

LETTER

NUMBER 12 (SPRING 2018) – JUNE 2018

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Call for papers:

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« Anticipation and Change »

**XI Conference of the Nordic
Association for Semiotic Studies
(NASS)**

Stavanger, Norway, June 13-15th 2019

The deadline for abstract submissions
is **December 10th 2018**

***NASS offers graduate student grants
and a graduate student award.***

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Upcoming academic events

Please visit our webpage

nordicsemiotics.org/

The newsletter of NASS normally
appears twice a year (Spring and
Autumn).

To subscribe (for free), or to
contribute with content (e.g. academic
news, upcoming events, country
report, subfield report) write to
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First Call For Papers

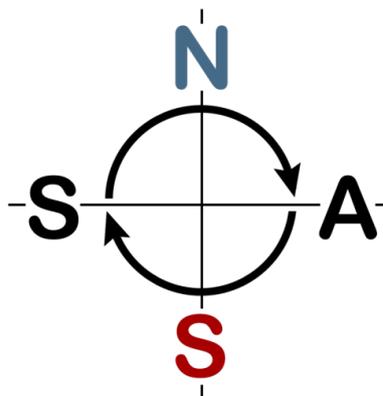
«Anticipation and Change»



THE 11TH CONFERENCE OF THE NORDIC ASSOCIATION FOR SEMIOTIC STUDIES (NASS)

Stavanger, Norway, June 13–15th 2019

Venue: Department of social studies, University of Stavanger



The 11th conference of the Nordic Association for Semiotic Studies (NASS XI) will be hosted by University of Stavanger (UiS) and is co-sponsored by [Department of social studies \(UiS\)](#) and «[The Greenhouse: An environmental humanities initiative at University of Stavanger](#)»

Theme

The overall theme of NASS XI is «Anticipation and change». Relevant topics include – but are not limited to – the semiotics of child development and human development in general, social change, cultural change, environmental change, ontogeny, and evolution. The anticipatory aspect implies that future studies and the power of imagination are also relevant topics, as are, potentially, learning and perception, expectation and prediction, foresight and preconception. We welcome abstract proposals that approach these topics from a semiotic perspective and encourage interdisciplinary relations between semiotics and other disciplines

Keynote speakers: To be announced

Abstract submission

Abstracts should be submitted as a Word file attachment to post@nordicsemiotics.org, with subject line "Abstract for NASS XI". In order to be considered for the graduate student award and grants (see below), please indicate whether or not you are a graduate student.

Each abstract submission should contain: (1) The name of the author(s) (surname, given name); (2) Your affiliation (including country of residence); (3) Your email address; (4) The title of the paper; (5) An abstract of max. 500 words; (6) 3–5 keywords; (7) and a short bio note of max. 100 words.

Deadline for abstract submission is December 10th, 2018. Notification of acceptance will be given by January 31st, 2019.

Registration and conference fee

Registration for NASS XI will require payment of a conference fee (early bird 1000 NOK, late registration 1250 NOK) which entitles conference participants to attendance, coffee breaks and a daily lunch, and program booklet. The conference fee includes fee for NASS membership for the period 2019–2021 (250 NOK).

Early bird registration deadline is March 15th, 2019. Final registration deadline is April 30th, 2019.

Graduate student award and grants

5-10 graduate students presenting a paper at NASS XI will be supported financially by NASS, with a grant of 200 Euro each.

Furthermore, a prize will be awarded for the best graduate student presentation at NASS XI. The prize consists of a gift card worth 300 Euro, and a diploma.

Local organizing team

Morten Tønnessen (conference chair), Daria Segal (conference secretary)

Scientific committee (abstract evaluation)

Søren Brier (Copenhagen Business School), Sara Lenninger (Kristianstad University), Alin Olteanu (Kaunas University of Technology), Tiit Remm (University of Tartu), Inesa Sahakyan (Université Grenoble Alpes), Morten Tønnessen (University of Stavanger)

For more information, contact post@nordicsemiotics.org or visit <http://nordicsemiotics.org/>



The University of Stavanger and neighbourhood

News

NORDIC NEWS

The new NASS Facebook page

In order to encourage exchange of news and interaction within the Nordic and Baltic countries, and in the semiotic community more broadly, we have set up a Facebook account. The page and the NASS newsletter is a great way to advertise semiotic events, news, updates, etc. Please visit us and contribute at: <https://www.facebook.com/NordicAssociationForSemioticStudies/>



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for Semiotic Studies
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Community organisation

The Semiotic Society of Finland

Recent activities

The Semiotic Society of Finland has continued publishing its quarterly journal *Synteesi*, and the scholarly series *Acta Semiotica Fennica*. Recent issues include [*Ópera y poesía: libretos, tomo II*](#) by Maritza Núñez (2017), [*The problem of the modern and tradition: early Soviet musical culture and the musicological theory of Boris Asafiev \(1884–1949\)*](#) by Elina Viljanen (2017), and [*"Nouse, ole kirkas"*](#) on the life and works of the Finnish composer Helvi Leiviskä by Eila Tarasti (2017).

In May 2017, the Society was involved in the 100th anniversary symposium of A. J. Greimas at the Unesco in Paris. Professor Eero Tarasti, the President of the Finnish Society, appeared in a film recollecting Greimas and in a Lithuanian film of Greimas' biography.

In June, plenty of Finnish members attended the 13th IASS-AIS World Congress of Semiotics, organized by the Kaunas Technology University and the ISI. Members of the Semiotic Society of Finland were in charge of organizing symposia in, e.g., the semiotics and translation, and existentialism. Prof. Juha Ojala held a master lecture on Peirce's semiotics. Profs. Pirjo Kukkonen and Altti Kuusamo were the representatives for the IASS-AIS, and prof. Eero Tarasti is an honorary president of the IASS-AIS.

On Nov. 22, the Society organized the traditional Oscar (Oscar Parland's) Day in Helsinki, under the theme "Is educating possible?" The Society's annual Oscar Award for a meritorious work for semiotics in Finland was awarded to associate professor Eetu Pikkarainen of the University of Oulu.

Throughout the academic year 2017–2018, professor Tarasti's weekly seminar *Researchers' encounters* has continued featuring semiotic doctoral dissertation projects at the University of Helsinki.

The Society maintained contacts with the Greek semioticians at the Western Macedonia University (Florina) in the Academy of Cultural Heritages Symposium on Syros Island and the Finnish Institute of Athens, in October 2017. Other new partners include the Baku Slavic University and the University of Brazil.

Plans for the ongoing year

The traditional Oscar's day of semiotics will be held in Helsinki in December 2018 (the exact date is to be announced), with varied themes. Profs. Pirjo Kukkonen, Altti Kuusamo, and Eero Tarasti will continue in their roles with the IASS-IAS (see above). The relations with the Nordic Association (NASS) will be maintained by prof. Juha Ojala as the supplementary representative, while phil.l.c. Tommi Vehkavaara (U. Tampere) is currently the ordinary Finnish representative. The Society works in cooperation with the Academy of Cultural Heritages, and continues to cooperate with the Music Society of the University of Helsinki.

Researcher meetings, intended especially for researchers using semiotics in their doctoral studies and for visiting semioticians, are organized on Mondays at the Topelia building, University of Helsinki. The Society will organize lectures by renowned visiting semioticians.

Activity report realised by: Juha Ojala

International Semiotics Institute (Kaunas, Lithuania)

The International Semiotics Institute (ISI) had a research/teaching visitor during this spring semester.



Dr. Nataša Lacković from University of Lancaster (UK) during her stay in Kaunas gave a couple of lectures on discourse vis-à-vis semiotics and visual communication, and a research seminar on *Inquiry Graphics: A multimodal, Peircean and Edusemiotic approach to higher education research and practice*. The „graphic“ focus in this seminar was on digital photography, with some considerations of illustration, as a part of multimodal assembles. More details can be found [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SEMIOTIC PUBLICATIONS

Books

Co-operative Engagements in Intertwined Semiosis: Essays in Honour of Charles Goodwin

Edited by Donald Favareau

Vol 19 in the series *Tartu Semiotics Library*

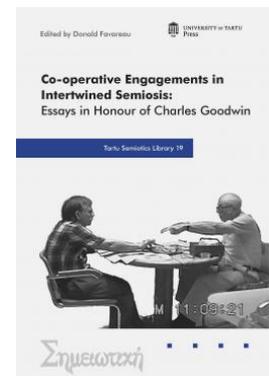
For almost 40 years Charles Goodwin’s pioneering work has re-shaped the field of human interaction studies and has shed light on a pervasive form of social action that he calls intertwined semiosis. Defined as the act of laminating different kinds of semiotic materials, contributed by different actors, into local arrangements for the building of conjoint action, intertwined semiosis, Goodwin maintains, is the distinctive form of human sociality and cognition.

Moreover, in the course of making his extremely detailed and astute investigations into what human sign users are doing as they make meaning with one another in real time, Goodwin’s extraordinary eye as a naturalist and mind of an anthropologist have allowed him to unearth for us the essence of the distributed, embodied and multi-modal practices of intertwined semiosis that are central to the human calibration of experience and knowledge in both every-day and institutional settings. His dynamic view on linguistic, embodied, and material resources has been shown to hold not only for co-present interaction – i.e., within the situated hic et nunc of talk as it emerges moment-by-moment – but also for historically linked chains of actions across contexts, generations, historical moments and even species.

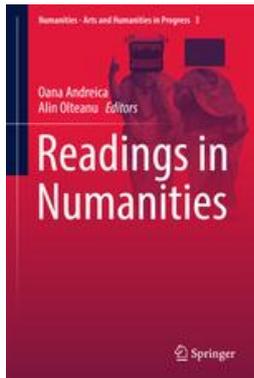
Goodwin’s work thus constitutes a fundamental contribution to the study of human ways of knowing, acting and being, and has inspired not only at least two generations of interaction scholars, but also linguists, cognitive scientists, semioticians, anthropologists, and philosophers.

Accordingly, one finds in this volume a wide-ranging assortment of reflections and analyses, each of which constitutes a deeply-felt testament and tribute to Charles Goodwin’s extraordinary ideas, career, personality and life, and together forming the most comprehensive single-volume assessment to date of his outstandingly original and profound oeuvre in the analysis of human meaning-making.

Available [here](#).



Readings in Humanities,



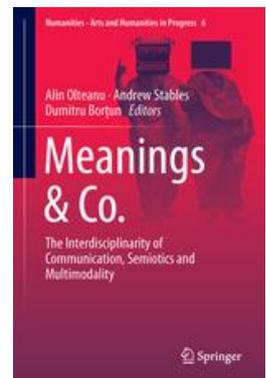
Edited by Oana Andreica and Alin Olteanu.

By approaching established themes in new and challenging ways, this highly engaging book has the potential to advance the state of the art in various topics. It appeals to all scholars investigating cultural identity, linguistics and translation, music consumption, performance, semiotic theories and various intersections of these and related topics. The contributing authors draw on various schools and methodologies, including psychology, psychoanalysis, social semiotics, semiotic modelling, deconstruction and cultural analysis. More information can be found [here](#).

Meanings & Co.: The Interdisciplinarity of Communication, Semiotics and Multimodality

Edited by Alin Olteanu, Andrew Stables and Dumitru Borțun.

The book offers broad insights into the epistemological relations between semiotics and other approaches to communication from perspectives such as sociology, philosophy of language and communication theory. As such, it sheds light on the communication of knowledge. For further information see [here](#).



Journals

Digital Age in Semiotics and Communication

Digital Age in Semiotics & Communication, a journal from the Southeast European Center for Semiotic Studies at the New Bulgarian University and founded by Prof. Kristian Bankov (now editor in chief), explores the new forms of knowledge, social and linguistic interaction, and cultural phenomena generated by the advent of the Internet. A topic is chosen for each issue by the editors' board, but the topics will be always related to the issues of the digital environment. The topic is announced with a call for papers and will also be available on our Facebook page (facebook.com/DigitASCjournal). The working language of the journal is English. It uses double-blind review, meaning that both the reviewer's and the author's identities are concealed from each other throughout the review process.

The journal will be published bi-annually by the Southeast European Center for Semiotic Studies and the New Bulgarian University Publishing House.

Call for papers: abstracts for the second issue of the journal on the theme of *Love and Sex in the Digital Age: a semiotic perspective* should be sent before July 15, 2018.

For more information about submitting a paper for the journal write to: DigitASC@nbu.bg

Lexia, Journal of Semiotics, 27-28 Aspectuality



Editor-in-chief: Massimo Leone

Please visit the journal website to consult the latest issue 27-28 on Aspectuality.

Download presentation PDF [here](#).

Punctum-International Journal of Semiotics

Editor-in-Chief: Gregory Paschalidis

We are pleased to announce the publication of the new issue volume 3, issue 2 (2017) of Punctum International Journal of Semiotics, the online, open access journal of the Hellenic Semiotic Society. Issue 3.2 is devoted to the topic **“From Theory to Methodology”** and is edited by Karin Boklund-Lagopoulou & Alexandros Ph. Lagopoulos. The articles as well as the whole issue, can be accessed/downloaded at the journal’s [website](#).

Signs & Media

We are glad to announce the publication of the Spring Issue (2018) of *Signs & Media*, a bilingual (English-Chinese), peer-reviewed semiotic journal. Please feel free to check the table of contents and download the PDF Version of *Signs & Media* [here](#).

Signs & Media was founded in 2008 by the Institute of Semiotics & Media Studies (ISMS), Sichuan University. Dedicating itself to the interdisciplinary research on semiotics and media studies, *Signs & Media* has now been included in the Chinese Social Science Citation Index (CSSCI). Under the editorship of Professor Henry Yiheng Zhao, *Signs & Media* endeavors to systematically expand semiotics to all fields of human sciences, covering, notably, communication and media studies, cultural studies, art and literature, as well as narratology, stylistics, discourse analysis, cognitive science in the semiotic perspective, and, in particular, reinterpretations of Chinese traditional semiotic heritage.



The journal welcomes contributions on any topics, as long as they, in a way, help illuminate the theoretical foundation and widen the sphere of applicability of semiotics. If you are interested in contributing to the journal, please contact: semiotics_media@163.com

Sign Systems Studies

Editorial team: Kalevi Kull, Peeter Torop, Mihhail Lotman, Timo Maran, Silvi Salupere, Ene-Reet Soovik, Remo Gramigna

We are happy to announce the publication of the new issue of Sign Systems Studies **vol 46 Number 1 2018**.

The number includes articles by Winfried Nöth, Jui-Pi Chien, Leticia Vitral, João Queiroz, Ott Puumeister, Patrick Sériot, Zdzisław Wąsik, Katalin Kroó, Peeter Torop, Andreas Ventsel, Taras Boyko, and Remo Gramigna.

An international journal of semiotics and sign processes in culture and living nature, the journal Sign Systems Studies was established in 1964 by Juri Lotman (initially as Труды по знаковым системам – Σημειωτική), and is thus the oldest international semiotic periodical. Originally (until 1992) a Russian-language series, it is now published in English, and has become a central institution in the semiotics of culture. The online issue is available [here](#). Print edition available [here](#).



Chinese Semiotic Studies

Chief editor: Yongxiang Wang

It has been 8 years since *Chinese Semiotic Studies (CSS)* started the publication of its first issue in 2009. And it is now published by De Gruyter Mouton with 4 issues per year. *CSS* seeks to promote semiotic studies not only in China but also in the world at large in order to further mutual understanding and communication among semiotic scholars of varying cultural backgrounds. To this end, the journal publishes high quality articles from all branches of semiotics including general, existential, cognitive, cultural, dynamic, social semiotics, and biosemiotics. Also welcome are studies in the sign theories of classic foundational scholars such as Ferdinand de Saussure and Charles Sanders Peirce. The content of articles may range from theory building to the application of semiotic theories, from microanalysis to macro studies, and may draw on such fields as linguistics, literary theory, philosophy, aesthetics, communication, media, cognitive sciences and biology. To guarantee the quality of articles, all contributions will undergo a very strict procedure of anonymous peer-review.

Besides the regular sections for general semiotics, each issue of *CSS* contains three special thematic sections devoted to: (i) Chinese Cultural Signs and Sign Theories, (ii) Western Cultural Signs and Sign Theories, and (iii) Interactions between Chinese and Western semioticians. Contributions to these specific sections are especially welcome. The submission e-mail is cssnnu@163.com.

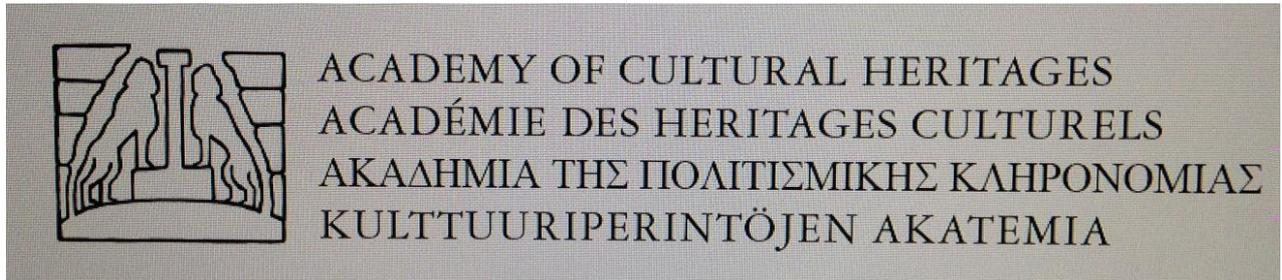
UPCOMING ACADEMIC EVENTS¹

IN THE NORDIC COUNTRIES INCLUDING ESTONIA

August 2018

Sources of Creativity. From Local to Universal

An international symposium around **Eero Tarasti's** work in the eve of his 70th birthday. Event organized by [the Academy of Cultural Heritages](#) and the Semiotic Society of Finland, in **Mikkeli, Finland, 8-10 August 2018.**



The symposium will be arranged at the place of *genius loci* of Eero Tarasti's life, his second home and summer town Mikkeli. It is open for contributions on the fields of his scientific and artistic output and dealing with his ideas, theories and activities in the scholarly and cultural context. The convention will include excursions to important places of his life from his first job at the Municipality and army year at an old Russian garrison in the centre, to the summerhouse built by his grandfather Peter August Sahlsten in 1926, the site of writing of all his major works in various languages. Historic places in Mikkeli like the headquarters of Marshal Mannerheim in 1939-1944, Concert Palace Mikaeli (site of the annual Gergiev summer festival), and others will be visited. The event will contain musical manifestations and a festival gourmet dinner at Tertti Manor.

The papers given at the symposium will be published as a special volume in the series *Acta Semiotica Fennica*. Languages: English, French, German, Italian.

Organizing committee: Professors Pirjo Kukkonen, Pertti Ahonen, Kai Lassfolk (Helsinki University), Altti Kuusamo (Turku University), Anne Kauppala (Sibelius Academy), Juha Ojala (Oulu University), Rector Ilmo Pokkinen (Mikkeli); secretaries Paul Forsell and Alekski Haukka.

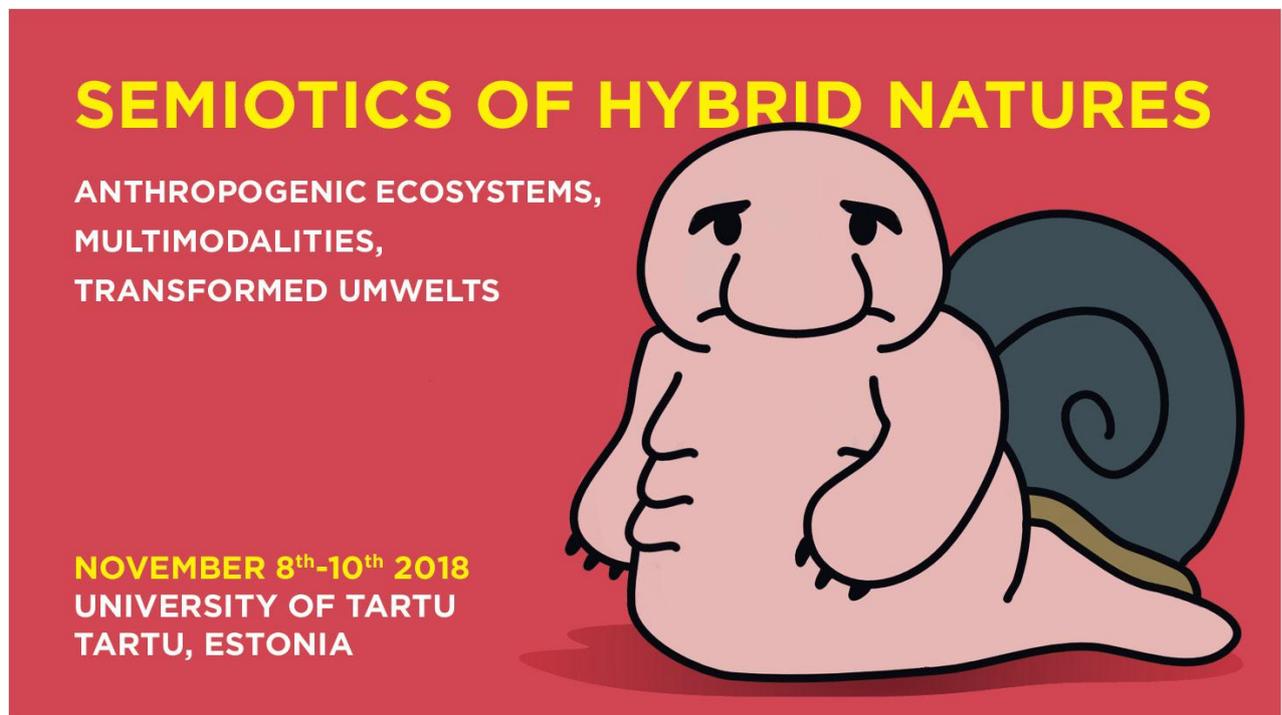
There is no participation fee; yet, we encourage anyone to contribute to this event in the form of a free donation to the bank account of the Academy of Cultural Heritages: F140 1544 3000 0285 84 (BIC: NDEAFIHH). (PayPal is also available for those outside the European Union, please inquire at tarastisymposium@gmail.com). For further information, please visit the Academy's homepage [here](#).

To receive the registration form and get further information concerning the event, please contact: tarastisymposium@gmail.com

¹ This list of events, and the academic news presented above are indicative and do by no means pretend to be exhaustive. Therefore, our members are strongly encouraged to send their suggestions to be considered for further editions of the newsletter to the editors at post@nordicsemiotics.org.

November 2018

[Semiotics of hybrid natures: Anthropogenic ecosystems, multimodalities, transformed umwelts](#)



November 8–10, 2018

University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia

Plenary speakers:

Nathalie Blanc (CNRS / Université Paris Diderot -Paris 7, France)– “At the crossroads of senses and meaning, socio-environmental communities”

Morten Tønnessen (University of Stavanger, Norway) - “Current human ecology in light of Umwelt theory”

Kati Lindström (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) - “Generating value in protection policies: Challenge of the Anthropocene entanglements”

Global and all-encompassing human impact has brought along many new types of relations between humans and other biological species. These interactions change animal ecologies but also bring along new forms and aggregations of umwelts (animal personal worlds, after J. v. Uexküll). In this context, human technology both alienates and reconnects — media technologies have created new ways of becoming related with the environment (development of citizen science and augmented realities), and there are new technological capacities for restoring and shaping environments (geoengineering). Correspondingly, the human-animal-environment configurations have a hybrid nature: they are based on ecological relations, make use of the technologies and artificial environments and at the same time are represented and framed by human culture.

Achieving better knowledge on the dynamics and expressions of “hybrid natures” is essential for mitigating environmental conflicts and enhancing biodiversity in environments under human impact. The aim of the conference is to exchange knowledge on various manifestations of hybrid natures as well as to elaborate suitable research methods in ecosemiotics and beyond in other environmental humanities. Semiotics appears to have good potential for developing methods with prognostic value — for instance, analyzing umwelts and communication for estimating what species can reach stable co-existence and what adjustments may be needed for new natures to persist.

<https://www.flfi.ut.ee/en/department-semiotics/conferences-and-seminars-association-department-semiotics>

May 2019

First Call for Papers

**[12th International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature
\(ILL-12\)](#)**

3-5 May 2019, Lund University, Sweden



We invite the submission of abstracts to the 12th Biennial International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature initiated by the [Iconicity Research Project](#), with the first symposium held in Zurich 1997.

The topic of iconicity – resemblance mappings between form and meaning – continues to be highly relevant for the study of language (in both spoken and signed modalities) and literature, but also for other semiotic systems and media involving gesture,

depiction and music, and for interdisciplinary fields such as intermediality studies, cognitive science and cognitive semiotics. The theme of the 12th Symposium is therefore **Iconicity in Cognition and across Semiotic Systems**

Keynotes speakers:

Prof. Fernando Andacht, Republican University of Uruguay

Prof. Mutsumi Imai, Keio University at Shonan-Fujisawa

Prof. Cornelia Mueller, Europa-Universität Viadrina

Prof. Göran Sonesson, Lund University

Previous symposia have concentrated, on the one hand, on iconicity as a driving force in language (both spoken and signed) on all grammatical levels, as well as in language change, language acquisition, and language processing. On the other hand, they have addressed iconicity in language use across a range of media (from print to performance), incorporating the uses of iconic images, diagrams and metaphors at different levels of abstraction and in all varieties of text and discourse (literary texts, historical texts, political texts, advertising, language and music, word and image, etc.). These possibilities remain open for the 2019 symposium, and we welcome abstracts to topics such as (but not limited to), the following:

- Iconicity in the speech signal (“sound symbolism”, “ideophones”)
- Iconicity in grammar and text
- Iconicity in literature
- Iconicity in signed languages
- Iconicity in gestures
- Iconicity in pictures and other visual media
- Iconicity in music
- Iconicity in intermediality
- Iconicity in narration
- Iconicity in imagination (“mental imagery”)
- Iconicity in metaphors within and across semiotic systems
- Iconicity across sensory modalities (“multimodality” and “cross-modality”)
- Iconicity in evolution
- Iconicity in child development

Given the wide scope of the topic, accepted presentations need to be made accessible for an interdisciplinary audience. The symposium will be held in English.

Abstract submission: We invite abstracts in English (450 words maximum, excluding references) of unpublished work for oral presentations, posters, and theme sessions.

Oral papers: 30 minutes + 10 minutes discussion, in two or three parallel sessions. (**Deadline: 1 November 2018**)

Theme sessions: three individual papers, focusing on a well-defined topic (corresponding to a two-hour slot). An abstract proposing the theme itself as well as abstracts for the three individual papers composing the theme should be submitted. (**Deadline: 15 October 2018**)

Posters: there will be a 2-hour poster session for up to 30 presentations, to be held in the lobby of the Centre for Languages and Literature. (**Deadline: 1 November 2018**)

Abstracts are to be submitted through [EasyChair](#), which will open from 1 May 2018 (. Each abstract will be reviewed by at least two reviewers from an international Scientific Committee of over 40 experts in the respective field. The symposium will be hosted by the Division for Cognitive Semiotics at the Centre for Language and Literature at Lund University. For specific information, including abstract submission, see [here](#).

For specific questions, please contact: ill-12@semiotik.lu.se

A selected number of essays will be published in the Iconicity in Language and Literature (ILL) series published by John Benjamins.

Local Organizing Committee: Jordan Zlatev; Simon Devylder; Sara Lenninger; Jimmie Svensson; Niklas Johansson; Georgios Stampoulidis

Permanent Organizing Committee: Prof. Dr Olga Fischer ; Prof Dr Christina Ljungberg

INTERNATIONAL

July 2018

ECOSEMIOTIC PARADIGM FOR NATURE AND CULTURE

**Transdisciplinary Explorations in the Cybernetics of Learning,
Adaptation, Understanding & Knowing.**

Mikołów, Poland, 9–12 July 2018

The theme of this convention inscribes itself into the investigative domains of biological-evolutional psychology, semiotic phenomenology of human communication, educational sociology as well as cultural anthropology. It merges two interrelated mind/brain- and actuality/virtuality-oriented research traditions, namely, epistemology as a metascientific theory of knowledge or psychophysiological theory of knowing and ecology as a theory environmental embedding of organismic and social systems. The respective topics of inquiry may include modelling systems of reality, possible worlds, mind & care, psychotherapy, medicine, and communicology. Against this background, the subject matter of the 2018 conference may focus on the living-systems development in the realm of plants, animals, and humans engaged in species-specific cognizing activities and meaningful relationships within and with their genuine and artificial environments.

**THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE *INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION*
*FOR COGNITIVE SEMIOTICS (IACS3—2018)***

Multimodalities

July 13–15, 2018, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

The IACS conference series seeks to gather together scholars and scientists in semiotics, cognitive science, linguistics, anthropology, philosophy, psychology and related fields, who wish to share their research on meaning and contribute to the interdisciplinary dialogue.

IASS-AIS—NNU ADVANCED SEMIOTICS WORKSHOP

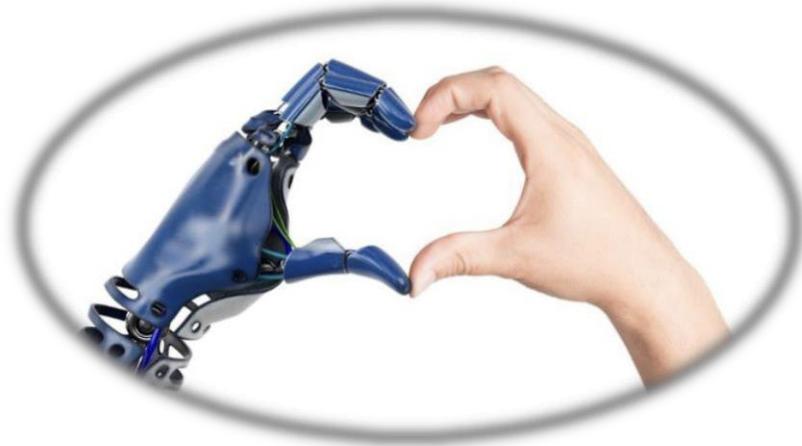
To celebrate decades of international exchange, cooperation and coordination between Eastern and Western semiotics, the School of Foreign Languages & Cultures of Nanjing Normal University proudly presents an exciting annual programme to our fellow semioticians around the world. Entitled “**IASS-AIS—NNU Advanced Semiotics Workshop**”, the programme is under the auspices of the International Association for Semiotic Studies and features both genuinely and comprehensively semiotic topics as well as representative events in honor of world famous scholars in semiotics.

The 1st IASS-AIS—NNU Advanced Semiotics Workshop will be held on Suiyuan Campus of Nanjing Normal University from June 29 to July 2, 2018. This debut will be centered on the theme of “**Theory-Practice Integration in Semiotics in the Ever-changing World**”, covering various key topics of semiotics as a cross-disciplinary methodology. For further information, please visit [here](#).

September 2018

[XXIII EFSS' 2018, 5-9 SEPTEMBER, SOZOPOL, BULGARIA](#)

LOVE AND SEX IN THE DIGITAL AGE: A SEMIOTIC PERSPECTIVE



We are pleased to invite you to the XXIII edition of the traditional **Early Fall School of Semiotics** in Bulgaria, which will be more like a conference this time. The main theme of the event is **Love and Sex in the Digital Age: a Semiotic Perspective** and it will take place as usual in the picturesque city of Sozopol on the Black sea coast, 5-9 September 2018.

For more information check [here](#).

If you cannot participate at the event this is also a **call for papers** on the same theme for the second issue of the newborn semiotic journal **Digital Age in Semiotics and Communication**.

For more information about the conference please contact info@sociosemiotics.net ; for more information about submitting a paper for the journal: DigitASC@nbu.bg

October 2018

[SEMIOFEST 2018 – CELEBRATING CHANGE, 24-27 OCTOBER, MUMBAI](#)



24-27 October 2018

Venue: Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Vastu Sangrahalaya, India

Confirmed key-note speakers : **Devdutt Patnaik, Carlos Scolari**

Established in 2012, Semiofest is an annual international conference that celebrates semiotic thinking. It aims to propagate the discipline by bringing various Indian & international speakers together, to discuss the possibilities that can be opened up by applying semiotics in everyday business.

This year, the theme is '**Metanoia**', which focusses on how adaptive evolution brings a more 'meaningful' approach to dealing with changing situations, rather than holding on to well-established ways; which are in imminent danger of being rendered obsolete.

What is Metanoia?

We live in a chaotic and shape-shifting world today. Artificial Intelligence and chatbots, a multi-polar world and rise of autocratic leaders are some of the forces changing societies in unpredictable ways. In business, disruptive business models such as UBER and Airbnb have scaled at break-neck speed. Digital technologies and media platforms allow information to circulate instantaneously. Alt-facts, post-truth, the bombardment of messaging through many digital platforms, have led to more content but arguably, less meaning.

Semiofest, Mumbai invites you to explore the notion of societal, business and branding change by asking you how semiotics and related methodologies can help us navigate the spirit of accelerating change at work and in the world. As a discipline, Semiotics is uniquely placed to provide perspective and deeper insight into the workings of these forces how they change meanings; which brings us to our theme for Semiofest 2018.

'Metanoia' is the name for acts of resilience and adaptive learning in times of turbulence and opportunity. It is indeed adaptive evolution that brings a more 'meaningful' approach to dealing with changing situations than holding on to well-established ways that are in imminent danger of being rendered obsolete.

It can help brand and business owners, and organizations to reshape their cultures, their brands, communication and their people, to better grapple with change. We invite you to come and be a part of 'change', share your experiences of how you used research to identify and model change or have helped your clients identify or prepare to deal with cultural shifts using semiotics and semiotics related methodologies, or just gain a new perspective on what 'change' means.

For more information about the conference and to register for the event, please visit the [website](#).

