R. Batisti, Verner's Law in Italy – *and Greece: un capitolo di storia della ricerca linguistica*

Abstract
The discovery by Karl Verner in 1875 of the eponymous accent-conditioned sound law explaining apparent exceptions to Grimm's Law in Germanic made a lasting impact on the discipline of historical linguistics, not only by providing decisive support for the Neogrammarian axiom of the Ausnahmslosigkeit der Lautgesetze, *but also by sparking a trend for applying similar – often ill-advised – explanations to other languages. In this paper, I discuss some notable examples from the history of Latin and Ancient Greek studies, and I try to show that, while most explanations of seemingly irregular developments via 'Verner-like' effects were in fact misguided, the discredit in which such approaches have since fallen may have prevented the acceptance of other accent-based rules which neverthe-less have good chances of being correct.*

A. Del Tomba, *Genus alternans in Khotanese? A synchronic analysis of the agreement classes*

Abstract
The aim of this article is to demonstrate that Khotanese has a two-gender system within which the neuter does not qualify as a fully-fledged gender value. Although three distinct sets of controllers, each of which selects a separate agreement pattern, can be identified, the third shows no traces of a dedicated target gender as it combines agreement traits of masculine and feminine. This third, alternating agreement class is not a gender value in its own right, nor even a controller gender, since it is non-canonical with respect to its morphosyntactic manifestations and productivity: it is an inquorate value.

L. Rigobianco, *I fitonimi* φέως, ἱππόφεως, ἱπποφαές *e* ἱππόφαιστον: *una histoire des mots*

Abstract
This paper deals with the history of the Greek plant names φέως, ἱππόφεως, ἱπποφαές, *and* ἱππόφαιστον. *In particular, the paper aims to reconstruct the relationship between such names and between the plants designated by them in the light of the information con-veyed by Greek and Latin sources. Furthermore, a possible etymology of* φέως, ἱππόφεως, *and* ἱππόφαιστον *from* *bʰeh₂-w- *'to shine' is investigated, as well as a possible alternative etymology of* ἱπποφαές, *which could originate as a folk etymology for* ἱππόφεως, *from* *gʷʰen- *'to hit, to kill'.*

M. Mannoni, *Vagueness in legal language: a contrastive analysis of the Chinese and Italian legal terms of agency law*

Abstract
"Inter-lingual uncertainty" is a term first used by Deborah Cao to refer to the "uncertainty [that] arises when two languages are considered or when one language is translated into another language."

After Cao's study focussing on bilingual and multilingual law, few studies on the topic have appeared. This study aims to provide a contribution to the field by studying the uncertainty arising from a monolingual law such as that of China when its terminology is interpreted against Italian. It exemplifies the uncertainty of the use of two key-terms such as wěituō 委托 *and* dàilǐ 代理 *and their compounds, such as* wěituō dàilǐ rén 委托代理人, *as used in the Chinese law of agency with respect to the Italian legal-linguistic context.*

Basing on data retrieved from different sources including digital online law repositories, text repositories and an off-line corpus of Chinese laws, this study shows that these Chinese legal terms are more semantically obscure than their Italian 'equivalents'. It proposes that the intralingual uncertainty of the source language is further enhanced by the requisites of perspicuity of the target language. It argues that when linguistic uncertainty is not intentional and the terminology of the target language is less uncertain than that of the source language, it has to be resolved in cross-linguistic interpretation.