

Acknowledgements

Congratulations to **Zsófia Orosz-Réti**, who was selected to be part of the Péter Zsoldos award's professional jury on **14 January**. [Here](#) you'll find further information on the award.

Congratulations to **Nóra Séllei**, who was re-elected for her third consecutive term (fifth overall) as HUSSE's president on **29 January**.



Congratulations to **Tamás Bényei**, who was awarded a certificate of merit for his outstanding achievements as a scholar and professor of British Studies by the Rector of the university on **15 March**.



Congratulations to our colleagues who received certificates of recognition from the Faculty of Humanities for their excellent work: **Dorottya Mózes** as the Managing Editor of HJEAS, a teacher, and a researcher; **Petra Patkó** for carrying out administrative duties. The presentation ceremony took place on **8 July**.

On **22 September** **Éva Kardos** received the publication award of the Count István Tisza Foundation for the University of Debrecen for her 2022 publication "The syntax of inner aspect in Hungarian" in the Journal of Linguistics (co-authored with Imola-Ágnes Farkas). Enjoy [this interview](#) in Hungarian.



Congratulations to the winners of the New National Excellence Program (ÚNKP):

Zsuzsanna Lénárt-Muszka, Posztdoktori Kutatói Ösztöndíj: A kortárs észak-amerikai novellisztika narrációs és retorikai stratégiái
György Kiss, Doktori Hallgatói Kutatói Ösztöndíj: Fogyatékoság-ábrázolások a 19-21. századi brit és amerikai gyermek- és ifjúsági irodalomban (supervisor: Ureczky Eszter)

Csilla-Ibolya Sólyom, Doktori Hallgatói Kutatói Ösztöndíj: Harmadik nyelv elsajátítás birtokos névmások esetében (supervisor: Kardos Éva)

Réka Törzsök, Mesterképzés Hallgatói Kutatói Ösztöndíj: Intersubjective Relations in Orwell's 1984 (supervisor: Bényei Tamás)

See in Hungarian [here](#).

Andrea Szávó (DEL) has been nominated for a Visiting Student Researcher Grant by the Hungarian-American Fulbright Commission. She will be spending **Fall 2024** at the University of Texas at Austin.

The Institute recognized four colleagues for their outstanding achievements this year in three categories: **Zsófia Orosz-Réti** (scholarly work), **Zsuzsanna Lénárt-Muszka** and **Christina Hodeib** (publications), and **Fruzsina Szabó** (education). Congratulations.

Personnel changes

István Rác (DBS) retired and became Professor Emeritus as of **1 February**. He continues overseeing the British and North American doctoral program.

Tibor Nagy (DEL) retired as of **26 October** after 33 years with the institute. We wish both of them healthy and active years in their new phase of life.



New appointments: (1) **Imre Horváth** (DBS) as assistant lecturer from **1 February**, (2) **Andrea Szávó** as assistant lecturer (DEL) from **1 November**. **Fruzsina Szabó** (DELP) as senior lecturer from **1 September**. Congratulations.

International relations

In **October** we signed a memorandum of agreement with the [University of Havana](#), Cuba to explore research and educational collaborations.

The Newsletter of IEAS

Between **November 6 and 10**, **Balázs Venkovits** and **Péter Csatár** (Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Humanities) visited Sunway University in Malaysia and the Centre for English Language Studies to discuss ongoing projects between our institutions, explore further opportunities for collaboration, and participate in the Global Partners Day organized by Sunway. During the visit they audited classes to learn about best practices, held meetings about our ongoing intercultural project with students from IEAS also participating, introduced UD and the Stipendium Hungaricum program to students, and also explored opportunities for cooperation with the Sunway School of Hospitality and School of Arts. Besides these meetings, they also had the chance to meet other local universities as well as foreign institutions, among others, from the US, UK, China, and Australia.



A collaboration agreement was signed between the Faculty of Humanities /IEAS and the Consulate General of Hungary in Montreal to conduct research on the heritage of the Hungarian community in Montreal with Canadian partner universities and other organizations also involved. **Balázs Venkovits** visited Canada between **December 9 and 17** to

Year XII Nr. XXVIII

present the project and discuss next steps. [Read the news in Hungarian.](#)



Institute news and achievements

The Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies, published by our Institute organized a hybrid launch of the 2nd open-access volume the HJEAS Books - New Series on **9 March**.



Nóra Séllei visited the Department of English Language and Literature of Babeş-Bolyai University (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) on **24 April** to deliver the Institute's book donations and discuss potential avenues of collaboration between our master's (MA) programmes. Thank you to those of our colleagues and former colleagues who kindly offered books (among them volumes authored or edited by our faculty members).

December, 2023



As part of the 85th anniversary celebrations commemorating the establishment of the Department of English in 1938, our institute hosted programs on **1 September**, including the opening and short guided tour of the exhibition highlighting IEAS milestones of the past 85 years and the launch of the first Open-Access issue of HJEAS published with DeGruyter/Sciendo. The 2023 Spring volume was introduced by **Donald E. Morse**, editor-in-chief, issue editor **Zsolt Győri**, and the co-editors of the thematic block on ecocriticism, **Éva Federmayer** and **Dorottya Mózes**. Congratulations.



On **9th September**, on a bright sunny day, as part of the 85th anniversary celebration, an excursion to Mád Wine Academy was organized, including lunch and wine tasting.



As part of the Researchers' Night in Hungary our institute offered linguistic and cultural adventures to those interested through games and other interactive events on **29 September**. Photos of the successful event are [here](#).



The 2023 Winter issue of *HJEAS*, featuring two thematic blocks, was launched on **1 December**. The issue editor was **Lenke Németh**. The whole issue is available [open access](#).



Visitors

Her Excellency, **Caroline Charette**, Ambassador of Canada to Hungary, visited the Institute of English and American Studies on **15 February**. See an article in Hungarian [here](#).

On **22 March** IEAS was thrilled to welcome **Frederik Van Dam**, Senior Lecturer in European Literature at Radboud University. See pictures [here](#).

Ekaterina Georgieva (HUN-REN Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics) taught a minicourse titled Morphology: Typological and theoretical approaches at DEL on **March 30 - April 1**.

Dr. Nicholas Lee Boon Kheng from Sunway University, Malaysia visited IEAS on **31 March**. He met Hungarian first-year students to discuss the Malaysian-Hungarian video project our students participated in. See pictures [here](#).

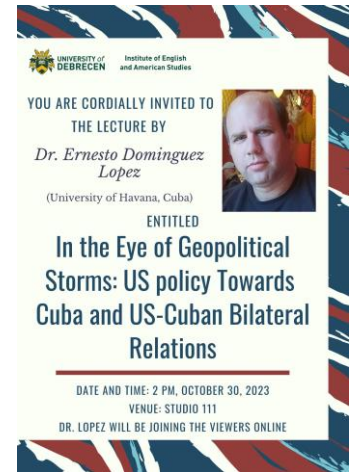


Grant W. Currier is our Fulbright Teaching Assistant from the United States, spending the academic year of 2023-2024 in Debrecen.

On **24 October** we welcomed **Ms Neera Dhawan** and **Ms Sumitra Naidu** from Sunway University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. They visited many first-year English major students participating in the intercultural video-exchange project, gave a workshop to colleagues and students on Non-verbal intercultural communication skills and one on Conflict Management, and they even had two packed lectures at Tóth Árpád Gimnázium about Malaysia and Sunway University. [A few photos](#).



On **30 October** a lecture was given by **Dr. Ernesto Dominguez Lopez** (University of Havana, Cuba) titled *In the Eye of Geopolitical Storms: US policy Towards Cuba and US-Cuban Bilateral Relations*. See the pictures [here](#).

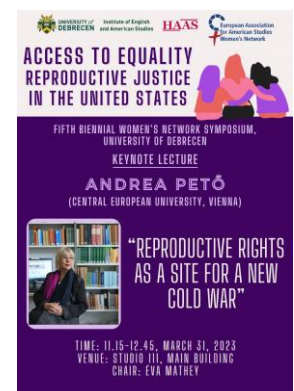


Mark-Matthias Zymła (University of Konstanz) gave an online talk at DEL on **November 22**. The title of the talk was Contextualizing tense/aspect features: A cross-linguistically informed approach to capturing their meaning.

Events and invited lecturers

On the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the return of the Holy Crown of Hungary from the US the Kossuth Foundation invited **Tibor Glant** to give a 3-part lecture series on **6, 11 and 13 January** in the Kossuth House, Washington, DC. Enjoy reading the summary [here](#).

A keynote lecture of the Fifth Biennial EAAS Women's Network [Symposium](#) hosted by IEAS was delivered by Professor **Andrea Pető**, Central European University on **31 March**.



Éva Kardos, Péter Szűcs, Christina Hodeib, Andrea Szávó (DEL) and Marcel den Dikken (ELTE and HUN-REN Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics) organized the International Workshop on Maximalization Strategies in the Event Domain on **April 17-19**. For more information about this event, see this [news item](#).

On **4 July**, our colleague, **Judit Szathmári** gave a plenary talk at the 44th annual conference of the American Indian Workshop (AIW), the most important European scholarly platform for researchers concerned with topics related to the Native Peoples of North America.



On **25 September** **Nóra Séllei** gave a scholarly talk to students and teachers in Földes Ferenc Grammar School, Miskolc within the framework of the [new Alumni programme of MTA/HAS](#) (Hungarian Academy of Sciences) aimed to promote sciences and scholarship in secondary schools, to motivate interested and talented students to pursue an academic career, and to foster meaningful connections between secondary and higher educational institutions. [See here](#).

On **11 October** **Péter Szűcs** gave a talk titled "Névmások TÁG nézőpontból" (Pronouns from a broad perspective) at his former secondary school, the Tóth Árpád High School in Debrecen, within the framework of the high school

alumni program of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. [Details here](#).

On **18 October** **György Kalmár** moderated a roundtable discussion about the effects of gender stereotypes on career choices. See the event [here](#).

In the framework of the "IEAS goes to AC", a series of lectures were delivered at the American Corner.

On **20 April** **Éva Pataki** hosted the BIG US Jeopardy.

Zsófia Orosz-Réti's workshop titled "Can games make us do anything?" took place on **May 3**.

Fruzsina Papp facilitated a special edition of American Corner's English Conversation Club on **17 October**, titled "'This Barbie Was Directed by a Woman': Female characters, narratives, filmmakers." See [here](#).

On **20 October** **Andrew (András) Ludányi** (who was a Fulbright Visiting Professor in Debrecen in 1992) talked about his new book, *My American Road Trip: From WWII to the 21st Century* (Helena History Press, 2023) with **Grant W. Currier**, our Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. See the event [here](#) and a photo album [here](#).

Our Institute hosted the first Game Studies conference in Hungary, titled Games and Language Conference on the **20 and 21 October**. See [here](#) and an article about the event in Hungarian [here](#).



As part of the University's Science Café program, **Balázs Venkovits** talked about (illegal) Hungarian immigration to the USA and Canada titled "Szellemek, léghajók és illegális Magyar bevándorlók" on **22 November** in Libri (Fórum).



DExpo was held on **22-23 November**: we offered a selection of classes which high schoolers coming to UD's open day could visit. Students could find all the relevant information in the mobile app [StUDiversity](#).

The semifinals of the [DEbate](#) competition for high school students organized by IEAS with the US Embassy and the American Corners were held in Budapest and Debrecen in October. Students argued the motion *ChatGPT and similar large language models represent a threat to education*. See photos of the events [here](#). On **7 December** the finals of DEBate (our competition for high-school students) took place in the Main Building with 8 excellent teams from Miskolc, Budapest, Gödöllő, and Debrecen debating the motion "The potential benefits of using social media outweigh its possible harms for individuals and societies." More photos [here](#).



Doctoral Matters

Shrimoyee Chattopadhyay successfully defended her dissertation on **3 July**. Her paper was titled *Non-Conforming Females in Neoliberal Cities: Re-thinking Empowerment in Contemporary Diaspora Fiction and Film*. Her supervisor was **Ágnes Györke**.



Esra Moustafa Abdelzاهر Abdelkareem successfully defended her PhD-dissertation on **6 September**. The title of the dissertation: *Approaches of cognitive linguistics and ontologies in lexicographic sense delineation*. Her supervisor was **Ágoston Tóth**.



Two successful preliminary defences took place on **8 December**. The American doctoral subprogram organized **Yesmina Khedhir**'s defence. Her paper was titled 'There are many stories I could tell': Cultural Memory and Trauma in Jesmyn Ward's *Salvage the Bones and Sing, Unburied, Sing*. Her supervisor was **Péter Gaál-Szabó**. The other defence was organized by the Linguistics subprogramme. **Béla Lukács**'s paper was titled *The role of L1 in figurative language production by Hungarian learners of English*. His supervisor was **György Rákosi**.

Other news

In the **spring semester**, 16 first-year BA students had the opportunity to participate in the International Speaking Skills Development program, jointly administered by DEL and Indiana University Bloomington (IUB). See some student testimonials [here](#).

English Majors' Week was organized from **24-27 April**. This semester's topic was Fantasy. See the event [here](#).



13 BA, MA, OMA and PhD students participated in an Erasmus+ BIP program in **June**, which allowed them to attend the 6th Olinco conference and multiple workshops on experimental linguistics in the Czech Republic. For more information, see [this](#).



Congrats to our MA and PhD students who published their cartoons in a collected volume titled [Debrecen Tales](#). The project was led by [Steven Fischer](#) a two-time Emmy® nominated writer, producer, director. He is noted for artful personal stories that explore the human condition.



The [IEAS Writing Center](#), continued in the **spring and fall semesters**. Thank you to all our tutors and also our colleagues for encouraging the students to reach out to the Center.

The IEAS Book Salon continued its activities throughout the semester. One of the topics was Young Adult fiction: the genre, the target audience, and the tropes. See the event [here](#).

Congratulations to our students who gave a presentation at the conference organized by [Hatvani István Szakkollégium Debreceni Egyetem](#) on **1 December**: [Sára Viktória Porcsin](#) (supervisor: Zsuzsanna Lénárt-Muszka), [Réka Törzsök](#) (supervisor: Tamás Bényei), [Zsófia Czirják](#) (supervisor:

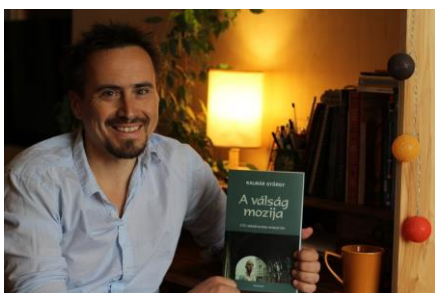
György Borus), [Fruzsina Fazekas](#) (supervisor: Zsuzsanna Lénárt-Muszka), [Hanga Lakatos](#) (supervisor: Eszter Ureczky You can read more information [here](#).



On **7 December**, a workshop on AI was organized for the delegated members of each institute within the faculty. The invited speakers, Zsófia Menyhei and Johanna Szőke from Károli University, initiated discussions about the participants' fears and expectations in relation to AI tools. They showcased examples of generated texts and introduced various tools for rephrasing texts and generating presentations (both text and image). The familiarity with these tools varied among those present; while some instructors had prior knowledge, others had never used AI tools before. However, all agreed that acquiring a basic level of AI literacy is essential for both students and teachers.

Books by our faculty

[Dr. György Kalmár](#)'s seventh book titled *A Válság Mozija* was published on **29 March**. Congratulations!



Two new volumes of the 7-volume history of English literature (*Az angol irodalom története*) were published in **July and August**. Congratulations to [Tamás Bényei](#) (co-editor) and all the authors from the institute.



Upcoming events

IEAS is organizing a Postgrad Conference on **January 23, 2024**. The organizers of the 2nd Debrecen International Graduate and Postgraduate Workshop invite proposals in the fields of English and American Studies for presentations to be given at our on-site conference held at the Institute of English and American Studies, University of Debrecen, Hungary. Any proposal dealing with the literature, culture, and history of the English-speaking world will be considered, and preference will be given to active PhD students. See details [here](#).

IEAS is organizing an international conference **next August** in partnership with the American Hungarian Educators Association to mark the 100th Anniversary of the US Immigration Act of 1924. Abstracts are due on **January 12, 2024**. [More information](#).

WE WISH YOU A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

