
The participants in the workshop, leading scholars in a variety of fields including lexicography, linguistics, anthropology, English and comparative literature, independent scholars, editors, booksellers, actors, and last but not least, “the founder and sole owner of Urban Dictionary”, include big guns of slang studies like Julie Coleman, a reputed historian of slang, Aaron Peckham, Tony Thorne and Jonathon Green (the last two names, incidentally, are among the authors listed in the Bibliography of the most recent Dicționar de argou englez-român (‘English-Romanian Slang Dictionary’, București, Niculescu I co-authored and edited in 2015).

The contributors cover a wide range of topics (focused, however, on the slang of the younger generation, whether it is defined as “college” or “students’,” “hip hop” or “youthspeak,” but also on the impact of the Internet on global slang in the “era of big data” and a wide geographical area (England, Scotland, the United States, Jamaica, Australia, New Zealand, India, Italy, Norway, Japan and, finally, the global village).

The editor’s introduction recycles the definitions of, and methodologies for studying, slang. I find the subchapter on definitions quite redundant given the fact that every single dictionary of, and monograph on, slang usually provides such definitions. As for the methodologies, they are a bit arcane for a lexicographer, but they may turn out to be useful prerequisites for the young researcher bent on studying slang.
The contributors’ articles are grouped in **four parts**. Each part has a brief introduction by Julie Coleman.

The six chapters of Part I cover the slang of hip hop, the slang of inner-city youths in London and New York, the slang of English and American students, and the slang of British criminals. I wish Tom Dalzell’s essay on hip hop had been more exhaustive, with more illustrations from the lyrics of hip hop artists. A discussion of black versus white hip hop may have resulted in interesting premises for further research. Madeline Kripke presents the fascinating story of a project (the DOME – the Development of Opportunities through Meaningful Education) which contributed to the mapping of New York City slang and the publishing of *The Dictionary of Street Communication*. Another fascinating group project is the topic of Connie Eble’s article on what went on in a North Carolina college between 2005 and 2012, when 600 students contributed almost 5,000 college slang words and phrases. Julie Coleman presents the results of Leicester students involved in completing slang glossaries. Jonathon Green writes an enlightening essay on Multicultural London English, with its cross-race and cross-class slang. Tony Thorne argues, in his article, that present-day London criminal slang is not uniform, but there are at least three distinct language varieties, sociolects used by the “several tribes” operating in the UK today.

The **second part** of the book is dedicated to “slang in other English speaking countries.” As a slang lexicographer, I can hardly imagine an English slang dictionary without a great deal of Aussie entries, and Bruce Moore’s article substantiates the uniqueness of Australian slang. Dianne Bardsley’s article on New Zealand slang (hybridized by Maori) and Maggie Scott’s article on Scottish slang, which takes as point of departure the fact that Scottish slang is still waiting to be the subject of a comprehensive dictionary monograph, provide extremely interesting, first-hand information that should be absorbed in future slang dictionaries. And the same observation can be applied to the articles on Jamaican and Indian slang by Joseph Farquharson & Byron Jones, and James Lambert, respectively.

The **third part** of the book deals with the impact of English (not necessarily of English slang) on various other languages (Norway, Italian and Japanese). While compiling the first *Dicționar de argou maghiar-român* (‘Hungarian-Romanian Slang Dictionary’, București, Niculescu, 2011), I noticed that both languages had borrowed dozens of words from Western European languages, English included. In present-day Romanian, characterized by a massive tendency of absorbing an endless mass of English words, there are many slang terms of English origin, which have been paid due attention to by eminent linguists like Rodica Zafiu and Adriana Stoichițoiu-Ichim. I can only say that I do regret they did not participate in the 2012 Leicester workshop.

The Hungarian KÖVECSES Zoltán, a distinguished linguist and lexicographer, might well have joined the ranks of the participants, too.

The *fourth part* of the book contains articles about slang and the media, slang and the Internet (the Urban Dictionary is, in fact, its most outstanding offspring) and, most interestingly, gestural slang which, as Terry VICTOR argues “has, to date and in the main, been pragmatically overlooked by lexicographers as a practical field of serious study.”

*Global English Slang. Methodologies and Perspectives* is a remarkable collection of well-documented essays that ought to equally interest both linguists (for the theoretical and methodological aspects, as well as the corpus the articles provide) and lexicographers, who may pinch from several articles words and phrases that might become first timers in their forthcoming dictionaries.