



## EDITOR'S NOTE

### ON FREEDOM AND WHY WE ARE DIFFERENT

About two years ago, I presented the Senate of the University of Niš the idea for starting a journal on English for Specific and Academic Purposes. My arguments were convincing enough. The Senate and the Rector approved, gave me full freedom in every aspect of the work on the journal, at the same time their support. The credit they invested acknowledged. Along with the message.

My personal thesis is that English for Specific Purposes, or Professional English, as I prefer to call it, is the most needed and thus most present form of ELT among adult population of learners worldwide, beginning with students. However, my tentative hypothesis on its perspective is that for long to come, ESP will not admittedly become the main stream ELT because it goes against the grain when it comes to the number of textbooks publishing houses can sell. The fact is there exist only general ESP textbooks, and they do not sell much. All the teaching/learning material, so badly needed, is designed by lecturers themselves. Just like in everything else regarding their work, yes, they still are and will be those solitary 'dwellers in a strange and uncharted land' who produce amazing quantity of research, the quality of it, the depth and insights, all being outstanding. This unenviable situation, I realized, can be turned into a huge advantage called - freedom.

Freedom of professional and personal expression. What I mean by this, as the Editor-in-Chief, is the following. I encourage and invite ESP lecturers to write about their practice, research, professional experiences. When it comes to the reviewing process, we have the papers as they are regarding the manner of presenting thoughts (we do heavily insist on the quality of the statements and findings). But, we never ask the author to change a clause in their text so as 'to sound more native like', or change phrasing, word choice, the organization of the text. Instead, our aim is twofold: to present good work and to present the author, the person who does the hard work with little or no help. There is always a better way, and the best way, we know that much. However, we opt for being us, and for letting our authors be who they are. We believe there is an aspect of treasure discovering when we can meet another person, professional, without imposing unnecessary and certainly not crucial demands for change (in my opinion sometimes even preposterous claims of 'peers'). We have openly decided to be free from unsubstantiated restrictions, limitations. It is the inherent situation of ESP practitioners that entitles us to this.

This is what makes us different. Our aim is not to be the best, our aim is to make a difference. We will keep on trying.

Nadežda Stojković  
Editor-in-Chief