

Pre-conference workshop:

## Crossing Language and Discipline Boundaries through Corpora

### Convenors:

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We would like to propose a contrastive pre-conference workshop at ICAME 42. Contrastive corpus-based linguistics is closely tied to the history of ICAME and as such has traditionally presented a distinctive perspective at ICAME conferences. The first contrastive pre-conference workshop in the series was organised ten years ago in 2011 at ICAME 32 in Oslo by Karin Aijmer and Bengt Altenberg (Aijmer & Altenberg 2013). But already in 1993 at ICAME in Zürich Stig Johansson “presented his vision of a corpus-based project that was to begin a new era in contrastive linguistics and translation studies” (quoted from the call for the 2011 workshop). To honour this important anniversary, we have invited Prof. Karin Aijmer to open our workshop and reflect on those ten years.

In 2020, at the experimental digital format of ICAME in Heidelberg, the contrastive workshop was one of the two that went ahead despite the circumstances – confirming the strength of the community. These workshops have become an immensely important forum for the exploration of both theoretical and practical issues in corpus-based contrastive linguistics. Each workshop has been followed by a publication, the latest being the forthcoming in 2021 *Time in Languages, Languages in Time* (ed. by A. Čermáková, H. Hasselgård, T. Egan & S. Rørvik) based on the Neuchâtel workshop (ICAME40), preceded by *Corpora et Comparatio Linguarum: Textual and Contextual Perspectives* (ed. by S.O. Ebeling & H. Hasselgård, 2018) based on the ICAME 38 workshop in Prague – see the appendix for a full list.

Through the lens of language comparison, we enrich our understanding of the complexities of language in general and the languages compared in particular. Contrastive corpus-based studies have become an established research strand within the field of English corpus linguistics, and the proposed ICAME workshop, like all its predecessors, invites contributions in which English is compared to at least one other language. As corpus research itself is moving beyond the space it has traditionally occupied, contrastive studies need to reflect this development. We would like to echo the overall conference theme of crossing boundaries, since contrastive studies by definition cross the boundaries between languages. Furthermore, we would particularly welcome contributions that cross boundaries between traditional linguistic disciplines as well as between linguistics and other disciplines.

We envisage a full day workshop, possibly in a hybrid or even digital format, circumstances allowing. We invite submissions that address the proposed theme and the overall conference theme. In addition to Karin Aijmer's opening keynote, the workshop will include both full paper presentations (20+10 mins) and work-in-progress reports (10+5 mins).

Abstracts of approximately 500 words (excluding references) clearly indicating the format (full paper/w-i-p) should be submitted to Anna Čermáková via email ([anna.cermakova@ff.cuni.cz](mailto:anna.cermakova@ff.cuni.cz)). Please make sure the subject line contains the words 'ICAME-42 workshop'. The deadline for abstract submission is December 31st, 2020. Notification of acceptance will be sent out by mid-January.

### Appendix

Previous contrastive pre-conference workshops at ICAME have produced the following publications:

Čermáková, A., Egan, T., Hasselgård, H. & Rørvik, S. (eds) (2021). *Time in Languages, Languages in Time*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. (ICAME 40, Neuchâtel 2019)

Ebeling S.O. & Hasselgård, H. (eds) (2018). *Corpora et Comparatio Linguarum: Textual and Contextual Perspectives*. Bergen Language and Linguistics Studies (BeLLS) Vol 9(1). (ICAME 38, Prague 2017)

Janebová, M., Lapshinova-Koltunski, E. & Martinková, M. (eds) (2017). *Contrasting English and other Languages through Corpora*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. (ICAME 37, Hong Kong 2016)

Egan, T. & Dirdal, H. (eds) (2017). *Cross-linguistic Correspondences*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. (ICAME 36, Trier 2015)

Ebeling S.O. & Hasselgård, H. (eds) (2015). *Cross-linguistic Perspectives on Verb Constructions*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. (ICAME 35, Nottingham 2014)

Aijmer, K. & Hasselgård, H. (eds) (2015). *Cross-linguistic Studies at the Interface Between Lexis and Grammar*. Special issue of *Nordic Journal of English Studies* (Volume 15:1). (ICAME 34, Santiago de Compostela 2013)

Altenberg, B. & Aijmer, K. (eds) (2013). *Text-based Contrastive Linguistics*. Special issue of *Languages in Contrast* (Vol. 13:2). (ICAME 33, Leuven 2012)

Aijmer, K. & B. Altenberg (eds) (2013). *Advances in Corpus-based Contrastive Linguistics. Studies in honour of Stig Johansson*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. (ICAME 32, Oslo 2011)