



IALIC 2016 | BARCELONA

BRIDGING ACROSS LANGUAGES AND CULTURES IN EVERYDAY LIVES:
NEW ROLES FOR CHANGING SCENARIOS

International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication
2016 Annual Conference

Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain
November 25-27th, 2016
Website: ialicbcn2016.com

Invited Speakers:

Adrian Blackledge, University of Birmingham, UK
David Block, University of Lleida, Spain
Angela Creese, University of Birmingham, UK
Sean Golden, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain
Alison Phipps, University of Glasgow, Scotland

In this age of communication revolution and intense globalization there is a growing expectation that everyone be conversant in more than one language and familiar and comfortable with multicultural contexts. As languages and cultures come into contact -driven by conflicts, migration, media and the Internet, transnational capitalism and many other factors- more and more individuals find themselves in the role of mediating between diverse languages and cultures in their daily lives. These may be professionals in fields as varied as health services, travel agents, interpreters, shopkeepers, teachers, workers at multinational companies or NGO workers as well as young, multilingual children and youth acting as language and culture mediators between their family and society (known as 'language brokers').

In a world of transcultural 'mash-ups', multilingual rap and multi-party videoconferencing apps for cellphones, there is a need for a theoretical shift towards an understanding of 'linguaging' and 'culturing' as transformative practices involving social activities that go between and beyond 'fixed' and separate systems; practices that take place in the interstices of languages and cultures where new meanings and new understandings can emerge. Given the



IALIC 2016 | BARCELONA

importance that language and culture mediators can play in today's increasingly interconnected world, the aims of this conference are:

- to promote critical engagement with the notion of mediating between cultures and languages;
- to explore the role of technology in bridging between diverse languages and cultures;
- to explore the role of 'broker' in cross-cultural situations, including growing instances of 'child language brokers';
- to promote understanding of how language brokering is perceived by researchers and practitioners from cross-cultural situations;
- to provide a forum for a critique of existing analytical models of culture and language mediating practices that integrate current theories of language and intercultural communication;
- to provide a forum on ways in which research into language and culture mediation can inform teachers' praxis.

The conference organizers welcome presentations on theory and practice that look at language and culture mediation as transformative practices and from many different perspectives, in particular in education but also in other formal and informal domains.

Conference sub-themes include (but are not limited to):

- 'Bridging' of languages and cultures in the workplace
- 'Translanguaging' practices
- New approaches to analysing language and cultural mediation
- Research models for language and culture brokering
- Language and culture brokering and technology

Proposals can be in the format of individual papers or symposia. Individual communications consist of 20 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for discussion and 5 minutes for changing of rooms. Symposia proposals can consist of three to six presentations on a similar topic, proposed and organised by a chairperson, and should address the conference theme. Sessions last for 90 minutes, with NO changeover during the symposium. Proposals can be submitted in English, Spanish or Catalan.



IALIC 2016 | BARCELONA

Format of proposals:

Individual papers: Maximum of 300 words. Proposals should include a title (no more than 10 words), the names of the authors and should indicate which thematic strand (above) the proposal best fits. (Please note that the conference organizers reserve the right to change the strand if deemed necessary). Each author's name and institution, along with an email address should be included.

Symposia: The organizer of the symposium should send an abstract that includes a general title (which should cover one of the themes of the conference or be directly related to the interests of IALIC) and a short justification of the symposium (relevance, objectives, etc.). Maximum for this is 100 words. This should be accompanied by a brief description of each contribution (maximum 50 words each) and authors' names and affiliations for each contribution. Only the panel organizer needs to submit contact details.

Symposia proposals should include five keywords and a short bio of no more than 50 words for each author.

**To submit proposals, go to the conference website:
ialic2016bcn.com**

The deadline for submission is May 15th, 2016