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Abstracts / Les Abrégés / Zusammenfassungen
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Ahrens, Wolfgang – “Naming the Bahamas Islands: History and Folk Etymology”

The names of the individual islands of the Bahamas and place names on them reflect major currents in their history. Lucayan names are reflected in Spanish writings of the 16th century; British settlement from Bermuda and from Providence Island influence naming in the late 17th century, while British loyalists from the United States after the Revolutionary War in the late 18th century contribute further names. Even in more recent times there has been some naming and renaming. Historical facts and academic writings, however, have been often disregarded by the population and this has given rise to curious local folk etymologies.

Ainiala, Terhi – “Slang Names as Company Names: Indexes of Localness”

The paper examines commercial use of slang names Hesa and Stadi. They both have been used to refer to Helsinki, the capital of Finland, for over 100 years. Nowadays, Stadi is strongly labelled as a name variant used by native Helsinkians, whereas Hesa is regarded as a name variant used by non-native Helsinkians and country people. These unofficial norms regulate the names’ usage and are utilised frequently in the media and in commercial use. Helsinkian company names including elements Stadi and Hesa are used as a research material.

The paper takes sociolinguistic Barbara Johnstone’s theories as its starting point. According to Johnstone, various linguistic forms may become to index meanings along a variety of dimensions and some forms may index locality. The paper seeks answers to questions on how often and why slang names Stadi and Hesa are used as elements in Helsinkian company names and how these names work as indexes of localness.

Akselberg, Gunnstein – “Norwegian Farm and Family Names and Their Danish Linguistic Environment”

For over 400 years Norway was in union with Denmark, from the late 1300s until 1814 when Norway entered a union with Sweden, which lasted until 1905. Right up to 1905 the Danish written language dominated in Norway, even though the written language changes from the mid-1800s, which eventually led to the Danish written language hegemony was broken. The Danish language in Norway took up more and more norvagisms, which led to the written norm bokmål. Parallel was a new Norwegian written standard established that built on the Norwegian dialects which led to the written norm nynorsk. But it was Danish written language that dominated in Norway from the late 1300s until around 1905.

The Danish written language dominance has had long-term consequences for the written forms of farm names in Norway. From the 1400s and 1500s Danish farm name forms took over for the older Norse forms, and new Norwegian farm names were also written Danish forms. From then, the Danish written forms has had a significant influence on the spelling of Norwegian farm
names, although the Norwegian Name Act states that farm name should be normed according to traditional pronunciation and to the current modern written norm. Because the Norwegians from the 1800s have a farm name as a family name (surname), we have had an intense discussion of standardization of farm names versus standardization of family names. Family names can be normed relatively free, but the same name as a farm name should in principle be normed according to traditional pronunciation and current Norwegian written standard. The family name variant is therefore often written according to elderly Danish written language forms, while the farm name variant of the same name often is given a more modern and standardized form.

The Norwegian Name Act is now being revised, and in the revision proposal it is argued that the norms of the farm name should be liberalized so the local farmers can adopt older Danish written language forms.

In my paper I will highlight the Danish linguistic environment for Norwegian farm and family names, discuss their written forms, and point out consequences of a possible liberalization of the spelling of Norwegian farm names.

Aldrin, Emilia – “Nomen est omen? Perception of Names in Text Assessment”

This paper presents preliminary results from an ongoing project that combines Onomastics with Sociolinguistics and Educational Sciences. The aim is to investigate to what extent teachers’ assessment of pupils’ texts is influenced by the knowledge of personal names and their sociocultural connotations, which may create expectations about the author and his or her achievement. Previous studies are exclusively quantitative focusing on general patterns rather than underlying mechanisms. They have also primarily studies ethnic stereotypes.

The study presented in this paper focus on ethnic, social and gender stereotyping and combines quantitative and qualitative method. Factors such as socioeconomic school environment and teachers’ degree of experience are included in the analysis. Data is collected through a large scale survey, in which teachers at Swedish secondary schools have been asked to describe and assess identical texts. Inside the texts, certain personal names have been inserted. Apart from assessing the texts, participants have also been asked to freely describe the text and their expectations of the author. This enables a study of not only if the inserted names affect the assessment but also how this effect might be achieved.

Aleksiejuk, Katarzyna – “Personal Names and Identity Construction on RuNet”

Personal names in virtual environments function as primary devices of construction, validation and assessment of identity. Studies of themed environments reveal a connection between the context and identities by demonstrating recurrent patterns in name selection. For example, Stommel (2007) in ‘Mein Nick bin ich! Nicknames in a German Forum on Eating Disorders’ reveals frequent references to recognisable attributes of anorexia, such as smallness, weightlessness, childishness, while Del-Teso-Craviotto (2008) in ‘Gender and sexual identity authentication in language use’ reports that in dating chat-rooms participants' names often feature desirable physical attributes of stereotypical femininities/masculinities to construct images of attractive gendered bodies.
On the contrary, Posidelki (‘Gatherings’), a non-themed social forum on Russian-speaking Internet, is not addressed to any specific category of participants, or restricted to particular purpose, and therefore lacks such a clear context-related point of reference. In this environment independent clusters of usernames can be observed, that display varied concepts of identities revealing both national and foreign influences, and expressing attachment to tradition as well as aspiration to be up to date with worldly trends. The present article demonstrates how usernames work as watchwords conceptualising identities of ‘wired’ Russians and reflect a process of identity re-definition in post-Soviet era.

Al-Muhanna, Amin and Jean-Francois Prunet – “Number-Based Nicknames of Kuwaiti Tribes”

Kuwaitis and other Gulf Arabs view themselves as belonging either to families or to tribes. Families are small urban units which trace their origins to about five generations. Tribes are larger groups of people of Bedouin origin which trace their genealogy up to hundred or even thousands of years.

We document an onomastic practice recently adopted by youngsters in Kuwait (as well as Saudi Arabia and Qatar). Most tribes have come to be connoted by a three-digit numeric code used in public places, such as graffiti, bumper stickers, and social networks. For instance, 101 is the numeric code of the al-ʕajmii tribe. Some tribes have two or more codes, as with 503 and 911 for the sbeeʕ tribe. More rarely, a tribe may have a non-numeric code, such as F-15 for al-harbii (which also has code 111). A few numeric codes are shared by two tribes (e.g., 711 is used by both al-ʕajmii and yaam).

A variety of unverifiable sources are commonly offered for these codes but the onomastically-significant fact is that, being easier to search than proper names, these number-based nicknames are being used to maintain group identity in the digital age.

Arcamone, Maria Giovanna – “Langobard and Anglo-Saxon Place Names: A Comparison”

It is already well known that the Langobards left almost sixty types of place names which are widespread in many regions of the Italian peninsula, e.g. Aldio, Aramo, Braida, Cafaggio/Gaggio, Fara, Gagno, Pescia, Stodigarda, Sala, etc. These names are obviously of Germanic origin. All these place names belong to a very old layer of the Germanic common language and give an important contribution to our knowledge of Langobard culture. The Langobards arrived in Italy in the sixth century and left no written document in their language; we have an idea of the Langobard language only through many Italian place names, a number of family names and many words of Langobard origin, which are well preserved in Italian dialects and in standard Italian. Comparison with other documented Old Germanic languages, such as Anglo-Saxon dialects and particularly with place names of Anglo-Saxon origin, helps to improve the information about the significance and motivation of Langobard placenames, which have been well documented in Italy since the eighth century.
Aydin, Mehmet – “Individual Names of Household and Office Appliances”

Prototypically, we tend to name persons and places, which allows us to (ideally) uniquely identify single entities from these groups. However, another important function of proper names is individualisation, i.e. an accentuation of an entity's uniqueness. This second function becomes more important with the respective objects' significance in our lives (a pet, for instance, will usually get a more creative name than a production animal).

Drawing data from an online survey, I will argue that household and office appliances are more likely to receive individual names the more agentive they are perceived as, and that these names serve to individualise, while their identifying function is virtually non-existent.

I will also analyse naming practices, particularly if people use specific patterns when naming multiple objects, where the names are drawn from (appellatives, other name classes, made-up names, etc.), and what role, if any, the names' genders play when naming appliances.


The county of Shropshire has an unmistakably borderland position: traversed by the River Severn, shared between upland and lowland, bisected by the Anglo-Welsh linguistic border, divided in the early medieval period between the kingdoms of Mercia and Powys (and perhaps a number of smaller polities), split between the ecclesiastical dioceses of Hereford and Lichfield, and crossed by the impressive Offa’s Dyke. In the later medieval period, parts of Shropshire became Marcher lordships, removed from both English and Welsh administration. It is clear that this linguistically, culturally and socio-politically mixed environment has had a major impact on the place-naming strategies of the region—the late Margaret Gelling argued convincingly that certain English place-name compounds were a reflection of new bureaucracy in a border zone—but the relationship with wider naming patterns should not be ignored. This paper arises from the AHRC-funded Place-Names of Shropshire project, tasked with completing Gelling’s survey of that county, and will examine a number of English place-name types thought to be symptomatic of Shropshire’s borderland position. It aims to reassess their significance within the wider environment of English place-naming, drawing comparisons not just with other borderland regions, but other areas of marked administrative upheaval and reorientation.

Balode, Laimute – “Unofficial Urbanonyms of Latvia: Tendencies of Derivation”

The research is based on the questionnaire addressed to young Latvians (study carried out together with MA student Sintija Doniņa). Material – more than 500 lexemes – collected from Riga and other largest cities of Latvia. The goal of the study – to gain insight into the main models of coining slang urbanonyms, the motivation and functions of them. The most often recorded slang urbanonyms in all cities under review – names of the fast-food restaurants Hesītis // Hes īts (= “Hesburger”) and Maķītis (= “McDonald’s”) which also has the largest number of different variants. The most spread model of derivation – shortened forms of the urbanonym: suburb names Boldis // Boldža (= Bolderāja), Čieris (= Čiekurkalns) often used also with Latv. diminutive suffixes -ītis or -iņš: Čierītis, Lidiņš. The way of derivation could be
the following: suburb Āģenskalns > Āģis > Āģītis > Āģīts. Suffix -ene mostly is used in street-names: Avotene (= Avotu iela); Slavonic diminutive suffixes in slang urbanonymy are widely spread in Riga and in the Eastern part of Latvia: Čiļiks (pizzeria „Čili pica”), Lubančiks (= Lubānas iela). There are also well-known acronyms: KK, C-iela, as well as numerous metaphoric urbanonyms: Burkāns (‘carrot’ – the house in orange colour). Mostly these slang urbanonyms have negative or neutral connotation.

Balodis, Pauls – “Latvian Surnames Motivated by Profession”

The analysis of the contemporary anthroponyms of Latvia shows that the group of the surnames motivated by profession is not large: 212 different surnames or 7.9 % from all surnames of Latvian origin. It is less than analogical group in neighbouring countries - comparing with Lithuanian, Estonian, Finnish, Russian, Polish and German surnames (about 13 %). According to Ernests Blese (1929) surnames of such primary semantics are very old: Arst ‘doctor’ 1506, Czelskallis ‘ironsmith’ 1573. Documents of the 16th cent. have records of such professions or occupations which are not used today anymore: Bozeneka (= bozenieks ‘stick master’), Groszenicke (= grožnieks ‘rein master’). Most widespread names of professions among Latvian modern surnames are following: Mucenieks ‘cooper’, Mūrnieks ‘bricklayer’, Kalējs ‘blacksmith’; cf. such surnames which frequency is low: Arājs ‘ploughman’, Zemnieks ‘peasant’ etc.

There are also many compound surnames known only in Latvian – anthroponyms of analogic semantics are not recorded in other comparative languages, e.g.: Mālmeisters ‘clay master’, Griķumalējs ‘buckwheat miller’, Jaunarājs ‘new/young ploughman’, Milzarājs ‘giant ploughman’, Smilšarājs ‘sand ploughman’, Kalnzemnieks ‘hill peasant’. Part of them definitely have originated from oikonyms, i.e. from homestead names.

The typological study comparing several surname systems shows many similarities, but also some interesting peculiarities. Especially great amount of the surnames of this etymological semantics is known in Germany.

Barry, Herbert – “Names of Fictional Characters by Three Alcoholic Authors”

Names are in multiple novels in the English language by each of 8 male and 8 female authors. The years of birth range from 1775 for Jane Austen to 1952 for Anna Quindlen. Their novels are admired by literature scholars and enjoyed by millions of readers. Three male novelists born between 1885 and 1922 suffered from addictive alcohol use: British author Kingsley William Amis, American authors Harry Sinclair Lewis and Ernest Miller Hemingway. Their fictional characters are predominantly male. All three alcoholic authors had two or more failed marriages. Many of their novels are satirical, containing fictional characters who are selfish or foolish. The names of many important satirized characters are unusual, containing plosive and obstruent consonants. Examples are Marigold Pyke and James Dixon by Amis, Sharon Falconer and George Follansbee Babbitt by Lewis, Lady Ashley Brett and Colonel Richard Cantwell by Hemingway. Alcohol is a sedative drug that can help the drinker to deny personal deficiencies and to displace them onto other people or onto fictional characters. Unusually strong desire for this drug effect might have induced the excessive alcohol use by these three novelists.

Les questions de normalisation de la gestion de la toponymie dans des régions comme le Maghreb et l’Afrique subsaharienne sont sous-tendus, à la fois :

- par des impératifs de développement multidimensionnels : cartographie, cadastre, gestion des catastrophe, mines, etc. ; des questions d’intérêt géopolitique et géostratégique, liées à la maîtrise de l’espace (sécurité, hydrocarbures...) ;

- des préoccupations culturels et identitaires, liées à la difficulté de gérer à la fois la patrimonialisation d’un passif colonial, le caractère plurilingue et multilingue de la société, les apports des sciences connexes ;

- les exigences d’un management toponymique standardisé et normé, perçu pour sa très haute technicité et la performance de ses outils linguistiques soutenus par un arsenal de moyens informatiques et télématicques.

Nous verrons que les démarches institutionnelles de normalisation nationale et régionale en Afrique et au Monde arabe s’articulent autour de deux directions :

- l’insuffisance dans la convocation des paradigmes fondateurs de la matrice ethnolinguistique ;


Bergien, Angelika – “Pet Names as Seismographic Instruments in a Changing Society”

The present paper is based on a socio-onomastic study which focuses on the names of cats and dogs in Saxony-Anhalt (Germany). The aim of the study is twofold: firstly, to find out why pet owners use a certain name, and secondly, what people think about or associate with that name. Initially, a survey was conducted that included more than 600 questionnaires. Most of the data used here was collected from October 2012 to July 2013. Special emphasis was placed on linguistic and socio-onomastic strategies in the naming process. The results of the study reveal that the outlook on pets within a changing socio-cultural environment is reflected in the individual names given to them. There is, for example, a growing tendency towards humanization of the animal. In addition, pet owners increasingly project their dreams and longings onto the animal. The aim of the paper is to show developments of pet names from the viewpoint of two different trends: the deconstruction of traditional boundaries between humans and animals and the human-centred use of pet names to speak about the things which are important to us.

Bergmann, Hubert – “House Names Litanies” – A Phenomenon at the Intersection Between Onomastics and Ethnography’
House names (especially farm names) still play an important role in the onomastic landscape of today’s Austria. This paper focuses on a special and hitherto only rarely attested and described aspect of that part of the onomasticon: listings of house names which contain additional by-names, often of whimsical nature, sometimes rhymed and usually passed on orally. In connection with evidence of this phenomenon in written sources, different (German) terms are used to describe it, which can be translated as village litany, house-name litany, peasants’ litany, neighbour rhymes etc. The paper tries to give an overview of these onomastic listings by describing and categorizing them. Furthermore, it will also relate them to similar phenomena from other European regions.

Bianco, Francesco – « L'onomastique dans la narrative d'Amélie Nothomb »

Le but de cet article est d'explorer le rôle joué par l'onomastique dans le cadre de la réflexion d'Amélie Nothomb sur le la langage et sur la langue. En fait, sa narrative se caractérise notamment pour un côté, pour ainsi dire, “métalinguistique”. Les personnages, ainsi que les voix narratives, montrent souvent un intérêt hors du commun pour la langue: pour son usage, pour ses expressions littéraires (cf., par exemple, “Hygiène de l'assassin” et “les combustibles”, dont les protagonistes sont “professionnels de la langue”), pour sa façon d'établir des liens entre êtres humains (cf. “Acide sulfurique”), pour les etymologies des mots, etc.

L'onomastique (notamment l'anthroponymie) est une partie importante de cette attention de l'auteur belge aux faits de langue: d'un côté, la majorité de ses personnages porte des noms évocateurs. C'est le cas de Pietro Livi, que Pannonique rencontre lors de son emprisonnement dans le camp de concentration (cf. “Acide sulfurique”). Un hommage évident à Primo Levi, conteur de la vie dans le camps de concentration nazis.

De l'autre côté, les personnages eux-mêmes donnent une grande importance à l'anthroponymie et aux noms propres: Lucette (cf. Robert des noms propres), à cause d'un problème onomastique, va même jusqu'à tuer son mari.

Bichlmeier, Harald – “Zur Widerspiegelung naturräumlicher Gegebenheiten in 'alteuropäischen' Hydronymen - Neubewertungen althergebrachter Etymologien”


Die seit einigen Jahren erfolgende Neubewertung jener überkommenen Erklärungen hat bereits in zahlreichen Fällen dazu geführt, dass die althergebrachten Erklärungen entweder völlig verworfen, oder ihnen zumindest alternative, ebenso wahrscheinliche Erklärungen zur Seite gestellt werden mussten. Zahlreiche Etymologien konnten unter Berücksichtigung der Standards der modernen Indogermanistik wesentlich präzisiert werden. Oft ist nach heutigem Ermessen
eine klare Entscheidung zwischen den Erklärungen nicht möglich, bisweilen wurden gänzlich neue Erklärungen vorgeschlagen, da die alten aufgrund der Vernachlässigung von Erkenntnissen der historisch-vergleichenden Sprachwissenschaft nicht mehr tragbar waren. Es geht hierbei u.a. um folgende Gewässernamen bzw. Gewässernamensippen: a) Elbe/Labe; b) Isar/Isère/Istros etc.; c) Sinn/Shannon/San/Sjan etc.; d) Iller/Aller etc.; e) Vils/Fils etc.

Eine gründliche Überprüfung der althergebrachten Etymologien und eine modernen Standards der historischen Sprachwissenschaft entsprechende Etymologisierung des gesamten Namenschatzes der ‘alteuropäischen' Hydronymie sind Desiderate der Forschung. Der Vortrag bietet dazu eine Zusammenfassung bisheriger Ergebnisse und einen Ausblick darauf, was noch geleistet werden muss.

**Bichlmeier, Harald – “Bezeichnungen naturräumlicher Gegebenheiten in den Familiennamen slawischen Ursprungs in Deutschland”**

Im Rahmen der Arbeiten am Digitalen Familiennamenwörterbuch Deutschlands, einem Projekt der Mainzer Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur, werden auch die Familiennamen slawischen Ursprungs untersucht. Der Anteil der Familiennamen slawischen Ursprungs an der Gesamtheit der in Deutschland aktuell anzutreffenden Familiennamen ist nicht genau bekannt. Er wird auf 15-25% geschätzt. Unter diesen Familiennamen finden sich auch zahlreiche Namen, deren den Namen ursprünglich zugrunde liegende Appellativa auf Naturerscheinungen oder auf in der Natur anzutreffende Dinge referieren, so etwa Steine, Bäume, Wasserläufe etc.

Der Vortrag versucht, die Namen, die solche Elemente enthalten, zu strukturieren und eine Systematik dieser Namen sowohl in semantischer wie in morphologischer Hinsicht zu entwerfen. Nach Möglichkeit soll auch eine quantifizierende Analyse der angetroffenen Namengruppen erfolgen.

**Billy, Pierre-Henri – « Les Noms De Lieux Gallo-Romains Dans Leur Environnement »**

La présente étude repose sur les noms de lieux attestés dans l’Antiquité en Gaule, ainsi que les noms de lieux formés dans l’Antiquité sur des noms de personnes précédemment et localement attestés : le corpus sera limité aux seuls anthropotoponymes. Les sources utilisées sont les auteurs antiques tardifs de même que les nombreuses inscriptions, lapidaires ou autres qui parsèment le territoire.

Les noms de lieux sont étudiés dans l’environnement historique, géographique et linguistique de l’époque qui seul permet d’expliquer la motivation de leur nomination. Motivation patrimoniale, religieuse, migratoire parfois, voire militaire, mais toujours en lien avec la topographie des lieux et l’histoire des zones où se construisent ces établissements domaniaux.

Les anthropotoponymes participent ainsi à l’explication du paysage antique.
Blažienė, Grasilda – “Eigennamen und Ethnogenese (am Beispiel der Balten)”

Längst ist bewiesen, dass systemhafte Untersuchungen der Eigennamen, insbesondere der Gewässernamen, wesentlich zur Klärung der kompliziertesten Fragen der Ethnogenese beitragen können. Bei der Begründung der Natur unterschiedlicher Kulturen dürfen die Namenforscher keinesfalls die Entwicklung des archäologischen Gedankens außer acht lassen. Auch die wiederholte Analyse der historischen Quellen nach dem heutigen Stand unseres Wissens ist unbedingt erforderlich.


Dass Germanen, Romanen und Slawen Anteil an Europa haben, steht außer Zweifel. Dagegen bleibt, auch ohne dem Panbaltismus zu verfallen, die Frage offen, welche Rolle die Balten in Europa gespielt haben.

Bloothooft, Gerrit, Leendert Brower, Enzo Caffarelli, Pascal Chareille, Pierre Darlu, Kathrin Draeger, Jean Germain, Antonella Lisa, Claire Muller and Roberto Rodriguez – “European Surname Typology Project”

A European project on the typology of surnames has been launched recently with the aim to describe its geographical distribution in France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, and Luxembourg. This distribution has typical patterns both within and between countries. It is assumed that these patterns can be explained by factors acting on the naming system established around the XIIIth century, among them linguistic diversity, political and religious influences, and social structure. Studying the current geographical distribution of the various categories of surnames at a European scale may help to clarify how surnames and their categories have been introduced in Europe and how they dispersed over time. The 100 most frequent surnames were collected in each administrative area (NUTS3 of the European nomenclature of territorial units for statistics) of the participating countries. Each name was classified into one or more of the following elementary categories: (1) Patronymical, (2) Occupational, Title or Dignity, (3) Nickname or personal quality, (4) Geographical (address) Topological or Ethnic names (origin). Geographical maps of category percentages will be presented and discussed.
Böleskei, Andrea – “Changes of Toponyms Reflecting Ecclesiastical Possession in Medieval Hungary”

Based on a corpus of medieval Hungarian toponyms referring to (i) the possession of a clergyman, and (ii) the possession of a religious order, this paper focuses on the patterns of possible structural changes of name forms reflecting early ecclesiastical possession. Simple changes involve processes such as the addition or loss of a topoformant; the incorporation of a locative suffix into a name form; the addition or loss of a geographical common noun; the addition or loss of a distinctive addition of a characteristic semantic content; the change from a suffixed to a compound name form and vice versa; the change of a content name constituent; de- and re-semantisation; foreignisation; and the complete change of a toponym. Furthermore, these processes are sometimes combined in a single attested change, or appear one after the other in a sequence of consecutive changes in the source documents. The author uses the principles of Cognitive Linguistics to explore how toponyms in this case were designed (and sometimes manipulated) to manifest linguistically the contemporary reality from the Church’s perspective and were utilized to direct speakers’ attention to a given Church-related aspect of the place being named.

Bramwell, Ellen – “Personal Naming in Scottish Communities”

This paper reports on a project which explored the bestowal and use of personal names in several communities, each with differing social features. The fieldwork was entirely situated in Scotland, but the communities discussed vary in type from rural to urban, mono- to multilingual, indigenous to immigrant and stable to transient. The indigenous communities were located in the Western Isles/Nan Eilean Siar, Buckie and Glasgow, and the immigrant communities included one which was fairly stable and well-established, and one which was transient and artificially constructed: Pakistani-Muslim and Asylum Seeker/Refugee communities in Glasgow.

Alongside gaining descriptive information on the organization of each personal naming system, the cross-cultural nature of the study allowed for more theoretical insights. Links were found between naming systems and social structure, though these links were far more complex than originally envisaged, as this paper will discuss. Awareness of the contexts in which cultural and linguistic contact had taken place was also key to understanding personal naming practices, and changes in those practices, within several of the groups in the study. The results of contact with other naming systems differed markedly between communities.

Brendler, Silvio – “Names in the Eye of the Beholder, or: Advanced Metalanguage for Discussing Names”

Onomastics, like most sciences or pursuits of knowledge, has a tendency towards reducing the number of views and opinions about a subject. There is a competition for the most convincing view. The view that gains the widest acceptance is usually taken as the truth. In consequence, variety is (over-)simplified and complexity is out of sight. Out of sight, out of mind… To do justice to the complexity and variety of naming, I suggest to apply multiperspectivising. In this approach names are classified successively according to different criteria. It is a method that
simplifies complexity and amplifies variety. Not only does multiperspectivising raise awareness of the richness and diversity of how people see names in various contexts but it also serves as a tool for onomasticians to explore the immediate environment of names systematically.


Since 1983, official Swedish personal names have been governed by the Personal Names Act of 24 June 1982. The current Names Act has now been in force for thirty years. The government agency responsible for personal names have come under pressure from two directions: on the one hand, they have been accused of being too tolerant and allowing too much, and on the other they have been criticized for preventing progress by being too restrictive. By now there is a significant problem with the 1982 Act, and that is that it is out of step with the present-day situation and current practice.

In 2010 a committee of inquiry was set up by the Swedish Government to review the Names Act, and in the terms of reference it was stated that the committee was to look into ‘whether there is scope to take somewhat greater account of the interest of individuals in choosing their own names’.

In May 2013 a bill was published in which the committee suggests a lot of changes. In this lecture I shall present and comment the most important innovations in the bill.

Burns, Alison – “Narratives and Landscape in the Collection of Aberdeenshire Field-names”

Field-names in Scotland are part of the oral tradition, passed down from generation to generation of farmers. Despite the valuable holdings at the Scottish Field Name Survey (University of Edinburgh), work to collect these names has been patchy and many areas of Scotland remain uncovered.

I have collected a corpus of 1450 field-names from the north-east of Scotland using a socio-onomastic approach. Spoken interviews were used as the main tool for data collection drawing on practices from the discipline of sociolinguistics. During this process a number of field-names emerged through story-telling and landscapes were discussed in terms of shared narratives, history and legends.

This paper focuses on some of these narratives and how place-names are used to create a landscape that is not only functional but also preserves social and historical features of a community. Some of the names that will be presented include Government Field, Twelve Tree Park, Moss Road and The Bruce Field. The methods used to capture these responses will also be discussed.
Buðs, Ojārs – “Some Theoretical Aspects of the Translation of Proper Names”

The common view seems to be proper names do not use to be translated – with exception when the etymological (motivational) meaning is translated (Crna Gora > Montenegro, Wa-Sha-Quon-Asin > Grey Owl). Although it is common to transfer proper names of some specific language to some other language, this transference is mostly called rendering (New York > Latv. Nūjorka) or probably considered to be a linguistic incrustation (Germ. Einstein > Engl. Einstein). However it seems appropriate to consider the rendering as kind of the translation.

The translation is the communication of the meaning of a source-language text by means of a target-language text. Thus the name must have a meaning to be translated. There has been a very long and passionate discussion about the existence of the conceptual meaning of proper names, and we can probably agree names used in a text have a meaning (proper lemmas do not) (a meaning is not identical with the explanation of a meaning!). If some name is included in a text to be translated this name must be translated, too, and one of the possibilities for the translation is the rendering (and the rendering is sometimes seemingly identical with the incrustation).

Butler, James – “New Digital Worlds to Explore: The Onomastic Styling of Open-World Videogames”

A particular form of videogames currently seeing a surge in popularity, are known as 'sandbox' titles. These are titles in which the player is presented an open environment in which they can freely pursue different elements of gameplay in a non-linear manner. As a result of such freedom, each such game requires the development of a uniquely shaped closed microcosmic environment that is stylistically tailored to the individual setting; a significant part of which may be observed in the names of people, places, organisations, and products that appear. This paper will compare and contrast a variety of such worlds, showing how terrapsychological and semantic value is used in the onomastic construction of these settings to utmost efficiency in creating emotionally recognisable, if not accurate renditions, of particular environments. The digital playgrounds of a variety of titles shall be explored, including Rockstar Games' Canis Canem Edit (aka Bully) and Grand Theft Auto 5, Volition Inc's Saints Row The Third, and Ubisoft's American War of Independence-era Assassins Creed 3.

Carroll, Jayne – “Personal Names in Shropshire Place-names”

This paper will offer a survey of the personal names recorded in Shropshire place-names attested before 1400, collected from the six English Place-Name Society Survey volumes authored by Margaret Gelling before her death, and from the material currently being used to complete the Survey as part of the AHRC-funded project, The place-names of Shropshire (2013–2016). It will examine the linguistic origins of this corpus, the types of name found and their distribution, and the elements with which they are compounded. It will compare the corpus with data from the Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England, and from Survey data from across England. It will address the question of whether the borderland environment of these names is reflected in personal-naming strategies.
Carsenat, Elian and Evgeny Shokhenmayer – “Onomastics to Measure Cultural Bias in Medical Research”

This project involves the analysis of about one million medical research articles from PubMed. We propose to evaluate the correlation between the onomastic class of the article authors and that of the citations authors. We will demonstrate that the cultural bias exists and also that it evolves in time. Between 2007 and 2008, the ratio of articles authored by Chinese scientists (or scientists with Chinese names) nearly tripled. We will evaluate how fast this surge in Chinese research material (or research material produced by scientists of Chinese origin) became cross-referenced by other authors with Chinese or non-Chinese names. We hope to find that onomastics provide a good enough estimation of the cultural bias of a research community. The findings can improve the efficiency of a particular research community, for the benefit of Science and the whole humanity.

Casagranda Mirko – “Green Trade Names in the UK”

The paper aims at analysing a corpus of British trade names taken from the Company House website, where British companies are officially listed, incorporated and dissolved, and company information is examined and stored. The term “green” will be used as a keyword to find out which companies adopt the lexeme “green” in their names as a marker of ecological sustainability. Indeed, in the last decades, new companies specialising in environmental issues have been founded and named all over the world. This is a consequence of the recent increase in environmental awareness, which has also entered the political debate about sustainable economic and social policies. By analysing the morpho-syntactic behaviour of the word “green” in the corpus, the paper will assess whether it is used in a linguistically innovative way (e.g. new compounds, category shift, ecc.) and whether it is synonymous with “ecological” or “environmental”. Moreover, the paper will show whether the word “green” is included in British trade names also when it has nothing to do with environmental issues and/or when it is employed to attract eco-friendly customers.

Cekula, Zane – “Place Names and Identity: Place Names of Northern and Southern Latgale Reflecting vegetation”

Within the framework of the research project on linguistic aspects of the territorial identity, a detailed study of place names of the Northern and the Southern Latgale reflecting vegetation has been made. The main purpose is to present some general observations, regularities and insights into a complex relationship between plants and people through symbolic systems like geographic names.

The basic source of data for this research is the place name information from maps in scale 1:50 000. The main tasks are to identify plant species in the place names of the area in question, to quantify their representation and to compare the acquired data with common phytogeographical and socio-cultural features of the investigated area. The place names reflect a number of Latgalian forms of plant names, more in some parishes, less in others. However, Standard Latvian is being most frequent variant in most names.
Mostly tree names are used to form place names. The herb names are less frequent.

A number of different generics are used in the material, which means that there is a great variation of topographical features where plants grow, for instance kolns ‘hill’, māja, mājas, sāta ‘farmstead’, leja ‘valley’ are among the more frequent words.

Choo, Sungjae – “Toponymy in the Era of Climate Change: Some Issues”

The mega-trend of climate change, perceived with its various forms, is expected to cast enormous and diversified impacts on the use of place names. This research aims to draw some issues on the impact of climate change on place names and suggest how to accommodate them in the toponymic research. Some preliminary thoughts include: change or extinction of toponyms resulting from the reformulation of geographical features, birth of new names for newly created features, revision of name-related identity coming from the geographical shift of specialized products in agriculture and fisheries. Some examples of the potential toponymic changes will be provided.

Clancy, Thomas – “A Suffixed Landscape: Constitutive Adjectives in Gaelic Place-Names and Poetry”

An adjectival suffix -ach, derived from Celtic -āko- was particularly productive in Gaelic. I term adjectives employing this suffix 'constitutive', in that the suffix is attached to nouns to express that something is full of, abounding in, or characterised by that noun: iasgach 'abounding in fish'; triathach, 'having many chieftains'. These adjectives, and the substantives derived from them, are particularly common in Gaelic place-names in Scotland--but they also have a large role to play in the dynamics of Gaelic poetry. This paper seeks to explore the relationship between these two phenomena, and argues that the richness of this adjectival type, and its capacity to illustrate the nature of a place (and other features) succinctly supported its use in both these environments. More tentatively, it explores the possibility that the presence of such adjectives in the environments of both place-names and poetry was mutually reinforcing.

Clark, Ian – “A Forgotten Brouhaha: The Controversy Surrounding the Aboriginal Name of Mt Toolebewong in The Healesville District, of Victoria, Australia, in 1943-4 – Lessons in Authenticity and Authority”

In July 1943 Eileen Finlay, a noted Australian author of fiction, took a holiday in the resort town of Healesville. As a result of her stay she penned several articles for the local paper, the Healesville Guardian. In one article, she discussed the Nyora guesthouse situated on Mt Toole-be-wong, a well-known landmark in the district with an Aboriginal placename. Little did she know that in the next four months a debate would ensue in the pages of the Healesville Guardian around the authenticity and accuracy of the name Toole-be-wong. John Cornish, a long-term resident argued that the correct name was in fact Tonne-be-wong. Finlay responded that in light of Cornish’s claim, she had consulted her sources and could find no support for his assertion, and challenged him to reveal his evidence and prove her wrong. In support of his position,
Cornish submitted evidence he had gleaned from five ‘old residents’. Finlay responded that she had ‘retired gracefully from the field of battle’, and suggested that there was no point arguing against official placenames as they ‘can be taken as absolutely authentic’. Other correspondents entered the fray – some siding with Cornish and others with Finlay. This local controversy is worthy of examination as it highlights issues of authenticity and orthography of Aboriginal placenames and the authority of official placenames as documented by naming agencies.

**Crook, Alice – “Personal Naming Patterns in Early Modern Scotland”**

It is often claimed that Scottish children were named in a fixed sequence after relatives (first son after paternal grandfather, first daughter after maternal grandmother, second son after maternal grandfather, second daughter after paternal grandmother, etc.), especially during the Early Modern period (e.g. Cory 1990; Durie 2009). This theory, based on limited qualitative evidence, has been seriously challenged by recent research, a quantitative study of the baptismal records of four Scottish parishes for the period 1700-1800, which has demonstrated that the sequence was not widely followed. The question which then arises is: if families in Early Modern Scotland were not following the ‘traditional’ naming pattern, what naming patterns, if any, were they following?

In this paper, I will discuss the findings and implications of my recent project and show that the ‘traditional’ naming pattern was in fact not followed by the majority of Early Modern Scottish families, with an estimated 60% of familial groups not using it. Using material gathered from the baptismal records of ten Scottish parishes, covering the period 1680-1840, I will then discuss the potential usage of other naming patterns, with reference to aspects including patrilineal and matrilineal naming, substitution, and the influence of important local townsfolk.

**van Dalen-Oskam, Karina – “Namescape, or How to Deal with Noise”**

Researchers of literary onomastics have increasingly called for the analysis of all the names in a literary work, an oeuvre, a genre, or a time period. Until now, this approach was humanly impossible. But things are definitely changing. Digital text corpora and the necessary tools to recognize, classify and tag named entities are increasingly becoming available, accompanied by tools to search, retrieve, and visualize the data. The results from the automatic analysis of a large corpus of text, however, still include a lot of noise: mistakes made by the software in ways that are often annoying for the human scholar. Even then, the amount of correct results can be staggering. To leave them aside because of the noise would not be wise, but still is the standard reflex of many humanities scholars. I propose a different reflex, namely to actively try to find ways how to deal with noise, and thus to profit from the big gains that are there for the taking. In this paper, some first methodological experiments in dealing with noise will be presented, based on the project Namescape (www.namescape.nl), dealing with modern Dutch fiction.
Dehlin, Lennart – “Place-names and Road-signs”

My paper is dealing with reactions amongst the local inhabitants when the unofficial spelling of place-names on road signs are changed to the official spelling, in spite of the fact that the official spelling of the names has been presented on official maps for a long time, sometimes for decades. An important question is why the spelling on the road-signs differs from the official spelling, and the fact that the road-sign is regarded as bearer of the right spelling.

I will also describe the close co-operation between Lantmäteriet and the Swedish road authority Trafikverket, concerning the work with the minority place-names in meänkieli and saami languages in order to present their place-names on road-signs.

Demsky, Aaron – “Biblical Names and Name-giving in Ancient Israel: A Mirror of Social and Religious Change”

Biblical names are a vital historic–linguistic aspect of Hebrew culture in Antiquity. This paper will discuss biblical personal names and name-giving practices that evolved in the Second Temple period (550 BCE-100 CE). Personal names reflect such dramatic historic processes, as the canonization of the Bible and its early exegesis. The clarification of the biblical text resulted in the creation of new personal names, e.g. from misread genealogical terms (Ahian, Vashni, Avihu); misunderstood foreign words (Ḥen) or paleographic errors (Yinnon for yikkon) as well as the reinterpretation of the sacred texts (Avigdor, Malachi). Other trends indicate renewed popular religious commitment (Yosef>Yehosef).

In addition, the growing influence of Aramaic and Greek cultures at this time brought about the adoption of non-Hebrew names as well as the fashion of giving double Hebrew and vernacular names. On the other hand, the increased frequency of papponymy reduced the number of unique creative names from an earlier period.

All of these onomastic developments enriched and invigorated the Jewish reservoir of names that would continue to develop in later historic periods.

Dimitrova-Todorova, Liljana – “Onyme Slawischer Herkunft In Bulgarien”

Im bulgarischen onymischen System zeichnen sich unterschiedliche chronologische und ethnische Schichten ab – thrakische, dako-mösische, keltische, lateinische, romanische, griechische, slawische, turksprachige (protobulgarische, kumanische, oghusische, petschenegische, osmanisch-türkische, yörükische, tatarische, tscherkessische), arabische, persische, rumänische, aramäische, althebräische (semitische), armenische u.a. Der Grundstock im bulgarischen onymischen System ist slawisch, wird auch slawisch-bulgarisch genannt, der wegen seiner Zugehörigkeit zum bulgarischen Sprachsystem als heimisch bezeichnet wird.

Die Onyme slawischer Herkunft spielen eine wesentliche Rolle bei der Erforschung der Ethnogenese der Bulgaren. Diese Onyme sind Gegenstand des vorliegenden Beitrags. Im

Dräger, Kathrin – “Von Abbe bis Zyprian. Patronyme im Deutschen Familiennamenatlas”


Der DFA wird seit 2005 an den Universitäten Mainz und Freiburg unter der Leitung von Prof. Dr. Damaris Nübling und Prof. Dr. Konrad Kunze erstellt. Von den rund einer Million verschiedenen Familiennamen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland werden die häufigsten und geeignetsten Beispiele ausgewählt, um grammatikalischen, lexikalischen und auch außersprachlichen Fragestellungen nachzugehen. Bislang sind vier Bände erschienen (siehe Abstract Fahlbusch/Peschke).

[Fabian Fahlbusch und Simone Peschke werden in Ihrem Vortrag den fünften Atlasband vorstellen. Gemeinsam bilden beide Vorträge eine Einheit und sollten daher unbedingt zeitlich direkt hintereinander liegen.]

Dubeda, Tomas – “Pronunciation of Foreign Chrematonyms in Czech TV Advertising”

Advertisements broadcast on Czech TV channels are characterised by a predominance of foreign product names. These chrematonyms have a phonetic form which is the result of two contradictory forces: (1) the form remains close to the original pronunciation and (2) it is easy to identify and pronounce by Czech speakers. The aesthetic function and language-specific connotations play a role too.

A sample of several hundred foreign product names was collected, transcribed and analysed. The data were compared with previous results obtained for foreign common names. The following trends were identified:

1) The prevailing adaptation principle is phonological approximation (substitution of foreign phonemes by their nearest domestic counterparts: Acer [ˈʔɛjsr̩]). However, the application of this principle is less frequent than in common names.
2) Pronunciations based exclusively on spelling (e.g. Samsung ['samsuŋk]) are very rare, but combinations of phonological approximation with spelling-based pronunciation (e.g. Renault ['renolt]) are quite frequent. While some (mostly robust) features of original phonology are maintained, the name is brought closer to the customer, and the the link between pronunciation and spelling is strengthened.

4) Foreign phonemes or prosodic patterns are largely avoided, which reflects the preference of “usability” over positive connotations potentially arising from the original pronunciation.

**Edwards, Tara – “Planning a Thematic Name Reverse Dictionary”**

In this paper, I plan how to write an application that generates proper names from digital corpora. The application uses a constructed rules and keywords lists describing Julian months. The corpus is stored on the web and in electronic text, with physical books used as proofreading references.

The constructed naming convention keeps name themes by these rules: to have as many names I output as possible; to be drawn from specified languages; and to rank output to display.

The application in an electronic dictionary with a relational database acting as a map. The database would map one keyword to a set of co-occurring terms. Terms used would be words classified by WordNet as physical or abstract entities. Each of the terms would map to a list of names, filtered by gender. Output would be ranked by collocation distance from keyword appearing in shared text spaces.

The output names should be found through terms found by more than one text source or computational method, if the initial method produces an empty set for output.

Each method will be tested against a database that maps the set of keywords and gender of name to a set list of names or meanings of names closest to the chosen keyword.

The first method is searching for a set of keywords in documents. Searching the corpora for entries, the reader would expect collocations with the chosen keyword with additional sets of keywords.

To test this idea, I filtered common English words and sets of keywords from corpora containing keywords. The output generated new possible terms, to mapped to names.

**Embleton, Sheila – “The Diverse Naming Patterns of Contemporary India”**

With a population of over 1.2 billion, India is currently the second most populous country in the world, and has enjoyed a recent and rapid rise to prominence in the world’s economy and more generally on the world stage. Very little is known among “Western” scholars about naming in India, and this paper attempts to partially remedy that with a brief overview of the diversity of naming patterns in contemporary India. India is – and always has been – a diverse land of many
cultures, religions, and languages. Add to that its colonial past (British, French, Portuguese), its varied other rulers and influencers (e.g. Mughals) in comparatively recent times, as well as social factors such as the caste system, and this produces a complicated system of naming, which is highly variable regionally and ethnically. This paper will concentrate on personal naming systems, and will look at different systems as determined by social class (caste), religion, and northern (Indo-European) vs. southern (Dravidian) systems of naming. Throughout, there will be attention to the sociological and sociopolitical effects in contemporary India.

Eskola, Ksenia – “Name Giving of Russian-Finnish Families”

The research analyses the naming of children of Russian-Finnish families living in Finland. Russians are the largest group of immigrants in Finland (15.4 per cent in 2012). The main aim is to research what are the motives of name selection in Russian-Finnish families. The research method used is situated in the field of qualitative research (interviews). The most popular naming motives are 1. practical points of names (spelling and pronunciation suitable for both languages), 2. naming after family and relatives and 3. the name’s appeal. Forename influence person’s identity, so it is interesting to examine building of the ethnical identity through names: how the selected names represent the identity of the person. Since some immigrants change their forename or surname to the one that comes from hosting society, I examine also official changes names (according to decision of Committee on Names) as a form of assimilation/integration into Finnish society. Do Russians-Finnish families want their children to assimilate/integrate into Finnish society by choosing a Finnish name or do they want to show the child’s Russianness by choosing a Russian name?

Fahlbusch, Fabian and Simone Peschke – “Weit mehr als Müller, Meyer, Schmidt: Berufsnamen im Deutschen Familiennamenatlas”


Datenbasis des auf sechs Bände angelegten Atlasprojekts der Universitäten Freiburg und Mainz bilden die Festnetz-Telefonanschlüsse der Deutschen Telekom (Stand: 2005). Bislang sind vier Bände erschienen. Die ersten drei konzentrieren sich auf grammatische Phänomene und behandeln neben Vokalen sowie Konsonanten in Familiennamen auch deren Morphologie, während drei weitere Bände der Lexik der Familiennamen gelten. Sie betreffen Familiennamen
nach Herkunft und Wohnstätte, aus Rufnamen, sowie Berufs- und Übernamen. Der Vortrag wird insbesondere das Konzept, die Gliederung sowie einige Beispiele und Ergebnisse des derzeit in Arbeit befindlichen letztgenannten Bandes erläutern.

Kathrin Dräger wird in Ihrem Vortrag den sechsten Atlasband vorstellen. Gemeinsam bilden beide Vorträge eine Einheit und sollten daher unbedingt zeitlich direkt hintereinander liegen.

**Falck-Kjällquist, Birgit – “The Fjord Name Gullmarn – the Place and its Environment”**

The fjord Gullmarn, goðmarr 1300–1325, til Goðmars ca 1300, streches from Skagerrak into central Bohuslän. Gullmarn's fauna is very special as an interchange with fresh, more saline and colder water from outer Skagerrak occurs once or twice a year.

Numerous archaeological finds from the Stone Age and onwards indicate early presence of people in the area and continuous habitation throughout the Middle and Late Iron Age. A figural goldfoil found close on the inner eastern shore may indicate an old regional secular or religious centre. Towards a secular centre in the inner part of the fjord may point that king Sverri held thing in Fyrirleif in the inner part of Gullmarn (according to Sverri's saga from about 1300) where several findings from the Bronze Age have been found.

The specific of Gullmarn contains ON goð n. ‘god, gods, (superior powers)’ and the generic ON marr m. ‘sea, fjord’, the name surely meaning ‘the fjord related to or belonging to the gods’. At the time of namegiving the fjord was most likely seen as closely connected to the gods, a sacred place forming an interface between the human world and the world of the gods, cf. water in old Celtic religion.

**Farkas, Tamás – “The Typology of Changes in the History of Hungarian Family Names”**

The paper aims to overview the different types of historical changes that affected the elements of the Hungarian family name stock. It presents the types of the formal and structural changes of family names, analysing both the linguistic and extralinguistic factors that influenced them. It takes into account the formation of family names, the changes of their status and the potential subsequent changes of their associative value. It also looks at the development of other name types (e.g. of marital names) that also influenced the course of these changes.

The paper studies the types of family name changes also in diachrony, aiming to identify some of the typical tendencies among them. Some of the possible characteristics of family names (e.g. archaic orthography, dialectal variation, morphological markedness) are treated here, which were sometimes affected by contradictory tendencies in different linguistic and extralinguistic context. Finally, the paper gives a short summary of the impact of these changes on the present-day stock of Hungarian family names.
Felecan, Oliviu – “A Psycholinguistic Approach to Nicknaming (With Reference to Nicknames Given by Students to Teachers)”

The present paper aims to study the psychological processes (and, implicitly, the linguistic products) by means of which students nickname teachers, but also to analyse the discursive functions that the corresponding onomastic variants develop in actual communication situations.

I propose a multi-disciplinary approach, as my intention is to deal with language facts from an onomastic, psycholinguistic and sociolinguistic perspective. While describing the link between the structure of nicknames and mental processes that underlie their production, I interpret these language units against the backgrounds where they occur (in schools and universities). Moreover, I assess the extent to which name givers’ temperamental traits affect unconventional onymic creation. The products of unofficial name-giving can be stored for a short or long period of time, either at the level of a micro-community (the classroom or school), or at the level of a macro-community (occurring frequently beyond the confines of the institutional framework in which they were designed). Some nicknames can even be studied diachronically (i.e. nicknames passed down to successive generations of users).

Methodologically, my research is based on three methods (survey, observation and experiment), which my students have helped to apply in schools and universities in northwestern Romania, a multi-ethnic area.

Felecan, Daiana and Alina Bughesiu – “Anthroponyms in Taboo Discourse: the Case of Romanian Swear Phrases”

Swearing is a special kind of speech act, whose use is restricted by certain pragmatic parameters that are determined by a given situation of communication. Structurally, curses display a standard pattern of construction. The initial position in the utterance is occupied by a curse verb (e.g. "a (se) fute" ‘to fuck’), followed by the unstressed form of the second person (singular/plural) pronoun ("-te"/"-vă"), whose role is to identify the receiver of the act of swearing. The final position is filled by the anthroponym of a real or fictional individual, who is “invited”, in absentia, to perform the activity designated by the swear verb.

This paper proposes a pragmalinguistic classification and analysis of anthroponyms in Romanian curses, according to several criteria regarding the referents of the anthroponyms, such as:
- a) ethnic belonging (curses with anthroponyms that are specific to certain ethnic groups): "Ițic";
- b) sociocultural impact (curses with names of famous individuals): "Stalin";
- c) belonging to a transcendental reality (curses that contain hagionyms): "Dumnezeu" (‘God’), "Petru" (< "Sf. Petru" ‘St Peter’). Such curses are used only in extreme circumstances: morally and emotionally, their effect is similar to the one of swear phrases that refer to the mother of the cursed person.
Ferland, Yaïves – « Le Retour de la Toponymie Autochtone dans le Nord Canadien »

La toponymie des régions peu peuplées du Nord des provinces jusqu’à l’Archipel arctique canadiens se transforme rapidement depuis trois décennies. La valorisation d’une toponymie autochtone qu’on étudie, négocie puis adopte officiellement rejoint une volonté d’affirmer une souveraineté gouvernementale ou déléguée aux divers niveaux d’autorités des nouveaux territoires, aux statuts et compétences variés sans être définitifs. La toponymie devient un argument du développement économique, culturel, social et environnemental du Nord. La compréhension des endonymes autochtones de lieux géographiques, traditionnels ou inventés récemment, avec leurs positions, orientations, intentions, étendue, configuration et limites variables, selon les nombreuses langues et échelles, au gré d’usages significatifs parfois saissonniers en fonction des chasses ou des glaces, tout cela pose de nombreuses contraintes conceptuelles, culturelles, politiques et pratiques. Dans ces langues, les lieux ne correspondent pas avec les entités occidentales et les appellations sont narratives plutôt que descriptives, localisant des activités et trajectoires traditionnelles et des circonstances endogènes aux milieux naturels de vie des autochtones. Voici un tableau actualisé critique des tendances, expériences et conséquences quant aux méthodes de renomination et de cartographie par les autorités gouvernementales et des représentants communautaires, pour traiter les difficultés et s’adapter aux besoins parfois contradictoires en toponymie autochtone du Nord canadien.

Ferrari, Anna – “Psychobiographism and Literary Echoes. Amelia Rosselli’s Names”

Amelia Rosselli has been an outstanding protagonist of that drastic process of literary renewal prompted in Italy by the “Gruppo 63”. The process of nomination she carried on can be considered as a very illuminating interpretive tool because it will allow the reader to reconstruct the different stages in her literary career – a multishaped and plural career where art, life, and illness are very closely tightened together.

Rosselli’s onimic repertoire corresponds to deep semantic options, ambiguously (and tellingly) practised in both the fields of psycho-biographism and memorial-literary experimentation. This is what takes place in La Libellula (1958), a longish poem and a landmark in her production: here the name becomes a central theme in the very process of poetic variation, as well as a literary evidence which – behind the unusual and provocative device of «antiphrastic quotation» – hides/reveals the hints of a private tragedy in the poet’s existence. Together with the intertextualities and allusions inscribed in the very names, Rosselli’s use of «antiphrastic quotations» will prompt daring rewritings on her part, resulting in an unconventional overcoming of stale literary models. Rosselli’s «dissociation» and laceration, which are not only fictional, bring her to a redoubling/crumbling of the Self, in its turn a sombre and diverting echo of some different Self who endeavours all the same to patch itself together elsewhere, to mould itself again through the use of anthroponyms: to make itself new by way of an eternonym practised almost as a therapy.
Company names as a subcategory of chrematonyms have been an upcoming subject of onomastic research in recent years. One of its focuses is naming companies after existing names from other categories. A company naming pattern quite common among Swiss companies is the choice of toponyms, mainly oronyms (mountain names) as well as some hydronyms and choronyms. In my paper I will investigate the conditions of such naming: If chrematonyms have important associative and connotative functions (Knappová 1996: 1570), then what is evoked by oronyms in general and by the names of particular mountains? Why, for example, are two of the three famous neighbouring mountains Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau also apostrophised as Triumvirate, chosen for companies such as garages, real estate companies and a newspaper, while the third one is cold-shouldered? Is there any correlation between a region’s touristic developing and name choice? What influence does the era of the company foundation have? What oronyms are chosen as chrematonyms in relation to the company’s geographical distance from a mountain? And why are oronyms so prominent in company naming while other toponymic categories are rare? These questions will be studied based on entries in Swiss telephon directories.


In general, from a marketing communications perspective, brands need, on the one hand, to make both rational and emotional appeals (Belch/Belch 2009: 287) and, on the other hand, to enhance their recognition (Lane/King/Reichert 2011: 49).

The purpose of our research is to reveal the branding strategies pursued by European banks in view of their financial products (current accounts, loans, cash cards, credit cards, etc.). Some banks are using, for example, tree or animal names, music styles as well as compound names which carry connotations pointing to success and wealth.

To answer our research question we create a corpus of both websites and sales literature from banks in different European countries (France, Germany, England, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Romania etc.), which we analyze qualitatively from a morphological and semantic point of view.

Flores, W. Amaru Flores – “Wie Entstehen Onomastische Grenzen? Der Einfluss von Dialektarealen, Sprachgrenzen, Historischen und Rezenten Territorialgrenzen auf Familiennamenlandschaften am Beispiel der Familiennamen im Luxemburgischen Grenzgebiet”

Dass sich die Familiennameninventare benachbarter Länder in verschiedenen Einzelphänomenen erheblich unterscheiden, ist in zahlreichen Untersuchungen belegt, die aber auch zeigen, dass es
häufig grenzüberschreitende Gemeinsamkeiten und Übergänge gibt. Der Vortrag zeigt, wie sich diese gegensätzlichen Tendenzen kleinräumig im konkreten Grenzraum abbilden, und welche Schlüsse sich daraus ziehen lassen, wann und wie sich Familiennamenlandschaften bilden.

Das Untersuchungsgebiet besteht aus dem heutigen Luxemburg und jenen Gebieten in Belgien und Deutschland, die bis 1815 bzw. 1839 Teil Luxemburgs waren. Es umfasst somit sowohl die german.-roman. Sprachgrenze als auch historische und rezeachte Territorialgrenzen, und ist zudem vielfältig dialektal gegliedert.

Die Untersuchung kombiniert quantitative-explorative und qualitative Ansätze: Zunächst wird die räumliche Struktur des gesamten Nameninventars ermittelt, indem die Isonymie (=Übereinstimmung der Nameninventare) mit statistischen Modellen im Raum abgebildet wird. Ursachen und Erklärungen dieser Raumstruktur werden dann mit qualitativen Methoden gesucht.

Die onomastische Raumstruktur erweist sich als sowohl von linguistischen als auch außerlinguistischen Faktoren beeinflusst: sie folgt maßgeblich der romanisch-germanischen Sprachgrenze und den heutigen Landesgrenzen; auch dialektale Einflüsse lassen sich beobachten.

Die historischen Territorialgrenzen hingegen bilden sich nicht ab. Dies ist erstaunlich, da zum Zeitpunkt sowohl der Entstehung der Familiennamen als auch ihrer Festwerdung (um 1800) nicht die heutigen, sondern die historischen Grenzen Bestand hatten.


English national identity (Englishness) has attracted a lot of popular and scholarly attention recently. Among the most significant novels that have attempted to explore Englishness is “England, England” by Julian Barnes. The novel’s central story is the creation of a theme park on the Isle of Wight representing a collection of “typically English” things.

The aim of the present study is 1) to analyze how English national identity (Englishness) is discursively reconstructed in the novel, 2) to define the main types of onyms used in its reconstruction, and 3) to present a quantitative analysis of their distribution in the novel.

Preliminary results suggest the following:
1) Englishness is discursively constructed in “England, England” through contrast with other non-English identities;

2) There are two dimensions of English national identity in the novel: horizontal (geographical) and vertical (cultural) one. Similarly, these dimensions are metaphorically represented through “puzzle” (a Counties of England jigsaw puzzle) and “diamond” (the shape of the Isle of Wight) metaphors;

3) While the first type of identity is constructed by toponyms (names of the counties), the second one is more complex and comprises various types of onyms (anthroponyms, gastronyms, microtoponyms), primarily those reflecting England’s history and culture.
Frändén, Mārit – “Surnames in the Melting Pot. How Immigrated Surnames are Integrated in the Present-Day Swedish Surname Stock”

Today, nearly every fifth Swedish citizen is born outside Sweden or have parents who are both born abroad. New names, from languages with different sets of phonemes and different phonotactics, follow their bearers to a new country and come into use in a new society. How does this influence the names, seen as linguistic units? Is the pronunciation or the spelling changed? And what happens to all those diacritics that the Swedish national registration system cannot manage? These questions are of vital importance to the Swedish name care, since many of the surnames have thousands of bearers in present-day Sweden, and will be a part of the Swedish name stock also in the future. Last, but by all means not least: What do the name bearers themselves have to say about all this? Is it possible to identify with a misspelled and misspronounced name? In my paper, I will present a forthcoming research projekt on immigrated surnames in Sweden. The project will start in 2014 and last for three years.

Gasque, Thomas J. – “The Effects of the Great War on U.S. Place Names”

One hundred years ago, 1914, World War I began. Although the United States did not enter the war until three years later, a strong anti-German attitude began to develop. By 1918, in South Dakota, with many citizens of German lineage, the teaching of German was banned and German language textbooks were dumped into the Missouri River. In the Midwest, especially, attempts to rename places having German-derived names were usually successful. Potsdam in Missouri became Pershing; Brandenburg, Texas, was changed to Old Glory; Kiel in Oklahoma is now Loyal; and Rhine Creek in South Dakota became Marne Creek. Some of the changed names reverted to the old form after the war, and changes to some rather obvious German names were never attempted: Bismarck, North Dakota, is one example. Of course, this was not limited to the U.S. Canada and Australia, as Commonwealth nations, were involved in the war earlier than the U.S. In Ontario, for example, the sizable city now known as Kitchener was changed from Berlin in 1916. In Australia, in 1915, Germanton, New South Wales, became Holbrook, and in 1916 Bismarck, Queensland, became Maclagan, and Heidelberg, Western Australia, became Bickley. Many other examples will be part of this presentation.

Gerhardt, David – “Different Ways to Deal with the Official Nomenclature of Field Names”

A lot of field names in the German speaking area are printed on actual land-register maps and are thus also recorded in the land charge register (“Grundbuch”). Onomasticians have described over and over again several problems which can appear if oral field names are transferred into official spelling; especially if they are written in the standard language or following standard writing-traditions (c.f. for example Ramge 1998, 86 or Zinsli 1963). In my presentation I want to show how the actual name-layer on land-register maps in Hesse (Germany) and the Canton of Bern (Switzerland) is handled. Since the middle of the 20th century, in Switzerland there is a special set of rules how to write field names as they are spoken. Hesse, on the contrary, has a long tradition of field name normalization, which hasn’t changed much until today.

Which effect do these different advances have on name using communities and on their use of
the maps? In this regard my collected empirical data isn’t big enough to show quantitative evidence. However, I want to discuss the meaning of different nomenclatures and fathom hypothetical(!) opportunities for a new nomenclature in Hesse.

Gilles, Peter and W. Amaru Flores Flores – "Isonymie und Lasker-Distanz: Möglichkeiten Quantitativer Ansätze für die Familiennamengeographie in Deutschland"

Bisherige Arbeiten zur Familiennamengeographie Deutschlands untersuchen meist Einzelphänomene anhand eines jeweils ausgewählten Teils des Gesamtinventars der Familiennamen. Dies gilt für den Deutschen Familiennamenatlas (DFA), der anhand von ausgewählten Namenkarten einen umfassenden Überblick über alle denkbaren linguistischen Bereiche gibt, ebenso wie für zahlreiche, meist kontrastiv angelegten Einzeluntersuchungen, in denen daneben v.a. auch der statistische Vergleich der Verteilung der Benennungsmotive (meist an den häufigsten Familiennamen) im Zentrum steht (Marynissen/Nübling 2010, Farø/Kürschner 2007 u.a.).

Demgegenüber können mit statistischen Methoden der Bioinformatik, die sich (v.a. außerhalb Deutschlands) auch in der quantitativ orientierten Namenforschung bewährt haben (vgl. den Überblick von Cheshire et al. (2009)), vollständige Nameninventare untersucht werden. Als ein geeignetes Vergleichsmaß hat sich hier die sog. „Isonymie“ etabliert, die als die Ähnlichkeit von zwei Populationen auf der Grundlage der Häufigkeitsstruktur der Familiennamen definiert (Lasker 1985).

Im Vortrag werden die Ergebnisse einer Pilotstudie, die für ganz Deutschland das gesamte Nameninventar nach Telefonanschlüssen des Jahres 2007 analysiert, vorgestellt und diskutiert, inwiefern dieser Ansatz eine wertvolle Ergänzung zu den in Deutschland verbreiteten qualitativen Ansätzen sein kann.

Giuntoli, Giacomo – “Tiziano Scarpa is Milena Fiotti: a True Story”

Tiziano Scarpa (1963) is an Italian writer who has achieved fame as a novelist and poet. He received great critical acclaim in 1997 with his debut novel Occhi sulla graticola (Eyes on the gridiron). Right at the beginning of his career something curious happened. Scarpa took part in a collection of stories named Anticorpi, where we can find his Madrigale (Madrigal). The writer, however, has signed two short stories, and not just one as the other writers. Indeed, a few years after the book publishing, he admitted to also having written La correzione (The correction), initially signed as Milena Fiotti, a woman. This is a peculiar choice considering that a few years later the writer asserted that “In the real world, people do not give any credit to those who are not ready to stand up for what they say using their own name and surname. Imagine an appeal against the death penalty signed using a nickname. Otherwise, would you accept a cheque signed with a nickname?” The aim of this article is to explain the reason of this choice, a one-off in the author’s career. We will also see how the two short stories Madrigale and La Correzione can be considered as interdependent and seen as a whole rather than as two unconnected tales.
González Rodríguez, Alberto – “El Muelle del Cay of Santander City (Spain) and The Two European Maritime Big Traditions in the Late Middle And Modern Ages. A Lexicological Study about the Words Cay and Muelle”

The place name Muelle del Cay was part of the street map of Santander city in the eighteenth century.

Muelle del Cay, made up by the combination of the neologism muelle plus the ancient word cay, is a tautology since both these words mean ‘wharf’. The etymons are Latin molem and Gaulish caio.

The purpose of the present study is to give an accurate idea of its geographical distribution along the two big nautical areas in the Medieval European maritime world. The linguistic legacy of caio is used along the West Sea whereas mollem is found along the Mediterranean. Thereby in the Mediterranean area we can find results such as: Catalonian moll, Italian molo, Spanish muelle, Greek μόλος. However, in the Atlantic area, the results are: Portuguese cais, Basque kaia, French quay, German kai, Swedish kaj, Norwegian kai, Flemish kaai, Danish kai, Estonian kai.

The existence of the Cantabric place name Muelle del Cay in the sixteenth century breaks off the exclusive distribution of these words due to the political change operated in the Iberian Peninsula with the union of the kingdoms of Castilian and Aragon.

Grant, Alison – “Occupational Surnames in the Older Scots Language in their Lexicographical Environment”

Much of the research into Scottish surnames focuses on names coined in the Gaelic language, and is rooted firmly in the socio-historical context of kinship ties and clan lineage. By comparison, the occupational surnames coined in the Older Scots language in the lowland burghs have received little scholarly attention, and although information on many individual names can be found in George F. Black’s 'The Surnames of Scotland', there is no distinct corpus of this category of names.

This paper will focus on Scots occupational surnames within their lexicographical environment. The 12-volume Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue (covering the period from 1100 to 1700) will be used as the basis for establishing a corpus of occupational surnames. This will allow the development of specifically Scots names such as Bremner, Cordiner, Dempster, Falconer, Ferrier, Grieve and Lorimer to be examined against the wider context of occupational terms such as aulnager, coalhewer, guster, lapider, palfurner and pargener which are also attested in the Older Scots lexicon but did not evolve into hereditary surnames.
Grassi, Giulia Francesca – “Anthroponomastics in Dura Europos”

Roman Syria is characterized by a multilingual environment, and a composite anthropononomastics, both Semitic and Indo-European.

The city of Dura Europos, in the Middle Euphrates, is a good example of cultural, linguistic and onomastic interactions: founded in 300 BC ca by the Seleucids, the city was conquered by the Parthians at the end of the 2nd century BC, and was disputed between the Arsacids and the Romans for centuries. Finally, the city was conquered in 256 AD by the Sassanians, and abandoned.

Situated on the border between the Roman and the Parthian empires, Dura was cosmopolitan in character, as is evident from the several languages attested in its numerous (more than 1000) inscriptions (Greek, Latin, Palmyrene, Hatran, Early Syriac, Jewish Aramaic, Hebrew, Safaitic, Middle Persian), and from the variety of its anthroponomastics. The paper will focus on the anthroponomastics of the city, taking into consideration its development from the most ancient to the most recent texts (1st century BC-3rd century AD), and investigating aspects such as the language, the elements and the structure of the anthroponyms, the differences between male and female proper names, and the interaction between the different onomastic traditions (Aramaic, Greek, Arabic, Persian, Latin etc.).

Győrffy, Erzsébet – “Toponyms on the Cognitive Map”

The question of spatial representation and the study of the relation between spatial cognition and the linguistic systems of expression related to space are in the foreground of cognitive sciences. So far studies have been mostly focused on inquiries into the role of common words, thus the role of toponyms in orientation has been somewhat neglected. Nevertheless, place names may hold an important position in navigation and orientation, therefore in my presentation I will give an outline of the cognitive map of the population of the settlement of Tépe as the toponyms on the map can be interpreted as potential points of orientation. The cognitive map is a central notion of spatial cognition, it can be stated that mental maps refer to representations of space which are also linked with different types of knowledge: visual, auditive, tactile, etc. experiences, emotional elements or spatial language.

During my research I interviewed 80 people (7%). I established four categories based on age groups: 1) below 20 years, 2) 21 to 40 years, 3) 41 to 60 years, and 4) over 60 years. Furthermore, in the selection of the interviewees my intention was to represent each and every decade as well as both genders proportionately. In my presentation I will analyse the toponymic knowledge of the four age groups. In the course of the field work I managed to contact also interviewees who represent three different generations of a single family. I identified two such groups, which may bear interesting results in a comparison. Finally, I pose the question whether we can assume the existence of a certain collective cognitive map.
Hämäläinen, Lasse – “User names in Finnish Online Communities”

The subject of the presentation is user names, registered unofficial personal names that are used in Internet communities. Research data consists of 7600 user names, collected from three online communities where Finnish is primary language.

The analysis of user names is focused mainly on their structure. Structure of a user name can be divided in two functionally different parts: Identifying part is the foundation of user name. Mostly it is user’s forename or an appellation, but other proper names (toponyms, commercial names) or made-up words are also quite ordinary. User name must be unique in the community it is registered to. Therefore, in many names there is also supplementary part, which sets the name apart from other user names with the same identifying part. E.g. in user name someone44914 identifying part is someone, supplementary part 44914.

Capitalization of user names is also examined. Capitalizing proper names is an essential orthographic norm in many languages, but in user names it isn’t necessary. E.g. in a Finnish online gaming community Aapeli (www.aapeli.com) only 40 % of user names are capitalized. It is discussed, what causes this kind of tendency.

Harvalík, Milan – “The Types of Czech Exonyms and Incorporating Foreign Geographical Names into Czech”

Domestic forms of foreign geographical names, exonyms, have belonged to the vocabulary of each language since earliest times. Although they as proper names are a part of the language system, their origin and existence are determined by extra-linguistic factors, such as by the particular political, economic, religious and cultural contacts between particular countries as well as by the educational level of the population.

In this paper, analyses are made of the methods of classifying Czech exonyms based on their origins, on the frequency of their occurrence over time, and on their language formation. Special attention is given to the processes by which foreign geographical names have been adapted into Czech considered from the perspective of individual language levels. The set of Czech exonyms, ranging from earliest times down to the present, is also reviewed, as is the contemporary usage of Czech exonyms and the standardisation of geographical names in general. Approaching the problem from a linguistic point of view, an attempt is made to determine the boundaries between exonyms and endonyms (the opposite of exonyms), especially in connection with the existence of so called phonic exonyms whose graphic form does not differ from the written form of endonyms. The analysis of the processes of adaptation which lead to the creation of exonyms employs a systemic approach that helps to identify regularities according to which such foreign geographical names are Czechified. By studying the ways by which endonyms have been assimilated into Czech over time, sufficient space is given to more general thinking regarding the relation between the centre and periphery within the onymical system.
Havlík, Martin – “Can Czechs Read Polish Names? Problems with the Adaptation of Foreign Anthroponyms and Toponyms”

According to orthoepic manuals of Czech the pronunciation of foreign proper names should typically reflect their pronunciation in the original language. As Czech and Polish are both West Slavonic languages and are to some degree mutually intelligible, I assumed that Czech speakers would have little trouble in pronouncing Polish names. To test this assumption, I created sentences containing well-known Polish anthroponyms and toponyms, which were read by 70 respondents. I also monitored how the same names are pronounced in the Czech media. Surprisingly, the results showed that the respondents read the Polish names mainly as they were spelled, while in the Czech media they were pronounced according to the original Polish pronunciation. These conflicting results beg the question whether the spelling of Polish anthroponyms and toponyms should be adjusted according to Czech orthography. The possibility of adjusting pronunciation according to the original spelling is blocked, however, by differences in orthography between the two languages. In cases that the spelling of a Polish name differed considerably from Czech orthography respondents had no idea how to read the name.

Helleland, Botolv – “The Great Onomastic Divide in Norway: The Standardising Problem of Settlement (Farm) Names after 400 Years of Danish Influence”

A typical feature of Norwegian surnames is that as many as two thirds of them are derived from settlement names or other place-names. About half of the Norwegians wear such a surname. This is probably unique in a European context, and figuratively speaking the Norwegians are bearers of Norwegian topography and settlement history through their surnames. However, a large part of the thousands of such surnames are used in spellings which have been written down by Danish officials in documents during the centuries before Norway gained its political and linguistic independence. Thus a settlement name Vik ‘bay’ may be written Wik, Wig, Wiig etc. The use of place-names and surnames are regulated by two separate laws which function satisfactorily from a theoretical point of view: The farm name Vik is in accordance with the regulations, and the surname Wiig is written according to its tradition. But some of those who carry the surname Wiig want that the name of their farm to be written in the same way as their surname. This view has got political support and the Ministry of Cultural Affairs is preparing an amendment to the Place-Name Act. According to the proposal the owners will be given the right to decide on the spelling of names of their single holdings. If this amendment will be carried out, Norway will see a double onomastic system, or divide, where most of the place-names will be consistent with the spelling rules, but where many names of single holdings (farms) will be written in an inconsistent and casual way.


Der Beitrag präsentiert erste Ergebnisse des 2012 begonnenen Langzeitprojekts Digitales Familiennamenwörterbuch Deutschlands (DFD). Erste Artikelstichproben zeigen zum einen den dringenden Bedarf, die Erkenntnisse der vorhandenen Literatur zu bundeln, zum anderen die Wichtigkeit einer Überprüfung, Präzisierung und Neubewertung der in den einschlägigen Lexika

Hofmann, Philippe – “Den Wüstungen auf der Spur - Onomastische Beiträge zur Entsiedlungsgeschichte des Oberen Baselbiets”


Hohensinner, Karl and Bertold Wöss – “... hinter vielen Bäumen. Die unbekannten -inger”


Der primäre Typus der -inger-Namen ist bekannt, es handelt sich hier um -er-Ableitungen zu Siedlungsnamen auf -ing aus -ingen. Von den sekundären Typen sind die Ableitungen auf -inger
aus Siedlungsnamen, Hofnamen und Flurnamen auf -ach/-ahi am häufigsten. Hier stellt sich z. B. Haslinger zu den Haselbüschen, Linninger zum Lindenwäldchen, Puchinger zum Buchenwäldchen, Pühringer zum Birkenwäldchen, Aschinger zum Eschengehölz, Danninger zum Tannenwald.


Ivanova, Xenia – “Branding the Environment”

The present study is dedicated to the brand names for environmental and ecological products and their communication to the public (slogans), i.e. Body Shop, Anthropologic, Patagonia. The green market is rapidly growing due to the consumers’ gravitation toward natural, organic and eco-friendly products, especially in the Western countries. Regarding the fact that the average green consumer has virtually no brand awareness at all, the concept will show new trends in this sector on the phonic, morphologic and semantic level, and analyse their psycholinguistic impact on the customers in different countries (Russia, Germany, France and the United States). The research is based on the registered trademarks and an empirical survey on their perception in the relevant countries and their influence on the consumers’ behaviour.

Jansone, Ilga – “Ethnonyms In Toponyms of the 17th – 19th Century Vidzeme (Latvia)”

Textual material of the historical revisions and church metrics books, is an important source of toponymic research. The presentation is an analysis of homestead names found in ”plough and soul revisions” of 1631–1850.

The first to be mentioned is the self-denomination of Latvians appearing only in the German form Lette. Names of several Baltic tribes: the Selonians – Sehlisch, Sehlet, the Cours – Kursen, Kurſet, Kurſeet, have become homestead names.

Farmstead names reflect an even wider representation of Lithuanian self-denominations leitis and lietuviets – Leisch, Leite, Leithan; Leetweet, Letowet. Homestead names formally representing self-denomination of Prussians – Prus, Prusche can also be found.

Finno-Ugric elements are essentially represented in homestead names. Place names with the ethnonym igaunis (Estonian) have been recorded – Igaun, Iggaun, with the ethnonym lībietis, lībis, līvs (Liv) – Libesch, Lihbet, Lihbeet, Lihbez, Lihwe, Liwe. Possible variants are homestead names with denominations of the Wots or krieviņi – Kreewin, Kreewing.

Some homestead names comprise denominations of Slavic nations: krievs (Russian) – Kreewe, Krewe, Krewuppe, polis (Pole) – Pohle, with the root slav- / slav- – Slahwit, Slavit, Slawischan, Slawek.
The homestead name Swedre bears similarity with the ethnonym zviedri (Swedes), homestead names Turzing and Greece could probably be linked to ethnonyms turks (Turk) and grieķis (Greek).

Jílková, Lucie – “Pronunciation of Hungarian Proper Names in Czech”

This paper is devoted to the analysis of the pronunciation of selected Hungarian proper names in Czech – anthroponyms and toponyms considered rather well-known in the Czech context (e.g. Lajos Kossuth, Imre Kertész, Harkány, Pécs) and which contain potentially problematic sounds (e.g. the digraphs ly, gy and ny). These names were incorporated into simple sentences (e.g. This year I want to visit the famous spa Harkány), which were read by 70 Czech respondents with no knowledge of Hungarian. For some names in particular there was – considering the number of respondents – a great number of registered pronunciation variants, e.g. in the case of the Hungarian anthroponym Dezső, there were 14 different pronunciations. The analysis of the recordings revealed that Czech speakers do not have a strong awareness of the pronunciation of potentially problematic sounds. Czech pronunciation guides (Palková, Zeman) recommend the pronunciation for loanwords based on the pronunciation in the original language. In other words, the guides recommend the phonological approximation principle. The Czech respondents, however, by far more often utilized the spelling pronunciation principle. Furthermore, a correlation between the appropriate pronunciation (i.e. using the phonological approximation principle) and the respondent’s prior familiarity with the given name was revealed.

Jiménez, Selene – “Male and Female First Names Attribution Regarding Family Heritage, Catholic Calendar Influence, and Fashion in Tlalnepantla de Baz, Estado de México”

Under the assumption of close relationship between naming practices and the society/culture in which names are given, we studied from both a synchronic and a diachronic perspective how first names attribution was influenced by social factors such as family heritage, religious festivities (especially the ones considered on the traditional Catholic calendar), and fashion. The speech community in which our study was conducted was that of Tlalnepantla de Baz, Estado de México, located near México City. By a socioanthoponymic analysis of data gathered directly from birth certificates corresponding to the synchronic cuts of 1930, 1960, and 1990 (a corpus of 1453 records: 730 for male children and 723 for female children) we were able to recognize the decreasing tendency to give first names from the traditional model (naming a child after a relative and/or after a religious figure), and the increasing preference for names in fashion. In addition, we found that such attribution models are not exclusive from one another, but that they can, and actually did, concur throughout the XXth century.

Joalaid, Marje – “Balto-Finnic Personal Name Systems”

Balto-Finnic peoples have two main personal name systems: official and unofficial. For the small Balto-Finnic peoples in Russia – Karelians, Vepsians, Votes and Izhorians the official personal name system is in the Russian language, their own personal names belong to the
unofficial personal name system. Nowadays Finns and Estonians have personal names of their own, earlier Finns used Swedish personal names but Estonians used German ones. The last Livonians used Lettish names, earlier German ones were used. The traditional first names of Lutheranic (until the 16th century Rome Catholic) Finns, Estonians and Livonians are of Latin origin, but they have got them by the medium of Swedes and Germans. The first names of the orthodox Balto-Finnic peoples in Russia are of Greek origin, but they have got them by the medium of Russians. Orthodox Estonians in the south-east and on the islands of western Estonia have first name systems different both from each other and the Lutheranic Estonians. The personal name system of Ingermanland Finns differs a little of the personal name systems in Finland. The unofficial anthroponymic systems of the Balto-Finnic peoples have their similarities being rich in personal name suffixes.

Jordà, Joan Pau, Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora – “Family Names and Migrations in the Barcelona Area (1451-1651)”

The paper aims to analyze how migrations phenomena affected family names in the Barcelona Area from 1451 to 1651. During this period surnames were object of multiple changes in this region as a consequence of a continuous inflow of rural migrants, and in a greater extent, by a continuous French migration flow. For instance, approximately 2,000 of new surnames were introduced in the region in the XVth, XVIth and XVIIth centuries.

Historical registers of marriage licenses from the Diocese of Barcelona are the source selected to achieve this analysis. These books, were recorded between 1451 and 1905 in a set of 291 books (Llibres d’Esposalles) conserved at the Archives of the Barcelona Cathedral collecting information about more than two millions of surnames. This database is being constructed within the Five Centuries of Marriages (5CofM), and Advanced Grant project (2011-2016) directed by Professor Anna Cabré (CED-UAB).

To establish the relationship between surnames and migration, the emergence, extinction, permanence and frequency distributions of Catalan surnames will be analyzed. Moreover, throughout the studied period surnames will be compared to the origin and the number of foreign grooms in each moment.

Jordan, Peter – “Place Names as an Expression of Human Relations to Space”

This paper will present a view on place names from a cultural-geographical perspective by the example of the endonym/exonym divide. This divide is indeed very indicative for the role of place names in a cultural-geographical context and may therefore be the most useful and telling to explain this role. The endonym/exonym divide reflects the difference between “our own” and “theirs”: Endonyms in the sense of names given by the community in place mark features which are owned by the community or for which this community feels responsible. Exonyms in the sense of names adopted from other communities reflect the network of a community’s external relations. Besides their role of marking features similar to flags and coats of arms, which gives them always and inevitably a political dimension, endonyms exert from the cultural-geographical perspective also the very important function of supporting emotional ties between man and place and of promoting in this way space-related identity building. The paper departs
from the findings of Yi-Fu Tuan in his work Topophilia (1974) as regards the various relations between man and space and tries to position the role of place names within this system.


The study deals with the space or environment of characteristic names in Shakespeare’s works and their rendering into Russian. The material for the research will be the complete works of Shakespeare and their numerous translations into Russian of the 19th – 20th centuries including annotated editions which may show additional interpretations of the names. The analysis allows arguing that nicknames were subject to changes in Russian translations due to the explicit nature of some names. Overall, the study is an attempt to make up a classification of names (exceeding 1200 units) in Shakespeare’s works with a focus on charactonyms and their contextual significance. The names in the plays are divided into groups according to the following types: characters without names (groom), titles (Douglas, Earl of), names borrowed from other languages (Diomedes), charactonyms (Pistol). The latter type will be subject to a closer analysis according to the idea expressing: an abstract idea (Silence), personality trait (Belch), occupation (Dick the Butcher).

Kalużyńska, Irena – “Names of Chinese Singsong Girls (up to the End of the 19th century)”

China’s long historical tradition of male dominance and patriarchal authority based on patrilineal descent and patriarchal residence is deeply embedded in its culture and institutions. For more than 3000 years of the history of China women have held an inferior position within the family and society, and their social status has had a great influence on female personal naming. Chinese “famous women”, i.e. the women recorded in various historical documents and biographical dictionaries (999 females of the research material) can be divided on the basis of their “professional” or “daily life” activities into certain social-professional groups. One of these groups consists of sionsong girls or special female entertainers (95 females; 9.5%). Some of them were well educated, trained in all the skills of witty conversation, painting, poetry, music and dance, so they could be the professional companions of men, mainly elite men. These professional society ladies were of literary, musical, political, and emotional importance in China. The entertainment they provided might extend to sexual services (as in the case of prostitutes) but not necessarily. It so happens that in the long history of China sionsong girls and prostitutes were almost the only women more freely known and recorded by their given names, occurring together with their surnames or as separate appellations. However, their given names in many cases should rather be considered as being their artistic or stage names, and not their standard given names, bestowed on them by their parents or relatives. Many of these names have their own specific features, and they are meaningful, usually descriptive and affectionate.
Karpenko, Olena – “Cognitive Onomastics”

Proper names exist in the language, while the language exists in the heads of human beings, in their mental lexicons, and emerges as speech in communicative acts. Only phenomena existing in mental lexicon may emerge into speech, because only mental being is the demiurge of onomastic situations. What onymic entities exist in mental lexicon and in what forms – that is the main problem of cognitive onomastics, which makes it a completely new trend in the study of proper names. Entering mental lexicon, due to the processes of conceptualization and categorization, onyms transform into concepts and find their place, forming frames and subframes. Onymic concepts, understood as the unit of information storage, may exist in two forms: active and passive, the former being actualized in the process of their immediate employment in communication, while the latter is applied to the concepts, which are not in the immediate use, only stored in memory depository in the form of embryos of thought. Onymic concepts are connected with other elements of mental lexicon as their organizers, optimizing the functioning of mental lexicon and increasing its effectiveness.

King, Jacob – “‘Large Rivers Have Older Names’ Quantifying Woolly Toponymic Statements”

It has long been observed that there is a correlation between the physical qualities of a place and the linguistic qualities of its name; for instance, water-courses with monosyllabic names (such as The Tay or The Thames) are generally longer than water-courses with polysyllabic names (such as The Grains of Slochd Chaimbeil). This phenomenon, though intuitively understood, has been little researched. Using quantitative research, this paper will propose, within the context of Scottish hydronymy, a methodology and analytical tools for elucidating the relationship between various linguistic qualities of place-names and the physical qualities of the places they represent.

It emerges that these analytical tools are of use to the field of toponymy in two ways. Firstly, they formalise and challenge previously unquantified statements made in the field of toponymy, such as that above. Secondly, they elucidate hitherto unnoticed phenomena.

Koopman, Adrian – “Naming 'the Other': Derogatory Ethnyonyms in the Nguni Kingdom in the Early 1800s”

Ethnyronymic insults are often based on a perception that the group named is in some way different from the group bestowing the name. They may behave differently, wear their hair in a different way, speak differently, have different religious beliefs, or come from “the other side of the river”. Today, the Zulu-speaking inhabitants of the province of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa think of themselves as amaZulu (‘the Zulu people’). However, before the rise of the Zulu kingdom under Shaka kaSenzangakhona in the early 1800s, this area was populated by a variety of different groups, identified, inter alia, as the amaNtungwa, the iziYendane, the abaQulusi, the amaLala, and the abeNzansi. These are all names given by other groups for the sorts of reasons mentioned above. This paper analyses these names in the light of recent comments made by Nuessel (2008) about ‘ethnopaulisms’ and research done by McConnell in 2006 about ‘shibbolethonyms’ and ‘directional ethnonyms’ among Australian aborigines.
The paper ends with a brief examination of terms like ‘non-Aryan’, ‘non-white’ and ‘non-European’, where ethnic groups are specifically identified as not belonging to the group coining and using the names.

**Arne Kruse – “Ballvollen, a Transnational Transfer”**

During the witch-hunt trials in Finnmark, Northern Norway, in the first half of the 17th C several of the accused women agreed, under the threat of torture, that they had met up with the Devil at a place called Ballvollen outside of the town of Vardø. Today, there is no such place-name in Vardø and it has probably never existed as a name.

It is argued that Ballvollen is a product of the transnational transfer of ideas that followed the witch-hunt trials in Northern Europe. The specific word is linked to John Cunningham from Scotland who became County Governor of Finnmark.

Ballvollen belongs to a concept that witches gathered in the outskirt of towns, where ballgames and dancing happened, a domain just outside of the direct authority of the church and civil control. In the Scottish proceedings against witches it is referred to as the Ball Lea. Ballvollen exists as a place-name other places in Norway, and as such it is transparent, meaning ‘ball field’. Used by the accused witches, however, is with an appellatival function, referring not to a specific location but rather to a concept which has its origin in Scotland.

**Kvašytė, Regina – “The Signs of Lithuanianess in Canada: Proper Names”**

In various periods, quite a few Lithuanians settled in Canada (their migration started in ca. 1900). Certain centres appeared; later, communities arranging events, issuing publications and carrying out other activities were established.

Wishing to retain identity and enshrine cultural memory, persons who arrived from Lithuania tended to entitle organisations, publications etc. with the Lithuanian realia. The titles i.e. proper names reflect nostalgia for the motherland left behind: the publication Kanados Lietuvis [The Lithuanian of Canada] founded in 1929, newspaper Nepriklausoma Lietuva [The Independent Lithuania] founded in 1940, weekly Tėviškės žiburiai [The Lights of Homeland] founded in 1949; also, they reflect international issues.

In public places, signboards of established Lithuanian organisations are hung; they manifest the allusion to the homeland, e.g. Lithuanian House in Toronto. Moreover, single signboards in Lithuanian with one of the components being Lithuanian are noticed (Vilnius Manor). Usually, the analogue in English is presented, too (Labdara. Lithuanian Nursing Home). Such signs of Lithuanianess encompass the symbolic meaning for the community members, inhabitants of these places. The aim of linguistic research of landscape is to state the perpetuated cultural memory and estimate subjective signs of identity as well as to assess their linguistic diversity.
Laîné, Stéphane – « Les Formes Toponymiques dans Quelques Enquêtes Réalisées en Normandie à la Fin du XIIIe Siècle »

Les attestations les plus anciennes des toponymes sont souvent fournies par les documents diplomatiques, voire par des textes littéraires. Cependant, le développement des appareils administratif et juridique, initié dans le royaume de France par Philippe-Auguste, s’accompagne, dès le début du XIIIe siècle, d’un recours à la langue vulgaire dans les actes juridiques. Les enquêtes et les procédures d’appel ne sont plus systématiquement rédigées en latin, ce qui offre l’opportunité, notamment dans la transcription des témoignages oraux des témoins requis, de mieux apprécier ce que pouvait être la langue vernaculaire usitée quotidiennement par des gens de différentes conditions et notamment les formes toponymiques en usage. Nous nous proposons d’analyser les mentions des toponymes présentes dans diverses enquêtes réalisées en Normandie à la fin du XIIIe siècle pour mieux apprécier ce phénomène. Nous exploiterons des documents publiés au XIXe siècle par Léopold Delisle, mais également une enquête inédite réalisée en 1292 contre Jean de Carcassonne, bailli de Domfront (nous publierons en juin 2014 une étude exhaustive de la langue employée dans ce document).

Lehtonen, Johanna, Kaija Mallat and Sami Suviranta – “Naming Metro Stations in Helsinki and Espoo, Finland”

The first metro line in Helsinki was opened in 1982. Today the metro has 17 stations, and the system is being expanded to the west in the city of Espoo with eight new stations that will open in 2015.

The stations are traditionally named after district names or other well known toponyms. The place-name administrators have considered these type of station names to be informative, neutral and well fitting within the environment. The stations are named in the official languages, Finnish and Swedish.

The established principles of giving names to metro stations have lately been challenged by other kinds of naming motivations. In Espoo, the future station in the district of Otaniemi has been renamed trilingually Aalto-yliopisto – Aalto-universitetet – Aalto University in 2013, after the university that has its main campus in Otaniemi. Similarly, the University of Helsinki wants to change the traditional name of Kaisaniemi station in the city centre into Helsingin yliopisto, meaning, Helsinki University. In addition, a private corporation has made a proposal to name a nearby station after the company name.

As in all name planning, the two viewpoints of guiding and branding are to be considered. The decision-makers choose which one they want to emphasize.

Leibring, Katharina – “Names of Companion Animals – Rovers in the Onomasticon?”

The names of companion animals could from outside be seen as freely roving elements in the onomasticon. Dogs and other companion animals play a larger role as family members in many countries than ever before, something that possibly has an influence on their names. There are little or no legal restrictions on their given names, so, in theory, a dog, or a cat could have any
kind of word creation as a name. In this socioonomastic study, I will examine a large corpus of given names on dogs in Sweden during the last decade, collected from the Central dog register, and supplement this with interviews of dog-owners on their naming strategies. My aims are, firstly, to establish if dog-owners in general take advantage of this apparent liberty, or if they restrict themselves to using otherwise well-established name-groups, e.g. personal names or older zoonyms, and, secondly, to discuss some reasons for different namegiving strategies.

Leino, Antti – “Heraldry as a Name System”

Although the difference between the core of proper names and common nouns is intuitively obvious, defining properhood is one of the hard questions in onomastics. This is true to the extent that there are categories of nouns, such as the names of months or languages, that are considered proper names in some traditions and common nouns in others. Heraldry provides an interesting further comparison to traditional name categories, as the use of coats of arms fulfils most of the usual criteria suggested for properhood.

While heraldry is not a part of a linguistic system in the usual sense, there are strong similarities. Coats of arms have a structure that can be described in syntactic terms, and they have fragmentary semantic content that is very similar to that found in proper names. Similar syntax-like structures and semantic content in a limited non-onymic setting can be found in traffic signs.

All in all, what we have here is a sign system that has certain language-like properties but is significantly simpler. Very close to this, and overlapping in its grammar-like structures, there is a system functionally reminiscent of proper names. Should it be considered a name system?

Lennon, Ben – “The Meends of the Forest of Dean: Long-term Continuity as Liminal Space”

The Forest of Dean lies in the confluence of the Rivers Severn and Wye on the borders of England and Wales. As a place on the fringes of many things it has a strong sense of identity with a streak of independence embedded in the local character.

The incidence of the field name meend is locally significant, but has thus far received little systematic study. A national rarity in this form, there is a concentration around the forest extending along the welsh borders. Since the publication of the Place Names of Gloucestershire by the EPNS in the 1960s it has been attributed to a Brittonic origin deriving from Old Welsh minid meaning mountain or moorland.

Spatial analysis of the distribution of the field name in the historic record suggests a strong correspondence with poor soil types, manorial and forest boundaries. This paper questions the brittonic derivation and proposes an Old English origin based on ge-mæne meaning “common” or “mutual”. It is posited that meends represented liminal spaces between communities in the pre-conquest landscape of the Dean. Whilst many of these have been lost, some meends still retain that liminality albeit in a sense that reflects a dynamic culture.
Leonard, Carol – “Toponymy and Vivification of Identity Among School-Age Children”

It may be assumed that the toponymic landscape, just as the linguistic landscape, may serve "important informational and symbolic functions as a marker of the relative power and status of the linguistic communities inhabiting the territory" (Landry & Bourhis 1997)*. Landry and Bourhis (1997) also found that the linguistic landscape constitutes an important correlate of subjective ethnolinguistic vitality representing perceptions of the vitality of the in-group language in various domains. Inspired by the results of this research, our project was designed to create and provide all schools of the francophone minority in Saskatchewan (Canada) with monumental and synoptic maps showing more the 2 500 French toponyms in this province to offset as efficiently as possible the "carryover effect" of the English dominant language in the linguistic landscape on the linguistic behavior of students. Identical but poster-size maps were also distributed to all French immersion schools of this province. The production of these maps (as permanent exhibits in schools) is part of a larger project that stems from the largest Canadian research on the French place names in Western Canada.


Lillian, Donna – “Granny Names in The Ozark Trilogy”

This is the third in a series of papers investigating naming in Suzette Haden Elgin’s science fiction series, The Ozark Trilogy (1981/2000, University of Arkansas Press). The fictional Ozark society of the novels is organized according to a system of magic in which naming plays a crucial role for females, but not for males. Males are named by their fathers following a pattern in which there are 2 given names followed by a surname and a numerical designator, e.g. Donald Patrick Brightwater the 133rd. Girls are named by Grannys, in accordance with numerological and magical principles. The third naming system is that for the Grannys themselves. Grannys are celibate, by virtue either of virginity or widowhood, and to become a Granny, a woman must pass rigorous tests, demonstrating sufficient knowledge of Granny Magic. When she becomes a Granny, a woman discards the name she was assigned at birth and assumes a new name of her own choosing. The present paper investigates the names of the twenty named Grannys, comparing their chosen name with the numerological properties of other female names and discussing the implications of this self-naming within the context of the fictional Ozark society.


Periodisch versendete Newsletter stellen eine geeignete Maßnahme zur Kundenbindung dar. Für das „Beziehungsmarketing“ im Konsumgütermarkt ist kennzeichnend, dass es ergänzend zu den
direkten Kontakten zwischen Käufer und Verkäufer zunehmend auf die Beziehung zwischen Kunde und Marke gerichtet ist.


Cette communication fait partie d’un projet plus ample qui aborde la prénomination à Montpellier, France, et à Tlalnepantla de Baz, Mexique, tout au long du XXe siècle. Le corpus est constitué par un échantillon de plus de 11 mille actes de naissance de l’état civil. Il est analysé depuis la socioanthroponymie, avec les outils de la lexicologie et de la sociolinguistique. L’objectif de cette communication est d’aborder les prénoms peu usités dans les deux communautés linguistiques pendant la période 1960-1985. On étudiera les unités lexicales attribuées une seule fois dans chaque corpus afin d’observer 1) la langue moderne dans laquelle elles ont été inscrites ; 2) le genre grammatical auquel elles appartiennent, et 3) la catégorie nominale qui leur correspond selon la norme d’usage de l’époque (prénom, nom de famille, hypocoristique, toponyme ou nom commun). Les bases théoriques sur lesquelles se fondent les analyses sont les études de l'onomastique classique, spécialement française, de la pragmasémantique et de la socioanthroponymie. Présupposés : le nom propre —et a fortiori le prénom— est un signe linguistique à part entière ; c’est aussi un bien symbolique, culturel, obligatoire et gratuit dont le choix synthétise le projet parental de ceux qui prénomment l'enfant.

López-Leiva, César and Joan Tort-Donada – “Place Names as a Key for the Analysis of Human-Induced Changes in Natural Vegetation. A Study Located in Els Ports Region, Valencia, Spain”

Place names may provide us with a significant information about environmental changes related with the traditional rural activities and its influence on the natural vegetation.

On this basis, our purpose in this communication is to present the results of an analysis of around two thousand cadastral place names carried out in the region of Els Ports, or Els Ports de Morella, at the northwestern corner of Valencia, province of Castelló, in Spain.

From the biogeographical point of view, this region represents a transition between the inner lands of Iberian Peninsula and the Mediterranean coastal domains. For this reason it has a mixed
or hybrid-type of plant communities, specially remarkable from the biological perspective. Also, is a mountainous region with large areas of pasture for cattle, which has historically allowed the reception, during the summer months, of numerous transhumant flocks of sheep.

In this context, the onomastic analysis reveals the possibilities of locating significant phytotoponyms all over the region, and testing the occurrence of the plant samples and communities they allude to, some of them being currently marginal in the biogeographical sense. Through the centuries, the landscape of the region has been outstandingly featured by the seasonal grazing and sheep husbandry, and this fact is also shown by the place names referring to some of the particular vocabulary used in the livestock management and transhumance.

Patterns of interactions are outlined from different toponyms which state the dynamic trends of vegetation, and according to the local predominance of Valencian or Castilian names in this linguistic border of Iberian Peninsula.

Luneschi, Francescu-Maria – « La Dénomination des Chèvres en Corse : Du Nom Commun au Nom Propre »

Cette communication présentera des éléments issus d’un doctorat relatif au vocabulaire ovin et caprin en Corse. Ce travail s’inscrit à la fois dans la continuité des travaux du Nouvel Atlas Linguistique de la Corse et de la Banque de Données de la Langue Corse tout en explorant une méthodologie et des thématiques dont l’intérêt pour l’onomastique corse pourra être mis en relief au delà des différents aspects du lexique pastoral (élevage, fabrication des produits laitiers). Le volet qui sera développé concerne les processus de dénominations des caprins en Corse.

La dimension onomastique fera l’objet d’analyses visant à explorer les processus qui conduisent du nom commun au nom propre, et dans le figement de celui ci. Nous nous focaliserons sur les noms qui puissent leurs motivations dans l’observation des caractères phénotypiques et cognitifs de la chèvre corse. Les études préliminaires ont démontré l’intérêt des relevés en la matière d’un point de vue du matériau relevé (noms de couleurs oubliés, processus de création lexicale).

Majewska, Ewa – “Eponyme in der Deutschsprachigen Medizinischen Fachpresse“

Makhiyanova, Lyaysan and Elena Remchukova – “A Megalopolis as a Factor of Urbanonyms Forming (on the Base of Restaurant Names in Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Kazan)”

Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Kazan as the biggest Russian megalopolises give unique material for studying naming. The report deals with a certain group of urbanonyms – restaurants names.

Owners need to attract as many clients as possible, including natives and foreigners. One of the most important goals in naming is a search of balance between national (connected with exact culture) and international components of a name meaning.

The report says the urbanonyms in three megalopolises are different while their functions are similar.

The shift towards national components is typical for Kazan, where the most citizens speak Russian and Tatar and exist in two cultures. Restaurant names here exploit Tatar words and cultural realia.

In Saint Petersburg restaurant names are often targeted at an educated guest who is able to reveal connotations in the name. Here you can see names formed on language games, exploiting precedent names.

If a megalopolis is a capital (as Moscow), the aim of attracting both native and foreign clients becomes more difficult to achieve. Not only precedent phenomena are used in this case, but also graphic hybridization and other linguistic devices.

The names are given linguistic, ethic and esthetic accounts in the report.

Martin, Marcienne – « De la Construction Plurielle de l’Anthroponyme à Travers Repérage et Créativité »

Nommer un objet du monde est une procédure cognitive qui subsume des modes de nomination divers à travers, entre autres, la taxinomie. Intégrés à un substrat socioculturel donné, les objets du monde extraits de l’indéfini ou de l’inconnu deviennent également des moyens de repérage. Si nommer les objets du monde est une fonction corrélée à la connaissance et à la « re-connaissance », qu’en est-il de la nomination de l’être humain par le biais de l’anthroponymie ?

À travers l’analyse de différentes études dédiées à ce type de nomination, nous constatons que la procédure à l’origine de ce procès est de l’ordre du repérage et de la créativité. Ainsi, Richard montre que certains anthroponymes sont dérivés de noms de métier comme le patronyme Argillet dont l’origine renvoie à « l’ouvrier travaillant l’argile ou argile (potiers, tuiliers, maçons) » (L’Harmattan, Paris, 2013, p. 35). Nous retrouvons également ce phénomène dans des patronymes ou matronymes renvoyant à des toponymes : Dupont. L’anthroponymie peut aussi être de type autopoïétique dans le cadre des pseudonymes sur Internet, dévalorisante ou néantisante avec l’usage des sobriquets ou de la réification de certains groupes sociaux.
Matsyuk, Halyna – “Development of the Theory of Anthroponymy in the Current Linguistic Paradigm”

The paper explores new aspects in the theory of human names by applying interdisciplinary approach to the analysis of nicknames. The material (2,000 questionnaires from schoolchildren) has been studied with the help of the method of observation, correlational analysis and elements of statistical method. The aim of the article is to define the prospects of analysing informal names using the categories of sociolinguistics, cognitive linguistics and pedagogy.

The analysis reveals linguistic competences of schoolchildren, their knowledge about the world and human beings together with the linguistic characteristics: complicity of the nicknames with the literary and informal language forms, semantics of morphological stems and motivational groups of names. It has been established that these features differentiate the nicknames and often evidence different abilities of schoolchildren to evaluate the appearance or the inner world of their classmates. The students’ reflections about nicknames as a feature of interpersonal communication in and outside of class may help the teacher get to know the class better and to achieve more successful interaction with the students in questions of education and learning.

Sociolinguistic, cognitive and pedagogical approaches to the study of nicknames facilitate the development of aspects in the theory of anthroponymy.

Medjahed, Lila – « Nom Propre et Environnement Plurilingue : Le Cas de l’Algérie et sa Diaspora »

Des phénomènes de croisement culturel, d’interpénétration linguistique, de translation symbolique sont cristallisés dans la représentation des environnements en contact, au travers des noms propres, de personnes et de lieux. Les littératures algérienne et issue de la diaspora en France apparaissent, dès lors, comme un véritable laboratoire d’onomastique sociale et (inter) et (trans) culturelle, dans ses dimensions universelles les plus fécondes. Comment, dans un contexte algérien et diasporique, les locuteurs transposent-ils leurs imaginaires onomastiques originels dans un nouvel environnement dénominatif ? Une série de questionnements traverse cette problématique, à la fois épistémologique, théorique, méthodologique. Les environnements qui nous interpellent, de tradition écrite vs orale, issues de conséquences de périodes historiques mouvementées : colonial vs postcolonial, de référents religieux et culturels différents : oriental vs occidental.

L’environnement onomastique dans le texte littéraire, inscrit dans sa cohérence fictionnelle et sa créativité rhétorique, va puiser dans des imaginaires duels voire conflictuels, des matériaux, en l’état ou en les transformant, des noms propres, dans des logiques soit d’ancrage, soit de transfrontalièreté et transnationalité ou carrément subissant les effets de la mondialisation. Nous proposons une lecture comparative entre :

Archéologie du chaos amoureux de Mustapha Benfodil (2007)
Alphonse d’aki Tadjer (2005)
Béni ou le paradis privé d’Azouz Begag (1989)

Elle dégagera les éléments d’une dénomination littéraire qui se construit à partir d’une représentation satirique proposée par ces écrivains de leur environnement immédiat. La
dénomination a subi la déformation satirique tout en mettant en valeur les soubassements sociohistoriques et culturels de l’Algérie et de la diaspora dans le melting-pot français.

L’environnement répond aussi aux données d’une conjoncture historique et aux imaginaires spécifiques des groupes socio-ethniques qui composent chaque société. La confrontation des textes publiés d’une rive à l’autre nous invite à examiner l’impact de ces données sur une symbolique anthroponymique littéraire riche par sa pluriculturalité. L’Histoire qui relie les deux pays apparaît dans la construction anthroponymique qui fait référence à des substrats coloniaux, berbères, africains et arabo musulmans avec des composantes lexicales, symboliques et anthropologiques qui méritent notre attention.

Menezes, Paulo M. L., Claudio J B Santos and Ana C Resende – “Toponymy Comparison on One Millionth Map of Rio de Janeiro State – Brazil”

This paper aims to present a comparison among the existent place names in the one millionth scale map of Brazil in three different moments. The first moment dates from 1922, when the first map was developed as a celebration of the centennial of the independence of Brazil. The second moment was established in 1962, relating to the first great updating of the sheets of the one Millionth Map. The third moment dates from 2008, when the release of the one Millionth Digital Map and the incorporation of their place names to the National Database of Geographical Names. The applied methodology was developed with the extraction of the geographical names of the paper sheets of 1922 map, separating by features, digitizing and incorporate to a database. The place names of the 1962 map were digitized and incorporate to the database, once all were available in a thesaurus. The geographical names of 2008 were just incorporate to the database, because they were already available in digital media. The basic aspects of the research were defined for the qualitative and quantitative comparison among the three times, maintenance and toponymy changes, as well as comparative studies by sampling in different areas of Brazil.

Mori, Olga – “For or Against Renaming Hindenburgplatz in Münster, Germany”

In front of the castle of the city of Münster, there is a large area or square which was called Hindenburgplatz in honour of Paul von Hindenburg (1847-1934), who was appointed chief of the general staff of the German armies in August 1916 and President of the German Republic in April 26. In 1932 he was re-elected president (19,359,993 votes), but he appointed Hitler (13,418,547 votes) Chancellor of the Reich in January 1933.

Due to the political connotations of Hindenburgplatz the town council decided to rename it Schloßplatz (21.03.2012). This decision divided the inhabitants of Münster into two groups, those who accepted the new name and those who wanted to keep the old one. Consequently, the town council decided to hold a referendum on the selection of one of these names on 16th September, 2012.

The aim of this paper is to show the active social participation in the propaganda previous to the referendum by analysing some of the posters used.
Muhr, Kay – “Locating the Saint of Derryloran, Mid-Ulster”

Two parishes in the north of Ireland, Maghera and Derryloran, were dedicated to a holy man called Lúrach or Luaran, a member of the local royal lineage circa 700 AD. These parishes later became the basis of the modern towns of Maghera and Cookstown. Because of later religious and political changes, little survives of the saint’s cult, but documentary and field research has located several further sites associated with him in the same general area, centred on the plain east of Lough Neagh and the lower Bann in mid-Ulster.

Mulle, Peter – “Die Verdumpfung von Mittelhochdeutsch â > ô Aufgrund der Luzernischen Toponymie“


Mutsukawa, Masahiko – “On Japanese Unisex Names”

The present study deals with Japanese unisex names. Japanese parents keep creating given names, but unisex names are rare. I collected 39 unisex names, which are discussed in this study.

First, I concern the structure of Japanese unisex names. I have been working on gender in Japanese non-unisex names and found that there are five types of phonological gender differences that determine gender, and that semantics plays more significant role than phonology. Among 39 unisex names, 20 names are structurally masculine while 19 names are feminine.
Next, I focus on judgments by the native speakers of Japanese. With respect to each name, I asked if it is more commonly used as a male name than as a female name, or vice versa. 52 native speakers judged that 13 names are more commonly given to males and 22 names are to females, while only 4 names are neutral. The questionnaire reveals two things. One, Japanese unisex names are not affected by their structure although the gender of non-unisex names is structurally determined. Two, Japanese unisex names are different from English ones. English unisex names in general are more commonly given to females, which does not apply to Japanese ones.

Nakari, Minna – “Variation in women’s name phrases in official documents in Helsinki 1780–1930”

My paper deals with variation in women’s name phrases in official documents in Helsinki during the period 1780–1930. The aim is to discuss both the changeover from patronymics to inherited family names and the use of surnames after marriage, before new laws in this area entered into force in Finland in the early 20th century. In 1920, a law requiring fixed family names put an end to the use of the patronymic as a person’s only surname. After 1929, it was no longer possible for a married woman to retain her maiden name.

To explain this development from a socio-onomastic perspective, I have based my study on a syntactic-semantic analysis of the actual name phrases found in parish registers, estate inventory documents, registration forms for liberty of trade, gravestones, diaries and family announcements on newspapers. The analysis, which reveals the overall picture of various ways of denoting women in official documents, is based on frequency calculations of the different types of name phrases, as well as on describing variation in the structure and semantic content of the name phrases, eg social variation in the use of titles and epithets.

Nanetti, Andrea, Francesco Perono Cacciafoco, Mario Giberti – “Mapping & Visualizing Linguistic and Territorial Convergent Data: Imola and its Environment as a Case Study”

This paper presents the innovative outcome of a convergent approach applied to research results coming from historical linguistics and etymology, Medieval history, palaeography and diplomatics, historical geography and topography, historical cartography, and historical semantics. All data converge upon a new interpretation of the remote origins of the place name Imola (Emilia-Romagna, Italy) and of the name of its river Santerno, in relation to their environment and territory. It comes out as a toponymic alignment in a linguistic border area between Indo-European and Etruscan, which defines—through an interdisciplinary set of direct and internal ‘auto-confirmations’—a settlement on the bend of a river. This etymological reconstruction meets the identification that originally puts this inhabited center on the top of the low hill currently known as Castellaccio (aka Castrum Imolas), which preserves evidence of population dynamics from Prehistory till 1222, and is located on the natural ford of the river Santerno crossed by the Etruscan piedmont path. The toponym, during the Middle Ages, expanded from this original settlement to the Roman Forum Cornelii one, replacing its name.
Nedrelid, Gudlaug – “Patronymika als Familiennamen im Jahre 1801“


Neethling, Bertie – “Naming and renaming of South African naval vessels”

South Africa is situated at the southernmost tip of the African continent. It has a coastline comprising of 2798 kilometres, and is flanked by the Indian Ocean in the east and the Atlantic Ocean in the west. The two oceans join at Cape L’Agulhas, the southernmost point of Africa.

A country with a coastline, particularly as big as that of South Africa, would tend to develop naval bases harbouring various types of naval vessels in order to defend and protect its people as well as participating in naval activities together with other countries.

The purpose with this contribution is to take a trip through history by focussing on naval vessels intended for South Africa but mostly built in other countries and receiving a name, but once in South Africa, having the name changed that would suit the South African circumstances. In the early years preceding apartheid, South Africa had a close connection with the colonial British, but after 1994 with the change of government, many vessel names changed. These will be discussed. The commemorating function, i.e. a vessel named after an individual, was the most prominent category.
Neklesova, Valeriia – “Virtual onomastic landscape in the Ukrainian Internet”

Onomastic landscape as a cluster of proper names an individual perceive not only in public sphere but in personal life as well. It comprises all the names an individual meets in the streets (names of shops, advertisements, graffiti, announcements, brands), at home (brands, names of books, films, shows, family and friends), on the Internet (which usually depends of the social group, age, personal interests). Internet is a sub-field of this area and very often it goes off-line into the streets and everyday communication. This study uses lists of top Ukrainian sites and blogs (the ranking is an extraction from alexa.com and top.blog.net.ua). The lists include English, Russian and Ukranain domain names. Onomastic landscape in the Ukrainian Internet is heterogeneous, polyglossic, features intertextuality and fusion of cultural traditions.

Nilsson, Leif – “Place-names, addresses and standardization. A summing-up of a Swedish project”

The Swedish Dwellings Register Act states that for every entrance in residential buildings the municipality shall establish a location address. To help the local officials responsible, the Swedish Standards Institute has produced a national standard for location addresses. The standard is supplemented by a handbook, which describes how the standard may be used in practice.

The location addresses always contain place-names. It is with the help from place-names that a location address becomes unique and unambiguous. The place-names are at the same time an important carrier of the country’s cultural heritage. When establishing the names in location addresses, “good practice for place-names” shall be observed in accordance with section 1 § 4 in the Swedish Heritage Conservation Act. This means that place-names shall be written in compliance with established rules for linguistic correctness and that established place-names may not be changed without compelling reasons.

There are obvious challenges as regards the treatment of place-names in this work, which for the last decade has been the most important place-name project in Sweden and a major task for the 290 municipalities. The project is now in its final year and my paper is a summing-up with some statistics and some concluding remarks.

Ó hAisibéil, Liam – “Guided by Gelling: Topographical Element Analysis in Irish Place-Names Research”

This paper will present a brief outline of the research and analytical methodologies, widely employed in scholarly place-names research in Ireland. The main body of the paper will focus on the applicability in an Irish context, of the research methodologies proposed by Gelling & Cole (2000) in Great Britain. The paper will look in particular, at the analysis of topographical place-name elements using soil type data and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Discussion will follow on the possibilities for further applications of GIS mapping in the analysis of topographical place-name elements and the presentation of place-name data to the general public. While examples used are topographical elements from northern County Roscommon, the methodology may be replicated across all of the 62,205 townland names on the island of Ireland.
Pacey, Huia – “Using Placenames as Bioindicators”

Wahi ingoa (indigenous placenames) can be described as an ancestral connection which commemorates people, place, events, and resources that are found on the landscape.

An idle conversation with a plant ecologist friend raised a question - if a placename commemorates or indicates a resource – what does that tell you about its location? Could you draw the conclusion that the resource therefore had some special attribute? Could you extrapolate further that there may have been a certain biological environment in place? Could that placename be used as a bioindicator for restoration project planning?

The 2013 New Zealand gazetteer contains 40 placenames with the word “kiekie” and 53 with the word “harakeke”. Both Kiekie (Freycinetia banksii) and Harakeke (Phormium tenax) are names of plants that Maori have used for multiple generations as a food, medicine and textile. These names are attached to physical localities such as coves, streams, islands, rocks, hills, lakes and even a mountain.

Spatial analysis of the distribution of these placenames and the underlying ecological features may provide some of the answers to those posed during this random conversation, or not. This paper will provide the initial results of this research.

Päll, Peeter – “Toponyms in the City – or are these ‘Other Names’?”

The paper will discuss problems faced by toponymists in cities. The traditional understanding of toponyms is well suited for the research in rural areas, but delimiting toponyms from ‘other names’ in cities is quite problematic. Characteristic of city toponyms is their utmost diversity (named features vary from streets, parks, named houses to shops, schools, kindergartens, companies and institutions), instability (the features frequently move or change their names) and linguistic cosmopolitanism (a variety of ‘international’ or otherwise untypical toponyms). The most difficult question is: are some of these toponyms at all? To address this complexity in a feature-based toponymic database is a challenge, if one needs to include the chronological dimension: either follow the logic of the immovable topos, or the ‘legal’ succession of different named features (regardless of their location). As an example, the paper will look at problems of updating the database records on Soviet-times onomastic landscape of the capital of Estonia, Tallinn.


This paper will look at the relationship between the English and Welsh naming vocabulary on both sides of the border, with a particular focus on the hundred of Oswestry in Shropshire and the north-east of the historic county of Radnorshire in Wales. The data analysed is drawn from mid-nineteenth century tithe documents and earlier estate records held in the National Library of Wales.
The nature of language contact in these regions will be investigated in this paper through a number of in-depth element case-studies, analysing commonly occurring English and Welsh borrowings and transfers. The process of element borrowing is complex and fascinating in the border areas, showing how both languages strongly influence each other sometimes regardless of their status as minority or dominant language. Each study places the element in its wider geographical context in the border region using published field-name corpora in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Cheshire. The studies are supported by evidence gained by field-walking and digital presentation (ArcGIS) where data can be mapped and manipulated to produce clear and interesting distribution maps.

Prunet, Jean-Francois and Ali Idrissi – “Overlapping Affixes in Arabic Hypocoristics”

We will argue that Arabic morphology sometimes uses regular Arabic suffixes to build hypocoristics, i.e., nicknames derived from proper names, after emptying these suffixes of (most of) their semantic and morphological content. Rather than creating hypocoristic-specific suffixes, the option is chosen to recycle existing suffixes. This leads to overlapping morphologies, i.e., situations where a suffix has one function in the usual paradigms of the language and, in a semantically and morphologically degenerate form, another function in hypocoristics.

We will discuss six such suffixal clones in Levantine, Kuwaiti, and Moroccan Arabic. These are rule-governed hypocoristics created by rules of variable productivity.

Some of these rules decompose Arabic proper names morphologically (i.e., they strip away prefixes, infixes, and suffixes). Affix-stripping induced by hypocoristic-formation rules is typologically very rare: for instance, it is observed in Arabic but not in other Semitic languages we know of. We ask how this morphological parsing can come about since proper names lack the denotational sense of the words from which they come etymologically.

We will also document idiosyncratic hypocoristics which, instead of using suffixes polysemically, make pun-like use of similar-sounding words of the language.

Puzey, Guy and Jani Vuolteenaho – “Developing a Gramscian Approach to Toponymy”

Power and place naming are intimately linked, as recognised by the growth of critical approaches to toponomastics, examining the effects of unequal power relations on place names and place-naming practices.

Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937) is best known as a philosopher and politician whose original treatment of hegemony has been extremely influential. Less generally known is how profoundly Gramsci’s strong interest in linguistics defined his more general political thought. Of particular relevance to the present study is Gramsci’s understanding of the cultural roots of power and the processes of coercion and consent that determine, in this case, the struggles between hegemonic and counter-hegemonic toponymies. In 1917, Gramsci also wrote a harsh critique of changes to street names in Turin, which makes a compelling direct link between his promotion of a more ‘organic’ form of progress and a critical approach to toponymy.
Our paper will discuss the advantages of Gramsci’s perspectives for the enrichment and further development of critical toponomastic theory. We will use Gramscian thought as a lens through which to view such onomastic phenomena as toponymic de- and re-commemorations after regime changes, tensions related to place names in minority-majority language situations, and recent attempts to commodify names.

Rácz, Anita – « Ethnonymes dans les Toponymes Hongrois »

Les ethnonymes comme éléments de composition du système des toponymes hongrois sont présents dès les premiers temps. D’après mes recherches, 39 différents ethnonymes ont contribué à la constitution du premier corpus des toponymes à lexèmes ethnonymiques hongrois. Parmi ces toponymes, il se trouve des noms qui existent encore de nos jours soit avec le même contenu sémantique qu’ils avaient au début, soit avec un sémantisme modifié, et il y en a d’autres qui sont sortis de l’usage. L’examen typologique des toponymes formés à l’aide d’ethnonymes montre que leurs particularités morphologiques sont clairement descriptibles. Sur la base de celles-ci, les noms peuvent être classés dans des types entre lesquels des différences chronologiques considérables peuvent être démontrées. La première période est caractérisée d’une part par les noms provenant d’ethnonymes sans formants. D’autre part, ajoutés aux toponymes, il existe également des topoformants, notamment le –i qui peut être considéré comme le plus caractéristique, ou le -d, tout aussi fréquent, mais à part ces éléments, d’autres morphèmes plus rares peuvent également apparaître. Les représentants des deux structures mentionnées n’expriment qu’un seul trait sémantique de leur référent. Du point de vue chronologique, les noms dans la structure desquels il y a une relation d’un ethnonyme et d’un autre lexème autonome (autres toponymes, noms géographiques, etc.) ont apparu plus tard, ainsi ils comportent déjà deux traits sémantiques. Dans cette dernière structure de nom, l’ethnonyme peut changer de place et de fonction : en se plaçant en tête, il joue le rôle d’une épithète, comme deuxième élément par contre, il remplit la fonction du composant principal. Dans ma communication, j’ai l’intention de présenter l’état actuel des recherches toponymiques hongroises concernant cette partie importante des noms, et par cette caractérisation typologique, j’espère contribuer à la comparaison des noms d’un contenu sémantique semblable d’autres langues, ainsi qu’à la formulation des conclusions interdisciplinaires.

Radding, Lisa – “Marketing Software: Environmental Complications to Predicting Ethnicity with Onomastics”

Onomastic research powers contemporary marketing software. An understanding of a name indicates who an individual is, how he perceives the world, and through this, his purchasing behavior. Today, when less than half the births in the United States are simply “white” and we experience an ever diversifying world, successful marketers realize that advertisements directed towards specific consumers generate the best return on marketing investments. Through onomastic research, marketers can gain insight into the ethnic identities of their clientele, allowing them to customize promotions or find their products’ target audience.

Although software can predict ethnicity from a name alone, the accuracy of this prediction increases with the added consideration of a name’s environment. Within the United States,
onomastic analysis must be considered in combination with neighborhood composition. Furthermore, as global marketers take interest in multicultural audiences, the logic patterns designed for a United States’ software product must be modified for each specific international market. A detailed look at (1) methods of identifying African American names in the United States and (2) the differences between identifying concatenated names in the United States versus Brazil, indicate the importance of environmental considerations in applied onomastic analyses.

Rajasuu, Riitta – “Die Verbreitung der Mehrnamigkeit in Finnland in den Jahren 1725-44 und 1825-44”

Gegenstand der Untersuchung sind die Mehrnamigkeit von 1725-44 und 1825-44 geborenen Finnen und Finninnen sowie die quantitativen und qualitativen Veränderungen wie auch die regionale und soziale Annahme und Verbreitung der Mehrnamigkeit. Diese wird als Innovation definiert und anhand der Diffusionstheorie untersucht. Die untersuchten Städte Kuopio, Oulu und Turku unterscheiden sich in ihrer sozialen Struktur und liegen in verschiedenen Teilen Finnlands.


Rangel Vicente, Montserrat – « Pour une Structuration Prototypique de la Catégorie Nom Propre en Français »


L'acception de nom propre privilégiée est celle de désignation sous-tendant la fonction pragmatico-cognitive d'individualisation. L'utilisation du prototype correspond à son
appréhension en tant que faisceau de propriétés. Centré sur la désignation en fonction sujet du référent-individu, notre modèle est construit à partir de l'articulation du comportement des occurrences vis-à-vis de trois caractéristiques : nature morpho-lexicale, relation pragmatico-sémantique avec le référent et combinaison avec l'article défini. Sans que cet aspect soit intégré dans la gradation, le sous-type référentiel des Np joue un rôle essentiel dans leur caractérisation. La modélisation de la catégorie qui en résulte prend la forme d'une gradation de l'articulation hiérarchisée d'une variable de chacun des trois traits retenus.

Rapa, Sanda – “Some Semantic Universals in the Latvian Toponymy

It is general assumption in onomastics that investigation of place names should be started at semantic universals in the toponymy (V. Toporov, L. Nevskaya, V. Ivanov), namely, at investigation of metaphoric toponyms derived from appellatives of body parts as well as from terms of kinship, designations of utilitarian objects etc.


Words of semantic universals can mark all kinds of objects: land features, relief forms, and hydrographical objects. Only the fallow names do not comprise words of non-topographical lexical field. That means that names with the terms of body parts, utilitarian objects, and kinship can mark almost all geographical objects, thus, the naming after body parts, utilitarian objects etc. could be considered as semantic formula in the Latvian toponymy which reflects the ancient view on the Earth as living being.

Rateau, Michel – “Extension of English Onomastics : The Case of the Anglo-French Province of Aquitaine During the Middle Ages and Its Toponyms of English Origin”

Although the existing contemporary corpus is rather small, the aim of this paper is to introduce a subject that does not miss interest and, even, that well deserves to be better known. After showing an actualised geographical distribution map, toponymic groups of various onomastic origins will be discussed : 1 – Toponyms of patronymic origin (ex. Libourne < Leyburn (Roger of, 1220-1271, Edward the Ist’s friend, founder of the English fortifies bastide of Libourne). Other ex. : Hastingues < Hastings (John, seneshal of Gascony, founder of the bastide of Hastingues, 1289). 2 – Microtoponyms of patronymic origine (ex. : Canole < Knowles (Robert, 1317-1407, seneshal and governor of Guyenne ; Chandos < Chandos, 1314-1370, a famous 100 years war English general). 3 – Nanotoponyms of patronymic origin (ex. : Chapelle Notre-Dame de Talbot and Monument de Talbot < Talbot (John, /1384-1390/-1453, English general of Anglo-Normand/French descent, fallen at the battle of Castillon). 4 – Toponyms of ethnic origin (ex. : Anglès, (L)Anglais, (L)Anglois, (L)Escot(s) / Scot), Escossia. 5 – Microtoponyms of imaginary or popular origine (ex. : Château des Anglais). 6 – Toponyms of uncertain origine (ex.
Reinsma, Riemer – “Carnival Place-Nicknames Alluding to the Nickname of a Neighboring Town: Strienestad, Strienedurpke and the Like”

For a long time, neighboring settlements have attributed insulting inhabitant nicknames to each other. From the end of C 19 onward, however, these names lost their aggressive nature. Many of them developed into honorary nicknames which formed the basis for self-attributed place nicknames, used during Dutch carnival. For example, Ganzemelkers (‘goose herds) resulted into the place nickname Ganzegat (‘geese hamlet’).

Dutch carnival is a typically local feast: outsiders are not welcome. Carnival place nicknames, being in-group nicknames, can thus be supposed to reflect the spatial unit the inhabitants concerned identify themselves with most. Attention will be paid to a special category of in-group nicknames: those of neighboring towns which share name elements with each other and thus show a certain degree of similarity, obviously because one name alludes to or is inspired by the name of the neighbor. For example, the nickname Strienedurpke (‘tiny village on the Striene’) for a hamlet alludes to Strienestad (‘city on the Striene river’) for Steenbergen. How were such alluding names formed and which differences between the neighbors do they express?

Reszegi, Katalin – “Cognitive Description of Multilingual Toponym Pairs”

In a bilingual environment, as a rule, different places and objects have names in both languages (e.g. Hungarian Kolozsvár – Romanian Cluj-Napoca, Hungarian Kassa – Slovakian Košice, Hungarian Duna – Slovakian Dunaj – German Donau; besides macro-toponyms, we could list here also a large number of micro-names). These corresponding names may emerge independently from each other, or through the translation or changing of the name. My presentation gives an overview of how these names and name pairs may be represented in the mind and mental lexicon of speakers familiar with both name forms. The emergence and continuous development of name usage is examined from three different aspects, which are closely related, in fact they belong together and are distinguished merely for the purpose of the study: firstly, I look at the names from the aspect of the name users and the community, secondly, from the aspect of the places, i.e. that of the mental map, and thirdly, from the aspect of the toponymic system. The connectionist holistic model will be applied with respect to internal mental processes. According to this model, different cognitive processes are not independent of each other in the mind, and—like most representations of a somewhat higher complexity—also toponyms are represented as a network of different elements of knowledge.


Im Gebiet der heutigen Westschweiz trafen im 6. Jh. n. Chr. Personen verschiedener Sprach- und Kulturgruppen aufeinander. Bis in die 530-er Jahre war die Region politisch dem
Burgunderreich zugehörig, danach dem Frankenreich. Die burgundischen Könige hatten römische Ämter inne und auch die Franken arbeiteten mit der romanischen Oberschicht zusammen. So genannt germanische Volksverbände stiessen also auf die autochthone romanische Bevölkerung.


**Rodriguez, Gabriele and Aliye Yasyba-Mehrebani – “A Dictionary of Turkish Names in Germany and Austria. A Book Project”**

Today in Germany live more than 2.000.000 turkish people. This is the greatest group of foreign residents in Germany. In Austria live also turkish people but much less. Turkish personal names now a part of the German and Austrian society. But this names have a lot of cultural and linguistic differences an varieties to the German names and laguage. There are a lot of problems to write, to pronounce and understand this names.

We do not have dictionaries with Turkish names. There are some investigations, but no exist a comprising and profound dictionary with explanations of this names. We will present a book project about Turkish personal names.

**Rovano, Silvia Corino – “One Knight, Several Names”**

During 14th Century Italy was the field of several campaigns where knights, came form all around Europe, could show their value and bravery.

But often the most popular knights were known with different anthroponyms in the different towns of Italy.

The research is aimed to examine the documents which witness the passage through Italy of one of the most famous mercenaries of his time, John Hawkwood. He entered Piedmont in the second half of 14th Century and became Johannes Acutus, the name which is still on his grave in Florence's cathedral. But he was also known as Giovanni Aguto and Johannes Agut, etc.
Rübekeil, Ludwig – “Namenschichten und Namengeschichte der Nordsee“


Am Beispiel einiger Namen aus dem Umkreis des Nordmeers gehe ich der Frage nach, wie sich mit den Namenlandschaften und Namenkonstellationen auch die antike und mittelalterliche Vorstellungswelt vom nördlichen Ozean verändert.

Rudenko, Alena – “Names of Stars and Constellations in the Slavic and German Languages”

The number of nominated objects in folk astronymy is limited. These stars and constellations are Pleiades, the Big Dipper, Orion, the Milky Way, the North Star, Venus and Sirius. There are different astronyms for the same astronomical object in the Slavic and Germanic languages and dialects. The principles of nomination of stars and constellations mentioned above are analyzed in the report on the basis of folklore, mythological and ritual information.

Rus, Georgeta – « Perspective Traductive et Statistique de la Traduction du Nom Propre. Le Cas de l'Anthroponyme »

Une des particularités de la traduction du nom propre comporte une constante récurrence de complications au niveau des anthroponymes. Cette communication se propose ainsi de considérer un vaste corpus anthroponymique et d’examiner le comportement des unités dénominatives dans la démarche traductive de la langue-source (le roumain) vers la langue-cible (le français).

L’effort traductologique que ces sous-catégories supposent vient des changements au niveau sémantique, formel, discursif etc. déterminés par la traduction, notamment en fonction du contexte extralinguistique. C’est pourquoi l’étude de ces unités se rend indispensable pour établir des normes qui puissent influencer à la fois la tâche du traducteur et du lecteur, à travers des pratiques variées et tout en respectant le sémantisme des noms propres d’origine. Les limites de la traduction, ainsi qu’un répertoire des pratiques les plus courantes et des conséquences sur le discours seront déterminées à travers une analyse ponctuelle et statistique.
L’objectif de la recherche est de déceler une méthodologie et des outils permettant d’une part au traducteur spécialisé de trouver une solution qui assure la compréhension, menant à des résultats fonctionnels dans la langue-cible, et d’autre part à tous ceux intéressés de comprendre réellement l’univers discursif de la culture-source.

Rutkiewicz-Hanczewska, Małgorzata – “Semantics of Proper Names. The Structure of the Mental Lexicon of Proper Names”

The subject matter of this paper is the specificity of access to the mental lexicon of proper names which specificity is exemplified by aphatic language disorders with accompanying anomia, i.e. name retrieval deficiency. The initial part of the paper deals with neurobiological bases of proper name retrieval, including the phenomenon of double dissociation. This phenomenon consists in a retained ability to name people and geographical places when the person is unable to name categories of common names, with a coexisting reverse pattern of anomia, i.e. a retained ability to retrieve common names when the person is unable to retrieve onyms, especially anthroponyms. The main part of the paper focuses on varius methods applied to compensate for the naming process deficiencies which make it possible to describe the structuring of the mental lexicon of proper names.

Rye, Eleanor – “Quantifying the Scandinavian Contribution to the Vocabulary of Middle English Minor Names”

The survival of microtoponyms in substantial numbers from the later medieval period is fundamental for the purposes of my PhD research, which aims to select a technique which can be used to quantify and compare relative levels of Scandinavian influence on the vocabulary of late-medieval English minor names.

This paper discusses the technique I am using to calculate relative levels of borrowings from Scandinavian in the toponymicon and will then present findings from areas of Northwest England. I will also consider how the results obtained by this method relate to evidence for non-lexical borrowings such as the borrowing (or otherwise) of distinctively Scandinavian phonological features and inflexional material.

In recent years, scholars have asked whether the elements used in place- and personal names should be viewed as distinct from those of the wider lexicon. This raises an important methodological issue for my research: am I justified in using minor place-names as a proxy for medieval dialects? In order to consider whether toponymica in contact behave like lexica in contact, I will consider whether the medieval minor name material demonstrates similarities in the types of material borrowed to those observed in other studies of language contact.
Rysbergen, Kyzdarkhan and Nursaule Rsaliyeva – “Onomastic Space of Kazakhstan: Current Condition and Problems”

Kazakh spiritual and traditional culture, religious and other axiological components found a vivid reflection in the onomastic picture of Kazakhstan, making it unique. The vast territory of the republic, which is five times the size of France, combines a desert landscape and wooded plains, lake edges, mountainous terrain and vast steppes.

The report highlights urgent problems of onomastic space, which is freed from ideological nominations imposed by the communist ideology and gradually returning to the national image. Another concern is that the increasing process of globalization, reflected in the linguistic landscape of cities, towns and settlements of Kazakhstan, where a lot of space is given to English-language information and names of boutiques, shopping, entertainment centers, even entire residential blocks are in the European manner.

Kazakhstan faces a big challenge of transmission of its writing system into the Roman alphabet. Preliminary work in this direction is already underway.

Kazakh scholars' achievements in the field of theoretical problems of onomastics are remarkable. Over the past decades, there have been a lot of work dedicated to a new anthropocentric paradigm, cognitive, psycholinguistic and ethno-cultural aspects of onomastics.

This paper presents some of the techniques of Kazakh onomasticians on cognitive matrix of modeling onomastic concepts.

Saarelma-Paukkala, Minna – “Revision of the Finnish Name-Day Calendar”

Finland is one of those European countries where the custom of celebrating name-days is widespread today. This custom is secular by nature, but it has its roots in the medieval Calendar of Saints. After the Reformation, hundreds of new names have been accepted to the Finnish almanac, and many have been removed. Nowadays, the Finnish name-day calendar is revised every fifth year, based on the popularity of names. Other factors, linguistic and cultural, are also taken into account.

This paper analyses the latest revision of the Finnish name-day calendar, which was published for the Finnish media in August 2013. In 2015, 39 new names will be added to the Finnish almanac. Some of these are Finnish-language names, e.g. the girls’ name Taika ‘magic’, or the boys’ name Sisu ‘persistence’. Many of the new names have Biblical origin, e.g. Annu (< Anna), Isabella (< Elisabet), Sarita (< Sara); Kimi (< Joakim), Luka, Nooa, and Paulus. Other international names are represented by Isla, Kiira, Mimosa, Vanessa; Hugo, Milo, Noel and Robin. This paper analyses all these new names and their origins. The criteria for the choice of names, and their placement in the calendar, shall be discussed as well.
Særheim, Inge – “Place-names in Oral Tradition - Sources of Cultural History and Local Language”

Many place-names have been passed on in the local oral tradition for a long time, some of them for hundreds of years. The names form part of the local culture and tradition. They also provide valuable information about cultural history and local language. Toponyms localize former traditions, activities, events and phenomena, and they give by their semantic content different types of information, e.g. about topography, flora, fauna, farming, hunting, fishing, travel, administration, defence and religion. They are also important linguistic sources, containing information about the local language. The value and reliability of toponyms in oral tradition used as sources about cultural history and local language will be discussed in this paper, mainly based on examples from southwestern Norway.

Salaberri, Patxi – “Anthroponyms in Basque Toponymy”

In this paper we intend to deal with the Basque toponyms that are based on anthroponyms, very often of Latin origin. In ancient times the most frequent way to form placenames was apparently to place words such as Latin fundus or villa or the like in the first position of the base. The kind that survives to our day had an original adjectival value, and it used to have a structure as in *(villa) argentoniana (Argentonius), modern Argandoña.

Concerning the toponym's development, in some cases the original latinate adjectival structure has had a Basque evolution (Bilbao, Zerio). In some other instances two different variants of the same toponym exist, one in Basque and the other in Romance (as in Beskoitze / Briscous), and in yet some others only the Spanish variant exists (as in Berbinzana).

In any case, it must be considered that suffixes gained self-sufficiency during the Middle Ages, and that, due to this reason, it is not to be concluded that all toponyms originated during the Roman period. The structural pattern of the toponyms did originate during this time, but in no case did all the specific placenames.

Sandnes, Berit – “Linguistically Mixed Names”

In language contact areas, place-names containing elements from two (or more) languages are rather common. Such names have been labelled hybrid. From a formation point of view the term is misleading, as we must assume that most place-names are coined within the framework of a single language. For various reasons they may still contain elements from different languages.

1) Names may contain loan words. For instance, the element quoy in Orkney place-names derives from ON kví ‘enclosure’ and Quoy Sinclair and Hillquoy are Scots formations.

2) Many place-names contain existing place-names as their specifics. Such names may well be of a different linguistic origin, but they are part of the living nomenclature. From a formation point of view, Loch Lagsabhat is Gaelic, though the specific is ON Laxavatn ‘Salmon Lake’.

3) Names borrowed in one language may be adapted by speakers of another language, e.g. the English form The Pacific Ocean from Portuguese Mar Pacifico.
In most cases it is possible to determine the formation language by looking at the generic. The generic normally classifies the location in the broadest sense. To do so, it has to be a living word in the formation language (including loan words).

Sandst, Line – “The Onomastic Landscape of Copenhagen - Organization and Disorganization”

To what extent is a city’s urban names organized? Which strategies are used by the official naming authorities, do the commercial names relate to the hodonyms, and what can be learnt from the rhetorical variation resulting in today’s onomastic landscape?

I examine different areas in Copenhagen (the capital city of Denmark) and discuss the ways of (dis)organizing the onomastic landscape both seen from the official naming authorities point of view as well as the private shop keepers and firm owners perspective. I investigate the consequences that the (lack of) rhetorical variation is resulting in, and what it may cause in practice.

The paper presents preliminary results from my PhD thesis that investigates the rhetorical strategies used in naming strategies in the urban, onomastic landscape of Copenhagen. The examples presented in the paper originate from empirically collected data and will be further examined in the PhD thesis.

Sartjärvi, Maija – “Finnish Female Names and Naming Patterns with the Suffix iina”

The topic of this presentation is the Finnish female names ending in iina, such as Eveliina, Josefiina, Katariina, Pauliina and Vilhelmiina. My data consists of all the given names that end in iina given between the end of the 19th century and the year 2012 to Finnish girls who have Finnish as their mother tongue. The suffix iina can be considered as a productive pattern for creating new female names in Finland, since there are more than 600 different names ending in iina in my data. My aim is on one hand to study name formation and the structure of the different names, and on other hand to study the variation in popularity of this name type during the past 150 years. The suffix iina is a feminine suffix, since all the names ending in iina are female names. It has originally been written as ina, but since the Finnish names are usually written as they are pronounced, the form iina has been more common since the Finnish national awakening of the 19th century. The presentation is based on my doctoral thesis which is in preparation.

Sauvant, Michel – “Il Était une Fois’ des Toponymes Environnementaux qui Masquaient Leurs Origines Érudites”

J’ai découvert un substrat toponymique latin aux noms créés en groupes pour mémoriser des textes et des dessins. En 8 ans d’étude intensive j’ai déjà reconstitué, autour du Roussillon (Sud France), une ‘fresque’ dépassant 600 toponymes et 200 dédicaces hagionymiques.
La reconnaissance du modus operandi, des références paléochrétiennes précises, la méthode toponymique classique et une formulation systémique, m’ont permis de rassembler plus de preuves, pour l’origine de chaque nom, que les toponymistes antérieurs. Ceux-ci avaient laissé un grand taux d’origines obscures. Ils proposèrent souvent des origines qui s’avèrent, maintenant, être des re-motivations paronymiques adoptées par des populations ayant désappris les noms érudits, avant les dates des premières mentions. Dans 3 colloques (ICOS +Trends…), j’ai illustré les premières leçons à retenir : - Sémantique et mode de création d’une toponymie érudite peuvent différer de ceux habituels. - Des traitements de nombreuses données (géographiques, géométriques, morphologiques,…) concernant les couples ‘Nom + Lieu’ peuvent révéler des traces de substrat érudit. - Retrouver les origines de noms créés groupés nécessite de grouper leurs études. Mon exposé résumera, et illustrera d’exemples, l’étude d’un 'trésor' de 500 re-motivations. Beaucoup furent inspirées par des mots locaux relatifs aux environnements naturel et agricole du 5e au 12e siècle.

Scherr, Jennifer and Gwyneth Nair – “What Were Women Really Called?: Pet Forms of Female Names in English Parish Registers, 1540-1850”

This paper forms part of a wider study on women’s names in their social context. Hypocoristic or pet forms of English personal names have existed as long as the names themselves. Very occasionally, such forms for female names are recorded in the sixteenth and seventeenth century parish registers. However, it is not until the mid-eighteenth century that the phenomenon becomes widespread and pet forms appear regularly as baptismal names in the registers. This study shows which names were most amenable to pet forms; what forms such hypocorisms took; which were the most popular and which have survived as names in their own right. The collection of these names sheds light on differences in their historical or regional pronunciation and also on the development of their usage. The authors also investigate whether it is possible to distinguish any differences in practice by region, by religious practice or by social context. They attempt to explain why this development applied particularly to female names, and why such forms became accepted as names in their own right and therefore acceptable at baptism and other times of official record.

Schiller, Christiane – “Die Konstruktion Rufname + Beiname als Ortsnamentyp im nördlichen Ostpreußen”

In den Namen der im Zuge von Kolonisation entstandenen Siedlungen sind häufig die Personennamen der ersten Siedler enthalten. Da diese Siedlungen häufig in die Periode der Einnamigkeit datieren, reflektieren die Ortsnamen in der Regel nur den Rufnamen des Gründers.

Der Beitrag untersucht die Struktur dieser Ortsnamen, deren Variabilität und Kontinuität in der Tradierung sowie Aspekte des Gebrauchs der deutschen und litauischen Namenformen.

Schmidt-Jüngst, Miriam – ““Der muss ja auch zum Alter passen” - Zur Alters- und Geschlechtskodierung am Rufnamen beim Namenwechsel von Transgendern“


Schraagen, Marijn and Gerrit Bloothooft – “Large Scale Harvesting of Variants of Proper Names”

A definition of true variants of a proper name is that they have been used for the same person (excluding nicknames). Harvesting name variants then requires documents that contain these variants, while there is sufficient evidence that they refer to the same individual. This approach has been followed for the Dutch 19th and early 20th century vital register where a person and his parents are named in birth, marriage and death certificates (currently about 16 million digitized). Together, these persons have three first names and two distinct surnames, since in The Netherlands the child and father share the same surname while the mother keeps her maiden name throughout life in formal registrations. Dutch naming is rich enough that when four out of these five names are identical, the group is almost always uniquely identified. Year of birth is
used as additional criterium to increase its uniqueness. Subsequently, all variants that could be found in the fifth name were harvested automatically. Since the source materials also contained errors, additional procedures are needed to clean the results. 34,818 variants of female first names, 22,478 variants of male first names, and 120,115 variants of surnames could be collected. The approach and results will be evaluated and discussed.

Schybergson, Anita – “Cognitive Systems in the Name-Formation of Finnish Vessels”

This paper deals with Finland’s stock of ship names (nautonomasticon) mostly recorded over the period 1838–1938. The material is supplemented with names of modern sailing yachts.

The study clarifies the categories of names that appear, formation, lingual origin, functions and semantic qualities. Traditional onomastic methods are used alongside interdisciplinary and socio-onomastic approach. Cognitive linguistic theories have provided the tools for exploration into the metaphorical meaning of the names, and the semantic domains that the names create.

The interdisciplinary perspective has made it possible to explain certain trends in the stock of boat names, for example the predisposition towards names from classical mythology and the continuing rise of place names during the latter part of the period. The cognitive linguistic methods have revealed that the greater part of the vessel names can be interpreted as metaphors, in particular personifications, and that many names also form semantic networks and cognitive systems. The results indicate that there is a mental nautonomasticon that consists of a standard set of traditional ship names, but they also reveal the existence of conscious or unconscious cognitive systems (rules and conventions) that guide the naming of boats.

Scott, Maggie – “Diachronic Critical Toponymy and Scottish Place Names”

Berg and Vuolteenaho (2009) challenge ‘historical-cultural’ toponymists to apply a critical perspective to their work, to avoid ‘naïve’ accounts of history. In response to this invitation, I have sought to reinvestigate the diachronic data in Scott (2004), collected for etymological and lexicological research. Centuries-old name forms, presented as apolitical lists, can mask contested narratives of place and identity, or tacitly agree with agendas of standardisation, and risk creating new dogmas of name evolution. This paper explores primarily Scots place-names through a critical lens, building in part on Scott (2012). Scott and Clark (2011) provided a critical analysis of the modern labels applied to the regenerated Salford Quays (formerly Salford Docks), illuminating aspects of local toponymic politics; the task in this paper is to examine historical toponymy critically.

Traditional name scholars do perhaps need to be more aware of their own contribution to acts of political silencing, even if the silenced have fallen out of the written history and exist only as a form of negative space. The etymologist may be forgiven for viewing toponymic data only through an etymological lens, but once his or her consciousness is raised to include a critical perspective, the genie is out of the bottle.
Shokhenmayer, Evgeny – “Comparative Study of the 100 Most Frequent Russian, French, German and British Surnames”

This paper represents a contrastive study of the 100 most frequent Russian, French, German and British surnames. The aim of the study is to elaborate and evaluate name-based materials for four countries in the form of statistical data, then to analyze and confront surname groups’ percentages in order to determine their naming patterns and name-giving properties. From the number and the dwelling-place of people bearing definite surnames we can speculate over the diffusion of certain traditions, crafts, activities, interests and thus in some degree re-create the structure of medieval societies. A lot of names, regions, occupations and local crafts fell into oblivion, but the information on their former value had been well encoded in onomastic evidence, mostly in surnames, as well as in their statistics. Although European onomasticons are ones of the most complex, numerous and varied in the entire world, they have received much less attention in the context of comparative frequency analysis. Of course, we must admit that analysis of the most frequent surnames may be likened to the observation of the „tip of iceberg“, but, however, they may be illustrative and shed light on some specific details.

Siliņa-Piņķe, Renāte – “Von Hindrik zu Indulis: Niederdeutsche Spuren in den Lettischen Vornamen”

Die Geschichte und somit auch die Namenlandschaft Lettlands sind seit dem 13. Jahrhundert eng mit der deutschen Sprache verbunden. Im Mittelalter waren Latein und Mittelniederdeutsch die einzigen Schreibsprachen des Landes.

Die Vornamen der lettischen Einwohner des Landes sind vorwiegend von Baltisten, teilweise auch von Historikern analysiert worden. Das Hauptinteresse lag aber bei den alten vorchristlichen und somit auch baltischen Namen.

Die Grundlage dieses Vortrages bilden die über 700 Jahre langen, intensiven lettisch–deutschen Sprachkontakte und ihre Auswirkung auf die Vornamengebung der Letten. Das Hauptinteresse liegt bei dem Einfluss der (mittel)niederdeutschen Vornamengebung auf die Vornamen der Letten.


Sjöblom, Paula, Ulla Hakala and Satu-Päivi Kantola – “Municipality Names in Consolidations: What Happens to Place Branding?”

A place name is a valuable carrier of individual and social identity but also of historical ties. People identify with places via their names, and place name is the symbol of place’s identity.
Place branding includes many aspects, but name is always the core of a brand. What happens if the name changes due to a municipality consolidation? In our paper, we will analyse the impact of a materialised or possible municipality name change on place branding.

In the undergoing reform of Finnish municipality structure, the number of municipalities will decrease markedly. The nomenclature will be revolutionised while most municipal names will be withdrawn, and just one name will be selected as a joint name. Also new names have been invented. In these situations, the residents as well as some enterprises feel that the image of the new city might become fragmented and the place-of-origin image will be lost, and municipal office-holders in marketing face unexpected problems in branding, if they have not taken the identity and image questions related to names into account.

Our data consists of responses to a survey conducted among residents at the South-Western province of Finland, and of interviews of representatives of enterprises and local governments.

Theoretically, the topic is related to socio-onomastics, sociology and place branding research. Statistics is exploited in the analysis of the survey.

Slíz, Mariann – “Personal Names Originating from Literature or Motion Picture in the Hungarian Name Stock – A Historical Survey”

The paper introduces a special part of the real Hungarian name stock: personal names originating from literature or films. The 13–15th centuries can be regarded as the first period of this phenomenon when some members of the higher classes named their children after the heroes of chivalric literature, e.g. Tristan, Roland. These names never became frequent, and disappeared after the 15th century. The second period in the history of names of literary origin was the 19th century, the time of romanticism in Hungarian literature, when writers focused on the history of Hungary. Additionally, that was the first period of Hungarian novels. New literary names were created in large amounts. Some of them entered into the name stock and have become popular. There are some family names that also originated or became frequent thanks to a novel (e.g. Kárpáthy, Szentirmay). They got into the family name stock by official name changes. The third period started in the second part of the 20th century: fictional names can be traced back mostly to films nowadays. The paper reveals the sociocultural-historical background of the spread of these names in the different periods.

Smith, Grant – “Names and References in Midsummer Night’s Dream”

Shakespeare’s MND is about true love and felicitous marriage as essentials of both natural and social order. With three interwoven plots, Shakespeare’s names and references reflect three types of sources, each with associative possibilities relevant to the basic themes. The main plot is about Athenian nobles whose names draw symbolic meaning from Greek mythology. It focuses first on Theseus and Hippolyta, whose approaching marriage symbolizes the settlement of domestic order, while dramatic tension emerges in the pairing of four young lovers. A second plot is about the “mechanicals” preparing entertainment for the noble wedding, whose names are figurative coinages associated with common trades and English life. The third plot is about the fairy world and the troubled marriage of its king and queen, whose names suggest an overriding
hierarchy and order in nature – a significant reinterpretation of traditional folklore. This paper will describe various associative possibilities (iconic, indexical, and symbolic) of a few names and will present a detailed classification of all names and generic references. It will illustrate a semiotic approach advocated in “Theoretical Foundations of Literary Onomastics” in The Oxford Handbook of Names and Naming.

Sofinska, Iryna – “Name’s Application in Ukraine: A Modern Discourse Towards the European Integration”

In this paper I’d concentrate merely on the personal name’s application in Ukraine which undoubtedly has a deep connection with the civil society matters and citizenship-identity interrelation due to their constitutional, linguistic, social and financial background.

In order to discuss the particular situation in the official personal name’s standardization and furthermore, its influence on everyday life of the ordinary Ukrainians we should remember that usually name’s application is a crisp image of the cultural and historical heritage, recent upheaval of the political despair, lack of consensus among society, gap in regions’ development etc.

During last more than 20 years in Ukraine there were a lot of attempts to find a fair balance between the protection of the rights of minorities and the preservation of the State language. It sounds to be a very hard and simultaneously delicate decision for Ukraine being on the ‘grand chessboard’, searching to step out from the post-Soviet environment and considering the everlasting distractive manoeuvres of our near neighbours. Therefore, in this paper I’d try to answer a vital question do in name’s application in Ukraine we search for the national identity preservation or is it a modern discourse of a globalization?

Sokolova, Tatiana – “Topical Issues of Namegiving in New Moscow”

In 2012 the territory of Moscow increased more than twofold. And now the capital consists of the so called Old Moscow and New Moscow (settlements). A lot of identical hodonyms appeared, e.g. Lesnaya (‘forest’) street, Tsentralnaya (‘central’), Lenin street etc.

How to eliminate the identical place names, without violating the rights of local residents?

Another problem is connected with the active construction of new territories. The demand for names for new streets has sharply increased, which should, according to the Law of Moscow, fit into the historically established system of names.

What are the principles to create the new urban names?

One of the key should be the thematic principle – the creation of systems of names, given the geographical and historical realities of space development. For instance, hodonym Aleshinskaya Dolina is a former microtoponym, Tavolga and Bukvitsa reflect the characteristics of plants of the valley, Potemkin street leads to the temple, built by his efforts, Kolchevskaya retains the name of an ancient village. Such complex, on the one hand, is a local system of street names
reflecting the history and landscape features of the village and non-recurring in modern Moscow, on the other hand, complies with the existing urbanonymic system.

Spitzner, Ingrid – “Names and Sustainability - How Does a Company Name Reflect Sustainability?”

Company names of family enterprises often reflect among other things a long lasting history of development, growth, decline, changes and tradition. Sustainability is thus a component of the semantic structure of a company name.

This article describes the interaction of company names and brand names which were acquired from other companies to extend the company’s portfolio. In the sense of sustainability it can be seen as one way of adapting to economic challenges.

It enables the company to get access to new markets and clients. In this way the company stabilizes its existence and its own value. It also creates a solid basis for future acquisitions and extensions, and it furthermore prevents the extinction of a well-known name.

The article aims to demonstrate by some examples how some companies incorporated brand names in their portfolio and the outcome of it.

Štěpán, Pavel – “Emotional Expressivity in Czech Toponymy”

The article deals with emotional expressivity of Czech toponyms, with respect to the specific character of proper names, whose functions and nature of meaning are distinct from common nouns. Emotionality, whose role in the individual naming act is to be studied, is given by (i) the expressive character of the lexical basis, (ii) the emotional symptom of the means of name-formation (either a suffix, or a specific type of composition), or (iii) a combination of both. Emotionality given by lexical elements is often connected with metaphor in toponyms. Expressing the individual emotions (positive, negative, including the use of vulgarisms) in toponyms is to be studied. However, the relevance of distinguishing the use of different types of lexical emotional expressivity (inherent, adherent and contextual emotional expressivity) is weakened in toponyms; what seems to be more significant is the use of the naming motives in the naming act. Some attention is devoted also to the so-called secondary emotionality of toponyms, attributed to some names subsequently, on the basis of folk etymology, and to suppression of negative emotionality, realised by deliberate changes of toponyms.

Štěpánová, Veronika – “How Should These Names Be Pronounced? Specific Phonetic Features of Proper Names in Czech”

The paper analyses proper names in contemporary Czech that are interesting with regard to their pronunciation. There is a high degree of uncertainty regarding the adequate pronunciation of many proper names (most of them of foreign origin) used in everyday communication. The analysed material (several hundreds of proper names) is based on a database of inquiries
addressed to the Language Consulting Centre of the Institute of the Czech Language, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, and on a special database of proper names which occur in contemporary media discourse and whose pronunciation is variable. The second database shows how the proper name is spelled and includes a transcription of its recorded pronunciation in Czech and a transcription of its pronunciation in its original language.

The analysis focuses on the most prominent questions relating to pronunciation problems. Such questions focus, for example, on which languages the problematic proper names originate in, why speakers hesitate about the pronunciation of a given form and what categories of proper names (anthroponyms, toponyms, etc.) occur in the data. In addition, some specific phonetic features of proper names are compared to phonetic features of common nouns.

**Sundström, Agneta – “Ingevald Panka and Kalle Braxen. Bynames in Medieval Arboga and Modern Sigtuna”**

The aim of this study is to examine the bynames represented in the Medieval town court book of Arboga and in the oral material from 20th century Sigtuna. I have analysed the material from a name-semantic point of view and categorized the data in the following groups: 'decent and kinship', 'origin and place of recidence', 'occupation and social status', 'external characteristics', 'internal characteristics', 'clothing and equipment', 'habits and events' and finally 'names which are a play on or formed by a family name'. The result shows that there are examples of bynames from both periods in most of the categories except the last one, which was exclusively found in the modern material.

**Tan, Peter K W – “The Limits of Commemorative Naming as Seen in Cases of Name Change”**

The notion of commemorative naming is well established and the term appears in documents produced by local government authorities and geographical societies. For example, the Vancouver city council provides this definition: ‘Commemorative Naming refers to the naming of a property in honour of outstanding achievement, distinctive service, or significant community contribution’ though we might broaden this definition in relation to the entity being named and the rationale of naming. The specificity of that definition is of interest because it indexes some of the community’s expectations with respect to commemorative names. Clearly names are not just denotative but also contain ‘sense’. In this paper, I will consider this in relation to name change because that puts the expectations into focus. The first example is of New College becoming Murray Edwards College in Cambridge University: this has not been controversial. The second example is that of Simkins Residence Hall to Creekside Hall in the University of Texas. This has been much more fraught with difficulties because of Simkins’s links with the Ku-Klux-Klan (Brophy 2011). Finally I consider the low-key change of Angsana College to the College of Alice & Peter Tan in Singapore, which while not controversial has raised some eyebrows.
Tegelaar, Arthur – “What is to Be seen in Siena? (or : How to Explain the Name of Siena?)”

In this paper I will propose an alternative explanation for the name (and city) of Siena in Tuscany (Italy). Despite many efforts a satisfactory “meaning” for this name could not as yet be found, though certain features in the town itself may render some hints why this town is called the way it is. Especially we will pay attention to the development and the history of the city itself (which is in fact a medieval town situated on the Via Francigena) and whether this can give any clues. Then we will focus on the Piazza del Campo. ¿ What is so special about this square and why is it not square but like a concave shell ? ¿ Does it have anything to do with the name of the town ?

Todman, Amy and Leonie Dunlop – “Size matters?: New Perspectives on Place-Name Categorisation Using Topographic Source Material”

One aim of topographic views is to give the viewer a sense of a place, more visually recognisable than the bird’s eye view of cartographic sources. In the most recent place-name surveys a greater emphasis is placed on fieldwork and the spatial dimension in understanding a toponym. Despite being aware of the value of observing the feature itself, apart from Gelling and Cole’s ‘The Landscape of Place-names’, there have been few reassessments of the underlying structure of toponymic and landscape categorisations. This paper reconsiders the relative position of ‘hills’ within toponymic categorisation.

We would like to propose a further category, ‘rocks’. The structure of a possible ‘rock’ category appears to be different to that of ‘hill’. Perspective —size and situation — appears to be a deciding factor for whether or not a rock is named. Structural differences and perspectives between the categories ‘rock’ and ‘hill’ will be explored using a variety of examples from the Scottish Lowlands and Northern England. Features in this study include Berwick Law, The Bass Rock and The Dropping Well. Sources include seventeenth-century topographical views drawn by the antiquarian Francis Place and the military surveyor John Slezer as well as cartographic and written records.

Torensjö, Annette – “Geographical Names Network in Sweden Has an Eye on Names!”

Peking or Beijing, Burma or Myanmar – which name should we use?

The Geographical Names Network (in Swedish Namnvårdsgruppen) is a newly established group under the Swedish Foreign ministry’s responsibility. To be more aware and gain knowledge on how to use foreign names (of countries and other important geographical locations) in the world we have created this network. The purpose of the group is to provide guidance on matters of principle, to give advice or recommendations in individual name issues, not just place-names but also names on authorities and job titles in public service. We shall also develop the Swedish terminology on this and also promote good place-name practice.

In my paper I aim to describe how this work advances.
Tort-Donada, Joan – “Toponyms as Memory Marks”

This paper seeks to undertake a wide-ranging theoretical reflection on what might be considered a specific function of toponyms – understood as ‘geographical proper names’: that is, their role, as what I shall refer to, as memory marks. Like landmarks, toponyms constitute ‘marks’ or ‘signs’, constructed within given spatial and temporal coordinates and having a fixed geographic reference, their ultimate goal being to identify, via our cognitive mechanisms of perception and memory, specific places on earth.

Why do geographical proper names, as applied spatially, tend to persist in time? Why do some names, despite their long history and despite undergoing major upheavals as far as their ‘linguistic materiality’ is concerned, frequently retain a link with their referent (that is, the originally designated geographical space or place) that remains unchanged (or only partially modified) over the intervening decades and centuries? Why, in principle, do all the languages and all the geographies of the world, when ‘generating’ toponyms, tend to adhere to this particular pattern of behaviour?

It would seem that the answers to the questions raised should be sought by considering toponyms as memory marks – that is, as mechanisms or tools at the service of the cognitive process that enable the person using them to undertake two especially important tasks (in relation with their own ‘environment’): first, to specifically identify the place or referent in question; and, second, to relate it to other places and thus, ultimately, to aid this person to construct their personal ‘geography’, i.e., their own individual and unique geographical reading of space.

This study, which adopts what is essentially a reflexive and epistemological approach, takes as its starting point some of the toponyms of the Iberian Peninsula. These place names, because of their ancient nature and deep-rooted geographical meaning, show quite clearly this tendency of toponyms to persist over time.

Tóth, Valéria – “Name-theoretical Questions of the Giving and Usage of Anthroponyms”

My presentation highlights general questions of name theory which determine the giving and usage of anthroponyms in different languages. I deal with the question of the systematic character of anthroponyms, the strong cultural and social rootedness of their system, furthermore I touch upon the pragmatic and functional-cognitive factors of name usage, and the role of name models in the emergence of anthroponyms, outlining also the name-sociological conditions of the usage of anthroponyms.

In my opinion not only does the study of these topics generally foster the understanding of questions related to the usage of anthroponyms, but it expands also the opportunities inherent in the historical study of anthroponyms. The examination of these factors namely may contribute substantially to a more accurate assessment of structures denoting persons in medieval charters written in Latin, thus fostering also the revelation of habits related to the usage of anthroponyms in the contemporary spoken language.
Tsepkova, Anna – “Nicknames: Offline and Online Secondary Nicknaming Contexts”

The paper is focused on analysing English and Russian nicknames of persons functioning in everyday communication and mass media.

Nicknaming context is viewed in this research as: 1) a verbal environment of a nickname; 2) non-verbal (extra-linguistic) circumstances in which a nickname occurs. Thus it includes motivation, evaluative and functional information, the facts concerning the sphere and the circumstances of nickname generating and use, characteristics and attitudes of the people involved in nicknaming practice (nickname-giver, nickname-user, nickname-bearer). In reality this information is presented partially, implicitly as nicknames emerge and function in oral colloquial discourse characterised by fluency, spontaneity and irreversibility. As a result nicknaming environment can be analysed on the basis of secondary contexts created as a reaction to a request to motivate a nickname.

Secondary nicknaming contexts available for a researcher can be taken from:

1) offline resources (interviewing, print media);
2) online resources, such as internet discussion sites as well as news sites reporting about celebrities.

Further on the paper deals with the structure of nicknaming contexts extracted from the above-mentioned resources with a special focus on the commentaries concerning pragmatic, cultural and psychological peculiarities of nicknaming such as social behavior patterns, attitudes and evaluation, culturally predetermined motivations.

Varella, Stavroula – “It's all Greek to me: Cacophony in the Hellenic Diaspora”

This paper has two aims: First, it describes patterns of name change in the Greek diaspora, including the linguistic motivations for family name modification, and the particular processes involved in making names less dissonant, easier to pronounce (and spell), and better fitting in an English-speaking context. Second, it looks at the psychological repercussions of such changes, touching upon issues of cultural adaptivity and self identification for those concerned.


aber ist ein anderes Herangehen an die lexikographische Darstellung nötig, das der Idee der Internationalisierung dient, zugleich aber auch die nationalen Charakteristika der Terminologien widerspiegeln kann. Auf der Grundlage des Materials von russischen und deutschen Termini der literarischen Onomastik wird im Vortrag eine integrierende Herangehensweise vorgeschlagen, die auf Deskriptoren als Stich- und Schlagwörtern basiert und auch Elemente der Facettenklassifikation enthält.

**Vikstrand, Per – “Place-names and Viking Age Religion”**

For a long time place-names containing names of gods or designations for ritual places have been used as a source of knowledge to the old Scandinavian religion of the Viking Age. Recent investigations, however, suggests that many of these names predates the Viking Age and thus cannot be expected to reflect religious aspects of that period. To be reasonably sure to find Viking Age place-names one must turn to areas that were colonized during the Viking Age. The aim of my paper is to investigate the occurrences in such areas of pre-Christian Scandinavian place-names with relevance for pre-Christian cults and beliefs. To that end I have turned to the Scandinavian place-names of the East Baltic area, the Faroe Islands, Iceland and, to some extent, the British Islands. My investigation of the “religious” place-names of these areas shows some interesting results regarding both beliefs and cult practices of the Viking Age.

**Vitali, Giovanni Pietro – « L’Autre Néoréalisme dans la Nominatio de Pavese, Fenoglio et Vittorini »**

Le sujet de cet essai est la nominatio des trois auteurs appartenant au néoréalisme italien : Cesare Pavese, Elio Vittorini et Beppe Fenoglio.

Dans les romans de ces auteurs, les anthroponymes sont utilisés comme une base sur laquelle bâtir des métaphores du réel et pouvant aller au-delà du simple mécanisme d'action ou de réaction de la réalité. En particulier :

- Les prénoms sont utilisés dans la plupart des cas pour identifier les personnes qui ne sont pas les héros principaux et les civils dans les sections textuelles qui parlent de la guerre.

- L'usage des noms de famille en certains cas dissimule la provenance du personnage et dévoile, grâce à cette information, quelle relation il peut entretenir avec les autres acteurs qui animent l'histoire.

- Les surnoms ainsi que les pseudonymes présentent la variété onomastique la plus importante de ces romans ; grâce à cette dernière , l'auteur caractérise son personnage de façon plus ou moins explicite soit dans son comportement diégétique soit dans son rapport aux autres protagonistes de l'intrigue.
Wahlberg, Mats – “Place-names – a Place for Cats?”

On the official maps from the Swedish National Land Survey ca 1,400 names beginning in Katt- are found. Do they refer to the domestic cat (Sw. katt), and, if so, can they throw light upon the existence of and the view of cats down the ages?

Many young names refer to small and insignificant localities, often with a disparaging meaning, most certainly with reference to the domestic cat. Some names compare the localities with the shape of a cat or different parts of the cat’s body, especially the tail.

For some prehistoric settlement names, e.g. Kättinge, Kattunga, dating back to 1–500 AD, which have been explained as containing a derivation of the word katt, it has mostly been argued that the wild cat or the lynx (Sw. lo or lokatt) are referred to, probably because it is difficult to explain that an insignificant house pet could have been a motive for name-giving. Since the domestic cat has existed in Sweden at least since the first century AD and was spread at most farms in southern and central Sweden 300–600 AD, I will argue that these names do refer to the domestic cat. This means that the word katt, a common European word of unclear origin, probably must have been introduced in Scandinavia before the first known continental written evidence from the late 4th or early 5th century (Latin cattus).

Walkowiak, Justyna – “Lithuanisation of Personal Names of the Polish Minority in Lithuania”

The Lithuanisation of non-Lithuanian (both minority and foreign) names has a long-standing tradition in Lithuania. Ever since the dissolution of the Soviet Union, it has also been a bone of contention between Lithuania and Poland with regard to the names of Poles. The topic attracted the attention of media in both countries and it also occasioned numerous statements by politicians.

The paper presents an in-depth analysis of this phenomenon in its various aspects: historical background, ideology, policy and practice. The analysis has been based on the data collected in Lithuania in the autumn of 2013, including archival research as well as interviews with members of the Polish minority, with Polish Lithuanian historians and genealogists, with employees in the civil registry office and with members of the Lithuanian Language State Commission (VLKK). The overall picture has been supplemented with information from written sources, including the media coverage of the issue as well as the information obtained from the websites of the VLKK and of the European Foundation of Human Rights.

Whyte, Alasdair – “‘An Leathair Mhuileach’ | Gaelic 'leathair': A Coastal Place-name Generic in Mull”

This paper will present new research on Gaelic ‘leathair’, a generic element historically applied to several areas of coastal land in Mull but of which there is no trace in the modern toponymy of the island; this is despite its appearance in local bardic nomenclature as recently as the 1870s. It is recorded in fiscal evaluation of the 15th century and, in addition to linguistic analysis of the historical forms of the intervening period, recorded in the fiscal evaluation, maps and local
Gaelic sources, the paper will focus on the topographical contexts of these Mull examples in comparison with toponyms of similar orthography outwith this insular context. The paper will propose an etymological solution for this problematic element, previously translated simply as ‘coastland’, and identified elsewhere as a possible dialectal form of Gaelic ‘leitir’, ‘hillside, slope, side of hill’.

Wolny, Matthias – “Commodification of the Urban Toponymy in the City of Turin (Italy). The Case of Juventus Stadium”

The toponymy of sports venues, like urban toponymy in general, represents a very dynamic field of onomastics. This applies in particular when considering political and economical factors in modern naming processes. This paper will sketch a brief overview of the onomastics of sports venues in general before analyzing the commodification of place names in and around the new stadium complex in Turin, inaugurated in September 2011.

Using the theoretical frameworks of critical onomastic research and linguistic landscape research, the present study will show the ‘toolkit’ used in Turin to re-shape an area of the city on the micro-toponomastic level according to the corporate identity of Juventus Football Club. The corporate identity is expressed through the name of the stadium, the street names in the area as well as the names of the club facilities (e.g. the football museum and the new headquarters). Strategies like the explicit placing of sponsor names and their logos, references to the club history and a merchandise machinery working to advertise the new built facilities are used to attract the club supporters and other visitors to the area. The consequence is a commercially re-shaped part of the city with a drawing board designed structure and nomenclature.

Zabalza Seguin, Ana – “One Kingdom, Two Languages. Anthroponomastics in Early Modern Navarre”

My paper is focused on Navarre, a small kingdom near the French border, but united to Spain after its military conquest in 1512. Navarre’s original language was Basque, a non-Romance, non-written language during the Early Modern period, due to the fact that all political powers used mainly Latin, French, Occitan or Spanish. But after the union the Navarrese elites tried to adapt to their new situation by learning Spanish, also as a way of being accepted to the overseas trade. Behind the linguistic problem there were more cultural factors, such as a different conception of woman’s role in the household and in the transmission of property from one generation to the next. This particular aspect has consequences in the transmission of family names as well.

As a result, now there is a peculiar anthroponomastic system, a mixture of both cultures.


An der mittleren Saale, die häufig als Grenze des deutschen bzw. fränkischen Einflussgebietes gegenüber der slavischen Bevölkerung des östlichen Mitteleuropas postuliert wurde, hatte

POSTERS

Alas, Marit – “The Changing of Place Names in Haljala Parish in North-Coast of Estonia”

This poster presentation is focused on how and to what extent the country side place names in one parish in Estonia have changed from 17th century to the present day. I have done similar work about another coastal parish in West-Estonia – Põide, on the island of Saaremaa, where the amount of place names that have disappeared is about half of all names. At the beginning of studying the place names of Haljala parish, the hypothesis was that names in those two parishes have changed similarly because of the similar coastal location and history. But collecting the names throughout the fieldwork, from maps and archive materials concerning place names, it seems that name systems and name persistence are somehow different in the two parishes. The aim of this poster is to show how the place names in Haljala parish have changed and why, and compare those changes with Põide parish. In my presentation, I will present results of the research and bring out how place names of various place types have extant, changed, accrued or disappeared.

Farajullayeva, Elmira – A propos de la création de l’environnement des noms de personnes en Azerbaïdjan

Les noms de personnes azerbaïdjanais,fonctionnent-ils dans l’environnement habituel où ça dépend d’une multitude de variété de la création de cet environnement ?

L’objectif de notre étude c’est identifier le rôle des facteurs extra-linguistiques dans l’élaboration du système antroponimical azerbaïdjanais.


Mapping Metaphor with the Historical Thesaurus is an AHRC-funded research project at Glasgow University (2012–2014; PI Anderson), investigating the nature and extent of metaphor in English through comprehensive analysis of lexical overlap between semantic domains. The analysis is diachronic and data-driven, using the database underlying the Historical Thesaurus of the Oxford English Dictionary (2009). The results will be freely available online in an interactive ‘Metaphor Map’. This poster outlines the project, displays visualisations of the interactive resource, and presents two case studies illustrating the potential for onomastic research.

1. The well-known metaphor LANDSCAPE IS A BODY is represented in many languages. Its manifestations in place-names include terms for the internal and external body, human and animal (e.g. brain, nose, tail, veins). Our results suggest that references to clothing (e.g. belt) and textiles (e.g. ribbon) in place-names are further extensions of the metaphor.

2. The project has identified previously unrecognised metaphors, including (in Old English only) links between the domains of light and warfare (e.g. hildetorht ‘battle-bright’, sigebeorht ‘victory-bright’, wigblac ‘battle-shining’). The domain of warfare is strongly represented in Germanic anthroponomy, so we suggest that this may account for terms such as beorht in Anglo-Saxon personal names (e.g. Beorhtric, Hunbeorht).

Hough, Carole, Alison Burns and David Simmons – “Cognitive Toponymy: People and Places in Synergy”

Cognitive Toponymy: People and Places in Synergy is a research project funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh from January 2014 to December 2015. The project is a collaboration between the Universities of Glasgow, Copenhagen and St. Andrews, and uses place-names to investigate human conceptualisation of place and its impact on the development of Western society.

Cognition-based approaches are currently prominent in a range of disciplines, including archaeology, linguistics and psychology. The focus is on mental models and the role of embodied experience in the everyday interaction between human beings and the world. The project aims to harness these approaches within an interdisciplinary study of perceptions of place, examining the strategies used by humans to impose order on their surroundings and make sense of their environment over the last two millennia. Focusing on comparative evidence from Scotland and Denmark, it will investigate names given to places in order to assert ownership, express political or religious ideology, or establish identity, and will examine relationships between mental maps and cartographic representations, between spatial direction and mental images, and between external reality and beliefs.
Issers, Oxana – “Key Place Names of Russian Opposition Discourse”

The paper focuses on discourse analysis of the modern Russian civic society. The methodological basis for complex linguistic research of civic society construction includes revealing of mass consciousness attitudes through “key words”, competition of definitions, metaphors, actual toponyms, etc. “Key place names of current moment” – such as Bolotnaja Square, Saharova Square - are discussed. The author concludes that the choice of place name and its derivates is the indicator of interpretation’s competition, or "the fight of discourses". The linguistic games with toponyms on political stage are also analyzed.

The sources of the research are Mass media publications and blog’s materials on meeting activity of the end of 2011 – first half of 2012 in Russia. Linguistic projects “Russian word 2012” by M. Epshtein and “Press-word 2012” are also reviewed.

Laansalu, Tiina – “Dry Rivers and Secret Rivers”

Rivers are natural watercourses that, due to the inclined surface of the earth, flow constantly in the channels that they have formed. Some rivers run on the surface, but there are also rivers that flow (partly) underground as if in tunnels. This phenomenon often occurs in karst areas. Due to the variable nature of the flow of karst rivers, they are commonly given distinctive names. In Estonian such rivers have been called Dry Rivers (Est nom Kuivajõgi), because of the rivers’ tendencies to fill their aboveground riverbeds only occasionally, usually leaving the riverbeds dry. Some karst rivers have also been called Secret Rivers (Est nom Salajõgi) due to their mysteriously disappearing underground streambeds.

In the presentation, the Estonian place names Kuivajõgi (Dry River) and Salajõgi (Secret River) are examined. The development of the names (with the help of historical sources, if possible) and their occurrence today are also introduced. In addition, the names Kuivajõgi and Salajõgi are indicated on a map in order to make a comparison with a map of Estonian karst areas, thereby showing how nature is reflected in place names.

Lárusdóttir, Birna – “Risking One’s Life for a Place-Name: The Case of Surtsey Island”

On the 14th of November 1963 a volcanic eruption broke out on the sea-floor SW of the Vestmanna-Islands, south of Iceland. In the following days a new island was formed, black as charcoal, without any signs of life: tabula rasa. In the following days it was clear that a new name was needed for the island and over the next weeks many name suggestions appeared in the local newspapers. In the end the Icelandic place name committee was called together and soon announced a name which caused a stir among some locals, leading to a life- dangerous boat trip to the island in order to protest and set up a sign-post with a different name.

The story presented on the poster is an unusually dramatic and well recorded example of a naming process in Iceland, raising questions about the ideas that lie behind names, why people find some names appropriate and others absurd not to mention the dynamics, namely power struggles underlying the case.
This case-study forms a part of a broader research theme which investigates naming processes in Iceland.

Robinson, David – Onomastics vs Etymology

Onomastics and Etymology are adjoining fields, with most names coming ultimately from words, and many words (known as eponyms) coming from names. As an etymologist, I came across macadamize and strontium that come from Gaelic names that came from Gaelic words. This led to some questions: Is this etymology or onomastics? Are these relevant to the history of English? Or of other languages which now use these words? Are the linguistic processes involved typical of words or names? The poster will consider these questions and invites your views and ideas.

But is strontium even a word? It is in the dictionary, but the linguistic processes by which a chemical is named seem to have more in common with the naming of people or places than with words for colours or emotions. What about other semantic fields like animals or plants or parts of the body? We talk about plant names. Some common plant names are in the dictionary, but rarer ones aren’t. Can you have a semantic field that spans a range from words like blackcurrant (a metonymous use of an eponym) at one end to names like Ribes nigrum (derived from Latin words) at the other?

Santini, Jean-Louis, Francescu Maria Luneschi and Stella Retali-Medori – “La base de données toponymiques du CESIT Corsica”


Willson, Kendra – “You must love to be hated. Communicating concerns in Icelandic name law”

The discourse surrounding personal name legislation in Iceland often suffers from poor communication between language planners and the public. Language planners tend to focus on formal aspects of the name - inflection, morphological structure consistent orthographic practices - while laypeople are much more concerned with individual freedom and the emotional connotations of names.
The name committee are charged with interpreting in a consistent and fair manner an ambiguously formulated law. The committee uses numerical guidelines based on census data in an attempt to establish consistent and objective criteria for whether a name has "established a tradition" in Icelandic; many laypeople, however, look for "tradition" more in the way a name is chosen and its connections to the family.

Because there is no process for appealing the name committee's decisions, people who have been dissatisfied with decisions have attempted to "stonewall" the committee by repeatedly submitting the same proposal; complained to other government agencies such as the parliament ombuds; or, as in the case of Blær Bjarkardóttir Rúnarsdóttir, (successfully) suing the government. Twice since the committee's implementation in 1991 the members have resigned en masse over their working conditions; one person who joined after the second resignation was told, "You must love to be hated." The committee is caught between a rock and a hard place - criticized if they refuse new names for restricting individual name choice, and if they approve them, for failing to protect children from the whims of capricious parents.

The discourse of name law becomes metonymic for questions of the role of the state in shaping citizens. Iceland's famous linguistic purism has become less popular in an era of increasing individualism; the committee's argumentations based on grammar and historical demographics are perceived as pedantic refusals to address the central issues.

I will consider how to improve understanding between name planners and the public, as well as what is at stake in regulation of name choice.

**Vandorpe, Lieselot – By the Rivers of Babylon, We Served our Master**

Undoubtedly, names were as important in Mesopotamia as they are in modern societies and not only for the ease of reference in administrative and legal texts. Information on the naming practices in the Ancient Near East is quite sparse and for the most part circumstantial due to the nature of our cuneiform text sources. This poster represents an in-depth analysis of the naming of slaves in Old Babylonian Sippar (1st half of 2nd millennium BC). For, as Patterson (1982: 54) already noticed, a man’s name is more than simply a way of calling him, it is the verbal signal of his whole identity, his being-in-the-world as a distinct person and establishes and advertises his relation with kinsmen.

First, an analysis of the slave names of Old Babylonian Sippar, with particular attention to gender, age, date, etymology, etc. is made. Secondly, the hypothesis of the uniqueness of slave names is treated, in comparison of slave naming practices from different cultures and periods. Thirdly, the possibility of a “rite de passage” during the enslavement ritual as being the moment of name change is investigated. Finally, attention is paid to aspects of kinship terms in Mesopotamian slave names.