

PRESENTATION

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This dossier is a tribute to Heliana Mello, offered by former students, friends, and colleagues who collaborated with her throughout her academic career. At the same time, it celebrates the fifteen years of activity of the Laboratory for Empirical and Experimental Studies of Language (Leel), of which Heliana was among the founders and the first coordinator, beginning in 2009. The volume brings together contributions that reflect many of the disciplinary areas in which Heliana was engaged.

Several works, first of all, address topics in corpus linguistics: starting with the study by Izabella Rosa Malta and colleagues on a corpus of United Nations resolutions regarding the Palestine-Israeli conflict; followed by the paper by João Pessoa Rocha and Átila Vital, which compares certain structural aspects between two different corpora, both compiled at Leel; and concluding with Eckhard Bick's contribution on hate speech, which combines corpus linguistics with computational linguistics.

Other contributions deal with issues related to speech, always based on corpora and on the interface between pragmatics and prosody: a chapter by Emanuela Cresti discusses the affective foundations of speech in the expression of illocutionary force; two chapters revisit, with different perspectives, the discursive level of parentheticals, the first one by Alessandro Panunzi and Valentina Saccone, the second one by Bruno Rocha. Still on spontaneous speech, Donna Erickson, Tommaso Raso and colleagues examine certain articulatory features of the informational unit Topic, while Luís Lima e Silva analyzes the suprasegmental aspects of two homophonous forms in colloquial Portuguese.

The next two chapters address another topic more recently explored by Heliana: the study of multimedia corpora and co-speech gestures. The first, by Camila Barros, offers theoretical reflections on the different phases of gestural production; the second, by Massimo Moneglia and Giorgia Cantalini, focuses on prosodic synchrony and the semantic affiliation of gestures. This is followed by a chapter on another subject investigated by Heliana, namely attitude. It presents an experimental study involving several languages and many collaborators, among them Albert Rilliard and João Moraes.

Cognitive linguistics, an approach pursued by Heliana for many years, is represented by the work of Aparecida Araújo and colleagues on the expression of manner of motion in Portuguese and other languages, and by Mário Perini's study on the rules that govern parallelism



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in a specific Portuguese construction. Heliana's long-standing interest in syntax is represented by Shlomo Izre'el's contribution on thetic constructions.

Finally, three chapters testify to Heliana's collaborations with colleagues from other disciplines, particularly in the exact sciences. Ernesto Perini examines the intersections between presupposition and affordance, once again drawing on a corpus compiled at Leel, Maurício Almeida presents an initiative to develop an ontology for corpus linguistics, while Crysttian Arantes Paixão uses machine learning to investigate linguistic patterns in academic texts.