Language and Identity: Intersections between Linguistics, Ethnology and Translation

Call for conference papers



Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen, Saturday 30th March 2019 Deadline for abstract submission: Monday 25th February, 5pm

> 'Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going, 'Rita Mae Brown (1988).

In today's modern society we develop identities related to our use of language, not only in relation to code switching within our native languages, but also across different languages. At the same time as individuals are gaining multiple identities through language acquisition, others are losing their identities to decreased use or extinction of their native tongues. Through globalisation the population of the world is interacting more across linguistic and cultural boundaries than ever before: through learning foreign languages and reading translated texts. How does this increased interaction with other languages affect our identities?

The aim of our event is to encourage research and initiate discussion on the topic of language and identity. We also hope to bring more attention to the newly established subsection of translation studies at University of Aberdeen, which currently falls under the umbrella of linguistics studies. The area of translation studies at the university, mirroring society in general, is a growing field – slowly becoming independent from the field of linguistics. At this conference, we wish to discuss the links and intersections between linguistics, language teaching and translation.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Language acquisition
- Subjectivity and reflexivity
- Collaboration
- Linguistic ethnography
- Dialectology

- Language attitudes
- Minority languages
- Standard vs. local dialects
- Bilingualism and multilingualism
- Translation and linguistics
- Translation and language teaching
- Training and education of translators
- The role of the translators
- Manipulation and translation
- Language, identity, gender and sexuality
- Identity and literature

The keynote speaker for our event will be Dr. Angela Creese, professor of Linguistic Ethnography in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Stirling.

Important dates:

Submission of abstracts: by Monday 25th February Informing applicants of outcome: Friday 8th March Registration deadline: Friday 22nd March Submission of PowerPoint: Friday 29th March at 5pm

Individual presentations should be no more than twenty minutes in length, including five minutes at the end for questions. Please send an abstract of 250-350 words and a brief biography to malin.wikstroem@abdn.ac.uk, by 5pm on Monday 25th February. Submissions are open to all researchers at every level of study, but we particularly encourage submissions from masters and postgraduate students.

Do not hesitate to reach out and ask us questions.

We look forward to hearing from you!

All best,

The Identity and Language Conference Committee,

Malin Christina Wikstroem, Claire Needler and Dawn Leslie