



Editorial

The first issue of the LSP Journal has been well received, and apparently the transition to electronic publishing has not raised any protests, although you may argue that those who would have protested may not been aware of the journal's existence and therefore have not made themselves heard.

The articles in the second issue reflect the importance of an in-depth understanding of the relation between language skills, cognition and professional communication which is far beyond what Global English offers to its speakers in the form of everyday communication about fuzzy matters. Nothing is wrong with Global English as long as the speakers realize that not everyone masters the English language and respect that specialists must assist when it comes to professional communication. This is often forgotten by non-English speakers who overestimate their own language skills. It is equally important to remember that although English serves as lingua franca in a lot of situations, it can never replace other languages.

A recent symposium on Approaches to the Lexicon at the Copenhagen Business School had tracks on Lexical Semantics, Word Formation, Lexical Acquisition and Terminology and Ontologies and included many papers of interest to readers of this Journal. The program may be consulted here: <https://conference.cbs.dk/index.php/lexicon/lexicon/schedConf/program>.

The lexical semantics track of the symposium addressed a wide range of foundational problems involving the question of what lexical items mean, the representation of lexical knowledge, the theory of the generative lexicon and, not least, the lexical sources of the interpretation of phrases and full sentences.

The lexical formation track dealt with various aspects of the morphology-syntax interface. Questions addressed in this track were: How are compounds formed and how are they distinguished from phrases? What are the formal and semantic constraints? How do language types differ in lexical formation patterns? How is reference assigned to compounds?

The lexical acquisition track concerned research in lexical acquisition, use and pedagogy particularly within the field of second language acquisition research. An increasing number of vocabulary studies have widened the perception of language learning, and it has been empirically documented that lexical competence is a strong predictor of language learners' proficiency in second or foreign language.

The fourth track on terminology and ontologies was attended by a lively group of participants who discussed concept clarification and knowledge organization, the importance of precise definitions and a common understanding of concepts as well as similarities and differences between different kinds of ontologies. The track addressed principles and methods for building ontologies, including methods for automatic extraction of information about concepts. Knowledge organization and concept clarification build on knowledge modelling by means of ontologies. Dynamic and automatic or semi-automatic construction of ontologies



play a key role in the development of a number of different applications, and may contribute to creating solutions far more efficient than the results of cumbersome manual labour.

The symposium was a fruitful meeting point of experts who were not used to meeting each other but who benefited from getting views from neighbouring disciplines on their specialties. The lexicon side and the ontology side may have come a little bit nearer a common understanding.

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