

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Institute of Modern Greek Studies
[Manolis Triandaphyllidis Foundation]

Symposium: *Questions-answers in Greek Talk-in-interaction*

Call for Papers

The Institute of Modern Greek Studies [Manolis Triandaphyllidis Foundation] is pleased to announce its 2nd Symposium on the Greek Language in Spoken Communication, to be held in Thessaloniki on **13-14 October 2016**. The Symposium is organized as part of the Institute's activities on spoken Greek and in the context of the research project *Greek Talk-in-interaction and Conversation Analysis*.

The topic of this year's Symposium is ***Questions-answers in Greek Talk-in-interaction***. Although questions, in particular, are not a new object in the examination of Greek, previous research has typically focused on written language or drawn on experimental data. However, in the last couple of decades, the question-answer sequence has increasingly drawn the attention of researchers of talk-in-interaction, both in the Greek research landscape (cf. e.g. the 1st Symposium on the Greek Language in Spoken Communication [2014]) as well as internationally (cf. the *Discourse Studies* special issue on questions [2008], the special issue of the *Journal of Pragmatics* on question-response sequences in conversation [2010], the collective volume *Questions: Formal, Functional and Interactional Perspectives*, edited by J. P. De Ruiter [2012], etc.).

The aim of the Symposium is to examine systematically aspects of this nuclear sequence in Greek talk-in-interaction both in everyday conversations and in more institutional settings. Moreover, this year's Symposium will host a session on questions-answers in other languages, so that discussion of the Greek data can be set in the cross-linguistic perspective of talk-in-interaction. The keynote speaker of the Symposium will be Professor **Marja-Leena Sorjonen** (University of Helsinki), Director of the Center of Excellence in Intersubjectivity and Interaction.

The following topics (not exclusive) will be of interest:

- form/structure of questions/answers
- functions associated with particular forms/structures
- formal features (morpho-syntactic, prosodic, etc.) of questions and their impact on answers
- preference organization in the question-answer sequence
- the design of questions/answers and the acts accomplished
- distribution of epistemic rights and kinds of acts
- stances (perspective, subjectivity, etc.) indexed by particular forms of questions/answers
- the multimodality of the question-answer sequence (gestures, nods, gaze, etc.)
- the impact of the broader context (e.g., everyday conversation, research interview, etc. vs. TV-discussion or -interview) on the design of the question-answer sequence
- interpersonal issues (politeness, impoliteness, face threats, etc.)

All theoretical approaches to the study of talk-in-interaction are welcome; however, due to the specific frame of the Symposium, priority will be given to papers adopting a Conversation Analysis perspective. In any case, the basic requirement for paper

acceptance is that the analysis and findings be grounded on empirical data drawn from tape-/video-recordings of naturally occurring talk.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Those who wish to participate in the Symposium with a paper are invited to submit two copies of their abstracts (one *signed* and one *anonymous*) as MS Word attachments to GR-Til_ins@phil.auth.gr by **15 May 2016**. Notification of acceptance will be communicated by 15 June 2016.

Submitted abstracts should specify – in addition to the aim of the paper – the type of data used, the methodology employed and the main findings of the paper.

Submissions should be in the following format:

Length: 300-400 words (including references)

Font: Times New Roman 12pt

Space: single

Margins: 3 cm all sides

For the signed copy: title, author(s), affiliation, email address (centered)

For the anonymous copy: title (centered). Reference to the author(s) of the paper in the anonymous copy should only be included in the following form: AUTHOR(S). publication date.

PARTICIPATION FEES

Standard fee: 30 €, Student fee: 10 €. Participation fees are to be paid on the day of registration.

Participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance at the end of the Symposium.

INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Secretariat of the Institute of Modern Greek Studies, Room 418, Faculty of Philosophy, New Building, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

E-mail: GR-Til_ins@phil.auth.gr

Tel.: ++30 2310 997128

The Organizing Committee

Th.-S. Pavlidou, Professor Emerita, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and member of the Institute's Board of Directors (Director of the *Greek Talk-in-interaction and Conversation Analysis* research project),

Chr. Tzitzilis, Professor of Historical and Balkan Linguistics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and member of the Institute's Board of Directors,

G. Papanastassiou, Associate Professor of Historical Linguistics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and Director of the Institute