

Introduction

In June 2013, the initiative to form a society for the study of English in Bosnia and Herzegovina was launched during the CELLS conference (Conference on English Language and Literary Studies) in Banja Luka. The initiators agreed that the association should include all the English departments in the country to foster the exchange of ideas, cooperation and advancement of the field. The inaugural meeting of the new organization, named *The Society for the Study of English in Bosnia and Herzegovina* (DAuBiH), was held at the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo in 2015. In 2016, DAuBiH became a full member of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE). Currently, DAuBiH has 76 members who teach English language and literature at different universities throughout the country. The Society has organized three workshops in cooperation with the European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe (ECML).

The idea to organize a conference was put forward at the second DAuBiH meeting which was held in Tuzla in 2016. At the third DAuBiH meeting in Banja Luka in 2017, our late colleague, professor Marijana Sivrić, suggested that the University of Mostar host the first DAuBiH symposium. She played a pivotal role in the organization of our first symposium, thus we dedicate this book to her. We were honoured to have her as our member.

The first DAuBiH symposium *English – Views, Voices, Places and People* was held on April 6-7, 2018 at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Mostar. It was hosted by the English department of the above-mentioned Faculty. The focus of the symposium was the position of English language in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a country marked by multilingualism, intercultural contacts and cross-border movements which are highly dominated by English. How the role of English changes from the BH perspective, how different courses and disciplines within English studies are taught and what is to be offered in the future, including the introduction of necessary innovations to address new challenging situations, are just some of the questions our symposium explored. Prof. Gretchen Eick from Friends University in Kansas, USA and prof. Ilka Mindt, from the University of Paderborn in Germany were the keynote speakers.

All the articles included in these proceedings are papers delivered at our First Symposium. Even though they were written by experts from Bosnia and

INTRODUCTION

Herzegovina, their scope is wider and they raise a number of relevant issues. As the articles cover a wide variety of fields within English Studies, they have been grouped thematically into the following sections: Linguistics, Discourse Analysis, Cognitive Linguistics, Methodology, Translation Studies and Literature.

The broad spectrum and depth of topics covered demonstrates the potential of our Society, thus we hope that DAuBiH conferences will become a tradition.

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Lidija Mustapić, editor-in-chief