



LAFAL

Linguistic Approaches to Funniness, Amusement and Laughter 4th International Symposium: Theoretical Issues in Humour: Building Bridges across Disciplines

17-18 March 2016

University of Łódź, Poland

Organised by

Chair of Pragmatics headed by Prof. Piotr Cap
(<http://ia.uni.lodz.pl/pragmatics/>)

Prof. Uł dr hab. Marta Dynel (Chair of the Conference)

Dr Anna Wieczorek

Plenary speakers

Prof. Alexander Brock

Prof. Raymond Gibbs

Prof. James Mahon

Prof. Limor Shifman

Prof. Francisco Yus

Description and scope

Humour, inherently associated with funniness, amusement and laughter, has attracted scholarly interest for centuries. Over the past three decades, humour studies have been developing at full tilt, with numerous publications being released each year.

The first symposium of LAFAL, held in 2010, was focused on linguistic approaches to different types of humour. Selected papers presented at this conference were published in a peer-reviewed volume: Marta Dynel (ed.). 2011. *The Pragmatics of Humour across Discourse Domains*. P&BNS vol. 210, John Benjamins.

The second LAFAL symposium was the linguistic part of the 2012 International Society for Humour Studies Conference, held in Kraków.

The third LAFAL symposium, held in 2013, addressed the topic entertainment discourse beyond humour studies. A selection of papers by

the participants appeared in a special issue of HUMOR: International Journal of Humor Research.

The fourth **LAFAL symposium (2016)**, entitled “**Theoretical Issues in Humour: Building Bridges across Disciplines**”, is convened to provide a forum for not only linguists but also researchers representing other disciplines (such as philosophy, sociology, psychology, anthropology, culture studies, literature studies, and media studies) who are interested in concepts and issues of relevance to humour studies. The primary objective will be to explore multifarious humorous phenomena to enhance humour theory across a variety of scholarly disciplines.

We invite papers addressing all manner of theoretical problems concerning diversified humour phenomena and manifestations across various domains of communication, such as:

- canned jokes and anecdotes
- conversational humour (e.g. teasing, banter, or put-down humour)
- wordplay and creative language use
- humorous stylistic figures (metaphor, irony, hyperbole, etc.)
- parody and satire
- non-verbal humour
- stand-up comedy
- humour in advertising
- humour in the literature
- humour in the media and new media
- laughter

The submissions may refer to any of the wide range of theoretical frameworks subscribing to various disciplines, including:

- linguistics (e.g. semantics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, sociolinguistics, philosophy of language, stylistics, translation)
- philosophy
- sociology
- psychology
- anthropology
- culture studies
- literature studies
- media studies
- gender studies

Abstract submission

The conference language is English and each presentation slot is 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute discussion. For each submission, please provide:

- name, title, affiliation, email address
- title of paper

- abstract (200-300 words, not including references)

Please send submissions as Word email attachments to:
marta.dynel@yahoo.com

Submission Deadline: 5 October 2015

Notification of acceptance will be sent by 25 October 2015

Conference fee

The registration fee of 180 euros covers a set of conference materials, coffee breaks with refreshments, and a conference dinner (17 March 2016). A guided tour of Lodz for registered participants is also planned for 19 March 2016.

Accommodation and board

There are 42 rooms available for participants in the hotel section of the newly refurbished building of the Conference Centre, where LAFAL 4 will take place. Each room comes with a private bathroom, satellite TV, radio, telephone, and free internet access. The building also houses a restaurant.

The organisers offer a conference stay package (240 euros) which comprises accommodation (3 nights: 16, 17 and 18 March 2016) and board (3 breakfasts on: 17, 18 and 19 March 2016, 2 lunches on: 17 and 18 March 2016; and 2 suppers on: 16 and 18 March 2016).

Proceedings

A selection of conference papers will be published with an international publisher.