

TITLE:

Research publication support for scholars in Brazil: rising to the challenge

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ABSTRACT (297 words):

Brazilian scholars have always felt pressure to publish their work in English, but recently that pressure has grown in intensity (due to, for example, new English-language journal policies in Brazil, and recent government initiatives geared toward greater internationalization). However, while there is an increasing demand to publish research in English, Brazilian scholars have very little institutional help to meet that demand. Although individual programs specializing in teaching EAP do exist in Brazil, the specific issues that Brazilian researchers face are "often broader and more complex" (Cargill and Burgess 2008: 75). An interdisciplinary research group has therefore been formed at the Federal University of Paraná, joining professors from the English and Engineering departments, to investigate that complexity. The first phase of the research involved a combination of questionnaires and interviews from Engineering professors and students. This phase was followed by collecting manuscripts from these scholars in various stages of development/publication, for the purposes of analysis and, in some cases, redrafting. A parallel objective of the research group is to eventually apply the findings to inform new curricular guidelines at the post-graduate level, and the development of a new highly specialized course, team-taught by teachers from both departments (English and Engineering). While currently nested within one Brazilian university, the current research -- and its emerging classroom applications -- are also a pilot for a future nationwide program to serve Brazilian scholars more broadly. In this presentation, the speakers will briefly review the background that led to the current publication situation in Brazil, and to the formation of our research group. We will then go on to describe our current research, including principal interim findings, and their implications. We will finish by outlining ways in which we see the research developing, and finally invite questions, comments and suggestions from participants.

REFERENCE

Cargill, M., & Burgess, S. (2008). Introduction to the special issue: English for research publication purposes. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, 7(2), 75-76.

BIODATA

Dr. Ron Martinez received his PhD in English Corpus Linguistics from the University of Nottingham (UK), and his MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition from the University of Oxford (UK). He is currently Assistant Professor of English at the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR) in Brazil, where heads a research group called 'Internationalization of Brazilian Scholarly Research'. He is a member of the editorial boards of the *English Language Teaching Journal* (UK) and *TESOL Quarterly* (USA), and is also the acting Pedagogical Coordinator of a program at UFPR entitled *Inglês sem Fronteiras* ('English without Borders') that provides specialized English courses for professors and students of the university.

Dr. Karin Graf received her PhD and MSc in Materials Engineering from the Federal University of Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil. She is currently Assistant Professor of Engineering at Federal University of Paraná, where she is one of the leaders of a special 'Internationalization Commission' for the department, charged with the development and fostering of international partnerships and academic endeavors. She is the creator and coordinator of a new Automotive Engineering degree program at the university that is partly taught in English, and thus appeals to international scholars. Dr. Graf is also formerly a teacher of English language.