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tution du travail et la participation des membres aux différents projets. La possibilité de la désignation de représentants locaux ou régionaux fut également mentionnée. Une enquête a été organisée pour avoir une idée des possibilités de participation active des membres.

Sur la proposition de l'assemblée le comité consultatif de Termvet s'engage à mettre au point pour la prochaine Assemblée un projet de statuts qui définira de façon plus concrète les règles de procédure ainsi que les droits et obligations des membres.

3. La journée du 19 avril fut consacrée au Premier Atelier international sur la Documentation terminologique qui vint clore cette série de 3 colloques et qui avait réuni également une cinquantaine de participants. Les débats se dérouleront sur la base d'une série d'exposés sur les deux thèmes majeurs:

1. "Principes et méthodes de la documentation et de terminologie"
2. "Projets et développements futurs de la documentation terminologique",

Parmi les exposés qui étaient de la plus haute actualité, nous mentionnerons ici, 2 titres d'exemples:

"Formats d'échange pour la documentation terminologique" (A. Mopkin-

"Exigences dans la formation de documenatalistes de terminologie" (W. Nedobity) et "Questions du droit d'auteur et les hasards de données" (J. Ill. Hodiak).

JACOUES OVIGAARD

BOOK REVIEWS:

VARANTOLA, KRISTA:

ON NOUN PHRASE STRUCTURES IN ENGINEERING ENGLISH
Turku, 1984 - Annales Universitatis Turkuensis

Krista Varantola's 250-page study of that notoriously powerful linguistic phenomenon, the noun phrase, arose out of her teaching of English for Engineering at the School of Translation Studies, University of Turku. The author's pragmatic-didactic orientation finds expression in an ability to concern herself with the functional and communicative aspects of her theory, the object of that theory, and its presentation - also in respect of documentation and illustration.

This study combines the traditional virtues of thoroughness and that special scholarly "gravitas" (a happy antidote to the publish-or-perish pyrotechnics of certain other linguistic schools) with a readiness to adopt the tools of the computer age, for her quantitative syntactic and lexical analysis.
It is possibly erring on the side of optimism to submit that Varantola's apologia for LSP is outdated; again, one might wish that her painstaking study were a mite less reticent, its conclusions presented with less modesty; that the author's language revisors, thanked in the foreword, had been sufficiently vigilant to have weeded out the (remarkably few) examples of colloquialism unsuited to a written text - the egregious "actually" for instance - scattered with the typical native-speaker sloppiness of someone whose English so closely approaches "nativespeaker" levels that she is generally able to express herself clearly, unambiguously and also agreeably, with variation and cadence which fall easily on an English-first-language audience. Again, the work could have been compressed; but greater tension would have banished the measured pace which has such great didactic value.

The language corpus dealt with comprises 50 texts in engineering English (some 20,200 words), the reference corpus 27 texts (some 11,500 words). The coding schemes for the corpora are NP-based. The material selected offers a high degree of homogeneity, both corpora consisting of informative news items and short articles, intended for the specialist (in the case of the engineering texts) or for the layman (the general texts).

It would be easy to state that no better quantitative study of Engineering English exists; but since this study is unique, as far as I am aware, in this specific area, it would be more apposite to say that it is an admirable, clearly devised and lucidly presented work whose implications for further research, teaching and practical work deserve to be far-reaching. It is also a fine example of a translator-linguist overcoming the endemic horror of mechanisation to produce a sensible computer-assisted study that at the same time makes more lively and human reading than others of its kind.

JENNIFER DRASKAU