The 19th European Symposium on Languages for Special Purposes (LSP 2013) took place on 8-10 July 2013 at the Centre for Translation Studies in Vienna, Austria. This three-day international event was hosted by the University of Vienna and was held under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). LSP 2013 continued the long tradition of bringing together LSP researchers and practitioners of various backgrounds, languages, and research traditions. We were honoured to host the Symposium for the second time; the first was held in Vienna in 1995.

The theme of LSP 2013 was Languages for Special purposes in a Multilingual, Transcultural World. The timeliness and topicality of this focus was illustrated by over 200 delegates from more than 40 countries in attendance. The Symposium started with the opening addresses by Dr Eva Nowotny, President of the Austrian Commission for UNESCO, and Professor Larisa Schippel, Director of the Centre for Translation Studies of the University of Vienna. The Symposium itself offered three invited keynote speeches, two invited colloquia and nine parallel tracks on the following topics: multilingualism and language policies, theoretical and methodological issues of LSP research, LSP teaching and training, domain-specific languages, professional communication, terminologies in theory and practice, corpus-studies for LSP, and specialized translation. We decided to incorporate a new feature to this Symposium. For the first time, we organized a new track called Forum for Early-Stage Researchers to encourage graduate students, post-docs, and junior researchers to present their work and to discuss their research and methodology with distinguished senior researchers.

The papers selected to appear in this volume were first presented at the LSP 2013. They are organized under nine major headings:

- I. Domain-specific languages, inter alia: legal, medical, maritime, business, engineering;
- II. LSP in specific languages, countries, regions of the world;
- III. Multilingualism, language policies, and socio-cultural issues of LSPs;
- IV. Professional communication;
- V. Specialized translation;
- VI. LSP teaching and training;
- VII. Corpus-studies for LSP practice and research;
- VIII. Terminologies in theory and practice;
- IX. Colloquium LISE: A quality boost for terminological resources.

Under each heading, the papers appear in alphabetical order according to the authors' last names.

Our thanks are due to the authors for their hard work. We would like to extend our thanks to the members of the Co-opted Scientific Committee, Professor John Humbley and Professor Christer Laurén, for their valuable expertise and dedication. Special thanks go to the Organizing Committee members and their helpers for the smooth operation of the Symposium. We are delighted that the event was held under the patronage of UNESCO and we would like to express our gratitude to the Austrian Commission for UNESCO for their support.

As a final word, we are very excited to see that the LSP community is vibrant and growing internationally. We hope that LSP 2013 fostered interactions and exchange amongst researchers and practitioners in the field of LSP.

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