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**The 10th International Cognitive  
Linguistics Conference:  
Parasession on Passive, Reflexive,  
Impersonal and Related Constructions**

On 12–13 July 2007, the Institute of English, University of Gdańsk, held the Parasession on Passive, Reflexive, Impersonal and Related Constructions. The parasession took place in Sopot (at the university conference centre), before the 10th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference in Cracow, Poland.<sup>1</sup>

The conference chair was Professor Roman Kalisz, and the organizing committee consisted of the following scholars: Professor Igor Burkhanov, Professor Eugene H. Casad, Professor Wojciech Kubiński, Dr Łucja Biel, Dr Magdalena Bielenia-Grajewska, Dr Tadeusz Danilewicz, Dr Joanna Redzimska, Dr Mikołaj Rychło-Kok, Dr Olga Sokołowska and Mr Maciej Rataj. They were helped by a group of students, including Ms Anna Dzierżyńska, Mr Mateusz Kamiński, Mr Wojciech Pachniewski, Ms Katarzyna Uszalewska and Ms Yan Wei.

The lectures and papers presented at the parasession concerned not only its theme, i.e. passive, reflexive, impersonal and related constructions, but other topics as well, including metaphors. The parasession was chaired by Professor Eugene G. Casad, Professor Laura Janda, Professor Roman Kalisz, Professor Zoltán Kövecses and Professor Wojciech Kubiński.

Two plenary lectures were presented at the parasession:

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<sup>1</sup> See also the report of the session “Extensions of Vantage Theory: Points of View in Language Structure and Use” by Adam Głaz, in the present issue of *Beyond Philology*.

- (1) “The agent phrase and the grammaticalization of passive constructions” by Professor Anna Siewierska, Lancaster University, United Kingdom
- (2) “The biblical story retold: Symbols in action: A cognitive linguistic perspective” by Professor Zoltán Kövecses, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary



Participants of the parasession  
Photo: Danuta Stanulewicz

The participants of the parasession could listen to thirteen papers, listed below in the order of delivery:

- (1) “Radial categories of constructions” by Professor Laura A. Janda, University of Tromsø, Norway, and University of North Carolina, USA
- (2) “Semantic roles with the active and the passive voice and other constructions” by Professor Christina Alm-Arvius, Stockholm University, Sweden

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- (3) “Passives, middles and impersonals: Different facets of the same phenomenon” by Dr Anna Słoń, Akademia Świętokrzyska, Kielce, Poland
  - (4) “L2 passive constructions with English intransitive verbs” by Professor Jung-Tae Kim, University of Incheon, South Korea
  - (5) “Use of passive in English and Polish legal languages in employment contracts” by Ms Anna Kizińska, Filologiczne Studium Doktoranckie, University of Gdańsk, Poland
  - (6) “Emotion verbs: Why reflexive? Why not? Evidence from a folk classification of Polish emotions” by Professor Katarzyna Dziwirek, University of Washington, USA, and Professor Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk, University of Łódź, Poland
  - (7) “Impersonal constructions in European Portuguese: An onomasiological perspective” by Ms Susana Afonso, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
  - (8) “Temporal schemata of the English particle *on*: Metonymic elaboration of the concept NOW” by Dr Anna Bączkowska, Kazimierz Wielki University, Bydgoszcz, Poland
  - (9) “Degrees of impersonality in English and Polish legal language: Defocused agents and buried verbs” by Dr Łucja Biel, University of Gdańsk, Poland
  - (10) “The English middle construction and the restrictions on its formation” by Dr Casilda Garcia de la Maza, University of the Basque Country, Spain
  - (11) “Passive use of the Polish marker of reflexivity *się*” by Dr Anna Drogosz, University of Warmia and Mazuria, Olsztyn, Poland
  - (12) “Defining indefiniteness: Towards a functional description of impersonal pronouns” by Dr Anna Brown, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom
  - (13) “Attributive and predicative adjectives: Subjectification and objectification of construal represented by them” by Dr Olga Sokołowska, University of Gdańsk, Poland

The plenary lectures and papers inspired a lively academic discussion. Summing up, the Parasession on Passive, Reflexive, Impersonal and Related Constructions was a very fruitful and enjoyable academic event.

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