



Onomastics Online

Schedule for autumn 2023

14 September 2023, 3:00 PM (UTC)

Frédéric Giraut: Toponymie critique et Néotoponymie : Pour une théorisation

[Zoom link](#)

21 September 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Christian Galinski: Terminology – past, present and future: How to overcome barriers to content interoperability by means of a microcontent approach

[Zoom link](#)

25 October 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Lasse Hämäläinen: Name of the Year awards: Experiences from Finland

[Zoom link](#)

21 November 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Matjaž Geršič: Minority place-name regulations in Slovenia

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Onomastics Online
14 September 2023, 3:00 PM (UTC)

Frédéric Giraut (Université de Genève)

Toponymie critique et Néotoponymie : Pour une théorisation

Résumé : Le champ de la toponymie critique ou politique, après quelques travaux précurseurs au XX^{ème} siècle, s'affirme au niveau international depuis les années 2010. La chaire Unesco en toponymie inclusive « Dénommer le Monde » participe à sa visibilité, tant d'un point de vue académique (Manuel de synthèse, Mooc et réseaux de recherche) que du point de vue de l'engagement auprès des Organisations internationales, ONG, mouvements activistes et gouvernements locaux.

Les sujets brûlants ne manquent pas qu'il s'agisse de la reconnaissance des toponymies vernaculaires liées aux savoirs autochtones et aux langues régionales, de la féminisation et la décolonisation des paysages toponymiques urbains ou encore de l'adressage des campagnes et des quartiers informels. On pourrait aussi mentionner les enjeux liés à la numérisation et à la croissance du Big Data géoréférencé.

Dans ce contexte, la question des enjeux sociaux et politiques de la dénomination des lieux et des relations entre les différents corpus de toponymes est cruciale. Elle nécessite non seulement des études contextualisées, mais aussi un cadre conceptuel apte à faire parler ces cas de manière plus générale et à clarifier les dispositifs dans lesquels ils s'inscrivent. La conférence portera sur ces enjeux conceptuels et théoriques.

Le cas de la diffusion mondiale des toponymes d'après la figure de Nelson Mandela, que l'on retrouve de tous types de centres à tous types de périphéries, permettra de poser toute une série de questions sur les enjeux de la *néotoponymie*. Ce terme ainsi que celui de *toponomascope* pourront ensuite être définis, préalablement à l'évocation des problèmes théoriques du positionnement d'une toponymie critique au sein de l'appareil conceptuel de la linguistique et de la sémiotique.

Les ressources théoriques externes largement utilisées en toponymie critique (Gramsci, Bourdieu, Foucault) seront ensuite envisagées avant de présenter un modèle d'interprétation des pratiques néotoponymiques qui combine les déterminants de contexte et de jeu d'acteurs avec les logiques de dénomination d'objets géographiques.

Les apports, mais aussi les limites, d'un tel modèle en termes de réception, d'imaginaire et de matérialité seront discutés avec une ouverture sur les notions de culture et régimes toponymiques.

Link to the Zoom Meeting:

<https://tuni.zoom.us/j/67659620336?pwd=azdGNzRmSWFXQ05kZ2F6eTBEdVFSdz09>

Meeting ID: 676 5962 0336

Passcode: 672412



Onomastics Online
21 September 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Christian Galinski

Terminology – past, present and future
How to overcome barriers to content interoperability
by means of a microcontent approach

Abstract: Integrating archaeological, anthropological, genetic, and brain research findings into linguistics challenges “theories” in several disciplines including those of the origins of individual languages or those of special language to communicate special knowledge. Terminology in the sense of terms or symbols representing scientific or technical knowledge appeared as early as about 10,000 years ago. Terminology science emerged after WW II in connection with the emerging need for terminology standardization. It developed from a semasiological approach starting off from scientific or technical concepts. Such concepts are first order representations of objects – individual objects or object classes – which need “designations” as second order representations of conceptual knowledge. Designations can be terms or symbols or names. Terminology science developed distinct methods and applications. Beyond standardization, it is most visibly used in applications related to language services like technical translation, technical communication, technical writing, etc. often in combination with language technologies such as terminology management systems, machine translation, or certain content management systems. Other kinds of structured content at the level of lexical semantics – today also called microcontent – are also needed as reference data, for instance classifications, nomenclatures, specialized blog entries, etc. in many applications. Approaches to all kinds of microcontent for overcoming theoretical, methodological, and technical design barriers for the sake of content integration, reusability and interoperability are required. This also applies to onomastic data.

Keywords: individual languages, special languages, special knowledge, conceptual knowledge, terminologies, onomastic data, terminology science, terminological methods, terminological applications, structured content, microcontent, content interoperability

Link to the Zoom Meeting:

<https://tuni.zoom.us/j/63905544645?pwd=dlg3WVBTetqRkozNUlmK0ZQUWVhUT09>

Meeting ID: 639 0554 4645

Passcode: 087218



Onomastics Online
25 October 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Lasse Hämäläinen (University of Helsinki)

Name of the Year awards: Experiences from Finland

Abstract: In Finland, onomasticians have chosen the *Name of the Year* every year since 2017. Name of the Year is an honorary title given for a good proper name that has appeared in media during that year. The winner of the award is chosen among seven pre-selected finalists in a closed vote during the annual Finnish Conference of Onomastics. Consequently, the voting results express the preferences of Finnish naming experts.

This talk analyzes the names that have been successful in the competition. Of the 42 finalists throughout the history of the award, 12 have been place names, 8 product names, 4 company names, 4 names of public institutions, and 3 personal names. The other 11 finalist names belong to a wide range of different types of entities, such as movie theater, supercomputer, exoplanet, and fictitious online search engine. The language distribution of the finalist names is also worth noticing: 29 of them are in Finnish and six in both Finnish and Swedish, whereas only two names have been in English.

The lecture also examines media reactions and public debates related to the award. The objective of the award is to encourage public discussion about the importance of naming in society, and it has served this purpose well. The award winners have been announced via University of Helsinki press releases, and they have been reported by most Finnish nationwide news media. Simultaneously, the award has helped promoting onomastics for the wider public.

Finally, the talk makes some comparisons to the Name of the Year tradition established by the American Name Society. If similar traditions take place also in other countries, experiences of them are warmly welcomed.

Link to the Zoom Meeting:

<https://tuni.zoom.us/j/64925938042?pwd=SHg2K2lpNzBRQjNjcXRINURQb1ltZz09>

Meeting ID: 649 2593 8042

Passcode: 828152



Onomastics Online
21 November 2023, 1:00 PM (UTC)

Matjaž Geršič (ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute)

Minority place-name regulations in Slovenia

Abstract: Slovenia is home to two ethnic minorities: Hungarian and Italian. Both minorities are guaranteed all the rights enshrined in the constitution and applicable international treaties.

The first regulation on writing geographical names in bilingual areas in Slovenia reaches back to Yugoslavia. At the end of April 1980, the Decree on Writing Geographical Names in Ethnically Mixed Areas was adopted. Also relevant for understanding this issue is the provision contained under Indent 10 of Article 15 of the National Land Survey Reference System Act (2014), which stipulates that the manner of writing geographical names in ethnically mixed areas in Slovenia on maps of the country is defined by the government.

The Commission for the Standardisation of Geographical Names of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, which is responsible for the amendment and standardisation of geographical names, strives in its work to cooperate with representatives of both minorities and other interest groups. It also focuses its work on the preservation of Slovenian geographical names abroad, where the Slovenian minority lives, and cooperates with neighbouring standardisation commissions.

The lecture deals with the sources for geographical names, the legal basis, the standardisation process, problems and the results of the work.

Keywords: standardisation, geographical name, geography, onomastics, linguistics

Link to the Zoom Meeting:

<https://tuni.zoom.us/j/67016319250?pwd=TIZUanBrWkxSK0NSV3BMRGExSIBKQT09>

Meeting ID: 670 1631 9250

Passcode: 305626