

A E L F E

Back to the Future: LSP fifty years later ESP in Spain

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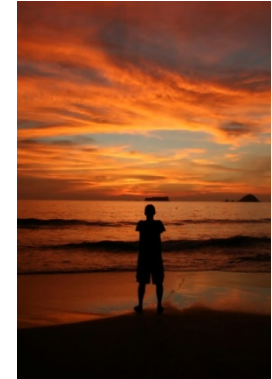


Outline

- The past of ESP in Spain
 - From 1980-2002, before Bologna Agreement
 - From 2003-2010, Bologna Agreement
- The present of ESP in Spain
- Back to the future??

Administrative perspective

- First paper on ESP, 1983
- XVIII, XIX, Military institutions, & Mining : En-Fr
- **Commerce Schools**, En-Fr-Ar
- **Engineering Schools**, English



- **1984 University Reform**

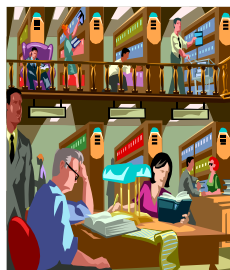
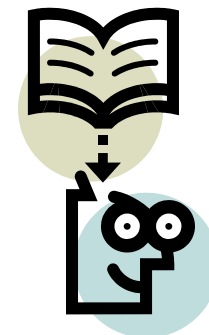
- Creation of University departments
- Opened the door for tenured posts and academic career
- Two scenarios:
 - LSP dptm. -> UPM, Madrid, UPV, Valencia
 - ESP teachers in Humanities Dpt



Teaching perspective (1)

- **New challenges!!**

- Develop their own ESP materials
- Get in contact with other ESP/LSP colleagues
- Start new lines of research
- Do their PhDs



Teaching perspective (2)

- **Common issues** in all Spanish universities
 - High number of students with mixed ability problems
 - Reduced teaching time for LSP
 - ESP classes scheduled at inconvenient hours
 - Lack of training courses for practitioners
 - Lack of suitable materials
 - Great variety of specialized languages
- **Courses designed** based on
 - Language
 - Students needs
 - Specific terminology
 - Discourse and register studies

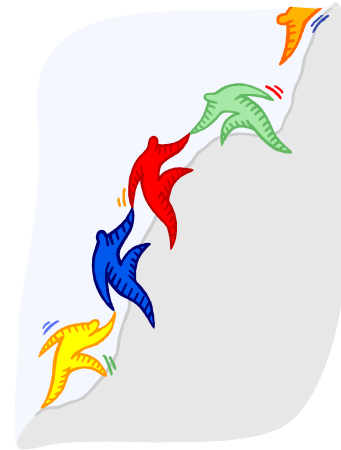
Teaching perspective (3)

- BUT, it **was not “problem-free”!!!**
- **Negative** aspects:
- Lack of recognition from university officials:
ESP courses discarded
- Lack of support/empathy from
 - Colleagues from traditional philological studies
 - Colleagues from other content subjects
- So, doing PhDs on ESP issues was difficult: not attractive topics for traditional philologists



There is strength in numbers!!!

- 1985-1991 meetings of ESP teachers in ESP conferences in Spain & Portugal
- 1992, AELFE was created, UPM
- “The case for ESP has now been accepted internationally and it is now possible for teachers (...) to pursue a career in ESP work” (Johns & Dudley-Evans, 1991)



IS THIS TRUE?

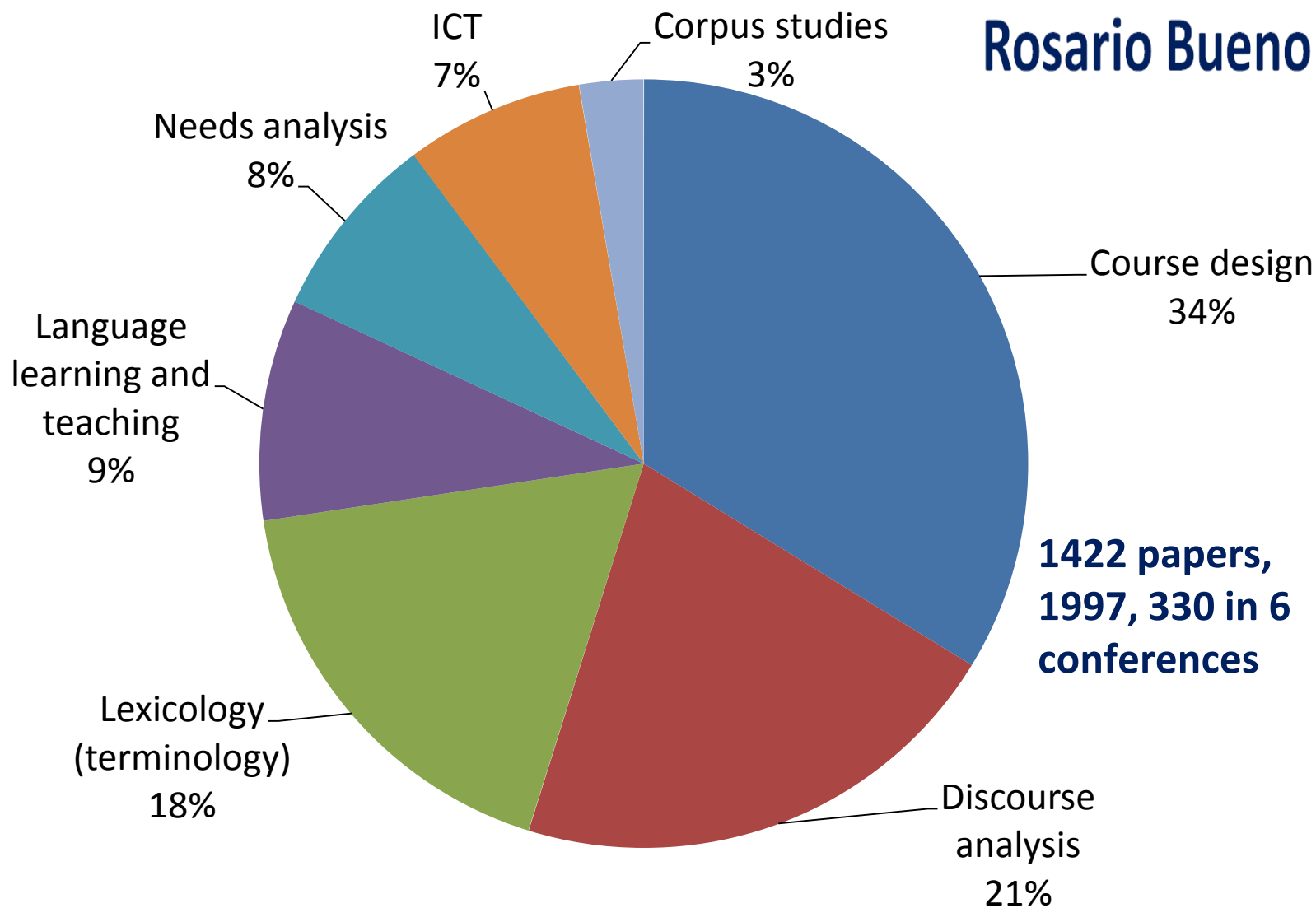
Being promoted to full professorship still a tough target

Research evolution

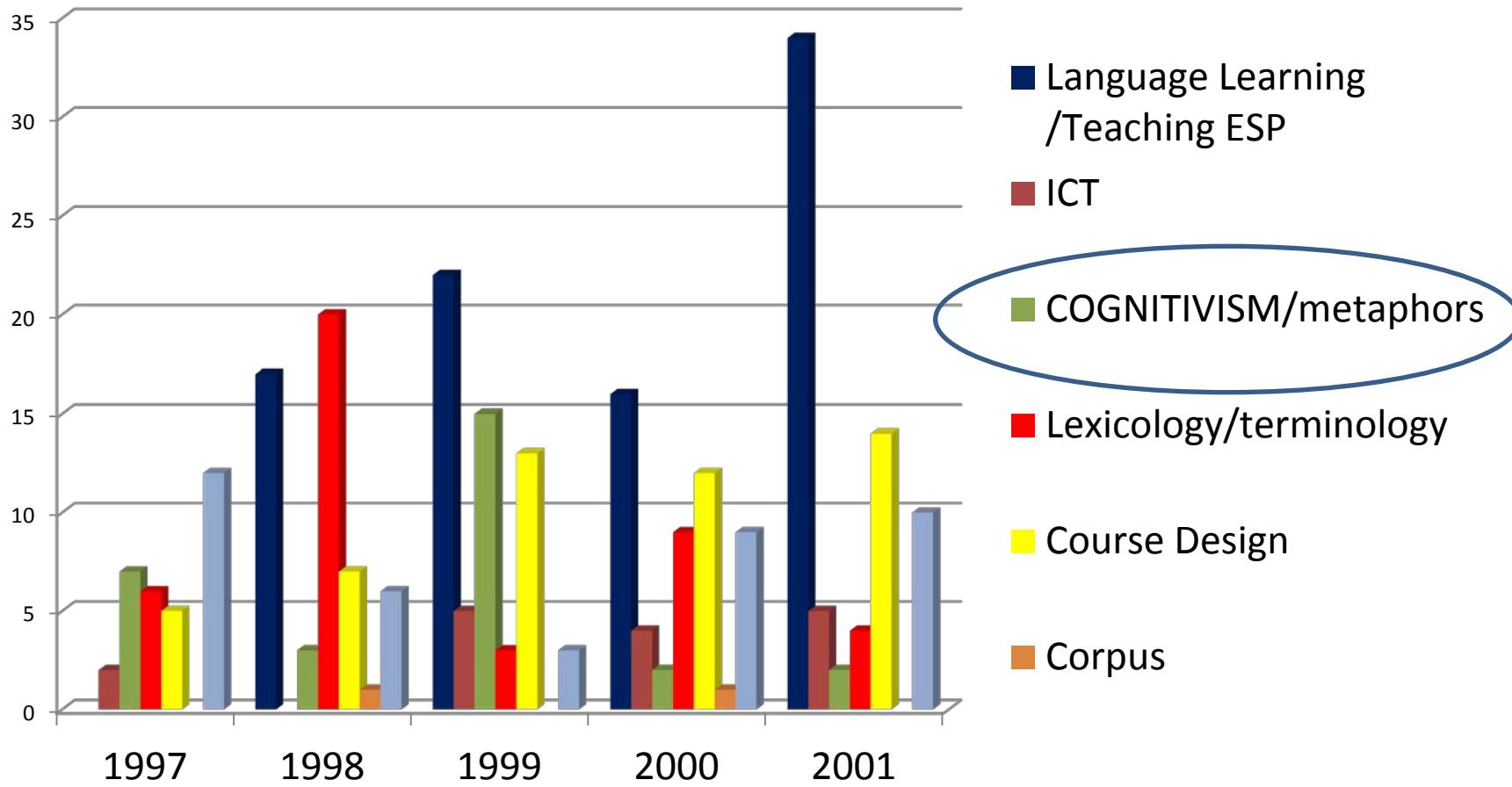
- **Three sources** analyzed
 - **Rosario Bueno's** complete study ESP-**1985-2002**
 - **1422** papers
 - **Proceedings of 5 conferences on LSP**, (Canet de Mar) (**1997-2001**) 318 papers
 - **IBERICA (1999-2011)** 163 articles

Topics studied between 1985-2002

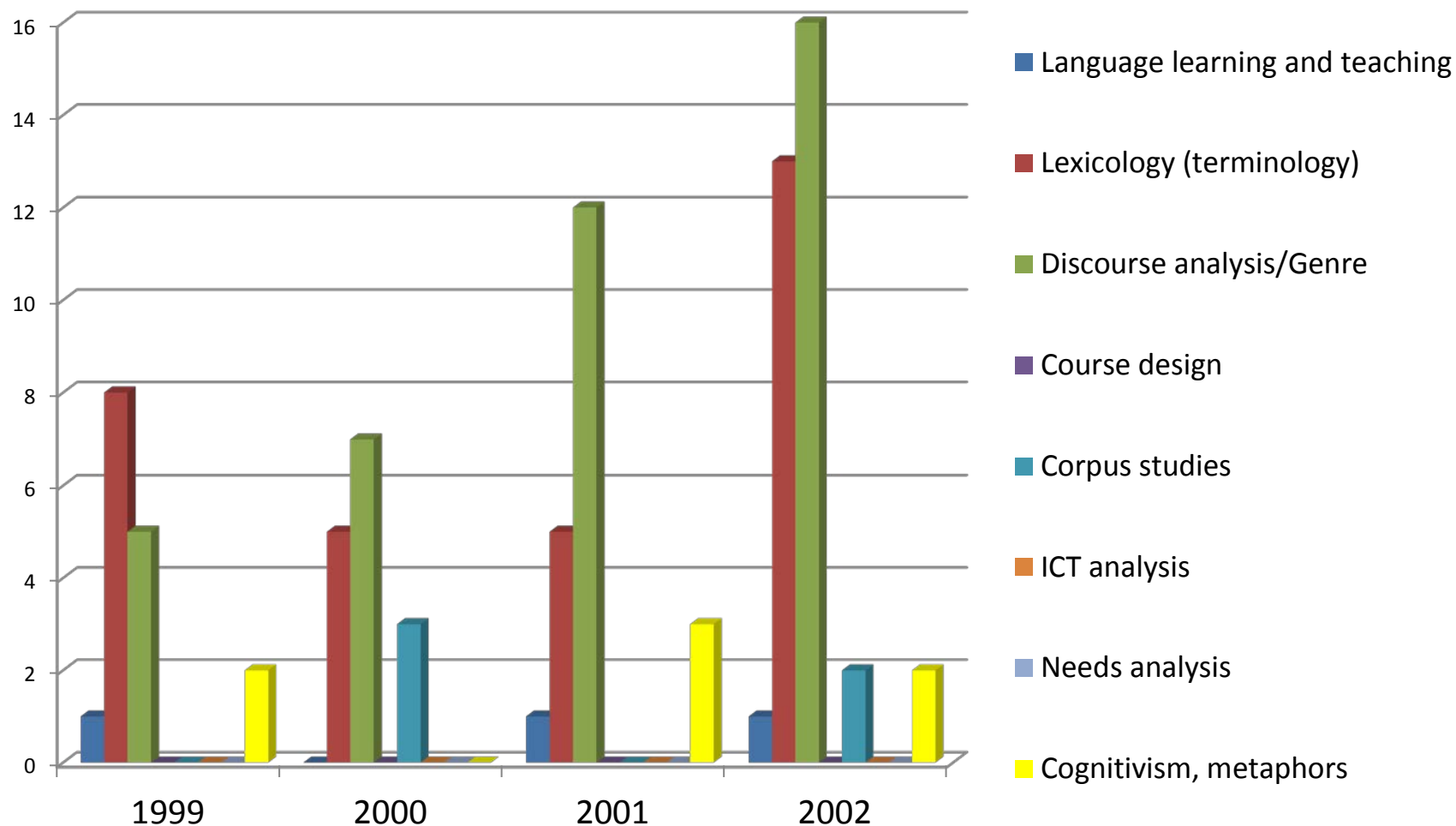
Rosario Bueno



Canet de Mar 1997-2001

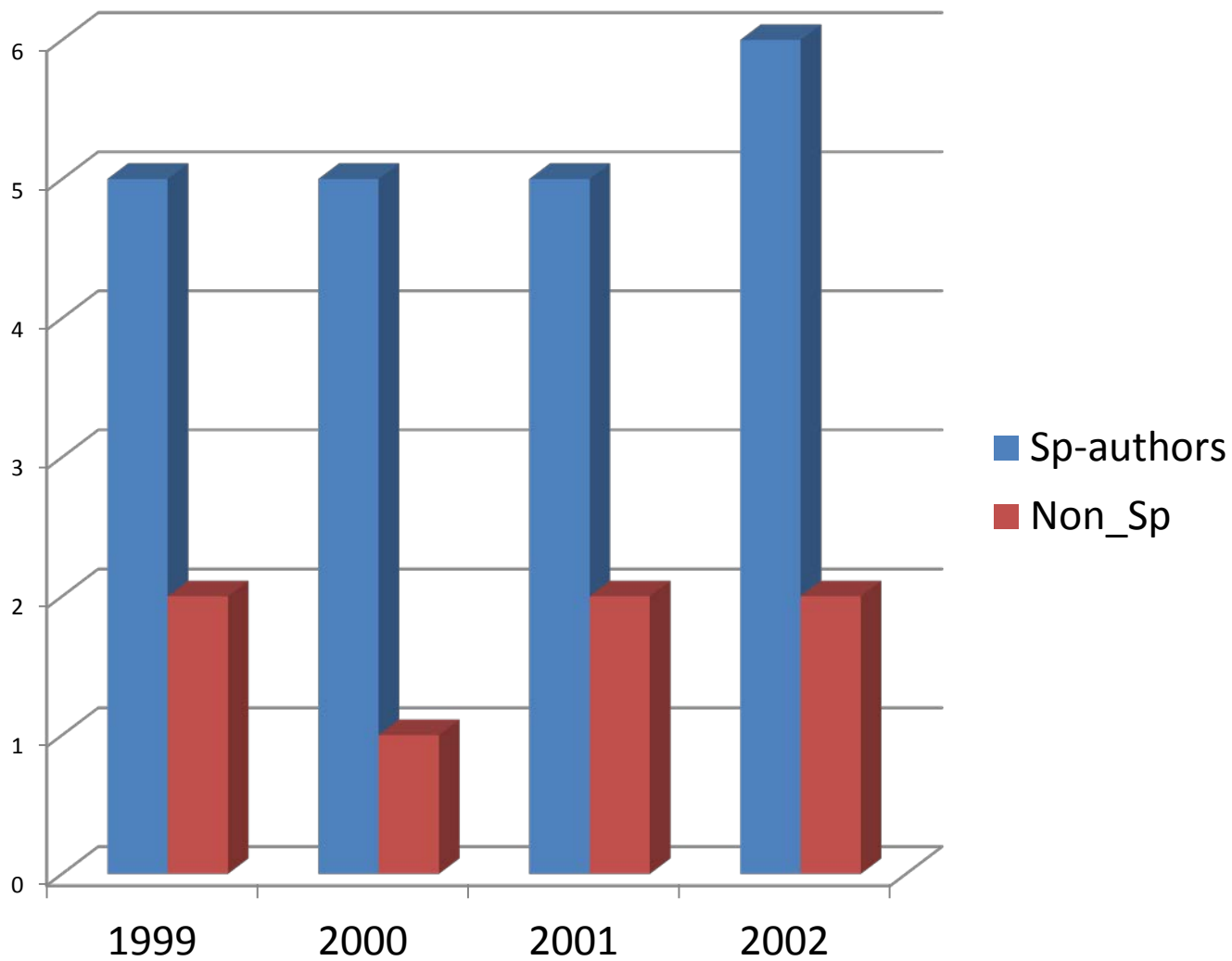


Iberica Evolution 1999-2002



533 keywords in all articles. Clear-cut divisions blurred

Authors' nationality



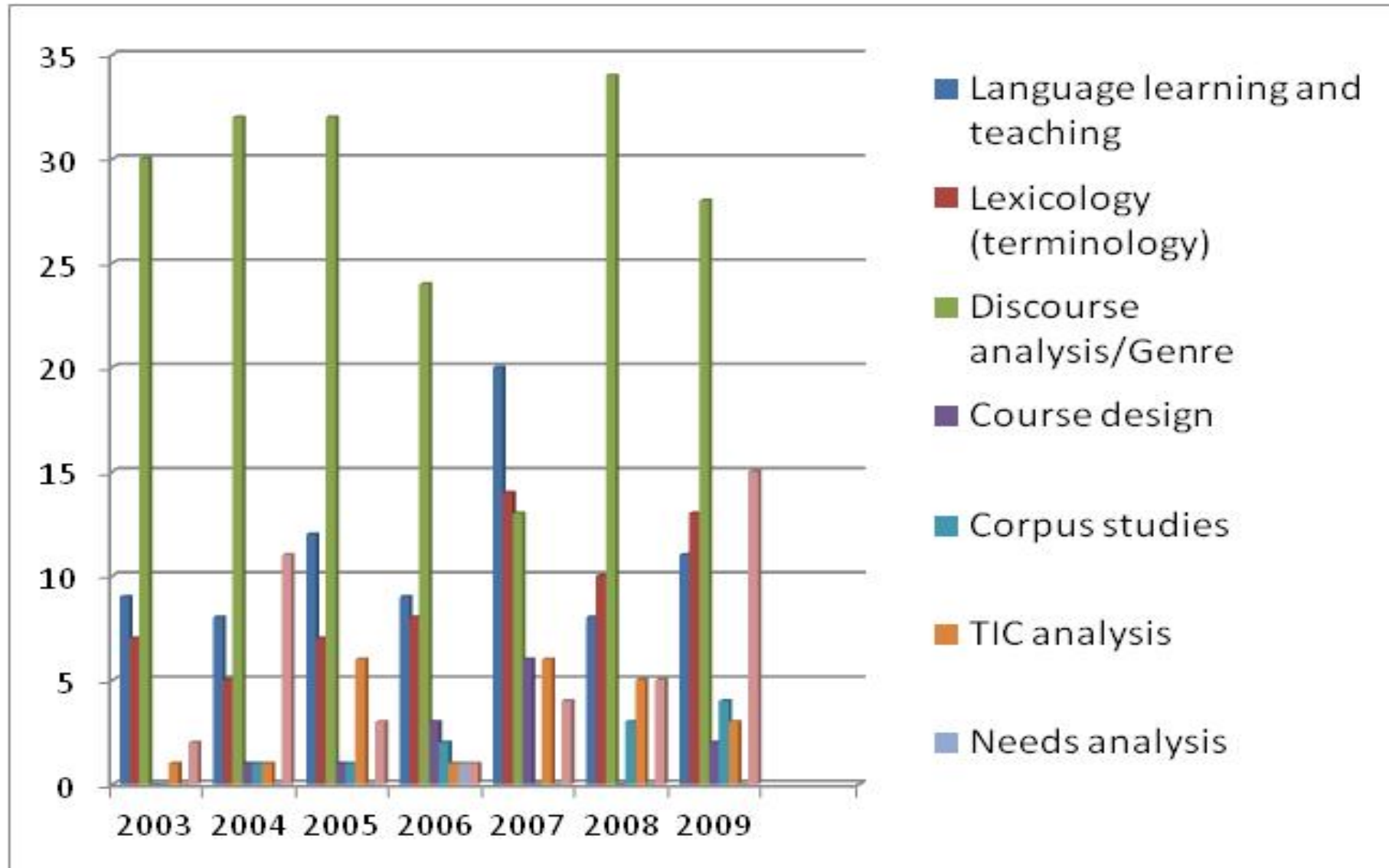
Administrative situation

- A period of maturity:
 - Many ESP teachers with tenured jobs
 - Research groups were created
 - International relationships established with well-known ESP practitioners
 - Some ESP teachers published in prestigious journals (*ESP, Journal of Lexicology, Journal of Pragmatics, Terminology...*)
- Some concern about Bologna Agreement & implementation

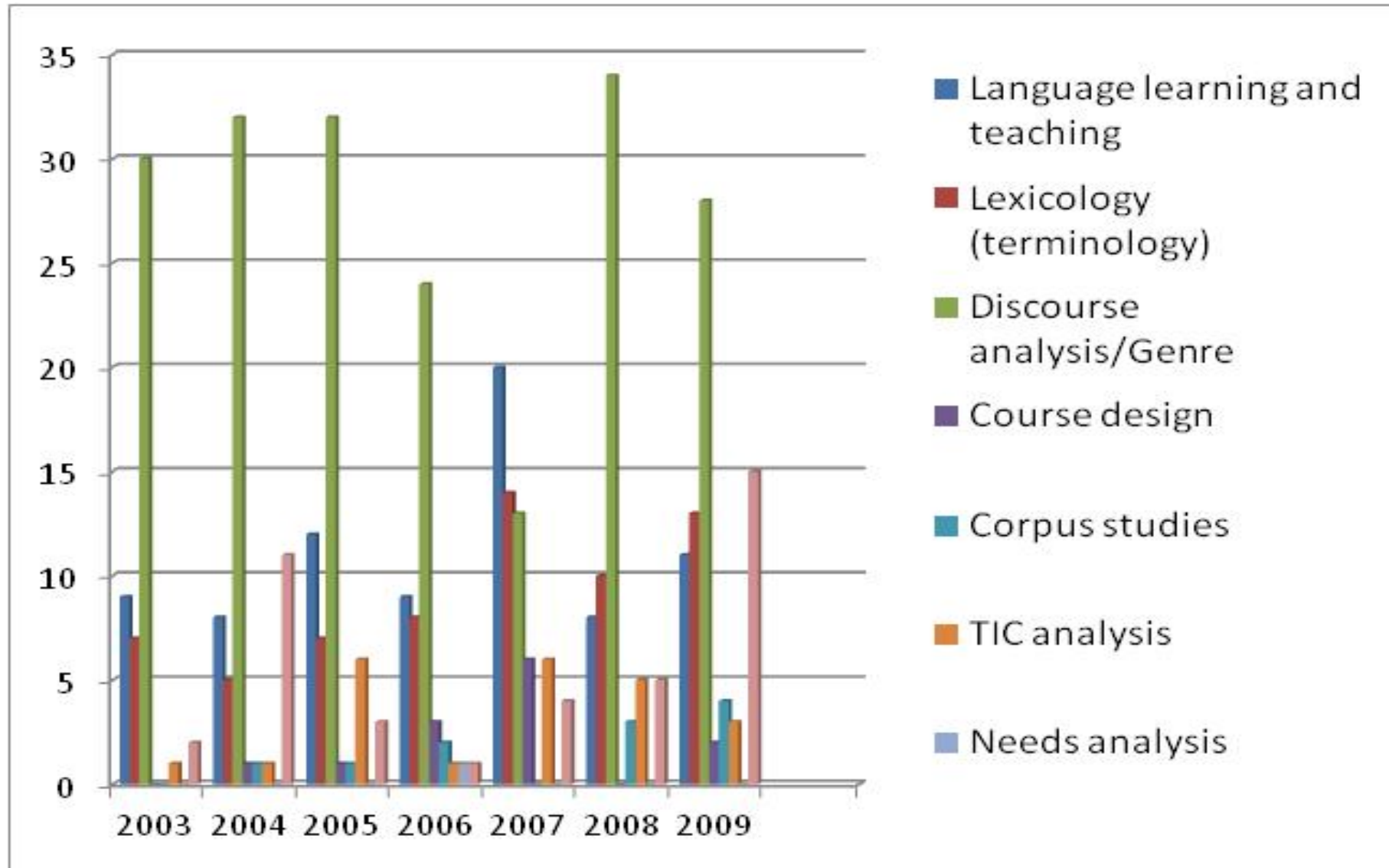
Educational aspects & teaching methodologies

- From sentence level /formal aspects of language, to professional communication skills
- Groups became more manageable
- New online courses designed on professional/academic English
- Reduction of LSP subjects in certain degrees
- Great pressure on ESP teachers to publish -> ***sexenio***

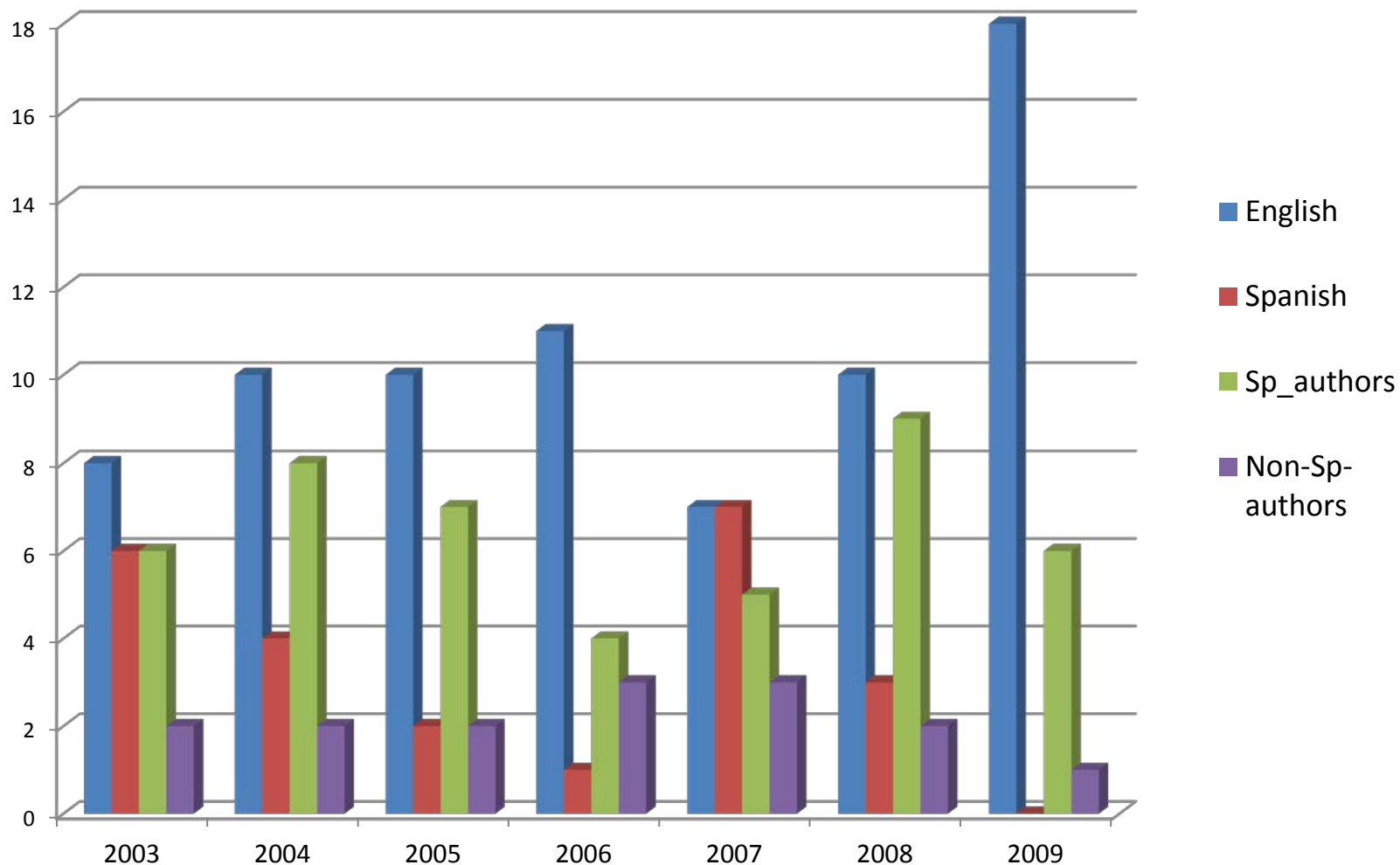
Research in Ibérica



Research in Ibérica



Language of the articles and authors' nationality



Administrative situation

- New degrees have started: ESP/EAP from **compulsory** to **optional** subject
- ESP courses have disappeared or been reduced
- Students are required to have **B1-B2 level** to follow EAP courses
- **BUT** few students have this level
- Greater internationalization of students and teachers
- EAP courses at Degrees and some Master programs

Educational Aspects & Teaching methodologies

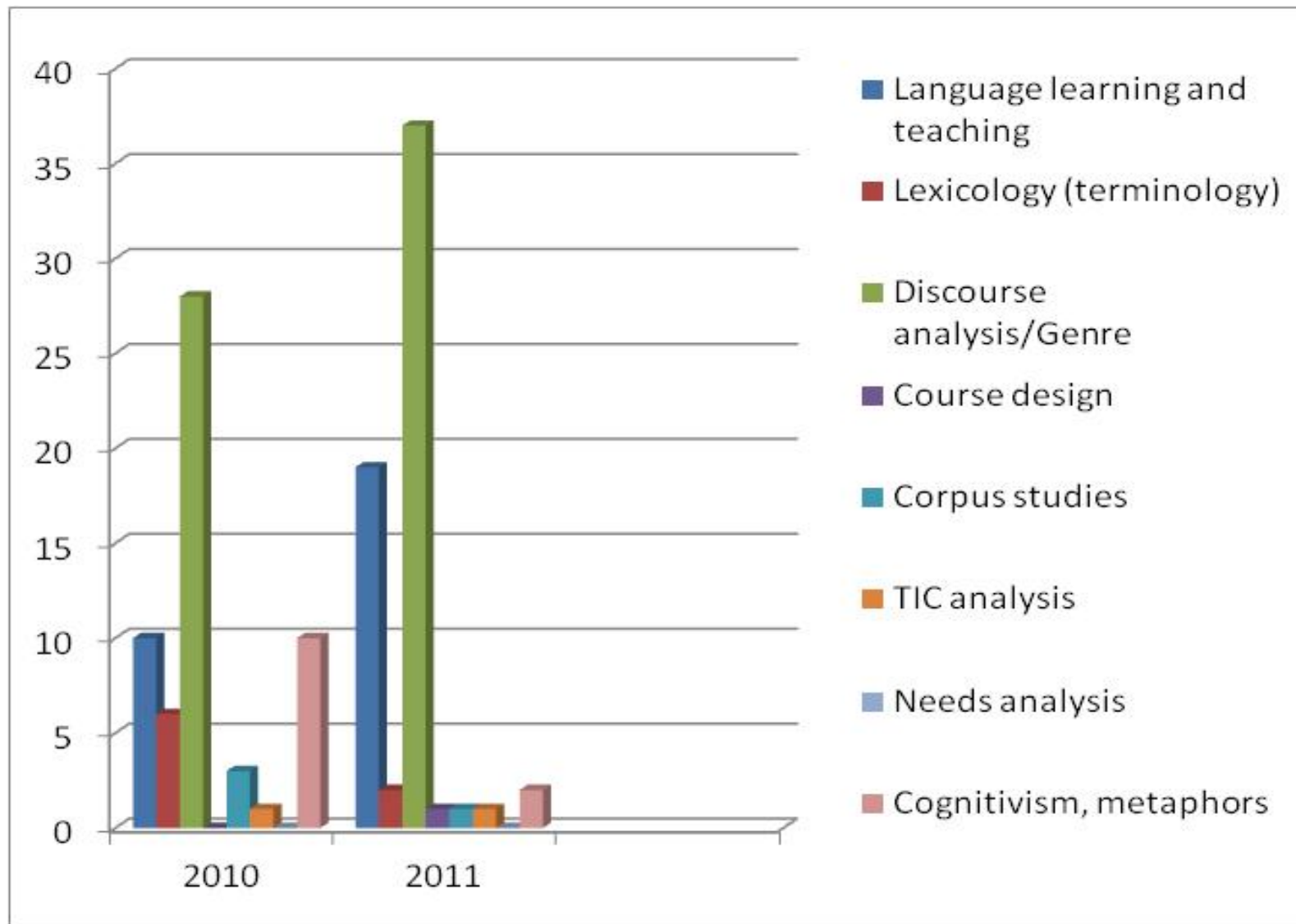
- Teachers adapting their methodologies to new technological / educational requirements: **MOODLE**
- Transversal skills and key competences highlighted
- Few attempts to introduce **CLIL methodologies**
 - Lack of understanding with content subject teachers
 - ESP teachers as support for content teachers
 - Workload not well distributed
- Wide range of possibilities for European projects: Athens, Erasmus, Grundtvig, etc.

Research. Ibérica 2010-2011

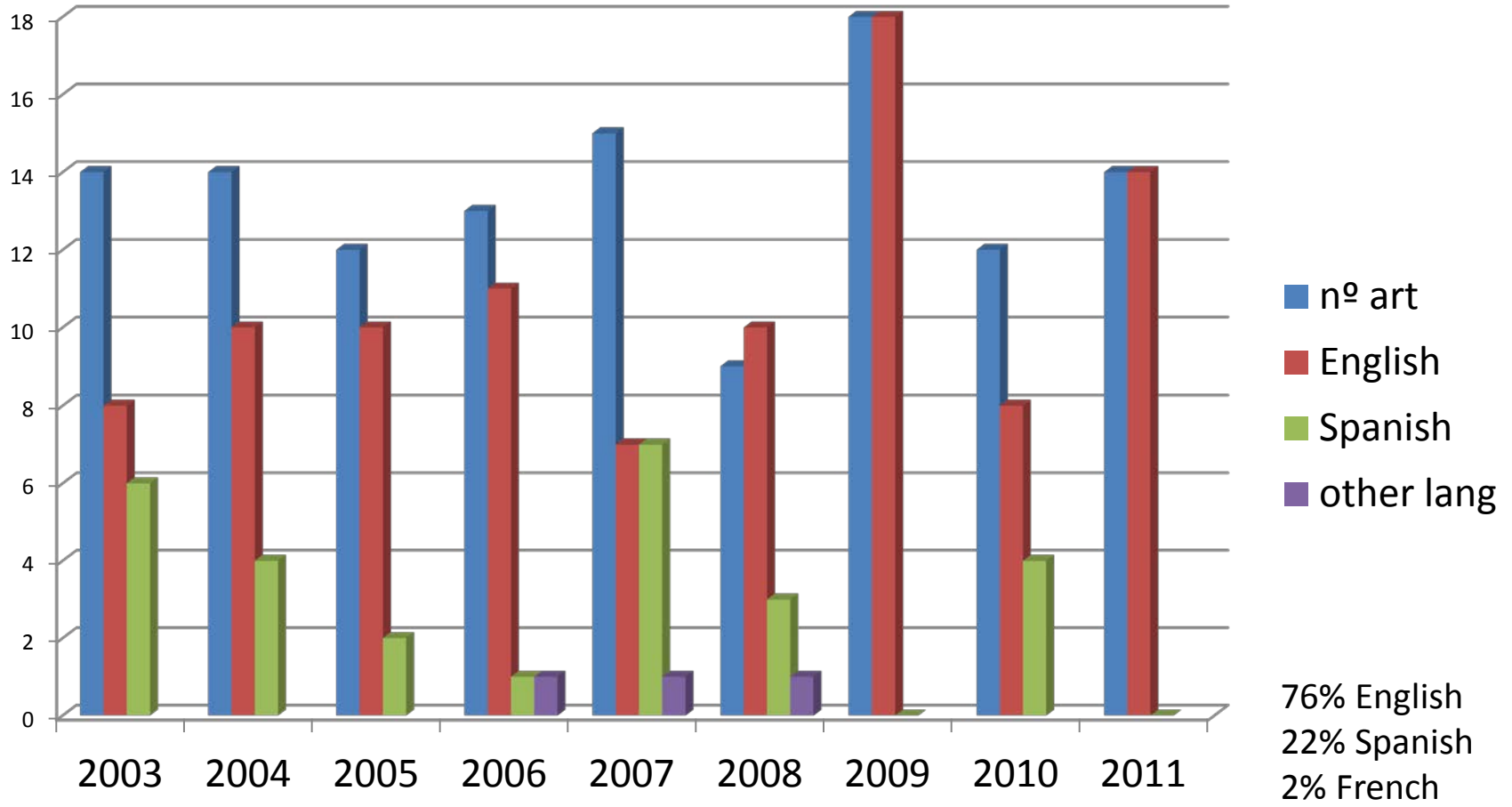
- New topics have gained presence:
 - 2011 Academic skills, Content & language integration
 - Situation in Northern countries very well described
- New special issues are expected to appear, on **Intercultural and International Business Communication.**
- New journals and conferences have appeared, not ESP-oriented, but attract ESP practitioners
 - AELINCO,
 - AELCO...



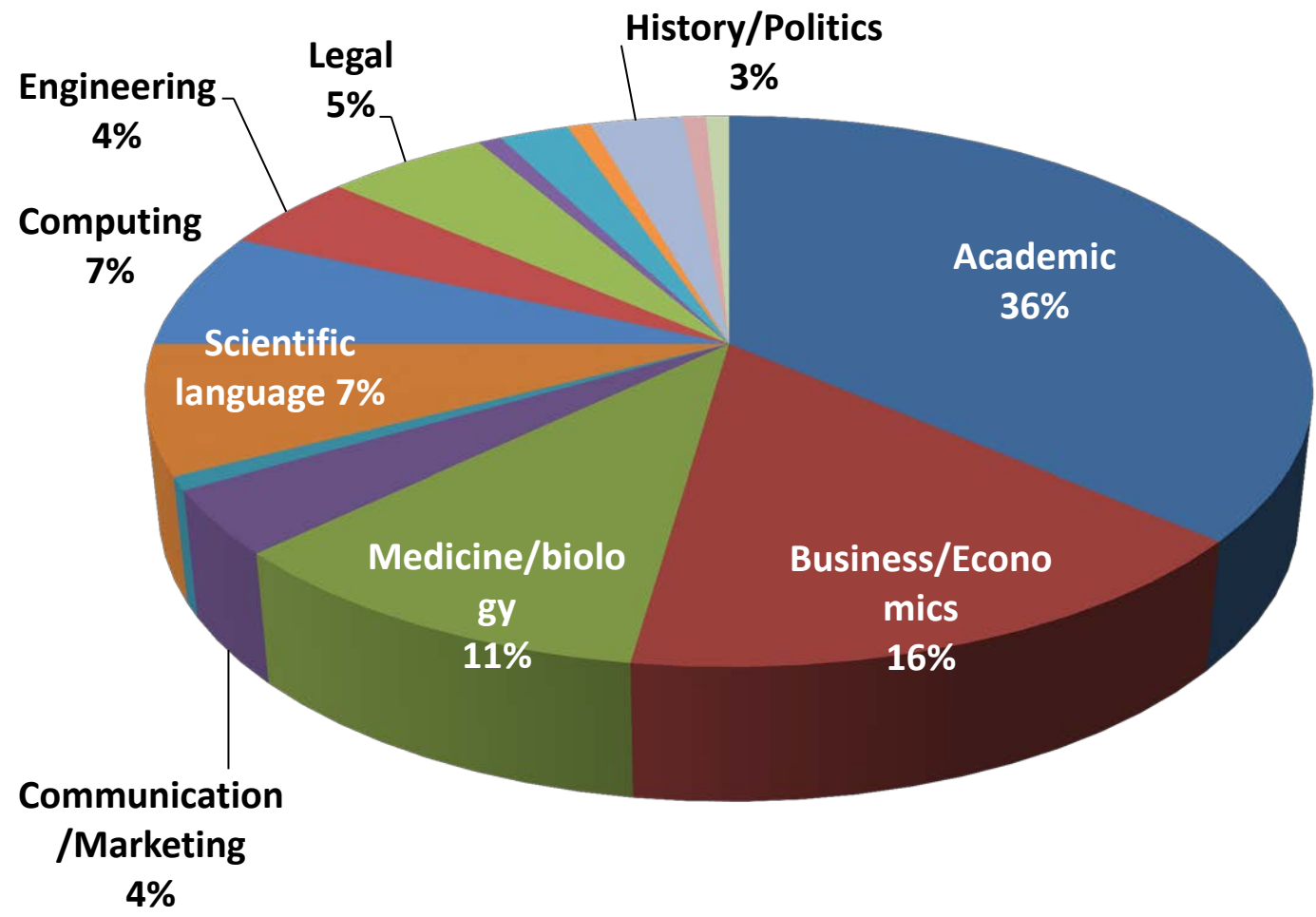
Ibérica 2010-2011



IBERICA. Language of articles



Iberica specialized domains 1999-2011



- Academic/Teaching
- Business/Economics
- Medicine/Biology
- Scientific language
- Computing Eng.
- Legal
- Marketing/Comm.
- History/ Politics
- Chemistry/Physics
- Architecture
- Odontology
- Turism
- Military
- Sports
- Naval/Aeronautical

Administrative situation

- **BLEAK!!!!**
- Only part-time jobs
- Staff reduction -> No vacant posts for young teachers
- More classes and less time for research
- Complaints on increase of administrative paperwork
- Lack of confidence in Bologna Agreement



Educational Aspects & Teaching methodologies

- More learner-centered approaches
- Experiments on content and language integration learning
- Increase in online courses
- Strengthening the field of ESP practitioners
- Providing support and mentoring for novices
- Creation of Networks of Universities on ESP studies in EU
- Creation of ESP/EAP Erasmus Mundus Master Courses



Research perspective

- Emphasis on interdisciplinarity in research teams
- Intercultural studies in a global world
- Emphasis on EAP issues, negotiations, and cultural issues
- New online terminological tools on specialized domains
- Lot of pressure on publications by authorities
- In sum, ESP/EAP will follow some of the trendy lines in applied linguistics

A E L F E

Muito obrigada!
Thank you!!
¡Muchas gracias!
Merci bien!!

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