From the Editor

DIVERSITY IN THE LANGUAGE CLASSROOM: RAISING AWARENESS

Access to education should be universal in all cases; however, bureaucracy and policy conventions sometimes divert unconsciously from this objective. Although educational institutions have been rowing in the right direction in the last decade, still a lot remains to be done to make education accessible to everyone.

Accessibility to education in most cases goes hand in hand with new technologies and the concept of e-learning accessibility (Phipps and Kelly 2006), since information and computer technologies (ICT) are present in all levels of the educational sphere. To achieve this, the European Union and governments worldwide have advanced in the publication of directives and requirements that advocate for equal access to education technology, for example access to websites and applications for the public sector. This means that education can be adapted to students’ needs according to their functionality (Batanero et al. 2014).

The current issue includes contributions that delve into the educational sector with practices and pedagogical accommodations to students’ needs. The issue, structured in two differentiating sections includes four full articles in the main section and two book reviews.

The issue opens with Ögur Çelik’s article on genre analysis applied to the field of ESP. The author explains how the digitalisation has resulted in the generation of new digital genres and their subsequent study. The article analyses biography texts on the Internet Movie Database (IMDb) website, the texts under analysis include biographies of the last 20 Oscar-Winning actors and actresses. Çelik proposes a genre-based instruction on EAP after the biography texts analysis.
The next article, written by Anna Kuzio, faces the problems of translating medical reports from English into Polish, taking into account language diversity. The analysis shows various linguistic difficulties when translating medical terms.

Next article is an attempt to provide useful professional training to students by gaining communicative competences. The authors, Oksana Polyakova and Ruzana Galstyan-Sargsyan, depart from a students’ needs analysis to deepen into an ESP course on technical and professional environments. They propose a scale for measuring training outcomes and provide some results from their piloting study emphasizing the importance of a customized syllabus.

Last full article, written by James Rock, presents a think-aloud protocol to explore vocabulary learning strategies of ten adult learners. Deliberate vocabulary learning tasks are studied. The results reveal some regular patterns of strategy use especially in strategies that require less mental effort. Less emphasis was also found on mechanical repetition.

In the Book and Multimedia Review section we can first read a detailed review done by Dámaso Izquierdo Alegría of the book Disability and World Language Learning: Inclusive Teaching for Diverse Learners by Sally S. Scott and Wade A. Edwards (2019). The book essentially explains the process of adopting inclusive instructional practices to address diverse students’ needs.

In the review that follows, Ana-Isabel Martínez-Hernández revises the publication Assistive Technology in Special Education: Resources to Support Literacy, Communication, and Learning Differences by Joan L. Green Prufrock (2018). This book, addressed to teachers, schools, speech-language pathologists, therapists and also families is an attempt to explain how to use technologies to improve the learning process of physically and mentally challenged students in order to help them overcome learning difficulties.

I would like to close the editorial by thanking all the scholars that have collaborated in the peer-review process of the articles that make up this volume. Their time and work are very valuable and makes this journal possible. I am also grateful to the members of the Language Value Editorial Board and Book and Multimedia Review editors for their assistance.
REFERENCES
