Dear Colleagues,

Institute of English at the University of Silesia, has the pleasure to announce the first international conference titled Various Dimensions of Contrastive Studies (V-DOCS 2014). As shown already by Tomasz P. Krzeszowski in his book *Contrasting Languages. The Scope of Contrastive Linguistics* (1990), although the tradition of contrastive studies has a very long history, the approach to this type of studies has been constantly changing with the emergence of new linguistic theories and approaches to understanding the notion of language. Today, the scope of contrastive studies ranges from formal approaches to functional and pragmatic perspectives, from structural research to cognitive-semantic studies, and from theoretical analyses to corpus linguistics.

The conference aims at focusing on the variety of the possible approaches to contrasting languages. We want to welcome academics who represent various methodologies and perspectives on linguistic analysis: formal, functional, cognitive-semantic, pragmatic and cultural, with the aim of contrasting English with any other language. Thus, the list of suggested topics for the conference presentations may include, although will not be limited to, the following issues:

- contrastive phonology
- contrastive morphology
- contrastive syntax
- contrastive semantics and lexicology
- contrastive pragmatics
- contrastive discourse studies
- contrastive cognitive-linguistic studies
contrastive cultural-linguistic studies
bi- and multilingual lexicography
language contact, borrowing and code-switching
teaching contrastive grammar at the university level: the place of contrastive studies in the curriculum, course syllabus, teaching materials, methodology, students’ expectations, assessment of the course, etc.

Each presenter will be given 30 minutes (20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion). The conference language is English.

We are pleased to announce that the following speakers have expressed their agreement to present plenary lectures during the conference:

Prof. dr Klaus P. Schneider (University of Bonn)
Prof. dr hab. Elżbieta Mańczak-Wohlfeld (Jagiellonian University, Kraków)
Prof. AJD dr hab. Bogusław Bierwiaconeck (Jan Długosz University, Częstochowa)
Dr hab. Bożena Cetnarowska (University of Silesia, Katowice)

Important dates:
Abstract submission: 31 May 2014
Confirmation of acceptance: 30 June 2014
Registration opens: 30 June 2014
Early bird payment: 31 July 2014
Regular payment: 15 September 2014
Conference: 27-28 October 2014 (arrival on 26th October)

Abstract submission:
Abstracts describing the topic of a presentation in up to 300 words should be sent to vdocs2014@gmail.com no later than 31 May 2014

Conference venue and fee:
The conference will be organised in hotel “Meta” in the town of Szczyrk, a beautiful mountain resort in the Beskidy Mountains. The organisers will provide the possibility to go by bus from Katowice to Szczyrk on 26 October and from Szczyrk to Katowice on 28 October.

The all-inclusive fee is 200 Euros / 800 PLN (early-bird payment) or 220 Euros / 880 PLN (regular payment) and it covers:

– bus transfer from Katowice to Szczyrk on 26 October (Sunday) and from Szczyrk to Katowice on 28 October (Tuesday)
– 2 nights in the hotel in a twin/double room (a single room 40 Euros / 150 PLN extra)
– meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner plus coffee service during the conference)
– a special conference dinner on Monday 27
– conference materials
– the costs of publishing a post-conference monograph
Details concerning the payment of the conference fee will be provided in the Second Circular (end of June 2014).

**Scientific committee:**
Prof. UŚ dr hab. Andrzej Łyda  
Dr hab. Bożena Cetnarowska  
Dr hab. Adam Wojtaszek  
Dr hab. Andrzej Porzuczek

**Organising committee:**
Dr Marcin Zabawa  
Dr Marcin Kuczok  
Dr Konrad Szcześniak  
Mgr Paulina Biały

**Contact e-mail:** vdocs2014@gmail.com  
**More information can be found on the conference website:** http://ija.us.edu.pl/sub/vdocs/