

desire to pierce through the ‘associational thicket’ of nationally charged language, and by Kuncewicz as an attempt at escaping ‘doctrinal ghettos’. In this paper, I analyse Themerson’s novel *Bayamus* (1949) in which he introduces his concept of Semantic Poetry as a mode of seeking a ‘universal’ expression, as well as Kuncewicz’s *Tristan* 1946 (1967), a post-war rewriting of the medieval story, which utilises the language of myth as a mode of ‘universal’ communication. Themerson’s Semantic Poetry and Kuncewicz’s variation on the chivalric romance are, I argue, experimental efforts aimed at finding a new literary language which transcends the traditional binary of ‘universal’ and ‘national’.

Bio: I am a DPhil (PhD) candidate at the University of Oxford, interested in the intersections of language (and translingualism) and national identity, particularly in émigré writing. I work on twentieth-century literature, currently focusing on works by Stefan Themerson, Józef Czapski, and Maria Kuncewicz. In the past, I worked comparatively across English, French, German, and Polish modernist literature. I am also the co-convenor of the Oxford Comparative Criticism and Translation (OCCT) Discussion Group, as well as of the Polish Studies Working Group, also based at the University of Oxford.

In my paper, I intend to outline the historical and cultural background of the problem of linguistic patriarchy in the Polish language, and then I will discuss individual groups affected by this problem and analyse individual strategies for dealing with it. In the presented analyses, I devote a special place to the problems of omitting women and non-binary people in the language, and the main conclusions are the assumptions of inclusive communication strategies.

Sebastian Hanek, MA – PhD student of the linguistics programme at the Jagiellonian University Doctoral School in the Humanities, auxiliary employee at the Department of Communication Theory of the Faculty of Polish Studies of the Jagiellonian University, Polish philologist, cognitive linguist, and researcher of the discourse of non-heteronormative communities, passionate about cultural changes in private and public discourse.

Anna Stanis-Lubowiecka, University College London

promote a liberal language ideology to oppose the far-right populist party and defend liberal democracy.

In this talk, I will look at linguistics studies on communist propaganda produced by oppositional scholars in the last two decades of state socialism in Poland. I will argue that the analysis of the language of communist propaganda in this discourse should not be assumed to be 'objective'. Rather, this critical analysis constituted a powerful political resistance strategy, which only superficially focused on language alone and ultimately promoted liberal democracy. By applying extralinguistic liberal democratic values in their description and analysis of language, oppositional liberals formulated and propagated a liberal language ideology, and developed proposals of the ideal language of liberalism. I will argue that language ideologies are variants of political ideologies which explicitly discuss language, but implicitly make normative statements about the political system. My study shows that in the 'East', domestic liberals played an important role in the breakdown of the regime and in the shaping of a new democratic reality afterwards.

Bio: Anna Staniszl-Lubowiecka is a fourth-year PhD student at UCL SSEES funded by CEELBAS DTP. She is supervised by Professor Jan Kubik and Professor Riitta Valijarvi. In her interdisciplinary PhD project entitled *The Polish Language and Political Ideologies. Language Ideologies in Linguistics Discourse in Poland from 1970*, Anna looks at how language ideologies have been used to promote different political ideologies in Polish recent history. She pursues her PhD, having completed a master's degree in general Linguistics and Comparative Philology at the University of Oxford as well as an MA in Applied Linguistics and Intercultural Communication at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków (both with the award of distinction). In May 2022, Anna was awarded SSEES Excellence Scholarship and in June 2019, she was a UCL finalist in the Three Minute Thesis competition. Anna is a Postgraduate Teaching Assistant at UCL SSEES and a member of BAAL (Language Policy SIG), BASEES and Polish Studies Group.