Issue Spring 2019 – Sezione Monografica – Call for Papers

Theme: Negotiating meaning in Business English as a Lingua Franca

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Within ELF studies, Business English as a Lingua Franca has developed into an important area of research, spanning across different contexts, from face-to-face encounters to digital communication in inter/transnational workplaces, increasingly including also local, in-house settings.

Flexibility and dynamicity in the use of the speakers' (pluri)lingual resources as well as co-operation in meaning co-construction have been shown to characterize both ELF and BELF, together with a focus on communication strategies rather than on conformity to native-speaker norms. In BELF contexts the knowledge of business-specific content, practices and vocabulary, together with intercultural awareness and a focus on clarity, are additional important elements, alongside pragmatic competence and the use of communication strategies, particularly in the exploitation and integration of the different linguacultures involved in BELF settings.

Findings in BELF research in the aforementioned areas also have important implications for teaching business English, in curriculum and materials design, as well as in teacher education and classroom practices.

This special section of Iperstoria aims at exploring aspects related to communication in BELF, with a particular focus on Communication Strategies as a pragmatic means in BELF communication, in different contexts, settings (oral, written, digital), with a variety of perspectives, the pedagogical ones included.

Areas of investigation may include, but are not limited to, multilingualism and translanguaging, trans/intercultural practices, also in connection to the global/local dimensions, the role of (Global) Communicative Competence, aspects related to CoPs /TIGs, BELF users' attitudes and perceptions of effective / problematic communication.

Submission schedule:

10 December 2018	submission of abstracts (max. 500 words including references)
20 December 2018	notification of acceptance
31 January 2019	first draft
30 March 2019	Reviewers' comments
30 April 2019	Final manuscript