

Lorraine McKay (Griffith University, Australia): Exploring the contribution of arts-based reflection to strengthen teachers' identity development

A culture of surveillance and accountability, increasing workloads, lack of autonomy, and challenging student behaviour are identified as factors contributing to lower levels of teachers' job satisfaction and ultimately their sense of well-being. The uncertain times as a consequence of the global pandemic have also exacerbated these negative outcomes for teachers who may also be experiencing empathy fatigue and vicarious trauma while assisting colleagues, students and families. How then can we prepare and support teachers to navigate the personal and professional challenges in their day-to-day work, especially for those teachers working in challenging communities or with children from trauma backgrounds? In this presentation we will explore the value of the arts in supporting identity development that incorporates self-care, resilience, and agency. In particular, we examine the use of photo-elicitation, collage, poetry, and graffiti boards, and the flexibility they provide as tools for reflection. While the presentation will focus on experiences of using arts-based reflection with preservice and in-service teachers, connections will be made evident in how arts-based reflection can be used across the life-span and within multiple contexts. As we engage on this journey, participants will be encouraged to reflect on how arts-based methods could be a useful strategy in their own lives and the lives of those with whom they work.

Keywords: Arts-based research; identity; resilience; self-care; agency; teachers and teaching; reflection and reflexivity

Petre Lameski (Ss. Cyril and Methodius University): Linking AI and Natural Language Processing

Artificial intelligence (AI) has been applied to language processing since its inception in the last century. However, only lately, some major breakthroughs have been achieved in its application especially in regard to combining natural language processing (NLP), as part of the AI, with machine learning (ML). More precisely, the deep learning algorithms have taken the ML to a higher level, achieving much better state-of-the-art results. Some of the major breakthroughs were achieved in the past decade thanks to the deep learning algorithms, the transfer learning approaches and in the last several years, with the introduction of the attention mechanisms, such as Transformers.

In this presentation I am going to present the state-of-the-art approaches used for NLP for several applications such as text classification, conversational frameworks (chat bots), machine translation, text to speech and speech to text tasks with the emphasis on their practical usage and implementation. Specifically, several overviews will be presented: 1) an overview of the application of transfer learning using pre-trained models of similar languages to achieve speech recognition of a new language, comparing older and newer methods for their performance; 2) an overview of several applications of text classification for various domain use-cases; for example, churn prediction and customer satisfaction based on text corpuses; and 3) an overview of sentiment analysis application for various domains, one of which is restaurant success prediction. Finally, I am going to address text to speech achievements for the Macedonian language and discuss the future challenges in the field.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, natural language processing, speech recognition, text classification, machine translation

Петре Ламески (Универзитет „Св. Кирил и Методиј“): Поврзување на вештачката интелигенција со обработката на природните јазици

Вештачката интелигенција, уште од нејзините почетоци, се применува во обработката на природните јазици. Во последните неколку години, постигнати се значителни подобрувања во постоечките алгоритми, особено со комбинирањето на обработката на природните јазици, како дел од вештачката интелигенција, со машинското учење. Поточно, алгоритмите за длабоко учење го подигнаа машинското учење на повисоко ниво, постигнувајќи многу подобри резултати. Некои од главните откритија беа постигнати во изминатата деценија благодарение на алгоритмите за длабоко учење, пристапите за пренос на учење и во последните неколку години, со воведувањето на механизмите за внимание, како што се трансформерите.

Во оваа презентација ќе ги претставам најсовремените пристапи што се користат за обработка на природните јазици за неколку апликации како што се класификација на текст, разговорни роботи, машински превод, превод на текст во говор и говор во текст со акцент на нивната практична употреба и имплементација. Поточно, ќе бидат претставени неколку прегледи: 1) преглед на примената на учењето со пренос на знаење со користење на претходно обучени модели на слични јазици за да се постигне говорно препознавање на нов јазик, споредувајќи ги постарите и поновите методи во однос на нивните перформанси; 2) преглед на неколку апликации за класификација на текст за различни случаи на употреба и во различни домени; на пример, предвидување на напуштање на клиентите, како и задоволството на клиентите врз основа на текстуални корпуси; и 3) преглед на анализата на сентиментот за различни домени, од кои еден е предвидување на успехот на ресторани. На крајот, ќе се осврнам на достигнувањата при превод од текст во говор за македонскиот јазик и ќе дадам осврт на идните предизвици во областа.

Клучни зборови: Вештачка интелигенција, обработка на природни јазици, препознавање на говор, класификација на текст, машински превод

Petre Lameski's short bio

Petre Lameski was born in 1985 in Kavadarci. In 2008 he graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies at the University of Sts Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, where he works as Assistant professor. From September 2008 until now he has been teaching Introduction to Robotics, Distributed Computer Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms for Data Analysis, Information Systems and Mobile Information Systems. His research interests include Intelligent Robotics Systems, Machine Intelligence, Cognitive Systems and Cognitive Robotics, Time Series Data Analysis, Wireless Sensor and Actor Systems, etc.

Literary Translation and the Ethics of Hospitality, Aron Aji, University of Iowa

In global circulation of international literature, translations into English are often considered either as a proof of ‘fame’ or, more likely, as an entryway to broader and more diverse international reading markets. The venues and networks that facilitate the international literary exchange through English obtain significant roles in shaping the ethics and aesthetics of literary translation—from what gets translated to how, why and by whom. In this new context, the literary translator can resist the traditional call to make the original work read “as if written in English” and, instead, capitalize on the intrinsic mutability/hybridity of the English language so it can better express the aesthetics of other languages, especially in cases of less frequently translated world languages. The practice field of literary translation as such becomes a regenerative site for both the guest (source) and the host (target) languages.

Aron Aji, bio

Aron Aji, Director of MFA in Literary Translation at the University of Iowa, is a native of Turkey, and has translated works by modern and contemporary Turkish writers, including Karasu’s *The Garden of Departed Cats*, (2004 National Translation Award); and *A Long Day’s Evening*, (NEA Literature Fellowship; short-list, 2013 PEN Translation Prize). His forthcoming translations include Ferid Edgü’s *Wounded Age and Eastern Tales* (NYRB, 2022), and Mungan’s *Tales of Valor* (co-translated with David Gramling) (Global Humanities Translation Prize, Northwestern UP, 2022). Aji was president of The American Literary Translators Association between 2016-2019.

Instagirls as Quick Media Feminist Icons

Silvia Schultermandl, Chair of American Studies, WWU Münster

Feminist art projects on social media have successfully called attention to cultural practices and notions of identity which deliberately go against mainstream assumptions of womanhood. Often through auto-performative responses to sexist and misogynistic tropes, they impel audiences to question late-capitalist and neoliberal constructions of “girl-hood.” In my talk, I will look at Instagram art projects which critically engage with the trope of the so-called Insta-girl in an attempt to raise issues about the cultural constructions of girlhood on social media and in “real life.” With the help of two case studies – Amalia Ulman’s *Excellences & Perfections* and Noa Jansma’s *Dear Catcallers*, I will discuss the production, circulation, and consumption of a particular type of Insta-girl which appeals to audiences via modes of fetishization and abjection. Jansma’s work consists of selfies she took with random men who catcalled her. The documentary character of her project supports her aim to record the nature, extent, and frequency of catcalling she experienced. In turn, Amalia Ulman’s *Excellences & Perfections* critiques the trope of the Insta-girl, a postfeminist, late-capitalist figure characterized by her “oversharing” of intimate details about her everyday life. Both artists received strong reactions from their followers for their playful adaptations of the genre of Insta-girl life narratives. The use of pastiche in their own Insta-narratives incites comments about authenticity and, in turn, throws into relief the inherent misogyny at play when “girls” authorial practices are called into question.

Keywords: social media, feminist art, affect, precarity, life writing

Silvia Schultermandl, bio

Silvia Schultermandl is Professor and Chair of American Studies at the University of Münster. She is the author of *Transnational Matrilineage: Mother-Daughter Conflicts in Asian American Literature* (2009) and *Ambivalent Transnational Belonging in American Literature* (2021) and co-editor of eight collections of essays which explore various themes in transnational studies, American literature and culture, as well as family and kinship studies. Her articles have appeared in the following journals, among others: *Meridians*, *Atlantic Studies*, *Interactions*, *Journal of Transnational American Studies*, and *Journal of American Culture*. She is currently developing the *Palgrave Series in Kinship, Representation, and Difference* and is embarking on a new project on kinship and social media. Her areas of interest include affect theory, literary theory, critical race theory, queer theory, aesthetics, and transnational feminism.