

Call for papers

Symposium of the Swiss Association for Applied Linguistics VALS-ASLA 2025

6 June 2025

ZHAW Zurich University for Applied Sciences - IUED Institute of Translation and Interpreting

Creativity meets technology

Applied linguistics at the interface of artificial and human intelligence

Topics

The symposium will investigate the ever-evolving relationship between human and machine and the implications of this relationship for linguistics-based research.

Approaches

The symposium will investigate how human creativity and artificial intelligence interact in all areas of applied linguistics, for example:

- in language teaching
- in applied language research
- in translation and interpreting
- in journalism and content creation
- in literary and artistic creation
- in organisational communication

Keynote speaker



A Shropshire lad by upbringing, I developed a love of foreign languages at secondary school and studied French and German (and Occitan troubadour poetry) at Cambridge. Then I got sidetracked by an interest in ecology and farming inspired by a year's work on a north German organic farm. That led to a summer making cheese at 2,000 metres, a Master's in Sustainable Agriculture, and a job building, promoting and certifying Fairtrade supply chains (coffee, tea, cocoa, cotton) for the French market while living in Paris. After nine fascinating years, it was time to do more reading - so I became a translator from French and German into English. Along with some twenty assorted fiction and non-fiction translations, as well as extracts and short pieces published in reviews (Two Lines, Asymptote) and collections, I have also subtitled feature films (Leos Carax, Albert Dupontel) and documentaries, worked for museums and specialised in translating newspaper investigations of tax evasion and money laundering, most notably as part of the team that worked on the English version of Bastian Obermayer and Frederick Obermaier's "The Panama Papers". I live in the Alpine foothills between two lakes east of Zurich.

Submission of abstracts

Send your abstract in German, French, Italian or English by 6 January 2025 to the following address:

vals-asla-studentag.linguistik@zhaw.ch

Please adhere to the maximum limit of 500 words (excluding bibliographical references) and indicate the desired form of presentation (poster or oral communication).

Forms of presentation

- Keynote: "From the Little Paris Bookshop to the Magic Mountain: A Conversation about Creativity with Translator Simon Pare"
- 2 parallel sessions with short presentations (20 min. + 10 min. discussion)
- 1 PhD poster session / networking lounge
- 1 round table (closing event)

Deadlines

Abstract submission deadline: 6 January 2025

Paper revisions: 28 February 2025

Registration deadline: 31 March 2025

Programme publication: May 2025

Registration

Link to registration tool: <https://shop.zhaw.ch/en/vals-asla-2025.html>

Symposium location

ZHAW Zurich University for Applied Sciences, Building SM, Theaterstrasse 15c, CH-8400 Winterthur

Organisation

ZHAW Zurich University for Applied Sciences, School of Applied Linguistics

IUED Institute of Translation and Interpreting

Prof. Alice Delorme Benites PhD, Head of the IUED Institute of Translation and Interpreting

Romina Schaub-Torsello, Research Associate in the field of translation studies

Martin Schuler, Head of the Usability Lab, Research Associate in the field of human-machine translation

Web

<https://www.zhaw.ch/en/linguistics/institutes-centres/iued/research/creativity-meets-technology/>

Contact

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