

Preface

Dear Reader,

This book is the XVIIth edition of the International Conference on Traditions and Innovations in Linguistic and Cultural Studies (LKTI 2017), which will be held on October 11–13, 2017, in Tomsk, Russia. The conference aimed to focus on a variety of issues such as cultural studies, linguistics, interdisciplinary pedagogy, language teaching and learning. The following topics were discussed in detail:

- Educational environments
- Lifelong learning
- Engineering education
- Evaluation and outcomes assessment
- Tertiary education
- Language teaching and learning
- Linguistic studies

We believe that we are mature enough to experiment and do innovative things. So, this year we did our best to enhance equality through partnership at different levels:

- LKTI 2017 was organized by the Department of Foreign Languages at the Institute of Electrical Engineering, Tomsk Polytechnic University in conjunction with Research Centre Kairos. This allowed to provide collaboration of governmental and non-governmental institutions for research purposes;
- English is a dominant language for international publishing. This fact makes non-native scholars experience considerable difficulties. We sought the ways to occupy this gap being convinced that contributions from non-native scholars are crucial for the global world, on the one hand, generating new insights into research questions and, on the other hand, retaining local voices which is meaningful in order to launch regional research and provide diverse contribution to knowledge;

- Our authors are expert scholars and early-career researchers from various regions of the Russian Federation who demonstrated their achievements, outlined further prospects and shared valuable experience.
- This project will contribute to the PhD research exploring the ways to engage Russian academics into the worldwide academia, identifying the key challenges, and finding the solutions. The research was started at the University of Sheffield (Sheffield, UK) in January 2016 and continued at the University of Westminster (London, UK) in January 2017. We hope to make a substantial contribution to academic context in Russia.

We are grateful to *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing* for this precious opportunity to share our research results and will be happy if this book becomes the start of new collaborations.

We wish you enjoyable reading and new discoveries!

Zhanna Anikina

Linguistic and Cultural Studies: Traditions and
Innovations

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