

Raquel Casesnoves Ferrer, Montserrat Forcadell Guinjoan and Núria Gavalda Ferré, eds (2014) *Ens queda la paraula: Estudis de lingüística aplicada en honor a M. Teresa Turell*

This book comprises 18 sociolinguistic research papers on variation, forensic linguistics, multilingualism and English published in honour of Maria Teresa Turell Julia. The volume concludes with two reviews and twelve *laudatios*, along with a biographical sketch of the honoree, and a bibliography of her main contributions. (*from amazon.co.uk*)

Documenta Universitaria. ISBN 9788499842080 (568pp.)
documentauniversitaria.cat

Roger Shuy (2013) *The Language of Bribery Cases*

In *The Language of Bribery Cases*, Roger W. Shuy analyses the role that language plays in bribery cases. He describes 12 court cases for which he served as an expert witness or consultant and explains the issues at stake in each of these cases, for both lawyers and linguists. The cases described include the bribery or alleged bribery of United States senators, congressmen, judges, businessmen and brothel owners. Shuy describes the often-unused linguistic analytical tools that are available to both the prosecution and defence as they argue these cases. He illustrates how grammatical referencing, speech acts, discourse structure, framing, conveyed meaning and intentionality can be useful, describing how these tools affected the outcomes of the particular cases discussed in this book. The cases, fascinating in their own right, offer valuable insights not only to linguists, but also to lawyers who argue bribery cases, many of whom may not be aware of the linguistic tools available to them. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780199945139 (288pp.) oup.com

Andrei Marmor (2014) *The Language of Law*

This volume brings recent advances in philosophy of language to bear on contemporary debates about the nature of law and legal interpretation. The book builds on recent work in pragmatics and speech-act theory to explain

how, and to what extent, legal content is determined by linguistic considerations. At the same time, the analysis shows that some of the unique features of communication in the legal domain – in particular, its strategic nature – can be employed to put pressure on certain assumptions in philosophy of language. This enables a more nuanced picture of how semantic and pragmatic determinants of communication work in complex and large-scale systems such as law. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780198714538 (176pp.) oup.com

Sedat Mulayim, Miranda Lai and Caroline Norma (2014) *Police Investigative Interviews and Interpreting: Context, Challenges, and Strategies*

Police interviews with suspects and witnesses provide some of the most significant evidence in criminal investigations. Frequently challenging, they require special training and skills. This interaction process is further complicated when the suspect or witness does not speak the same language as the interviewer. A professional reference that can be used in police training or in any venue where an interpreter is used, *Police Investigative Interviews and Interpreting: Context, Challenges, and Strategies* provides solutions for the range of interview demands found in today's multilingual environments. (*from publisher's website*)

CRC Press. ISBN 9781482242553 (147pp.) crcpress.com

Ruth Breeze, Maurizio Gotti and Carmen Sancho Guinda, eds (2014) *Interpersonality in Legal Genres*

Few concepts in Discourse Studies are so versatile and intricate and have been so frequently contested as *interpersonality*. This construct offers ample terrain for new research, since it can be viewed using a range of diverse theoretical frameworks, employing a variety of analytical tools and social perspectives.

Studies on the relationship between writer/reader and speaker/audience in the legal field are still scarce, dispersed and limited to a narrow range of genres and a restricted notion of *interpersonality*, since they are most often confined to modality and the Gricean cooperative principles.

This volume is meant to help bridge this gap. Its chapters show the realisation and distribution of interpersonal features in specific legal genres. The aim is to achieve an expansion of the concept of *interpersonality*, which besides modality, Grice's maxims and other traditionally interpersonal features, might comprise or relate to ideational and textual issues like narrative disclosure,

typography, rhetorical variation, or Plain English, among others. (*from publisher's website*)

Peter Lang. ISBN 9783034315241 (389pp.) peterlang.com

M. Catherine Gruber (2014) *I'm Sorry for What I've Done: The Language of Courtroom Apologies*

This book examines 52 apologetic allocutions produced during federal sentencing hearings. The practice of inviting defendants to make a statement in their own behalf is a long-standing one and it is understood as offering defendants the opportunity to impress a judge or jury with their remorse, which could be a factor in the sentence that is imposed. Defendants raised the topics of the offense, mitigation, future behaviour and the sentence in different ways and this book explores the pros and cons associated with the different strategies that they used. Because there is no way of ascertaining exactly how effective (or ineffective) an individual allocution is, case law, sociolinguistic and historical resources, and judges' final remarks are used to develop hypotheses about defendants' communicative goals as well as what might constitute an ideal defendant stance from a judge's point of view.

Among its highlights, the book proposes that although a ritualised apology formula (e.g., 'I'm sorry' or 'I apologise') would appear to be a good fit for the context of allocution and even appears to be expected, the use of these formulas carries implications in this context that do not serve defendants' communicative goals. I argue that the application of Austin's (1962) performative-constative continuum reveals that offense-related utterances that fall closer to the constative end are more consistent with the discursive constraints on the speech event of allocution. Further, I propose that the ideologies associated with allocution, in particular the belief that allocution functions as a protection for defendants, obscures the ways in which the context constrains what defendants can say and how effectively they can say it. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780199325665 (256pp.) oup.com

K. Sreenivasa Rao and Sourjya Sarkar (2014) *Robust Speaker Recognition in Noisy Environments*

This book discusses speaker recognition methods to deal with realistic variable noisy environments. The text covers authentication systems for robust noisy background environments, functions in real time and incorporated in mobile devices. The book focuses on different approaches to enhance the accuracy of

speaker recognition in the presence of varying background environments. The authors examine: (a) feature compensation using multiple background models, (b) feature mapping using data-driven stochastic models, (c) design of super vector-based GMM-SVM framework for robust speaker recognition, (d) total variability modelling (i-vectors) in a discriminative framework and (e) boosting method to fuse evidences from multiple SVM models. (*from publisher's website*)

Springer. ISBN 9783319071299 (139pp.) springer.com

Marianne Constable (2014) *Our Word is our Bond: How Legal Speech Acts*

Our Word is our Bond offers a nuanced approach to language and its interaction and relations with modern law. Marianne Constable argues that, as language, modern law makes claims and hears claims of justice and injustice, which can admittedly go wrong. Constable proposes an alternative to understanding law as a system of rules, or as fundamentally a policy-making and problem-solving tool. Constable introduces and develops insights from Austin, Cavell, Reinach, Nietzsche, Derrida and Heidegger to show how claims of law are performative and passionate utterances or social acts that appeal implicitly to justice.

Our Word is our Bond explains that neither law nor justice are what lawyers and judges say, nor what officials and scholars claim they are. However inadequate our law and language may be to the world, Constable argues that we know our world and name our ways of living and being in it through law and language. Justice today, however impossible to define and difficult to determine, depends on relations we have with one another through language and on the ways in which legal speech – the claims and responses that we make to one another in the name of the law – acts.

Stanford University Press. ISBN 9780804774932 (232pp.) sup.org