mechanical repetition of a model. Taking into consideration the wide variety of terms regarding similar realities, we consider that some differences must be taken into consideration when dealing with terms such as *stereotype*, *cliché*, *pattern* etc.

Widely speaking, stereotypes regard everything that repeat and multiply a certain pattern, resulting in common traits of character; from this point of view, both the theoretical study of language (and also of other disciplines in the humanities), and the practical approaches of social sciences and cultural studies, aim at establishing models, types etc. which meet the requirements of regulating phenomena, so that, by a process of generalization, one can establish classes, paradigms and categories corresponding to series of elements and features defining identities and differences. In this case, we are talking about the positive aspects of *epistemological and methodological stereotypes*.

Research regarding the cognitive processes also proves the positive role of the stereotype as an indispensable element in the functioning of human memory and thinking (as a strong, resistant concept). Hence, it is only natural to accept the statement that one might identify in language positive stereotypes (*functional stereotypes*), due to the congruence between the communicative and cognitive processes. In this respect, based on the theory of E. Coşeriu, we can advance the idea that a certain language contains an amount of models, diagrams, and also a system imposed by tradition, which operates as a template. Therefore, there is a chance that the same structure is repeated exactly in the same format, or that the same oppositions and differences are employed several times. Hence, at a superior level, an amount of recurrences should distinguish the types and groups of languages (Romance, Germanic etc.) that would constitute different categories of *functional stereotypes*.

At the level of speech, of discourse, there is more freedom regarding the norm, but a type of freedom which takes into account the system - "the current technique", and some fixed structures imposed by tradition - "the repeated speech". The latter is usually considered a *lexical* stereotype, with or without expressive value, which manifests itself in all functional styles, but also in the non-literary language. But the former, updated in speech and characterized by the transformation of the virtual into real and harnessing creativity and ingenuity, is manifested through the

constraints imposed in language by standards (of congruence, correctness, adequacy etc.) dictated by tradition and history, and in accordance with the expectations of the receivers (*stereotypes of conformity*). Even when one takes into account the deviation from the norm, in the name of the poetic, this deviation must be recognized as an attribute of language, still part of a system that outlines the borders of expressivity. The role of the writers would be precisely to constantly identify other opportunities of "disappointing" the norm.

All these research directions, but also others in accordance with the proposed thematic, can constitute themes for research papers presented at the conference organized by the Humanities Doctoral School, "Stefan cel Mare" University of Suceava. Those interesting in participating are invited to submit to debate their own research results, by reuniting and confronting various opinions and research directions (discourse analysis, linguistics, language history, stylistics, literary criticism and theory, interpretation, translation studies etc.).

The general theme of the conference will be organized in three sections:

1) **New trends in evaluating the literary text**
2) **Discursive and textual analysis**
3) **Interdisciplinary approaches to discourse**.

Delegates can present write their papers in Romanian, French, English, Spanish, Italian, or German.

The deadline for the participation fee (covering access to all conference sections, conference materials, certificate of attendance, coffee breaks, publishing the papers in a ISBN conference proceedings volume) is **15 July 2015**.

The payment details will be communicated at a further date.

Participation fee:

Romanian delegates: **150 RON** (attending the conference and publishing the paper)

Delegates from abroad:

-**40 euro** (attending the conference and publishing the paper)

-**50 euro** (publishing the paper, without attending the conference).

Deadlines:

-24 May 2015: submitting the title, the abstract of the paper (10 - 15 lines) and 5 key words, (delegates should also mention the section);

-1 June 2015: confirmation of acceptance;

-15 July 2015: submitting the conference paper that willl not exceed 10 pages. At this date, delegates should also make proof of payment –scanned receipt, postal order etc;

-20 July 2015: the conference programme;

-23-24 July 2015: the conference.

Scientific Committee:

Marius Sala – Romanian Academy
Paloma Gracia Alonso – Granada University, Spain
Simona Antofi - „Dunărea de Jos" University,, Galați, România
Sanda-Maria Ardeleanu – Stefan cel Mare University , Suceava, România
Neil B. Bishop - St. John's University, Newfoundland, Canada
Iulian Boldea - Petru Maior University, Tîrgu Mureș, România
Aurel Buzincu - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Henry Boyer - Paul Valéry University, Montpellier III, France
Luminiţa Cărăuşu - Al. I. Cuza University, Iași, România
I. C. Corjan - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Albumiţa-Muguraş Constantinescu - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Claudia Costin - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Mircea A. Diaconu - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Caius Dobrescu - University of Bucharest, România
Sabina Maria Fînaru - Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Danielle Forget – Ottawa University, Canada
Georges Freris – Aristote University, Thessaloniki, Greece
Alexandru Gafton - Al. I. Cuza University, Iași, România
Evelina Graur - Stefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Vasile Ilincan - Stefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Daniela Jeder - Stefan cel Mare University , Suceava, România
Vassiliki Lalagianni – Pélopponèse University, Greece
Nicolae Leahu - Alecu Russo University Bălți, Republic of Moldova
Coman Lupu – University of Bucharest, România
George Manolache - Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, România
Mircea Martin - University of Bucharest, România
Aurelia Merlan - Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München, Germany
Ana Maria Minuţ - Al. I. Cuza University, Iași, România
Ovidiu Morar - Stefan cel Mare University , Suceava, România
Eugen Munteanu - Al. I. Cuza University, Iași, România
Mircea Muthu - Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, România
Rodica Nagy - Stefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Enrique Javier Nogueras Valdiviesa – Granada University, Spain
Ioan Oprea - Stefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Gheorghe Popa - Alecu Russo University Bălți, Republic of Moldova
Marina Rădulescu Sala - „Iorgu Iordan – Al.Rosetti" Linguistics Institute, Bucharest, România
Ala Sainenco - Alecu Russo University Bălți, Republic of Moldova
Lavinia Seiciuc- Stefan cel Mare University , Suceava, România
Ion Simuţ - University of Oradea, România
Vasile Spiridon - Vasile Alecsandri University, Bacău, România
Elena-Brânduşa Steiciuc - Stefan cel Mare University , Suceava, România
Maria Sleahtiţchi – State University, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova
Andrei Terian - Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, România
Monica Timofte- Ștefan cel Mare University, Suceava, România
Oana Ursache – Granada University, Spania
Felicia Vrănceanu – National University „Yuryi Fedkovici", Chernovtsy Ukraine

Organization committee:

Prof. Rodica Nagy, PhD: rodinagy@yahoo.com
Prof. Mircea A. Diaconu, PhD: mircea_a_diaconu@hotmail.com
Lecturer Daniela Petroşel, PhD: daniela.petrosel@gmail.com
Lecturer Ioana Crina COROI, PhD: crinacoroi@yahoo.fr
Lecturer CătălinaPînzariu, PhD: tea_ina_pin@yahoo.es
Alina Nacu, PhD: aprisacariu@usv.ro
Oana Strugaru, PhD: oana_andriese@yahoo.com
Lecturer Otilia Ignătescu, PhD: otinastuta@yahoo.com
PhD candidate Cornelia Nichifor: cornelianichifor@yahoo.com
PhD candidate Georgiana Diaconiţa: gdiaconita@yahoo.com
PhD candidate Andreea Cerlincă: dea_cml@yahoo.com