FóRUM LINGUÍST!CO

INTEGRATIONISM AND LANGUAGE IDEOLOGIES

ADRIAN PABLÉ, CRISTINE SEVERO, SINFREE MAKONI E PETER JONES (ORG.)

VOLUME 19, *SPECIAL ISSUE*, FEB. 2022

The present special issue (**Fórum Linguístico**, v.19, spec. issue, 2022) goes back to the online conference entitled *Integrationism and Language Ideologies* (March 15-20, 2021), which was organized by the Language Policy Group of the Federal University of Santa Catarina in conjunction with the *International Association for the Integrational Study of Language and Communication* (IAISLC). The contributions in this issue are for the most part revised versions of the conference papers presented at the event. The special issue also features an interview with integrationist David Bade as well as a Portuguese translation by Cristine Severo and Ana Cláudia Eltermann of one of Harris' texts (*The integrationist critique of orthodox linguistics*). The present volume introduces key ideas on Roy Harris' integrational linguistics to a Lusophone readership by highlighting relevant issues in language ideology, linguistic methodology, decolonial linguistics and (socio)linguistic theory. The various contributions all underline the necessity to rethink (or 'demythologize') the semiological and philosophical foundations of orthodox linguistics and a need to develop a theory of communication in which language is treated as an integrated mode rather than a segregated object.

We open this special issue with a fascinating interview with the integrationist **David Bade** (*Prologue: Saying Something. An interview with DB*), who answers questions concerning his journey into integrationism; the core concepts or discussions of integrationism; the importance of Harris' books on Supercategories; the main priorities and challenges that integrationism faces in engaging with a wider audience; and the ways integrationism shaped his views and practices as a farmer.

Adrian Pablé (University of Hong Kong) in the paper *On language and its limits* considers three positions regarding the limits of language: two (mutually incompatible) 'segregational' approaches, which he contrasts with the 'integrational' approach advocated by Roy Harris. Pablé argues that an integrationist construal of the limits of language cannot be dissociated from the Harrisian concept of 'radical indeterminacy'. The latter notion is highly controversial within the linguistic orthodoxy, as it sponsors the idea that 'languages' qua describable objects are theoretically redundant. The author supports the thesis that the limits of language cannot be contemplated independently of the human communicational infrastructure and that these limits are co-extensive with personal linguistic experience.

The article *Integrationism in context: the integrationist tradition in the contemporary landscape of linguistic research – towards a 'critical communication studies'*, by **Peter Jones** (Sheffield Hallam University), presents a a personal view on where integrationism sits in the current field of linguistics and applied linguistics research. In doing so, the author aims at clarifying the distinctive contribution that the integrationist tradition may make in responding to the challenge that Alastair Pennycook and Sinfree Makoni (2020) have posed of a re-made linguistics which can learn from and do justice to the struggles for both social justice and equality across both the Global South and Global North as well as for harmonious and mutually beneficial relations with our world and the other beings that share it with us.

In the article *Methodology in Language Research: A Sailing Between Scylla and Charybdis*, **Dorthe Duncker** (University of Copenhagen) argues that unlike most linguistic theories, integrational linguistics does not include a methodology for linguistic inquiry. Integrationists are critical of the methodologies and assumptions of modern linguistics and find the notion of *linguistic data* highly problematic. For this, integrationists have taken a lot of heat from researchers from data-driven research traditions who ask for a methodological alternative and find the lack of empirical integrational research frustrating. In this essay, Duncker considers some of the background for the integrational critique of linguistic methodologies and discusses how to address the difficulties pertaining to linguistic data.

Vicky Khasandi-Telewa (Laikipia University), **Sinfree Makoni** (Penn State University) and **David Bade** (University of Chicago/retired) are the authors of *Proverbial futures: proverbs and political discourse in Africa*. By examining references to proverbs in African political discourses in light of Integrational semiology and Southern Theory, the authors find the creative construction of desired futures that may grow out of the present situation in light of what has been learned from the past. They argue that proverbial discourse, always speaking to the present situation and commenting on available possibilities while being open to multiple interpretations, suggests an important argument about the provisional and contextual nature of all our knowledge. Beginning with the assumption that each of us is in a better position to understand our own situation than any foreign observer or abstract schemata could ever be, they propose that the indeterminacy of creative proverbial discourse can present a better epistemological foundation for dealing with the uncertainties of natural events.

The paper *Contracting, expanding and integrating translation: who and where to draw the line?*, by **Sinead Kwok** (University of Hong Kong), looks into the many-sided debate on the definition and thus delimitation of translation, extending over a generalized conception of translation as interlingual meaning transfer, a linguistically-centered expansion of translation, a modal orientation of translation, as well as a semiotic reform of translation. It is contended that the many 'expansionist' attempts at redefining translation, albeit bringing about a refreshing departure from the rigid, traditional concept at first blush, are either still predisposed to the translation myth (a manifestation of the language myth), or reliant on decontextualization and depersonalization. An integrationist critique on some major trends in the redefinition of translation is offered in this paper, as well as an introduction to an integrationist view of translation.

Ruyu Yan (University of Hong Kong) in *Translanguaging space: prolegomena to an integrational critique* argues that the notion of translanguaging space and its alleged functions/values cannot be taken for granted. Taking issue with the notion of translanguaging space, the author outlines an introductory critique from an integrational perspective to delineate the integrationist position. The critique also aims to contest the validity of the purported functions of translanguaging space and promised values of the translanguaging perspective. Her work sheds light on preliminary questions about the notion of translanguaging space, which will invoke further discussion. In terms of significance, this article highlights the deficiencies of translanguaging theory and contributes to an integrational critique on the hybrid linguistic theory, i.e., translanguaging.

The article *Text-immanent meaning: integrationist and terminological approaches to the indeterminacy of the sign*, by **Bassey E. Antia** (University of the Western Cape/South Africa), puts the fields of terminology and integrationism in conversation over the question of the indeterminacy of the sign. Antia employs the lenses offered by both paradigms to discuss data on the indeterminacy of terms in a text on legislative procedure. He argues that the data appear to confirm several related integrationist notions, including meaning-making as idiosyncratic contextualization and the reflexivity principle, thus making it apparent how the field of terminology can leverage on the integrationist philosophy of language to enhance its explanatory power. However, he also argues that theoretical insights from text-based terminology can serve as a corrective to perceptions of radical indeterminacy of the sign in integrationism.

The paper *Integrationism: Roy Harris's Artspeak, Artistic Creativity, and Human Diversity in the Age of Globalization*, by **David M. Balosa** (University of Maryland), provides a perspective on how Roy Harris's work can be used beyond linguistics and communication studies toward fields of studies such as social and public policies and related fields. This study proposes that integrationism should also address issues related to the fields of global studies, sustainable development, and other related fields. The author argues that the influence of integrationism on linguistics and communication analysis should be expanded to social and public policies to foster epistemic equity, diversity, and other intercultural values across academic disciplines and professional practices across the world.

The article *On 'racing' Linguistics,* by **Gabriel Nascimento**, is written in Portuguese and problematizes the wide use of the verb *to race* by scholars in language studies. A great range of these uses come from the global north, such as the use of the terms *languaging race* or *racing language*. The author proposes that such discussions by Linguistics has contributed to mark its whiteness in discourse. By soing so, the paper problematizes the white supremacy in racial language studies.

The article (*Dis*)*lusophonies and (un)teachings: towards other language policies*, by **Alexandre Cohn da Silveira** (UNILAB), **Charlott Eloize Leviski** (UEPG), and Sabrina **Garcia Rodrigues Balsalobre** (UNILAB), is written in Portuguese and analyses how discourses concerning the idea of Lusophony works as a political project that integrates the cultural and linguistic diversity of Portuguese-speaking countries. From an integrationist perspective (HARRIS, 1998), the authors defend a radical contextualized concept of language, assuming language as a social practice. Concerning the Brazilian university context, the paper presents some institutional actions promoted by the University of International Integration of Afro-Brazilian Lusophony that contribute to the construction of what the authors call as an 'integrationist linguistic education'.

Finally, the paper *The integrationist critique of orthodox linguistics* is the first of Roy Harris' texts translated into Portuguese by **Ana Claudia Eltermann** and **Cristine Severo**. This article was first published in *The Sixteenth LACUS Forum 1989* (1990; p. 63-77), edited by M. P. Jordane and L.A.C.U.S. (Lake Bluff). The paper was republished in *Integrational Linguistics: a First Reader* (1998, p. 15-26), edited by Roy Harris and George Wolf.

We would like to thank the authors for their important and original contributions to this special issue, and the Editor of Fórum Linguistico for the opportunity to edit this Special Issue and for their guidance throughout the process. We invite you all to go through the interesting papers concerning *Integrationism and Language Ideologies*.