

## PRESENTATION

We are pleased to present Alfa's second issue of 2019, made up of eight articles, all original in their conjunction of themes, approaches and proposals.

The first three share the focus on the discursive dimension of language. Brait explores "discourses of resistance", particularly from the literary sphere, showing how the relationship between texts and paratexts — which she suggests could be two-way — weaves and unveils voices and events. Pistori elaborates a dialogue between the ancient rhetoric (Aristotelian and Platonic) and the Dialogical Discourse Analysis, defending an alliance between the two approaches for the study of discourse and argumentation. Based on a virtual ethnographic investigation of feminist Facebook pages, Biondo proposes to discuss the relationship between gender and language ideologies, problematizing the possible convergences between hegemonies in both domains.

The fourth article in this issue takes us to a region of the planet characterized by an extremely complex linguistic situation with a very high multilingualism rate, Oceania. Silva discusses the language policies of its various countries and territories; those which have delineated borders, "of languages, of senses, of memory", between languages with different sociolinguistic status (colonizers, autochthonous, immigration).

Vasconcelos, Scarpa and Dodane analyze the acquisition of negative expressions in the speech of two children, one Brazilian and one French. The comparative characterization of the process allows us to identify similarities, which point to general principles beyond the specificity of each isolated case. The authors highlight the role of gestures and vocalizations in the construction of meaning and the gradual inclusion of other linguistic elements in the utterances, and point to an order of emergence in the functions performed by negative particles, which begins with the rejection/refusal category.

We move from mother language acquisition to the universe of foreign language acquisition in the telecollaborative context. Rampazzo and Aranha propose to discuss the applicability of the concept of community to this specific context. They based their study on long experience with teletandem practices, within the scope of the project *Teletandem Brazil: Foreign Languages for All*. The characterization of interactions and practices leads the authors to identify criteria that support the validity of the concept in this context.

Closing this issue, we have two articles in which the semantic dimension is in focus. Basso's text analyzes the expression 'de volta' (back) in Brazilian Portuguese, from the perspectives of formal semantics and formal pragmatics. Considering the

expression a “contradirectional event modifier”, the author discusses its various possible interpretations and concludes by proposing a unified semantic analysis of its readings.

Ferreira and Rammé also deal with a semantic property — causality, but for this they adopt a recent theoretical model — the Nanosyntax, applying it to the analysis of the behavior of Brazilian Portuguese verbs. The authors show that this approach allows us to identify constraints and to arrive at generalizations about the syntactic-semantic nature of this property and provides elements for including this property in a formal representation of the syntactic structure.

The variety of themes and theoretical-methodological perspectives in this issue, a constant feature on Alpha’s pages, represents our commitment to mirror recent developments in increasingly diverse and increasingly interdisciplinary language studies. Or perhaps, and also, investigations as diverse as the multifaceted nature of our object of study.

Good reading!