Editorial

It is a great pleasure to open this Editorial by informing *Ibéria’s* readership that the journal has renewed the Seal of Excellence (2016). This seal, which is awarded by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), is a recognition to those journals that fully comply with the high-quality standards set by FECYT. I would like to thank *Ibéria’s* national and international readership, as well as AELFE’s President and AELFE’s Executive Board for their institutional support to the journal. My special thanks, also, to the former journal Editor, the current editorial team, Editorial Board and International Editorial Board, for their generous time and dedication to the journal. Though in many different ways, and playing different roles, they have all supported the journal’s compliance with high quality standards and contributed to this achievement.

The research included in this new issue, namely, an invited contribution, nine original articles and five book reviews, clearly illustrates the potential of the field of Languages for Specialised Purposes (LSP) to inspire innovative studies. The articles appearing in this issue address multiple methodological and thematic issues and contribute in novel ways to our understanding of languages for specialized purposes. Their authors’ national backgrounds (Chile, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Spain and the UK) also lend ample credence that there is worldwide interest in aspects of languages for specialized purposes.

The invited authors of this new issue have contributed with an article entitled “Writing disciplines: producing disciplinary knowledge in the context of contemporary higher education”. In this article, KARIN TUSTING and DAVID BARTON (University of Lancaster, UK) discuss discipline-specific aspects of academics’ writing practices. They take an ethnographic approach to bring to the fore insightful reflections on literacies and workplace learning and their implications for EAP education in higher education contexts.

The first original article, by DANIEL LINDER and GOEDELE DE STERCK, entitled “Non-native scientists, research dissemination and English neologisms: What happens in the early stages of reception and re-
production?”, is an exploratory, survey-based study of the way non-native English speaking scientists use English neologisms in their field of specialization. The article discusses how the scientists tend to use the new concepts coined in the field and coin acceptable, natural-sounding Spanish equivalents for research dissemination purposes.

The article by IRYNA MYKYTKA, “Metaphors in Photography Language”, specifically focuses on the use of verbal metaphor in the language of photography. The aim of the study is to investigate how metaphors are used to construct photographic concepts in a corpus of photography blogs. The corpus analysis draws on Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP) (Pragglejaz Group, 2007). The findings reveal a variety of conceptual metaphors projected from different source domains into the target domain through conceptual mapping. Pictorial metaphors are also discussed in light of the above-mentioned analytical framework.

In the third article, KUMARAN RAJANDRAN examines a prototypical professional genre for corporation disclosure, the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) report, and its communicative goals in the Malaysian context. In this original article, entitled “Incorporating other texts: Intertextuality in Malaysian CSR reports”, the author describes the use of explicit references to documents (policies, regulations, reports, research, standards) and individuals/groups (CEOs, stakeholders, expert organizations) and explores the rationale and communicative intentions of the intertextual sources cited.

The following original article is entitled “A move-step analysis of the concluding chapters in computer science PhD theses”. In this article, CARMEN SOLER-MONREAL uses the move-step genre framework and corpus methods to analyse the closing chapters of PhD theses written by computer science doctoral students. The corpus findings indicate that the chapters are divided into prototypical sections and subsections and follow a cyclical pattern for content organization. The study findings show a recurring presence of some steps, suggesting that the authors do not seem to find it necessary to highlight the value of their research. Comparative insights into other PhD theses chapters are also provided.

MARÍA JESÚS SÁNCHEZ and ALFREDO FERNÁNDEZ-SÁNCHEZ’s original article, entitled “Adaptación del léxico del inglés a las necesidades de los estudiantes”, is a contribution to the study of academic vocabulary and its role in language acquisition and language learning processes. The article
explores aspects of vocabulary knowledge that textbooks give attention to. It is argued that teachers’ knowledge of the scope of specific (academic) vocabulary provided in textbooks can enhance appropriate classroom exposure to such vocabulary and subsequent practice, and is thus crucial for successful vocabulary acquisition and learning.

The next original article, by JAVAD ZARE, VAHID MAHMOUDI-GAHRouei, SAEED KETABI and ZAHRA KEIVANLOO-SHAHRESTANAKI, “English for research publication purposes: The case of scholarly peer review comments”, turns the readers’ attention to the challenges of using English as an additional language for research publication purposes. This article critically describes the language needs of Iranian non-native speakers of English (NNSE) researchers when publishing in English in scholarly journals. Using a questionnaire, a semi-structured interview, and a corpus of the referees’ comments, this article illustrates language-related challenges when using English as an additional language for research publication goals.

In his original article, “Engineering students’ instrumental motivation and positive attitude towards learning English in a trilingual tertiary setting”, JOSEBA M. GONZÁLEZ ARDEO reports on an exploratory small-scale study focusing on the attitude towards learning English and levels of motivation of engineering students at an ESP course. The results of the study reflect positive attitudes, as well as a high level of instrumental orientation and relatively high levels of intrinsic motivation.

The original article entitled “Deontic modality as an expression of social regulation in citizen political discourse on journalism blogs comments”, by CRISTIAN GONZÁLEZ ARIAS and JUAN SATT ROMÁN, presents an interesting analysis of journalism blogs and the different modes of social regulation found in the citizens’ political discourses in the comments sections of opinion columns. The article nicely illustrates how journalistic texts are the medium through which commentators subtly enter the public space and urge other social actors to perform the requested actions.

KRISDA CHAEMSAITHONG’s original article, entitled “Between solidarity and argument: Interpersonal negotiation in two legal genres”, provides a comparative analysis of interpersonal negotiation in two monologic courtroom genres. Drawing on discourse-analytic and pragmatic perspectives, this author advocates a view of courtroom communication as highly interactional and social. The article finally
comments on several practical implications for training jurors in persuasive interactive techniques.

This issue also includes a total of five book reviews, with insightful research perspectives on multiple facets of languages for specialized purposes. One can conclude that, put together, these reviews lend ample evidence that the field of LSP is a very prolific area for investigative efforts. All the reviewed volumes form coherent collections and constitute important contributions to the field of LSP research. It is hoped that they will be of interest to Ibérica's readership.

The following editorial board members have collaborated with Ibérica over the past semester: Marta Aguilar (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya), Elena Bárscena (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia), Mª Enriqueta Cortés de los Ríos (Universidad de Almería), Mercedes Eurrutia (Universidad de Murcia), Honesto Herrera (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), Ken Hyland (The University of Hong Kong, China), Laura Muresan (Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania), Mª Ángeles Orts (Universidad de Murcia), Philip Shaw (Stockholm University), Chelo Vargas (Universidad de Alicante), Marisol Velasco (Universidad de Valladolid) and Bernd Voss (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany).

I would also like to acknowledge the collaboration of the following external reviewers from Spain and elsewhere, who have participated in the same time-span:

Guadalupe Aguado de Cea (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid)
Laura Alba Juez (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia)
Patrizia Anesa (University of Bergamo, Italy)
Ángel Arrese (Universidad de Navarra)
Ana Bocanegra (Universidad de Cádiz)
Geneviève Bordet (Université Paris Diderot, France)
Ruth Breeze (Universidad de Navarra)
Sally Burgess (Universidad de La Laguna)
Maria Luisa Carrió (Universitat Politècnica de Valencia)
Shirley Carter-Thomas (Institut Mines-Télécom, France)
Cristina Anca Colibaba (Gr. T. Popa University, Iasi, Romania)
Georgina Cuadrado (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid)
Costanza Cucchi (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Italy)
Winnie Cheng (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong)
As all the contributions compiled in this issue illustrate, there is a rich repertoire of theories, frameworks, perspectives and analytical methods to further understand the multi-faceted aspects that characterize specialized (professional and academic) languages today.