



**First Call for Papers**  
**International Conference**  
**LANGUAGES IN CONTACT 2012**  
**26–27 May, 2012**

**organized by:**

Committee for Philology of the Polish Academy of Sciences,  
Wrocław Branch, Poland

Philological School of Higher Education  
in Wrocław, Poland

**CONFIRMED PLENARY SPEAKERS:**

**KATARZYNA DZIUBALSKA–KOŁACZYK** (POZNAŃ, POLAND)  
**MARCIN KILARSKI** (POZNAŃ, POLAND)  
**TOMASZ P. KRZESZOWSKI** (WARSAW, POLAND)  
**RICHARD L. LANIGAN** (WASHINGTON, D.C., USA)  
**JOHN RICKFORD** (STANFORD, USA)

### **Selected conference topics:**

- conceptions about the origin of language and languages
- endangered and vanishing languages
- the ecology of minority languages
- anthropological linguistics
- cultural patterns in discursive practices
- folk-linguistics and folk-anthropology
- mechanisms of language change (and language death)
- the description and classification (genetic, aerial, typological) of the languages of the world
- the ethnography of communication
- studies of pidgin, creole and mixed languages
- the origins and spread of writing systems
- field linguistics

“The attempts to classify mankind are numerous.”

**Franz Boas**, (1911: 6) “Introduction.” [In:] *The Handbook of American Indian Languages*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution. Bureau of American Ethnology. Bulletin 40, 1-95.

“Of all aspects of culture, it is a fair guess that language was the first to receive a highly developed form and that its essential perfection is a prerequisite to the development of culture as a whole.”

**Edward Sapir**, (1937: 155) “Language.” [In:] Edwin A. Seligman (editor-in-chief) *Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences*. Vol. 9; New York: Macmillan, 155-169.

“1. The discipline of linguistics will continue to contribute studies of the history, structure, and use of languages; 2. in other disciplines, linguistic concepts and practices will be qualified, reinterpreted, subsumed, and perhaps sometimes re-diffused in changed form into linguistics; 3. linguistics will remain the discipline for coordinating knowledge about verbal behavior from the viewpoint of language itself.”

**Dell H. Hymes**, (1962: 13) “The Ethnography of Speaking.” [In:] T. Galdwin, William Sturtevant (eds.) *Anthropology and Human Behavior*. Washington, D.C.: The Anthropological Society of Washington, 13-53.

“The possibility of insult and of humor based on linguistic choices means that members agree on the underlying rules of speech and on the social meaning of linguistic features.

**Susan M. Ervin-Tripp**, (1964: 93) “Sociolinguistics.” [In:] Leonard Berkovitz (ed.) *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*. Vol 4. New York: Academic Press, 93-107.

“As culture contact is perhaps the most common vector of culture change, the nature of this contact is often manifested in linguistic change.”

**William A. Foley**, (1997: 384) *Anthropological Linguistics*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

“(…) Linguistic anthropology is a distinct discipline that deserves to be studied for its past accomplishments as much as for the vision of the future presented in the work of a relatively small but active group of interdisciplinary researchers.”

**Alessandro Duranti**, (1997: 1) *Linguistic Anthropology*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press.

“The development of a comprehensive written visual language caused civilization to grow more complex. (…) Literacy gives cultures the privilege of knowing the past.”

**Denise Schmandt-Besserat**, (2007:105) *When Writing Met Art. From Symbol to Story*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

The conference will consist of keynote lectures and parallel paper sessions. The language of the conference will be English.

Selected and reviewed conference papers, after the acceptance of the editor, will be collected and published as one of our book series *Philologica Wratislaviensia: Acta et Studia*.

#### **Scientific Committee:**

- Prof. Stanisław Prędoła (Polish Academy of Sciences, Wrocław Branch; University of Wrocław & Opole University)
- Prof. Zdzisław Wąsik (Philological School of Higher Education in Wrocław; The Angelus Silesius State School of Higher Vocational Education in Wałbrzych, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań & Kolegium Karkonoskie in Jelenia Góra)
- Prof. Piotr P. Chruszczewski (Polish Academy of Sciences, Wrocław Branch; University of Wrocław & Philological School of Higher Education in Wrocław)

#### **Organizing Committee:**

- Anna Zasłona
- Jacek Mianowski
- Piotr P. Chruszczewski

#### **Important dates:**

- Closing date for registration and submission of abstracts: **31 March, 2012**
- Notification of abstract acceptance: **15 April, 2012**
- Deadline for registration fee payment: **5 May, 2012**

#### **Registration and Submission of Proposals:**

**Please register online:** <http://www.wsf.edu.pl/43365.xml>

Please send a 400-500 word abstract for a 30-minute paper (20 minutes presentation and 10 minutes for discussion) by 31 March, 2012 at [languagesincontact@wsf.edu.pl](mailto:languagesincontact@wsf.edu.pl)

Paper proposals should include the following elements:

- Title of the paper
- Author(s) name

- Author(s) institution affiliation, address, and contact e-mail
- Abstract text (max. 400-500 words)
- Times New Roman font size 12 pt.
- A Microsoft Word 2003 file

**Conference fee:**

450 PLN (approx. 100 EUR) - conference materials, coffee breaks, lunch and banquet included

The conference fee should be paid by 5 May, 2012 to the following account of the Philological School of Higher Education in Wrocław:

Account Holder: Wyższa Szkoła Filologiczna we Wrocławiu

Bank: Raiffeisen Bank Polska S. A.

Account No (IBAN): PL 23 1750 1064 0000 0000 0856 4167

SWIFT Code: RCBWPLPW

**Please make sure to include your name and the conference title (Languages in Contact) in the description of the bank transfer.**

**The conference fee does not include travel and accommodation costs.**

**Conference venue:**

The National Labour Inspectorate Training Centre in Wrocław (Centrum Konferencyjne Państwowej Inspekcji Pracy), ul. Mikołaja Kopernika 5

The conference will be held in a historic building, which is ideally situated in the heart of the most beautiful district of Wrocław, near the Szczytnicki Park, the Centennial Hall (a UNESCO heritage building) and the Zoo.

We recommend accommodation at the Hotel Park, which is part of the conference venue. Please note that the organizers do not provide accommodation for the conference participants.

**Important information:**

A list of recommended hotels and the map of location of the conference venue are available at <http://www.wsf.edu.pl/aktualnosci,Languages-in-Contact-2012.xml>

**Contact details:**

Conference secretary - Anna Zaslona

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**Honorary patronage:**

- President of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Wrocław Branch
- Rector of the Philological School of Higher Education in Wrocław

**For more information visit:**

- [www.pan.wroc.pl](http://www.pan.wroc.pl)
- [www.wsf.edu.pl](http://www.wsf.edu.pl)