

Lubelska etnolingwistyka
Ethnolinguistic research in Lublin

SUMMARY

The author presents successive stages in the development of ethnolinguistic research at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin. The first stage of that research dealt with the language of folklore investigated against the background of local rural dialects; this stage led to the publication of the book *O języku folkloru* [On the language of folklore] (1973), the concept of stylistic derivation (cf. the book *O derywacji stylistycznej* [On stylistic derivation], 1977) and the project of a dictionary of folk stereotypes and symbols (*Słownik stereotypów i symboli ludowych*) announced in 1980 and implemented since 1996 as a series of publications. This research, which draws on the work of American (Sapir, Whorf) and Russian (Ivanov, Toporov, S. and N. Tołstoj) scholars, has several features that make it distinct. Among them is the focus on the concept of the linguistic image of the world and the problem of stereotypes. Accounting for the cultural aspect in the description of word meaning has led the scholars in Lublin to work out special research tools such as the so-called cognitive definition and the profiling of concepts. The theoretical aspects of the studies conducted by those linguists have been discussed at regularly organized national conferences, which have yielded several book publications (fifteen volumes of the Lublin “red series”) as well thirteen volumes of the annual journal “Etnolingwistyka”. The ethnolinguistics of Lublin has extended its scope of interest beyond the investigation of rural dialects and folklore, to cover also general language, including its internal, stylistic and generic differentiation, as well as aspects of comparative, cross-linguistic research, especially in the areas of semantics and axiology. The ethnolinguistic research in Lublin can be placed within the current of contemporary anthropological-cultural and cognitive linguistics.

Analecta – Studia i Materiały z Dziejów Nauki
[Analecta – Studies and Materials on the History of Science]
XI, 2002, 1-2, 29-42