

# **Trends in Toponymy**

**Heidelberg**

**October 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2013**



## Useful Information

### Venue

Trends in Toponymy 6 takes place at **Romanisches Seminar** (Seminarstr. 3, Heidelberg, second floor). On Tuesday the whole session exceptionally takes place at **Akademie der Wissenschaften** (Karlstr. 4). Both venues are located in the Old Town of Heidelberg. The nearest bus stops are Universitätsplatz or Peterskirche for Romanisches Seminar and Bergbahn/Schloss for Akademie der Wissenschaften.

Monday, October 7 <sup>th</sup>	–	Romanisches Seminar
Tuesday, October 8 <sup>th</sup>	–	Akademie der Wissenschaften
Wednesday, October 9 <sup>th</sup>	–	Romanisches Seminar
Thursday, October 10 <sup>th</sup>	–	Romanisches Seminar

### Before the Presentations

Please transfer your presentation file onto the conference computer on the day of your presentation, at the latest in the break immediately before your session. Please remember that for all presentations we have calculated 20 minutes of talk plus 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

The poster presenters should arrive at the conference venue before the opening keynote lecture to hang their posters.

### Lunch Breaks

In your conference bag you will find lunch vouchers for **Marstall** (University cafeteria). The vouchers include lunch, a soft drink and a dessert.

### Conference Dinner

The conference dinner takes place on Tuesday evening at 7.00 pm at the “**Brauhaus**” of the Kulturbrauerei Heidelberg (Leyergasse 6). The “Brauhaus” is a brewery restaurant situated at about 5 minutes walking distance from the Akademie der Wissenschaften.

### Excursion

We have organized an excursion to the pharmaceutical museum at Heidelberg Castle for Wednesday evening (7.00 pm). The participation is included in the conference fee. Please inform us at your arrival if you are willing to take part in the excursion.

## Conference Program

<b>MONDAY, OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup></b> <b>(Romanisches Seminar)</b>	
8.00	REGISTRATION
9.00	OPENING
9.30	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE: Staffan Nyström (Uppsala) – One hundred years of toponomastic research in Scandinavia: trends and tendencies as reflected in the world’s oldest place-name journal</b>
11.00	COFFEE BREAK
11.30	Joan Tort-Donada (Barcelona) – <i>Towards an epistemology of the toponymy: on the problems concerning space and time in the geographical names</i>
12.00	Eleanor Rye (Nottingham) – <i>Using microtoponyms to investigate Viking-age language contact: an investigation of some minor names from the Wirral and Westmorland</i>
12.30	Emily Pennifold (Aberystwyth) – <i>Blurring the boundaries: minor names and language contact in the England-Wales border region</i>
13.00	LUNCH
14.30	Erzsébet Györffy (Debrecen) – <i>The toponymic knowledge of the individual and the community</i>
15.00	César López Leiva (Madrid) – <i>Vegetation dynamic traits deduced from toponymic information: Some forests and shrublands in La Rioja (Spain)</i>
15.30	Alberto Manco (Naples) – <i>The ancient coronym Hirpinia (and the wolf), the italic “ethnic” Utiana (and the water): two new etymologies</i>
16.00	COFFEE BREAK
16.30	Eva Kovács (Debrecen) – <i>Typical ways of old Hungarian place naming</i>
17.00	David Gerhardt (Berne) – <i>Rise, use and fade of field-names</i>

<b>TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup></b> <b>(Akademie der Wissenschaften)</b>	
9.00	<b>KEYNOTE 2: Monica Barni (Siena) – A web-based tool for mapping Linguistic Landscape</b>
10.30	COFFEE BREAK + POSTER SESSION
11.00	Paula Sjöblom, Ulla Hakala, Satu-Päivi Kantola (Turku) – <i>Municipality names and mergers: attitudes towards the changing name</i>
11.30	Alina Bughesiu (Cluj) – <i>Linguistic landscape, microtoponymy and unconventional anthroponymy on the border: Vama Veche, Romania</i>
12.00	Guy Puzey, Wilson McLeod, Rob Dunbar (Edinburgh) – <i>Attitudes to minority languages in the Linguistic Landscape: place names, corporate names and corporate identity</i>
12.30	Riemer Reinsmaa (Amsterdam) – <i>Damsko and Agga: multicultural toponymic nicknames in the Netherlands</i>
13.00	LUNCH + POSTER SESSION
14.30	Pierre de la Robertie (Rennes) – <i>Toponyms in China: the case of Jinan City (Shandong)</i>
15.00	Sanda Rapa (Riga) – <i>Semantic transposition in the Latvian toponymy</i>
15.30	Serena Conte, Alessio Di Renzo, Giulia Petitta, Paolo Rossini, Virginia Volterra (Rome) – <i>Sign language toponymy in Italy: synchronic and diachronic variation</i>
16.00	COFFEE BREAK + POSTER SESSION
16.30	Bruno Delaroche (Rennes) – <i>Toponyms in proverbs and idiomatic phrases: a comparative study of English, French and German</i>
17.00	This Fetzter (Berne) – <i>Military related names on the Swiss-Austrian-Liechtenstein border (Bündner Herrschaft area)</i>
17.30	Jani Vuolteenaho (Helsinki) – <i>Odonymic anomalies: mapping numerical street names in Europe</i>
19.00	CONFERENCE DINNER (Brauhaus)

POSTERS	
	Carmela Auriemma (Naples) – <i>The project Detia</i>
	Philippe Hofmann (Basel) – <i>Desert sites in the Sissach area – an onomastic input to the settlement history of the upper Basel area</i>
	Tiina Laansalu, Marja Kallasmaa, Marit Alas (Tallinn) – <i>Estonian village names of German origin</i>
	Beatrice Wiggerhauser (Basel) – <i>Is the usage of toponyms suitable for an intangible cultural heritage in terms of the UNESCO Convention?</i>

<b>WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup></b> <b>(Romanisches Seminar)</b>	
9.00	<b>KEYNOTE 3: Lukas Loos (Heidelberg) – Rigeo.net - Development of a spatio-temporal gazetteer for historic-geographic research</b>
10.30	COFFEE BREAK
11.00	Bo Nissen Knudsen (Copenhagen) – <i>Narrowing the field. Adapting place-name editions to place-name databases and overcoming structural variation problems</i>
11.30	Dunja Brozović Rončević (Zagreb) – <i>Onomastica Croatica: Croatian onomastic database</i>
12.00	Claudio Bozzini, Patrik Krebs, Marco Conedera (Bellinzona) – <i>Georeferencing toponymy with historical pictures</i>
12.30	Michel Sauvant (Paris) – <i>Place-names created in a controlled way</i>
13.00	LUNCH
14.30	Leonie Dunlop (Glasgow) – <i>Maps and written records: a theoretical approach to source material</i>
15.00	Anna Tsepikova (Novosibirsk) – <i>Language, culture and language learning: a dictionary of secondary toponymic nominations</i>
15.30	Andrea Bölcskei (Budapest) – <i>Challenges in updating the Hungarian terminology of geographical names standardization</i>
16.00	COFFEE BREAK
16.30	Christine Kenison (Duke) – <i>No man's land: negotiations of Germanness in the Prussian East in Clara Viebig's "Das schlafende Heer"</i>
17.00	Ojārs Bušs, Renāte Siliņa-Piņķe (Riga) – <i>17th century map of Berzaune castle district (Latvia) as source of the research of the Latvian hydronymy: a case study</i>
17.30	Dariush Borbor (Teheran) – <i>A toponymic based migration study of the Kurds in Iran</i>
19.00	Excursion

<b>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>(Romanisches Seminar)</b>	
9.00	Patrick Jajko (Budapest) – <i>Street-names in Budapest and Vienna between 1918 and 1930</i>
9.30	Anna Yunatska (Zaporozhye) – <i>Soviet legacy and commemorative policy vs. historical value</i>
10.00	Amy Todman (Glasgow) – <i>What is a hill? Prototypicality in toponymic categorization of landscape features</i>
10.30	COFFEE BREAK
11.00	Katalin Reszegi (Debrecen) – <i>Cognitive approach in Hungarian toponymy</i>
11.30	Aleh Kopach (Minsk) – <i>Three stages in the place naming process: a cognitive-onomasiological approach</i>
12.00	Pavel Stepan (Prague) – <i>The grammatical category of number in Czech toponymy</i>
12.30	Stephan Fuchs (Heidelberg) – <i>An integrated approach to Germanic toponyms in the American Midwest</i>
13.00	LUNCH
14.30	Barbara Bába (Debrecen) – <i>Lexical topoformants in place names</i>
15.00	Angela Bergermayer (Vienna) – <i>On endonym and exonym use for European cities and small towns in Austrian media since 1990</i>
15.30	John Insley (Heidelberg) – <i>Place-names and historical dialectology in Lancashire</i>
16.00	Arne Bölling (Heidelberg) – <i>Australian namescapes</i>

## **Keynote Lectures**

### **A web-based tool for mapping Linguistic Landscape**

Monica Barni  
Università per Stranieri di Siena

The linguistic landscaping approach to mapping and measuring multilingualism, observing traces of different languages within the social communication space, is enjoying growing interest. More and more research has been carried out in a range of contexts around the world, with a particular regard to urban spaces. As Gorter (2006) pointed out, the objective and the theoretical framework of the various investigations and studies carried out were not always the same, and nor was the methodology for surveying and analysing data collected. The methodology we present was developed at the Centre of Excellence for Research Permanent Linguistic Observatory of the Italian Language among Foreigners and of Immigrant Languages at the Università per Stranieri di Siena. Its main aim is develop a web-based and free access tool in order to collect and analyse data in LL. Possible links with toponomastic research will be discussed.

### **Rigeo.net - Development of a spatio-temporal gazetteer for historic-geographic research**

Lukas Loos  
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

The steadily increasing amount of digitalized historical sources requires new tools of data management. Especially space related tools like "search by location", geovisualization and historic-geographic analysis are of high interest for historical research. In order to gain the full potential of the analytical capabilities of (historical) geographic information systems (HGIS) for historical research we have developed an interconnected infrastructure for the spatio-temporal analysis of historical sources.

Together with GeoTWIN<sup>1</sup> and Orbis Latinus Online<sup>2</sup>, RIgeo.net<sup>3</sup> is one of the various interconnected services of a virtual research environment, the "gis-toolbox", envisioned and realized by the Heidelberg HGIS-research which is being developed with the aim to provide researchers with a set of databases and tools, e.g. to facilitate the analysis/mapping/combining of itineraries of medieval nobility and thereby define the spatial dimension of power and control beyond simplified linear boundary lines.

A gazetteer of historical place names takes a special role in these approaches. Various Information like population, historic relevance and especially geographic information in the form of coordinates, are assigned to textual descriptions of places and/or local names. Additionally, temporal aspects like age or time of the first mentioning can be allocated.

As a data basis for the development of the gazetteer we use the place information contained in the Regesta Imperii<sup>4</sup>. This is an inventory of approx. 125,000 German-speaking abstract of all historiographical sources of the Roman-German kings beginning with the Carolingians up to Maximilian I. as well as the popes of the early and high Middle Ages. These documents form an important basis within the historical research and serves us on the one hand as a repository of place name information, on the other hand it provides for a continuous evaluation on the technical and content level.

A major challenge is how to cope with (un-)certainty. Depending on the source material there are different challenges to be met to allow the user to judge on the degree of confidence of the data (and thus avoid the danger of representing a higher precision than is justified by the

historical resource). The spatial and temporal localization, e.g. of a historical source, event, or the whereabouts of a person is often a result of interpretation and hence of varying accuracy. A named place can be ambiguous in its position, i.e. there may be multiple places with the same name. On top of that place names can change over time. Especially in historical documents are details of e.g. field camps or abandoned settlements - places that no longer exist today.

As a result we implemented a infrastructure that on the one hand gives the RI researchers a tool to analyze and visualize the data of the RI. On the other hand the gazetteer can be used as a database to look-up placenames when analyzing other medieval sources.

<sup>1</sup><http://geotwain.rigeo.net>

<sup>2</sup><http://olo.rigeo.net/olo.php>

<sup>3</sup>[www.rigeo.net](http://www.rigeo.net)

<sup>4</sup><http://www.regesta-imperii.de>

### **One hundred years of toponomastic research in Scandinavia: trends and tendencies as reflected in the world's oldest place-name journal**

Staffan Nyström  
Uppsala University

In 1913 the first annual volume of the scientific journal *Namn och bygd* was published with the subheading *Tidskrift för nordisk ortnamnsforskning (Journal for Scandinavian place-name research)*. The one hundredth volume appeared in 2012, fully devoted to a retrospect of the journal and an effort to characterize its history, contents and development through a series of thematic articles. The articles were based on papers read at a jubilee symposium held in Uppsala in February 2012. A number of leading name scholars from the Nordic countries had been invited to celebrate the journal and to present and discuss it from different angles.

To follow *Namn och bygd* closely over a whole century is to follow Scandinavian place-name research through the same period. Since the start in 1913 – and still so today – *Namn och bygd* has been the leading and most prestigious name journal in our part of the world. In my paper I give an overview of the more than 300 pages in the jubilee volume 2012, and by doing that I point at trends and tendencies in Scandinavian place name research during the last one hundred years. Much will probably feel familiar even to those in other parts of the world but maybe not everything.

## **Paper Presentations**

### **Lexical topoformants in place names**

Barbara Bába  
University of Debrecen

Some types of proper names have their own name formants which are specific to them: these elements of place names are generally called topoformants. The geographical common noun components of place names can be considered as primary lexical topoformants if the geographical common noun fulfils its type marker role in such a way that this function coincides with the literal meaning of the geographical common noun. In this case the role of the common noun and the role of the common noun in the place name are entirely the same, they overlap each other, e.g. Nagy-völgy 'big valley', Újfalú 'new village', Eastwood 'Eastern wood', Netherton 'lower village', Düsseldorf 'a village near the river Düssel'.

On the contrary, the secondary topoformant is a common noun in place names which doesn't originally fulfil the type marker role, but due to the frequent use it acquires this role as a part of a name type. This function, however, doesn't exert influence on the literal meaning of the formant. For example, the lexemes egyház 'church', monostor 'monastery', híd 'bridge' or vár 'castle' are secondary topoformants of settlement names in Hungarian. For instance, initially the names with the posterior component egyház 'church' were formed by metonymy, after the church of the given settlement (e.g. Kerekegyház 'round church'). Nevertheless subsequently the existing names have served as a model to the other name formations, thus in the Hungarian language villages with churches were designated by names with the posterior component egyház 'church', e.g. Óregyház 'village with church called Ór', Vidaegyház 'village with church called Vida'. The alignment with the name models can be a characteristic feature in other languages as well, for instance, it is worth examining the posterior components kirchen/church of names in the German or English languages and we can assume that the German burg or the English bridge, hill etc. lexemes can become secondary topoformant as well.

Therefore the question I would like to answer in this presentation is how we can separate the metonymically formed names and the names formed by secondary topoformants from each other in certain languages.

### **On endonym and exonym use for European cities and small towns in Austrian media since 1990**

Angela Bergermayer  
Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften

According to the UNGEGN definitions an endonym is the name of a geographical feature in an official or well-established language occurring in that area where the feature is located. An exonym, on the other hand, is the name used in a specific language for a geographical feature situated outside the area where that language is spoken, and differing in its form from the name used in an official or well-established language of that area where the geographical feature is located.

Exonyms are a natural component of every language, they arise in the contexts of neighbourly contacts, cultural and historical relations, trade and transport, wars, territorial changes, and the like. The number of exonyms in the individual languages, however, highly varies and especially depends on social contacts and common history. Also difficulties with endonyms

that have to do with pronunciation, spelling and word category promotes the formation of exonyms. However, as we know, like other words exonyms, too, can fall out of use with time and be replaced by the corresponding endonyms or by other exonyms. As (above all) since the late 20<sup>th</sup> century the use of exonyms became controversial (interpreted as expression of possessory titles, nostalgic attitude...), the replacement by the corresponding endonyms is often a conscious (and political) decision, before the former exonyms fall into oblivion.

Also the German language had/has a lot of exonyms for places in non-German-speaking areas and formerly German places (for example *Venedig/Venezia*, *Prag/Praha*, *Pressburg/Bratislava*). In the paper, on the basis of selected endonyms and exonyms of the German language, we will address the question how endonym and exonym use has developed in Austrian Media since 1990. Are there variations concerning time, source, ...? Does the picture becoming apparent correspond to the guidelines, factors, and circumstances mentioned in the respective literature as relevant on the one hand to the preservation and on the other hand to the giving up of exonyms? Applying methods of Corpus Linguistics, we will investigate written corpora, especially the Austrian Media Corpus of the Institute for Corpus Linguistics and Text Technology at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

### References:

Back, Otto: Übersetzbare Eigennamen. Eine synchronische Untersuchung von interlingualer Allonymie und Exonymie. Wien 2002

Goebel, Hans, Peter H. Nelde, Zdenek Stary, Wolfgang Wölck: Kontaktlinguistik / Contact Linguistics / Linguistique de contact. Ein internationales Handbuch zeitgenössischer Forschung / An International Handbook of Contemporary Research / Manuel international des recherches contemporaines. Halbband 1 / Volume 1 / Tome 1. Berlin – New York 1996 (= Handbücher zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft / Handbooks of Linguistics and Communication Science (HSK) 12/1)

Jordan, Peter, Milan Orožen Adamić, Paul Woodman (eds.): Exonyms and the International Standardisation of Geographical Names. Approaches towards the Resolution of an Apparent Contradiction. Berlin [u.a.] 2007 (= Wiener Osteuropa Studien, Band 24)

Jordan, Peter, Hubert Bergmann, Caroline Burgess, Catherine Cheetham (eds.): Trends in Exonym Use. Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms Meeting, Tainach, 28-30 April 2010. Hamburg 2011

Stani-Fertl, Roman, Ingrid Kretschmer, Karel Kriz (Hrsg.): Exonyme und Kartographie. Weltweites Register deutscher geographischer Namen, klassifiziert nach Gebräuchlichkeit, und ihrer ortsüblichen Entsprechungen. Wien 2001

### Challenges in updating the Hungarian terminology of geographical names standardization

Andrea Bölcskei

Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary

In a project carried out at Károli Gáspár University, the Hungarian version of the UNGEGN documents entitled *Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names* and *Addendum for Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names* has been prepared recently. During the work we had to eliminate several discrepancies between the existing and the necessary Hungarian terminology of geographical names standardization. The first list of 111 relevant Hungarian terms, based on a previous version of the currently accepted UNGEGN glossary, was compiled by Ervin Földi more than twenty years ago. In the meanwhile, a new international glossary of almost 400 terms was edited and conditions have been changed in language use as well. Whilst the traditional Hungarian toponomastic

terminology consists primarily of terms of Hungarian origin, recent literature in Hungarian seems to give preference to terms of international background. With respect to language theory, the principles of cognitive linguistics have become widely adopted also in the discipline of terminology, which influences the identification or the establishment of the equivalent terms. In the modernized Hungarian glossary, term gaps had to be filled in accordance with the dominant trends in today's term formation, and term changes also had to be treated appropriately. Definitions reflecting the latest results of distinctive professional fields (e.g. linguistics, geography, cartography, computer science) had to be worded adequately, but in an easily intelligible way – a task requiring a vast amount of background knowledge even in the case of translation. Depending on the phenomenon described in the definition and the nature of the toponyms, illustrative examples had to be translated, explained or completed with relevant Hungarian name forms. Formally, the Hungarian glossary should be compatible with the UNGEGN lists; still it also has to be easy to use on its own. All these factors, discussed in detail in the paper, were taken into consideration in our work, when we prepared the Hungarian version of the UNGEGN glossary, with the aim of updating the Hungarian terminology of geographical names standardization.

### References:

*Addendum for Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names*. 2007. [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/pubs/glossary\\_add\\_e.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/pubs/glossary_add_e.pdf)  
FÖLDI ERVIN trans. 1992. Az ENSZ földrajzinév-egységesítési szakkifejezések szótára [The UN glossary of terms for the standardization of geographical names]. *Névtani Értesítő* 14: 127-138.  
*Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names*. 2002. <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/glossary.pdf>

### Australian namespaces

Arne Bölling

Macquarie University; Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

The present paper reports on a current PhD project examining the urban toponyms of Sydney, Melbourne, and Canberra. Highlighting the interdisciplinarity of contemporary toponymy, the study shows a methodology innovative to toponymic approaches and combines linguistic, cartographic/geographic as well as sociological.

A database for each of the three Australian cities mentioned above, including suburb and local government area names, has been compiled from primary and secondary sources as well as personal communication. The date of establishment, the meaning of each name, and the language from or via which they were transferred to Australia are recorded.

Analysing the existing data both chronologically and regionally, questions raised when researching are, amongst others: Do the social, cultural and political values of an era influence place-naming? Are there any differences in the bestowal of Indigenous and Introduced toponyms?

The focus of the present paper is on the place-name typology of the Australian National Placenames Survey (cf. Tent and Blair 2011) to clarify whether it is suitable for further research on Australian toponyms. The first classification scheme for Australian place-names elaborated according to scholarly principles, the typology implements a name-semantic approach, structuring the categorisation of the names according to the motivation of the persons who bestowed them.

## References

- Appleton, Richard and Barbara Appleton (1992). *Cambridge Dictionary of Australian places*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Bölling, Arne. *A Namescape of Melbourne – cities, shires and suburbs*. Unpublished MA thesis.
- Kennedy, Brian and Barbara Kennedy (2006). *Australian Place-names*. Rydalmere: Hodder and Stoughton.
- Tent, Jan and David Blair (2011). Motivations for naming: The development of a toponymic typology for Australian placenames. *Names: A Journal of Onomastics*, Vol. 59, No. 2, pp. 67-89.

## A toponymic based migration study of the Kurds in Iran

Dariush Borbor

Research Institute and Library of Iranian Studies (RILIS)

By studying place names, one may establish the routes of migration of an ancient tribe. In spite of the fact that the methodology as such is not new, nevertheless it yields significant results on specific circumstances and topics. This was certainly the case as far as the ancient Bōrbōr tribe was concerned.

Most of the oldest existing tribes of Iran, including the Kurds, originated from the central and northern Zagros mountains where they enjoyed near ideal grazing conditions for their flocks. One of our earliest findings has been in the fact that all the major tribes of Iran, including the Aryans, the Lors, the Kurds, Baxtīyrīs and the Bōrbōrs all migrated according to a well established ecological based pattern being dependent on excess rainfall. The reason for their migration was twofold. Firstly, because of overcrowding, they had to find new pastures and secondly, due to forced migration imposed on them including the Kurds, for political reasons. In spite of the plethora of research material and publications on the history of the Kurds and their language, no specific in depth research has been conducted on their routes of migration in Iran. The Kurds have not left as many toponymic traces of themselves as the Bōrbōr tribe, but sufficiently in order to trace their movement.

The fundamental nature of our research has been based on toponymy. Our first task was the search and the listing of the nomenclature *kurd* in the onomastica of Iran. The results were then compared and verified with migration pattern of other tribes, the historical data and circumstantial evidence.

In conclusion, it was established that the innate migration of the Kurds was through the parallel valleys of the Zagros to the southeast, no further than the northern province of Fars. The forced migration was through two traditional routes across the Alborz mountain passes, that of Sefīd-rōd, and Fīrōz-kōh. Another concentration of the geographical names with nomenclature *kurd* was found in the Āmol-Sārī region, resulting from the convergence of the movement of the tribe on these two routes on its way to northern Xorāsān. The migration of the Kurds were not as diversified as many of the other Iranian tribes such as the Afšārs and the Bōrbōrs, but corresponded closely to their pattern of relocation. Very few, often unrelated, or no such toponymy were found in the rest of Iran.

## **Georeferencing toponymy with historical pictures**

C. Bozzini<sup>1</sup>, P. Krebs<sup>2</sup>, M. Conedera<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Repertorio Toponomastico Ticinese, Archivio di Stato, Bellinzona, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup> Swiss federal Research Institute WSL, Insubric Ecosystem Group, Bellinzona, Switzerland.

Nowadays systematic georeferencing of place names is a basic issue of toponymy research in Canton Ticino. Up to now however, geographic information only consisted in the coordinates of the central point of a toponym, whereas no indication has been stored concerning the related spatial extension. For the future such information may represent a very important integrative feature in the frame of geospatial distribution analyses of toponyms. In this context, historical photographs represent a primordial source of information for many reasons. In fact, most of the local old people providing information on place name localization are used to recognize their place and extension on referring to the former landscape at time of their younger years and before the abandonment of the traditional agricultural activities. In addition, many landscape features and the extension in particular of specific place names that are now covered by the extending forest area are visible on historical pictures only. In this contribution we present a new tool for the assisted acquisition and management of geographical place name data, including new forms of data representation and visualization.

## ***Onomastica Croatica: Croatian onomastic database***

Dunja Brozović Rončević

Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics

One of the main tasks of the project "Onomastic and Etymological Research of the Croatian Language" (PI Dunja Brozović Rončević) was to develop a comprehensive toponomastic dictionary that would be made up of toponymic data from the entire territory of present-day Croatia. The database was designed using the lexicographical program TshwaneLex, which enables the standardized digital encoding of lexicographical data, in this case Croatian place names. The final aim of the project is to create a number of toponymic dictionaries according to various criteria (territorial, typological, historical etc.). Although TshwaneLex is lexicographic software designed primarily for compiling monolingual, bilingual or multilingual dictionaries (<http://tshwanedje.com/tshwanelex/>), the program is very flexible and enables the creation of any kind of specialized dictionary. However, to the best of our knowledge, no toponymic dictionary has been compiled yet using this software.

Since compiling such a comprehensive database requires a skilled team of experts, the database (it seems that PostgreSQL (which is Open Source) is the most reliable, although Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server are also supported. However, MySQL has some problems with the Unicode support, which could be very problematic when dealing with dialectal data) and the TshwaneLex software should be installed on a server so that a team of compilers can work on a single dictionary simultaneously. On each computer (client machine), the software interfaces with the database server via an ODBC (Object Database Connectivity) data source. Since the database is easily manageable, it enables the editor to monitor the entire working process and the progress of individual users, and to keep track of who edited a certain entry and when.

TshwaneLex is XML based, with full Unicode support, enables communication with GIS data (Geographical Information System), and allows various types of related cross-references that are all shown in a real-time preview. The program's multimedia support allows the editor to link images (which is very useful in toponomastics) and sounds, which are used to record the

pronunciation of certain toponyms. The software exports data to various formats (rtf => MS Word, OpenOffice, InDesign, XML, HTML), which considerably simplifies the editing and publishing of online or printed dictionaries.

TshwaneLex is easily customizable to handle any kind of structured data. In this presentation, a detailed model of the database structure applied to a few different entries for various types of toponyms (names of settlements, hydronyms, oronyms etc.) will be presented for the first time.

## **Linguistic Landscape, microtoponymy and unconventional anthroponomy on the border: Vama Veche, Romania**

Alina Bugheşiu

North University Centre of Baia Mare; Technical University of Cluj-Napoca

The village of Vama Veche (meaning ‘the old customs’) is located on the coast of the Black Sea in southeast Romania, on the border with Bulgaria. It is a small fishermen’s settlement that in summer turns into one of the most important seaside resorts in the country. In the context of geographic and social borders, the present paper proposes a sociolinguistic approach to local microtoponyms, starting with the identification and analysis of the grammatical, lexical and semantic structure of the names. The aim is to delineate the “onomastic behaviour of the vamaioți”, the people that love Vama Veche for what it used to be: a place where one could listen to jazz, rock or folk, sleep on the beach and enjoy the untarnished scenery. The linguistic material analysed consists of approximately one hundred names, collected by the author of this paper by means of field research in the area.

The study deals with the names of business establishments (mostly pubs and hotels) that make up the linguistic landscape of Vama Veche. Two naming orientations can be noticed. On the one hand, there exist neutral place-names that while being commercially-minded, follow a well-established pattern: Christopher Pub, Hotel Golden Sea. On the other, there are marked names that through the associations they trigger, define the aforementioned community of Vama Veche hippies: Elga’s Punk Rock Hotel, La Barbă Neagră (‘at Black Beard’s’), Stuf Vama Veche (related to the name of a rock festival held here, Stufstock, from Romanian stuf ‘reed’ and the second element reminding of Woodstock). Heterogeneous as they may be, the names illustrated often derive from anthroponyms, especially unconventional ones (i.e. nicknames), thus generating different levels of identification. In the ever-globalising public space of the resort, microtoponyms have become a key means of asserting group identity.

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## **17th century map of Bērzaune castle district (Latvia) as source of the research of the Latvian hydronymy: A case study**

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Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia

The first intense collection of the ancient toponyms of Latvia had been connected with economic activities in Sweden in 17th century when northern part of Latvia belonged to this country. Results of these activities are materials of the land revision which represent a large amount of Latvian oikonyms as well as surveying maps for the reduction of the estates that contain quite many Latvian hydronyms and microtoponyms.

The map of Bērzaune castle district (apr. 1680–1685) contains more than 70 hydronyms (more than a half of them are lymnonyms). The research of them could be made on various aspects:

1. Research of hydronyms origin.

There are, e.g., hydronyms of the Finnic origin; some of them are already mentioned in etymological researches (Kuja), some are discussible from the point of view of their origin (Savīte), some have not been mentioned in the researches before (Mudsa Rivus, cf. South-Estonian mōts, Livonian mütsā ‘forest’?).

2. Theoretical research of generic terms.

The generic terms on the map are written in four (three?) languages (the legenda of the map is written in Swedish): Latin (fluvius ‘river’, rivus ‘rivulet’, lacus ‘lake’), Swedish (Siö ‘lake’), German or Swedish (Beck ‘river’, cf. Sw. bäck, Middle Low German beke), and Latvian. Only 8 lymnonyms and a single potamonym do not have generic terms. Latvian generic terms are included in most of the potamonims; two forms of the term are used: mostly the dialectal variant ups, a couple of times – upe, which is the term of modern standard Latvian, however in 17<sup>th</sup> c. had been used probably by incomers from some other region of Latvia.

As the peculiarity of the recording of lymnonyms the frequent use of Swedish term Siö [= modern Swedish sjö] should be mentioned while the Latvian term ezers is not used at all. It probably means the generic term of potamonims had become an inseparable part of the proper name more frequently. The same idea could be concluded from the mentioned proportion between lymnonyms and potamonims without a generic term.

3. Research of the spelling of hydronyms.

There are over 20 maps of Latvian castle districts from late 17th century in the archives, they should be thoroughly analyzed from the point of view of trends both in historical as in theoretical toponymy.

## **Sign language toponymy in Italy: synchronic and diachronic variation**

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Deaf people, although perfectly integrated in the surrounding hearing community, have their own culture, with a special focus on linguistic issues, related to the use of sign languages (Padden & Humphries, 2005). For example, in all countries, signed toponyms are used as names (i.e. *name signs*) to designate places, despite the existence of standardized toponyms based on spoken and written languages.

This communication aims to focus on Italian Sign Language (LIS) name signs used as toponyms, taking into account the peculiar situation of Italian deaf community. In LIS, gender

and age linguistic variation is indeed strictly related to past and current educational environments (Porcari Li Destri & Volterra, 1995). Moreover, context issues seem to be very crucial to improve our understanding of linguistic variation in LIS (Corazza e Volterra, 2008). In order to investigate different levels of variation from both diachronic and synchronic perspectives, we collected different name signs of 14 Italian towns (most important and densely populated cities, as well as places considered particularly relevant for the history of deaf people), provided by 18 deaf and hearing signers (age range: 25-70).

Our analysis focuses on age and gender variation, as well as place of origin and use of signs, with an overview on renaming processes and on features related to the fact that sign languages are face-to-face languages, since deaf communities didn't develop writing systems to represent them. Place name signs can't indeed be standardized by normalization processes and/or street signs.

Our results show that several signs have been used as toponyms for a given city throughout the ages, but only one seems to be now mostly and widely used (and quite standardized).

We will discuss the evolution of the signs, also referring to their motivation, as well as making comparisons with the etymology of Italian toponyms.

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## Toponyms in China: the case of Jinan City (Shandong)

Pierre De La Robertie  
Université Rennes 2, LIDILE

As the title says, my purpose is a study of geographical names in Jinan City. My focus is the names of administrative units (with a special look at the most basic ones, which have not been studied in Western countries and almost not in China itself) under the jurisdiction of this City. With more than 7100 km<sup>2</sup> and 8 million inhabitants, the capital city of the Shandong Province has more than 5100 names for only the districts, counties, villages and so on.

My purpose is, first, to look at the way the names are made, their length (number of syllables [result : mostly 2 or 3], words [mostly 2 or 3] and characters), the way the components of the specific terms are organised, syntactically speaking [Name + name, name + locative, and so on], grammatically speaking; secondly, I will look at their semantics, not to translate them, but understand what they mean : are they related to economics (workshops, shops, orchards ...), to nature (hills, rivers, space, animals ...), to human beings (families, individual persons), to buildings (temples, roads, bridges ...) or others? The statistical results show that the most numerous are related to human beings (names of families and names of villages which become names of new units), second those related to natural beings, thirdly those related to different types of constructions.

The names of the different levels of administrative units, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> level which includes districts *qu* in the city itself, counties *xian* and county-level city *shi* outside the city proper, i.e. in the countryside, down to the communities *shequ* (or *juweihui*) in the urban parts of Jinan and the villages *cun* in the rural ones, which form the 5<sup>th</sup> level (the most basic level), with the 4<sup>th</sup> level composed by the sub-districts *jiedao*, the towns *zhen* and townships *xiang*, are not

exactly identical, either formally or semantically, even if they share many features. Their names vary in length: 66% of AU5 are formed by 2 syllables, against 55% of AU4 and 100% of AU3, syntactic construction and semantics.

## **Toponyms in proverbs and idiomatic phrases: a comparative study of English, French and German**

Bruno Delaroche  
Université Rennes 2

Proverbs can be used under various circumstances and those including toponyms are rather numerous. Although many of them have probably fallen into disuse, they testify to the inventiveness of the language and are part of the cultural heritage of those who speak these languages.

The aim of that paper is to analyse the way toponyms are used in English, French and German proverbs and idiomatic phrases and to see if constants can be found in their use in these three languages, looking both at local or regional proverbs and those used on a national scale. Possible variants of the same proverb will also be taken into account. This part focuses (among others) on the critical, ironical or humourous functions of those proverbs and examines how, in some cases, the imagery used to describe a similar situation may vary from one language to the other. A few proverbs including adjectives derived from toponyms or the names used for the inhabitants of a city, region or country will also be mentioned in this analysis.

A second part will be dedicated to proverbs which are part of the cultural heritage (historical or religious) of the speakers of those languages and will try to see if those proverbs are used in the same way when they coexist in English, French and German, or if their meaning changes slightly depending on the language in which they appear.

## **Maps and written Records: a theoretical approach to source material**

Leonie Dunlop  
University of Glasgow

The sources from which we glean our historical place-name forms can tell us as much about the changing perceptions of the landscape as they do about the languages from which they were coined. My PhD research focuses on four parishes in Berwickshire, in the southeast of Scotland, and this paper will draw on examples from this area. From gathering information on place-names and the spaces they encompass from maps and written records, I realized that these two types of sources have a diachronic dialogue which could not be ignored. This paper will investigate the relationship between spatio-visual records and written records; how names interact with one another in different sources; and how this affects perceptions of the space and features in place-name research.

The sources I have used include the Ordnance Survey first edition six-inch map (1855-57), which formed the basis of my gazetteer, as well as earlier maps and sea charts, including Blaeu (1654), Roy (1747-55) and Thomas (1815). Written sources I have used include the Coldingham charters, a large collection of medieval charters dating to c.13<sup>th</sup> century, which provided many early forms. The relationship between written descriptions and maps can clearly be seen from the Ordnance Survey maps and Ordnance Survey Name Books. The Name Books were created in order to provide information on orthography and situation which

would be used in the OS maps. The descriptions given in the Name Books vary in detail and content; for these four parishes many give linguistic information which shows awareness of, and attitudes towards, the languages present. Maps allow us readily to apprehend the spatial ties to which named features are bound and from which dynamic naming processes continue to evolve.

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### **Military related names on the Swiss-Austrian-Liechtenstein border (Bündner Herrschaft area)**

This Fetzter  
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Many different social-cultural and economic milieus and their respective influences on name genesis have been identified in toponomastics, of which agriculture and foresting are but the most prominent. Others have been investigated in papers dealing with special aspects of name genesis, often related to historical developments particular to restricted geographical areas and/or eras (e.g. name giving influenced by immigrants of foreign social groups, name giving by mountain tourism pioneers). There is, however, one milieu which I haven't found much about though it has had a not so minor influence on name giving throughout many areas: military.

Based on name data collected in four neighbouring municipalities in the German speaking part of Switzerland I will try to reveal some aspects of military related naming. These municipalities are bordering Austria and Liechtenstein and have therefore been more or less fortified for several centuries. This military infrastructure is where most oft the respective names are drawn from. Most of these names contain explicit military vocabulary such as Swiss German *Arsenal* 'arsenal' or *Schanza* 'entrenchment'.

My aim is though to illustrate that military related names do not wear out with these. I would rather stress that the army as an important factor in society influences naming on different levels, even in Switzerland where the last war took place in mid 19th century. It is therefore that some names not containing any direct link to the army can without doubt be ascribed to military infrastructure, such as *Munggaloch* (literally) 'marmot's den' referring to a remote alpine riflemen's banquet. Names that were not originally military related but are now interpreted as such are maybe the most striking examples to illustrate how deeply influenced by army these municipalities were and are. Among these are *Pola*, derived from a Romance word denoting 'slope' but now sometimes interpreted as *Pola* 'Polish' referring to the many Swiss paths built by Polish internees after WW 2.

Because of the mental presence of army in society, these kinds of names as well as names conferred from remote military related names (especially battle names) can be found even in places where there has never been any military infrastructure. Of around 2300 names currently in use in the four municipalities examined, no less than about 70 seem to be military related, to which some historical evidence adds.

## **An integrated approach to Germanic toponyms in the American Midwest**

Stephan Fuchs

Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Place names represent an established topic in sociocultural and critical scholarship on human space and place. They have, for instance, been employed as indicators for historic ethnic settlement, cultural impact, and socio-political aspects; this includes a critical understanding of naming as a form of meaning and authority. Toponymic studies have, however, mostly focused on taxonomic and empirical descriptions or theoretically-informed analyses of underlying power structures. Based on a comprehensive dataset of Germanic names of populated places in the American Midwest, this paper explores the value of an integrated approach combining advanced spatio-statistical measures with critical interpretation. Processed in a GIS environment, place names delineate areas of geographical concentration and absence. The regional toponymic pattern is directly comparable with contemporary ancestry data as a means of personal identification. It consequently provides a broad and reliable framework that encompasses and invokes interpretative discussion and further case studies. An integrated approach thus characterizes Germanic place names as versatile socio-demographic, political, and ethnocultural indicators, for instance, by considering name changes and demographic shifts. It could be effectively modified and adapted to other features, groups, and areas within and beyond the studied context, but requires careful consideration of the respective scale and timeframe.

### **Rise, use and fade of field-names**

David Gerhardt

University of Berne

The rise and the development of field-names is best to be studied in recent name use, because contemporary historical, geomorphological and social aspects become visible. Taking this into account, I started to develop a new type of field-name-lexicon. It not only shows the existence of names, their sedimentation in archives and the interpretations, but also their recent importance in the name-using community. To get useful data I searched for informants in the actual farming environment, as it has been done frequently in the last centuries to create official land-registers or to do scientific research. This advance makes my project comparable to older field-name-research and to the official name-fixing practice, although my method is "slightly modified". Simultaneously to the lexicon-conception work, I have been collecting fieldnames during hiking trips with farmers and former farmers from a country-like and less touristic area in *Hessen*. In every village I did six excursions each with one person, who shared with me her/his personal "field-name-treasure". Now I can show the naming frequency (0-6) for every name in the lexicon.

*Examples:*

If a field-name only is written on the official map and nobody used it, it has a frequency of 0. I then include that name in the lexicon just as it is officially written. If six persons gave the same name for a place, it has a frequency of 6. That name appears in the lexicon with all his phonetical and morphological variants, even if it has no official status.

By means of a survey tabular form of the name-articles it is easy to review the differences between official and oral field-names, which was an important aim of the project. I expect a less reciprocal action between official and oral names in the actual farming-economical period.

Moreover, I discovered new field-name-types which are based on words that are used for new name-motives. Like, for example, the water-resevoirs on hills for the public water supply (since the 1960s). In *Central-Hessen* they are also called *Wasserbassin* m.

At the conference I would like to show the structure of my lexicon, to present new field-name-types and their motives and to discuss advantages and problems of my name-collecting method.

### **The toponymic knowledge of the individual and the community**

Erzsébet Györffy  
University of Debrecen

The toponymic knowledge of the individual and the community are in the focus of my paper. The geographical frame of my research is a settlement that is easy to handle due to its size and therefore the quantity of the toponymicon. The choice of the place was also greatly influenced by the fact that the toponyms of this settlement were collected and studied several times in the 20th century. In my research I seek an answer to the question of how we should examine the toponymic knowledge of the individuals, and how these individual knowledges create the toponymic knowlegde of the community. I assume that as nobody can master the whole stock of common words, similarly, nobody knows and uses the entirety of the toponomasticon, thus the toponymic knowledge of the individuals differ greatly from each other. In the light of this, can we speak about the toponymic knowledge of the community at all?

Studying the connection between social mobility and the knowledge of names plays a significant role in my presentation as well. Using these viewpoints may have methodological proceeds. It is worth taking into consideration again how to choose the informants, and whether we have to limit the study of toponymic knowledge strictly within the administrative borders of the settlement. We may state that in Hungary, former synchronous collections of toponyms were traditionally based on the knowledge of older generations. Formerly, due to the lack of social mobility, this layer of name users was more or less able to represent the knowledge of locals. However, in socio-onomastic research informants should be chosen from each layer of society. As regards the geographical frame of the research, we may use fuzzy boundaries as it is quite likely that the borders of the settlements in the mental maps of the individuals are not sharply drawn. In addition, the different items of the mental map are likely to be in relation with other items.

### **Place-names and historical dialectology in Lancashire**

John Insley  
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

The historic northern English county of Lancashire is a composite entity which only emerged in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The valley of the Ribble is the fundamental dividing line both in terms of history and in terms of dialectology. The Ribble separates the West Midland dialect area from that of the North and also forms the northern boundary of the ancient diocese of Lichfield and of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia. Place-Name material is an essential tool for research in historical dialectology, especially in areas like the Ribble valley, where several dialect isoglosses converge. This was recognized by Ekwall in his studies on Old English dialectology (1917) and in his famous paper of 1938 about the Middle English  $\bar{a}/\bar{o}$  (< Old English / $\Psi$ :/) boundary, by Kristensson in his survey of Middle English dialects and by

Cubbin in his discussion of 1981 of material from the Whalley Abbey Coucher Book. The present paper will give a brief survey of previous work in the field and seek to show ways forward, particularly in the use of local material, such as field names from medieval local documents, as instruments for research into the historical dialectology of Lancashire and for the delineation of dialect boundaries.

### **Street-names in Budapest and Vienna between 1918 and 1930**

Patrick Jajko

Andrássy Gyula German-speaking University Budapest

Street-names are an important part of the collective memory of a society. They communicate in a system of other media of memory as monuments, paintings or history books about different meanings of historical moments, persons or periods of time and inscribe them into public space. The street names are mostly introduced by ruling political groups as they communicate power relations and particular ideologies as well.

Considering those essential theoretical approaches this paper focuses on renaming-processes in Vienna and Budapest in the time after World War I. With the independence of Austria and Hungary both cities became capitals and above all during the consolidation of the new democratic political system in both states one political party were in charge the longest period. After the democratic and the communist revolution in Hungary the conservative government led by Regent Miklos Horthy as well as after the change of the local government in Vienna from the conservative Social Christian Party to the Social Democratic Party were the most important political movements until the political turn to National Socialism. Both groups, the conservative movement in Hungary and the Social Democrats in Vienna tried to introduce their ideologies through changes in street-names although both cities had more important issues to solve.

By analyzing maps and city archive documents especially from 1918 until 1930 the paper compares the changes through street-names in the two political centers of the former Habsburg-Monarchy on a few important examples and with statistical data. The author argues that the top-down way of changing names by introducing more conservative/revisionist names instead of descriptive names in Budapest stand in contrast to the institutionalized way of changing names in Vienna, where the names were changed from the names in honor to the Monarchy and the Dynasty, to important dates of the socialist revolution, its (German-speaking) revolutionaries and artists as well as new introduced names were old names spoken by the local population for a long time.

### **No *Man's* Land: negotiations of Germanness in the Prussian East in Clara Viebig's "Das schlafende Heer"**

Christine Kenison

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Duke University

German studies can contribute invaluable insights to the field of toponymy. Literature can re-imagine geographical spaces far more powerfully than maps. Literature establishes place names in the reader's imagination, rendering these toponyms plausible, lending them legitimacy. Moreover, toponyms provide the reader with points of orientation within a plot, and represent invaluable tools for inscribing a culture into a landscape. Germanists likewise stand to benefit immensely from toponomastic research. Literary border studies must

understand the mechanisms of place names and explore the intersections of literature and geography. My dissertation examines the mutual implication of German and Polish cultural identities in late 19<sup>th</sup> century novels surrounding the German-Polish border.

In this paper, I delineate the manner in which toponymy in Clara Viebig's 1904 novel *Das schlafende Heer* symbolizes the antagonistic cohabitation of Germans and Poles in the Grand Duchy of Posen at the turn-of-the-century. The works of Clara Viebig, a best-selling author hitherto neglected by literary scholars, have recently enjoyed a sort of renaissance among *Literaturwissenschaftler*. In my dissertation, I explore the cultural work that Viebig's popular fiction performs in the imagining of a unified Germany. Key to this endeavor is the symbolic unification of geographically and culturally disparate regions through emissary characters and the reimagining of physical spaces.

At the turn-of-the-century, anxieties regarding the Grand Duchy of Posen reached a feverish pitch. In this atmosphere a new genre emerged in German popular letters- the *Ostmarkenroman*. An eminently tendentious literary mode, the *Ostmarkenroman* dealt with the consequences of the coexistence of German settlers, eager for a new beginning, and a resentful Polish population in the villages surrounding Posen.

Posen represents a rich area of study for toponymy. Place names have changed often along German-Polish geopolitical and cultural borders. In *Das schlafende Heer*, some locations possess both German and Polish toponyms, others are known by hybrid appellations. Several Germans have an antagonistic relationship to the landscape around them, and Polish toponyms inscribe this topography as culturally Polish.

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#### **Three stages in the place naming process: a cognitive-onomasiological approach**

Aleh Kopach

Belarusian State University

Cognitive place names studies are regarded in the report as a way of displaying how and on what logical grounds (not psychological ones) the subject of a cognizing process (resp. man) acquire habits of perceiving objects under this or that angle and gives each type of perception a different semiotic structure (resp. a type of a proper name). Names of water objects and populated places of the USA and Belarus are usually taken as examples.

The logic of toponymic naming lies in finding an individualizing feature of an object for a generic geographical appellative. The combination of substance and attribute in toponymy are presented in three sense structures – the onomasiological categories of *idiomatization*, *mutation*, and *modification*. If the semantic level of research, prior to the onomasiological level, defines the starting and ending point of the act of creating a name, the onomasiological category distributes categorical characteristics in accordance with the level of knowledge of terrain objects by man with the help of a cognitive model.

The mechanism of creating toponymic signs is presented in the mind of the name-giver. It is consistently updated in terms of content and expression of place names. The stadial

perception of a single object is reflected in the linguistic forms of names. The creation of the proper name of an object occurs with an account of external conditions and the experience of cognizing the territory of research, a mandatory two-component process of learning the world by man and language techniques. First, the object is fixed by proper and common names, which have already been consolidated in the lexical system. This is called *the stage of fixing the object*. Then by separating the object from another object's terrain they get their own signs. These are *the stages of searching for distinctive features* and *of searching for additional attributes*.

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#### **Typical ways of old Hungarian place naming**

Éva Kovács

University of Debrecen

I intend to join a trend in Hungarian historical linguistic studies by the investigation of the old place names, that makes efforts to gain more precise and a greater amount of information about language users of the decades following the Hungarian conquest of the Carpathian Basin. The Hungarians, who had pursued a nomadic way of life and launched plundering attacks, survived only because the decision was made to join Christian Europe at the end of the 10th century.

In my presentation I seek to find an answer to the question of how Hungarian name-giving habits were influenced by the changes in the life of Hungarians, which affected state administration, Church organization, economy and society. What must by all means be taken into account is that Hungarian came to be exposed to the influence of Indo-European languages (mainly Slavic, German and also Latin in certain areas) instead of Turkic. Therefore it is important to point out how these changes are reflected in and by name-giving. In this presentation, an attempt is made to describe how places were named after the emergence of the Hungarian state in the first half of the 11th century and compare that remote period to the early 13th century with its well-developed administration.

#### **Vegetation dynamic traits deduced from toponymic information: some forests and shrublands in La Rioja (Spain)**

César López Leiva

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

It has been noticed that geobotanical and biogeographic research and, particularly, inquiries on chorological dynamics (evolution of distribution areas for plant communities) may meet Toponymy as a useful tool, since place names portray indicator information able to support the reconstruction of progression and regression trends in plant covers. Especially in the Spanish regions with diversity of landscapes, ecotonic transitions amongst different types of

dominant physiognomy and structure of plant communities, and traditional human uses of variable intensity throughout at least the two last centuries, vegetation units may have disappeared and replaced by others, but their recalling toponyms remain. Some areas in La Rioja (Spain) gather toponymic remains of currently non-occurring plant covers belonging to different domains of structural types (Mountain Conifers, Deciduous, Submediterranean or Sclerophyll Forests), and many place names still indicate the past existence of certain plants, forests or shrublands. The accurate location of toponyms may be achieved using rural cadastral information and georeferenced data from regional gazetteers, which can also be joined to vegetation maps in a GIS in order to obtain a spatial analysis of current correlations. In this paper we present results derived from the analysis of place names related to two plant covers in the Riojan territory: *Ilex aquifolium* (holly tree, 'acebo') forests and *Erica* shrublands (heathlands), their actual occurrence and some findings that may be extracted about human uses and vegetation dynamics.

### **The ancient coronym *Hirpinia* (and the wolf), the italic "ethnic" *Utiana* (and the water): two new etymologies.**

Alberto Manco  
Università degli studi di Napoli "L'Orientale"

The argument that I wish to present concerns two very ancient italic toponyms from Southern Italy whose confirmed semantic meaning has never been discussed, *Hirpinia* and *Utiana*.

The first is the coronym of Irpinia, usually explained as the "region of the Irpini", the name of which people is explained referring to the wolf, by virtue of the animal's ancient name.

I therefore propose a reinterpretation of this traditional explanation, trying to show that the wolf has nothing to do with this important coronym.

Moving further south, I hope to modify the interpretation that at the time Michel Lejeune gave of the epithet "Utiana" of the ancient italic goddess Mefitis in Rossano di Vaglio (Lucania).

The fact that an authoritative voice such as Lejeune had suggested that it was an ethnic has effectively blocked reflection on what, in reality, as I want to try and show, is a local naming of hydronymic type, i.e. strictly a toponym rather than an ethnic.

In terms of methodology, I will start from formal reconstructions and contextual geographic references in order to reconstruct the semantic meaning proposed.

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## **Narrowing the field. Adapting place-name editions to place-name databases and overcoming structural variation problems**

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The printed place-name series *Danmarks Stednavne* (Place-names of Denmark) has been published since 1922, and in 2013 volume 26 was released. Still only about 2/3 of the area of Denmark is covered by the series.

Since 2009 a parallel effort has been made to digitalise the series through scanning and human-assisted character recognition – and place-name data from the rest of the country, derived from cadastral databases and a database of medieval settlement names, has been added while doing it. The resulting database, currently holding about 200,000 entries, is published at [www.danmarksstednavne.dk](http://www.danmarksstednavne.dk) and obviously draws heavily on the printed edition. But the century-long effort of publishing in printed form has spawned a series of challenges to a strict database integration; first of all variations in microstructure making the parsing into information categories (i.e. database fields) quite difficult.

As of now, no less than 45 different database fields have been found necessary to structure the information found in a single place-name entry – some fields mandatory, some non-mandatory. And using a relational database structure, some fields have multiple occurrences within one entry (i.e. multiple source forms for one entry a.s.f.).

Having made the conscious decision to split up the information into so many categories (i.e. fields) – instead of employing a broad 'other information' field – sophisticated algorithms have been developed in order to identify information category from typographical characteristics and the sequence of information in the series. Adding to the challenge is the macrostructural variation: The areas covered in printed form are covered with shifting principles of selecting the names to be published. Finding the right balance between letting the algorithms structure this complex digitalised information and supplementing with manual work is crucial to the successful construction of a database that allows sophisticated searches while still holding an acceptably low margin of errors.

## **Blurring the boundaries: minor names and language contact in the England-Wales border region**

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This paper will look at the relationship between the English and Welsh onomasticon on both sides of the border between the two nations.

Unlike major place-names, field and minor-names tend to change with time, and are more likely to retain their transparency as useful, descriptive markers of land use, ownership, topography etc. For this reason a large-scale study of field-name vocabulary can reveal a great deal about the effects of linguistic contact between a dominant (English) and receding (Welsh) language on the local dialect. The project focuses on two case-study areas, the hundred of Oswestry in Shropshire, England, and the north-eastern third of the historic country of Radnorshire in Wales, with a collected corpus of just over 20,000 field-names. Focussing on names taken from the mid-nineteenth century tithe records, the project looks at the condition of the Welsh language at a time when it was dramatically decreasing in status and usage in Wales and its peripheries.

A comparison between the chosen case-study areas is particularly interesting as the Welsh county of Radnorshire had become much more anglicised in terms of both language and culture by the beginning of the nineteenth century in comparison to the area surrounding the English town of Oswestry, where Welsh can still be heard spoken on the streets. The fact that the national boundary is not aligned with the linguistic boundary is supported by my findings which show that surprisingly high percentages of Welsh-field names can be found east of the border in the Oswestry area.

The nature of language contact in these regions will be investigated in this paper through a series of in-depth element case-studies, analysing commonly occurring English and Welsh borrowings and transfers. The studies are conducted using GIS software where each element is mapped to show its geographical distribution across Oswestry and Radnorshire. GIS is also used to enable time-depth analysis, showing how the language and landscape changes in these areas changes throughout the 150 year period, using overlapping, geolocated tithe and estate maps and Ordnance Survey maps dating from the mid-nineteenth century to modern day.

### **Attitudes to minority languages in the Linguistic Landscape: place names, corporate names and corporate identity**

Guy Puzey, Wilson McLeod, Rob Dunbar  
University of Edinburgh

Linguistic landscape (LL) studies are an emerging interdisciplinary field focused on the use of language in public spaces, for instance on road signs, shop signs, building signs and advertisements. Names are a major component of the LL, and an increasing number of researchers are currently applying LL perspectives and methodology to the specific examination of place names, in particular their attitudinal and identity-related functions. This paper will start by building on existing research on place names to explore the role of minority languages in the LL, with examples from Scotland, Norway and Italy.

The paper will then expand the investigation of names in LL by detailing the results of a recent survey on the use of minority languages in corporate identity. This survey was funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and sought to propose general guidelines for corporate identities demonstrating equal respect for English and Gaelic, in response to the increased use of Gaelic in the corporate identities of Scottish public authorities. Through a mixture of written responses and selected in-depth semi-structured interviews, information was gathered from organisations in Scotland, Wales and Ireland about their practical experiences of using Gaelic, Welsh or Irish in their corporate identities.

A combination of approaches from LL studies and onomastics highlights ways in which the multimodal resources of corporate naming can be utilised to achieve greater parity between languages. Corporate names are a major part of the LL, and in cases such as those of unitary authorities, they can have a broader role to play as the names of defined geographic areas. The successful implementation of a bilingual corporate visual identity showing equal respect for both languages is often a first step for an organisation in acknowledging its commitment to a bilingual society, but it can also act as a catalyst leading to an extended use of minority languages, not least in terms of naming practices.

## Semantic transposition in the Latvian toponymy

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Although toponymy is considered to be rather sustainable part of lexis it has undergone not only the historical but also semantic changes. With the purpose to find evidence of semantic transposition in the Latvian toponymy more than 40,000 compound place-names of Latvian University agency „Latvian Language Institute” card files have been investigated. In order to determine the compliance between name and real object only place-names with generic term as the second component have been selected.

More than a fifth of compound Latvian toponyms partially or completely does not describe the category of real geographical object and could be the result of either functional change, or metaphoric and metonymic transposition. Functional transposition is determined by extralinguistic factors – place-name keeps the generic element even after the change of the real geographical object and appellative in the toponym is going through the process of toponymisation. Metaphoric transposition in the Latvian generic elements is rare phenomenon. Traditional as well as genetic metaphor which highlights the etymological sense of appellative is observed.

The most common mode of semantic transposition in generic elements is metonymy respectively synecdoche or figure of speech in which the whole entity is referred to by the name of one of its constituent parts, or where a constituent part is referred to by the name of the whole. There are four modes of synecdochic transposition in the Latvian toponymy. Only one of them refers to *totum pro parte*: in few cases the whole entity gives name to part of the object. Three of them refer to *pars pro toto*: in most cases both part inside the object and part that covers the object is used to refer to the whole entity, but often part close by or even at a distance of the object gives name to the whole entity. The latter case differs from synecdoche in the common vocabulary; therefore the term „toponymic synecdoche” should be used.

Mainly three groups of onyms have changed or enriched their semantic meanings due to semantic transposition: phytonyms, hydronyms, and names of very large or very small relief objects. Nowadays semantically transposed names in the Latvian toponymy tend to disappear: parallel forms with appropriate geographical appellatives occur along semantically changed names, synecdochic meanings are included into system of meaning nuances in entries of vocabularies, and new lexemes derived from the root of semantically transposed element come into usage.

## ***Damsko* and *Agga*: multicultural toponymic nicknames in the Netherlands**

Riemer Reinsma (Amsterdam)

In the Netherlands, like in some other West-European countries, a multicultural youth slang has emerged since the end of C 20. This slang is generally called *Straattaal* (‘Street Language’). Its elements have been mixed from Dutch, English, Sranan, Turkish, Moroccan Arabic, Berber, and Papiamentu. *Straattaal* is used by young immigrants and immigrants’ children, and by autochton youths (APPEL & SCHOONEN 2005).

The Street Language lexicon comprises, apart from common nouns, tens of toponymic nicknames – nicknames for towns, streets, buildings, etc. Most of these are macrotoponyms (a.o. for cities and towns): *Damsko*, for example, is Amsterdam, *Agga* is The Hague. Microtoponyms design, for example, streets and railway stations.

Multicultural nicknames like these differ from traditional Dutch toponymic nicknames like *de Amstelstad* ('The city on the River Amstel', designating Amsterdam), among other things, in that they are rarely descriptive. One of the few exceptions is *Mocrostad* ('Moroccans' city', a nickname for Kanalenwijk, an Utrecht city quarter). Instead, they allude to the official names. For example, many of them refer to orthographic features (like *D-Town*, for Dordrecht), have been translated into English (*Eastwood*, for Oosterhout), are would-be translations with rhyming elements (*Chillburg*, for the city of Tilburg; the verb *chillen* means 'to relax'), or employ a pun by 'interpreting' the orthography of a Dutch name as though it were English (*Hole-10*, for *Holten*; in Dutch, 10 would be written *tien*).

A collection of street language toponyms has been compiled from an internet Street Language dictionary (<http://www.straatwoordenboek.nl/>), which has been compiled for its part by Straattaal speakers. The paper aims to present a typology.

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## Cognitive approach in Hungarian toponymy

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According to the cognitive approach, language is the product of the human mind, thus it can be investigated as a cognitive phenomenon. The holist models find it especially important that language is an integral part of the cognitive system, which is why this two-way relationship has to be taken into consideration when we examine language. It is also important that this approach does not separate the language and its usage from the speaker. The cognitive view describes natural languages through cognitive processes such as categorization, the prototype theory, conceptual metaphors and conceptual metonymy. The toponyms as elements of the language are also the products of the mind of the individual who lives in a community. The cognitive aspect basically places the toponyms back to the domain in which they exist, thus enabling us a complex research of the usage of the toponyms. Therefore it seems that the cognitive approach can be used effectively in various areas of toponymy, and it can provide an answer to some questions of onomastics which cannot be answered satisfactorily within the traditional paradigm (e. g. the problem of names formed from a geographical common noun, whether they can be considered toponyms as well). By applying the cognitive view, however, such aspects of the usage of toponyms can also be focused upon which previously did not figure as relevant issues in the research of toponyms (e.g. the relationship between cognitive maps and toponyms). The cognitive view is not unprecedented in Hungarian toponymy. Nevertheless, the current cognitive approach appeared only at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Hungarian onomastic studies. In my paper I aim to review how the cognitive approach is used in Hungarian onomastic research and what its results are.

## **Using microtoponyms to investigate Viking-age language contact: an investigation of some minor names from the Wirral and Westmorland**

Eleanor Rye  
University of Nottingham

Microtoponyms are a valuable resource for investigating historical dialects as they are recorded in great numbers from the later medieval period and they are highly localisable. Their survival in substantial numbers is fundamental for the purposes of my PhD research, which aims to select and apply a technique which can be used to quantify and compare the relative levels of Scandinavian influence on the vocabulary of late-medieval English dialects in areas of language contact between speakers of Scandinavian and English in Northwest England in the medieval period.

This paper discusses the technique I am using in my research to calculate relative levels of borrowings from Scandinavian in the toponymic lexicon and will then present findings from two areas of the north-west of England: the Wirral, historically part of the county of Cheshire, and the West Ward of the Barony of Westmorland. I will briefly consider whether the material supports the claim that nouns tend to be borrowed more frequently than adjectives (Whitney 1881: 19–20; Haugen 1950: 224).

I will additionally consider how the results achieved by this technique relate to evidence for non-lexical borrowings (as far as these are indicated in the microtoponyms considered) such as the borrowing (or otherwise) of distinctively Scandinavian phonological features and the borrowing of inflexional material. Finally, I will consider if and how the types of borrowing from Scandinavian observed in the microtoponyms of the Wirral and Westmorland correspond with Thomason and Kaufman's scale of borrowing relative to intensity of language contact (1988: 74–109).

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### **Places-names created in a controlled way**

Michel Sauviant

In order to detect a large set of places-names created in a controlled way, we need first to recognize characteristics of their creating process. But motivations of creators might generate a large variety of processes for creating names; examples: they could have selected an unusual semantic field; they could have invented way to write sentences using places-names.

The way to recognize the creating process is an extension of classical synchronic approach. A well-equipped observation (statistics, systemic...) of a very large set of data, related to the names, helps to find specific features of the creating process ; then the closer you are from the definition of the original process, the more reduced will be the number of possible origins for each name.

When this process is recognized, the list of possible origins for a name is the result of a classical approach: 'Analysis of citations, etymologies on the found semantic field, stages of probable diachronic development, potential reinterpretations'. But adaptations could be

needed; for example we must study some names in a parallel process, if they could have been created together for expressing sentences.

The popular reinterpretations is object of a second synchronic study, because the original names were created by erudites; it is often not difficult to find a reinterpretation, because the sense of the first mentions is often the sense of the name just after its reinterpretation; but a difficulty could be to know the vocabulary, at that time, in order to justify precisely the reinterpretation. Final phase: the validation of the result need to add the accurate criteria defined specially depending on the found creating process.

The presentation will be illustrated with examples from an ongoing study of about 700 names (1/5th are hagionyms) elements of an early-Christian substrate.

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### **Municipality names and mergers: attitudes towards the changing name**

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A place's name is a valuable carrier of individual and social identity but also of historical ties. People identify with places via their names. What happens if the name changes due to a municipality consolidation? In our paper, we will analyse the impact of a (possible) municipality name change on residents and small and medium size enterprises (SME). The paper is a part of our broader study which aims at discussing the impact of municipality name change to place branding.

Finnish municipalities are currently undergoing extensive reforms, and the number of municipalities will decrease markedly. The reform will also revolutionise the nomenclature while most municipal names will be withdrawn, and just one name will be selected as a joint name. Also new names have been and will be invented. We propose that if the place name changes, the residents feel confusion regarding their individual and social identity. We also propose they feel that the image of the new city might become fragmented and the place-of-origin image will be lost.

The empirical data consists of responses to a survey conducted in spring 2013 at the South-Western province of Finland, and of interviews of representatives of SMEs and local governments.

The questionnaire was posted to 5020 residents selected by random sampling, and the percentage of responses was 27.5%. Weights have been applied to the collected data to adjust the sample. The survey searched answers to questions like: What is the meaning and relevance of a place name in general? What does the name of your home town mean to you? How do you think the name change will affect the image of your home town?

The interviewees were chosen based on company or product names including the municipality name. Representatives of companies were asked to tell about the role the place name has regarding their business, which conveyed us the issue of place identification from the company perspective. The company and local government representatives were also asked about the image of the place and the potential impact of the name change on it.

Theoretically, the topic is related to socio-onomastics, sociology and place branding research. Statistics is exploited in the analysis of the survey.

## **The grammatical category of number in Czech toponymy**

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Toponyms (as proper names in general) form a specific sphere of the lexicon; their particular functions (connected especially with nomination, individualisation or differentiation of the named object) are reflected also in the specificity of the individual linguistic properties of toponyms, including their grammatical categories. The paper focuses on the nature and functions of the grammatical category of number in Czech toponyms.

The analysed data consist of both settlement and non-settlement names (especially field names) from the Czech Republic (predominantly from Bohemia, its western and central part). The conducted research has confirmed the thesis that in many toponyms the plural ending does not actually fulfil the function of a grammatical ending, but serves rather as a name-formation suffix. This applies for those toponyms in which the plural form verifiably refers to a single object. For example, the meadow name Rybníky, formed by the plural form of the noun rybník 'pond', refers to a meadow found in the place of a former pond. The function of the plural ending -y in Rybníky is similar to the function of the suffix -iště (a regular word-formation suffix used for formation of both common nouns denoting places and toponyms), found for example in the meadow name Rybníště. This phenomenon will be explored in some detail; its consequences for the Czech toponymical system as a whole will be given some attention as well.

Besides the analysis of functions of the category of number in Czech toponyms, the shifts of toponyms (especially settlement names) from singular to plural and vice versa will be examined, with regard to the whole toponymical system.

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## **What is a hill? Prototypicality in toponymic categorisation of landscape features**

Amy Todman

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This paper considers the relationship between place-names and topographically-informed imagery in surveying projects produced of the Scottish lowlands from the 1740s to the present day. In its focus on the relationship between the word and image of maps, it examines in a novel manner the representation of landscape features. In understanding the complexity of the

relationship between the actual feature and its representation, this paper will further certain aspects of prototype theory; this will contribute in turn to the emerging field of onomastic theory. Prototype theory, as developed by Rosch, offers an explanation as to how linguistic categories are structured. This paper will extend the existing scholarship into the field of toponymy. The sources which will be used include Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland* and the representation of the shale bings of East Lothian in Ordnance Survey maps.

It has been established by Gelling and Cole that in Old English there were many lexical items for hills which were used as generic elements in named features. In the present day lexicon this category has been reduced to one lexical item: hill. The Old English lexicon denoted size and shape which has been lost, thus there is a change in perspective. We will investigate the extent to which there is such a thing as a prototypical hill, with the underlying notion that a law would be a prototypical hill, and a *heugh* or a *brae* would be less prototypical to the category. We use the anomaly that is the post-industrial slag heap, or shale bing, as one example to examine this concept of prototypicality. The non-prototypicality of the bing is not due to its shape and size but instead its historical context and possibly what it is made from. Shale bings are non-prototypical because they are man-made features which have some features of a prototypical hill. This landscape feature is on the periphery of the category of hill. The above examples, *law*, *heugh*, *brae* and *bing*, pertain to the central question, 'what is a hill?'

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#### **Towards an epistemology of the toponymy: on the problems concerning *space* and *time* in the geographical names**

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This proposal seeks to present a synthesis of the relations maintained between toponymy and geography throughout their history. The interactions between toponymy and geography have been both extensive and intense in nature, and have been of great significance throughout the ages. Place names are in themselves complex concepts, and are open to a multiplicity of approaches. On the other hand, geography is a discipline which has an intrinsic interest in space, but also in time (both past and present). For this reason, its specific way of seeing things is characterised by what is simultaneously a synchronic and a diachronic approach. Facing the future, and from a global conception of science, we need to see this set of circumstances not as a problem but rather as an advantage for our research, as it takes us in different, yet complementary, directions.

I shall base my reflections here on two basic premises: a) that place names, or toponyms, have by definition a geographical scope and meaning (in the sense that, necessarily, they refer or have referred to a part of the physical space that surrounds us); and b) that if place names are the object of study of toponymy, and the space that surrounds is geography's essential *raison d'être*, there must necessarily be a significant relationship between one discipline and the other. The adoption of these two premises does not imply that place names, or toponyms, cannot be considered from other perspectives of analysis. Yet, what it does imply is that the specific starting point of our study is, explicitly, a willingness to explore our understanding of the geographical dimension of toponymy.

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## Language, culture and language learning: a dictionary of secondary toponymic nominations

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The present paper is focused on national, cultural and ethnic specificity of non-official or semi-official descriptive names and nicknames applied to geographical objects.

Our previous research proved a high level of cultural charge of toponymic nicknames which is due to the peculiarities of their denotative meaning (naming cultural realia), motivation and connotation. These culturally charged components are not reflected or implicit in traditional explanatory dictionaries produced for foreign language learners.

Taking into account the principles worked out by the authors of culturally-oriented dictionaries (*American Quilt*, 1999; *Oxford Guide to British and American Culture*, 2003; *Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture*, 2005, etc.) and dictionaries of nicknames (Noble, 1976; Delahunty, 2003, etc.), we suggest a project of a dictionary of toponymic nicknames designed as a guide to the English language and English-speaking cultures. The main component of the dictionary articles is a commentary, supplementing an explanation of a nickname with the information, which:

- explicates culturally predetermined aspect(s) of motivation;
- traces further associations with other objects of culture.

Assuming that a learner's dictionary should meet the requirements of its potential users we employed questionnaire research aimed at studying the necessity of toponymic nicknames dictionary along with examining motivation and interest in reference materials, technical requirements and recommendations on the contents and structure of the dictionary.

The survey participants are Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University students specializing in foreign languages and teaching methodology. The total amount of questionnaires contains 50 samples.

The results of the survey show a high level of motivation to use reference materials (76%) and interest in the suggested type of dictionary (94%).

Among the key format and structural requirements the students marked high availability in both hard cover and digital format (100 %), articles written in the language of the culture they study (100%), alphabetical order of items (94%), supplements such as subject indexes, appendices (70%). Besides the subjects recommend that a dictionary should:

- include toponymic nicknames of miscellaneous objects (76%);
- focus on nicknames of cities (82%), countries (82%);

- comprise nominations referring to different cultures rather than focus on a particular culture (76%);
- function as a source of language learning (75%), culture study (69%), research (51%).

### **Odonymic anomalies: mapping numerical street names in Europe**

Jani Vuolteenaho  
University of Helsinki

Unlike in North America, numerically named streets have remained very rare in Europe. As anomalies to this rule, my paper charts the cases of street numbering in ten European countries. In the ‘new towns’ of New Winchelsea, Mannheim and Vasilievsky Island in St. Petersburg founded in medieval or early modern eras, a checkerboard plan was accompanied with the rationalisation of local space through an idiosyncratic (alpha)numerical odonymic system. Although countless “logically numerable” street layouts have been built across the continent especially since the nineteenth century, the newer instances of street numbering are characteristically inconspicuous and peripherally located in suburbs or industrial estates. Sporadically, they play a limited role in the thematic clustering of urban fabric as a strategy of the rationalisation of space. The significance of street numbering for the wider ordering of local space (as in the cases of Mannheim, Vasilievsky Island and Milton Keynes) is even more exceptional. The article concludes that the much longer history of urbanism in Europe compared to North America and especially the predominantly nationalistic privileging of ‘street names with a lesson’ in the modern era, have left little room for the rationalisation of space through street numbering in European cities.

### **Soviet legacy and commemorative policy vs. historical value**

Anna Yunatska  
Zaporozhye National University

The author addresses the issue of ideological renaming of cities, squares, and streets in post-Soviet Russia and Ukraine. After the collapse of the Soviet Union many Soviet-bound toponyms were changed into “more preferable city and street names”. Giving names to cities and streets has always been politicized in Soviet and post-Soviet areas. In former Soviet-controlled territories many names are still commemorative, given after extreme ideologists, bright, prominent, but highly controversial personalities (Stalin, Lenin, Zhdanov, etc.). However with the political regime change the names switched, too. While *perestroika* in the entire USSR brought about change of *communist* names into *historical* ones, independence in Ukraine favoured new names of discrepant *nationalistic* personalities.

“Renaming the past” in a changed political regime is “a measure of officially promoted historical revision” (R. Rose-Redwood). Thus, in Russia *Sverdlovsk* was renamed *Yekaterinbourg*, *Kalinin* became *Tver*, former *Stalingrad* has been *Volgograd* for more than five decades.

While there are still twenty times more Soviet street names in Ukraine (Lenin Street, Kirov Street, Kalinin Street, etc.) than names connected with the Ukrainian independence, only in Kiev seventy streets have already been renamed as a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union (*Soviet Ukraine’s Street* into *Gongadze Street*, *Engels Street* became *Lyuteranska Street*, *Comintern* (Communist International) *Street* switched into *Simon Petlyura Street*, etc.) Apart from that today over thirty streets of Kiev are still considered for the ideological renaming: it is possible that many of them become recipients of extremely controversial names such as

*Roman Shukhevich* (leader of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and Nazi's collaborator) and *Stepan Bandera* (Ukrainian political activist and ideologist of the Ukrainian nationalistic movement of the 20<sup>th</sup> century).

Toponyms largely contributing into the symbolic infrastructure of the society, in Soviet time were meant to immortalize communist idols, whilst after *perestroika* they turned into the "liberation from the fallen idols".

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## **Poster Presentations**

### **The project Detia**

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For the conference it would like to present an efficient instrument for everyone interested in ancient toponymy: the website *detia.eu*. The project Detia was born in the Eighties as an idea of Silvestri who wanted to collect every ethno-toponomastic data of Ancient Italy found in some important collection (as ThLL, ThLG, *Italische Landeskunde* ecc.). Continued by Manco, the project aimed to create an electronic dictionary, that is a “structured electronic data that can be accessed with multiple tools, enhanced with a wide range of functionalities, and used in various environments” (De Schryver 2003). In the last months the electronic dictionary became online dictionary available worldwide. Retrieving the original structure, *detia.eu* presents two fundamental sections: Bibliography and Census (which consists in the collection of ethno-toponomastic data). All the paper-data previously collected has been transferred in the online version and now it's implemented steadily and directly on web. *Detia.eu* contains also other two sections: Thesaurus and Tabula. Thesaurus is a sample case of syntagmatic joints (noun + adjective or preposition + noun + adjective) that is useful to analyze all the characteristics ancient people gave to a place or to an ethnic name. For the Tabula it has been elaborated a particular system with a map and some place markers; on the map it is possible, trough clicking, to see where the place name was spread during the Augustean age.

The aim of the work is to present results of ethnic and toponomastic research and its purposes; at the same time the work will show the siteweb, its structure and all the potentiality it has. The poster will consist of three parts:

- Theoretical and methodological preface
- Photos of some page of the website with definition and explanation about what it's possible
- Proposal of development for the domain

### **Essential Bibliography**

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### **Desert sites in the Sissach area – an onomastic input to the settlement history of the upper Basel area**

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To date, settlement history theories are formed on the basis of the findings from the analysis toponymies. All the toponymy in the Sissach area are well documented, and systematically interpreted, however, only available in limited numbers. The systematic exploration of all

possible desert site names significantly increases the amount of investigation. Existing theories should be reevaluated with these findings. The question arises in the specific case, whether the Basel area has been settled from the south of the Jura mountains or from the north along the waterways. Current research tends a settlement from the south. This is the focus of my dissertation.

For the purposes of an interdisciplinary understanding, linguistics supplies by working through the hitherto little noticed researches of desert site names in the canton of Baselland an advanced scientific regarding about settlement. Previously archaeology provided the bulk of the research. The findings from my dissertation open up the possibility that on one hand archaeological and historical evidence-based theories can be re-evaluated with linguistic approaches. On the other hand, the linguistic analysis method plays a pioneering role and in turn provides the archaeology evidence of any late antique or early medieval sites. On a linguistic level it opens up methodological problems. To date, settlements are dated based on their suffixes. By using the same approach also desert site names have to be dated. In contrast, no reliable, universally valid parameter is found to identify the type of settlement. A fact that is significant for the discovery of abandoned settlements. An interdisciplinary approach is required, because with linguistic options only a limited added value can be created. The integration of archaeology is offered. The data of the dissertation is based on the research database FLUNA. It contains actually for the area Sissach about 34000 evidence or 16600 names. About 200 names can be identified as potential desert site names. They should be layered, interpreted and localized to embed the desert site names geographically and linguistically in analogy to the place names. Thus, a dense network of landmarks is formed and the basis of evidences, which will assess the thesis of settlement history.

### **Estonian village names of German origin**

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Through the ages Estonian language has been under the influence of several languages. One of the languages that has affected the Estonian language the most is German, which has been in contact with Estonian from at least the Middle Ages (Low German up to the 16th century, and later High German). Therefore, many German loan words have been adopted into the Estonian general vocabulary, and they may occur in toponyms as well. Toponyms that are derived from loaned vocabulary are not discussed in this work. A hypothesis has also been proposed that some German loan words may occur in toponyms that have not been adopted into the general vocabulary (Kallasmaa 2012). In this presentation, examples of such village names which are found in Estonian onomasticon will also be provided.

In addition to the above, contemporary village names are examined to find out which of them are actually German in origin and how they have been converted into Estonian. Loan names can be divided into two main groups. The first type – adapted names – is in turn subdivided into complete adaptations, epexegetic adaptations and partial adaptations. The other type is translated names. (Pitkänen 2007: 13) Examples are provided for all these partitions that come from the nomenclature of Estonian village names. A short overview about the proportions and relations of the loan name types occurring amongst the analysed names is also presented.

The research material on which the presentation is based was taken from the electronic database of the etymological dictionary of Estonian toponyms (EKNR) that is currently being compiled. The database includes about 6,000 Estonian toponyms.

## References

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## Is the usage of toponyms suitable for an Intangible Cultural Heritage in terms of the UNESCO Convention?

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This dissertation investigates the concept of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) by using the toponyms of the canton of Solothurn. In 2008, Switzerland ratified both the Convention on Protection and Promotion on the Diversity of Cultural Expression and the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Proper names as a linguistic sign and dialect reproduction of the named area as well as written and officially recorded toponyms will review as a “living tradition” in terms of the UNESCO Convention. This investigation will analyse people’s perceptions and the use of these written and oral toponyms. The results will then be compared to the UNESCO Convention.

In the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) the ICH is specified as: The “Intangible Cultural Heritage” means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. Further on the Convention explains, that intangible cultural heritage is transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. For the purpose of this Convention, consideration will be given solely to such intangible cultural heritage as is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development.

According to these UNESCO Qualifications this poster presents how microtoponyms could be assigned as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. The focus of this research concentrates on three different issues:

- A) The praxis of names today. The poster presents how proper names as a linguistic sign and dialect reproduction of the named area were used today in the Swiss Canton of Solothurn.
- B) The transmission of microtoponyms from generation to generation in the Canton of Solothurn.
- C) A new concept of “onomastic perception” will be defined and presented as a possible method of onomastic.

The daily usage of microtoponyms will be presented by taking as a corpus the database “FLUNA”. “FLUNA” is the database of the major research project collecting toponyms of the cantons of Solothurn, Basel-Stadt and Basel-Landschaft, also known as “Namenbuch der Nordwestschweiz”.

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