

of the linguistic choices typical of the genres under scrutiny. Moreover, the constantly integrated use of empirical quantitative data with frequency counts and inferential statistical analysis on the one hand, and of rhetorical, linguistic approaches for the different investigations on the other hand ensures wide-ranging conclusions. Such aspects make this book of interest for all practitioners in the field of English for Academic and Professional Purposes, thus including researchers, teachers, students, and professionals.

[Roberta Facchinetti]

CORTESE, Giuseppina / DUSZAK, Anna (eds.), *Identity, Community, Discourse. English in Intercultural Settings*, Peter Lang, Bern [Linguistic Insights 18], 2005, pp. 495, ISBN 3-03910-632-5, € 68+VAT.

In the last few decades many aspects of our lives have undergone fast and dramatic changes; among these, an increasing process of globalization at all levels has often been in the spotlight for many different reasons, mainly to do with economic aspects. As far as languages are concerned, this process has attributed growing importance to the role played by English as a *lingua franca*, both in business and in academic exchanges. At the same time, however, especially in recent years, we have witnessed an increase in the attention given to the impact these phenomena could have on local communities, identities, and discourses – the relevance of specificity, as opposed to homogenization, has thus increased considerably, even at a time when it seemed about to lose all importance. Within this framework, then, the contributions offered in this volume offer an extensive outline of current scholarly debate on such issues. The complexity of the phenomena under discussion is already made visible in the actual size of the volume, which includes 19 chapters, divided into four sections.

After the editors' Introduction, which stresses the main argumentative lines in the collection, the first section is devoted to issues concerning "Borders, Flows and Transitions". Here the debate concerns the problems relating to intercultural contact and how this may affect discourse analytical processes (Ron Scollon / Suzie Wong Scollon: 'Fast English, Slow Food, and Intercultural Exchanges: Social Problems and Problems for Discourse Analysis'); the relationship existing between centre and periphery, not just in geographical terms, but also in terms of intellectual styles (Suresh Canagarajah: 'Shuttling between Discourses: Textual and Pedagogical Possibilities for Periphery Scholars' and Anna Duszak: 'Between Styles and Values: An Academic Community in Transition'); and the complex links existing between genres and registers (Christer Laurén: 'On the Border: Writing Scientific Texts and

Fiction' and John Douthwaite: 'Community, Values, Action and Discourse: Language and Bureaucracy in Colonial to Postcolonial Literary Settings').

The second section discusses "Identities, Imaginaries and Needs". As the title shows, the focus is on the competing attraction of "globalising trends and local resistance", as discussed in the opening chapter, by Maurizio Gotti ('English in Intercultural Settings: Globalising Trends and Local Resistance'). On the one hand, the importance of wider networks of communication and exchange cannot be underestimated; on the other, the need to preserve local specificity, in an invaluable attempt to preserve ecological diversity, is equally perceived to be of crucial importance to all communities. As a result, the sense of identity is enhanced and is reflected in linguistic choices which, as discussed by Philip Riley, also encode ethos ('Ethos and the Communicative Virtues in Exolinguistic Service Encounters'). The next three chapters discuss representation (and indeed misrepresentation) in three very different intercultural contexts: Maria Grazia Guido focuses on 'Context Misconstructions in Professional Entextualizations of 'Asylum' Discourse', while Paola Evangelisti Allori presents an investigation of metaphorical language through which we see how identities can actually be constructed in sports commentaries ('Metaphors they Report by: The Construction of National Identity through Sports Commentaries in Different Cultural Communities'). Finally, Edith Esch presents a contribution on 'Representations of English among French Adolescents in Senegal', providing an overview of cultural representation outside the Euro-American framework.

The title of the third section, "'Languaging' International Contact", introduces the term 'languaging', employed to indicate "all social aspects of language use and the cognitive processes involved" (p. 13, fn. 1). As a matter of fact, three chapters in this section deal with academic usage (Anna Mauranen: 'English as Lingua Franca: An Unknown Language?'; Elizabeth Rowley-Jolivet/Shirley Carter-Thomas: 'Scientific Conference Englishes: Epistemic and Language Community Variations'; and Malgorzata Sokól: 'Academic Identity Construction in E-discussion Lists: A Case Study'), while the fourth one focuses on users with special needs (Kristina Svartholm: 'Teaching Literacy to Deaf Learners').

The concept of 'languaging' is also at the centre of the fourth section, the title of which is "'Languaging' International Power(s)"; the plural form is indeed very appropriate to signify, once again, the complexity of the issues at stake – political, economic, and cultural power prove inextricably linked in often more subtle ways than expected. The first two contributions in this section (Gigliola Sacerdoti Mariani: 'The Power of the Language in Delineating the Boundaries of Power: The US Constitution Interpreted by the first 'Federalist Community'' and Giuditta Caliendo/Gabriella Di Martino/Marco Venuti: 'Language and Discourse Features of EU Secondary Legislation') focus on political and juridical discourse. Subsequently, Rosa Maria Bollettieri Bosinelli/Elena Di Giovanni/Ira Torresi ('Visual and Verbal Aspects of Otherness: From Disney to Coppola') discuss

representations of a cultural 'other' in some of the best-known and most significant films of the twentieth century. The section closes with two chapters in which two different faces of 'power' are discussed; Nicoletta Vasta ('«Profits & Principles: Is There a Choice?» The Multimodal Construction of Shell's Commitment to Social Responsibility and the Environment in and across Advertising Texts') presents the subtle means by which promotional discourse blends with argumentative discourse at the crossroads between economic, social and environmental discourse. Finally, Giuseppina Cortese's contribution ('On Children's Right to Life: Virtuous Management of Intercultural Conflict') presents the strategies encoding power hegemony vs marginalization in the context of a Special Report to the UN Commission on Human Rights – through such strategies the Rapporteur's stance is shown to emerge as an attempt to encode a new sense of responsibility and justice within the framework of accurate discourse construction.

The volume proves highly cohesive in its aim to present issues pertaining to identity and discourse from a variety of angles but always in a consistent methodological framework. A decisive factor contributing to this general cohesiveness is the fact that the contributions collected here were all first presented at a Conference held in Turin within a national research project (coordinated by Maurizio Gotti, at the University of Bergamo, bearing the title 'Intercultural Discourse in Domain-specific English'), within which the Turin unit focussed on 'Intercultural practices and strategies of textual recasting'. However, the breadth and depth of the research presented in this book go far beyond the presentation of immediate project results. In addition to the wide range of backgrounds from which individual contributors hail (quite literally, in as broad an international framework as possible), the philosophical issues at the basis of the various chapters ensure that this collection will be a point of reference and a benchmark for numerous studies to follow.

[Marina Dossena]

BROWNLEES, Nicholas (ed.), *News Discourse in Early Modern Britain. Selected papers of CHINED 2004*, Peter Lang, Bern 2006, pp. 300, ISBN 3-03910-805-0, € 52.00.

The volume contains a selection of papers presented at the Conference on Historical News Discourse (CHINED) held in Florence (Italy) on 2-3 September 2004, organized by Nicholas Brownlees (University of Florence) and Patrick Studer (University of Limerick). The aim of the conference was to provide a springboard from which to launch a discussion of recent research in the field of news discourse in Early Modern Britain.