

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

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International Conference “Language – Literature – Cognition”, organized by Austrian Society of Germanistics and the University of Vienna (Austria, Vienna: 6th June, 2012 – 9th June, 2012)

The International Conference of Austrian Society of Germanistics took place at the University of Vienna from 6-th June, 2012 until 9-th June, 2012. The Congress was organized by Vienna University, the Ministry of Culture and Education of Austria, the Austrian Society of Literature etc. The subject of the Congress was “Language – Literature – Cognition”.

The conference was opened at the Germanistics Institute of the University of Vienna. The President of Austrian Society of Germanistics, Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor of Innsbruck Institute of Germanistics, Mr Wolfgang Hukl made a welcome speech. It was 20-th meeting of germanists organized jointly with the Polish colleagues from different Polish higher institutions of Warsaw, Krakov, Poznan, Lodz and many others. The germanists all over the world support the scientific contacts and hold the mutual meetings regularly (Opatia in Chorvatia – 2004, Trent in Italy – 2010, in Vienna – 2012). The scientists from other world countries (France, Italy, Spain, Chekia, Chorvatia, Nigeria, the Ukraine and many others) took part in the work of the Congress along with the Austrian and Polish colleagues.

The working language of the Congress was German.

The reports “Poetry and Sense of Possibility. Musil and Contemporaries” by Norbert Christian Wolf (Zaltsburg) and “Word to Introduction” by Prof. Sofia Berdyshovskaya (Krakov – Poland) were listened to at the plenary meeting.

There were 4 sections at the Congress: “Literature – Cognition – Poetics/Esthetics”, “Language – Knowledge – Mass Media”, “Literature and Science”, “What Authors Know and Their Works”.

One should note the diversity and importance of all the reports. They were distinguished with originality, scientific novelty, practical focus, and to some extent, unordinary problems declared. It was underlined the necessity of active usage of literature at practical classes of German, its significance and methodological possibilities of classical and modern literature in teaching foreign language. Particularly, this question was touched upon in the report “To Know Four Times More: Literature at the Classes of Foreign Languages” by Anita Shuts (Vienna).

Aster Salett, Prof. from Italy (Bergamo) dealt with an unusual problem. She undertook the effort to reveal interrelations between literature and mathematics by works of Hans Magnus Entsansberger. (The theme of the report is *Literatur und Mathematik. Überwindung eines Tabus in Hans Magnus Enzensbergers Roman „Der Zahlenteufel“*). The report resulted in great interest and lively discussion. The speech of Prof. Enke Kramer (Vienna) “Water as the Time Model. Construction of Time by Annette Droste-Hulshof, Iohannes Muller and Henry Bergson” was distinguished with the original formulation of the problem.

I would like to mention an interesting and informative report by Martina Verner (Vienna) “Language – Music. System-Theoretical Creation of Standard and Structural Homology (*Structural Similarity*)”. I made a speech in the fourth section with the report “Poetry by Yesenin and Bahman as Specific Cultural Ways of Nature and World Cognition”.

Stephan Alker (Vienna) devoted his report to the problem *Language, Knowledge and Cognition*, he undertook the effort to answer the question *What the Literature (Literary Criticism) Knows About Libraries*. His speech was distinguished with witty formulation of the problem and its deep reveal.

During all the conference the scientists represented their scientific projects, invited to the joint cooperation, acquainted with the latest publications in literature and linguistics. In scientific aspect the numerous discussions were of great interest and fruitful.

On the 6-th of June at the Austrian Literature House a remarkable meeting with the famous modern writer Mr. Peter Waterhouse, who is of Anglo-Austrian origin and a graduate of the University of Vienna, took place. He represented his unpublished stories that received the great response of listeners. After reading the texts a lively and interesting discussion was, including the problems of contemporary education in Europe at whole and in Austria, particularly.

The congress finished its work with the presentation of Wendelin Shmidt-Dengler's prize to the young Polish colleague for her scientific work, devoted to the children and youth literature.

On the 9-th of June, 2012 the solemn meeting of the members of Austrian Germanists Society was held where a new president of the Society was elected for the following two years and it was the Director of Germanistics Institute of the University of Vienna.

The participants of the congress took part in cultural programme that included the acquaintance with the sights of Vienna among which were the famous Vienna Opera, Hofburg, Shtefansdom, Belveder, Shenbroon, Burgtheatre, Kertnershtrasse, Ringshtrasse, Hundertwasser, the Spanish Horse-riding School, Albertinum, Wotivkirhe etc.