SKASE introduces Versita (An interview with Jacek Ciesielski, general manager of Versita)

Could you please introduce Versita and its activities to our readers?

Versita is a scholarly publisher. Our publications are written by researchers for researchers. Versita publishes in two models: paid access model and open access model.

In the paid access model we publish our own journals and third party journals, all of them in co-operation with Springer or de Gruyter. Our own journals are focused on physical, technical, life and medical sciences. The third party journals co-published with Springer also focus on those areas. In 2010 we started to co-publish journals in humanities with de Gruyter. For instance, we will co-publish with Mouton de Gruyter the Poznań Studies in Contemporary Linguistics http://www.versita.com/pscl.

In open access model, on the platform Versita Open we publish over 200 journals from various countries and across many disciplines, including linguistics. Please see http://versitaopen.com/linguistics/.

Now Versita is beginning to publish also books. They will be co-published with de Gruyter. Linguistics is one of the fields chosen for Versita book publishing program. Please see http://www.versita.com/Book_Author/Linguistics/.

If a linguist is interested in publishing a paper or a book with Versita how should they proceed?

Versita can serve every publishing need of each linguist. If you want to submit your manuscript to a journal, you are welcome to choose one of the journals published by Versita. Depending on your policy, you can go for a paid access journal or an open access journal. If you want to write a book or you have already written a book, and you are looking for a publisher of that book, Versita can consider publishing it together with Mouton de Gruyter. If you are an editor of an existing journal, and you would like to have it published by Versita, please contact Versita and - if the journal meets our requirements - we may offer you to have it published by Versita alone or by Versita together with Mouton de Gruyter or Springer. If you want to launch a journal, and are looking for a publisher, please contact us to discuss if we are interested in taking this opportunity.

Why is the focus of Versita on Central and Eastern Europe?

Versita was born in Central Europe, but only some of our publishing programs deal with this region. Our journal and book co-publishing with Springer and de Gruyter focus on Central and Eastern Europe. Both companies made Versita their exclusive publishing partner for this region, so indeed there must be a good cause behind it.

First of all, both Versita and our publishing partners believe that Central and Eastern Europe is an important territory that has better research than journals. Obviously, there are stars among journals published in our region, with high impact factors and strong reputation. But overall, regretfully Central and Eastern European journals are lagging behind the leading journals from the US or Western Europe. There are many reasons for this, mostly of historical nature. Versita identifies journals that have already accomplished good scientific quality or have the potential to do so, and presents them to our partner for joint publication. At Versita we sincerely believe that there is no good reason why journals from Central and Eastern Europe cannot be the world's leading periodicals in their fields.

Secondly, we have decided to launch a book program with de Gruyter, because we think that Central and Eastern Europe is a region full of excellent book authors. Some of them have already written and published a book or a number of books, others still do not realize that they can do it. Today, thanks to online publishing and stronger international contacts, researchers from our region have better access to international literature, so it is much easier to synthesize it into monographs and other book categories.

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