

Anna Hajdukiewicz

Old Polish University in Kielce

Statement of the 6th International Scientific Conference: *Education. In the Circle of Speech, Language and Communication.* October 9–10, 2015

The 6th International Scientific Conference: *Education. In the Circle of Speech, Language and Communication* was organized by the Teaching Department of the Old Polish University in Kielce and the Laboratory of Speech of Opole University and its partners: University of Adiyaman, Turkey, University of Klaipeda, Lithuania, University of Presov, Slovakia and the University Hasan Kalyoncu, Turkey. The conference was held on October 9–10, 2015. The organization of international conference was initiated due to two important university events. Faculty of Education of the Old Polish University in Kielce is celebrating two anniversaries this year. The first is the 10th anniversary of the Faculty, the second is the 10th anniversary of "speech therapy in Kielce"; in 2005 Faculty of Education was set up and the first students began their studies at pedagogy faculty, in the same year the first graduates left the walls of the University's – Speech Therapy graduates of Postgraduate Studies. These two anniversaries justify the theme of the conference, which was located both in the area of pedagogy and speech therapy – focusing conference discussions in the field of education – speech, language, communication. According to the main theme of the conference the discussion concentrated in the following problem areas:

1. Linguistic competence and communication in training, education, self-education in the course of life from childhood to mature adulthood (seniority).

2. Speech Therapy as a special area of helping humans in the acquisition / improvement / restoration of language and communicative competence.
3. Disturbances in the use of language and the flow of communication at children with developmental disorders (DLD).
4. Multiculturality in contemporary society and the associated multilingualism as a new area of education and speech therapy.
5. The new phenomenon of spoken and written language and their implications for human communication and understanding (in the context of electronic media: Internet, text messages, community forums, blogs, hates, chats ...).

The honorary patrons of the conference were the Marshal of Świętokrzyskie Adam Jarubas, Governor of the Holy Cross, Bożentyna Pałka-Koruba, Mayor of the City of Kielce, Wojciech Lubawski, the Świętokrzyski Superintendent of Schools, Małgorzata Muzoł and Rector of Old School University College, Dr Jan Telus, Media Patronage was taken by the Echo of the Day Daily newspaper.

The Scientific Committee was attended by eminent representatives of science in the field of pedagogy, linguistics and speech therapy prof. zw. dr hab Zbigniew Tarkowski as chairman and prof. zw. dr hab. Andrew Bogaj, prof. zw. dr hab. Valerian Gabdulhakov, prof. zw. dr hab. Tadeusz Gałkowski, prof. zw. dr hab Stanisław Grabias, prof. zw. dr hab Bronisław Kasacova, prof zw. dr hab Grazyna Krasowicz-Kupis, prof. zw. dr hab Viktor Lecht, prof. zw. dr hab Jozef Liba, prof zw. dr hab Edward Łuczyński, prof. zw. dr hab John Honey, prof. zw. dr hab Heliodor Muszyński, prof. Iwona Nowakowska-Kempna, prof. zw. dr hab John Ożdżyński, prof. zw. dr hab Maria Pąchalska, prof. zw. dr hab Tadeusz Pilch, prof. zw. dr hab Mirosław Szymanski, prof. zw. dr hab Danuta Waloszek, prof. zw. dr hab Adam Zych and other distinguished representatives of Polish and foreign science.

The conference was conducted in two phases. The first – a plenary session, and the second – debates in sections. The conference was opened by the Rector of the Old School University – Jan Telus PhD and the Dean

of the Faculty of Education, Jolanta Góral-Półrola PhD. The first presentation was a plenary lecture by Prof. zw. dr hab. Maria Pačhalska on the general-brain interpretation of the world. This was followed by a presentation on communication as a condition attribute and the effect of education which was delivered by prof. zw. dr hab. Mirosław Szymanski.

The main thesis on language competence was presented by prof. nadzw. dr hab. Piotr Zbróg in the speech: The need for lifelong learning communication skills of pupils. Personality determinants of communicating participants in the educational process were presented by prof. nadzw. dr hab. Jolanta Wilsz. Prof. zw. dr hab. Adam Zych prepared a lecture on language, speech and communication as an important space in the pedagogy of the elderly. The plenary was ended by a speech by prof. zw. dr hab. Heliodor Muszyński on the key problems of language in the social sciences. The topics presented during the plenary sessions provided listeners with a lot of interesting content.

In the next part of the conference there were debates in sections and of vital importance was the diversity of themes and issues in the proposed speeches and lectures.

Section I was devoted to the following issues:

- Competence: linguistic and communicational issues in training, education, self-education. New phenomena of spoken language and their implications for communication.

Considerations in this topic began by presenting the educational system and communication skills, which was introduced in the context of the intercultural education of Slovak and Roma children. In terms of the Polish context, an important issue was the formation of the communicative competence of both teachers and students under the law of education. The issue of standards – the actual language skills of speakers and an understanding of the laws resulted in an important debate within the subject. In the next part of the debate, the role of dialogue in the educational process was taken into account by considering some aspects of philosophical views. The next speech was a presentation of the teacher as

the person responsible for effective communication in a school and a teacher's communication skills as a motivating factor in the learning process of pupils.

The issue of readership was reflected in the form of a paper on the impact of modern science reading on school readiness. The issue of multiculturalism is currently very relevant and in the area of teaching this problem was signaled in the form of a presentation on multilingual children in kindergarten and early childhood education – selected areas of communication. With regard to people with disabilities, the state of activities was presented in terms of the communication skills of teachers in public schools and the implementation of special educational needs for students with disabilities. Interpersonal relationships in this area were shown in a paper on the linguistic representation of the causes of humiliation from peers to adolescents with mild intellectual disability.

Selected determinants of the level of language skills of children at the age of six were presented in terms of school readiness, lack of communication skills and interference in communication concerned important issues in human relationships. The continuation of this discourse was the speech on communicative competence in working with clients of social services and the importance of psychological diagnosis in the development of communicative competence in some respects.

A wider range of communication issues was included in the speech on: changes in popular culture and the information society. This topic was continued in the next presentation of ideas on the basis of experience in speech: Is it really dyslexia? The impact of electronic media on the culture of a language and the importance of the media was presented in the speeches: social media in the communication process and pathologies in communication in a virtual world.

Moving on to the school environment, issues on teacher education, challenges, threats, communication at school with parents, and safety-related communication at school were presented. The speakers discussed relations of experiments in the development of communication skills in preschool children. The extended range of the discussed area also included issues such as: the art of dialogue and mutual communication

among middle school and high school students taking psychoactive drugs, the development of professional identity of students, linguistic communication disorders in the family – the family manipulation and safety considerations of social communication in the practice of municipal services. The presented topics led to a discussion which exposed the role and importance of speech and language communication in terms of educational activities.

In Section II, debates concentrated on issues such as:

- Speech Therapy as a special area of helping humans in the acquisition / restoration / improvement of language and communicative competence.

Statements in this area concerned the comparative analysis of Polish and foreign points of view and oscillated around such issues as the twilight of education, communication in the educational process and current trends in educational communication in Russia.

Valuable experience of therapeutic work was presented in the form of papers: communication in the therapist-patient relationship, impact of the environment in the formation of fluent child's speech (in the bilingual context) – reports from research. Research issues were presented in the form of several interesting speeches: a review of research on stuttering at school-age, the role of self-help groups for people who stutter, the speech development of a child with neurodevelopmental perspective, rhotacism in adults – a case study. The role and significance of the impact of speech therapy was presented in the following topics: the image of a speech therapist in Polish society, delayed speech development and speech therapy practice – diagnosis and therapy, speech therapist working with Roma pupils – successes and failures.

Problems of the treatment of people with intellectual disabilities were discussed in the form of speeches on the proper communication with people with incomplete efficiency in the sphere of intellect and the problem of language communication in the social integration of people with intellectual disabilities at moderate and severe level.

The support of the development of the child has become a priority, hence the variety of speeches themes in these areas such as environmental factors determining the communicative competence of children aged 4–6 years, parents' education and communicative competence of children in terms of speech development, help relationship as a healing factor in speech therapy, language and communication in the development of a hearing impaired child, the role of alternative communication in working with children with intellectual disabilities, bilingual deaf children in Poland- postulate, reality or "wishful thinking", the difficulty in acquiring communicative competence considering children with aphasia.

Other speeches included topics such as: the type of obligatory expression, communication limitations in dementia- reports from own research, the use of botulinum toxin on patients with spastic dysarthria and at the end - the importance of speech therapy prevention in the development of communicative competence. A summary of the session was a discussion on the current state of activities and studies in the field of speech and language, it highlighted the importance of the achievements and new areas and elements of therapy.

The plenary session during the second day of the conference was devoted to the further exploration of issues related to education and communication. On the second day both theoretical assumptions and research reports were presented in the plenary session in the form of the following international speeches: development of pupils' key competencies as an educational challenge, the effects of developing social skills of preschool children through programmes Play Time/Social Time I can solve, historic highlights and recent advances in the understanding of cluttering, ways of communicating with people with disabilities, the situation of the dyslexic child at school, communication language and communication skills of children with structural changes of CNS from the neuropsychological prospects, activation of the elderly in the field of communication as an important element of their quality of their life and the communicative competence of social workers in assessing the social assistance beneficiaries.

The presentations were followed by fruitful conference discussions.

The proceedings were devoted to the importance of communication in the lives of individuals and in the process of education – their meanings in different constellations and at different levels of social functioning. During the conference extremely interesting speeches were delivered by experts and teachers representing sometimes very distant studies - from neuropsychology, neuro speech therapy, pedagogy, linguistics, medical sciences and their students: theorists-researchers and practitioners.

The meeting, which was dedicated to updating the knowledge of the participants, the verification of thinking about education, speech, language and communication contributed to the development of knowledge and enrichment of its participants.

Thanks to Professor Maria Pąchalska, President of the Polish Society of Neuropsychology, initiator of the world congresses of neuropsychologists (the first of them took place in Krakow), the audience came closer to the magical world of the brain, whose structure and operation cannot be compared to any other phenomenon, to understand the phenomenon of human communication: the mechanisms guiding the process of speaking and understanding.

Dynamic changes in the space of language development and rapid changes in conditions of the communication process result in emerging, still new research problems.

Within the conference also speech therapy workshop was organized:

- Speech prevention in shaping the child’s communicative competence, aimed at practical implementation of issues presented during the conference.

During the 6th International Scientific Conference: *Education. In the Circle of Speech, Language and Communication*, many interesting issues were presented that are important for the functioning of society in a multifaceted formula.

To conclude, it should be noted that communication is understood as a basic concept in education, including general multidimensional operations and processes for the vocational education of individuals or social groups. At present the implementation of educational tasks for a wide range of impacts is included in the canon of responsibilities of the different factors involved in the educational process of a young man and hence it seems to view the discourse on the issues of speech and language communication as the primary form of communication and means of gaining knowledge. According to the encyclopedia, record-speech is understood as a specifically human way to communicate using the word symbols identifying objects and their properties, actions and abstract concepts, so in the process of upbringing and the education of children and young people, care and concern for the proper development of communication skills is extremely important. Analyzing various aspects of human interaction, it is apparent that individuals exert influence on each other, triggering the mechanism called communication.

It can be concluded that the basis of interpersonal relations and of social life is a process of interpersonal communication.

It is impossible to imagine the process of the implementation of educational activities without the participation of speech, language and communication.

Information about the author:

Anna Hajdukiewicz, PhD

Old Polish University in Kielce

Faculty of Pedagogy

Kielce, 49 Jana Piwnika "Ponurego" St

e-mail: annahajdukiewicz@interia.pl