



The International Association for Cognitive Semiotics



2021 Newsletter

Dear members of the IACS, and IACS-4 participants:

This is our second pandemic summer and we do hope that you and your loved ones have managed to stay safe, resilient, and optimistic. We would also like to send our thoughts and best wishes to those affected by the floods in Germany, Belgium, and part of the Netherlands. We are pleased to bring you an update on our next conference, IACS 4, postponed until June 2022, as well as other pieces of news related to Cognitive Semiotics.

4th Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics (IACS-4, 2022)

Our next conference has been rescheduled for the 15th – 18th of June, 2022, for which rooms have already been booked at the University of Aachen, Germany. The theme of the conference remains ‘Semiotic complexities – theory and analysis’. The local committee, together with the IACS board, have agreed to aim for an in-person conference with a hybrid option for those unable to participate physically in Aachen. Fully virtual conference options will be considered, depending on the global developments regarding infection and vaccination rates, travel costs and other restrictions. The conference main program, with respect to confirmed plenary speakers and workshops, will in principle remain the same as planned for 2020.

Authors with accepted abstracts and proposals from the 2020 review will be contacted by the local committee with the request to re-new their intent to participate at the conference. They will also be asked to make the appropriate updates of their abstracts. No new review process

will be undertaken on these proposals. A new call for papers for new proposals will be announced in fall 2021 in the assumption that not all previously participants with previously accepted proposals will renew their participation. While no bursaries to students can be offered from the local committee, at this time, the IACS board is currently studying options for offsetting costs for conference participation for students or other participants needing financial support.

Further news and information will be posted on the websites of both IACS (<http://iacs.dk/index.html>) and IACS 4 (<https://iacs4.signges.de/>), as well as on our IACS Twitter and Facebook accounts over the course of the next year.

The Journal *Cognitive Semiotics*

We are glad to share a few excellent pieces of news about the journal, from the Editor-in-Chief Peer F. Bundgaard and Associate Editor and IACS board member Todd Oakley:

- 1) The journal is proceeding in its normal pace with two issues a year (currently in volume 13). The journal has been accepted for inclusion in Scopus, which should make it more appealing as publication venue. This includes all issues published by De Gruyter Mouton (from 2014 onwards).
- 2) There is a fine special issue coming up on ‘Pierce and consciousness’, guest edited by IACS board member Donna West, emerging from a symposium held in Tartu, Finland.
- 3) There is a new production editing team and a new production system at De Gruyter Mouton, which has not had any effects on the review process or otherwise.

The Editorial board encourages all members to submit manuscripts as well as proposals for special issues to be considered for publication in *Cognitive Semiotics*. The pandemic has led to a drop in submissions. We would also like to ask all members to consider requesting that your university library subscribes to the journal if they do not do so already.

Publications

We are pleased to share with you that two books on cognitive semiotics have been published this academic year 2020-2021. Our congratulations to the authors:

- Brandt, Per Aage. 2020. *Cognitive Semiotics: Signs, Mind, and Meaning*. London, UK: Bloomsbury. [<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/cognitive-semiotics-9781350143302/>]
- Paolucci, Claudio. 2021. *Cognitive Semiotics: Integrating Signs, Minds, Meaning and Cognition*. Springer Nature Switzerland. [<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030429850>]

Updated information on publications in our field can be found throughout the year on the newsfeed of our website's homepage (<http://iacs.dk/index.html>) as well as on the 'Publications' page (<http://iacs.dk/publications.html>).

Future events

We welcome any members organizing an academic event related to cognitive semiotics (workshops, seminar, lecture series, conferences) – whether in-person or remote – to let the IACS President (<esther@estherpascual.com>) or the web administrator, Hanna little (<hanachronism@gmail.com>) know. All relevant upcoming events are announced on our website's newsfeed (<http://iacs.dk/>) as well as on our Twitter and Facebook accounts.

The Board further encourages anybody interested in hosting the next IACS conference in 2024 (IACS 5) to contact the President or any Governing Board member. Following tradition, choices for the next and future conference sites, as well as the election of the new Board, will be discussed at the General Assembly at our next conference, IACS-4 in June 2022.

For now, we sincerely wish you all a healthy, pleasant and restful summer!

Yours,

Dr. Esther Pascual (IACS President) on behalf of the Governing Board

Prof. Dr. Irene Mittelberg and PD. Dr. Martin Thiering on behalf of the IACS-4 Local committee