Editorial

Proper names between logos and praxis[1]. The quest for interdisciplinarity in the Brazilian Onomastics

Nombres propios entre logos y praxis. La búsqueda por la interdisciplinariedad en la Onomástica brasileña

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ABSTRACT: The editors' target is much more than introducing the papers of this Thematic Issue to the reader. It can be considered a space devoted to discussing the Onomastics studies in Brazil, its status, and interdisciplinarity. Initially, we outline a tenuous sketch about interdisciplinarity and onomastic research in Brazil. We also discuss the terminological disagreements among researchers, in general, and among authors for this Issue, precisely – not a welcome scenario. Secondly, we revise the concepts related to interdisciplinarity, as

RESUMEM: Más que una presentación del Número Temático "La búsqueda de la interdisciplinariedad en la Onomástica brasileña", este artículo es un espacio de reflexión de los editores sobre los artículos presentados a los lectores, sobre el estado de la investigación onomástica en Brasil y también sobre la interdisciplinariedad. En un primer momento, se presenta una trayectoria de estudios onomásticos en el país, subrayando investigaciones y acciones desarrolladas en las últimas décadas, así como las iniciativas más recientes. Asimismo, se discute la

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[1] Even though the title of this issue was conceived based on the material that the editors had at hand, this is a tribute to Professor Dick, who, in addition to being a fundamental exponent of onomastic studies in Brazil, had guided one of the guest editors, Carvalhinhos, throughout her academic career in a total of eight years (in addition to many more years of acquaintanceship). It is worth remembering the theme in Dick's own words (1999, p. 125, emphasis in original): "From the perspective of onomastic literature, the Greek philosophy brought out various approaches concerning proper names. As an *onoma*, the name involves the notions of *logos* and *praxis*, opposite to *phýsei/nomói*; to *organón*, to *kyrión* (Latin n. p., similar to onoma, the name par excellence), and to *prosegorikon* (the appellative, what it is meant to name).".

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multidisciplinarity, pluri-disciplinarity, and transdisciplinarity. This review emphasizes its application in onomastic studies in Brazil by presenting attempts to implement inter (or trans) disciplinary routines in research, quoting French and Canadian onomasticians. Finally, the last section introduces the papers that make up the issue, inviting the reader to read the whole issue and reflect on the discussed themes.

diversidad terminológica en general – no siempre bienvenida en el escenario actual – y la posición particular de los autores del Número Temático. A continuación, se realiza una revisión de los conceptos relacionados con la interdisciplinariedad, a saber, pluri, multi y transdisciplinariedad, enfatizando su aplicación en los estudios onomásticos en el país y buscando, en la literatura específica, intentos de implementar rutinas inter/transdisciplinarias. Finalmente, la última sección presenta al lector los textos que componen este número, invitándole a leer el conjunto y a reflexionar.

KEYWORDS: Onomastics in Brazil. Interdisciplinarity. Onomastic terminology. Toponymy. Anthroponymy.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Onomástica en Brasil. Interdisciplinariedad. Terminología onomástica. Toponomástica. Antroponomástica.

1 Research on Onomastics[2] in Brazil and the editorial process

There is a certain distance between expectation (one of the definitions of logos) and reality (praxis in the sense of practice). There are some differences between the expected and the developed at the beginning of any project. In academic contexts, it is quite common to sugarcoat, as one may say, to disguise difficulties in an investigation. However, it would not be possible to start this introductory paper in a different way. This thought would be interpreted as

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[2] Once the current Brazilian Portuguese spelling agreement authorizes the use of capital letters in certain circumstances, we have chosen to refer to all sciences and disciplines with an initial capital letter. When we use it in lowercase, it means that it is not the discipline itself. So, *Onomastics* refers to science; while in *onomastics* its use is adjectival or complementary (nominal complement), in structures such as *onomastic research*.

frustration in its negative sense, but it constitutes a moment of reflection to editors and authors.

We were looking for interdisciplinary unpublished papers. Nevertheless, the ones submitted to this thematic issue (Volume 15, N. 2, 2021) of Domínios da Lingu@gem journal, or just Domínios, lead us to build a different issue. The results allow us, as Editors, to talk about the current state of research on Onomastics in Brazil and about the future challenges.

It is a fact that logos and praxis do not always go side by side. Therefore, the previous Call for Papers title Onomastics: the depth of names in Portuguese in an interdisciplinary perspective has been replaced by a new one: The quest for interdisciplinarity in the Brazilian Onomastics.

Effectively, the quest for interdisciplinarity is a pursued challenge though not always an achieved one. As we will postulate further on, this may occur for several reasons. In Brazil's current situation of research, interdisciplinarity is much more a demand than a factuality. Maybe it happens because of the bureaucratic and economic barriers. Alternatively, it could be a misunderstanding of what interdisciplinarity means once there is an ambiguity between this idea and related concepts such as pluridisciplinarity or transdisciplinarity.

Onomastics can be submitted to several inquiries regarding its ontology and its subdivisions. Although traditionally known for Toponymy and Anthroponymy studies, the realm of Onomastics is broader and can reach other categories that also include common nouns. For example, the phenomenology of deonymization, which explains the transition from a common name to a proper name, highlights how a name ceases to identify a class of beings (or objects) with similar morphosyntactic and semantic attributes and becomes particularizing a single being/object. It has come a long way since the institution of the concept by Greek

grammarians. Around the 2nd century BC, Dionysius of Thrace was the author of a manual considered the first grammar in the western world, the Téchne Grammatik. His ὄνομα (onoma) referred not only what we now know as proper names and common nouns, but also abstract concepts and adjectives.

Despite what one might think, names have their theory, influenced not only by Linguistics but also by Philosophy and Logic. Linguists have constantly proposed theories and classifications regarding proper names, which is what interests us. For example, Van Langendonck (2007, p. 183-255) proposes a typology of proper names, identifying prototypical onomastic signs, which always act, in form and function, like proper names, such as toponyms and anthroponyms. He also identifies less or not prototypical names, such as account names (temporal names, works of art, books, periodicals, films, etc., institutions associated with buildings, brand names, coins, numbers, and letters). Finally, he points out countless (names of languages, of colors, of diseases) and onomastic sentences. This second group corresponds to what Vasconcelos (1928, p. 2) classified as panteonímia ("pantheonymy"). Thus, the constitution of a linguistic element as a proper name is contextual, based on its use in specific linguistic constructions.

The diversity of terminological uses for the concepts of the field in the Portuguese language should not be overstated. To illustrate the point and justify our position regarding the terms used by the authors of this issue, Toponymy and Anthroponymy do not have a uniform nomenclature. Like the editors of this issue themselves, some prefer to keep the terminology consolidated in our tradition, Toponymy and Anthroponymy; others usually update these nomenclatures to Toponomastics and Anthroponomastics, aligned with the suggestion of the United Nation Group of Experts in Geographical Names (UNGEGN). Two papers that foreign researchers wrote also drew our attention to this matter. One term adopted

by one of the authors, potamonímia ("potamonymy"), is not used in Brazil. This terminological example must be explored to explain our point of view. In Brazil, we have preferred to use the term hydronymy – even though the Greek root hydro is more generic than potamos. Another example refers to the double terminology for the disciplinary field name in Spanish (Onomástica and Onomatología), just like in Portuguese (Onomástica and Onomatologia).

Despite such differences, all authors are correct in their choices. We highlight the matter because young researchers and students might think that these are different terms/concepts, but they are not. At last, terminological divergences portray the status of onomastic research in the country, with the intensification of dialogues and the flourishing of (salutary) questionings. To indicate a few efforts, we mention the foundation of the Observatory of Onomastic Studies (Federal University of Minas Gerais – UFMG) and the Onomástica desde América Latina Journal (Western Paraná State University – UNIOESTE). May these recent proposals expand and consolidate themselves as exponents, effectively bringing together Brazilian researchers.

Such initiatives incidentally relate to what happened in France in the 1930s, when from Dauzat's efforts (as well as Charles Rostaing's and others') several papers were published, and the foundation of the International Congress of Toponymy and Anthroponymy occurred, currently, the International Congress of Onomastics Sciences, linked to the International Council of Onomastics Sciences (ICOS). This successful initiative stemmed from a joint effort to study French toponymy (and anthroponymy), still closely linked to dialectology, philology, and the external history of the French language.

We apologize for the digressing. It is a good lesson for Brazilians: there are no great goals to reach without a union, so let us look at the path we have yet to follow based on tradition.

1.1 The French and the Portuguese tradition in the Brazilian Onomastics

Even though it was originated in Brazil from studies developed in language (Philology and Etymology) and in Geography (by the analysis of geographical nomenclature), Onomastics got recognized by the work of Maria Vicentina de Paula do Amaral Dick, especially after the 1990s. Historically, Leite de Vasconcelos proposed, still in the 19th century, the term Onomatology – which translates the concept "science of names" – and his extensive work highlights the two most studied subjects, Anthroponymy and Toponymy.

The French tradition was born simultaneously with the proposal of Leite de Vasconcelos (1887), although in the 19th century France several studies had been carried out. Auguste Longnon proposed, in 1878, Toponymy as a subject. In the 20th century, Albert Dauzat promoted the study of place names (Les noms de lieux, 1928) and anthroponyms (Les noms de personnes, 1934). When we recognize that not only Linguistics studies the proper noun, we highlight how other sciences, such as Philosophy and Anthropology, are dedicated to this study and contribute with particular views, as depicted by Jean Molino (1982):

> It is with the works of Frege and Russel that the proper name has become a logico-philosophical problem. More recently, it has become an anthropological problem: let us quote, for France, *La Pensée Sauvage*, by Cl. Lévi-Strauss. It is important to recall this history quickly because it explains the difficulties of studying the proper name in a clearly defined framework. Each discipline considers a problem from a specific perspective, and it is often difficult or dangerous to transport without modification the results

of an investigation from one field to another, from logic or anthropology to linguistics.

Logic is currently in dialogue with the most recent scientific publications on the linguistic status of the proper name (VAN LANGENDONCK; VAN DE VELDE, 2016; SMITH, 2017). On the one hand, there are still debates among logicians about connotation and denotation. On the other hand, cognition has added the symbolic dimension to the name, energizing what used to be placed in tight blocks.

As for the studies related to Onomastics in our country, we have always been making up lost ground. Before 1934, research dedicated to the study of names was carried out independently. After that date, with the systematic beginning of undergraduate teaching and toponymic research at the University of São Paulo, its advance was slow, with a significant increase after the introduction of graduate courses in the country. Even more so, after the 1990s, with the exchange between researchers from several Higher Education Institutions, especially from Letters and Linguistics. The more significant number of investigations in the area, in the last decades, can be justified by the incorporation of technological databases, by the bibliographic expansion promoted by the democratization of access to knowledge, and by the already mentioned growing interlocution among professors-researchers from several universities, both in congresses and publications.

Due to the limitations in academic funding programs in Humanities in Brazil have made it difficult, although not unfeasible, initiatives of interinstitutional projects, we can affirm that Brazilian researchers dedicated to onomastic studies suffer both widespread discredit and prejudice from their peers, as there is a certain lack of knowledge concerning this disciplinary field. One factor that contributed to this situation, even among linguists, was its "late" discovery since those studies

were limited to a few institutions, and their circulation was slow. Another reason is that because it is somehow linked to Etymology – a relevant tool for the recovery of Native, African, or foreign proper names –, Onomastics has often been regarded as a curiosity, sometimes taken as "futile," unserious or just a dilettante by the general public, generating an erroneous perception regarding the status of this science.

The growth of Onomastics in the country has been due to the development of research in public universities in the five regions of Brazil, little by little dismissing this preconception. After all, amid so much dryness in the linguistic field – it is not rare that the hermeticism and metalanguage present in more theoretical fields of Linguistics give an impression of harshness –, Onomastics strives to refresh the landscape without giving up the rigid principles of science, distinguishing itself, in this sense, by its character peculiarly inclined towards interdisciplinarity. Although there is a specific terminology and a theoretical and methodological apparatus as it occurs in other sciences, the empiricism present in most onomastic research seems to refresh this dryness, especially for the beginner student or researcher.

Focusing back on the beginning of research in Brazil and the traditions from which it draws, we can identify at least three distinct moments. The first of them, from the beginning of the 20th century until the 1960s, is characterized by research that was not yet called onomastic since the guideline was the search for the meanings of names related to Native Brazilian languages (see studies by Frederico Edelweiss, in Bahia, Priest Antônio Lemos, in Rio de Janeiro, and Plínio Ayrosa and Carlos Drumond, in São Paulo, to name a few). Philology and Etymology were the guiding principles of this research, and, in the case of names from the languages of traditional peoples, Ethnology was added to these disciplines.

The second moment, around 1970, with the onomastic subjects already characterized as a disciplinary body regularly offered by the University of São Paulo, is typified by the broadening of the scope of proper names and not only autochthonous names are vigorously studied, but also Iberian Onomastics in its intersection with the Portuguese language, with the rare studies by Erasmo D'Almeida Magalhães. Here is a resumption of the Portuguese tradition inaugurated with Leite de Vasconcelos and a dialogue with the French tradition (Auguste Longnon, Albert Dauzat, and Charles Rostaing), the Canadian tradition, with Henri Dorion, and the North American tradition, with George Rippey Stewart.

All the "limitations" concerning the circulation of knowledge, based essentially through travels and exchanges between libraries and researchers, made the echoes of the international academic community seem distant. Nevertheless, proceedings of associations (such as the American Name Society and the International Council of Onomastics Sciences) circulated from hand to hand.

 Despite the industrious context, the dialogue took place. This resumption of the tradition by Magalhães and the consequent interchange with inner facts impact Dick's early studies (supervised by Drumond and co-supervised by Magalhães; inaugurating the third moment), who, in 1980, wisely takes advantage of the tradition. Influenced by these, Dick searches, among the taxonomies already existing and registered by the Lisbon Academy of Sciences, for the terms that best suited the Brazilian place-name reality bequeathing us the classificatory model still in use in the 21st century.

The resonances of these traditions reverberate in our core until the present moment, and we find ourselves at a crossroads, for building our Brazilian tradition based on the paradigms of the 20th century does not seem feasible. Nevertheless,

in the last century, we did not advance in basic research in Onomastics in time to prepare ourselves for the new century's challenges. Furthermore, this articulation between the past and the future constitutes the basis of onomastic studies today. It is slow progress, but if there is coordination between these two axes, the academic community can only gain.

1.2 The Editorial process

In the meantime, we regard scientific exchange as an urgent matter. On the one hand, it tends to be favored by Digital Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), but on the other, the linguistic proficiency jeopardizes it because the mastery of foreign languages is not unanimous, especially among Brazilian students. Moreover, unlike what occurs in other areas of knowledge, it is not yet common practice to read and much less publish in foreign languages, which has limited both the expansion of theoretical-methodological perspectives and practices and the visibility of projects produced in Brazil.

Considering these factors, the guest editors proposed to Domínios a bilingual issue in Portuguese and English3, the first in the history of this journal. Although the editorial process was completed, there were no duplicates in all articles – 7 of the 10 articles (70%) presented versions – this initiative captured contributions from authors from non-Lusophone countries, such as Russia and Lithuania. The process demanded a joint effort from the Editor-in-Chief and the guest editors to draw up evaluation sheets and guidelines that, until then, only existed in Portuguese, among other actions. Therefore, the outcome will be availed by colleagues who venture to organize entirely bilingual or multilingual issues in

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3 In this issue, two papers by foreign, non-Lusophone authors are published only in their original language.

the future. Thus, we highlight the importance of internationalization of both the journal Domínios da Lingu@gem and onomastic research in the country, in which globalization has been debated, and English is still the lingua franca. In this sense, it is worth pointing out that the production published in foreign languages is the entire responsibility of the authors and that any eventual vices of language, although they may be perceived by native speakers or by proofreaders, do not diminish the importance of the contributions.

Editing a thematic issue formerly intended to be bilingual required contacting reviewers from foreign universities in the blind peer review, such as Mexico, Spain, Hungary, Canada, and Russia. Finally, we must also mention the invaluable collaboration of Brazilian colleagues, who contributed both by reviewing the submitted manuscripts and by proposing unpublished originals, without which it would not have been possible to compose the present issue.

One deadlock faced by the editors was terminology. As we have already mentioned, there is no uniformity in terminology usage, not only in Brazil, we must emphasize. The UNGEGN makes efforts to reduce divergences, with recommendations published by its Working Group on Terminology, but the fact is that it is often complex to change the use of an already established term (such as Toponymy, as explained above). Nevertheless, there are other cases to be considered.

As editors, we respect the authors' options, but we cannot look away from one or two words in occasional cases. One term worth mentioning, because it may surprise the readers, is potamonímia, present in the paper Para um perfil da potamonímia do Centro e Sul de Portugal (Towards a profile of potamonymy in Central and Southern Portugal), by Carlos Rocha. The author explains his choice

and relies on other works to justify the election of this term in the first note of his text:

> Neste trabalho, ao nome próprio de um rio aplica-se o termo potamónimo, equivalente a hidrotopónimo no sentido 'nome próprio referente a rio' (cf. RAPOSO et al., 2013, p. 1019; see also ROCHA, 2017, p. 30). Os potamónimos ou hidrotopónimos denominam, portanto, uma classe de nomes próprios que se distingue dos hidrónimos, classe de nomes comuns que denotam diferentes modos de apresentação ou acumulação da água – fonte, rio, ribeiro, regato, arroio, lagoa, lago, golfo, mar, oceano etc. Refira-se que o termo hidrónimo é usado por A. Almeida Fernandes (FERNANDES, 1952) para a designação de qualquer forma de extensão aquática, enquanto hidrotopónimo é aplicado pelo mesmo autor a um topónimo que inclua um hidrónimo4 (ROCHA, 2021, this issue).

This example highlights a terminological matter in this area of specialization. The Greek root hydros embrace a more general and comprehensive meaning than photamos. Dick's (1980) stance is similar to Fernandes's (quoted by Rocha), and there is a logic to this position. UNGEGN (2002, p. 13) defines hydronym as a "toponym applied to a hydrographic element." Although it is quite objective, this definition offers margins for various interpretations and digressions because it is not very well explained. In a literal reading, and considering the Greek roots, one can interpret that topos is the root for terrestrial 'places' and that hydros, on the

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[4] Rocha's excerpt translation: "In this paper, the term potamonym is applied to the proper name of a river, equivalent to hydrotoponym in the sense 'proper name referring to the river' (see RAPOSO et al., 2013, p. 1019; see also ROCHA, 2017, p. 30). The potamonyms or hydrotoponyms denominate, therefore, a class of proper names that is distinguished from the hydronyms, a class of common names that denote different ways of presentation or accumulation of water - fountain, river, stream, brook, creek, pond, lake, gulf, sea, ocean, etc. The term hydronym is used by A. Almeida Fernandes (FERNANDES, 1952) to designate any aquatic feature, while the same author applies a hydrotoponym to a toponym that includes a hydronym.".

other hand, is equivalent when there is an aquatic geographical feature. Following this line of reasoning, potamonym is more restricted than hydronym, since it is reserved only for rivers or other linear geographical features. Still, and considering the etymology, it is defined as "the name of the river." The divergence is that the author considers potamonymy a term that denotes "a class of proper names," using an alternative term: hydrotoponymy.

Those readers used to Dick's toponymic taxonomies will be surprised because we hardly use the terms hydronym and hydrotoponym as synonyms. We claim that hydrotoponym is not on the same level as potamonym in its formal constitution and cannot be regarded as a synonym of hydrotoponym. Obviously, the author does not state this. However, the very etymology of the term makes us infer that they are different objects. We affirm that because hydrotoponyms is a term that can be applied to any geographical elements, including man-made features: see DICK 1990, p. 31, "[...] Ribeirão Preto ' Black Stream' (State of São Paulo municipality); [...] Braço do Norte 'North River Arm' (State of Bahia municipality); [...] Foz do Riozinho 'Little River Mouth' (State of Amazonas municipality)."

Mathematically arranging what Rocha states, we have the major premise A=B (hydrotoponym=potamonym). The minor premise is deduced by the constitutional logic of the term, B=C (potamonym=hydrononym, where we have Greek roots joined to the onoma class, indicating that they are common names). Moreover, the obvious conclusion is A=C (hydrotoponym=hydrononym) because by the syllogism rule, if A=B and B=C, then A=C. Thus, it is mathematically correct, but we claim that, terminologically, the equivalence A=C proposed cannot be considered, as these are different realities.

This deadlock may be due to what Coates (2011, p. 9) has realized: are we using our encyclopedic knowledge to create, use and understand a term, or are we just using our linguistic knowledge5? That is just one of several terminological issues that the editors encountered when organizing the issue.

As if the challenges inherent in the task were not enough, the world scientific community in the biennium 2020-2021 has faced new challenges because of the pandemic context of Covid-19 (Sars-Cov-2). The Call for Papers for this issue, for example, was active between March and August 2020, a more extended period than usual. Moreover, this delicate moment required restrictions of various natures, highlighting the efforts of all agents of this scientific chain – editorial board, the committee of reviewers, and contributors – in a context of accumulated emotional and professional overload.

After having introduced the conjuncture of the project undertaken and the editorial process in question, we will discuss in the following section the pillar that guided this issue – interdisciplinary or at least pluri-disciplinary research in the field of Onomastics – to point out that logos does not always presuppose praxis, and that praxis may come to contradict logos.

2 The quest for the interdisciplinarity on the Brazilian Onomastics

It is common in Brazil to identify a resistance (or even difficulty) on recognizing the interdisciplinary character of toponymic and anthroponymic research – it happens among ordinary people and inside the academic community. For example, in Language and Linguistics scientific environments, some people justify that this kind of research should be made in History of Geography fields

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5 "[...] which relies on the hearer's encyclopedic knowledge to supply the type of place it is, or to disambiguate, not on their linguistic knowledge." (COATES, 2011, p. 9).

because they do not believe or trust the legitimacy of this relation. This fact leads us to the importance of understanding the proper names as part of a specific theoretical and methodological setting. It occurs because Onomastics always deal with complex problems that demand the knowledge and expertise of several scientific fields, extrapolating disciplinary barriers.

Dick stated this nature of Onomastic Sciences in several papers, especially regarding the status of Toponymy as a disciplinary field with an interdisciplinary vocation. On one of these occasions, she stated that Toponymy

> [...] is a discipline that looks to History, Geography, Linguistics, Anthropology, Social Psychology, and even Zoology, Botany, Archeology, according to the intellectual background of the researcher. In an interpenetration of specific phenomenological fields, it is important to emphasize, however, the universalistic role of the discipline, in what it is common to all other branches of knowledge [...]" (DICK, 1990, p. II).

Sometimes, the author refers to the name itself as the centripetal element towards which other disciplines flow and with which these disciplines dialogue, as when she states that "Toponymy, within the pluri-disciplinary scope of its object, plays a role in the convergence of various aspects of codified humanistic knowledge" (DICK, 1995, p. 59, emphasis added).

More than to quote the author, it is recommended to "breath" the multi and the interdisciplinarity emanated from the book The dynamics of names in the city of São Paulo (DICK, 1997). There is a coordinated dialectical relationship between Onomastics and History, Geography, Urban Planning, and other disciplines in this masterpiece. The dialogue between different sciences and disciplines is a helpful material not only for linguists but also for other experts.

Contrary to what one might think, the charming interdisciplinary character of the Onomastics is also a problem to its development. It is necessary to admit that most Brazilian research in this field is not interdisciplinary but mostly pluri-disciplinary. The point is that there is an oscillation between linguistic and non-linguistic approaches since Onomastics was studied under the name of philological or etymological research.

Camps Iglesias and Noroña Vilá (1980) contribute with an excellent overview of Onomastic research. It includes the French tradition and the mapping of onomastic investigation in Central and Eastern Europe, whose bibliographic productions were little accessible to the Brazilian researchers because of the already mentioned language barrier. The authors discuss these two poles, the purely linguistic and the multidisciplinary, respectively:

> [...] [the pole that] deals strictly with the analysis of linguistic phenomena such as morphology, phonetics, syntax, lexicon, etymology, word formation, linguistic borrowings and the distribution of toponyms in space; […] [and the pole that] makes onomasiological analysis, explaining how place names appear, and using for it social, historical, geographical, ethnographical facts whose caused the toponym genesis." (CAMPS IGLESIAS; NOROÑA VILÁ, 1980, p. 12, emphasis added).

The multiplicity of approaches is also mentioned by Trapero (1995), who states that experts of several disciplines formed the research group that he coordinated: "[…] we had been working along an interdisciplinary group compounded by geographers, topographers, historians, biologists, and linguists." (TRAPERO, 1995, p. 23).

> Toponymy's subject is complex. It is a science to which several fields must converge to make an exact interpretation of it. In this

sense, there are two things that people need to have in mind when they want to research it: prudence and modesty. Prudence allows one not to say something, or some interpretation in research is definitive. On the other hand, modesty makes one tolerate and accept other explanations or other theories, interpreting the data better. (TRAPERO, 1995, p. 23).

To close this brief quotation section, we quote a recent work of Evgeny Shokhenmayer (2017). In this paper, the author analyses the behavior of onomastic research, using georeferenced search mechanisms in academic websites as Academia.edu and ReasearchGate, and social networks such as Twitter. He states that

> Increasingly, onomastic research is moving towards more interdisciplinary endeavours. [...] Any science conducted in isolation without collaboration between related scientific disciplines is doomed to stagnation. Therefore, onomastics is, more or less, seen as an integral to interdisciplinarity comparative studies conducted within other sciences. The onomastics uses knowledge from other disciplines to shape its academic hypotheses and conclusions, and thus is also part of these disciplines. Onomastics, although an autonomous discipline, overlaps the subject matter of many other disciplines since name use is central to human activity [...]. The interaction between research projects and the development of joint research teams are very promising. Many of the problems, with which onomastics research engages, can only be comprehensively explained from an interdisciplinary point of view, since it concerns issues that are the subject of research by several of various sciences [...]. (SHOKHENMAYER, 2017, p. 48-49).

This discussion may confuse some readers: Is Onomastics an interdisciplinary science? Is it pluri-disciplinary? Or, is it possible to reach transdisciplinarity in Onomastics? The quoted papers, produced at different times, show us that this is not an isolated question. As far as we can see, onomastic
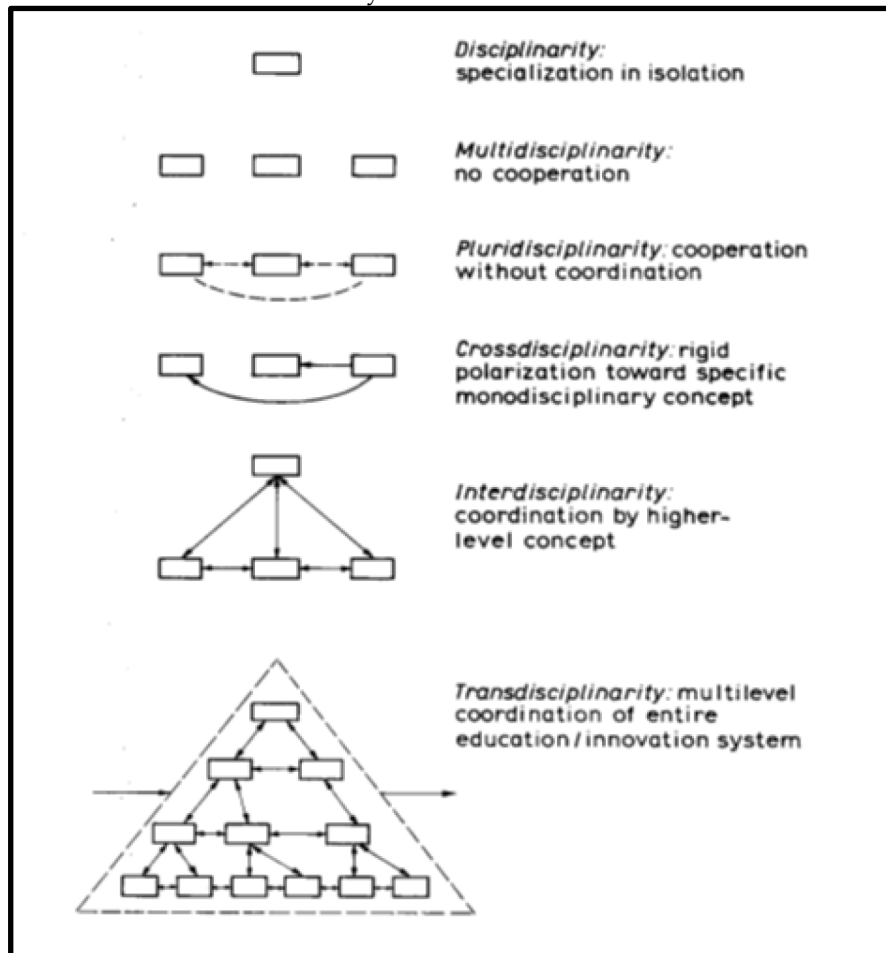
research in Brazil has always been pluri-disciplinary – even though there are exceptions, of course. We will discuss this subject in the next section.

2.1 Defining multi-, pluri-, inter- and transdisciplinarity

This discussion aims to motivate Brazilian students and young researchers to join the quest for interdisciplinarity in the onomastic investigation. Considering that it is the central idea of this specific paper and the whole issue, we will discuss some distinctions among multi-, pluri-, inter-, and transdisciplinary. "All roads lead to Rome." As if the consulted authors in this subject quote the disciplinary paradigm proposed by Erich Jantsch, we bring Jantsch (1972) himself to illuminate this discussion.

Although his study dates to the 1970s, the proposed model is still very current. The author based his argumentation on what he called the "educational needs" of his time, graphically representing the essential coordination among isolated disciplines. He also determined the precise steps to go from total isolation to intelligent and proactive collaboration, which can be seen in Figure 1 (JANTSCH, 1972):

Figure 1 — "Steps toward increasing cooperation and coordination in the education/innovation system".

Source: Erich Jantsch (1972, p. 1).
The Portuguese version omits *Crossdisciplinarity.*

According to the model proposed by Erich Jantsch, in the disciplinary perspective, the observation of reality is elaborated from the specific knowledge of a single discipline, which produces knowledge in isolation.

On the other hand, multidisciplinarity is a system composed of a single level, with multiple objectives, and without cooperation. Thus, for example, articulated research between onomasticists and geographers, who work on the same object, but each one pursues independent goals. In other words, multidisciplinarity stands for observing the same fact by several disciplines, but still in an insulated manner. By contrast, multidisciplinarity is a system that remains at a single level with

cooperation among the various disciplines, although there is still no coordination between the multiple objectives. This approach is usually the "antechamber to interdisciplinarity" and guides many of the Brazilian onomasticists.

In turn, interdisciplinarity is a system that goes beyond the single level towards two levels of action, with hierarchically superior coordination that acts and cooperates with the other instances by sharing objectives. In this sense, interdisciplinarity advances in the integration and interaction of knowledge to analyze objects and the achievement of complex results. The disciplines that deal with the same object transfer knowledge between each other to carry out the analysis. Erich Jantsch (1972, p. 13) teaches: "Above all, interdisciplinarity has to be understood as a teleological and normative concept." (emphasis in the original text). It is teleological because it is a concept that relates a fact with its consequence or result, in the same way, that an argument works, and it is normative because it is implied in a series of precepts or norms that organize a particular phenomenon.

Finally, transdisciplinarity is labeled as an intersectional place of observation. In other words, the same reality is focused on the convergence of disciplinary knowledge, thus obtaining answers to complex problems. In comparison, transdisciplinarity is broader than interdisciplinarity and pluri-disciplinarity. This comprehensiveness is multireferential and multidimensional. One of its characteristics is to consider simultaneously conceptions of time and history, where "[…] the existence of a trans[h]istorical horizon {...}" is not discarded. (Transdisciplinarity Letter, 1994, Section 6).

As we can conclude from these definitions, the dream pursued by Henri Dorion, André Soutou (see footnote 6), and many other researchers is transdisciplinarity. These concepts are based on answers searching that fit into systems between interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity – it is not too much to

remember that the same principles guided the Call for Papers of this thematic issue. Our previous exposition approaches the transdisciplinarity to what Dorion (1986) uttered as toponymic memory (according to him, it is the temporal axis, or the domain of linguistic studies in Onomastics and especially Toponymy), and toponymic function (the spatial axis, directly linked to Geography).

Grimaud (1991) pointed out, thirty years ago, a problematic issue in France at the time and still present today: the difficulty in materializing the latent inter/transdisciplinarity in Onomastics, by arguing that

> Between this grand vision of Onomastics (which, by the way, resembles the one presented in our second section) and everyday realities, there is a chasm. That is because Onomastics, in the broad sense, requires the kind of multiple skills that are exceptional in an individual. Naturally, their implementation is possible in a research group, but such a working group is not actively encouraged by our institutions. So much so that it is regrettable, as André Soutou (1984), "that research in onomastics and more significantly in toponymy, a complex discipline which is at the crossroads of linguistics (knowledge of local dialects), history (mainly regional), paleography (strict verification of ancient forms) and, let us not forget, archaeology, is not supported in France by a specific commission of the C.N.R.S. and by a national university institute. These two indispensable institutions would guarantee a greater scientific rigor of the published works while providing the researchers with the necessary documentation and the critical support of experienced personalities [...]. (p. 167)6. (GRIMAUD, 1991, p. 12, authors' free translation, emphasis in original).

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[6] Original in French: "Entre cette grandiose vision de l'onomastique (laquelle ressemble d'ailleurs à celle qui est présentée dans notre seconde section) et les réalités quotidiennes, il y a un gouffre. C'est que l'onomastique au sens large requiert le genre de compétences multiples qui sont exceptionnelles chez un individu. Leur mise en œuvre est possible dans un groupe de recherche, mais ce genre de groupe de travail n'est pas activement encouragé par nos institutions. Si bien qu'on peut regretter, comme André Soutou (1984), « que la recherche en matière d'onomastique et plus spécialement en matière de toponymie, discipline complexe qui est au carrefour de la linguistique (connaissance des dialectes locaux), de l'histoire (notamment régionale), de la paléographie (stricte vérification des formes anciennes) et, ne l'oublions pas, de l'archéologie, ne soit pas appuyée en France par une commission

This quotation might lead to several interpretations, but we will highlight only a few arguments/topics: (a) inter and transdisciplinarity are not easy to achieve, even though they are apt to be captured and potentiated by the ontology of Onomastics itself; (b) incentive policies are indispensable for the formation and maintenance of solid research groups; and c) the transdisciplinarity immanent to Onomastics causes its most prominent subfields (Toponymy and Anthroponymy) to be viewed either with a status which is similar to that of the "mother-science," practically as a co-hyponymic, or hierarchically (as we preconized), by placing these disciplines as branches of Onomastics.

Considering that this section has an outspoken nature about the transit of onomastic research from multidisciplinarity to interdisciplinarity (and, why not, transdisciplinarity) perspectives, it is worth mentioning a theoretical and methodological line that emerged from the interdisciplinary dialogue among several Human Sciences in the 1980s: Critical Toponymy. Undoubtedly, it is a branch that promises excellent contributions to Brazilian onomastic studies, especially those related to urban nomenclature.

In a chapter in press, Carvalhinhos and Lima-Hernandes (2021) explain the relevance of Critical Toponymy for investigations related to synchronic urban names. Language, by place-naming, configures itself as a power structure and can infer to the city-text new readings that mirror the dominant ideology. All these relations emanated from names are analyzed from different perspectives, such as Semiotics, Urbanism, History, Human Geography, among others, denoting an interdisciplinary approach.

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spécifique du C.N.R.S. et par un institut universitaire national. Ces deux institutions indispensables garantiraient une plus grande rigueur scientifique des travaux publiés tout en fournissant aux chercheurs la documentation nécessaire et le soutien critique de personnalités expérimentées »[...]."

On the pertinence of this theoretical-methodological line specifically but not exclusively for urban names, Carvalhinhos and Lima-Hernandes (2021, p. 324-325) postulate that

> [...] the traditional method of toponymic taxonomy, used in various parts of the world and adapted to the Brazilian reality by Dick (1980) [...], can be helpful in the study of the physical geography of urban areas and for places whose official names are closer to oral tradition. However, one should not forget that the naming of streets, alleys, and others in a big city (the ever-changing landscape) is usually determined by political criteria. Thus, the traditional method of semantic classification becomes inoperative when applied to synchronic hodonymy, as the semantic content of names is not at stake but the mechanisms of attribution of names. By the conventionalized taxonomy, researchers will verify (in a somewhat obvious way) a standard average of abundant anthroponyms (classified, according to the taxonomies in force, as anthropotoponyms or axiotoponyms, if preceded by a title), but such verification is insufficient. Thus, we have an efficient path for urban toponymy researchers applying theoretical and methodological assumptions of Critical Toponymy.
> These reservations to the traditional method are necessary [...]since the analytical gaps do not allow us to glimpse phenomena in a holistic perspective, which led us to search for a new conception provided by Critical Toponymy. (CARVALHINHOS; LIMA-HERNANDES, 2021, p. 324-325, emphasis in original).

That said, we can only present to the readers, in detail, the papers which are part of this issue.

3 The ship in the shipyard. A synopsis of this issue

By comparing Onomastics to an ocean yet to be explored, we can say that nautical cartography points out which are the safest and most meaningful routes – and also where are the problems to be explored and solved. We know where the

islands present a safe harbour, but with a landscape already known (and, perhaps even a little boring).

We also know where the whirlwinds are and how they can suck any boat and destroy it, i. e., papers which occasionally appear on the editorial horizon, lacking a deep theoretical, critical, and methodological contribution – these were successfully avoided in this issue.

In a brief glimpse at uncharted islands, we can see the promise of fresh water and abundant food – it is a metaphorical way to refer to those papers that manage to be interdisciplinary, or, at least, pluri-disciplinary. We have successful attempts in this direction. The much-desired chest of treasures may still be buried somewhere out there, but we followed the map and dug deep into the sand.

The ship is in the shipyard, awaiting final touches, but the journey has already been set and presented to the public by the editors. We are aware that the challenge of interdisciplinarity has not yet been achieved and is an arduous task that cannot be pursued in isolation. Therefore, this thematic issue is a call for the vital congregation besides a contribution.

The route is mapped as follows: In the first part of the trip, the reader will visit two ports related to place-names intermediated by an anthroponymic port. The next stopover has people's names as a harbour. The final destination goes beyond national boundaries and brings contributions from three different countries.

To better define the journey, we advance that in the two main parts of the issue (concerning Brazil), one dedicated to Toponymy (with two papers) and the other one to Anthroponymy (with six more papers), each "port of call" is constituted by distinct routes. First, these are "the islands with safe harbours" or papers with traditional approaches. Then, in the rank of interdisciplinary

imbrication and following the previous papers, the "ports" that are still little explored but hold good promise are next.

3.1 First stopover

The reader's journey starts at a safe harbour, that is, a paper with a very familiar approach: Rozangela de Melo Martins da Costa (State Department of Education of Acre - SEE/AC) and Alexandre Melo de Sousa (Federal University of Acre) are responsible for Native place-names in Acre-Brazil: fauna, flora, and hydrography in geographic features. It is a safe harbour because it does not present theoretical-methodological innovations; it analyzes the toponymic corpus by maintaining the commonplace regarding definitions, concepts, theoretical frameworks about native languages, and methodology – presenting the 27 categories widely replicated in Brazil.

On the other hand, the contribution of this article lies precisely in its particularity. In general, the Brazilian North region lacks studies on its toponymy, and the state of Acre, in particular, contributes by showing its toponymical diversity outside urban areas. In this sense, we consider relevant the historical and geographic apparatus about the state of Acre, once it is unknown even among Brazilians. Regarding the analysis results, the data indicate what similar diagnoses reveal among the Native denominations: the very high frequency of physical motivations, especially involving flora and fauna. Finally, an important observation highlighted by the authors is the fact that there is a relatively significant amount of Tupi toponyms in a Macro-Jê area, which can be explained, according to them, by the colonization process in Acre.

Let us move on. Although we gathered the few studies on Brazilian toponymy in this block, we chose not to put the two together and to present in the

sequence of the first one a paper on anthroponymy in the North region, to make a "regional itinerary" – and provide the reader with a broad view of the subject.

The second island also presents known landscapes, although it holds surprises. The authors of Language and culture in dimension: dialogues between Linguistics and Anthropology in the study of Parkatêjê onomastics, Tereza Tayná Coutinho Lopes (Ph.D., Federal University of Pará) and Marília de Nazaré de Oliveira Ferreira (Federal University of Pará), masterfully orchestrate this symbiosis between the mentioned fields, as recommended by Molino (1982). This paper also portrays the North region of Brazil, bringing the figure of the Parkatêjê do Pará, a people known in traditional literature as Gavião do Pará (in allusion to their supposed ferocity – gavião is a kind of sparrow-hawk), establishing a perfect relationship between Anthroponymy and Anthropology.

The known but not much-explored landscape – and worth the tour – presents an excellent bibliography on language and culture, getting into Onomastics in a well-articulated way. Traditionally, Native anthroponymy is very important for anthropologic studies. The authors, however, contribute to the study of Parkatêjê anthroponymy by considering the premises of Onomastics, generating an interdisciplinary contribution that will be relevant not only to these two areas of knowledge.

The next place to be visited is far away from the rural world and transports us directly to the hustle and bustle of the big cities. The perception of "freshwater" and "abundant food" is due to the use of Critical Toponymy in the argumentation of authors Martín Jayo (Faculty of Arts, Sciences and Humanities-USP) and Adriana Tavares Lima (Ph.D. candidate at the Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and Literature, and Human Sciences-USP) in the paper entitled Toponymic commodification and the neoliberal city: on the sale of naming rights for São Paulo

subway stations. Despite being a branch introduced in the Human Sciences in the 1980s, Critical Toponymy has only been gaining space in Brazil in recent years, for example, as a syllabus of the Toponymy courses offered by the University of São Paulo7.

The authors bring into the open an ongoing topic in Brazil: the commercialization of place names. According to the perspective of a neoliberal city, these names are commercial assets that public authorities can sell to private companies. Jayo and Lima outline an overview of the matter and focus on the commercialization of naming rights of station names by the Companhia do Metropolitano de São Paulo (Metrô). It is such an extremely up-to-date theme that, soon after the paper was published in the Ahead of Print section of Domínios, the company was granted the right to negotiate the naming rights for 20 years (CNN BRASIL, Feb. 19, 2021). That is not an isolated fact since Rio de Janeiro has recently sold the name of one of its subway stations, the current Botafogo/Coca-Cola Station (G1, Jan. 07, 2021)8.

3.2 Second stopover

The second part of the journey takes us to known islands, sometimes submerged, sometimes visible. This fluid visibility turns them into dangerous coasts that require sailing skills. Contrary to what usually occurs, anthroponymy investigations have had equal participation with place-name studies in this issue. Despite their autonomy as disciplines, it is not easy to disassociate the theory and methods of Toponymy and Anthroponymy. One reason is the natural relationship

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7 *Toponímia IV: A cidade, as pessoas e seus nomes* ("Toponymy IV: city, people and their names"). Syllabus available at: https://uspdigital.usp.br/jupiterweb/obterDisciplina?nomdis=&sgldis=flc1458.
8Available at: https://g1.globo.com/rj/rio-de-janeiro/noticia/2021/01/07/em-crise-metro-rio-vende-naming-rights-e-estacao-de-botafogo-vira-botafogo-coca-cola.ghtml.

between people and place names, which gives rise to detoponymization and deanthroponymization processes. The theory of proper names also goes side by side, whether of person or place, and the particularities depend on the corpora selected.

The first stop on this part of our journey takes us to a diachronic paper. Juliana Soledade Barbosa Coelho (University of Brasília -UnB), Natival Simões Neto (Federal University of Bahia - UFBA), and Letícia Santos Rodrigues (USP - doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and Literature, and Human Sciences) make an excellent contribution to Brazilian anthroponymic studies with Anthroponymic innovation in Bahia during 19th, 20th and 21st centuries: an interface between Anthroponomastics and Historical Morphology. These authors analyze innovations through the morphological handling of anthroponyms caused by onomastic competence. Those Germanic bithematic given names, already identified by Joseph Marie-Piel[9], are samples from the 19th to the 21st century, with theoretical and methodological emphasis on the differentiation between both elements.

The second island to be visited is borderline, as it deals with Brazilian and Lithuanian personal names. The paper covers a nationality that practically "fades away" amidst the enormous bibliographic material concerning European immigration. For this reason, the contribution is as significant as it is rare. Karolina Butkuvienė (Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy), Lolita Petrululionė (Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy), Márcia Sipavicius Seide (Western Paraná State

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[9] One should emphasize that, throughout his extensive work, Piel have highlighted the varied origin of anthroponyms in terms of genesis and chronology, since anthroponyms originating from peoples such as Suevi, Goths, Vandals, and Alans penetrated the Peninsular Romanesque system in the Early Middle Ages, but one cannot disregard the contributions that came more recently via France, for example, in which French person names came to incorporate the already consolidated Portuguese anthroponym system.

University - UNIOESTE), and Edita Valiulienė (Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy), in the paper Name-giving motives in Lithuania and Brazil: a comparative view, draw a parallel between linguistic and cultural issues surrounding the choice of first names in Lithuania and Brazil.

If, on the one hand, the anthroponymic choices in both countries are guided mainly by the aesthetics of the name – detaching etymology and semantic transparency as key motivations –, on the other hand, the divergences highlight specific cultural threads. Moreover, there is a detailed literature review of naming practices in those two countries. The quantitative analysis follows the qualitative one as they bring excerpts from interview transcripts and contextualize the onomastic data relating it to the theoretical premises.

The next stopover is full of new tracks to go through. Eduardo Tadeu Roque Amaral (Federal University of Minas Gerais -UFMG), in Onomastics and Law Interface: contributions to the studies of Brazilian anthroponomy analyzes anthroponyms from a varied spectrum – ballot and parliamentary names, civil, and social names – following the new trends on the right of own naming, whose analysis considers the 2011 Brazilian Civil Code. After collecting anthroponyms, conducted in official sources such as the House of Representatives and the Superior Electoral Court, the analysis follows, examining form and content, considering that they are names chosen by the bearers. The author also suggests steps for those who want to pursue this research path.

Let us continue our journey. The following landscape allows us to contemplate the research of Maria Virgínia Dias de Ávila (Federal University of Uberlândia -UFU) and Ariel Novodvorski (Federal University of Uberlândia - UFU) in the paper Indianist anthroponymy in Alencar's corpus: an etymological, fictional and contextual analysis. That is an increasingly familiar landscape in

travels similar to those we now undertake, as there are growing studies investigating personal and place-names in literature.10 The authors describe four characters' names named by José de Alencar (1822-1877), the most representative Brazilian romantic author, and analyze the meaning and denominative context of Native proper names, notably Tupi.

The journey through a little-known island can reveal not very common landscapes, and, in this case, we refer to another contribution of this research, a one that shows a methodological content: the collection in a digital base of historical corpora, such as the Corpus do Português (DAVIES, 2006), and the processing by the WordSmith Tools program (SCOTT, 2012). It is like knowing that a tree has ripe fruit which is ready for harvesting and neglect it. The authors stop under the tree, pick the fruit, taste it, and demonstrate how technological resources can be helpful to Brazilian onomasticians, whether in clipping, coding, or data analysis, aligning research to approaches used abroad.

To the unfamiliar but curious navigators about the Atlantic waters of Brazil, we suggest The humor of Northeastern Brazil's anthroponomy, by Shara Lylian de Castro Lopes (Federal Institute of Piauí). In this paper, researchers take anthroponyms, not exclusively but always associated with the Northeast region, to discuss identity aspects, considering the French Discourse Analysis as an example of discursive memories. This interdisciplinary dialogue efficiently relates semantic-discursive concepts, such as ethos, to denominative processes often interpreted as kitsch.

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10 We know that universal fictional literature, especially in tragic or comic texts, is generous of illustrative proper names with clear signification in relation to the personality and actions of the named in the story. The authors demonstrate how Alencar represents such characters in his historical novels. Although they are not entirely understood by Brazilian Portuguese speakers today, it is possible to recognize morphemes from the Tupi-based language that was spoken in Brazil until the mid-1800s.

Lopes collected people's names from witty pages on social networks. She describes the anthroponyms that characterize the modus vivendi of Brazilian sertão – hinterland – and analyzes how denominative acts provide humorous expression in verisimilar representations, although stereotyped. Such processes are presented in several levels of linguistic analysis, such as in the orthographic stylization, by the recurrent use of graphemes k, w, and y, and in usual patronymic structures in the Northeast region, as in the name Júnio de Bio de Zé Gaiola.

3.3 Toward foreign ports: last stopover and the end of the journey

Towards the end of the journey, which has only a few stops in overseas ports, this ship takes the reader away from Brazil's Atlantic coast. Not at random, the Northeast is the closest geographical point for a sea excursion that takes the sailor to the other side of the ocean to visit the toponymy of Portugal, Brazil's former colonizer. From now on, we will no longer return to Brazilian lands in search of landscapes abroad that allow for self-recognition through otherness.

Carlos Rocha (University of Lisbon) describes and analyzes hydronyms in the paper Towards a profile of central and southern Portugal potamonymy to portray the millenary Iberian stratigraphy (influence of pre-Latin substrates, the Arabic adstratum, and Galician-Portuguese dialects). Thus, although this study does not offer an innovative interdisciplinary approach, and even though we already have studies on Brazilian hydronymy, its corpus and historical processes will interest any scholar who wishes to understand the Lusitanian territorialization through the Central Southern Portuguese hydronyms. It is also worth mentioning that some contemporary studies about Portuguese hydronyms have been promoted by Brazilian toponymists, especially at the University of São Paulo.

Returning to South Atlantic waters, we find a neighboring land. In Uruguayan place-names of Spanish origin in the context of linguopragmatics, Irina Martynenko, a lecturer professor at the Kutafin Moscow State Law University (Russia), presents us with a descriptive-analytical study of Uruguayan toponyms of Spanish origin. Even foreign, the landscape exposed in the data is not strange. We should not be afraid of any storm since it unveils an already safe path to the scholar or enthusiast of Toponymy. After an overview of the most representative linguistic strata in Uruguayan place-names, namely: Guarani, Portuguese, English, Catalan, and Spanish, the "context of linguopragmatics" proposed in the title is materialized in a morphological decomposition and etymological derivation, including examples of folk etymology (false or popular etymology).

Two elements offer the reader the scale of how much the modus navigandi in this journey is no longer limited to the spatial field. One of them is the collection from electronic and georeferenced databases on a global scale, such as geonames.org. The other is the extensive bibliography of this researcher concerning the toponymic panorama of Spanish-speaking countries in America. Thus, one can get to know (contemplative or investigative) the place-names with a few clicks, without the need to raise flags or recruit a crew. Therefore, although self-declared introductory, this article instigates Brazilians, especially those seeking to recognize Uruguayan toponyms.

In addition to the ten papers described so far, signed by 16 articulists, we invite travelers to come ashore by presenting an interview by Yolanda Guillermina López Franco (National Autonomous University of Mexico) to Miguel Reyes Contreras (University of Ixtlahuaca-Mexico). In the interview El nombre no es sólo un referente, Reyes Contreras notes that "En México, el estudio del nombre es escaso en trabajos académicos" (LÓPEZ FRANCO, this issue). He asks the

interviewee for an overview of the status of Onomastics in Mexico. In response López Franco, who has strengthened relations with Brazilian researchers in recent years by coediting the aforementioned journal Onomástica desde América Latina, points out a historiographical summary of the area in the country.

López Franco highlights some contributions of Onomastics, considered "an inter, even a transdisciplinary" science, and advocates for better organization in collecting and treating proper names by official statistical agencies and academic institutions in Mexico. Her account exposes the frustration at the impossibility of proceeding to a systematic investigation regarding first names (nombres de pila) on a national scale. She also defends the growing, yet still slow, Mexican journey towards the development and internationalization of Onomastics. At the end of the interview, there are references and a list of studies from the extensive bibliography produced by this professor, which can be helpful to Brazilian researchers who want to recognize "paths traveled" by foreign names. It is a "must" stop, as her testimony portrays a situation similar to the Brazilian one in Onomastics.

4 Assessment of the journey

We hope that this trip can be as productive for the readers as it has been for the editors. For us, the journey is no longer the kind of trip where the landscapes follow one another rapidly, as when we look out the windows of a moving train, and where the tones appear blurred and indistinct because of high speed.

This presentation has ceased to be only a presentation and has become, in fact, a paper in which we have been able to slow down the speed of the trip to observe the horizon with a clear view, glimpsing beautiful pictures; admiring landscapes battered by some element, which still need support to flourish again; and also sorrowing the dry field in need of hoeing and care. These are our

reflections on Brazilian Onomastics. There are promising studies, already theoretically and methodologically advanced; there are those which have not yet reached a satisfactory path, and, finally, there are also those paths to be avoided by the researcher, under penalty of not bearing fruit.

Presenting to readers the contents of the thematic issue has overpassed the goals we had planned. Instead, it had become a locus of discussion about the directions of onomastic research in Brazil. Moreover, also a space for the revision of concepts related to interdisciplinarity. As we have pointed out elsewhere, it is likewise a manifesto to the much-needed collaboration among groups, university researchers – or independent researchers –, graduate students, and other levels. One day we will be able to make a qualitative improvement that matches the quantitative material in the field.

Finally, the Guest Editors would like to thank everyone who collaborated with this issue, the readers, the reviewers, the entire editorial team, and the Scientific Committee of *Domínios de Lingu@gem*. We wish everyone good reading and even better reflections.

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