RaAM news

The Association for Researching and Applying Metaphor

Message from the chair

The Vilnius conference is rapidly approaching, and we are all very much looking forward to meeting old friends and making new ones, learning about hot-off-the-press research findings, and listening to inspiring keynote talks. The conference programme is full of metaphor-related talks – many with a focus on the conference theme "Metaphor and Space". A big thanks to the RaAM14 conference organizers. We appreciate how much time you have spent in organizing the conference and realize how difficult it must have been to decide to switch from a 'hybrid' to an 'all online' format.

Although we are not going to meet each other in person again this year due to the pandemic, we are certain that this year's conference is going to be as lively, interactive and social as ever! We are very much looking forward to meeting you all online on the 23rd of June!

As you all know, RaAM thrives because of the efforts of all its members. This year, the post of Newsletter Editor is up for election (see p. 12). We are very happy to see that a number of members decided to stand for this position, and are grateful for their willingness to contribute to the further development of our organization.

Next year, many more positions on the Executive Board will be up for election, including Chair, Treasurer, and Post-Graduate Liaison. We want to ask you to start considering whether you might want to stand for one of these posts. Please do not hesitate to talk to current EC members about what we do - the conference coffee breaks are a great time for a chat!

For RaAM to continue to provide a vibrant environment for researchers to communicate and collaborate, we depend on you. Please keep sending us information about your publications, research projects, conference experiences, and much more for the upcoming Newsletters.

Kathleen Ahrens, Chair of RaAM

Highlights

RaAM14 Vilnius, p. 2
The next RaAM conference will take place **online** on 23-26 June 2021.
All welcome!

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RaAM Postgraduate Liaison Justyna Wawrzyniuk interviews Mohammad Naghavian

RaAM

Visit the website at raam.org.uk for details on upcoming RaAM events

Metaphor and Space
Virtual conference
Vilnius University, Lithuania
23 – 26 June 2021

The 14th RaAM conference addresses figurative communication in reference to space, interpreted in many different ways: from spatial linguistic expressions in one or several languages to space as a frequent source domain for numerous metaphors to the space of text and discourse, of visual, auditory and other modalities.

This year, over 120 paper presentations and over 25 poster presentations are included in the Conference programme, which can be found here.

The confirmed **keynote speakers** at the RaAM14 conference and their talks are listed here:

- Jonathan Charteris-Black, University of the West of England, UK
  'Bubbles', 'Cocoons' and the 'Petri Dish': Spatial Metaphors and the Pandemic
- Alan Cienki, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  Metaphor and Gesture: What's New?
- Michele Feist, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, USA
  Space to Think
- Charles Forceville, Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  The JOURNEY as Central Concept to Structure Goal-directed Activity

There are also 3 pre-conference workshops held before the opening. They are free to registered participants of the Conference. You can definitely learn something new during one or more of these workshops:

- Kristina Despot and Ana Ostriški, Institute of the Croatian Language and Linguistics, Croatia
  A method for language-specific metaphorical conceptualization analysis
- Charles Forceville, Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  Using visuals in multimodality publications
- Khadidja Merakchi, Heriot-Watt University, UK
  Sketch engine: a powerful tool for corpus-based studies of metaphors. A Translation Studies perspective

The participants will be competing for **prizes** in three categories:

- Best Poster Presentation (sponsored by RaAM14 LOC)
- Early Career Researcher Prize (sponsored by RaAM)
- PhD Conference Presentation Prize (sponsored by Benjamins Publishing)

Metaphor and Space
Virtual conference
Vilnius University, Lithuania
23 – 26 June 2021

You will be able to join a thought-provoking event Ask the Expert! and many more.

More information can be found on the conference website: www.raam14.flf.vu.lt and on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @raamconf.

We would have wanted to meet you all in our magnificent city Vilnius and our hearts are bleeding that we cannot. We still hope you will enjoy RaAM14!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the organizing committee at: raam14@flf.vu.lt.

Local Organising Committee

Prof. Inesa Šeškauskienė (chair)	Assist. Prof. Justina Urbonaitė
Assoc.Prof. Liudmila Arcimavičį]enė	Assoc. Prof. Dovilė Vengalienė
Assoc. Prof. Jurga Cibulskienė	Assist. Prof. Eglė Žilinskaitė-Šinkūnienė
Dr. Ieva Stasiūnaitė	

Update on RaAM Code of Conduct

Dear RaAM Members,

Thank you for your helpful comments and suggestions on the RaAM code of conduct. Here we provide a reminder about this work and an update on progress. This update was also emailed to current RaAM members on 27 May, 2021.

What is the RaAM code of conduct and why is it needed?
The code of conduct is intended to promote a fair, open, and positive culture and ensure all involved feel able to report concerns, confident that they will be heard and responded to. As a registered charity in England and Wales, RaAM is committed to protecting and safeguarding those who come into contact with the organisation. The Charity Commission stipulates various aspects that RaAM needs to consider and address, one of which is having a code of conduct.

What steps have been taken to develop the RaAM code of conduct?
At the Annual General Meeting at RaAM Virtual2020 conference, the Executive Committee sought members' initial thoughts on how to shape our code of conduct. Since then, RaAM members have been invited to provide further input via email and via an anonymous survey open from 15th December 2020 to 18th January 2021. All feedback received was then discussed at the 26th RaAM Executive Committee meeting, which took place on Wednesday 20th January 2021 via web conferencing. Since this meeting, the RaAM Executive Committee made further enquiries with the Charity Commission and held further discussions online. Feedback was overwhelmingly supportive of the code of conduct, and helpful suggestions were received on content and phrasing about aspects such as the role of conference organisers, online conduct, and processes for reporting and responding to issues. The final wording (see below) has been shaped in response to members' comments and suggestions, and input from the Charity Commission.

What is the process of approving the code of conduct wording?
The Charity Commission have confirmed the code of conduct is not something that they need to approve, or that RaAM members need to vote on. Provided the trustees (i.e., RaAM Executive Committee) have followed good practice and consulted members (see above), the RaAM Executive Committee are free to agree on the final wording.

What is the code of conduct and where can it be found?
The RaAM code of conduct can be found on the association's website and will be periodically reviewed at RaAM Executive Committee meetings. As ever, we welcome questions and feedback from members on this, or any other aspect of the Executive Committee's work.

Thank you for your continued support of RaAM.

The RaAM Executive Committee:

Kathleen Ahrens (Chair)   David O'Reilly (Secretary)
Zsófia Demjén (Treasurer)   Allison Creed (Conference Secretary)
Gudrun Reijnierse (Newsletter Editor)   Britta Brugman (Web Editor)
Justyna Wawrzyniuk (Postgraduate Liaison) Marianna Bolognesi (Ordinary Member)
Lorena Bort-Mir (Ordinary Member)

New articles

- Cortazzi, M. & Jin, L. (2020). Elicited Metaphor Analysis: Approaching teaching and learning. In S. Delamont & M. Ward (Eds.). *Handbook of Qualitative Research in Education 2nd edition* (pp. 486-503). Chichester: Edward Elgar.

- Cortazzi, M. & Jin, L. (2020). Good Teachers: Visions of values and virtues in university student metaphors. *KEMANUSIAAN Asian Journal of Humanities*, *27*(2), 145-164. https://doi.org/10.21315/kajh2020.27.2.8

- Cortazzi, M. & Jin, L. (2021). Metaphorical Conceptualizations of Language: Networks of meanings and metafunctions. *International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies*, *9*(1), 2-14. http://dx.doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijels.v.9n.1p.2

- Jin, L. & Cortazzi, M. (2020). Reaching for the Gold Standard: Metaphors and good university teachers. *Chinese Journal of Applied Linguistics*, *43*(2), 131-149. https://doi.org/10.1515/CJAL-2020-0009

- Mannoni, Michele (2021). Rights metaphors across hybrid legal languages, such as Euro English and Legal Chinese. *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11196-020-09814-6

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- Naciscione, Anita (2019). The role of cognitive theory in translation of metaphorical scientific terms. In: Lubkina, Velta, Klavinska, Antra and Svetlana Usca (Eds.). *SOCIETY, INTEGRATION, EDUCATION: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference May 24-25, 2019. Vol. III* (pp, 552-562). Rezekne: Rezekne Academy of Technologies. http://www.naciscione.com/resources/socinted2019.pdf

- Naciscione, Anita (2018). Metaphorical conceptualization of economic and political austerity: A study in political discourse. In: Kudszus, Winfried and Richard Trim (Eds.). *Metaphors of Austerity & the Austerity of Metaphors* (pp. 105-127). Paris: L'Harmattan. http://www.naciscione.com/resources/austerity2018.pdf

Project update: thank you!

Far back in "BC" (Before Corona) days, in 2016, I asked for help in this Newsletter ([no. 18](#)) for a research project, The Nation as a Body.

Cross-Cultural Interpretations, specifically for volunteer collaborators to distribute and collect a survey questionnaire. Despite three applications to funding bodies I never received funding for the survey and could not pay anyone a penny for their help. Nevertheless, the RaAM community stepped up and supported the project magnificently, with colleagues collecting over 2000 completed questionnaires from twenty-four different L1 language backgrounds in 30 countries across all continents, except for Antarctica!

Without your help such a result would have been unthinkable - a big Thank You! to all those who gave out the questionnaires in their classes, collected them and sent them back to me as scans or paper copies, also dealing with the various universities' ethics requirements, and answering my questions when some responses seemed enigmatic, and generally giving advice.

The results have now been published in a volume *National Conceptualisations of the Body Politic - Cultural Experience and Political Imagination*, with Springer International (for details: https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-981-15-8740-5).

A big Thank you you also to the RaAM Newsletter for advertising the call for help, which was answered in such a magnanimous way by our community.

Andreas Musolff

New RaAM member

My Name is Daban Q. Jaff, recently defended my thesis: *The Conceptualization of Trauma in Johnathan S. Foer's Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close and Don DeLillo's Falling Man: A Cognitive Approach to 9/11 Trauma Metaphor*. I am interested in understanding the way negative abstract states and experiences, such as trauma stress, are communicated through metaphors. Concerning my future works, I am thinking about applying the psycho-cognitive model to the Holocaust testimony and other genocide discourses, currently, I am looking for a University that fosters such projects.

I have supervised a stylistic research group, the research group consisting of 6 students, and the main question of the research group was to understand the way trauma stress, as an abstract feeling, is communicated through metaphors. we Managed to examine three 9/11 novels, and the result of the research will be published in Koya University Journal.

Link of the research group: https://sites.google.com/a/koyauniversity.org/daban-jaff/research-supervision

You can find Koya University press about the workshop: http://koyauniversity.org/node/275

June 2021

More new articles

He, Sui (2021). Cognitive metaphor theories in translation studies: Toward a dual-model parametric approach. *Intercultural Pragmatics*, 18(1), 25-52. https://doi.org/10.1515/ip-2021-0002

"This paper lays the methodological foundation for my PhD project on metaphor translation. It looks into the complementary relationship between Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) and Conceptual Blending Theory (CBT), and discusses the practical contribution that this relationship could make to the existing research on metaphor translation. Metaphorical expressions analyzed in this paper are sourced from cosmology-themed articles published in *Scientific American* in 2017 and their Simplified Chinese translations published in *Huanqiukexue*. Findings show that delineated by the two parameters, CMT and CBT indeed share a complementary relationship owing to their different focuses and organizing mechanisms. Furthermore, the collaboration between CMT and CBT offers a well-rounded analytical framework for translation studies. In turn, the correlation between metaphor parameters and translation solutions provides detailed clues for studying metaphor across culture."

Salvador Climent & Marta Coll-Florit (2021). All you need is love: metaphors of love in 1946–2016 Billboard year-end number-one songs. *Text and Talk.* https://doi.org/10.1515/text-2019-0209

This study examines the use of metaphors, metonymies and metaphorical similes for love in a corpus of 52 year-end number one hit songs in the USA from 1946 to 2016 according to Billboard charts. Our findings indicate that the theme of romantic love is prevalent in US mainstream pop music over the course of seven decades but shows evolutionary features. Metaphors of love evolve from conventional to novel with a notable increase in both heartbreak and erotic metaphors. Remarkably, the study finds that the two predominant conceptualizations of love in pop songs – which in a significant number of cases overlap – are the following: experiential, originating in the physical proximity of the lovers, and cultural, reflecting possession by one lover and showing a non-egalitarian type of love.

Student matters: An update from the Postgraduate Liaison

Dear RaAM Student Members,

June is finally here and with that comes what is probably one of the most demanding periods of the academic year. **Remember to catch a break and take care of yourself, especially now!**

June also means that this year's conference is right around the corner. As you already know, this year's RaAM, like the previous one, will also be fully online. However, there is a silver lining here: this way, more of us can participate! I'm really looking forward to hearing your talks and seeing you around, albeit virtually.

With that being said, there will still be **plenty of opportunities to interact and socialize throughout the conference**. If you're in for some laughs, sudden bursts of creativity, or just in need to unwind after a busy conference day, we have something for you: meet fellow RaAM Students for a virtual PhD Event! Drinks, snacks, and comfy clothes are in order! ☺

Still not sure about participating? Join the **two pre-parties** where you can meet other members even before the conference begins. Go **here** and mark the session you would like to join. Hope to see you there!

RaAM14 is not only about us socializing, though; we're all about the research, too! This year, for the first time, you'll have a chance to participate in the **Ask the Expert event** where a group of distinguished metaphor scholars will answer your most burning questions about your research. Ask the Expert sessions will be open for all conference participants, so feel free to pop in even if you did not submit your research project. Trust me, you cannot miss this one!

Finally, it was my pleasure to interview **Mohammad Naghavian** for the **Metaphor Column** . Mohammad is a master's student at the University of Mazandaran, Iran. Learn about his research, his favorite metaphor, must-see places in Iran, and more!

If you would like to interview an established academic for the MC, or be interviewed yourself, please email postgrad_liaison@raam.org.uk.

Best wishes and see you soon!

Justyna Wawrzyniuk

RaAM Postgraduate Liaison | postgrad_liaison@raam.org.uk

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

Check for updates

EDITORIAL

Back to the Poem: A Call for A Special Issue on the Poetics of Metaphor

On January 1, 2020, I (the first author), started my term as the new Editor in Chief of Metaphor and Symbol. I wanted to inaugurate that moment with a short editorial piece in the journal seeking to accomplish two goals. The first was to talk about the somewhat expanded scope of the journal, both in terms of what would be entertained as submitted material, but also an expansion in the size, breadth, and diversity of the Editorial Board, to afford consideration of that broadened content. The second goal was to look broadly at why we study metaphor and other figures in the first place.

In that editorial ("If we look slightly askance, we see it all", Colston, 2020) I discussed the expanding landscape of metaphor studies, from which the journal would welcome submissions. I also provided a sample of poems about poetry and poetic meaning, in turn demonstrating the power of poetry to conjure feelings and deep insights, in part due to metaphor, in this case concerning poetry itself. The discussion of poetry was also offered to demonstrate an irony in metaphor research – once we discovered the prevalence of metaphor in everything that isn't poetry, we in part turned our backs on poetry to investigate metaphor everywhere else. The editorial was also offered in the hope of catalyzing our collective excitement about the kinds of research we do and that we see published in Metaphor and Symbol as a result.

As a partial outcome of writing that editorial, I myself started writing poetry. I penned my first one on January 3, 2020, and have to-date written over six hundred. They come in a variety of types and styles, but most are picture poems – with a visual component of some sort incorporated with the text. Although penned mostly as a hobby, as a scholar of metaphor, I've also noticed the immense power this particular mode of multimodal metaphor delivery system has at its disposal.

I'm joined in noticing this potential, as well as in writing the present editorial, by my colleagues Carina Rasse, who studies the role of conceptual metaphor in poetry interpretation, and Albert Katz, a senior scholar in metaphor and related studies and also a published poet. We have been discussing poems and together have noted some of the potential differences this art form might provide beyond other forms of multimodal metaphor delivery – on which there has been an explosion of recent interest and research (Di Biase-Dyson & Egg, 2020; Cienki & Müller, 2008; Fauconnier & Turner, 2002; Forceville, 1996, 2006, 2013; Forceville & Urios-Aparisi, 2009; Gibbs, 2008; Kövecses, 2010; Müller, 2008; Pérez-Sobrino, 2017; Perez-Sobrino, Littlemore, & Ford, 2021).

We offer the present editorial to first reiterate that Metaphor and Symbol encourages the submission of manuscripts covering the ever expanding breadth of metaphor and symbol and in continuing the Journal's tradition of inviting papers that reflect the rapid paced, multi-media frenzy of the communicative, allegorical, and symbolic state of today's world. Metaphor and Symbol invites work in these new areas, from a variety of approaches and disciplines. Rigorous empirical methods, addressing the wide diversity of metaphor and related processes, are welcomed. We look for works that are able not only to document the presence of metaphor and other forms of nonliteral language and thought, in these areas, but that also advance our understanding of the cognitive, social, embodied, interactive, cultural, and related underpinnings of metaphor and other figurative and related processes.

We also wish to make concrete this commitment of attention to the growing diversity of metaphor studies, through an announcement of an upcoming special issue of Metaphor and Symbol focusing on poetry and related literary forms, to-be edited by the three of us. We are seeking works that go beyond the mere documentation of metaphor in poetry, which address and measure the function(s) of metaphor, other figures, and related processes, in poetry. How, for instance, does the addition of an imagistic or other visual component, metaphorical or otherwise, alter the comprehension and breadth of meaning of an otherwise text-only poem? Or how might the density, or consistency, of embodied simulations taking place in the encounter with a poetic text/image, affect its comprehension, appreciation, etc. Or what effect do measurable emotional experiences occurring while encountering poetic material, perhaps brought about by embodied simulations, have on the reader/listener/viewer's experience? Does poetry play a therapeutic role in times of stress- and if so, how? These are some possibilities of questions we envision for the issue.

Scholars wishing to submit manuscripts to this special issue are asked to first contact the editors of the special issue, before submitting materials to the journal's submission system. This is requested simply to help clarify between manuscripts submitted for the special issue, from manuscripts looking at poetry but not intended for the special issue. We ask that papers for this special issue be submitted to the journal no later than December 31, 2021. We will aim for a 2022 publication.

Thank you for your continued interest in all things metaphoric and symbolic, and best wishes for the new year.

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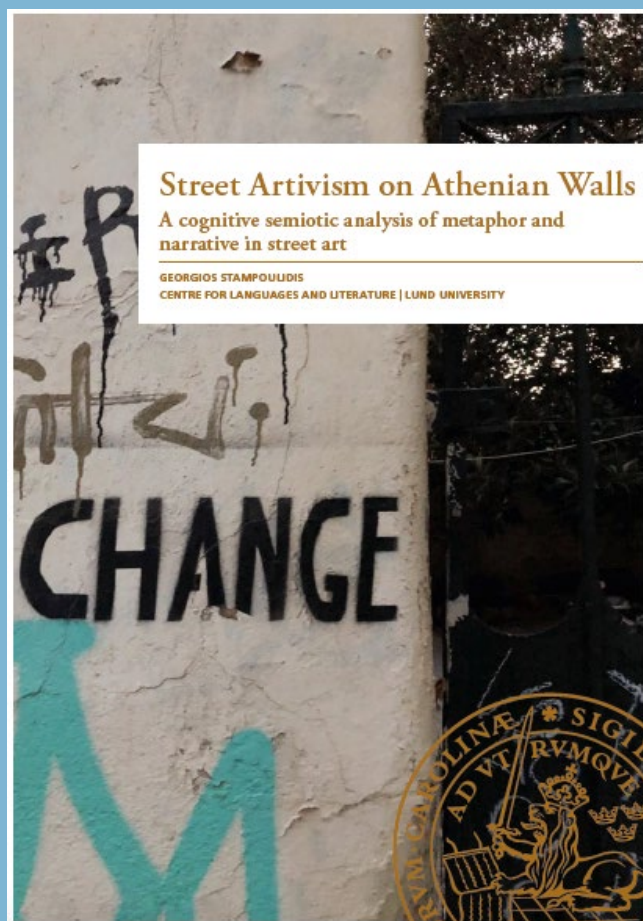*Western University*

Recently completed PhD project

Georgios Stampoulidis (2021). *Street Artivism on Athenian Walls. A cognitive semiotic analysis of metaphor and narrative in street art*. **Lund University.**

The thesis is a collection of four papers on Greek street art (specifically situated in the city of Athens) with a focus on metaphors and narratives. The overall aim guiding this thesis is to explore how street art in times of crisis can represent sociopolitical issues and in what ways these messages can be conveyed. By using the perspective of cognitive semiotics to address this, a parallel aim is to contribute to developing concepts and methods in this relatively new discipline.

Paper 1 presents a set of qualitative and quantitative analyses of rhetorical figures such as metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, oxymoron and personification in street art. A novel and empirically tested data-driven procedure is introduced, one that is informed by cognitive linguistic and semiotic theory for the identification and interpretation of rhetorical figures in crisis-related street art in Athens. The analyses show that, although the methodological protocol can be applied reliably to street art, and can enable the analysts to distinguish metaphors from other rhetorical figures, this genre often requires multiple kinds of sociocultural, contextual and linguistic knowledge to be accommodated in the analysis of the images, in order to achieve a successful and intersubjective interpretation.

Paper 2 contributes to the study of figurativity and polysemiotic communication. It discusses the complex phenomenon of metaphor synthetically, offering an approach that may help us to go beyond and overcome challenges among debated issues in metaphor research in cognitive linguistics and semiotics by using a coherent terminology, informed by cognitive semiotics. The data derived from the empirical analysis presented in Paper 1 are used as the basis for the theoretical implications of the analysis in Paper 2, and by extension for the validity of the step-wise procedure for identification and interpretation of rhetorical figures in street art.

Paper 3 explores street artists' experiences (on the basis of 10 audio-recorded go-along interviews) by focusing on what motivated their art-making and the verbal metaphors they used in go-along interviews where they were asked about these motivations.

(continue reading on the next page!)

(continued)

Georgios Stampoulidis (2021). *Street Artivism on Athenian Walls. A cognitive semiotic analysis of metaphor and narrative in street art*. **Lund University.**

Methodologically it emphasizes the need for a theoretical definition of metaphor that should be clearly linked to its operationalization in alignment with the specific data. The results of the study reveal that street artists use a range of highly and moderately innovative metaphors when talking about personal experiences and motivations in relation to their art-making, with respect to situated communication.

Paper 4 extends the scope of the thesis to the narrative potential of single static images, such as street artworks. With its qualitative approach, yet drawing on a sample corpus of street artworks, Paper 4 allows us to delve into narratological discussions probing the narrative potential of street art. The findings suggest that single static images can be able to narrate and be interpreted as narrations but only if the underlying story is known in advance.

In sum, the thesis contributes new knowledge to our understanding of street art and provides a systematic and empirically grounded account of its figurative and narrative interpretation, with a number of workable ideas offered to the study of cognitive semiotics.

RaAM 2021 Elections: please vote!

Dear current or past RaAM member,

We send this message to inform you that RaAM members can now vote in this year's RaAM Executive Committee (EC) elections.

We have three great candidates standing for the Newsletter Editor position. See: https://www.raam.org.uk/elections/ for information about our candidates and voting instructions.

Voting takes place exclusively online.

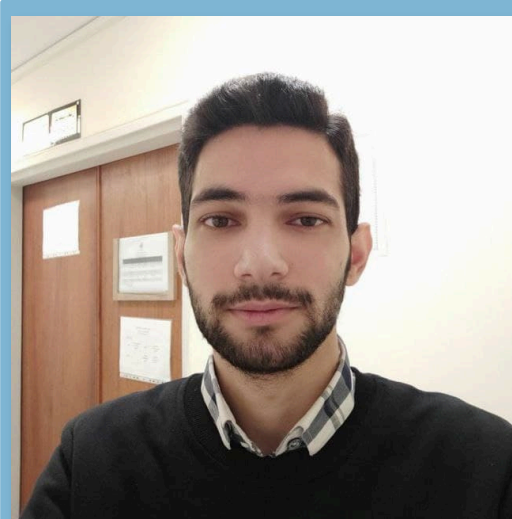**The deadline for voting is June 21st, 11:59PM (CET), 2021.**

We encourage all RaAM members to vote.

Kind regards,

The RaAM Executive Committee

The

Metaphor

Column

interview by Justyna Wawrzyniuk

METAPHOR

Mohammad Naghavian is a master's student in TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) at the University of Mazandaran, Iran. His research interests include second/foreign language learning, metaphor in relation to belief construction and change, and L2 speaking fluency. His thesis is supervised by Dr. Baqer Yaqubi and the purpose of his research is to investigate and construct EFL learners' beliefs about L2 speaking fluency through the use of metaphor.

M is for **Metaphor**. Do you have a favorite metaphor?

Hi Justyna. It is a pleasure to have this opportunity. Well, metaphors are commonplace in my mind, and I enjoy connecting finding their reflection in my life. If I want to choose one, my favorite metaphor is (LIFE IS A TREE'S JOURNEY OF GROWTH). Actually, trees go through a journey to grow. Ones that cope with harsh conditions and grow in tough places will have harder woods, stronger and deeper roots, and become highly resistant to storms, tree diseases, etc. I think the same is true for humans as well because we encounter challenges throughout life. In that case, I believe that those who have encountered difficult circumstances are more likely to overcome challenges. This metaphor has come in handy when I have struggled with academic challenges.

E is for Education. What are your plans for the future (after finishing your MA)?

Completing a master's degree is not the end of my journey, but since military service is mandatory, I plan to get off the train after my MA and do my service. After that, I will get back to take my research a step further at the Ph.D. level.

T is for **Takeoff**. What sparked your interest in metaphors?

In Iranian schools, figurative devices like metaphor, simile, metonymy, etc., are discussed extensively in Persian literature. Because of that, when the word metaphor is mentioned, memories of school days are vividly recalled by most people. Based on this, metaphor is

METAPHOR

generally seen as a literary device. I was of the same opinion at first since my supervisor suggested metaphor for my master's thesis. I was wondering what metaphor had to do with the ELT. I even asked my supervisor about it. His particular way of replying "I don't know" intrigued me and sparked my interest in metaphors. Since then, I have been reading and studying resources about metaphor. It is actually my supervisor who has sparked my curiosity in the first place.

A is for **Advice**. What is the one piece of advice you wish you had given yourself at the beginning of your studies?

Looking back, I wish I'd known many things when I started this journey, but if I had to pick one, my advice would be this: make sure you are ready to receive critical feedback. To tell the truth, when I started my research, I was expecting that my supervisor would provide me with positive feedback, but my supervisor ended up being more critical of my work in the early stages of my research. As this issue was against my expectations, I had a hard time coping with it. But over time, I realized that critical and constructive feedback are tools to enhance educational quality and mandatory for conducting research studies. P is for Persian. Is there anything that you find interesting or distinctive about the way speakers of Persian express themselves using metaphor?

I have seen some corpus studies on Persian metaphors, but if I were to choose one metaphor from among the most interesting I've encountered, it would be one in a poem by Rumi about self-scrutiny. In the fourth verse of sonnet 1247 in Divan-e Shams, Rumi talks about egoism. The egoism of the human being is seen as a pharaoh, and the human body as ancient Egypt, which is the host of this pharaoh-like egoism. When humans get rid of the egoism that occupied the land of their body, then Moses and Aaron will appear within them. Actually, the human's body is seen as a land that could be occupied by egoism. As a means of discussing self-scrutiny, I have found this (HUMAN'S BODY IS A LAND) to be a distinctive metaphor.

H is for **Highlights**. What are some things you must absolutely do when you visit Iran?

It is a tall order to talk about this in one or two paragraphs because Iran offers a wealth of historical, cultural, and natural attractions that are mostly world-renowned and UNESCO-recognised. But to name a few highlights in Iran, the three top places to see in Iran's capital, Tehran, are **Azadi Tower**, **Tabiat Bridge**, and **Golestan Palace**. If you are looking for volcanic plains, snowy peaks, and dense forests, Northern Iran is right for you. The main attractions in this part of Iran are the **Caspian Hyrcanian mixed forests, the Caspian Sea, Masuleh**, and **Qal'eh Rudkhan**. If you are a history buff who wish to learn more about the capital of the first Persian Empire and the birthplace of Persian civilization, **Persepolis** and **Pasargadae** are two must-see places on any trip to Iran. Actually, a visit to Iran wouldn't be complete without seeing these historical places. And for those who are interested in Iranian arts and architecture, **Nasir ol-Molk mosque** (pink mosque) is a must-see. It displays both Persian architecture and European tile-work

(continued)

M E T A P H O R

fused into one masterpiece. **Naqsh-e Jahan Square** and **Si-o-se-pol** in Esfahan are two other architectural wonders worth seeing.

When discussing Iran, you cannot leave out its delicious foods after describing its must-see places. Actually, Iranians are popular for being great cooks. So if you enjoy trying local foods, you must eat **Faloodeh, Fesenjān, Ghormeh sabzi, Gheimeh, Chelow kabab koobideh, Abgoosht, Tahchin, Sabzi** polo, and **Zereshk polo**. These are the must-eat dishes for every visitor in Iran.

O[1] is for **O**ther. What are your interests outside of academia?

Well, I do a lot of different things. If I'm in need of relaxation, I turn to instrumental music. I love music of this type. I also enjoy playing sports (soccer and running) and watching soccer (Persepolis football team, Iran national team, and Manchester United are my favorite teams). Video games and TV shows are also common pastimes for me. Additionally, I enjoy spending time in nature.

R is for **RaAM14**. You're going to present your work at the upcoming RaAM conference in Vilnius. Can you tell us, without spoiling too much, what your project is about?

My current project examines EFL learners' beliefs about L2 speaking fluency using metaphor. In this work, we have used metaphor elicitation tasks and follow-up interviews to uncover EFL learners' beliefs about L2 speaking fluency. Additionally, we have conducted an intervention that is intended to construct participants' beliefs about L2 fluency.

[1] Question O adapted from Steen, G. (2014). Interview: 15 questions about metaphor research for Gerard Steen. *Metaphorik.de. 25*, 155-167

Please donate to the RaAM Support Fund!

The Support Fund offers a limited number of bursaries for PhD students and non-students to attend RaAM conferences and seminars. Bursaries will be awarded based on economic need, with a special focus on students and non-students from developing countries, and include a fee waiver and/or a subsidy for travel costs.

Donations can be made via the [RaAM website](#).

Recently completed PhD project

Dario Del Fante, University of Padova

Migrants over time and cultures: a corpus-assisted newspaper discourse analysis of the metaphorical representation of migrants. The cases of U.S.A and Italy between 1900 and 2000.

A doctoral dissertation submitted to the Department of Literary and Linguistics Studies, University of Padova, Italy. Defended on the 26th of April 2021.

Supervisor: Maria Teresa Musacchio, Department of Literary and Linguistics Studies, University of Padova, Italy.
Co-Supervisors: Giorgio Maria Di Nunzio, Department of Information Engineering, University of Padova, Italy. Charlotte Taylor, School of English, University of Sussex, United Kingdom.

The proposed research study is strongly related to two essential features of human life: migratory movements and metaphors. Migratory movements can be undoubtedly defined as an enduring characteristic of our global history. As history and literature, from the Homeric poems to the Bible, testify, migration is an inherent feature of humanity. Migratory phenomena have had ever-changing properties during history. According to recent figures released by the UN, migration is one of the most salient, crucial global issues of the current century and the last one. Metaphor is more than a linguistic and stylistic phenomenon. It is primarily a feature of human language ability, interpreted as the production and the use of a language. Metaphors are one of the means through which people organize their experience of life and newspapers and influence people's perspectives on reality and opinions considerably (Partington et al. 2013). By analysing the metaphorical representation of migrants in newspapers we might define, to some extent, how people perceive this group of people.

The research project investigates the metaphorical representation of migrants through a corpus-assisted newspaper discourse analysis from both a cross-linguistic and historical perspective. This project consists of a comprehensive analysis of newspaper articles published within two specific time periods, namely 1900-1914 and 2000-2014, in order to investigate how media discourses around migration have changed and differ between two cultures and across time, specifically focusing on the linguistic and conceptual metaphors used to represent migration as a phenomenon. An Italian corpus and an American English corpus have been compiled respectively for 1900-14 and 2000-14. Regarding the older corpora, an ad-hoc OCR post-processing error correction procedure has been developed and applied in order to reduce the number of OCR-

Recently completed PhD project

(continued)

related errors. The metaphors have been extracted from the corpora by adopting a semi-automatic approach based on the analysis of collocations. When the linguistic metaphors have been identified, these have been categorised according to their source domain. Result suggest that migration is conceptualised along similar lines – i.e. as a threat to national security in both Italy and the US in the 2000s, and in the US discourse in the 1900s. By contrast, migration seems to be conceptualised by means of positive metaphors in Italy in the 1900s as a resource for the country. This work fundamentally proposes that the perspective of the speaker is a greater determinant of metaphorical representation than historical context and the linguistic or cultural context.

Conference report

"Communication in the context of cognitive linguistics" students' conference report

On the 13th May 2021, the University of Silesia in Katowice hosted an online student conference "Communication in the context of cognitive linguistics", addressed to the undergraduate and postgraduate students from the Faculty of Humanities. The conference was organised by the Student Cognitive Linguistics Group, supervised by Barbara Taraszka-Drożdż, PhD and mentored by prof. Grzegorz Drożdż, and financed through the project "One University – Many Possibilities. Integrated Program". The event was held under the auspices of the Polish Cognitive Linguistics Association. Our special guest, prof. Agnieszka Libura (University of Wroclaw), delivered a plenary lecture.

The main objective was to provide students from different programmes, beginners in the field, with an appropriate platform to share their research, exchange ideas, and get to know other cognitive linguistics enthusiasts. The majority of the presentations were concerned with different facets of metaphorical language. Among others, the presenters discussed conceptual metaphors in politics, in the language of children, metaphors connected with the pandemic, and synaesthetic metaphors. Some presentations dealt with metaphor translation in different languages. The figurative dimension of the conference was boosted by talks on conceptualisations of feelings in memes and humour-induced frame-shifting in cartoons. Apart from that, papers on cognitive grammar were read.

Also, at the initiative of the Polish Cognitive Linguistics Association, a competition for the best presentation took place. At the first stage, the best five abstracts were selected. At the second stage, the presentation content, presentation skills and responses to the Q and A session were evaluated. The scientific committee selected Łukasz Cuber as the winner. The conference website: https://www.facebook.com/events/415439969779802/

Łukasz Cuber

Upcoming Events

Conference: The 6th International Conference on Figurative Thought and Language (FTL6), April 20-24, 2022, Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

Call for Papers

A four-day event organised by the Department of Cognitive Linguistics at the Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań is already the sixth in a series of meetings aimed at presenting and discussing current research on the intersection of figurative thought and language, following the conferences in Thessaloniki (2014), Pavia (2015), Osijek (2017), Braga (2018) and Sophia (2020). We have chosen **"Dynamicity, schematicity and variation in Figurative Thought and Language"** as the leitmotif of the conference in recognition of how much the field of cognitive studies has grown since its inception and how wide a range of issues, perspectives and methodologies it presently covers.

We invite theoretical and empirical contributions representing various takes on the interplay between language and mind, synchronic and diachronic, adopting a panoply of methodologies (e.g., quantitative studies, experimental techniques, cross-cultural and cross-linguistic comparisons, CDA, sociovariational analysis, translation).

Suggested topics include (but are not restricted to):
- dynamicity and variation in figurative language and thought
- figuration in gesture and multimodal expression
- embodiment and figuration
- figuration and emotions
- figuration and ideology
- figurative language and thought in story-telling

Plenary speakers who have kindly confirmed their participation:
- Herbert L. Colston
- Irene Mittleberg
- Julien Perrez
- Elżbieta Tabakowska

Thematic session proposals
Deadline: 15 July 2021. Notification: 31 July 2021

Thematic session proposals should be sent directly to the conference organisers at ftl6@uam.onmicrosoft.com in either a .pdf or a .doc(x) format. Proposals of 300-500 words (excluding references) should include: the title of the session, the names and affiliation of session convener(s), topic description and at least three names of participants (with affiliations) who have declared their interest and readiness to submit a paper. The maximum number of papers in a session is 9. Session organisers are asked to distribute a CfP through appropriate channels. Once a thematic session has been accepted, individual authors will need to submit their abstracts for review through the EasyChair system.

(continue reading on the next page!)

Upcoming Events

Workshop: *Caos And OntologieS (CAOS)*

We are currently organising the fifth edition of the workshop: Caos And OntologieS (CAOS) as part of JOWO (the Joint Ontology Workshops) in September held in Bolzano, Italy.

The workshop is highly interdisciplinary dealing with everything on the intersection between cognitive science and ontology modelling. The workshop's primary focus is conceptual representation, analogical and metaphoric reasoning and knowledge representation and has in the past covered a range of different topics associated with these areas.

Call for Papers

With the increased interest in the notion of embodied cognition and cognitive computing, the connection between symbolic methods and the cognitive sciences has come to a developmental halt. However, the success in machine learning and neural networks to model cognitive phenomena does not in itself nullify the usefulness of symbolic approaches. The advancement of artificial intelligence, the understanding of cognitive phenomena can greatly benefit from classic methods in knowledge representations and ontologies. CAOS aims to bridge the gap between cognitive science and the formal methods by providing a platform for researchers in either domain to discuss and present their work.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to):
- Ontologies of cognitive phenomena
- Formal representation of cognitive structures / functions / processes
- Formalisation of language, image schemas and/or affordance
- Embodied language acquisition
- Concept invention and conceptual combination
- Categorisation tasks
- Cognitive development from an ontological perspective
- Metaphors and analogies
- Artificial language understanding
- Natural language applications / system-demonstrations
- Knowledge acquisition in AI and Robotics
- Tool use and affordances
- Concept-based computational creativity

Website: http://caos.inf.unibz.it

- Short papers: 6-8 pages, 10 minutes presentation
- Position papers: 6-8 pages, 10 minutes presentations
- Full research papers: max. 10-14 pages, 20 minutes presentation
  (Page number includes references, presentations include Q&A.)

Important dates:
- Preliminary submission deadline: July 3rd, 2021
- Notification of acceptance: August 9th 2021
- Camera-ready deadline: August 23rd, 2021

Recently completed project

The RK processor: A program for analyzing metaphor and word feature-listing data
Nick Reid and Albert Katz, Western University, Canada

A paradigm that has been fruitful within psycholinguistics is the feature-listing task, whereby participants list features, or characteristics, of words, concepts, categories, or metaphors and similes. This provides a rich source of data and allows participants to explain or interpret concepts in their own terms. Scoring these data is costly, time-consuming, and typically involves many subjective judgments on the part of the researcher. The completed project overcomes these difficulties.

Albert Katz and I have developed a Python program to automate the analysis of feature-listing data, which will save researchers time, reduce subjective judgments, and improve consistency of analysis across labs and studies. The program, the "RK processor" (short for Reid and Katz processor), uses tools from Natural Language Processing to tokenize the words in participants' responses, remove suffixes from these words (i.e., "stemming"), and remove high-frequency words that hold little semantic content (i.e., "stop words"). Using these tools, non-identical responses, such as "works hard", "hard work", "hard-working", and "they work very hard", can be automatically grouped and counted together. The program also includes functions specific to metaphor feature data, such as automatically computing the interpretive diversity of a metaphor (see Utsumi, 2005), and finding which metaphor features are characteristic of the topic concept, the vehicle concept, or both concepts, and which features are emergent (see Becker, 1997).

The article that introduces this program is in press in the journal Behavior Research Methods, and the program code and instructions will be available in the supplementary materials for the article. We hope that this program will help save researchers time and will open new opportunities for studies using feature-listing tasks.

References

Becker, A. H. (1997). Emergent and common features influence metaphor interpretation. *Metaphor and Symbol, 12*(4), 243-259.

Utsumi, A. (2005). The role of feature emergence in metaphor appreciation. *Metaphor and Symbol, 20*(3), 151-172.

Thank you and looking forward to your contributions!

This is my last newsletter as RaAM's Newsletter Editor. I would like to use this opportunity to **thank you all for sending numerous contributions for the RaAM newsletter** over the past two years.

The next RaAM Newsletter will appear in the fall of 2021. On behalf of RaAM's new Newsletter Editor (see p. 12 for information about the elections), we are looking forward to receiving any news you may have about publications, research projects, completed PhDs, conferences reports, call for papers, etc.

Please send your contribution at any time to: newsletter@raam.org.uk

Gudrun Reijnierse, RaAM Newsletter Editor

Call for Papers

**The 4th Białystok-Kiev Conference on Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (TALC):
Language in Context: Perspectives from Linguistics, Translation Studies, and Language Education**

December 2-3, 2021
University of Bialystok (Białystok, Poland)

https://talc.uwb.edu.pl/

Abstract deadline: 1 August, 2021

Keynote speakers
- Prof. Rachel Giora (Tel Aviv University)
- Prof. Douglas Robinson (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Prof. Rita Temmerman (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
- Dr. Bodo Winter (University of Birmingham)

The Białystok-Kiev series of conferences on theoretical and applied linguistics, co-organized by the University of Białystok and the Borys Grinchenko Kiev University, was launched in 2017. The special theme of the conference this year, Language in Context: Perspectives from Linguistics, Translation Studies, and Language Education, aims to focus the attention of all scholars exploring language on its communicative meaning and the scope of its nature. Our goal is to concentrate, inter alia, on how meaning is constructed in different types of discourse, how context influences language use, how language might be influenced by human cognition, and how all of these elements relate to the shaping of human identity. We would also like to concentrate on the extent to which the context of language impacts natural language processing, language understanding, and language interpretation.

In analysing these issues, we would like to combine a wide array of perspectives, including but not limited to cognitive linguistics, anthropolinguistics, biolinguistics, biosemiotics, computational linguistics, clinical linguistics, ecological linguistics, forensic linguistics, neurolinguistics, posthumanist applied linguistics, socio- and psycholinguistics, discourse analysis, cognitive translatology, ecotranslatology, as well as terminology and terminography.