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## From Cambridge to Cyprus

Dear Colleagues,

The Board of EAAS met in Cambridge (UK) April 13-15, on the occasion of the BAAS Conference as the British Association was celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Thanks to the efforts of our British Colleagues, of President Simon Newman, of Jenel Virden, the BAAS representative on the Board, and to the smiling hospitality of Tony Badger, Master of Clare College, we were able to work in ideal circumstances. And at a time when the evolution of Europe is being hotly debated, it was heart-warming indeed to see the Board work so cooperatively and convivially. My thanks go to all persons who made this possible, particularly to the new representatives from Spain, the Netherlands, the Czech and Slovak Association, and to the colleagues who had been kind enough, sometimes at the drop of a hat, to substitute for Board members prevented from being in Cambridge.

The larger part of the first day was dedicated to assessing the situation of our Association and contemplating its future, the second day was given over to the organization of the Cyprus 2006 Conference (including the choice of lectures and workshops, but Antonis Balasopoulos and Theodora Tsimpouki were with us to provide hands-on information), and the third spent on the revision of our by-laws.

Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, the EAAS Treasurer, gave a thorough and much admired presentation of our financial situation (for all the latter's being, however sound, less admirable than could be wished), as well as an illustrated update on the development of the Wittenberg archive. My own moral report concentrated on the major points I see as crucial to the management and development of EAAS:

- An improvement in communication and greater involvement of the Board Members and constituent associations in the activities of EAAS;
- The ongoing efforts to muster new sources of income, a condition for all and any change;
- The plans to facilitate the integration of and favor networking among our younger colleagues at the doctoral and post-doctoral levels;
- The development of an e-Journal linked with the Newsletter and a discussion forum.

These points, as well as the Vice-President's and the Secretary General's, were followed by highly constructive debates. Measures are now being taken so that there be an ongoing EAAS life between our Biennial Conferences, to give our Association a firmer legal status that will facilitate fund-raising, to develop more frequent international and Intra-European contacts, to help define the specificities of the European approach to American Studies, particularly by endeavoring to launch our own publication on the Web and through the more intense frequentation of our distribution list, masterminded by our Dutch colleague Jaap Verheul. All of these things are bound to take time and much effort on the part of all. Board members will approach their respective associations to facilitate the implementation of our various projects.

We shall next meet in Nicosia, where our colleagues, over the past few months and in the coming period

have been and shall be very imaginatively and energetically busy, organizing a Conference that, I am sure, will not only exemplify the liveliness of our intellectual endeavors but also demonstrate the possibility of fruitful collaborations even where there still exist a few historical obstacles to our enormous shared aspiration to work together. The Conference is a short year away, but very exciting events have already been planned, excellent intellectual participations secured and the fundamental logistic preparations made. I would very much like to urge all of you massively to participate in the Cyprus Conference, whose success will mean still infinitely more than that, unfailing, of previous ones. This Newsletter carries the first elements of preliminary information. The next issue in October, will contain all necessary details. It will also contain whatever news the constituent associations can provide on their activities, which we can only, otherwise, and too often, guess at. Please, think systematically beyond your national borders when organizing events, and publicize them in time for everyone's good.

As we aim for constant development and rejuvenated strength, there will be, must be, periods of hesitancy, and our evolution can only be gradual and patient. A lot of work is required. But our task seems to me, more than ever, to enable improvements, to favor, integrate, accompany and help organize the convergence of the most dynamic forces at work within our association. Shunning the ease of routine and conformism begins at home. I call upon all of you to make sure we can, together, carry out the collective tasks with which your Board and officers have the honor of having been entrusted.

To one and all, my most cordial greetings.

**Marc Chénétier**  
**April 20, 2005**



The EAAS special issue of *JAST* can be ordered from:

Muammer Şanlı  
The Managing Editor of *JAST*  
Bilkent University at  
<http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/~jast/>

### ***Cultural Shuttle***

The Proceedings of the Bordeaux Conference can be ordered from:

VU University Press  
VU Boekhandel/Uitgeverij bv  
De Boelelaan 1105  
1081 HV AMSTERDAM  
The Netherlands;

e-mail : [info@vu-uitgeverij.nl](mailto:info@vu-uitgeverij.nl)

# CALL FOR EDITOR: E-Journal EAAS

The Board of EAAS in its recent meeting in Cambridge decided to go ahead and try to launch an e-Journal that would/could have a dynamic (as opposed to static) newsletter attached to it, as well as, possibly, a discussion forum. The French authorities for Education and Research have recently helped organize a consortium, financed by different public organizations ([www.revues.org](http://www.revues.org)) that houses a variety of academic publications. We would be welcome to insert our own independent, EAAS-sponsored productions, gratis pro deo, into this rather state-of-the-art set-up. This journal would be viewable in html format and printable under pdf form. It would be freely accessible to all. We could contemplate one or two issues a year once the project gets under way. The Board now wishes to constitute a competent and motivated international editorial team of 5-6 persons, representative of the various sub-disciplines, whose editorial project could then be examined and chosen by the Board. This is therefore a call for applications to the editorship of the e-Journal of EAAS. The list of candidates and projects will then be made known so that potential editorial board members can, so to speak, “coalesce” around one of the various candidates and projects into a team, the Board of EAAS would then elect for four years. All articles would be anonymously double-refereed. The language would be English. The head of this editorial team would have his/her ad hoc phone & ADSL justified expenses taken care of. It would naturally help if candidates were reasonably computer literate and even conversant with website techniques, not so much because they would have to do the uploading etc. (they would not), but because what productions the editorial team comes up with would have to be impeccably edited (in the scholarly sense) into a copy that would be ready for immediate technical treatment. We could not, in effect, afford that anything underprepared reach the uploading and circulation stage for reasons of time and finances.

Applications—including a pertinent CV and a brief presentation of the candidate’s conception of editorial activity and policy – should reach a member of the Board or one of the EAAS officers by **OCTOBER 15, 2005**.

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# EAAS BOARD MEETING AT THE PRAGUE CONFERENCE

## Minutes in Brief

1. **Membership:** The delegate of the Russian Society for American Studies, Tatiana Venediktova, was welcomed. The RSAS will pay dues from January 1, 2004.
2. **Publications:** Marc Chénétier informed the meeting that 500 copies of the French edition of the European Journal, "Stemming the Mississippi," were available to be sold at €9 per volume, to be ordered directly from the publisher (Editions Belin, 8 rue Férou, 75006-Paris) by the various national associations. Also, the Bordeaux proceedings, "The Cultural Shuttle," will be published in the early fall of 2004. Hans Bak presented the Graz proceedings, "Nature's Nation Revisited," announcing that a number of books would be available at a special price for members. The Prague proceedings will be edited by Josef Jařab, Marcel Arbeit, and Jenel Virden.
3. **The Newsletter:** The Board decided that the ASE Newsletter hereafter will be published electronically only, in printable form to be downloaded from the EAAS website ([www.eaas.info](http://www.eaas.info)), with certain transitional arrangement made for member associations with insufficient network coverage. Ingrid Thaler and Victor Kennedy were thanked for their work on the Newsletter in a difficult transitional phase of its publication.
4. **Elections:** As new President of EAAS was elected Marc Chénétier, FAAS, and as Treasurer Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, DGfA. Dr. Chénétier thanked the outgoing officers, President Josef Jařab and Treasurer Hans Bak, for their dedicated service to EAAS.
5. **Logo:** Hans-Jürgen Grabbe was authorized to negotiate a deal with a German agency to produce a functional logo for EAAS.
6. **The European Journal:** It was decided to continue the project, either by electronic or paper publishing, and that the financial responsibility in its entirety be carried by the national associations concerned. The line of publishing agreed on so far consists of Turkey (2004), Italy (2005), and Greece (2006).
7. **Finances:** Treasurer Bak reported that the financial situation of EAAS is satisfactory, but that there is a great need of fund-raising efforts in order to meet new and increasing financial demands. The projected account balance by December 31, 2004, was €7,425.28.
8. **Travel grants:** There were 16 applications, and the following received grants:
  - (a) **Four Trans - Atlantic Travel Grants:** Andrzej Antoszek, Univ. of Lublin, Poland, \$2,500; Eleftheria Arapořlou, U. of Thessaloniki, Greece, \$2,500; Gábor Berczeli, Eötvös Loránd U. Budapest, Hungary, \$2,000; and Jessica Tang, U. of Zürich, Switzerland, \$2,500.
  - (b) **Two Intra-European Travel Grants:** Justyna Wierzchowska, U. of Warsaw, Poland, \$1,250, and Jelena Šesnić, U. of Zagreb, Croatia, \$1,250.
9. **Website:** Webmaster Hans-Jürgen Grabbe reported that the new website ([www.eaas.info](http://www.eaas.info)) was now operational. He pointed out some of the strengths and weaknesses of the PDF format, reporting that the site now was functioning satisfactorily.
10. **History and Archives Project:** It was decided to start working on a history and archives project. The matter is urgent as a number of former officers are cleaning office due to retirements.
11. **Constitutional Committee:** As members of a committee to draft a revision of the EAAS Articles were elected: Josef Jařab, Marc Chénétier, and Ole O. Moen.
12. **Membership applications:** There was a formal application for membership from the Bulgarian Association for American Studies and inquiries from Georgia and Israel about the same. The Board will consider these initiatives in connection with the revision of the EAAS Articles (above) and a thorough discussion of its future policy lines with regard to geographical coverage and membership requirements. Generally, regional associations are recommended.
13. **Registration and legal status:** Hans-Jürgen Grabbe proposed that the legal status of the EAAS be clarified. The EAAS is at present registered in Austria by a German-language document, and the EAAS bank accounts and the Amsterdam Trust Fund are registered in the Netherlands. This is to be rectified.
14. **Future venues:** The next EAAS Biennial Conference will be hosted by HELAAS, April 7-10, 2006, probably at Nicosia, Cyprus. The theme of the conference will be: "Conformism, Non-Conformism, and Anti-Conformism in the Culture of the United States." There was also a formal invitation from NAAS to locate the 2008 conference in Oslo, Norway. Furthermore, NASA expressed an interest in hosting the 2010 conference, in Amsterdam or Utrecht. The next EAAS Board meeting will be held at Cambridge, England, April 13-15, 2005, in conjunction with the BAAS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Ole O. Moen**  
**EAAS Secretary-General**  
**Oslo, Norway,**  
**August 30, 2004**

## EAAS BOARD MEETING IN CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND

### • Opening and welcome

General welcome by President and special welcome to new delegates—Jesús Benito Sánchez, AEDEAN, and Jaap Verheul, NASA—and four substitutes: Gilbert Debusscher (BLASA), Cristina Giorcelli (AISNA), Theodora Tsimpouki (HELAAS), and Waldemar Zacharasiewicz (AAAS).

- Minutes of the Prague Board Meeting, March 31-April 5, 2004, unanimously adopted.
- Report of the Officers' Meeting at Paris, August 26-29, 2004, presented and added to the EAAS records.

### • Reports of the Officers:

**President Marc Chénétier** had made several indispensable travels and had worked on many issues before and after the Officers' Handover Meeting in Paris in August. He had funded his travels by drawing on his own research allocations and thus not tapping the EAAS coffers. The meeting agreed that this cannot continue; the EAAS needs an operating budget.

The President gave a general programmatic statement for his term of office and reported on his work so far: (a) results (b) running of business (c) plans and projects. Many of these items were on the meeting agenda and will be reported on below. Fund-raising had been one of his central concerns, but after checking through the stated objectives of several dozen potential donors, i.e. benevolent foundations, and contacting a great number, his bottom-line conclusion was that the needs of EAAS hardly seem to fall within the purview of any of them. However, he will keep trying and suggested that a small committee be established for the purpose of fund-raising.

**Vice-President Gülriz Büken** and **Secretary-General Ole O. Moen** gave brief reports, supplementing the President's account. The VP's special responsibility, the ASE Newsletter, is dealt with below as a separate item.

**Treasurer Hans-Jürgen Grabbe** reported the financial status of EAAS to be acceptable but strained and emphasized the need for fund-raising in order to enable the association to meet the many new challenges ahead. In the new situation, where the EAAS will be increasingly dependent on fund-raising from the private sector, the association will need a full-fledged budget and accounting system, certified by a public auditor. The association will therefore be registered in Wittenberg and the pertinent legal requirements of the German Civil Code will be incorporated into the revised EAAS Articles as a special statutory initial section (see below). As part of the new set-up, the

EAAS accounts will be transferred to a German bank from the current Dutch bank. Hans Bank is the new Steward of the Amsterdam Trust Fund, formally as of September 2005.

### • Election of a new Auditor

Anthony (Tony) Emmerson was unanimously elected to replace Hans-Jürgen Grabbe as member of the dual-member Auditing Committee

### • Travel Grants

There were in all nine applications, six for Trans-Atlantic and three for Intra-European grants. Two Trans-Atlantic grants were given.

(1) Ewa Antoszek, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland, received \$2,500 to go to University of California, Riverside, to study Chicana culture for her Ph.D. thesis;

(2) Konrad Walewski, American Studies Center, Warsaw University/Marie Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland, received \$2,100 for studies at New York libraries for his Ph.D. project on New Wave science fiction.

(3) One Intra-European Grant was given to Eniko Maior, Partium Christian University, Oradea, Romania, received \$450 for a two-month research stay at the University of Debrecen, Hungary.

It was decided to continue the Travel Grant program provided the Fulbright Foundation continues its matching grants.

### • The Auditors' Report was unanimously adopted. • Report on EAAS Proceedings, Bordeaux and Prague

The President reported that 200 volumes of the Bordeaux Proceedings, *The Cultural Shuttle: The United States of/in Europe*, purchased by EAAS, is available at the VU University Press. If all member associations buy 5-10 copies each, the problem of remainders will be solved.

Marcel Arbeit reported that the Prague Proceedings, "America in the Course of Events: Presentations and Interpretations," will go to the printer in October.

### • The Newsletter

The Vice President Büken reported that the change to electronic edition had created some technical and practical problems but that these are progressively being solved. The future of the Newsletter will be hitched up with the plans for an electronic journal, as part of a "package deal" with a professional entity. The transfer to electronic editing has removed many restrictions regarding space, etc. As a transitional

measure, some member associations must print out and deliver the Newsletter by mail to some members because of poor online coverage or weak technical standards. The Newsletter has reached most members, though, and the problems reported have been relatively minor.

- **The EAAS Mailing List**

Listserve Editor Jaap Verheul reported 650 subscribers, an increase of 100 over last year, but encouraged a wider readership and more diversified usage. <<http://mailman.let.uu.nl/mailman/listinfo/eaas-l>>

- **A European Journal**

The Officers' Handover Meeting in Paris (Aug. 2004) had agreed that the current set-up with a paper issue is not viable. President Chénétier suggested several possibilities for future developments of the European Journal idea (see: Paris Minutes in Brief). He had now worked further on this project, with Jean Kempf in Lyon, editor of *Trans-Atlantica*. (Kempf@univ-lyon2.fr). A professional on-line publisher might be able to offer the necessary services—two annual issues of both the Journal and the Newsletter (plus possibly an on-line Forum)—at a price of €5,000. It was decided to advertise for candidates for Journal editor. These will in turn each nominate a team (6-7) who will eventually form the editorial committee. The President was authorized to pursue this policy line further in order to negotiate a “package deal” with such a publisher. The result of these deliberations will be presented to the Board as soon as possible.

- **Membership Applications**

Several groups and organizations are in the process of applying for membership in the EAAS: Bulgaria, Georgia, and Baku, Azerbaidjan. They have been encouraged to seek regional constellations, either by joining existing member associations, or by establishing new regional organizations and then apply for membership.

- **The 2006 EAAS Biennial Conference at Nicosia, Cyprus**

Members of the organizing committee, Theodora Tsimpouki, Athens and Antonis Balasopoulos, Nicosia informed the Board about the progress of preparations. Things seemed to be in general good shape, although a lot remains to be done at this stage, especially in the field of fund-raising, where firm commitments were still missing in some instances. The Committee will keep the President updated on developments. The President was authorized to invite the Keynote and other Plenary Speakers agreed on, one local, one American, and one European.

There were 15 proposals for parallel lectures and 50 for workshops. Eight were selected among the for-

mer and 24 among the latter. The quality was generally good, but a greater variety would have been desirable. Certain areas were not well represented. However, the program will certainly be interesting and stimulating.

In addition there will be Shoptalks for American Studies, History, Literature, and also Women Studies. Furthermore, there will also be meetings for Journal Editors, the Salzburg Alumni, and also for “Junior European Americanists” (See below).

- **Junior European Americanists**

The President had been approached by a group calling themselves “Young European Americanists Americanists,” who wish the EAAS to help facilitate their integration into the organization, for example by creating special forums for junior scholars at the EAAS Conferences, special “off-year” conferences, a special slot on the EAAS website, etc. The meeting was positive to these initiatives and authorized the President to follow up his talks with the group. However, there was some skepticism to the designation “Young,” which was felt to be too biologically restrictive, and a wish to have the post-doctorate aspect included. For lack of a better term, I here take the liberty to use the temporary term “Junior,” no harm or condescension intended.

- **The EAAS Articles**

The draft for the revision of the EAAS Articles was presented by the “Constitutional Committee”: Josef Jařab, Marc Chénétier, and Ole O. Moen. The draft, which dealt with the “intra-organizational” aspect of the Articles, were adopted unanimously with some alterations. The remaining section, pertaining to official business requirements of the German Civil Code, will be finalized in consultation with legal advisors and presented for consideration by the EAAS Board at the 2006 Biennial Conference. Also, a Mission Statement by the President will be incorporated into the “Object” section in the final version of the revised by-laws.

- **The 2008 EAAS Biennial Conference**

The invitation by the Nordic Association for American Studies to host the 2008 Biennial Conference in Oslo, Norway, was unanimously accepted.

- **The 2007 EAAS Board Meeting**

The invitation by Treasurer Grabbe to host the 2007 Board Meeting at Wittenberg, the new EAAS headquarters, was unanimously accepted.

**Ole O. Moen**  
**EAAS Secretary-General**  
**April 20, 2005**

## EAAS OFFICERS MEETING IN PARIS (August 27-29) Minutes in Brief

### In attendance:

Josef Jařab, Marc Chénétier, Gülriz Büken, Hans Bak, Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, Ole O. Moen.

President-Elect Marc Chénétier had provided rooms at the Collège Franco-Britannique for accommodations and the Friday meeting and invited the group to his home for the Saturday meetings.

### • Welcome and status

Outgoing President Jařab reported on an association in good shape, with 4778 members in 20 national and regional associations in 25 countries, and with several applicant organizations in the wings. He also brought greetings from the meeting observing the Fiftieth Anniversary of the EAAS, at Salzburg in July 2004.

### • The Prague Conference

The president could report of a generally successful conference at Prague. Vital financial assistance had been received from the Czech Government, the Charles University, the American Embassy at Prague, and the U.S. Government in Washington, D.C., and substantial support was had from other institutions, national and international. The Organizers had done a fine job, staying within the budget to boot, and the post-conference activities were going well.

### • Minutes of the Prague Board meeting

The Minutes were received with a few comments and suggestions. Given the vastly improved website and an electronic version of the ASE Newsletter, it was proposed that brief extracts of Board Minutes (and Officers' meetings) be posted on the web and/or in the Newsletter for the information of the general membership. The feedback from the conference had in general been very positive. Workshop chairs seemed to have heeded the Workshop Rules so that time-keeping and the general set-up of workshops functioned fairly well. Also, most reports from the chairs had been submitted in time.

### • Financial Report

Treasurer Hans Bak had brought the accounts up to Aug. 24 for the handover. The EAAS treasury balance by August 24, 2004, was €9,501.93, and the expected balance by Dec. 31, 2004, is €7,422.93. Hans Bak would be the new Steward of the Amsterdam Trust Fund. The travel grant system should be continued, a ceiling at \$4000 to be observed. \$12,000 should be allocated in total for such grants. Bak also suggested that a minor sum be set aside for temporary subsidies of national associations with problems due to poor electronic coverage of their membership.

### • IASA-EAAS relations

It was decided to establish no formal contact with the IASA on the organizational level. For clarification of questions of principle, the "Constitutional Committee" (Jařab, Chénétier, and Moen) appointed at Prague to draft an update of the EAAS Articles (last amended 1993), was asked to define more clearly the geographical reach of the EAAS as well as the various forms of membership. A "Preamble" to the EAAS Articles—a "mission statement"—would also be added for clarification of general principles.

### • The 2006 EAAS Conference

President Chénétier reported on his correspondence with the officials of HELAAS regarding the plans for the 2006 conference at Nicosia, Cyprus, and was asked to keep in close contact with the local Nicosia organizing committee. Some central decisions were:

1. The local organizing committee is to be responsible for the practical arrangements and should be as broadly based and representative as possible. Thus there will also be Turkish members on the committee.
2. Clear procedures for travel arrangements for Turkish delegates to the conference are to be worked out well in advance to prevent potential problems.

### • The EAAS Website

Webmaster Grabbe reported that the new website was in good working order and that things were generally in a good state. He reminded the meeting that the agreed-on number of updates is ten per year; hence the websites cannot be kept continuously updated.

### • Proceedings: Bordeaux and Prague

The Bordeaux Proceedings were finished in June, by Chénétier and his Bordeaux colleagues, and were now available from VU University Press, Amsterdam. (Consultant: Barbara Luijken <bluijken@vuuitgeve rij.nl>) The Editorial Committee of the Prague Proceedings was well into the editing process. This book will also be published by the VU University Press.

### • The EAAS Logo

Incoming Treasurer and Webmaster Hans-Jürgen Grabbe presented the final draft for the logo, to be posted on the web on August 28, and reported that an electronic program ware for stationery, etc., would be issued to the officers shortly. The logo was unanimously adopted with commendations to Hans Grabbe for his excellent work and his amazing efficiency.



### • Membership Applications

The EAAS leadership had been approached by members of several associations and groups and had received applications of varying degree of formality. President Chénétier would follow up these negotiations, eliciting additional information as required.

1. The applicants are associations or groups in Bulgaria; Georgia; and Baku, Azerbaijan. The dues for any new members will be the regular rate of €6.

2. Israel: The Israeli Association for American Studies had applied to become a full Constituent Member of the EAAS. However, Section 3 of the EAAS ARTICLES states clearly that only European associations can become full members of the EAAS.

3. Spain: The situation in Spain—with two associations with overlapping membership—has created confusion and complications in the past. Good progress was reported from negotiations between the two organizations, SAAS and AEDEAN. An agreement was reached at the end of the year that “all Americanists in Spain will be represented by AEDEAN and its representative will be nominated by consensus between SAAS and AEDEAN among a double member of these two associations. Also a provision is made so that SAAS members who are not AEDEAN members will be able to pay their EAAS fee through AEDEAN.” Jesús Benito Sánchez, Universidad de Valladolid, is the new delegate on the EAAS Board.

### • The Board meeting at Cambridge, April 13-15, 2005

The meetings will be held in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of BAAS, April 14-17 (Board meetings April 13-15).

### • The European Journal

The Paris meeting agreed that the current set-up with a paper issue is not viable. Alternatives have to be found. President Chénétier suggested several possibilities for future developments of the European Journal idea based on French experiences. by among others Jean Kempf, Editor of *Trans-Atlantica* (Jean Kempf@univ-lyon2.fr). The Journal must be seen in conjunction with the EAAS website and Newsletter. Chénétier outlined two electronic projects as tentatively viable options:

A. A “light” version: a survey of European research in the field of American Studies.

1. Information EAAS activities: (a) information on publications (b) pointers to publications (static)

2. Maintained by and editor; standardized information from national journals (with electronic addresses and tables of contents, also of back issues)—linked to Home Page.

B. A “heavy” version: The European Journal On-Line

1. A truly European publication, EAAS sponsored, annual or semi-annual

2. Original research, also other than English (authors responsible for professional translation into English); two side referees

3. Editorship: 6-7 members of editorial committee

4. Quality control: (a) Trust national journal editors to screen and select candidate papers

C. The President will continue his work on the project.

### • Handover meeting

After the election of new officers, a specific date for the Handover Meeting should be set, preferably in or May or June, in order that the interim period be shortened.

### • EAAS records and archives

Treasurer Grabbe informed the meeting that he had been in negotiations with the Center for US Studies at the Leucorea Foundation in Wittenberg about the possibilities of locating an EAAS Records and Archives Center at this institution.

1. He thought that the following facilities could be offered: ample storage space, one staff member, a professional librarian, and depository facilities.

2. He also saw possibilities for these projects on EAAS history at his university. He was asked to continue his cooperation with Walter Hölbling, former EAAS Secretary, on the history project.

3. The Board moved that plans for financial support be quickly developed.

### • Venue 2008

There was a firm commitment (and a formal invitation) on the part of the Nordic Association for American Studies to invite the 2008 EAAS Biennial Conference to Oslo, Norway.

### • Other business

President Chénétier underlined the need to activate more members of the Board—and indeed the entire general membership—in the running business of EAAS, and more frequent in-between-conference contact among EAAS members. He saw a great challenge to the membership to map and record ongoing activities in the various member associations and to bring these activities to the knowledge of the general membership, by electronic and other means.

**Ole O. Moen**  
**Secretary - General**

## THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK

The American Studies Network (ASN) is a group of European centers involved in American Studies. The idea of a network of centers arose during the European Association for American Studies (EAAS) meeting in London in April, 1990. The ASN was founded in November, 1990 in Berlin at a meeting of interested directors of American Studies centers. The initial group of eight members has expanded to include almost 20 members from all over Europe.

All members take an interdisciplinary approach to American Studies; are independent organizations with some of their own sources of funding, not exclusively linked to a university; have some research facilities; and are committed to a role of public service to the community at large. ASN works in close association with the EAAS. Its goals are those of promoting the study of the United States by close cooperation of the different institutions interested in this area of study. The ASN exists to provide mutual support for all the centers involved, help channel the flow of information on resources among the members and the community, establish joint projects that will increase cooperation and productivity and thus integrate the European studies of America. The ASN is willing to act as an advisory group to encourage the development of American Studies, particularly in Eastern and Central Europe.

One of the key activities of the ASN is the networking of resources and information such as the availability of visiting scholars for lecturing at the different institutions. Through different means of communication, the ASN hopes to make available to members the library resources of each center and establish an interlibrary loan. Another goal is that of promoting the exchange of scholars and students of the different centers. One of the specific ASN projects is the establishment of the American Studies Network Book Prize, a prize of €1,000 for a remarkable book published in English by a European scholar on any aspect of American Studies. The jury for that biennial prize, presented at the EAAS conferences, is comprised of representatives from the EAAS and the ASN. The deadline for submitting books

for this prize is announced in the EAAS newsletter in the year preceding the EAAS conference.

The Directors of the ASN member centers meet every year to discuss the joint projects and accept new members. The presidency of the ASN rotates among the current directors. In order to become a member, an institution should write and apply to the current president. The prospective institution should include a dossier with information on itself. Any institution that wishes to become a member should comply with the following four criteria:

1. Be an independent organization with some kind of external funding, although it may be linked to another institution such as a university or library.
2. Be of an interdisciplinary nature.
3. Have research facilities and carry out research.
4. Be of public service to the community by, for example, providing a public library or research archive.

### President

Dr. Axel R. Schäfer  
The David Bruce Centre for American Studies  
Keele University, ST5 5BG  
United Kingdom  
E-mail: a.schaefer@ams.keele.ac.uk

### Vice-President

Prof. Valeria Gennaro Lerda  
Centro Studi Euro-Atlantici  
Via Balbi 6  
16126 Genova, Italy  
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### Treasurer:

Prof. Cornelis A. van Minnen  
Roosevelt Study Center  
P.O. Box 6001  
4330 LA Middelburg  
The Netherlands  
Email: ca.v.minnen@zeeland.nl

## THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK BOOK PRIZE

At the EAAS Conference in Cyprus in 2006, the ASN will again award its biennial prize for a remarkable book (monograph) published in English in the field of American Studies.

### The criteria are as follows:

The monograph (not an edited volume) should have been published in 2004 or 2005; the author must be a European scholar who through membership of her/his national American Studies organization is a member of EAAS; three review copies of the book should be submitted before **1 December 2005** to:

Prof. Zbigniew Lewicki  
American Studies Center  
Warsaw University  
Al Niepodleglosci 22  
02653 Warszawa  
Poland

## THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK MEMBERS

### Austria

Salzburg Seminar American Studies Center,  
Salzburg  
[www.salzburgseminar.org](http://www.salzburgseminar.org)

### Belgium

Center for American Studies, Brussels  
[www.kbr.be/cas/](http://www.kbr.be/cas/)

American Studies Center, Mons-Hainaut  
[www.umh.ac.be/ASC/](http://www.umh.ac.be/ASC/)

### Denmark

Center for American Studies, Odense  
[www.sdu.dk/Hum/amstud/index.html](http://www.sdu.dk/Hum/amstud/index.html)

### France

C.I.R.N.A. (Centre interdisciplinaire de recherches  
nord-américaines), Paris

### Germany

John F. Kennedy Institute, Berlin  
[www.fu-berlin.de/jfki/index\\_e.html](http://www.fu-berlin.de/jfki/index_e.html)

ZUSAS (Center for U.S. Studies), Halle-Wittenberg  
[www.zusas.uni-halle.de/en\\_index.html](http://www.zusas.uni-halle.de/en_index.html)

Amerika-Institut, Munich  
[www.uni-muenchen.de/conman/index.cfm?path=4067](http://www.uni-muenchen.de/conman/index.cfm?path=4067)

ZENAF (Center for North American Studies),  
Frankfurt  
<http://web.uni-frankfurt.de/zenaf/>

### Great Britain

The David Bruce Centre for American Studies, Keele  
[www.keele.ac.uk/depts/as/Dbruce/bruce.htm](http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/as/Dbruce/bruce.htm)

Eccles Centre for American Studies, London  
[www.bl.uk/ecclescentre](http://www.bl.uk/ecclescentre)

Arthur Miller Centre for American Studies, Norwich  
[www.uea.ac.uk/eas/centres/miller/miller.intro.shtml](http://www.uea.ac.uk/eas/centres/miller/miller.intro.shtml)

### Italy

Centro Studi Euro-Atlantici, Genoa  
<http://www.dismec.unige.it/ceuro.htm>

Centro Studi Americani, Rome  
[www.centrostudiamericani.org](http://www.centrostudiamericani.org)

### Netherlands

Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg  
<http://www.roosevelt.nl>

### Poland

American Studies Center, Warsaw  
<http://www.asc.uw.edu.pl/>

### Spain

Institute for North American Studies, Alcala  
<http://www.iuien-uah.net/>

### Sweden

The Swedish Institute for North American Studies,  
Uppsala  
<http://www.engelska.uu.se/sinas.html>

# THE ASN BOOK PRIZE

## THE ASN BOOK PRIZE RECIPIENTS 2004

**Gert Buelens** of the University of Ghent, Belgium, for his book *Henry James and the 'Aliens' in Possession of the American Scene* (Amsterdam and New York: Rodopi, 2002).

**Simon P. Newman** of the University of Glasgow, for his publication *Embodied History: The Lives of the Poor in Early Philadelphia* (Philadelphia: University of Philadelphia Press, 2003).

# 2006 EAAS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, April 7-10, 2006 Nicosia, Cyprus

## “Conformism, Non-conformism and Anti-conformism in the Culture of the United States”

### Guidelines for Workshops

1. A workshop may be chaired either by one person, or, preferably, by **two persons from different countries**. No one may (co) chair a workshop at two consecutive EAAS conferences.
2. Workshop sessions are **approximately 1:45 hours**.
3. Speakers are selected by the workshop chairs from those colleagues responding to the Call for Papers published in the ASE Newsletter of May 2005. The required number of speakers per session is **four**, the maximum number is **eight** (two sessions).  
**Note:** Of the speakers in any workshop, not more than two may come from the same country. Speakers **must** be members of their national Association for American Studies if there exists one in their home country. Speakers from Canada, Israel, Japan, and the USA must be members of their respective American Studies Associations.  
**No speaker can present more than one paper at the conference.**
4. Papers should be presented rather than read; chairs are encouraged to suggest this to their contributors.
5. The **maximum** presentation time for papers is **20 minutes**; chairs must keep their speakers within that time frame. The overall structure of the workshop is the responsibility of chairs; chairs **MUST** comply with these rules in order to:
  - 1) allot each paper the same amount of time;
  - 2) allow **sufficient time for discussion**.
 The overall structure of the workshop is the responsibility of chairs.
6. Proposals for workshop papers, together with abstracts (150-200 words) **must** reach the **workshop chair/s by SEPTEMBER 1, 2005**. Chairs are expected to send out acknowledgments of receipt of proposals and to inform proponents as early as possible whether their papers have been accepted or not.
7. Chairs are encouraged to send out **photocopies or electronic versions of abstracts/papers** to all speakers in their workshop **prior** to the conference.
8. Workshop chairs should **shortly** introduce the topic and the speakers at the beginning of the first session. At the end of the last session, chairs might want to sum up the conclusions of the presentations and discussions.
9. Speakers **must** present their papers **in person**; they are also expected to be present at all sessions of their workshop.
10. Chairs are **responsible for selecting and editing ONE** of their workshop presentations and recommending it for publication in the EAAS conference volume. Chairs are also encouraged to produce individual volumes based on their workshop papers. Please note, though, that in compliance with a unanimous decision of the EAAS Board at the 1998 Lisbon conference, EAAS subsidies for such volumes are NO longer available.
11. Chairs will be asked to **present a post-conference report** to be published in American Studies in Europe (ASE); it may therefore be useful to take notes during the sessions. The report of about **200-250 words** should give readers of the ASE an idea of the major arguments of papers and of conclusions reached in the workshop.
12. If **special technical equipment** (projectors, screens, audio-visual devices, computers) is needed in a workshop, please inform the **EAAS Secretary-General** at your earliest convenience and by **January 10, 2006 at the latest**.
13. Workshop chairs should make copies of these **Guidelines** available to their speakers.
14. A meeting of workshop chairs with the EAAS Secretary General will be scheduled on the first afternoon of the conference to discuss last-minute arrangements.
15. **Please address all correspondence concerning workshop matters to the EAAS Secretary-General** (address below), who will consult with other Board members and/or the local organizers if necessary.

**Ole O. Moen** Phone (office): +47 22 85 69 72  
**EAAS Secretary General** Phone (home): +47 61 25 53 49  
**E-mail:** moen@eaas.info Mobile: +47 41 55 13 92  
 ole.moen@ilos.uio.no Fax: +47 22 85 68 87

**Address:** Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1003, Blindern, NO-0315 Oslo, Norway

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- SEPTEMBER 1, 2005** : Proposals of workshop papers (with abstract, 150-200 words) to be sent to the Workshop Chairs.
- SEPTEMBER 15, 2005** : Tentative lists of speakers & paper titles to be sent by Workshop Chairs to the EAAS Secretary-General, for inclusion in the October issue of the ASE NEWSLETTER and the EAAS WEBSITE (www.eaas.info).
- DECEMBER 1, 2005** : FINAL titles of papers and names and addresses of the speakers to be sent to the EAAS Secretary-General.
- JANUARY 10, 2006** : Deadline for information to be included in the Nicosia, Cyprus conference program.

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## EAAS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE April 7-10, 2006 Nicosia, Cyprus

“Conformism, Non-conformism and Anti-conformism in the Culture of the United States”

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### Workshop Themes and Chairs

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Both workshop members and chairs should consult the *Guidelines for Workshops*. For further specifications of workshop themes, workshop contributors should contact the respective chairs.

#### ■ Workshop 1 Conformism in Hollywood Cinema

**Reynold Humphries**, Université de Lille, France  
E-mail: reynold.humphries@pop3.club-internet.fra  
**Celestino Deleyto**, Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain

We welcome papers addressing the theme of conformity and non-conformity in relation to the political climate in the United States at the corresponding period.

Did the opposition to totalitarianism in the 1930s become repressive conformism after the war? In what ways did movies in the 1950s either adhere to or question the new conformism? To what extent would it be accurate to claim that the dissidence of the 1960s and 1970s disappeared during the Reagan years? What signs, if any, of the religious fundamentalism that has returned Bush to office can be detected in contemporary (pro-Democrat) Hollywood?

#### ■ Workshop 2 From the Melting Pot of ‘Entropy’ to a ‘Crack-Potting’ Ecriture

**Jaroslav Kušník**, The University of Prešov, Slovakia  
E-mail: jkusnir@fhpv.unipo.sk  
**Dan Horatiu Popescu**,  
University of Oradea, Romania  
E-mail: dhpopescu@yahoo.com

Some contemporary U.S. authors, loosely known as post-scientific or crack-pot realist (David Foster Wallace, William Vollmann, Jonathan Franzen, Richard Powers and others) give a certain critique of post-modern writers such as Thomas Pynchon, John Barth, Robert Coover, or Donald Barthelme. The status of the earlier generation has changed from ‘non-conformist’ to a rather conformist one because of the institutionalization and commodification of their works. This workshop welcomes papers dealing with various aspects in the poetics of contemporary authors meant to reconsider, re-write or “creatively” extend the poetics of the earlier generation. Papers may also explore both generations’ distrust of authority and its manifestations vs. their need, and ways, to organize as well as disorganize their fictional universe.

#### ■ Workshop 3 Poetickall Bombshells

**Bent Sørensen**, Aalborg University, Denmark  
E-mail: 12bent@hum.aau.dk  
**Nephie Christodoulides**,  
University of Cyprus, Cyprus  
E-mail: nephie@cytanet.com.cy

For many groups of American poets the 1950s and 1960s were an era of dissent from the political conformity and the apparent socio-economic prosperity. Several of these groups formulated non-conformist poetics either implicitly in their writing or explicitly as manifestoes, programs, etc. This workshop aims at discussing any aspects of this attempt at poetics of non-conformity, and most importantly the poetics of constraint that paradoxically underlies it. Such constraints may be argued to illustrate how these writers, who aspired towards nonconformity by locally conforming to self-imposed aesthetic and political rules and norms, ended up bound to another sort of constraint imposed from within.

#### ■ Workshop 4 Democracy from Above? Individual Rights, Religion, and the ‘Common Good’ in the Contemporary USA

**Walter W. Hölbling**, University of Graz, Austria  
E-mail: walter.hoelbling@uni-graz.at  
**Jon Roper**, University of Wales, Swansea, UK.

Pluralism as a descriptive – and prescriptive – model of American democracy is based upon the idea that consensus is achieved through persuasion. This is categorically different from two alternative modes of consensus-making used in politics: either showing that the other’s beliefs are inconsistent with some external authoritative criteria (God or Reason); or systematically breaking down resistance (verbally or physically), without argument.

Papers are invited discussing whether, in recent decades, the USA has developed tendencies inherent in its society towards an authoritarian “Democracy from Above,” or whether there are still available options for voicing dissent and (re)-establishing a democratic consensus through persuasion.

## ■ Workshop 5

### [The Southern Studies Forum (SSF)] Acquiescence, Defiance, and the South

**Jan Nordby Gretlund** (literature),  
University of Southern Denmark, Denmark  
E-mail: jng@litcul.sdu.dk

**Valeria Gennaro Lerda** (history),  
University of Genova, Italy  
E-mail: csea@lettere.unige.it

A: the traditions of acceptance and dissent WITHIN the South. Can we speak of a societal homogeneity in the South, today or in the past? Or, is there a tradition of opposition and polarization? Can or could we, in history or literature, talk of an internally ‘Solid South’?

B: today’s South regarded as a REGION.

Does it make sense to speak of national division? If so, is the tension solely historical in origin? And is it reflected in contemporary history, literature, and the arts? Or is it that today the region conforms more than the rest of the country?

## ■ Workshop 6

### Transgressions and/as Conformism in the Literature of After-war American Culture

**Nick Selby**, University of Glasgow, UK  
E-mail: N.Selby@englit.arts.gla.ac.uk

**Maria Anita Stefanelli**  
Università Roma Tre, Italy  
E-mail: m.stefanelli@uniroma3.it

Taking stock from Whitman’s politically and culturally engaged poetry in the nineteenth century, the post-war generation writers set the tone for an emerging, radical poetics in mid-twentieth century America, when the culture of conformity spread widely. A key factor to those new energies is the appeal to otherness.

Writers who rebelled ended up asserting a different sort of conformity to a different culture, to an idea of trans-national identity. Transgression may be another mode of Conformity: are they both the prison-house of American ideology? Papers are invited that focus on forms of transgression in the literature of after-war American culture.

## ■ Workshop 7

### Conformism & Non-Conformism in US Women’s Literature in the 19th and 20th Centuries

**Tatiana Komarovskaya**, Minsk, 220005, Belarus  
E-mail: komar37@tut.by

**Magdalena Zapadowska**,  
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland  
E-mail: magzap@ifa.amu.edu.pl

Feminism is a non-conformist phenomenon, but its realization in literature varies from radical rejection of traditional norms to consideration of the woman’s

possible gains and losses in her search for identity and self-realization. Speakers are invited to examine the values proclaimed by women’s literature and those established by society, and interpret the texts from the perspective of their relation to conservative or non-conformist thinking. We also seek to investigate the concept of female authorship in the 19th century with relation to conformism/non-conformism: the position of women authors within the extant system of gender relations as perceived by themselves and their (male) critics; the notion of “poetess,” (self-)portraits of women authors; and women poets’ treatment of language.

## ■ Workshop 8

### Alternative Text as a Cultural Transplant

**Olga Panova**, Moscow University, Russia  
E-mail: olgapanova65@mail.ru

We plan to consider how “alternative” literary texts (self-consciously off- and anti-mainstream) travel through time and space in re-reading and translation. What happens to a “subversive” text as it begins to function in a new language and new cultural environment, e.g. as a nonconformist text from the 1960s is reread through the lens of the 1990s’ political correctness, or as an American counter cultural guru develops new readership among young Poles or young Russians in a generation different from his own?

Problems of translation necessarily come to the fore – effective ways of engaging cultural and linguistic taboos, sub cultural jargon and other means of signifying

## ■ Workshop 9

### The Problem of Double Allegiance in the Literary Production of Asian Americans (1985 – 2005)

**Elisabetta Marino**,  
University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy  
E-mail: emarino@hurricane.it  
**Patrycja Renard**, Université du Littoral,  
Dunkerque, France  
E-mail: patrycja.renard@wanadoo.fr

The literary production of Asian Americans has often been centered on the issue of “double allegiance,” on the complex relationship of the writers with their new country of settlement (the USA) and with their culture of origin, thus generating in them either a “conformist” or a “non-conformist” or even an “anti-conformist” attitude.

This workshop sets out to explore how the issue of “double allegiance” has been further problematized in several writings published in the last twenty years, due to the development of a transnational trend in migratory fluxes. Papers focusing on novels, poetry and visual arts are encouraged.

## ■ Workshop 10

*Film as a Subversive Art*

**Alan Bilton**, University of Wales Swansea, UK

E-mail: A.J.Bilton@swansea.ac.uk

**Juan A Suarez**, University of Murcia, Spain

E-mail: jsuarez@um.es

The recent reprinting of Amos Vogel's seminal polemic, *Film as a Subversive Art* (1974) and the appearance of a recent documentary about Vogel's activities as a critic and programmer in post-war New York provide a fitting opportunity to question whether cinema, or indeed the moving image, can still be perceived as in any way as scandalous, revolutionary, or disruptive. This panel seeks papers that would explore the changing notion of the subversive in the moving image from historical or theoretical perspectives. What has counted as subversive in particular historical moments? What is subversive film now? Papers dealing with early film history or contemporary film-making are particularly welcome.

## ■ Workshop 11

**Site of Passage: The City As a Place of (Non) Conformity in Contemporary American Multicultural Literature, Art, Theater, and Film**

**Hans Bak**, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Email: h.bak@let.ru.nl

**Walter Grünzweig**,

Universität Dortmund, Germany

Email: walter.gruenzweig@uni-dortmund.de

In much of contemporary American multicultural literature, art, theater, and film the city looms large as the site of personal, cultural, sexual, and social dislocation: it is there that "angels in America" struggle for or against sexual conformity; that Native Americans endure the psychic traumas of cultural dispossession, that recent immigrants from Puerto Rico, India, Korea, or Muslim cultures negotiate the ironic ambiguities of their intercultural positioning. The multicultural city has been the arena for fighting out the politics of race and gender, of cultural, sexual, or ethnic identity. But the city has also been the theater of dialogue and negotiation, of seeking to establish intercultural middle ground as a mode of survival, accommodation, partial or complete conformity.

This workshop invites scholars working in literature, art, popular culture, theater, and film, gender and sexuality studies to engage in cross-disciplinary dialogue about the representation of the city as the site where the struggle for or against conformity in North-American culture most compellingly plays itself out.

## ■ Workshop 12

**The American Artist 1800-1865: Problems of Conformity and Non-Conformity**

**Izolda Geniusiene**, University of Vilnius, Lithuania

E-mail: izoldag@takas.lt

**Agnieszka Salska**, University of Łódź., Poland

E-mail: salska@uni.lodz.pl

Within the indicated time frame, this workshop invites considerations of:

- the need of the American artist (writer, visual artist, critic, intellectual) to compete with European achievement
  - his/her growing confidence to transform inherited forms
  - tensions between universalizing romantic idealism and realist claims of specific experience and between elitist and popular cultural attitudes
  - the impact of those developments on the techniques, language and rhetoric of artistic expression.
- We hope for an ample range and sufficient coherence of presentations so that selected papers maybe published as a post-conference monograph volume.

## ■ Workshop 13

**Conformism, Non-Conformism, and Anti-Conformism in the War on Terror**

**Ruud Janssens**, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

E-mail: r.v.a.janssens@uva.nl

**Kate Delaney**,

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

E-mail: delaneykb@comcast.net

This panel will focus on the conformist and non-conformist aspects of the War on Terror within the context of understanding how American culture does (or does not) "determine" these reactions to the 9/11 attacks. We welcome an interdisciplinary approach to the topic. Presentations may deal with historical analysis, cultural aspects (literature, film, photography, the visual arts, and the role of media), or specific War on Terror policies such as pre-emption as the standard operating procedure in US foreign policy, the treatment of prisoners, or the use of corporate services to perform duties traditionally entrusted to the military.

## ■ Workshop 14

**Making National Bodies: (Non-)Conformism and the Early Republic**

**Astrid M. Fellner**, University of Vienna, Austria

E-mail: astrid.fellner@univie.ac.at

**Markus Heide**,

Humboldt University Berlin, Germany  
E-mail: astrid.fellner@univie.ac.at

While the American Revolution required a demonizing of the British, post-revolutionary republicanism (re)established an Anglo-centric image of the new nation. Reading and writing were employed to consolidate the authority of the new republican elite. From another perspective, focusing on gendered rhetoric, struggles to achieve a republican culture also affected representations of the individual human body. The workshop, among other possible approaches, aims at investigating the role of literary texts and genres in the processes of discursive 'nation-building' and the making of 'the national body.' What significance do conformism and non-conformism have in and for the cultural production of the time?

### ■ Workshop 15 Poetic/Artistic Groups, Schools, Movements – Between Belonging and Non-Conformism.

**Christa Buschendorf**, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt, Germany  
E-mail: C.Buschendorf@em.uni-frankfurt.de  
**Joanna Durczak**, Uniwersytet Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin, Poland  
E-mail: adurczak@klio.umcs.lublin.pl

The notion of artistic school, group, movement implies some degree of consent among group members about their artistic vision, program, goals, and means. Although usually born out of protest against the status quo, and thus non-conformist at their inception, such schools and groups, paradoxically, may also encourage conformist attitudes and practices. The purpose of the workshop is to explore artistic, psychological, and sociological dynamics of art groups. Contributors may want to explore: historical and contemporary cases of American artists' cooperation, focusing on tensions between group allegiance and artistic independence; artistic significance of individual artists' identification with a group or movement; nature (prescriptive or descriptive) of group manifestos; reasons for and costs of artistic sectarianism, etc.

### ■ Workshop 16 The Descriptive Passage in American Fiction: A Strategic Textual Location?

**Pascale Antolin**, Bordeaux University, France  
E-mail: pantolin@club-internet.fr  
**William Blazek**  
Liverpool Hope University, UK  
E-mail: blazekw@hope.ac.uk

This workshop will concentrate on the different strategies used by fiction writers to undermine the traditional referential function of the descriptive passage and will explore what purposes such strategies are meant to serve. The descriptive passage is com-

monly intended to summon the real to appear in the text, allowing the reader to picture the setting and/or the characters mentioned in a story. In American fiction, from nineteenth-century romance to contemporary novels—including ethnic, gay and lesbi-gay literature—it seems to have played more complex parts. The major question is, therefore: what is the function of form, and of the alteration of form, in literary description?

### ■ Workshop 17 War and Propaganda: Expressions of Home-front Conformism, Non-Conformism and Anti- Conformism in the Culture of the United States

**John Dean**, University of Versailles, France  
E-mail: jdlutece@yahoo.com,  
John.Dean@sudam.uvsq.fr  
**Jörg Nagler**, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena,  
Germany  
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The workshop focuses on home front, US propaganda from the first great war of the 20th century to that of the 21st Century. The major issues to be dealt with are: (i) how, where, & why Americans were invited, seduced, or forced to conform to their nation's current state of open and declared hostile conflict against a foreign power or powers; (ii) the social forces of non-conformism which resisted war mobilization. "Propaganda" defined as: any association, activity, plan, or narrative used for the spread of opinions and principles, especially those designed to effect change, reform, or maintain the status quo and promulgate a cause. Interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged.

### ■ Workshop 18 Canon/Conformism in American Literature: Dialectics of Changes

**Tamara Denissova**  
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**Ihab Hassan**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA  
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The mainstream of American literature was based on a canon that conformed to American ideologue: The priority of the individual. Is this a productive conception of the canon that can still unite categories in an "after-postmodern world", where diversity and heterogeneity have been recognized as norms? Can the present build a new canon, which is traditionally nonconformist, for the imperialistic situation of the USA but also traditionally conforming to the leading sap-of-life ideologue of America?

The discussion will help to gain a clearer perspective on the origins and development vectors of American literature in the situation where its very unity become problematic.



## ■ Workshop 19

### Popular Heroes as Conformist Rebels

**Carmen Flys-Junquera**, University of Alcalá, Spain  
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This workshop aims to analyze whether many American popular heroes, who are presented as rebels and non-conformists, end up conforming to dominant social values or not. It will focus on popular genres, such as westerns, detective novels, gangsters, etc. Popular genres tend to be formula stories which confirm the existing social order. Typically these heroes, usually marginal figures, end up “rescuing” society from the greater forces of violence and corruption. In this manner, they restore social values and thus, confirm them. However, there are many authors and filmmakers who are currently rewriting conventional formulas in order to resist the dominant values or portray their fallacies and inadequacies. We will thus analyze the peculiar way these heroes rebel, conform, or resist. The workshop welcomes papers on any popular genre, both theoretical or the study of specific genres or works in literature, comics, film, television, or music.

## ■ Workshop 20

### The Family of Man in Europe

**Rob Kroes**, University of Amsterdam  
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**Maurizio Vaudagna**,  
University of Piedmont, Vercelli  
E-mail: vaudagna@lett.unipmn.it

The Family of Man exhibition, initially mounted by Edward Steichen for display in the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York in 1955, and then sent to many countries under USIA auspices as a medium of American cultural diplomacy during the Cold War, is the single most successful photography show in history. There has been a long history of critical views of the exhibition. Many saw the show as a reflection of America’s return to a culture of domesticity. Others saw Steichen’s hand as subverting such a conformist interpretation. He may well have countered the Them and Us construction of the Cold War world of the early McCarthyite years. Then, in 1994, the collection found its final resting place in Clervaux, Luxembourg. With the Cold War behind us, the show proved able to elicit still different readings, which allow us to conceive of its message as addressing the memories of the Holocaust. Our workshop intends to highlight the changing reception and lasting relevance of one of America’s great cultural projects from the 1950s. Papers may also address issues of the changing cultural and political contexts which influenced the show’s readings over the years.

## ■ Workshop 21

### ‘God, guns and gays’: Consensus and Dissent in American Political Culture

**Edward Ashbee**,  
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark  
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**Alex Waddan**, University of Sunderland, UK  
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The workshop will consider some of the cultural and moral issues that have shaped the character of contemporary political discourse in the US. It will look at their impact upon the electoral process, the Bush administration, the parties, and interest group politics. The workshop will, in particular, assess the extent to which US politics are structured around a ‘culture war’ or whether the tensions and cleavages that seem to have characterized recent years are subsumed within a broader consensus.

## ■ Workshop 22

### Photography in America: Issues of Individual, National, and Cultural Identity/Conformism, Non-Conformism, and Anti-Conformism

**Klaus Rieser**, Karl- Franzens University,  
Graz, Austria  
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**Katherine Hoffman**, St. Anselm College,  
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This workshop will explore various aspects of the significance of photography in America dealing with conformism, non-conformism, and anti-conformism related to issues of individual, national, and cultural identities, from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Portraiture, urban imagery, landscape, documentary, “art” photography, or photojournalism could be considered, along with significant exhibitions and installation practices. Photographers collaborating with writers, or writers’ and critics’ commentaries about photographers could also be discussed. Different theoretical perspectives might be utilized, such as post-colonialist or de-constructivist approaches, or discussion of gender issues. The workshop will create the opportunity for dialogue among scholars in American Studies, approaching photography from a variety of perspectives, including but not limited to the fine arts, literature, urban studies, cultural geography, history, and material culture studies.

## ■ Workshop 23

### Conformities in Native American History, Politics, and Culture: Confirmations and Contestations

**Arnold Krupat**, Sarah Lawrence College, USA

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**Meldan Tanrisal**, Hacettepe University, Turkey

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Many historical, political, and cultural issues concerning Native Americans have developed orthodox positions or conformities. Concerning the historical peopling of the Americas, scientific orthodoxy posits movement across what is now the Bering Strait. But there are many Native nonconformist views of the matter. Similarly, several Native scholars have insisted that the Great Law of the Iroquois Confederation was a major influence on the American Constitution. Ought we confirm or contest this view as a conformity or orthodoxy? This historical issue has political implications, as do the considerations of Indian resistance to colonialism from early in the nineteenth century to late in the twentieth century. What are the orthodoxies or conformities here? As regards Native American literary culture, it has become an orthodoxy or conformity to insist that Native American writing has important roots in the oral tradition. Should we confirm or contest this claim? This workshop invites papers that address these and other issues.

## ■ Workshop 24

### **Cyberspace Revisited: Digital Revolution vs. Transnational Digital Convergence**

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**Allan Lloyd-Smith**, University of East Anglia, UK

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The initial enthusiasm that the emergence and popularization of cyberspace technology spawned in the 1980s has now given way to critical thinking. The power it has in influencing common sense and globally manipulating the way knowledge and information is disseminated has altered the way we view and appreciate reality, think about the world and ourselves in it. This interdisciplinary two-session workshop will seek to address within the context of American literature, politics, and culture, the following issues: globalization; identity formation; political and social activism; capitalism and commodity culture; digital modes of representation.

# SHOPTALKS

- **The American Studies Shoptalk**
- **The Historians' Shoptalk**
- **The Literature Shoptalk**
- **The Women's Studies Shoptalk**

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## 2006 EAAS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE April 7-10, 2006 Nicosia, Cyprus

“Conformism, Non-conformism and Anti-conformism in the Culture of the United States”

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### PARALLEL LECTURES

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#### ■ Lecture 1

**Simon P. Newman**, University of Glasgow,  
Glasgow, UK  
Evangelical Protestants in Contemporary American  
Politics: The Historical Context”

#### ■ Lecture 2

**Robert Mikkelsen**, Østfold University College,  
Halden, Norway  
“Gaining the High Ground: Us and Them”

#### ■ Lecture 3

**Berndt Ostendorf**, Ludwig Maximilians Universität,  
Munich, Germany  
“Doyle Dane Bernbach and the Creative Revolution  
in Advertising: From Conformism to Nonconformism  
and Back in the Widening Spiral of Theory Y  
Capitalism”

#### ■ Lecture 4

**Herbert Grabes**, Justus-Liebig-Universität,  
Giessen, Germany  
“Performing Cultural Alterity: Non-Conformist  
American Drama since the 1990s”

#### ■ Lecture 5

**Christopher Connery**, University of California,  
Santa Cruz, USA  
“Dialectics of the Counterculture in the US Sixties”

#### ■ Lecture 6

**Thomas Claviez**, Kennedy Institut, Free University,  
Berlin  
“Discipline and (Non-)Conformity or: European  
American Studies as Non-American Studies”

#### ■ Lecture 7

**Heinz Ickstadt**, Kennedy Institute, Free University,  
Berlin  
“Conformism and Non-Conformity as Categories of  
Literary Analysis”

#### ■ Lecture 8

**Mick Gidley**, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK  
“Photographing Others, Photographing Ourselves:  
Episodes of Enforced, Willing, and Restive  
Conformity in American Portraiture”

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### Pre-Conference Information

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- For detailed information about the venue of the Conference, the University of Cyprus, please visit the website of the University at  
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**DAAS • Danish Association for American Studies**

**FASA • Finnish American Studies Association**

[www.helsinki.fi/hum/renvall/pam/fasa/](http://www.helsinki.fi/hum/renvall/pam/fasa/)

**IAAS • Icelandic Association for American Studies**

**ASANOR • American Studies Association of Norway**

[www.asanor.com](http://www.asanor.com)

**SAAS • Swedisch Association for American Studies**

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# EAAS on the Web

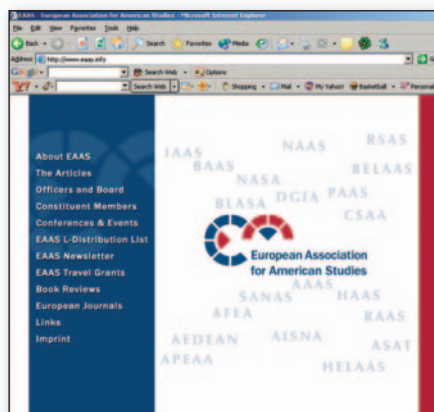
The EAAS Web Site provides information about the European Association for American Studies—**The Articles, Officers and Board, Constituent Members**. Information on American Studies and related fields in Europe can be found under different entries in the navigation menu: upcoming conferences and the activities of member organizations under **Conferences and Events** and the **ASE Newsletter**; guidelines for submission and reviews of recent publications by members under **Book Reviews**. The link to **European Journals** is the recent feature added to the web site, which is hoped to be both valuable and practical for widening the peripheries of intellectual exchange among European Americanists.

**EAAS Mailing List** is our free EAAS-L distribution list that disseminates to its subscribers, information pertaining to American Studies in Europe. Thus, it provides a venue for member associations as well as individual subscribers to post and, at the same time, to have access to information that might be useful to Americanists in Europe, such as research news, teaching projects, information about new internet resources, announcements of conferences, grants, fellowships, job opportunities, calls for submissions for

Books and Journals and inquiries concerning American Studies in Europe in general. Members are encouraged to subscribe—if they are not already subscribers—to the EAAS Mailing List to follow up with recent academic activities conducted in Europe and thus contribute to maintain a dynamic interaction among the European Americanists. Members who wish to announce new publications are requested to include in their posting: Full bibliographical information (author/editor, title, place, publisher, and year of publication), ISBN number, retail price (and possibly discounts for EAAS members) and a 100-word abstract.

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## What is Happening in the Field of American Studies in Europe?

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The American Studies Associations in Europe are actively involved in carrying out their individually set missions in the promotion and internationalization of American Studies in Europe. In this respect, annual or biennial conferences organized by the Associations of different European Countries act as an efficient catalyst in the fusion of academic endeavor of the Americanists in Europe and around the world with a dynamic exchange of ideas, both critical and diversified.

The Austrian Association for American Studies held its annual meeting at Schloss Leopoldskron in November 2004. The conference was well-attended by participants from 8 countries who offered many lectures and workshop contributions. The next annual conference of the Association will be jointly organized with Center Austria at New Orleans University and will take place in November 8- 10, 2005. The theme of the conference is “The South, New Orleans, the Caribbean, and Discourses of Creolization”. (See p. 33 for Call for papers)

2004 was a challenging year for BelAAS; the European Humanities University which was the seat of BelAAS was closed down. Nevertheless, BelAAS managed to hold its 14th international conference on the theme of “Towards a Common Ground: Rethinking the Boundaries of Multicultural Study of the United States”. The conference was held at Minsk State Linguistics University with the support of the American Studies Center of the European Humanities University in Minsk. It brought together over 100 participants. Among the guests were prominent academics from Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Poland, and the USA. Lecturers, young faculty and researchers from 11 Belarusian and 24 foreign universities (among them the University of Łódź, University of Gdansk, Moscow State University, St. Petersburg University, Kharkov National University, Purdue University, Tavrida National University, Dnepropetrovsk National University, Vilnius University) made over 70 presentations in 16 workshops chaired by distinguished Belarusian and foreign scholars. 8 plenary presentations dealt with various aspects of the study of America, focusing on the effects of multiculturalism on the development of American society. Of special importance was the discussion of American values resulting from the in-depth study of American culture and literature. Theoretical issues of Borderland and cultural boundaries were the topic of a round-table discussion.

Most of the papers addressed questions of the theory of literature, art, political science, sociology, philosophy, literary criticism, language, distance learning, and tendencies in the development of modern US culture. Of special interest to the participants from Eastern Europe were the presentations and workshops of US scholars. The outreach of the conference was quite wide: the keynote speakers gave a number of talks to the students and faculty of MSLU, EHU, and BSEU. These meetings helped to raise the awareness of the local universities in the area of American and Transatlantic Studies. The conferences was an important landmark in the life of BelAAS and the academic community in Belarus. It helped to expand the links between BelAAS members and colleagues in other countries, served as a place for intense intellectual debate and contributed to the growth of American Studies in Eastern Europe.

BelAAS held its 15th international conference at Minsk State Linguistics University on May 16-18, 2005 and it focused on “Transatlantic Connections: The USA and Europe Redefining Each Other.” The conference addressed the processes involved in the relationship between the USA and Europe as well as the key debates within American Studies in the USA and Europe about those processes. The questions explored were: what are the possibilities and implications of Transatlantic links in terms of their cultural affinities and differences? In what way is the USA Europe’s “significant Other”? How is Europe viewed in the USA? What are the patterns for collective self-definition, if there are any? What are the lessons of history for the USA and Europe in terms of self-reflection? What are the ways in which Americans and Europeans redefine themselves? How have the developments on both sides of the Atlantic affected political, public, cultural, literary and other types of discourse? What are the effects of the importation and exportation of ideas and cultures between the USA and Europe? How are the relationships between them represented in culture, literature, film, and language?

The next annual conference of the French Association for American Studies will take place in Lille, France on May 27-29, 2005. This conference, concentrating on the general topic of the “State of the Art,” has been planned without a specific theme to allow for all specialists in American studies—whether in literature or social sciences or humanities—to feel free to present their current and innovative research. The Plenary lecture “America Reborn? Conservatives, Liberals, and American Political Culture Since 1945” will be presented by Nick Salvatore from Cornell University. The conference will be preceded by “Les Doctoriales de l’AFEA” (May 26) devoted to

presentations by doctoral students and methodological sessions (Marc Amfreville, Claude Chastagner, Claire Maniez, Mark Meigs). For further information, contact Antoine Cazé (antcaze@wanadoo.fr) or Jacques Portes (jacques.portes@wanadoo.fr) and for the program, the FAAS website <http://etudes.americaines.free.fr>. In 2006, the annual conference will be held in Le Mans on May 26-28. It is entitled "Letters from America" and is meant to explore the significance of the written word in American culture and literature—the written word including personal correspondence, literary texts, and more generally the literal production and meaning of written texts, be they literary or not. Isabelle Alfandary (isabelle.alfandary@free.fr) or Emmanuelle Delanoë-Brun (delanoe@paris7.jussieu.fr) or Hélène Quanquin (quanquin@hotmail.com) can be contacted for further information.

The German Association for American Studies will held its 52nd Annual Conference in Frankfurt am Main, on May 21-24, 2005, on the theme of "Transatlantic Negotiations". The conference intends to focus on the exchanges of people and ideas between America and Europe as well as the very different exchanges between America and Africa. People and ideas change when they travel, and they also change the cultures they travel to and from. These ongoing changes and the possible resistance to them constitute the transatlantic negotiations which can be investigated throughout their extended history. Topics expected to be dealt with are the mutual appropriations and (mis)understandings of political and aesthetic concepts, migration and the literature arising from that experience, the study of migrant figures, visitors, and exiles as mediators between cultures, the slave trade and its reverberations around the Atlantic, and works of art arising from and inspired by transatlantic contacts. Given the location of the conference, an inquiry into the ideas and protagonists of the Frankfurt School in the context of transatlantic negotiations seems appropriate. Further information can be obtained from the homepage of the German Association for American Studies ([www.dfga.de](http://www.dfga.de)).

The 50th anniversary conference of the British Association for American Studies was held on April 14-18, 2005 at Cambridge University. Close to 300 BAAS members and outside speakers attended the conference which included conference papers and plenary sessions covering a wide range of topics from the history of BAAS to pink-collar feminism associated with the work of flight attendants. The three main plenary sessions by Kwame Anthony Appiah on W.E.B Du Bois, Shelly Fisher Fishkin on Mark Twain and Paul Laurence Dunbar and John Dumbrell on the Presidency of Clinton were especially well attended and well received. For any further information on the conference please be sure to access the British Association for American Studies website at [www.baas.ac.uk](http://www.baas.ac.uk)

Next BAAS conference will be held at the University of Kent from April 20 to 23, 2006. For more information about this upcoming event, Dr. George Coyne, the director of the Center for American Studies, can be contacted at [G.R.Coyne@kent.ac.uk](mailto:G.R.Coyne@kent.ac.uk) or Rutherford College, University of Kent, CT2 7NX, UK.

The Hungarian Association for American Studies held its latest biennial conference hosted by Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest on November 27-28, 2004. The theme of the conference was "American Studies as Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice". Among the plenary speakers were Jane Desmond (University of Iowa), Virginia Dominguez (University of Iowa), Bálint Rozsnyai (University of Szeged), Zoltán Abádi-Nagy (University of Debrecen), Zoltán Kövecses (Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest). The forty-six papers were centered around topics including "Language, Identity, and Politics," "Problematizing Multiculturalism," "Discourses of the Other," "American Studies through Film Culture," "Narratives of the Postmodern," "Cultural Studies in the Classroom," and "Landscapes of Cultural Critique." The full program of HAAS conference is available at [http://www.geocities.com/haas\\_Budapest](http://www.geocities.com/haas_Budapest).

An impressive two-day Conference on "Inventing America" was held recently at the University College, Cork. The annual IAAS conference will be held in April 2006 at Queen's University, Belfast.

The Biennial NAAS conference was held May 26-29 at Växjö University in Sweden. Around 130 papers were be presented by scholars from all four Nordic countries as well as from Europe and North America. The keynote speaker was historian Karen Ordahl Kupperman, New York University. Many, if not most, American studies related activities in the Nordic countries occur under the auspices of the different national organizations, which include the Danish Association for American Studies (DAAS), the Finnish American Studies Association (FASA), the American Studies Association of Norway, and the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS). These organizations carry out their work on co-operation with different Nordic universities, in which a number of American studies centers also have been established.

The four national organizations sponsor lectures, seminars, and symposia, and their respective presidents au-

tomatically serve as board members of the Nordic Association for American studies. Fulbright professors also play an important role for American studies activities in the Nordic countries and several universities have established permanent Fulbright chairs. More information about American studies in the Nordic countries is available from the American Studies Center at Aarhus University in Denmark at <http://www.hum.au.dk/engelsk/asca/inScand/nsifd.htm>.

The 2004 annual NASA Conference was dedicated to “The Stories of World War,” and was hosted by the Free University, Amsterdam. This truly interdisciplinary and international conference interrogated the different meanings of World War II, complicating such notions as ‘The Good War’. The 2005 annual NASA Conference will be held on June 15-17, 2005 in Middelburg, at the Roosevelt Study Center. The theme is “Who’s the Boss? Leadership and Democratic Culture in America.” Detailed information can be found at [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl).

The annual conference of the PAAS on “American Freedoms, American (Dis)Orders” was organized in October 17-19, 2004 at Jadwisin near Warsaw, by the American Studies Center of the University of Warsaw. Professor Richard Horwitz of the University of Iowa delivered the keynote address. Scholars attended the conference from Belarus, France, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, the UK, and the USA. The organizing institution has already published the proceedings, edited by Zbigniew Lewicki. The next annual PAAS conference on “Conformity and Resistance in America” will take place in Kamien Slaski in October 23-25, 2005. (See **Calls for Papers**, p. 33 or visit the PAAS website at: [www.paas.org.pl](http://www.paas.org.pl))

APEAA, the Portuguese Association for Anglo-American Studies, held its 26th annual conference on April 21-23, 2005 at the Universidade do Minho in Braga, a city in northern Portugal. The conference was attended by close to 200 participants from several parts of Europe (and beyond). Under the title “Intertextual Dialogues, Travel and Routes,” its three-day programme included 85 papers, five plenary lectures, book launches, a concert, and a variety of social events. The range of themes and academic areas represented in the programme was broad, including various literary traditions in English, cultural studies, media studies, translation, and linguistics. In regards to American Studies, and in view of the conference’s general theme, several panels focused on “Travel in American Literature”. And this thematic direction, indeed, tied in aptly with a highlight of the programme (combining the academic, the social, and the artistic dimensions), a performance by composer and musician David Amram which integrated an informal lecture on the Beat Generation. A publication of selected proceedings is expected to result from this conference, as has been the case with most previous APEAA conferences.

RAAS will hold its biennial conference on February 2-3, 2006 which will focus on the theme of “New/Old Worlds: Spaces of Transition” (See **Calls for Papers**, p. 35).

The biennial SANAS conference took place on November 12-13, 2004 at the University of Fribourg on the theme of “American Poetry: Whitman to the Present.” The local organizer, Professor Robert Rehder, arranged an international program. Experts from the United States and England presented plenary talks, which included two poetry readings. Other participants came from across Europe, Switzerland, and the USA to make this an international meeting of great importance to Swiss Americanists.

The Spanish Association for English and American Studies have organized the annual AEDEAN conference in 2004, which took place in Valencia, with nearly 250 participants. The University of Jaén will be hosting the 29th AEDEAN conference, to take place December 15-17, 2005. For further information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.ujaen.es/dep/filing/aedean29/home>

American Studies Association of Turkey has organized the 29th Annual American Studies Conference on October 27-30, 2004 in Antalya, supported with the grant provided by the US Department of State and the Cultural Office of the US Embassy, Ankara. “Continuous Present, Future Perfect: American Temporalities” was the theme of the conference which addressed the ever-present question of novelty and continuity in America. The conference was a lively intellectual medium and all the papers delivered were very inspiring and generated much discussion during and after the sessions. The key note speaker, Dr. Giles Gunn from the University of California at Santa Barbara, presented a lecture titled “In an Age of Terror, Don’t Baudrillard That Joint, My Friend”. The joint paper presented by Dr. Edward P. Kohn and Levent İsyar, both from History Department, Bilkent University on “America as Cowboy: 100 Years of Foreign Political Cartoons,” by Dr. Claude Safir of the University of Paris VIII on “Stories of Non-gendered Future: American Feminine Utopias,” by Dr. Matthew Gumpert of Kadir Has University on “I’m Leaving on a Jet Plane; Don’t Know When (If) I’ll Be Back Again: Tragic Temporality in America,” by Dr. John Grabowski of Case Western Reserve University about “History and Enterprise: Past, Profit, and Future in the USA” and by Dr. Cary D. Wintz of Texas Southern University on “‘I Hear You Knocking, But You Can’t Come In’: Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. DuBois and Conflicting Strate-

gies for Overcoming the Past and Gaining Entry to the American Dream,” created lively discussions. Other than the individual papers, the conference also hosted a film presentation and a panel discussion. The film *Indigenous Always: The Legend of La Malinche* is a part of Banda’s award-winning documentary series *After the Immigrant*, which covers a wide spectrum of issues, representations, and cultural shifts of people whose families moved from Mexico to the United States during the 20th and 21st centuries. It is the story of the assimilation process of cultures wherein the Emmy-winner writer/producer Daniel J. Banda searches for his theoretical ancestor, La Malinche – Hernando Cortes’s translator and mother to his son.

Five students and five professors from Departments of American Culture and Literature of various Universities in Turkey and the History Department of Bilkent University, participated in the panel discussion titled “The Past, Present, and Future of American Studies in Turkey” centered on the issues of teaching American studies, specializing in American studies and discussing the prospects for the future of the field.

Apart from the Conferences arranged by various European Associations, Conferences on American Studies have been successfully organized by other Institutions in Europe. One of them was the conference funded by the German Research Council (DFG) and Chemnitz University of Technology, centered on discussing new paradigms, parameters, and perspectives for the liberal arts in the 21st century with respect to one key term: “intermediality.” In her opening statement, Evelyne Keitel (Chemnitz) pointed out that intermediality stands for the thematic and/or formal links between individual art forms (literature, music, painting, photography, film, television, the internet etc.).

As Evelyne Keitel and Werner Huber reported, the conference opened with three keynote lectures. John Storey (Sunderland) charted the ground in his talk on “Culture and Power in Cultural Studies” by arguing that, regardless of the various changes which have occurred in cultural studies since the 1970s, Antonio Gramsci’s concept of hegemony is still crucial to a critically informed understanding of the complex and contradictory relations between culture and power. In her keynote “The Irish in US: Irishness, Performativity and American Popular Culture,” Diane Negra (Norwich) focused on the highly proprietary relationship between US culture and Irishness: she considered Irishness as a core element in a recent cultural romance of identities, with Irishness emerging as a safe form of whiteness for middle-class Americans who wish to claim their stake in a multicultural society. Jonathan Loesberg (Washington, DC), in his presentation on “Contemporary Victorian Narratives: The Afterlife of Victorian Sex in Film and Fiction,” maintained that a curious return toward the Victorian period occurs in contemporary historical fiction in as much as the portrayal of (personal) freedom is frequently contrasted with the story of Victorian sexuality as an image of constraint and repression.

The session on “Literature and Popular Culture” focused on how certain well-known topics (well-known in literature departments) undergo processes of trashing in contemporary popular art forms. Peter Paul Schnierer (Heidelberg) talked about “Elucidating Difficult Texts: Satanic and Occult Rock Music.” He described Satanic rock music as a curious phenomenon: to some, the very label is an insult, to others, a tautology. All parties, Schnierer argued, engage in a debate about poetics, though often without knowing it and often by having recourse to traditional, i.e. mostly Victorian, concepts. In her talk on “The Nanny Named Fran: An American Sitcom and the British Governess Novel,” Sabine Baltes (Chemnitz) illustrated how both the themes and structures of the Victorian governess novel – a somber, staid, and very traditional 19th-century genre – recur in this celebrated American sitcom. The success of this programme, she argued, derives from fusing two Victorian motifs: the romantic tale of trial and reward and the ups and downs of family life.

The session on “Gender and the New Media” centered on gender issues in a wider sense. Thomas Rommel (Bremen), in his paper “Pandora’s Box; Or, Computer Science Meets Gender Studies,” looked at the way in which electronic procedures can be used for the study of literature, taking as his prime example Moshe Koppel’s acclaimed software program to detect “author gender.” He came to the conclusion that the computer-assisted study of literature does not sit comfortably with literary theory. In a paper entitled “IKEA Boys and Dawgs: Aggressive Masculinities in *Fight Club* and *8 Mile*,” Gunter Süß (Chemnitz) discussed the phenomenon that ever since the beginning of the 1990s a sense of “masculinity in crisis” has pervaded public and academic discourses, film, and pop music. He went on to analyze the two movies which, although different in their representation of physical and verbal violence, present rather traditional and aggressive masculinities.

The following session centered on movies and TV series. In “Fundamental Dissent: The Passion of the Christ,” Elke Kinkel (Chemnitz) interpreted this controversial film as yet another example of religious fundamentalism; she discussed the extensive media coverage given to the movie, the political debates initiated by it, and George W. Bush’s “White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives” as instances of a massive return

to religion in the United States of the 21st century. Evelyne Keitel's paper, "Raving about 'The Raven': Edgar Allan Poe, The Simpsons, and Popular Culture," focused on intermedial relations between the American TV series, which ran a Halloween special on "The Raven" in 1991, and Poe's eponymous poem. She looked at how various verbalizing and visualizing processes interact in the poem on the one hand and in the cartoon series on the other. Subsequently, she highlighted the intricate processes of exchange and dialogue that are taking place between poem and TV series. In her contribution entitled "Framing Colin: Colin Firth as Mr. Darcy and after Mr. Darcy," Monika Seidl (Vienna) explored the intermediality/interfiguralty of a literary character by analyzing the ways in which fan cultures – on internet fan pages – have constructed, deconstructed, reconstructed, and "framed" Mr. Darcy (Colin Firth) as the protagonist of a celebrated BBC mini series, the adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* (1995). Speaking on "Arnold Schwarzenegger IS Hamlet; Or, Intermedial Shakespeare(s): Media-Consciousness and Cinematic Bardbiz of the 1990s," Werner Huber (Chemnitz) discussed the Shakespeare Revival of the 1990s, reviewing a wide range of innovative and spectacular adaptations of Shakespearean drama for the big screen. These movies make extensive use of anachronisms, intertextuality, intermediality, and interfiguralty and present self-reflexivity as media-consciousness; they deconstruct and/or fetishize Shakespeare as a cultural megastar.

In the papers presented in this conference, the technical term "intermediality" was used to specify the numerous influences between different art forms, media, and genres. Taken together, the contributions impressively demonstrated that it does no longer make sense to distinguish between high-brow and low-brow cultures (as such pioneers of postmodernist theory and cultural studies as Leslie Fiedler and Ihab Hassan had already predicted in the 1970s). Words, topics, motifs, structures, and even protagonists of canonical literature recur in various shapes and forms in popular culture (in movies, television series, advertisements, rock music etc.). Today, traditional boundaries between the media are being ignored and eroded. The transfer processes between the established literary canon and contemporary cultures result in new, creative, and exciting cultural phenomena. Thus, intermediality is (almost always) a popularizing process. As the papers presented at this conference have forcefully demonstrated, intermediality increasingly requires a new skill: "media literacy." Media literacy seems to emerge as intermediality's silent twin or shadow. It is therefore imperative that – especially in the light of the Bologna process – the liberal arts (and by implication the English and American Studies Departments representing them) reorganize their curricula to teach their students the very skills that are needed to negotiate the new (and the old) media.

Some of the member Associations have been instrumental in the initiation of graduate programs and the establishment of majors in American Studies in the undergraduate level in various Universities in Europe. A case to the point is RAAS which has been active in providing a site for an exchange of ideas and experience between various universities across the country regarding the teaching of American Studies at the undergraduate level. Starting with the 2004-2005 academic year, the universities of Bucharest, Cluj, Jassy and Sibiu have launched majors in American Studies, while other universities, such as Ovidius University in Constanta and the University of the West in Timisoara have launched graduate programs.

In terms of encouraging student involvement in American Studies throughout Eastern and Western Europe, multifarious activities were organized by various Associations. The Belarusian Association held its 9th student competition in English and Area Studies. The 9th Belarusian student conference brought together nearly 40 students from all the regions of Belarus. The international jury was headed by Prof. Yuri Stulov and included jurors from Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. The general level of the papers given by the students was very high. The students also had to do a test consisting of 100 questions dealing with US history, geography, economics, culture, literature, lifestyles, and education and participated in the English language oral competition. The winners are representatives of Brest, Minsk State Linguistics, Vitebsk, Belarusian State, Belarus State Economics universities. Special prizes went to students from Polotsk SU and Trans-Baikal State Pedagogics University, Russia. The competition demonstrated students' genuine interest in the study of America.

During the conference, the students had a chance to get to know more about American Studies and the study of America in Europe. They also managed to build up personal relationships and started to create their own student network of people interested in American Studies. Cultural events attending the conference during two days helped to expand the students' knowledge in the area of American Studies and contributed to their personal growth. The 15th Annual Conference to be held Minsk State Linguistics University on May 16-18, 2005 will be complemented by the 10th Belarusian Student Olympiad in the English Language and Area Studies.

The German Association for American Studies will be organizing a Post-Graduate Forum at the University of Dortmund, between October, 28-30, 2005. For details, the organizers Uwe K uchler and Wolfgang Niehues are to be consulted ([wolfgang.niehues@uo.edu](mailto:wolfgang.niehues@uo.edu)).

A highly successful Symposium was organized by the Postgraduate Caucus at the Clinton Centre for American Studies, University College Dublin.

Moreover, the achievements of budding Americanists have been acknowledged by the MA and Ph.D degrees granted and awards presented. NASA member Mathilda Roza, successfully defended her dissertation entitled *Following Strangers: The Life and Literary Career of Robert Myron Coates (1897-1973)*, (Nijmegen, 2005). The Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards 2005 for the best MA theses in American history have been awarded to Laura Maessen (1st prize) for *(The Two Faces of the Civil Rights Movement's Struggle, 1957-1965)* and to Marco van Ravenhorst (2nd prize) for *(The Greatest Tragedy in American History: The American Civil War in Recent Popular Fiction)*.

Işıl Acehan, member of ASAT, successfully defended her M.A. thesis, submitted to Bilkent University's Department of History, titled "Outposts of An Empire: Early Turkish Migration to Peabody, Massachusetts," on May 10, 2005. Ms. Acehan's thesis focused on the lives and experiences of Turkish subjects of the Ottoman Empire who migrated to Peabody, Massachusetts in the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Barın Kayaoğlu, also a member of the association, successfully defended his M.A. thesis, titled "Bringing Them Together: Turkish-American Relations and Turkish Democracy, 1945-1950," on May 25, 2005. Also a student of the Department of History at Bilkent University, Mr. Kayaoğlu argued in his thesis that even though Turkish democratization from 1945 until 1950 began receiving close attention by the Truman administration, the U.S. government did not induce Turkey to democratize.

The inaugural SANAS Travel Award was announced at the Fribourg Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on May 8 on the Gurten in Bern. The Award will supplement the Fulbright Scholarship awarded to Mr. Claude Ziltener from the University of Basel to support his course of pre-doctoral study at Stanford University, California.

Organizing Lectures, workshops, forums, reading Groups were among other academic activities the member associations were actively engaged in. Members of AAAS participated and gave lectures at a number of international conferences both in Europe and in North America. An interdisciplinary group from the University of Vienna, for instance, visited 8 universities in the Deep South (in GA, AL, MS, LA) between March 18 and April 3, 2005, and conducted several workshops and participated in many lectures on the general theme of the field trip: "The American South in Europe – Europe in the American South".

RAAS hosted lectures and discussion forums on the occasion of visits made to Romania by distinguished guests speakers such as Professor Catherine Stimpson from Rutgers University, who gave a talk on "Feminism in the USA Today," and the Nobel Prize winner, Elie Wiesel, who spoke about "The Heritage of the Holocaust".

The SANAS Spring Reading Group met on 8 May 2005 on the Gurten in Bern where Prof. Karen Kilcup from University of North Carolina, Greensboro led a discussion on "American Regionalism".

On March 18, 2005, the University of Amsterdam hosted the successful 13th Annual American Studies Study Day. Several Conferences have been and will be held in the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg ([www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl)). The Seventh Middelburg Conference of the European Historians of the United States convened from 27 – 29 April 2005, discussing the intra-European topic "Teaching and Studying U.S. History in Europe: Past, Present and Future". At the Roosevelt Study Center, the conference "Zeeland en de slavernij/ Slavery From Within: Legacies and Comparative Perspectives on Slavery in the Atlantic World" and The Southern Studies Forum which will concentrate on "Poverty and Progress in the South" will take place on June 22-24 2005 and September 13-16, 2005 respectively.

## EAAS/FULBRIGHT TRAVEL GRANTS

### Recipients of EAAS/Fulbright Travel Grants

Out of nine applicants, the following have been awarded one of three grants, jointly sponsored by EAAS and the Fulbright Program

**One Intra-European Travel Grant is awarded to:**

**Eniko Maior** (Partium Christian University, Oradea, Romania)  
University of Debrecen, Hungary, for her research project on  
*European Roots of Jewish American Literature*

**Two Intra-European Travel Grants are awarded to:**

**Ewa Antoszek** (Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin, Poland)  
University of California at Riverside, for his research project on *Chicana Women*

**Konrad Walewski** (Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin, Poland)  
New York City Libraries, for his research project on *New Wave of Science Fiction*

### EAAS/Fulbright Travel Grant Reports 2004

**Andrzej Antoszek**  
**Catholic University of Lublin (KUL)**  
**Lublin, Poland**

*Contemporary Black Identity and Its Influences on European culture or Trans-nating the Black: African-American culture in the Global Village*

The transatlantic grant awarded by the European Association for American Studies allowed me to pursue my research topic at the University of California in Los Angeles. The research was conducted in August and September, 2004.

The first part of the project focused on researching African American culture and literature and various changes and metamorphoses they have gone through since the end of World War II. Having (suddenly) emerged as attractive and commercially powerful – through such utterances and performances as rap music, the NBA, and literature—Black culture suddenly crossed the boundaries of the peripheral, suppressed and, I would venture to say, black. This change has been or is being reflected in contemporary African-American literature, where, apart from such acclaimed African-American writers such as James Baldwin, Toni Morrison or Ishmael Reed, there has appeared a whole group of less celebrated but equally important and representative writers, including Harryette Mullen, Gayl Jones, Michelle Cliff or Edwidge Danticat. Updating and expanding my knowledge of the

latest productions of Black culture, not limited, naturally, to literature, but including a whole spectrum of important contemporary voices, was the basis for the second part of the project, namely tracing and analyzing Black culture's influences on contemporary European culture, including music—the whole generation of European hip-hop groups adopting African-American patterns to their local environment— movies films referring openly to African-American productions, such as Kusturica's *Black Cat White Cat* for instance-- mainly, literature, 'translating' such African-American notions as 'brothers,' 'neighborhood' or 'black pride' into indigenous forms, where the black heritage is still very traceable.

The second "part" of the research I carried out at UCLA will help me write my "habilitation" dissertation on the problems of *trans-nating* African American culture. Being a full professor, I should be able to establish an African-American Studies Chair at KUL, one of the first such chairs in East-Central Europe, which, I believe, is the ultimate purpose of my academic career.

The library at UCLA, in addition to its extensive and unique book, magazine, film and microfilm resources, many of which are not available anywhere else in the States or Europe and which I fully utilized, provided me with access to various online collections which I also incorporated into my research. Besides, I was also able to research the collections of UCLA's Ralph J.

Bunche Center for African American Studies, one of the few centers like that in the US. It appears that the number and quality of the materials I managed to collect at the library will help me to achieve all the goals I set myself starting my research at UCLA, the most important one being preparing for writing my “habilitation” dissertation.

My research at UCLA could never have been so extensive and useful had it not been for the help of many of the local representatives of American Studies who helped me to organize my stay and offered a lot of invaluable help in different areas. I would like to express my gratitude to professor Emory Elliott from University of California at Riverside, who put me in touch with professor Tiffany Lopez, his colleague and friend from UCR, who was generous enough to let me stay in her house in Los Angeles for two weeks and offered invaluable advice and professional help; professor Harryette Mullen, an excellent African-American poet and professor of English at UCLA, who agreed to be my academic sponsor at UCLA; Helen Jaskoski, a retired Fullerton professor and a former Fulbrighter at Maria Curie University in Lublin for her help in organizing the second part of my stay at Los Angeles. In the first place I should of course like to thank EAAS for making it possible for me to conduct one of the most useful researches in my whole academic career.

**Eleftheria Arapoğlu,**  
**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,**  
**Thessaloniki, Greece**

*Spatial Play in the Travel Writings of Mark Twain, Henry James, and Demetra Vaka Brown*

I have conducted research for my dissertation at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia from July 8<sup>th</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The EAAS Transatlantic grant awarded was so timely for it came to my rescue when I had reached a critical point in my research having exhausted the library resources available in Greece. Accordingly, I was able to have access to The University of Pennsylvania Libraries’ unparalleled collection of secondary material on Mark Twain, Henry James, and Demetra Vaka Brown which were indispensable for the completion of my dissertation. The research I conducted at UPenn illuminated certain critical questions relevant to the topic of my dissertation: the literary construction of “space.” My dissertation addresses the central geographic question of how place, landscape, and space both define and provide the context for human experience. More specifically, it highlights the importance of this question for the study of modern American literature. Adopting a cultural geography perspective, I view the space of modern American literature as a dynamic and flu-

id contested terrain and, in this context, I argue that the function of modern American authors’ geographical imaginations is crucial and yields interesting insights. My critical argument illuminates how the perception, internalization, depiction, and construction of space and place by Twain, James, and Vaka Brown illustrates the transition from the space of late 19th to early 20th century America.

The Van Pelt Library of the University of Pennsylvania was my headquarters. My deepest gratitude goes to the Van Pelt librarians and staff, especially Mrs. Hilda Pring who was always willing to assist me in any way she could. I also conducted research at the Annenberg School for Communication Library, The Fischer Fine Arts Library, and The University Museum Library. Whenever a book for which I was looking was not available or was checked out from any of the above libraries, the Borrow Direct Service of The University of Pennsylvania Library System allowed me to request the book electronically from Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Princeton, and Yale, in which case the book was delivered to me at the Van Pelt Library in two to three working days. In terms of electronic resources, the UPenn Library System allowed me wireless access from any location on campus to all the electronic resources, including e-journals and e-books. More specifically, as a guest researcher, I was granted full access to 122 electronic journals on literature (available through JSTOR, Project Muse, Science Direct, Literature Online Full Text Journals, OCLC, the Online Journals of Manchester, Oxford, and Cambridge University Presses, the University of California Press, Ingenta Select, History Cooperative); 41 databases and article indexes related to English (such as ABELL the Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature, LION Literature On Line, PCI Periodical Contents Index) and 36 databases and article indexes related to comparative literature and literary theory (Literary Reference Online, ISI Citation Indexes). As far as e-books are concerned, I mostly made use of the books available through the Collection of the Digital Library Project at UPenn, the Project Gutenberg, and the Humanities Text Initiative.

My visit at The University of Pennsylvania, on the one hand, allowed me to broaden my research scope and, on the other, to produce well informed, revised chapters of my dissertation, based on up-to-date bibliography. Prior to my visit, I had completed the final drafts of my dissertation chapters on Henry James and Mark Twain, but I had only composed a rough draft of my chapter on Demetra Vaka Brown. While at UPenn, not only did I consult the latest bibliography on James and Twain, but also I was able to revise and produce a final draft of the chapter on Vaka Brown. Moreover, I consolidated my theoretical grounding on cultural



geography and composed the introductory chapter of my dissertation. Likewise, having access to the latest bibliography on cultural geography helped me further probe into the Marxist and Human Geography approaches to the study of space in literature—one emphasizing the affective and social experience of space, and the other emphasizing human subjectivity in relation to spatiality. As I reached the final stage of my research, I was able to argue that, in considering the works of Twain, James and Vaka Brown, these two approaches need not be viewed as antagonistic, but can be considered as reconciliatory on the complex relation between space and literature. Additionally, in reviewing my chapter on Vaka Brown and relating it to the other two chapters on Twain and James, it was possible to juxtapose the modern American response to ethnicity with the ethnic response to modernity and argue for the extent to which one informs the other.

Considering the academic progress I made in the five weeks of my affiliation with UPenn, I consider my being awarded the EAAS Transatlantic Grant a landmark in my academic career as well as an honor and privilege.

**Jessica S. C. O. A. Tang.**  
**Institute of Art History, Zurich University**  
**Zurich, Switzerland**

*Between Spolia and Simulacru: Historical Evocation in American Art Museums, 1903–1974*

As a doctoral candidate at the Institute of Art History, Zurich University, Switzerland, I am currently working on my dissertation titled “Between Spolia and Simulacru: Historical Evocation in American Art Museums, 1903–1974.” With the help of the EAAS Transatlantic Travel Grant and generous matching grants from the Helene-Stodola-Foundation and the Society of Swiss Friends of the United States, I traveled to the United States to establish a firm empirical base for my dissertation by visiting museums, libraries and archives related to my subject.

In order to be able to discuss archeological reconstruction as well as historical reference and the use of spolia in American art museums, with particular emphasis on museums dedicated to Medieval Art, as I have planned, I have focused on several museums and on the study of both the style and the critical reception of in the United States and abroad. These include: The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, MA (1903), the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, FL (1927), Hammond Castle Museum in Gloucester, MA (1929), Glencairn in Bryn Athyn, PA (1929), The Cloisters in New York City, NY (1938) and the Getty Museum Villa, CA (1974). Rather than offer a complete survey or a “catalogue raisonné” of

the relevant museums, I aim to set the phenomenon in the larger context of the humanities.

Only European scholars know a few of these museums these days. It was therefore necessary for me to see them in person, establish contacts, and gain access to archival material, such as letters, diaries, photographs, plans and literature not available in Europe. I have collected enough material to start writing my dissertation upon my return to Switzerland.

**Gábor Berczeli**  
**Eötvös Loránd University,**  
**Budapest, Hungary**

*American-British Discourse on the Reorganization of Austria-Hungary during World War I: The Military Elite and Hungary*

The EAAS transatlantic grant provided me with an opportunity of spending four weeks in July – August, 2004 at the Library of Congress and the facilities of the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC and Maryland. The research visit enabled me to consult and digitalize original unpublished primary sources, accessible at these collections only. Such a research experience was invaluable, being a precondition for the successful completion of my doctoral dissertation in the subject area of cultural influences on American foreign relations during World War I, based on the analysis of discourse in personal correspondence and narratives, and insights from postcolonial theories.

My research examined a specific segment of the foreign policy making processes involved in the diplomatic settlement closing World War I. I investigated the military elite’s discourse and insights informed by a specific corporate culture and experience in organizing the administration of ‘Other’ lands/semi-peripheries. My approach thus integrates the culturalist model of analysis with the more encompassing framework of corporativism in studying the discourse of militaries in its relation to traditional and evolving organizational patterns and mechanisms in the policymaking process, in the context of a postcolonial scenario of constructing nation-states out of an ‘Old Empire.’

Having benefited from visits to British and South African archives previously, turning to the main American dimension of my project concluded the research phase. While in Washington DC, generous opening hours, high quality services and the professionalism of friendly staff made my investigation especially efficient. I have located and digitalized over 12,000 relevant documents of diverse origins. The major clusters are those pertaining to the activities of officers of the US Navy in the Adriatic, mission reports and field notes from the Office of Naval Intelligence, the cor-

respondence of the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, as well as portions of the private papers of General Bliss of the Supreme War Council - most of which have not previously been utilized by specialists of my topic area. Having access to biographic registers, service records and correspondence files of officers as well as invaluable handwritten guides of former dedicated archivists enabled me to trace individual agency at greater depth, while the ability to follow contemporary cross references in the wealth of individual manuscript collections of the city will hopefully add to the texture of my work.

On the whole, the research visit not only provided me with an extensive and relevant database and source material to found my analysis on, but also an opportunity to experience a stimulating environment in which conversations with the knowledgeable staff and fellow researchers often opened new directions for pursuing my project and generated many new ideas. Drawing on these insights and preliminary findings I have already delivered and prepared for publication two conference papers under the titles *'Like Giving Texas and California to the Mexicans': American and British Military Statesmen's Colonial Analogies in the Discourse on Central European Settlement during World War I* and *'Their Great Natural Protector': The Eastern Adriatic US Naval Forces' Search for a Mission in the Inter-Allied Resolution of the Italian - Yugoslav Conflicts, 1918-1920* respectively. With the support of my department, by means of lightening of my teaching load, I hope to complete the entire work within the present academic year. I am thankful to EAAS for the opportunity to complete a crucial stage in the preparation of my doctoral dissertation which I shall also gratefully acknowledge in my forthcoming publications.

**Jelena Šesnić,**  
**University of Zagreb**  
**Zagreb, Croatia**

*"E Pluribus Unum": Identity Politics and the Construction of Ethnicity in Contemporary American Prose*

As a recipient of the EAAS intra-European travel grant, I was able to spend four weeks conducting research at English and American studies department at Johannes Gutenberg University from 1-31 October 2004. I have already done substantial research on my topic, contemporary ethnic American fiction (the mid-1960s to the 1990s) that I propose to read through several possible overarching paradigms. However, I still needed access to journals and secondary works which I could not get at my home institution.

My doctoral dissertation involves four types of reading and the way they can become activated and com-

bined when approaching a range of more recent "ethnic texts," from the turbulent 1960 to the postmodern 1990s. The first suggested type is the cultural nationalist model and its vocabulary; the second is the ethnic feminists' intervention into and divergence from the model worked out by the cultural nationalists. The third model, designated the borderlands/contact zones model, trails the previous two and also significantly changes the terms of debate in the field of representations of ethnic and national identities in US fiction. The fourth type, which can accommodate but by no means contain a range of ethnic representations, is the model of diasporic identities, and the way representative texts from this group in the same act affirm and deconstruct the concept of ethnicity as understood previously. The models are not simply blending one into the other nor do they follow in a simple chronological sequence; they are approximations of the cultural work ethnic literatures do as a significant and not any longer fringe segment of American literary production.

At Mainz I found myself in a congenial working atmosphere. Prof. Dr. Alfred Hornung, Dean of Philology II, and Prof. Dr. Oliver Scheiding, Chair of American Studies, put all the department resources at my disposal. I had therefore the unlimited use of the department library, the central library, as well as unlimited access to the large holdings of the American studies library. Additionally, I profited from the use of electronic resources available from the University campus, with a number of excellent databases. These libraries' holdings and the texts available from the databases, as well as access to numerous journals in the discipline have enabled me to complete effectively the bibliography of my doctoral dissertation. I have also been able to round off two chapters of my dissertation-in-progress, as well as to build up my arguments for the next two chapters.

During my stay in Mainz, I could profit from the discussions I had with the senior and junior faculty in the department, especially with Profs. Winfried Herget and Alfred Hornung. Also invaluable was the assistance given to me at every stage by Ms. Birgitta Gedlich, the department secretary, as well as by the staff of the English Department Library, in particular by Ms Hüther.

I feel that my stay at Johannes Gutenberg University has been successful in more ways than one: it has enabled me the contact with the much needed recent secondary literature (and also in some cases, primary) in the field; it has provided direct contact with a number of first-rate experts in the field; it has given me invaluable time-off from teaching and other obligations and provided me with much needed time to focus on the writing of the doctoral dissertation.

Indeed I believe that the grant and the conditions offered me at Mainz have come at a crucial point in the writing of my dissertation and have given me the needed opportunity to think through some of my arguments and to continue to develop other themes in my dissertation. Once again I would like to express my gratitude to the EAAS and the Board members whose funds, generosity and discernment have enabled me to take advantage of the excellent resources offered at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz.

**Justyna Wierzchowska**  
**The University of Warsaw**  
**Warsaw, Poland**

#### *American School of Abstract Painting*

The travel grant awarded by the European Association of American Studies enabled me to spend three weeks in London (January-February 2005), where I conducted research in University College London's Main Library. I consulted sources that are not available in Warsaw but indispensable for the completion of my research.

In order to place American Expressionism within cultural politics of the 50s, it is necessary to approach the topic from the historical point of view. Providing such framework and discussing the emergence of the movement requires analyzing American intellectual history of that time. The most important issue in reference to American Expressionism is the massive shift of the intellectuals from the pre-war leftist positions to centrist or rightist stands during the Cold War. Books or particular chapters such as Sandler's *Triumph of American Painting*, Jachec's *The Philosophy and Politics of Abstract Expressionism*, Cox's *Art-As-Politics*, D. and C. Shapiro's *Abstract Expressionism and the Modern Experience*, Harrison and Fred Orton's "Modernism, Criticism, Realism" and S. Polcari's "Abstract Expressionism and the Modern Experience" provide the historical context of the Cold-War United States. Such resources enabled me to discuss the relation between Abstract Expressionism and other American movements as Regionalism and European movements as Cubism, Surrealism, and Abstract Art. Other sources such as *Benton, Pollock, and the Politics of Modernism: From Regionalism to Abstract Expressionism* by E. Doss or *Abstract Expressionism: The Formative Years* by R.C. Hobbs and G. Levin contain more specific information on how Abstract Expressionism came about and how it links back to earlier American artistic movements.

To have access to resources that relate the avant-garde to Abstract Expressionism, that discuss the transitory role of American Expressionism between the early European avant-garde movement and the later pop-art,

that focus on a particular approach: political, psychological and auto-narrative was extremely fruitful. The link between Abstract Expressionists and the poets J. Ashbery and F. O'Hara is analyzed in F. O'Hara: *Poet Among Painters* by M. Perlof. The conclusions derived are: the artists working in different means (poetry and painting) were trying to express similar ideas and all of them fell victim to the myth-making obsession of the critics. The myth-making drive prompted many of the authors to write in an exalted style. Polcari's statement that "Abstract Expressionists found the personal in the universal" seems to produce a modern myth, transforming the artists into philosophers. This attitude is shared by the artists themselves especially Rothko and Newman. The other is the concern for "political correctness." The studies written in particular decades are more or less expressions of the dominant discourse of the time. Throughout the 1950s and 60s, the idea of "universal art" was identical with that of a white, heterosexual male. Moreover, for obvious political reasons, it was narrowed down to the non-Soviet bloc world. The binary opposition between social-realism and Western art served as a weapon in the ideological struggle. In the first major shift took place in the late 60s, however the process of showing the "particularity of AE universalism" is still taking place, as A. Gibson's new book titled *Toward a Cultural History of Abstract Expressionism: "Race" and Gender in the New York School* calls attention to.

This opportunity to conduct research in the Library of UCL was invaluable for I have become aware of all the major paths that the discourse on Abstract Expressionism took and is still taking. On the one hand, "[b]y denying reference to an external world, abstract art seemingly avoided any possibility of political or social manipulation" (Doss: 356) while on the other, it made itself open to all possible interpretations and manipulations. Moreover, I found the chance to acquire information and collect data, which is essential to revise and refine the structure of my thesis and to define direction of my further research. Obviously, the mission statements and commentaries of the artists should be assessed within a theoretical framework.

I estimate that by the end of July I should be able to process the material and data collected during my stay in London. Since many of them contain interdisciplinary information, together. In the Fall 2005, I plan to give a paper at the PAAS conference on the myth-making function or the supposedly universal but indeed exclusive character of the movement pending on the analysis of the research material

## CALLS FOR PAPERS

**July 11-14, 2005**

**University of Nottingham, England  
Annual Conference**

The annual conference of the Transatlantic Studies Association will take place on July 11-14, 2005. The location of this year's conference will be the very pleasant setting of the campus of the University of Nottingham. The University of Nottingham is fortunate to have one of the most attractive campuses in Britain, with a lake and extensive parkland, yet located just on the edge of the vibrant city of Nottingham. The conference is hosted jointly by the three Schools of History, Politics and American & Canadian Studies. Between these three Schools the University of Nottingham has considerable strength in many aspects of Transatlantic Studies. Leading scholars include: Richard Aldrich, Peter Boyle, Alex Danchev, Matthew Jones, Richard King, Spencer Mawby, David Milne, Judie Newman, Gary Rawnsley, Wyn Rees, Neville Wylie and John Young. The deadline for submission is **May 31, 2005**. The Conference program is available at <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/hrc/tsc/TSAprogrammeup-date.doc> and the Registration Form <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/hrc/tsc/TSACon-Regform.doc>

**October 23-25, 2005**

**Kamien Slaski, Poland**

*Conformity and Resistance in America*

From Ralph W. Emerson, who in his essays defined self-reliance as nonconformity, to Edward W. Said, who has recently addressed the so-called "humanities crisis" by way of referring to an urgent need of the other traditions/humanities, there has been in America a constant awareness of tensions existing between the canonical and the marginalized, the central and the peripheral.

In his 2000 essay "Humanism's Sphere," Said reminds us of the musical etymology of the word canon—a contrapuntal form employing numerous voices—and goes on to say: "the canonical humanities, far from being a rigid tablet of fixed rules and monuments bullying us from the past... will always remain open to changing combinations of sense and signification; every reading and interpretation of a canonical work... allows the modern and the new to be situated together in a broad historical field whose usefulness is that it shows us history as an agonistic process still being made, rather than finished and settled once for all."

Consequently, we are interested in all those issues that address the American canonical humanities as a space of fruitful tensions between what has been generally acknowledged as the canon and what has been questioning and subverting its very foundations and archives. This includes various areas of American cultural and literary studies, gender and minority studies, political and legal theories, philosophy and sociology, history of art, etc. The following topics are mere suggestions:

- the Emersonian heritage of self-reliance understood as nonconformity; ways of destabilizing the American identity; sublime modes of American culture; figures of the American anti-hero and rebel; revisions of the American Myth/Dream
- the heritage of American pragmatism: conformity or resistance?
- the place of the American university as annexed by medical, bio-technical, defense, and corporate interests (Masao Miyoshi's thesis)
- revival of the suppressed languages and cultures; the U.S. as a polyglot country; diasporic communities and minority writing; interpretations of multi-cultural and multi-ethnic America
- the American art in the XX century and beyond: from the Armory Show to the "last avant-garde" (David Lehman) and "21st-Century Modernism" (Marjorie Perloff); the atonal and the aleatory
- revisions of global economy; "resistance to the overmastering paradigm of globalization" (E. Said); ecology and/vs technology in American agriculture
- Political correctness, liberal conformism and conservative opposition; the dialectics of the "American proposition"

The deadline for proposals and brief summaries is **June 30th, 2005**.

Presentations should not be longer than 25 minutes. 200-word abstracts should be sent to:

Dr Tomasz Lebiecki: [tomaszlebiecki@interia.pl](mailto:tomaszlebiecki@interia.pl)

Conference proceedings will be published. The conference fee, covering room and board, is 500 PLN (ca. €123). For further details, please contact Dr Jacek Gutorow: [dreadwork@interia.pl](mailto:dreadwork@interia.pl) and Dr Wacław Grzybowski: [wgrzybowski@poczta.wp.pl](mailto:wgrzybowski@poczta.wp.pl)

**November 8-10, 2005**

**The University of New Orleans**

**Lindy C. Boggs International Conference Center  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA**

*The South, New Orleans, the Caribbean,  
and Discourses of Creolization*

Given that the venue of the 2005 International Conference of the Austrian Association for American Studies is New Orleans, the focus is on cultures of the American South and the Caribbean region and on the various discourses of creolization. We invite proposals for papers on a variety of literary, historical, political, and cultural topics, such as Southern and Caribbean authors, the music of the South (Blues, Jazz, Reggae, Fusion), New Orleans and its Franco-Hispanic colonial as well as Afro-Caribbean pasts, Creole cuisine and the architecture of the South. Innovative and original as well as traditional approaches are welcome. No conference fee!

**Proposals:** Deadline for proposals is **June 1, 2005**. 250-word abstract and short (5-line) personal statement should be sent to

**Gudrun M. Grabher**

Department of American Studies

University of Innsbruck

Innrain 52

A-6020 Innsbruck/Austria

Tel.: +43-512-507-4171

Fax: +43-512-507-2879

Email: AAAS@uibk.ac.at

**Accommodation:** Hotel St. Marie

827 Toulouse Street

New Orleans, LA 70112

Tel. : (504) 561-8951

**Homepage:** [www.hotelstmarie.com](http://www.hotelstmarie.com)

Reservations can be made via email:

Patricia Arteaga ([patricia.arteaga@uno.edu](mailto:patricia.arteaga@uno.edu))

Special rate for conference participants: \$116 (single) and \$136 (double), continental breakfast included

**Reservations:** Please make your own reservation by referring to the AAAS conference rate. Reservations will be the responsibility of each individual. The reservation center phone number for calls in the US is: 1-800-366-2743. For International calls the number is 001-504-529-4172. The registrant must identify herself/himself as a member of the "AAAS" to receive the group rate. All reservations must be guaranteed by either a first night's deposit or a credit card number. People also need to send a notice of any change of reservation 14 days prior to arrival to avoid a one night's penalty charge. Please do not send checks or money orders as they tend to get lost. The deadline for the group rate is **October 21, 2005!** Special on-campus accommodation for Austrian students at the UNO TRAC Center can be arranged through Center Austria. Please send an email to Center Austria at [camc@uno.edu](mailto:camc@uno.edu)

**Travel:** Austrian participants are encouraged to make their travel arrangements with Austrian Airlines. Fare: approx. €560

Further information is available online at

<http://www.uibk.ac.at/amerikastudien/aaas>

**November 17-18, 2005**

**Paris 10 Nanterre University, Paris, France**

*Imperial Cultures: Transatlantic Perspectives  
On Empires*

The new political conjuncture, which for the past two years has been epitomized by the war in Iraq, may indicate certain major shifts now affecting the paradigms which, for the past twenty years, have constituted the dominant horizon of intellectual debate.

The various academic disciplines which together make up "English and American Studies"—from historiography to literary theory, not forgetting the analysis of political institutions and the current state of international relations—thus offer a series of privileged vantage points for the observation and examination of these shifts.

The recent precipitation of these evolutions in the context of the war in Iraq and, beyond this, the possible future extension of US military intervention, have lent a renewed urgency to the need for an inquiry involving a confrontation of the various disciplinary viewpoints on the current pertinence of the concepts of empire and imperialism. Such an inquiry inevitably has implications for a whole range of presuppositions that are commonly drawn upon for the analysis of globalization and its effects on the societies located at the heart of the new Empire (whose existence and whose manifestations must be examined).

The current conjuncture would seem to distort the conceptual and interpretational template which the triumph of "the new world order" (so near to us in time, so strangely distant now) had propagated. The current tuning of critical attentions to the question of empire and imperialism thus amounts to a epochal shift, involving a displacement in concepts, notions, and presuppositions. New questions emerge, while other, older questions take on a renewed urgency. The following enumeration is tentatively put forward:

- questions of history and geopolitics: the pertinence of the comparisons between the present situation and the experience of an earlier, imperialist modernity; the legacy, today, of discourses of the "mission" or "destiny" of "civilization;" the specific traits assumed by the domination currently exercised by the United States; the economic and political stakes (such as the control of energy supplies) involved in the emergence of China as a superpower; the validity of possible comparisons between current U.S. military policies in the Middle East and those implemented in Central and South America; relations between the British and American empires, questions of heritage and rupture, the exemplarity or otherwise of the former for today's neo-imperialists.

- question of theory: what, today, is the philosophical thinking of the totality?; how do we analyze the quest for identity/identities or the new forms of identity politics and their inscription on what new map of the world?; how do we think through the categories of difference, alterity, universalism?; what, in this context, is the contribution of Marxist, post-colonial and subaltern studies?

- questions of cultural analysis: is there a contemporary imperial imaginary?; how is it linked to the dynamic of concentration at work in the culture and media industry?; how does the Empire structure the societies of the center and those of the periphery?

- questions of local, domestic politics: what today are the countervailing powers in the United States or in Great Britain?; from what vantage point and by whom is the critique of the imperial-military re-centering of globalization formulated?; how are we to assess the situation of the various communities in Great Britain and in the United States, notably the quasi-colonial situation of African Americans in the United States?; how are we to evaluate the magnitude of the threats posed by the deployment of the new security technologies and by the juridical procedures which, in the name of the fight against terrorism, are endangering civil liberties: to what extent is there a link between the arsenal of domestic anti-labor legislation and neo-imperialist considerations?

- Lastly, questions relative to the field of intellectual inquiry: who, whether inside or outside the imperial societies, is it who “thinks” Empire and imperialism. How are we to assess the globalization of anti-imperialist or alternative-globalist thinking? What are the obstacles and resistances encountered by Empire, and can we envisage a decline or a radical transformation of imperialism?

Deadline for the submission of a one-page outline is **June 1, 2005**. For information about the conference, please contact: Pierre Guerlain, pierre.guerlain@u-paris10.fr (for the proposal of papers about the United States) Thierry Labica, thierry.labica@wanadoo.fr (for the proposal of papers about Great Britain)

## November 30 - December 2, 2005

**Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey**  
**30th Annual American Studies Conference**  
*American Studies: Past, Present, Future*

Upon the occasion of its youthful but mature 30th anniversary this year, our annual American Studies Conference becomes a place to turn our focus upon ourselves: upon the very discipline of American studies. This will be a chance to deliberate on where we have come from, and where we are going. A debate

about the roots of any field of knowledge is inevitably a discussion of the future course of development.

We encourage scholars to put special emphasis on teaching American studies, the initiation, development, the current status and the predictable future of this field in a Turkish setting as well as within a larger international context. Some possible lines of inquiry are suggested below but we hope participants will propose others:

- \* Boundaries, borders, limits of the discipline
- \* Definitions and re-definitions: what is American studies? Visions and re-visions
- \* Canon(s) and tradition(s)
- \* Politics: inside and outside the discipline
- \* Paradigms and paradigm shifts
- \* Historical events and turning points within or without the field (Fall of communism, 9/11, the war in Iraq)
- \* Debates within the field (multiculturalism, exceptionalism, revisionism, etc.)
- \* Local and global perspectives
- \* What do you do with a degree in American studies?
- \* Curriculum, teaching, and research related issues

We welcome proposals for panels, roundtables, and 20-minute presentations. The deadline for submission is **September 1, 2005**. We request a brief one or two paragraph abstract of 200-300 words that explains the thesis and major objectives as well as a one paragraph CV indicating to the affiliation, area of specialization, research interest and recent publications of the applicants. By mid-September, the applicants will be informed by e-mail.

Please send your proposals to the secretary of the Conference Organizing Committee:

Tuba Geyikler-Terci, Ankara Üniversitesi, Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi, Amerikan Kültürü ve Edebiyatı Anabilim Dalı, PK 108, Sıhhiye 06100, Ankara, Turkey or e-mail: asat@bilkent.edu.tr  
Tel: 312 310 3280 (ext.1312) Fax: 310 310 57 13,  
Please direct your inquiries to the Secretary of the Conference Organizing Committee and for updated information visit the web site [www.bilkent.edu.tr/tilda/~asat](http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/tilda/~asat)

## February 2-3, 2006

**Bucharest, Romania**  
**The 2006 RAAS Conference**  
*New/Old Worlds. Spaces of Transition*

The concept of the New World, operative from the period of Renaissance explorations, contains a particularly rich cluster of concepts, which still shape Euro-American perceptions today. The New World—and, by implication, an Old World opposing it—

comprehends multiple registers in both theory and practice: conquest, frontier, innocence, margin, center, exceptionalism, imperialism, transnationalism, and globalization. Contoured between utopia and reality, the New/Old World, both constructed in memory and experienced in anticipation still constitutes a dominant cultural topos. Our conference seeks to investigate—from literary, cultural studies, historical, sociological, psychological, economical and political perspectives—modes of approaching and disseminating New/Old World structure, from the period of colonization to contemporary phenomena such as globalization.

We invite proposals for papers and panels from interdisciplinary perspectives on themes suggested above and on all correlative aspects of the issue of New/Old Worlds.

Please send 100-word proposals for papers by **September 15, 2005** to the following addresses:  
Roxana Oltean: roxana\_oltean@txmail.ro  
Mihaela Precup: mihaela\_precup@yahoo.com

**May 18–20, 2006**

**University of Navarra**

**Pamplona, Spain**

**5th MESEA Conference The Society for  
Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas**  
*Ethnic Life, Writing and Histories*

We invite paper abstracts and complete panel proposals on all aspects of ethnic life writing and histories in the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

We encourage interdisciplinary perspectives that highlight the intersections between life writing, history, sociology, and culture. Topics may include, but

are not limited to: theoretical intersections between auto/biography and history; expanding the concepts of auto/biography and histories; theory as auto/biography; auto/ethnography as auto/biography; auto-biographies and biographies; the cultural work of life writing texts; testimonio; genres of life writing in ethnic contexts; travel and travel writing: writing selves, writing histories; life writing as historical inscription; family memoirs; narrative perspectives in history and auto/biography; questions of ethics in life writing; autobiography, history and law; concepts of nationhood and history through life writing; voices in history, historical voices; alternative histories; auto/biographies by/about historians; creating cultural and/or collective memory through life writing; visualizing auto/biographies and histories; the media and virtuality: film as auto/biography and history; the Internet and blogs as forms of life writing; theater studies and autoperformance; hearing and speaking: aural and oral auto/biography and histories; the sociologies and economics of auto/biography and histories; different worlds, different auto/biographies, different histories—globalization and its (dis)contents.

Three hard copies of 300-word abstracts or full panel proposals (that include a description of the panel and specific abstracts) as well as an electronic copy must be submitted to MESEA's Program Director, Yiorgos Kalogeras, Department of English, Aristotle University, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece (kalogera@enl.auth.gr) by **November 15, 2005**.

At this conference, MESEA is inaugurating its Young Scholars Research Awards. For more information please visit: <http://www.mesea.org>

## Announcements

### The Institute for the Study of the Americas

The Institute for the Study of the Americas was officially established in August 2004 as a result of a merger between the Institute of Latin American Studies and the Institute of United States Studies, both of which were established in 1965. The purpose of the Institute for the Study of the Americas is to promote, coordinate and provide a focus for research and postgraduate teaching on the Americas—Canada, the US, Latin America and the Caribbean—in the University of London. The Director of the Institute is Professor James Dunkerley. The online newsletter, *americas plural*, is available at <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/newsletter/index.htm>.

## CALLS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

### *Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies*

We invite papers on any aspect of English and American culture, literature, politics and society of the Long Eighteenth Century (1660-1800) for the 2006/2 issue of the *Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies*. Especially welcome will be papers which are relevant to the following: the institution of literature, theories of translation, Hungarian translation and reception, new directions in narrative forms, gender and the literary marketplace, politics and narrative, theories of the novel, Anglo-Irish literature in the eighteenth century, the Scottish Enlightenment, arguments in verse, verse and epic narrative.

Conforming to the latest MLA style with inside references keyed to the Works Cited section, a hard and a soft copy of the contributions should be sent to the guest editors by 30 October 2005. In accordance with the policy of the journal, the papers will be read by two referees to decide about their acceptance for publication. An abstract of the contribution should be sent to the guest editors by **June 30, 2005**. Authors would be informed about the acceptance of their offer within a month.

HJEAS is more than happy to send out requests for review copies of relevant books published in 2004, 2005 or 2006. We need these data: author, title, publisher, publisher's address. We will forward such requests to the editor.

Final deadline for requests: **April 30, 2006**.

Final deadline for submitting reviews: **June 30, 2006**.

#### **Guest editors:**

Gabriella Hartvig (hartvig@btk.pte.hu)

Gabriella Vö (gabriell@btk.pte.hu)

University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities

Department of English Literatures and Cultures

6 Ifjúság St, 7624 Pécs, Hungary

#### **Richard Wright's *Native Son*,**

*A volume of essays to be published by Rodopi Press, Amsterdam/Atlanta*

Emerging scholars are invited to contribute to this collection of essays. Emerging scholars will be defined by the following criteria: MA, or recent Ph.D, Instructor, lecturer or Asst Prof status, publications limited to articles in journals and monographs and/or chapter studies; individuals who have 6 years or less from the awarding of a doctoral degree. The objec-

tive of this volume is to establish a dialogue between the previous reception and criticism of the novel and the current socio-historical, political and critical perspectives. Simultaneously, the book aims at offering an intra-textual conversation between experienced and emerging scholars, establishing a sort of Point / Counterpoint reaction by pairing their readings, and opening the ground for alternative and innovative approaches to *Native Son*.

The guest editor, Ana María Fraile, from the University of Salamanca, will welcome essays that consider some of the following topics:

1. The reassessment of the novel after the publication in 1991 of the unexpurgated version of *Native Son* by the Library of America, which brings forward, for example, the homoerotic character of the work or, on a different level, the appropriation and control of the novel by the white hegemonic powers as represented by Wright's editor.
2. The problem of narrative voice in the novel: does it disempower or enable Bigger to find a voice?
3. The different film versions of the novel can be analyzed and compared with the novel itself. Impact of the novel on contemporary (black) film-making.
4. Comparative approach: African American women writers re(w)ri(gh)ting Wright's urban novel.
5. Reevaluation of the feminist criticism on the novel.
6. Can the novel be interpreted as endorsing black nationalism?
7. Duality in the novel's symbolism.

Proposals (approximately 300 words) as well as bibliographical notes should be sent before **September 15, 2005** to: anafr@usal.es. The deadline for manuscripts (20-25 pages) is **December 31, 2005**.

#### ***European Perspectives on Teaching Arthur Miller***

We are a team of professors of English and American Literature at the University of Seville (Spain) who are currently preparing a volume of essays with the general title "*European Perspectives on Teaching Arthur Miller*". We would like to invite scholars and teachers from all over Europe to join this project with contributions based on their actual experience working with students of different levels and academic interests on texts by Arthur Miller, from the most canonical like "*Death of a Salesman*" or "*The Crucible*," to less well-known ones, including memoirs, narrative works or film scripts. We are particularly interested in the reflection of actual



classroom experiences and also in the way in which the teaching of Miller has evolved over the years. It would also be interesting to assess when Miller began to be taught in Europe, for what reasons, and if he is currently as much a part of curricula as he was, say, twenty years ago (i.e. before the expansion of the canon and the emergence of new theoretical approaches began to determine who (and how) was to be taught in courses on American studies). Finally, we would especially welcome contributions exploring possible ways to make sense of Miller outside the areas in which he has traditionally been studied (language and literature).

The essays, whose format must conform to the latest MLA guidelines, should be 15-20 pages long (3500-5000 words) including footnotes and works cited. Proposals (500 words) should reach the editors by **October 31, 2005**. The deadline for the submission of accepted papers will be **March 31, 2006**. To send proposals contact the editors: Ramón Espejo [respejo@us.es](mailto:respejo@us.es) or Juan Ignacio Guijarro [jguijarro@us.es](mailto:jguijarro@us.es) (Departamento de Literatura Inglesa y Norteamericana, Facultad de Filología. Universidad de Sevilla. C/ Palos de la Frontera, s/n. Sevilla 41003).

### ***Journal of American Studies of Turkey***

Special Issue on Chicana and Chicano Literature and Culture

Guest Editor Professor María Herrera-Sobek from the University of California, Santa Barbara, is pleased to announce a call for papers for this special volume. The Guest Editor welcomes submissions of material for consideration as an article or as a review focusing on Chicano/a literature or culture. The articles should be approximately 3,000 to 5,000 words in length (12-20 double-spaced typed pages; the reviews should not exceed 500 words (two double-spaced typed pages). The article should be consistent with the objectives and scope of the *Journal of American Studies of Turkey*. All articles are subject to stylistic editing.

No material will be considered for publication if it is currently under consideration by another journal or press or if it has been published or is soon to be published elsewhere. The *JAST* is a peer-reviewed journal and the articles submitted will be peer reviewed by scholars in the field.

Manuscripts should be arranged in the format of articles printed in the *JAST* (see website: <http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/~jast/>). Notes, limited to explanatory ones, should be included only when absolutely necessary, and preferably in parenthetical form. The MLA author-page style of documentation should be strictly observed.

Book reviews should include a brief description of the subjects covered in the book, an evaluation of the book's strength and weaknesses, and the kinds of audiences to whom the book might appeal. The heading of the review should include the following information:

- a. Title.
- b. Author(s) or editor(s) name(s).
- c. Publications.
- d. Number of pages.
- e. Price of book and postage and handling charges (if known).
- f. Name and address of publisher.

Manuscripts should be prepared on a word processor and printed double-spaced (including notes and works cited) with wide margins, on one side of the paper only. They should be sent in hard copy (making sure you retain one for your files), along with MS-Word (DOC) files on a 3.5 inch HD diskette in IBM-compatible format, or by attachment of these files to e-mail.

The copyright of all material published will be vested in the *Journal of American Studies of Turkey* unless otherwise specifically agreed. This copyright covers exclusive rights of publication on printed or electronic media, including the World Wide Web.

The deadline is **December 1, 2005**. All correspondence for the Special Issue of the *JAST* should be addressed to:

Professor María Herrera-Sobek  
Cheadle Hall Room 5105  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, California 93106-2035  
E-mail: [maria.sobek@evc.ucsb.edu](mailto:maria.sobek@evc.ucsb.edu)  
Telephone: 805-893-5114  
Fax: 805-893-7712

## UP-COMING CONFERENCES

### September 4–9, 2005

**Palacky University, Olomouc, Czech Republic**  
**12th Olomouc Colloquium of American Studies**  
*Cult Fiction, Films & Happenings*

The colloquium opens a dialogue between literature, art, history and society. We are interested in the ways in which certain works, events, personas achieve cult status. What are the criteria for attaining cult status? How do they change in the course of history? Is there any cultural logic of the cult? We also want to explore and assess social, political, cultural, moral and aesthetic effects of 'cult'.

The evening program consists of films, concerts, poetry readings, city tours, and other activities.

**Registration fee:** € 25 for early registration (before May 15); € 30 for late registration.

**Accommodation:** In nice student hostels, near the center of the town the prices are single € 9 per night and double € 5 per night.

For further information please contact the program coordinator Robert Hysek at [colloquium@centrum.cz](mailto:colloquium@centrum.cz) or via regular mail, Department of English and American Studies, Krizkovskeho 8, 771 80 Olomouc, Czech Republic.

### March 9-11, 2006

**Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, USA**  
*Paul Laurence Dunbar: A Centennial Conference*

This conference will celebrate the centennial of Dunbar's death by exploring new critical perspectives on the full range of his career as a poet, novelist, lyricist, dramatist, and journalist.

We welcome papers exploring Dunbar as an individual challenged by complex psychological, esthetic, social, and political pressures. We seek lectures that place him in the context of historical phenomena such as slavery and the Civil War, Reconstruction, lynching, race riots, and landmark Jim Crow legislation such as *Plessy v. Ferguson*. We want to consider Dunbar as a regional, national, and international writer, and as a stylistic innovator of the highest order. We also invite papers on his relationship to his literary predecessors, contemporaries, and successors—writers such as Harriet Beecher Stowe, James Whitcomb Riley, William Dean Howells, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Mark Twain, W.E.B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, Charles

Chesnutt, James Weldon Johnson, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Langston Hughes, and more recent poets. We also hope to explore Dunbar's engagement with the musical theater, popular song, minstrelsy, spoken-word poetry, and reading-speaking tours; with visual culture, such as the Hampton Camera Club; and with notable cultural events, such as the World's Columbian Exposition.

Sponsored by the American Studies Program at Stanford University, this conference is organized by the director of the program, Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Gavin Jones (Stanford), Meta DuEwa Jones (George Washington), Arnold Rampersad (Stanford), and Richard Yarborough (UCLA). Co-sponsors include the Office of the President of Stanford University; Office of the Dean of Humanities & Sciences; Department of English; Department of History; Stanford Continuing Studies; Program in African and African American Studies; Stanford Humanities Center; and the Central Region Humanities.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, or in attending the conference, please let us know at once at the email address below. Note that August 1 is the deadline for receiving paper proposals. To propose a paper, please send an abstract of about 600 words in length by **August 1, 2005**, along with a one-page c.v. and contact information to: [DunbarConference@stanford.edu](mailto:DunbarConference@stanford.edu)

The conference will be free to all registrants. In addition, we expect to provide travel and lodging support for all presenters.

### October 6-7, 2005

**University of the Basque Country,**  
**Vitoria- Gasteiz, Spain**  
*The American Literary West*

This international conference will focus on the different ways in which literary interpreters of the American West have shaped and reshaped traditional western imagery and themes. We would like this conference to offer as diverse and rich a picture of current research on the literature of the American West as possible. We particularly invite specialists of western literary studies to consider the increasing recognition and visibility of contemporary western writing in the American literary stream. Papers can address a variety of critical issues in literary studies of the West:

- the role of place, space, and region in western writing
- the interaction between myth and history

- the construction and deconstruction of western stereotypes
- gender politics and power
- border issues
- the role of ethnicity (multiculturalism, assimilation, transculturation)
- the impact of globalization, urbanization, and technology on the West
- nature writing and environmental concerns
- the popular West
- geographical displacement

-regional identity  
 -cultural transfers between literature and films...  
**Keynote speakers:** Frank Bergon (Vassar College, New York), Maria Herrera-Sobek (University of California-Santa Barbara), Richard W. Etulain (University of New Mexico), David Fenimore (University of Nevada-Reno).  
 Proposals may be submitted via e-mail to the members of the organizing committee:  
 David Rio (fipirad@vc.edu.es)  
 Amaia Ibarraran (mailto:fipibbia@vc.edu.es)

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Conferences in Germany</h2>	<p><b>June 17-18, 2005</b>  <i>Rebels without a Cause?</i>  <i>Renegotiating the American 1950s</i>            TCAS (Trier Center for American Studies), University of Trier, Germany            Organizers: Gerd Hurm, Ann Marie Fallon (Fulbright Guest Professor)</p>	<p><b>July 8-9, 2005</b>  <i>Another Language – Contemporary US-American Poetic Experiment</i>            Ruhr University Bochum            Organizers: Kornelia Freitag, Katharina Vester</p>
	<p><b>June 24-26, 2005</b>  <i>The Merits of Memory: Uses and Abuses of a Concept</i>            Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg            Organizers: Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, Sabine Schindler</p>	<p><b>October 1-3, 2005</b>  <i>Europe and America: Cultures in Translation</i>            Amerikainstitut Munich,            Organizers: Ulla Haselstein, Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson</p>

# Recent News

### From The Netherlands:

Rob Kroes, the current chair of the American Studies Program at the University of Amsterdam, will give his farewell speech on 9 September 2005. Rob Kroes is a past President of the EAAS (1992-1996) and founding editor of two book series: Amsterdam Monographs in American Studies and European Contributions to American Studies that, as of this writing, produced some 60 volumes. He is also the author, co-author or editor of 32 books. Ruud Janssens will be the new chair of the American

Studies Program at the University of Amsterdam. Janssens received his Ph.D. (cum laude) from the University of Amsterdam in 1995 for *What future for Japan: US Wartime Planning for the Post-war Era, 1942-1945*. He was research fellow at Harvard University and visiting professor at the University of Calgary. Ruud Janssens has also taught at the Naval Academy in the Netherlands before being appointed professor of American Studies at the University of Amsterdam in 2002 and has published widely on US international relations. He is accessible via e-mail: r.v.a.janssens@uva.nl.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS

### ■ Publications of AAAS Members:

**Birkle, Carmen.** *Migration – Miscegenation – Transculturation: Writing Multicultural America into the Twentieth Century.* Heidelberg: Winter 2004.

**Birkle, Carmen.** William Boelhower, and Rocío Davis, eds. *Sites of Ethnicity: Europe and the Americas.* Heidelberg: Winter 2004.

**Draxlbauer, Michael,** Astrid Fellner, and Thomas Fröschl, eds. *(Anti-)Americanisms.* American Studies in Austria 2. Wien: LIT-Verlag, 2004.

**Fludernik, Monika,** and Hans-Joachim Gehrke, eds. *Identitäten und Alteritäten.* Normen, Ausgrenzungen, Hybridisierungen und 'Acts of Identity'. Würzburg: Ergon, 2004.

**Fludernik, Monika,** and Greta Olson, eds. *In the Grip of the Law: Prisons, Trials and the Space Between.* Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2004.

**Grünzweig, Walter,** ed. *The United States in Global Contexts. American Studies after 9/11 and Iraq.* Münster: LIT, 2004.

**Grünzweig, Walter, John A. McCarthy, and Thomas Koebner,** eds. *The Many Faces of Germany. Transformations in the Study of German Culture and History.* New York: Berghahn, 2004.

**Truchlar, Leo,** ed. *One America – Many Americas.* Erkundungen und Verortungen aus historischer, kultureller und literarischer Sicht, Literatur, Forschung und Wissenschaft 5. Münster: LIT-Verlag, 2004.

**Wallinger, Hanna and Pauline E. Hopkins.** *A Literary Biography.* Georgia University Press, forthcoming, July 2005, 392pp.

**Walter, Hölbling and Klaus Rieser,** eds. *What is American? New Identities in US Culture.* American Studies in Austria 3. Wien: LIT-Verlag, 2004.

**Zacharasiewicz, Waldemar,** ed. *Transatlantische Differenzen/Transatlantic Differences Vienna/* Cologne: Böhlau, 2004, 284pp.

**Zacharasiewicz, Waldemar and Peter Kirsch,** eds. *Canadian Interculturality and the Transatlantic Heritage: Impressions of an Exploratory Field Trip and Academic Interaction in Eastern Canada/ Interculturalité canadienne et héritage transatlantique: Textes d'un voyage d'échanges et d'études de Toronto à Halifax.* Wien: WUV-Verlag, 2005, 265pp.

### ■ Publications of BELAAS Members:

**Genuisiene, Izolda Gabriele.** *Anglo-American Poetry of High Modernism: A Monograph.* Vilnius University Publishing House, 2004. 243 pp.

**Komarovskaya, Tatyana.** *Problems of Poetics of the 20th – Century American Historical Novel.* Minsk: Belarus State Pedagogics University, 2004. 124 pp. (in Russian).

**Stulov, Yuri,** ed. *Problems of Identity, Ethnicity and Gender in Cultures and Literatures of the Old and the New World.* Minsk: EHU Press, 2004. 379 pp. (in Belarusian, Russian and English).

**Stulov, Yuri,** ed. *American Studies Yearbook.* 2003. In 2 Volumes. Yu. V. Minsk: Propilei, 2004. Volume 1: *The United States of America in a Globalized World: Challenges and Perspectives.* 350 pp. (in Russian and English). Volume 2: *Text in Context in the Movement of Language, Time and Space.* (in Russian, German, French and English). Volume 2 is a collection of papers prepared by faculty of the Kaunas Humanities School, Vilnius University in cooperation with BelAAS.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS

### ■ Publications by NASA members:

**Harinck, George and Hans Krabbendam**, eds. *Amsterdam-New York: Transatlantic Relations and Urban Identities Since 1653*. European Contributions to American Studies 59. Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2005.

**Krabbendam, Hans and Derek Rubin**, eds. *Religion in America: European and American Perspectives*. European Contributions to American Studies 52. Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2004.

**Van Minnen, Cornelis A. and Silvia L. Hilyon**, eds. *Frontiers and Boundaries in US History*. European Contributions to American Studies 58, Amsterdam VU University Press, 2004.

### New Publications of the American Studies Monograph Series published by Universitätsverlag Winter, Heidelberg:

**Banerjee, Mita**. *Race-ing the Century*. 2005.

**Fifka, Matthias S**. *Unternehmensverbände in den USA: Anspruch und Realität*. 2005.

**Geuder, Ann-Catherine**. *Wege in die Öffentlichkeit: Die Publikation von Chicana/o Literatur durch US-amerikanische Verlage (1965-2002)*. 2004.

**Heide, Markus**. *Grenzüberschreibungen: Chicano/a-Erzählliteratur und die Inszenierung von Kulturkontakt*. 2004.

**Schwerdtfeger, Barbara**. *Ethics in Postmodern Fiction: Donald Barthelme and William Gass*. 2004.

**Wachholz, Michael**. *Entgrenzung der Geschichte: Eine Untersuchung zum geschichtlichen Denken der amerikanischen Postmoderne*. 2005.

**Waller, Nicole**. *Contradictory Violence: Revolution and Subversion in the Caribbean*. 2005.

Heike Raphael-Hernandez ed. *Blackening Europe: The African American Presence*.  
New York and London: Routledge, 2004. Pp. 314. ISBN 0-415-94398-1

Foreword by Paul Gilroy. Traditional scholars have often looked at African American studies through the lens of European theories, resulting in the secundarization of the African American presence in Europe and its contributions to European culture. *Blackening Europe* reverses this pattern by using African American culture as the starting point for a discussion of its influences over traditional European structures. Evidence of Europe's blackening abound, from French ministers of hip-hop to slavery memorials in the Netherlands and German youth sporting dreadlocks. Collecting essays by seventeen scholars from both sides of the Atlantic and fields as diverse as history, literature, politics, social studies, art, film, and music, *Blackening Europe* explores the implications of these cultural hybrids and extends the growing dialogue about Europe's fascination with African America.

## EAAS Book Reviews

If you are a member of one of the EAAS national associations and would like to have your recent book reviewed, please follow these guidelines:

1. Book publications must be in English and must have been published during the current or the previous year.
2. We only review scholarly works in American Studies.
3. Bibliographical information (author, title, publisher, publishing date and place, number of pages) and a two-sentence summary of the contents should be sent to HELAAS. Reviewers will receive their review copy from the authors.
4. Reviews sent to HELAAS will be published below.
5. Members should contact Theodora Tsimpouki who has been appointed editor of the Book Reviews section.

**Address:** HELAAS, University of Athens, Faculty of English Studies, School of Philosophy, University Campus Zografou GR-157 84 Athens, Greece. Fax: +30 1 72 48 979.

**E-mail:** [tsimpouki@enl.uoa.gr](mailto:tsimpouki@enl.uoa.gr) <mailto:tsimpouki@enl.uoa.gr>

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# EDITORIAL NOTES

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I would like to draw the attention of the Presidents, Secretaries and the National delegates of the Constituent Associations to spare some of their time and efforts to assist the posting of the information about the activities (conferences, symposia, colloquia, reports) in essay format and articles on the assessment of the past, present and the future of American Studies in their respective countries. For sound and substantial information about the above mentioned activities, both past and upcoming, the best resource is the executive board members of the Associations. It is my contention that networking possibilities can be nourished and satisfactorily maintained by a dynamic exchange of information about what is being accomplished in the field of American Studies around Europe.

I would also suggest that if submissions to the ASE Newsletter are complete and composed according to a format, and if possible, sent both to the national delegates and the editor at the same time, accuracy and uniformity can best be secured. When submitting "Call for Papers" for Conferences please adhere to the following format:

Dates:

Theme/topic of the Conference:

Venue: University, City, Country

Content:

Deadline:

Contacts:

Web site if any:

**August 15, 2005**

Deadline for submitting updated Membership lists and the Board Members of the National Associations with e-mail addresses to the Secretary General Ole O. Moen at [moen@eaas.info](mailto:moen@eaas.info), [ole.moen@ilos.uio.no](mailto:ole.moen@ilos.uio.no)

**August 15, 2005**

Deadline for submitting relevant information for the October 2005 ASE Newsletter, No: 55 to be posted on the EAAS web site by October 15, 2005.

**Gülriç Büken**  
Editor-in-chief