



## The International Association for Cognitive Semiotics



### 2020 Newsletter

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

First and foremost, we sincerely hope that all of you and your loved ones are as well as can be expected in these challenging times. We had been looking forward to welcoming you to Aachen around this time and hope we will be able to meet you online in the near future. We are pleased to bring you an update on our next conference, IACS 4, as well as other pieces of news related to Cognitive Semiotics.

### *4th Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics* **(IACS 4)**

Aachen remains the host for the next IACS conference. However, the conference is postponed to 2022 due to the global health crisis. Authors whose papers were accepted to IACS 4 are now welcome to resubmit their updated abstracts at the end of 2021 for consideration in the 2022 conference. Or, if they prefer, authors are also welcome to present new research.

For the continuity of the association, keeping academic exchanges alive, and supporting young scholars, who are the most greatly affected by the cancelation or life academic events, we are making plans to arrange web-based seminars or workshops during the next year. Further news and information on resubmission deadlines and online seminar activities 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. We will also email the program to all IACS members and all those with abstracts accepted to IACS 4.

## **The Journal *Cognitive Semiotics***

We are pleased to share a few outstanding pieces of news about the journal, from the Editor-in-Chief Peer F. Bundgaard:

- 1) The journal has been accepted for inclusion in Scopus. This includes all issues published by De Gruyter Mouton (from 2014 onwards).
- 2) The Spring 2020 issue has been converted into a special thematic issue (with guest editor Thomas Hoffmann), entitled ‘Creativity and Construction Grammar’, with contributions from Mark Turner, Alexander Bergs, Karin Kukkonen, Cristóbal Pagán Cánovas and quite a few other very fine scholars. The next special issue will be edited by IACS Board member Donna West.
- 3) The journal receives considerably more manuscripts; the Fall 2020 issue is basically already full.
- 4) It has now been confirmed that continuous paging will not be reintroduced: all articles will be paged 1-X.
- 5) Some authors have experienced problems with the proofing platform. Publishers have recently transitioned copyediting and conversion services for the journal (to all their journals) to the vendor, TNQ. In principle, this should provide an improved and more professional service for authors.

All members are encouraged to submit manuscripts for peer-review as well as proposals for special issues to be considered for publication in *Cognitive Semiotics* at any time. 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 glad to share with you some publication news from this academic year 2019-2020:

- A selection of the papers first presented at IACS-3 in Toronto in July 2018 has now

appeared published in a themed double issue of *The American Journal of Semiotics* 35.1-2 (2019), entitled ‘Cognitive Semiotics’ and edited by Jamin Pelkey, Sophia Melanson and Richard Rosenbaum. The full issue can be viewed at:

<https://www.pdcnet.org/collection-anonymous/browse?start=0&fq=ajs/Volume/8965|35/8999|Issue:+1%252F2/&fp=ajs>.

- A monograph by Former President Todd Oakley, entitled *Rhetorical Minds: Meditations on the Cognitive Science of Persuasion* was published in April 2020. For details, please see: <https://www.berghahnbooks.com/title/OakleyRhetorical>.
- Todd Oakley is currently pursuing the possibility of submitting an open access Special issue on ‘Cognitive Semiotics’ to *Frontiers of Psychology*, to be linked to our next conference, IACS-4.

Updated information on publications in our field, including relevant calls for papers, 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 (workshop, seminar, lecture series, conference) – whether presential or remote – to let the IACS President or the web administrator (Hanna little: [hanachronism@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Peering further into the future, the Governing Board is looking forward to reviewing proposals for sites of the next IACS conference in 2024 (IACS 5). The Board encourages any interested parties to contact the President or any member of the Governing Board with any suggestions. As is customary, choices for the next and future conference sites will be discussed at the General Assembly at IACS4-2022 in Aachen.

## Obituary

We are deeply saddened by the recent passing of Jacques Coursil (1938-2020), semiotician, linguistics professor, jazz composer and musician, and much more. With his extraordinary talent, creativity, illuminous intellect, and his good-heartedness, charm, and grace, he touched the lives and careers of many across the globe. We will remember him by continuing to cherish his books and music, as well as the precious memory of our conversations with him.

An updated overview of Coursil's rich work and life can be found at:

<http://www.coursil.com/>.

Until we meet again, we wish you all a safe, healthy, 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