The purpose of this presentation is to analyze and classify metaphors to offer them as evidence-based communicative instruments to health providers for patient education. The analysis is aimed at identifying the misunderstandings caused by the use of metaphors in real contexts, by distinguishing between metaphors that lead to misunderstandings or help patients’ understanding and facilitate medical communication. More specifically, the analysis is aimed at the following: (1) identifying the percentage and the type of misunderstandings due to the use of metaphors; (2) defining which metaphors (conventional vs. creative) are more likely to lead misunderstandings. A corpus of 52 patient-providers interviews concerning diabetes care has been analyzed, by identifying the types of metaphors used and evaluating whether they result in possible misunderstandings or communicative infelicities. Misunderstanding or problematic understanding cases due to the use of metaphors has been detected in order to evaluate the communicative effectiveness of metaphors.
Dr. Maria Grazia Rossi works as post-doc researcher at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa Lisbon, Portugal. Her current research focuses on the role of metaphors as argumentative tools to foster patient understanding. She published a monograph, articles and edited books, among which "Metaphor in Communication, Science and Education" (De Gruyter, 2017, with F. Ervas and E. Gola) and "The ethical convenience of non-neutrality in medical encounters. Argumentative instruments for healthcare providers" (Teoria, 2017, Rossi M.G., Leone D. "Modality interpretation of polysemic modals in focus position".
"There are those who say that we should never have acted": Displaying Polyphony in Political Discourse

The presentation will discuss the first findings on how third person markers can display the multiplicity of voices in contemporary parliamentary debates in France, Germany, and the UK. I combine a contrastive research design with a qualitative discourse analytic and a quantitative corpus-based perspective with a focus on the newly reconceptualised category of ‘target’. While third person-referring expressions build a heterogeneous class that comprises third person pronouns (he, she, one) and noun phrases (this person, people), but also quantifiers (many, some, etc.) and more complex entities such as relative clauses (those who), this presentation will specifically focus on the markers involved in creating polyphony in adversarial political discourse.
PUBLIC LECTURES of VISITING SCHOLARS

TIME: 2:30 - 3:50, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 2018

PLACE: STANDISH ROOM

NAOMI TRUAN, FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR
SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ / FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Naomi Truan is a PhD Candidate in Linguistics at Sorbonne Université and the Freie Universität Berlin (cotutelle de thèse), having previously completed her B.A. (magna cum laude) and M.A. (summa cum laude) in German Studies at the École Normale Supérieure in Lyon, France. She is currently a Fulbright visiting scholar at the University at Albany, NY, USA. She was previously a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford, UK, and she is an affiliated member of the Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin, Germany.