THIRD INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
ON COMPUTATIONAL LATIN DIALECTOLOGY
MARCH 28–29, 2018, RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR LINGUISTICS,
HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY


This Workshop was realized as the third one in a series of workshops to be organized in Budapest each year (at least until 2020).¹ The aim of the series is to discuss current problems and results of Latin Dialectology as evidenced from inscriptions and connected to the work with the Computerized Historical Linguistic Database of Latin Inscriptions of the Imperial Age in the framework of the Lendület (‘Momentum’) Research Group for Computational Latin Dialectology. Not only fellows of the research group participated, but also other collaborators and data collectors involved in the project, including those who live

and work outside Hungary, together with other experts interested in the research topic.

Accordingly, on the two days (Wednesday and Thursday) of the 2018 Workshop, papers were presented by Béla Adamik (“The transformation of the case system in African Latin as evidenced in inscriptions”), Andrea Barta (“Mala bestia foras dato. Linguistic Features of Estate Protecting Magical Texts”), Attila Gonda (“Phonetisch changes in the Latin of Noricum”), Zsof Simon, (“Brutes and svecerio: on the origin of some Germanic words in Latin inscriptions”) and Nóra Paulus (formerly Nóra Zelenai; “The vivo suo formula as an indicator of the supposed interference between the Latin and the Greek languages in Moesia Inferior”) on behalf of the Lendület (‘Momentum’) Research Group for Computational Latin Dialectology. A lecture was given by Silvia Tantimonaco from Universitat de Barcelona (“Archaisms in the Latin inscriptions of the Roman provinces. Some considerations”) as collaborator and data collector of the current Database-project in the framework of a fruitful collaboration established with the University of Barcelona (thanks to Prof. Javier Velaza). Another paper was presented by Daniela Urbanová from Masaryk University Brno (“Some remarks on the cumulation of verbal prefixes in Vulgar Latin inscriptions”) representing the vivid collaboration with the University of Brno, which yielded seven data collectors to the current database project; the data collectors from Brno were all actively present at the event (as demonstrated below). Further papers were presented by experts invited to the Workshop for widening the international collaboration; among them were Catarina Gaspar from Universidade de Lisboa (“The Endovellicus sanctuary in Portugal: an example of votive inscriptions and Latin language variation”), Francesca Cotugno from the University of Nottingham and the University of Oxford (“LatinNow: crossing disciplinary boundaries”), Alessandro Papini from Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza” (“Some Preliminary Remarks concerning Sociolinguistic Variation within the “Vulgar Latin” Vowel System: as evidenced by the inscriptional data”), Lucia Tamponi from the University of Pisa (“The confusion between <b> and <v> in Latin inscriptions from Sardinia”) and Eugenia Beu-Dachin, from the National History Museum of Transylvania, Cluj-Napoca (“Electronic editing of epigraphic texts from Dacia”).

The Workshop included a seminar session on the “Demonstration of the Computerized Historical Linguistic Database of the Latin Inscriptions of the Imperial Age: new developments and some case studies of data collection issues”, where the latest developments of the database software such as the new charting module ‘diagram2’ (cf. http://lldb.elte.hu/admin/search_2.php) or the new redesign of the external pages of the database (at http://lldb.elte.hu/) and working with the database were demonstrated by Béla Adamik, with the active
collaboration of data collectors Markéta Melounová, Natália Gachallová, Pavel Ševčík, Tereza Ševčíková, Radek Černoch, Tomáš Weissar and Martin Šmerda from the University of Brno.

The Workshop was dedicated to the memory of József Herman. In justification for that, please find below the welcome speech of Zsigmond Ritoók (Ordinary Member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest) to the second Workshop of 2017 that could not been published in the foreword to the second Workshop published in *Graeco-Latina Brunensia* 2017/2 for reasons of space.

“Ladies and Gentlemen!

I have been invited to say something of Prof. József Herman at the beginning of this conference. To be invited to speak before such an honourable company like this one, is an honour that cannot be and must not be refused. The organizers meant probably that I should speak of Herman’s scholarly activity. Still, I am sure, you are well aware of the importance of this activity and need no appreciation of it. What can I speak then of? A few words of him as a man.

I had known him since long ago, probably longer than anybody in this room: he was my schoolmate. Not a classmate, he was some seven years older than me, nevertheless for a boy in a lower class another in a higher one is always an authority, sometimes perhaps even a greater one than a teacher. Especially if he knows that this older boy writes poems, short stories, essays, delivers lectures in the literary and debating society of the school and wins numerous competitions, like Herman did. Ay, as early as in his eighteenth year he had more brains in his head and less hair on it than most of us.

After his secondary school studies he studied Latin and French at the University of Budapest and became a member of the Eötvös College, the Hungarian Ecole Normale. I followed him seven years later, behind him, alas! not only temporally. We did not meet for a long time. He finished his university studies and after the war he did a two-year scholarship in Paris and returned as an authority (now as a real one). However, at the beginning of the fifties, in the gloomiest Rákosi age he turned up again in my life. I was just being censured for some idealistic views of mine, when he, by mere chance, entered the room. He joined the talk and with some witty remarks made the rebuke insignificant. The case was not too dangerous, but it could have been and Herman's appearance dissolved the clouds. A tiny affair which, however, shows one of his features: he was helpful and remained helpful later too, when he had a greater sphere of activity, helpful concerning both affairs and persons.

Then again we parted company. He became a well-known scholar, taught at Sorbonne, delivered lectures in the most famous linguistic society of the world,
in the Société Linguistique de Paris, published books on vulgar Latin and on the history of the French language. For several years, he was the director of the Section of Higher Education of the UNESCO, but even in this capacity he remained what he had been: a scholar. He was not enticed or carried away by the ephemeral glory of public life. And this again is a characteristic of him: in the centre of his life was scholarly work.

I read, of course, his papers on Roman inscriptions and their language (this was the main field of his researches) and took part at the Congress of the Fédération Internationale des Études Classiques in Budapest, in 1979, when he spoke of the evolution of Latin in the provinces of the Roman Empire. After the lecture one of the French participants of the Congress said he was not especially interested in the topic Herman had spoken of, but he remained in the room, because he was fascinated that somebody spoke in such a lovely way in Victor Hugo’s language. Herman did not write poems or short stories anymore, as in his school years, but he had a style, a style both in his utterances and in his manners.

I do not continue. Only one more remark. At the beginning of the sixties, structuralism emerged. In socialist countries it was mostly condemned as “bourgeois pseudo-scholarship”. Herman immediately perceived the importance of the trend (and its weak points as well), pleaded the cause and defended its representatives, though this was probably more dangerous than defending an undergraduate for some erroneous views. However, scholarly truth was more important to him than personal convenience.

Iam satis est. I do not want to bore you with my recollections. Maybe I am prejudiced; Herman was my schoolmate, after all. Nevertheless, the importance and significance of his scholarly activity cannot be denied – it is proven among other things by the series of even these conferences, brought about just by this activity.”

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Hereby I wish to express my gratitude to Gábor Prószéky, (Director, Research Institute for Linguistics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest) for opening the third Workshop, to Tamás Adamik, Sándor Kiss, Balázs Déri (all three from Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) and András Cser (Pázmány Péter Catholic University Piliscsaba – Budapest) for chairing the sessions, to Dániel Seres (Eötvös Loránd University Budapest, data collector in the current Database-project) for his help in editing and producing the programme (http://www.nytud.hu/conf/eldworkshop2018_abstracts.pdf) and other documents related to the workshop, to Betty Csanálosi for preparing and servicing
the catering while coffee breaks, to Nóra Adamikné Juhász for the guided tour in the Buda castle district of Budapest after the Workshop on Friday morning and, last but not least, to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for supporting the Workshop by means of the Application for support for organizing international conferences (“Nemzetközi konferencia pályázat 2018”) no. NKSZ 2018-3.

I wish to express my gratitude to György Németh and Tamás Gesztelyi, co-editors of Acta Classica Universitatis Scientiarum Debrecentiensis for accepting and publishing the nine papers delivered at WCLD 3 in the present volume of this renowned journal edited at the University of Debrecen where József Herman was professor of Romance Philology (1957-1975) and dean of the Faculty of Humanities (1963-67).

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