

INHALTSVERZEICHNIS

GNEL/ASNEL: Protokoll der ordentlichen Mitgliederversammlung	2
<i>Konferenz-Ankündigungen:</i>	
“Translation of Cultures”, GNEL/ASNEL Annual Conference, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, May 4-7, 2005	10
“I is for Identity – Looking beyond the Mirror”: Postcolonial Spring School, Freie Universität Berlin, 4-8 April, 2005	11
“Sharing Places: Searching for Common Ground in a World of Continuing Exclusion”, EACLALS Triennial Conference, Malta, March 21-26, 2005	13
<i>Konferenzberichte:</i>	
“Transcultural English Studies”, 16th GNEL/ASNEL Annual Conference, J.W. Goethe University, Frankfurt a.M., 19-23 May 2004 / Peter H. Marsden	15
Student Report: “Transcultural English Studies”, 16th GNEL/ASNEL Annual Conference / Katarina Burzynski	19
Lehrveranstaltungen im Wintersemester 2003	21
Publikationen	30
Forschungsergebnisse	54

GNEL/ASNEL

Protokoll der ordentlichen Mitgliederversammlung

an der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Campus Westend,
Casinogebäude, Raum 812, Grüneburgplatz 1, 60629 Frankfurt am Main,

am 22. Mai 2004 um 16.00 Uhr

Die Tagesordnung vom 28.04.04 lautete:

1. Festlegung der Beschlussfähigkeit
2. Festlegung der endgültigen Tagesordnung
3. Protokoll der ordentlichen Mitgliederversammlung vom 30. Mai 2003, Universität Magdeburg, Lehrgebäude 40b, Raum 331; veröffentlicht in ACOLIT Nr. 52 (Juni 2003), S. 3-7
4. Mitgliederstand
5. Mitteilungen des Vorstandes
6. Entgegennahme und Genehmigung des Geschäfts- und Kassenberichts 2003/2004
7. Bericht der Kassenprüfer
8. Entlastung des alten Vorstandes
9. Jahrestagungen 2005 und 2006
10. Postcolonial Spring School on the New Literatures in English
11. GNEL/ASNEL-Publikationen
 - 11.1 Redaktioneller Beirat Jahrbuch
 - 11.2 Finanzierung Jahrbuch
 - 11.3 *ACOLIT*
12. Verschiedenes

Um 16.15 Uhr eröffnet der 1. Vorsitzende, Prof. Dr. Heinz Antor, die Mitgliederversammlung und begrüßt alle Anwesenden.

TOP 1: Festlegung der Beschlussfähigkeit

Der 1. Vorsitzende stellt fest, dass laut Anwesenheitsliste 39 Mitglieder an der Versammlung teilnehmen. Laut § 7.6 der Satzung besteht Beschlussfähigkeit, wenn mindestens ein Viertel der Mitglieder anwesend sind. Da dies nicht der Fall ist, befindet die einfache Mehrheit der Anwesenden über die Beschlussfähigkeit der Versammlung, die einstimmig und ohne Enthaltungen angenommen wird.

TOP 2: Festlegung der endgültigen Tagesordnung

Der 1. Vorsitzende verweist auf die vorliegende Tagesordnung vom 28.04.04. Es gibt keine Änderungsvorschläge.

TOP 3: Protokoll der ordentlichen Mitgliederversammlung vom 30.05.03 Universität Magdeburg

Der 1. Vorsitzende verweist auf das Protokoll der letzten Mitgliederversammlung, das allen Mitgliedern in *ACOLIT* Nr. 52 zugegangen ist. Es gibt keine Änderungsvorschläge zum Protokoll und das Protokoll wird einstimmig angenommen.

TOP 4: Mitgliederstand

Der 1. Vorsitzende berichtet, dass im letzten Jahr ein leichter Anstieg der Mitgliederzahl zu verzeichnen war. Es gab sieben Austritte und fünfzehn Eintritte. Jetzt zählt die GNEL etwas über zweihundert Mitglieder. Die neuen Mitglieder werden vom 1. Vorsitzenden begrüßt: Eugen Banauch, Wien; Heike Bast, Greifswald; Silvia Bauer, München; Elfi Bettinger, Hannover; Ellen Dengel-Janic, Tübingen; Francis Chibueze Ikegwonu, Lagos, Nigeria; Melanie Maria Just, Münster; Susanne Kern-Häuser, Eckental; Ursula Kluwick, Wien; Eva Knopp, Köln; Andrea Lutz, Heidelberg; Ulrike Pirker, Freiburg; Stephanie Rott, Köln; Christiane Schlote, Berlin; Dirk Wiemann, Magdeburg.

TOP 5: Mitteilungen des Vorstandes

Die Mitteilungen des Vorstandes ergeben sich aus den folgenden Tagesordnungspunkten.

TOP 6: Entgegennahme und Genehmigung des Geschäfts- und Kassenberichts 2003/2004

Der Finanzbericht wird vom Schatzmeister Dr. Jochen Petzold präsentiert. Generell gibt es eine gute Bilanz des Jahres 2003. Das Jahr 2003 begann mit einem GNEL-Eigenkapital von 19.861,11 EUR. Der Jahresabschluss zum 31.12.03 weist ein Eigenkapital von 22.696,87 EUR aus; das Jahr 2003 schließt mit einem Gewinnsaldo in Höhe von 2.835,76 EUR ab. Die Zwischenbilanz zum 31.03.04 weist ein Eigenkapital von 27.386,10 EUR aus. Dem stehen die für das Jahr 2004 zu erwartenden Ausgaben von 16.200,00 EUR gegenüber. Werden die ausstehenden Aufwendungen mit dem Eigenkapital der GNEL verrechnet, verbleibt ein Eigenkapital von 11.186,10 EUR. Die zu erwartenden Ausgaben enthalten die Zahlungen für die Tagungsbände Osnabrück, Aachen, Erfurt, Magdeburg und Frankfurt.

Prof. Dr. Frank Schulze-Engler erhielt für die Organisation der Frankfurter Tagung eine Vorabzahlung in Höhe von 1000 EUR als Ausgleich für den finanziellen Ausfall, der durch die Teilnahmeermäßigung für Mitglieder von 5 bzw. 10

EUR entstand. Er erklärt, dass der Rest dieser Summe demnächst zurückgezahlt wird.

Herr Petzold bemerkt abschließend, dass sich die Finanzbasis der GNEL deutlich stabilisiert hat.

Herr Antor und die Mitgliederversammlung bedanken sich bei Herrn Petzold für den Kassenbericht und die geleistete Arbeit.

TOP 7: Bericht der Kassenprüfer

Die KassenprüferInnen Dr. Ulrike Eichsen und Dr. Jörg Heinke berichten, dass sie den Kassenbericht am 22.05.04 sorgfältig geprüft haben und dass die Angaben des Kassenberichts für den Jahresabschluss 2003 und den Zwischenbericht zum 31.03.04 mit den Angaben im Kassenbuch, den Kontoauszügen und dem Bestand der Handkasse übereinstimmen. Sie erheben keine Einsprüche und empfehlen eine Entlastung von Vorstand und Beirat. Ihnen wird für ihre geleistete Arbeit gedankt. Frau Erichsen und Herr Heinke stehen im nächsten Jahr wieder als KassenprüferInnen zur Verfügung.

TOP 8: Entlastung des alten Vorstandes

Die Entlastung wird beantragt. Vorstand und Beirat werden mit sechs Enthaltungen und keiner Gegenstimme entlastet.

TOP 9: Jahrestagungen 2005 und 2006

1. Jahrestagung GNEL/ASNEL 4. - 7. Mai 2005, Kiel "Translations of Cultures"

Herr Antor entschuldigt die Abwesenheit des Organisators Prof. Dr. Konrad Groß und berichtet an dessen Stelle über den Vorbereitungsstand.

Die Organisation der Tagung ist angelaufen, und es wurde bereits ein DFG-Antrag gestellt.

Folgende Panels sind vorgesehen:

1. Postcolonial multilingualism/multiculturalism and translation
2. Travel and translation in the contact/conflict zone
3. Migration and the translation diaspora
4. Translation as cultural trade
5. Politics of cultural representation
6. Translatability and untranslatability of cultures
7. Teachers' Panel

Als ausländische ReferentInnen sind geplant:

Monica Bottez: Universität Bukarest (Rumänien), eine der beiden Direktorinnen des Masterprogramms für Kanada-Studien. Forschungsbereiche: englische u. kanadische Literatur an der Universität Bukarest. Veröffentlichungen zu allen drei Literaturen sowie Übersetzungen kanadischer Literatur.

Russell McDougall: University of New England (Armidale, New South Wales). Forschungsschwerpunkte: Geschichte und Literatur der sogenannten Siedlergesell-

schaften, vergleichende Perspektiven von australischer/kanadischer sowie westafrikanischer/karibischer Literatur.

Laura Moss: University of British Columbia (Vancouver). Forschungsinteressen: politische Texte und postkoloniale Literatur/Theorie; Multikulturalismus in Kanada; afrikanische und kanadische Literatur; südafrikanische Wahrheits- und Versöhnungskommission.

Thengani H. Ngwenya: University of Kwazulu-Natal (Durban). Forschungsinteressen: anglophone afrikanische Literaturen, südafrikanische Kolonalliteratur, postkoloniale Biographie und Autobiographie.

Mala Pandurang: Prof. für Englisch an der University of Mumbai, Veröffentlichungen über anglophone afrikanische und indische Literatur, Gender Studies, Migration und Diaspora.

Stephen Scobie: English Department der University of Victoria (Kanada), Literaturtheoretiker, -kritiker und bekannter Lyriker (Preisträger des kanadischen Governor General's Award 1980).

2. Zu den Jahrestagungen allgemein:

Herr Antor berichtet, dass die Struktur mit eineinhalb bis zweistündigen workshops im Teachers' Panel gut angenommen wurde und dass sich diese Struktur besser als einzelne Papers für dieses Panel eignet.

Weiterhin wird vorgeschlagen, die diesjährigen Jewish and Crime Fiction Panels wie das Teachers' Panel als feste Sektionen innerhalb der GNEL/ASNEL-Tagungen zu etablieren. In der Diskussion dazu gibt es folgende Wortmeldungen:

- es ist nicht ratsam einzelne Sektionen zu institutionalisieren, da dann die Tagungsstruktur bald zu festgelegt wäre,
- diese Texte wären auch in anderen Panels unterzubringen,
- die Institutionalisierung einzelner Panels birgt die Gefahr, dass sich einige Panels vom Rest der Tagung abgrenzen,
- allgemein sollten auch Papers außerhalb der festgelegten Panels angenommen werden, die für die jeweilige Tagung festgelegten Panels sollten nicht Ausschließlichkeitscharakter bekommen,
- die Diskussion um das Jewish Panel darf nicht den Anschein erwecken, dieses Panel sollte ausgeschlossen werden,
- Vertreter des Jewish Panel fühlen sich nicht ausgeschlossen,
- die GNEL hat ein Interesse, die Bereiche Jewish Writing and Celtic Fringes als Workshops in zukünftigen Tagungen aufzunehmen, sie jedoch nicht als Sektionen festzuschreiben,
- unsere Offenheit gegenüber diesen Panels muss festgeschrieben werden,
- die Bereiche American Studies, British Cultural Studies und Arabic Studies sollen mit in die GNEL/ASNEL-Tagungen aufgenommen werden,
- nicht nur in den Call for Papers sondern auch in anderen Outlets (z.B. Website) soll Offenheit gegenüber all diesen Bereichen ausgedrückt werden,

- in der Selbstdarstellung der GNEL/ASNEL muss offensichtlich werden, dass wir nicht mehr nur eine Randstellung im wissenschaftlichen Raum haben bzw. uns "nur mit Randbereichen" beschäftigen,
- eine Verkrustung von Textclustern muss verhindert werden.

Weiterhin gab es den Vorschlag, neben dem Teachers' Panel auch ein hochschuldidaktisches Panel einzurichten. Dies wäre zu bedenken, soll jedoch nicht auf Kosten des Teachers' Panel geschehen.

3. Jahrestagung GNEL/ASNEL 2006

Herr Antor berichtet, dass er schon mit Herrn Prof. Michael Meyer von der Universität Koblenz gesprochen hat, die Tagung 2006 auszurichten. Herr Meyer ist grundsätzlich bereit, da er über erhebliche finanzielle Mittel für internationale Tagungen aus Berufungsmitteln verfügt. Herr Antor wird noch Herrn Prof. Detlev Gohrbandt von der Universität Koblenz-Landau ansprechen, ob die beiden nicht die Konferenz gemeinsam organisieren könnten, da die Universität Koblenz-Landau eine Doppeluniversität ist und sich die Zusammenarbeit anböte.

TOP 10: Postcolonial Spring School on the New Literatures in English

Die PSS 2005 (diese Namensänderung ist einmalig) "I is for Identity – Looking Beyond the Mirror" wird von Studierenden der FU Berlin organisiert und vom 4. - 8. April 2005 am John F. Kennedy Institut in Berlin Dahlem stattfinden. Auf der ASS 2002 an der Humboldt Universität in Berlin war Bremen fälschlicherweise als Nachfolger benannt worden. Nachdem das JFK Institut zur Nachfolgeorganisation gewonnen werden konnte, war die Vorbereitungszeit zu kurz, die ASS im Zweijahresrhythmus, also im Sommer/Herbst 2004 auszurichten. Deshalb gab es eine Terminverschiebung und Namensänderung. Die Studentinnen Juliane Schenk, Sabine Kroh und Margot Kaiser berichten auf der Mitgliederversammlung über den Vorbereitungsstand. Die Struktur der ASS mit Seminaren, Vorlesungen, Schriftstellerlesungen und Cultural Happenings soll beibehalten und eventuell ein Teachers' Workshop eingerichtet werden. Es gibt derzeit dreizehn Seminarangebote. Ein Flyer mit der Liste aller AutorInnen und Vortragenden liegt vor und wird verteilt. Die Studentinnen bitten nochmals, für Vortragende, Workshopleiter und Teilnehmende zu werben.

In der Diskussion dazu gibt es folgende Wortmeldungen:

- die Verbindung zwischen der GNEL/ASNEL und der Summer School ist zu locker geworden, wir müssen die Verbindung wieder fester knüpfen und sichtbarer machen,
- ein GNEL-Tisch mit Publikationen, Aufnahmeanträgen und Vertretermitgliedern muss auf der Summer School präsent sein,
- die Teilnahme von GNEL-Mitgliedern an der Summer School ist unzureichend, GNEL-Mitglieder müssen mehr Präsenz zeigen und weiterhin nicht nur Vorlesungen, sondern auch Seminare anbieten,

- Teilnahmewerbung für die Summer School muss mit Postern und in Lehrveranstaltungen der GNEL-Mitglieder erfolgen,
- die website für die PSS 2005 ist noch in Arbeit,
- die Summer School sollte nicht der GNEL/ASNEL-Tagung Konkurrenz machen, wenn die kanadische Botschaft den Finanzausschuss zu einer Veranstaltung streichen sollte, müsste die GNEL/ASNEL-Tagung den Vorrang haben,
- der GNEL-Vorstand empfindet die Summer School nicht als Konkurrenz,
- die GNEL-Mitglieder sollten so viele Studierende wie möglich zur Teilnahme an der Summer School gewinnen, damit sich bei Studierenden das Interesse herausbildet, die ASS einmal auszurichten,
- die Gruppe der Promovierenden wäre auch zur Organisation geeignet, es sollte jedoch dann eine Mischung zwischen Promovenden und Studierenden im Orgateam bestehen.

TOP 11: GNEL/ASNEL-PUBLIKATIONEN

11.1 Redaktioneller Beirat Jahrbuch

Herr Antor informiert, dass nicht mehr alle Tagungsbeiträge veröffentlicht werden können. Es wird ab der diesjährigen Tagung einen redaktionellen Beirat geben (bestehend aus ProfessorInnen mit fester Stelle), der bei der Auswahl der Beiträge mitwirkt. Dies erleichtert den örtlichen Organisatoren die Selektionsarbeit und nimmt den Selektionsdruck.

Der redaktionelle Beirat für die künftigen Jahrbuchveröffentlichungen wird aus folgenden Personen bestehen: Antor, Heinz (Theorie, Kanada, NEL allgemein), Bader, Rudolf (Australien), Banerjee, Mita (Theorie, Asian British, Indien, Amerikanistik), Breiting, Eckhard (Afrika), Davis, Geoff (Südafrika NEL allgemein), Döring, Tobias (Theorie, Karibik), Ghosh-Schellhorn, Martina (Indien), Glaap, Albert (Kanada, Drama), Glage, Liselotte (Indien, Gender Studies, NEL allgemein), Gohrbandt, Detlev (Didaktik, NEL allgemein), Gohrisch, Jana (Black British), Kramer, Jürgen (Theorie, Cultural Studies), Kuester, Martin (Kanada), Mackenthun, Gesa (Theorie, Amerikanistik), Marsden, Pete (Neuseeland), Mair, Christian (Linguistik), Mühleisen, Susanne (Linguistik, Karibik), Platz, Norbert (NEL allgemein, Australien), Schaffeld, Norbert (Theorie, Australien), Schulze-Engler, Frank (Theorie, Afrika, NEL allgemein), Stein, Mark (Theorie, Karibik, Black/Asian British), Stierstorfer, Klaus (NEL allgemein, Didaktik), Stilz, Gerhard (NEL allgemein, Indien), Stummer, Peter (NEL allgemein), Veit-Wild, Flora (Afrika), West, Russell (Australien).

Der Beschluss zur Erstellung und Zusammensetzung des redaktionellen Beirates wird mit zwei Enthaltungen und keiner Gegenstimme angenommen.

11.2 Finanzierung Jahrbuch

Herr Antor informiert die Mitglieder, dass Rodopi die Preise zur Veröffentlichung der GNEL/ASNEL-Papers erhöhen wird. Bisher wurden pro Band 17 EUR plus 6 EUR Versandgebühren gezahlt. Das neue Angebot lautet wie folgt:

300 Seiten – 20,00 € pro Band
 350 Seiten – 22,50 € pro Band
 400 Seiten – 25,00 € pro Band
 450 Seiten – 27,50 € pro Band
 500 Seiten – 30,00 € pro Band
 550 Seiten – 32,50 € pro Band

Dazu kommen 8,00 € Versandgebühren und 5,00 € Bearbeitungsgebühren. Der Vorstand zeigt sich über diese gewaltige Preissteigerung überrascht, die im geringsten Fall (300 Seiten) eine Steigerung von 10 EUR pro Band bedeuten würde.

Weiterhin gibt es das Problem, dass noch vier bzw. fünf Bände (Osnabrück, 2x Aachen, Erfurt, Magdeburg, Frankfurt) zur Publikation ausstehen, für die bereits 23 EUR pro Band einbezahlt wurden und die nach der Preiserhöhung teurer würden. Herr Antor berichtet weiterhin, dass sich die Kosten für den Technical Editor jedes Bandes von 550 EUR auf 900 EUR erhöhen werden, was trotzdem nur 50 % der Kosten des Technical Editors bei anderen Rodopi-Veröffentlichungen sind. Die Kosten für den Technical Editor werden seit der Magdeburg-Tagung vom örtlichen Veranstalter übernommen. Die Differenz für die Publikation der Frankfurt-Tagung wird die GNEL übernehmen.

Herr Antor stellt fest, dass die Osnabrück-Tagung schon zu lange zurückliegt, dass die Beiträge veraltet sind und nicht mehr auf dem neuesten theoretischen Forschungsstand sind. Er schlägt vor, den Osnabrückband nicht mehr zu veröffentlichen und stattdessen die frei werdenden finanziellen Mittel für den zweiten Aachen-Band zu verwenden. Dem stimmt die Mitgliederversammlung zu.

Die Mitgliederversammlung fasst folgenden Beschluss:

1. Die Mitgliederversammlung beauftragt den Vorstand, mit Rodopi zu verhandeln, dass sie die ausstehenden Bände noch zu den alten Konditionen herausgeben.
2. Die Mitgliederversammlung beauftragt den Vorstand, bei Rodopi zu eruiieren, ob eine Publikation auch ohne Bearbeitung des Technical Editors erfolgen kann, wenn die Herausgeber verpflichtet werden, eine druckfertige Fassung an Rodopi zu liefern.
3. Sollte dies nicht möglich sein, werden die Kosten für den Technical Editor für fünf Jahre auf 900 EUR festgeschrieben und auf eine schnelle Weiterlieferung (innerhalb von drei Monaten) des fertigen Manuskriptes durch den Technical Editor an Rodopi gedrungen.

Dieser Beschluss wird mit zwei Enthaltungen und keiner Gegenstimme angenommen.

Der Beschluss, einen Regelkorridor von 350 bis 450 Seiten pro Tagungsband abhängig von den HerausgeberInnen zu schaffen, wobei eine Erhöhung der Seitenzahl auf 400 bzw. 450 Seiten beim Vorstand zu beantragen sind und die Differenz der Kosten von der GNEL übernommen werden, wird mit drei Enthaltungen und keiner Gegenstimme angenommen.

TOP 12: Verschiedenes

Es gibt keine Wortmeldungen.

Der 1. Vorsitzende schließt die Sitzung gegen **18.45 Uhr**.

Protokollantin: Dr. Kerstin Knopf, Beirat
gez.: Prof. Dr. Heinz Antor, 1. Vorsitzender
PD Dr. Jana Gohrisch, 2. Vorsitzende

**Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of the New
Literatures in English (ASNEL) / Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für die
Neuen Englischsprachigen Literaturen (GNEL)**

CALL FOR PAPERS

“TRANSLATION OF CULTURES”

Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, May 4-7, 2005

Perhaps more than in any other period in modern history our globalised present is characterised by a permanent interaction of, and exposure to, different peoples, nations, regions, ways of life, traditions, religions, languages, and cultures. Cross-boundary communication today comes in various shapes: as mutual exchange, open dialogue, enforced process, misunderstanding, or violent conflict. In this situation "translation" becomes an inevitable requirement in order to ease the flow of disinterested and unbiased communication. In the context of this conference translation may be approached from different angles. Naturally, it refers to the rendering of texts from one language into another and the shift between languages under pre-colonial (retelling/transcreation), colonial (domesticating), and post-colonial (multilingual trafficking) conditions. It is concerned with the (in-)adequacy of the Western translation concept of equivalence, the problem of the (un-)translatability of cultures, and new postcolonial, approaches (representation through translation). In addition, translation is used as a wider term covering the interaction of cultures, the transfer of cultural experience, the concern with cultural borders and identities, the articulation of liminal experience, and intercultural understanding.

Suggestions for papers:

- Postcolonial multilingualism/multiculturalism and translation
- Travel and translation in the contact/conflict zone
- Migration and the translation diaspora
- Translation as cultural trade
- Politics of cultural representation
- Translatability and untranslatability of cultures

**Proposals for papers should be sent together with an abstract (of ca. 200 words) not
later than Dec. 31, 2004 to**

**Prof. Dr. Konrad Gross
Christian-Albrechts-Universität
Englisches Seminar
Leibnizstr.10, 24098 Kiel, Germany.
Tel. 0049-431-880-3346/2672 / E-mail: kgross@anglistik.uni-kiel.de**

I IS FOR IDENTITY – LOOKING BEYOND THE MIRROR ASS REVISITED

**Postcolonial Spring School, Freie Universität Berlin,
4-8 April, 2005**

We are happy to announce that the tradition of the Autumn Summer School will be continued in 2005 with the Postcolonial Spring School in Berlin from April 4-8. Because of a delay in planning, the conference will not be held in autumn as usual. The date was changed to spring for once, which is reflected by the new title Postcolonial Spring School. With the next conference, the ASS will return to its traditional season.

Under the auspices of the German ASNEL (Association for the Study of the New Literatures in English) which has covered this field since 1989, students of the Freie Universität Berlin organize this conference to open a platform for exchange. They will be supported by lecturers from the English Department at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Today it is hardly possible to look at modern literature in English without encountering postcolonial writing. The official withdrawal of the colonizing powers initiated various major changes in the erstwhile colonies. This new development offered fertile ground for reconsideration of self-conception and identity. The notion of 'Looking beyond the Mirror' reflects the ongoing discourse on the construction and deconstruction of identity concepts. Can we draw a line between how we define our "selves" and how we are perceived by others? Can we deal with the clash of tradition and 'westernization'? Is 'westernization' a contemporary form of cultural colonisation after all? The Postcolonial Spring School (PSS) 2005 will give us the opportunity to reflect on these and other questions in the context of postcolonial culture and literature.

About 150 students and 40 scholars and writers from all over the world are expected to participate. International experts enter the dialogue with students by way of lectures, readings and seminars. Within this frame the PSS 2005 invites participants to take a closer look at cultures and literatures from Australia, Canada, Africa, Ireland, India, the Caribbean and New Zealand. We have invited authors who have already successfully contributed to previous Autumn Summer Schools, but we also asked some "new" authors and lecturers to join us at the Spring School. A wide range of events will give students, writers, theorists and younger researchers the opportunity to gain deeper insights into an exciting field. Readings and lectures will also be open to an interested public.

Berlin as this year's location with its multicultural flair has already proven a brilliant choice for the previous ASS 2002. Its multitude of (sub-)cultures and the vibrant mix of people from all over the world living in this city provide an excellent setting for intercultural exchange.

During the course of the PSS each day will be divided into three separate parts. The mornings will offer a variety of lectures on literary and cultural topics, the

afternoons will be spent with intensive studies in seminars and workshops. To name but a few from a wide range of topics:

Stephen Gray (Darwin/Australia) will offer a seminar on “Forgery, disguise and imagination of the European aboriginal”, while students who opt for Thengani H Nwenga’s (South Africa) seminar will get to know more about “South African autobiography and South African English poetry”. Of course, there will be opportunities to get familiar with theoretical aspects as well. As an example, the lecture “How to talk PoCo – A critical investigation of some of the most important terms in PoCo theory” by Cecile Sandten (Bremen/Germany) may be mentioned here. Following the example of the ASS in 2002, there will be a Canada Day as well as an Australia Day in co-operation with the embassies. As an innovation, discussion groups and a Teacher’s Forum are in preparation.

But it is not all “hard work no play”. The days will end in readings by authors such as Lawrence Scott and Tabish Khair, there will be performances, film screenings and parties. We contacted various theatres, cafes and other locations to make use of the inspiring atmosphere of Berlin.

Accommodation

During the PSS, the participants will stay in private accommodation; hostel accommodation can be arranged as well.

Registration Fees

The registration fees of € 80 for students and € 105 for professionals will cover the costs for the conference. For participants from Berlin who are willing to host a guest the fee will be reduced to € 60.

Registration is possible from August 8th, 2004 and will close on February 28th, 2005. Participants can enrol by

e-mail: springschool2005@yahoo.de
 letter: Postcolonial Spring School 2005
 Freie Universität Berlin
 Institut für Englische Philologie
 Goßlerstr. 2-4
 D- 14195 Berlin
 Germany

or on our homepage: www.geisteswissenschaften.fu-berlin.de/pss2005/

The full programme and further information will be available on the homepage in due course. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact us. We would be very happy if you could spread word among students and colleagues; information material can be provided.

See you in Berlin!

The organizing team:

Margot Kaiser, Tess Knuth, Sabine Kroh, Johanna Melzow, Nora Neumann

Call for Papers

“Sharing Places: Searching for Common Ground in a World of Continuing Exclusion”

EACLALS Triennial Conference, Malta, March 21-26, 2005

Malta, the venue of the next EACLALS Triennial Conference, is not only a very attractive destination but also one that is, by virtue of its location halfway between Europe and Africa, highly suggestive of the unending dynamics of colonialism, ‘post’-colonialism, and neo-colonialism. The Malta Conference should therefore prove an ideal opportunity for revisiting such familiar issues as: the clash of civilisations brought about by colonialism, which forcibly linked disparate geographies under the aegis of imperial regimes; the affirmations of territoriality which often go by the name of post-colonialism, no matter how much these rely on implicit protocols of exclusion; and the contemporary emergence of an explicit neo-colonial (‘new world’) order, in which the uneven distribution of resources across the globe is justified in the name of self-righteous cultural affiliations of diverse denominations.

On the other hand, in a more hopeful mood, ‘Malta’ and its complex history may also serve as an objective correlative for the utopian ideal of acknowledging a shared zone of mutual responsibility where all human subjects may be considered as partial insiders to the project of conceiving a common future.

The Conference theme, ‘Sharing Places’, thus strikes at the heart of contemporary experience while also allowing for the development of long-standing debates within ‘post’-colonial studies. Such a theme has numerous potential ramifications, which will be explored in a number of thematic sections dedicated to the following topics:

- Frantz Fanon and the pitfalls of national consciousness
- Immigration as a challenge to the law of privilege (ie, etymologically, ‘private law’)
- The sea and the erosion of cultural identity
- From translation to bilingualism, or towards the sharing of mental space
- Writing Europe (from an African or otherwise ‘external’ perspective)
- Multidisciplinarity and the future of post-colonial theory
- Feminism, patriarchy, and the limitations of gendered space
- History as a collective site, historiography as a corrective swipe

The organizers also welcome contributions relevant to the main Conference theme that may not seem to fit into the subsections outlined above. Abstracts of no more than 200 words for 20-minute papers should be submitted no later than 15 September, 2004. All correspondence should be addressed to the Conference chair, Dr. Stella Borg Barthet, stella.borg-barthet@um.edu.mt . For further information as well as for all matters concerning registration or accommodation, please consult the Conference webpage which is now accessible from the EACLALS site at:
<http://www.ulg.ac.be/facphl/uer/d-german/eaclals/main.html> .

Conference Reports



“Transcultural English Studies”, 16th GNEL/ASNEL Annual Conference J.W. Goethe University, Frankfurt a.M., 19-23 May 2004

One of the many definitions of a committee goes like this: They sit for hours, and keep the minutes. Without too many demands on the imagination, the conceit can readily be transferred to a conference. I must confess that, when invited to write these minutes – somewhat unorthodoxly, a mere hour or so before the end of the longish event – I did find the reason given for my suitability to the task – namely, my status as an “alter Hase” – at once flattering and flattening. ‘Old hand’ or not, I had decided well in advance of the conference that I didn’t have anything to say, either about the overall theme: “Transcultural English Studies” or about the various sub-themes proposed. So I had actually cast myself as a conference tourist, out to sample the sights and sounds of the exotic destination, without the slightest degree of involvement or commitment. I can only hope that those who read this are as indulgent as those who commissioned me to write it. It is hardly necessary to add that the report is subjective and impressionistic in the extreme.

Local organizer Frank Schulze-Engler and his bevy of benevolent beings (aka the conference team) did a highly professional job and wore their efficiency lightly. If there were any glitches, the friendly neighbourhood witches and wizards spirited them away so skilfully under their magic carpets that a mere conference participant utterly failed to register them. A great advantage was the fact that almost everything – certainly all the keynotes and paper sessions and all the readings but one, as well as the conference office and the catering – was housed most conveniently under one roof: “Die Konferenz der kurzen Wege”. For the relatively brief duration of the conference, participants were able to enjoy all the benefits and creature comforts of “Casino” capitalism. Before its recent incarnation as the seat of the hosting Frankfurt NELK Department, the conference venue had been the officers’ mess of a plush American Army HQ with all mod cons. Mess? Not since the army moved out.

Despite quite a flush of latish cancellations and even unannounced no-shows, the organizers remained outwardly unruffled, and the number of participants seemed to remain fairly constant at 200 or so, though the actual composition of this group varied and fluctuated considerably from day to day.

One aspect of the conference that I personally welcomed very much was the inclusion of some genuinely new sections. After all, we have written the notion of newness into the name of our Association, but are just as likely as anybody else to fall foul of that age-old paradox: The minute you have branded something as new, the fossilization sets in. As some wag once observed, New College Oxford was founded in the 14th century, and the New Forest has been denuded of trees for a

couple of hundred years. Newness is a quality that, by definition, needs to be constantly resuscitated. To my knowledge, none of the following had been given section status at previous conferences: “Jewish Literature(s) in English?”, “‘Celtic Fringes’ and their Diasporas” and “Postcolonial Postmortems: Crime Fiction in the New Literatures.” I know for sure that I was not the only participant who felt it was a really good thing that such genuine innovation had been implemented. That this was no mere lip-service was evident in the fact that two of these sections also had their own keynote paper as well as their own concluding roundtable discussion, and generated a “loyal” audience of regulars who attended most, if not all, of the constituent sessions.

It seemed encouragingly apposite that a German organization, especially when meeting in Frankfurt am Main, should embrace Jewish writing in this way. By the end of the section on Jewish Literature(s), I think it would be fair to say that the jury was still out on the appropriateness of the bracketing, but that the query was ripe for deletion. And when we reflect on how long the concept of “diaspora” has been current in post-colonial discourse, it was indeed high time for contributions dealing with the ur-Diaspora to be brought in under the NEL umbrella. As for the crime section, in keeping with the title of Stephen Knight’s keynote – “Crimes Domestic and Crimes Colonial” keynote –, works of ostensibly light fiction proved to be rewardingly revealing of the colonial and postcolonial big picture.

Inevitably and legitimately, the conference was, however, transfused if not transfixed by the buzz syllable of its theme – the leitmorphem, as it were: “trans-”. To begin with, there was the programmatic transdisciplinarity of having keynotes by two speakers neither of whom was a literary or language scholar but rather a philosopher (Wolfgang Iser) and an anthropologist (Gisela Welz), respectively. This widening of the debate within the academy was certainly another welcome innovation and a good way of stimulating and triggering discussion. I can’t help thinking, though, that less than sixty minutes of static formal lecture and more than thirty minutes for the dynamic cut-and-thrust of live debate would do the trick, and do it better.

Some of the terminological discussions bordered on the interminable and were in danger of devolving into what folk-linguists are wont to label mere semantics, replacing one prefix with another: Is “trans” more than “inter”? – better than “multi”? – different from “cross”, “hyphenated” and “post” (not to mention “post”)?

It took a native Canadian, Margo Kane, to break out of the ivory tower. At the conference-warming, though anything but a regular conference-goer, she had already broken the ice by first indirectly characterizing her audience as a bunch of “smartie-pants”. After this charm offensive, she succeeded in getting this target-group of nonetheless real people to form a real, physical (but also at the same time decidedly symbolic) circle on the grass between the trees outside the venue building. She thereby initiated first contact between the participants and made them – well, most of them – feel very much “at home”. Later on – in a panel discussion on “Transculturality and Literary Practice” –, somewhat diffidently pointing out

that she was neither an academic nor a writer but a performer, she refreshingly cut through the cant, saying that the questions she was asking herself were: “How does this serve me? How does this serve my people?” In a similar vein, Henning “Colt” Schäfer shooting from the hip in the panel discussion on “Future tasks and Challenges for Cultural and Literary Studies,” spoke as the elected mouthpiece of a native Canadian, who was quietly but confidently determined to place world peace in the safe keeping of – the Germans.

Another highlight:

Mike Phillips, whose presence framed the first day, not to mention the whole of the rest of the conference started with an invigoratingly upbeat keynote, in which he quietly but authoritatively staked his claim to be considered a British, or English, writer plain and simple. Among many arresting formulations, his address included this gloss on the immigration experience: “It doesn’t start with arrival.” And then he rounded off the evening’s reading, with his inimitable and highly instructive performance of an uproarious vignette (commissioned by the British Council), of a West Indian who couldn’t play cricket [sic!] winning a match against a scratch British Embassy side, in – wait for it: Warsaw. Transcultural high-jinks of the first order.

Further highlights:

--- Karen King-Aribisala’s enchanting enactment of a storm in a teacup, viewed from the point of view of the demerara sugar added in an English drawing-room – a bitter-sweet drama beguilingly and movingly performed, with a little help from a besotted audience that had first been primed with gentle persuasion to let itself be wound round the author’s elegantly raised tea-stirring finger.

--- Tabish Khair’s beneficent and courteous omnipresence as writer, reader, academic, elegant epigrammist, incisive intervenor, contributor of always pertinent but never impertinent squibs from the floor.

--- Miriam Sivan’s candour in expressing her unease at wearing – like most of her fellow-panellists – the twin hats of writer and academic. Around her university colleagues, she said, she felt “like a spy in the house.”

--- The revelation elicited from keynote-speaker Gisela Welz by a down-to-earth query from the floor to the effect that somewhere along the line, anthropologists from non-European countries have been encouraged to study the more arcane cultural practices of their host countries, examining for instance the mores of dog-owners in the Federal Republic. The fact that such a notion calls forth hilarity is telling indeed. We still find it – at least statistically – normal for the object of investigation to be “the other”. Eurocentricity is alive and well, and living even in all those of us who consciously condemn it. This almost incidental sidelight was a powerful and salutary reminder that the “trans” process can and should work both ways.

--- The conference dinner – served with subtle symbolism on a sort of houseboat permanently moored to the shore, at a point on the River Main where traders shipping their barges downstream from neighbouring Frankfurt had exorbitant taxes imposed on them by the canny people of Höchst. When the river-borne chef’s ice-

cream miracle appeared from nowhere – in a brief but hectic space-warp, German rather than Anglo-Saxon queuing practices prevailed and the “heiße Schlacht am kalten Buffet” took its inexorable course.

Appropriately, perhaps, the conference finished or ended, rather than closing. The final panel – on “Transculturality and the Future of Colonial Studies” – overran its allotted time, not least because of the somewhat heated commitment of two of the platform speakers. With almost uncanny symbolism, the speaker at the extreme left and the speaker at the extreme right articulated radically opposing views as to whether enterprises such as ours (a) unconsciously but inevitably serve the cause of capitalist globalisation and thereby at least connive in the mass deaths of undernourished African children or (b) promote a more just, liberal humane view of society which will ultimately lead to more just, liberal and human treatment of the disempowered.

On the verge of acrimony, the debate then broke up and a symbolic handshake between the two adversaries restored civility. This, it seemed to me, was an indication that our Association is indeed in sound health – despite some fears expressed to the contrary, there is no danger of any homogenization of standpoint being imposed; on the evidence of this conference, reasoned debate between opposing positions is what rules. Long may it continue to do so.

Half a dozen epiphanies; one agreement to differ – not bad going for a five-day conference.

Peter H. Marsden (Aachen)

Student Report
“Transcultural English Studies”
16th GNEL/ASNEL Annual Conference
J.W. Goethe University, Frankfurt a.M., 19-23 May 2004

As a student at the University of Zürich, about to finish my degree in English literature and linguistics and writing on Indian-English/American Literature, I felt that the opportunity of going to a conference of Transcultural English Studies should definitely not be missed. A friend of mine had drawn my attention to the conference and proposed that we should go to Frankfurt together.

We packed our bags and took the train to Frankfurt, where we stayed at a hotel on Kaiserstrasse, which was not recommended by ASNEL, but we still chose it, since it was cheap and close to the main station. We arrived on Wednesday night and only realised in what kind of kind of a neighbourhood we were in when we walked to the underground station in the morning (carrying all our valuables since it was not recommended to leave them in the hotel).

The area around the Goethe University impressed us with its peace and beauty and we could not wait to get to the University itself. The building impressed us with its size and its appearance reminded us of a hospital (which many other international participants then confirmed), but once we got through the main building, the wonderful cafeteria and the garden won our hearts and we enthusiastically followed the (very well-positioned) signs to the registration office. The welcoming atmosphere and the international faces we saw immediately won our hearts and motivated us to use the opportunity to learn as much as we could about transculturality and the state of the art in the relevant theories and research.

Mike Phillips held a most interesting keynote lecture focusing on the main aspects of transcultural transformation in Europe. Especially his point of how aspects of globalisation and migration have altered beliefs and attitudes towards identity, culture and nationality within the arts drew the audience’s attention to fundamental aspects of theories of transculturalism, hybridity and identity. These aspects were then recapitulated and analysed more thoroughly in the different thematic sections and panels.

After the plenary lectures, I had to decide which presentations I wanted to see. Having never been at such a conference, I faced the difficulty of choosing amongst many interesting subjects and theoretical approaches. I later realised that those presentations which interested me most were always held at the same times. However, I managed to get in touch with the people whose presentations I missed and they were so kind to send me their papers, which again is a proof for the international connectedness and solidarity which exists in the arts. I was very struck by everyone’s readiness to help others profit from their knowledge. As a student, I found this opportunity to read about contemporary research, (which in some cases has not even been published yet) one that I definitely would not want to miss.

The readings held in the evening (Ramabai Espinet, Miriam Sivan and Mike Phillips) were a welcome change from the theoretical presentations during the day, despite the unfortunate acoustics. However, the new insights the audience gained through hearing the authors read their own texts, were very valuable, especially since one does not often get the chance of seeing the authors themselves read their books, using their own interpretative voices and “authentic” ideas of how their books should be read.

What I enjoyed very much beside the presentations, were the discussions either after the presentations or in the plenary forums. These discussions offered new perspectives, namely those of people from all over the world. We all know how risky it is to interpret international literatures on our own terms, and the discussions opened up new spaces of interpretation, be they about theory or literature.

It was quite difficult to come to grips with the plenary discussion on Friday: because the participants came from several different fields of research and from very different backgrounds in terms of literature and theory it seemed problematic to hold a discussion in which everyone could participate. It could have been more effective to have plenary discussions in different subject matters in order to have the speakers be more precise about their concerns without undermining other positions which have not much to do with their own research projects.

The Conference Dinner on Friday evening offered enriching opportunities of discussion and contact and I met many interesting people, coming from different countries and areas of research. I enjoyed discussing the subjects touched on at the conference itself as well as diverse other topics. Sometimes, I felt quite inferior since I am “only” a student and not doing a PhD yet, but seeing all these ambitious and committed people, I found a lot of motivation to continue working in the area of transcultural literatures, even though I had some difficulty following some of the presentations. However, I am absolutely convinced that these difficulties will disappear very soon.

On Saturday, the sessions we had planned to sit in on, were unfortunately cancelled. Therefore, we spent the entire day sightseeing in Frankfurt. In the evening, the Wasafiri night again offered insights into the New Literatures in English and an opportunity to meet the authors themselves. I was very happy to see Zoe Wicomb again, who had already visited the English Seminar in Zürich about two years ago and read in a South African Writing colloquium which I attended.

I am very thankful for the experience of attending the conference and am sure that I will attend next year’s meeting again, since the palette of subjects presented was overwhelming and very impressive. I was able to learn of new theories I had not heard of thus far and to meet many helpful people who work in the same area of research as I do at the moment.

We left Frankfurt on Sunday morning, on the one hand, happy not to have to listen to many more presentations, since those we had heard had been rather complex, while on the other, we were full of new and inspiring ideas for our own research and further work.

Katarina Burzynski (Zürich)

LEHRVERANSTALTUNGEN IM SOMMERSEMESTER 2004

[zusammengestellt aus *AREAS - Annual Report on English and American Studies*,
Band 26 (2004) sowie aus Zusendungen von Mitgliedern der GNEL]

Deutschland

AACHEN

Davis	Australian Aboriginal Writing and Culture
---	Landeskunde Western Australia
Davis/Marsden	The World Encompass'd or a Tour through the Whole Empire
---	Introductory Course Tutorial (Post-Colonial Literature)
Griffig	World Englishes
Marsden	Pacific Poetry: Australia, New Zealand, Polynesia

AUGSBURG

Christ	Postcolonial Literature
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BAMBERG

Jansohn	Paphos, Politics and Poetry: Cyprus in British Literature and Culture
Ramisch	International Varieties of English

BAYREUTH

Breitinger	A Survey of African and Caribbean Writing
---	Postcolonial Theatre and Film: Theoretical Approaches and Performance Practice
Schmidt	Passages from India: Literature and Culture of the Indian Diaspora

BERLIN, FU

Hartung	Einführung in die Interpretation: Roman – Salman Rushdie
Leitner	Australia's Language Habitat
---	Standard Varieties of English Worldwide
---	Pidgin and Creoles
West/Carter	Postcolonial Performativity: Project-Seminar "What is your name?"

BERLIN, HU

Dietze	Postkoloniale Theorie und Gender Studies
Gehrmann	Einführung in das Studium der afrikanischen Literaturen (SP Wole Soyinka)

Lucko	English as a Global Language
Matzke	Einführung in das Studium der afrikanischen Literaturen (anglophones West- und Ostafrika)
---	Konflikt und Konfliktbewältigung in Literatur und Theater Eritreas und Äthiopiens
Quay	Passages to India in 20 th Century Fiction
Veit-Wild/Auga	Die Literatur J.M. Coetzees: Eine Verweigerung des nationalen Kulturauftrages in Südafrika?
Veit-Wild	Methoden und Konzepte zur Analyse afrikanischer Literatur
BIELEFELD	
Buchwald	Introduction to the Study of Literature in English
Fleischmann	Palestine under British Rule
Kunze	John M. Coetzee
Meinig	Introduction to the Study of Literature in English
BOCHUM	
Freitag	Theories of Culture: Transnationalism or „Art of Pariahs“
Niederhoff	Recent Historical Novels from Canada
BONN	
N.N.	New English Literatures
Kreutzer	Postkoloniales Kolloquium
Schneider	Englises around the World
Sielke	Body, Border, Nation: North American Studies as Comparative Studies
Sielke/Reger	Canadian Short Stories in English
BRAUNSCHWEIG	
Glaser	New English Literatures
---	Contemporary Canadian Fiction
Gnutzmann	The Globalisation of English: Intercultural, Sociolinguistic and Educational Perspectives
BREMEN	
Barrow	Anglo-British Slavery till 1834
---	South Africa till 1902
Bechtloff	Das britische Weltreich: Von Elisabeth I zu Victoria
Broeck	Criss-crossing the Atlantic: Transatlantic Topics in Contemporary North American and British Novels
Febel/Broeck/ McPherson	Postcolonial Images – Postkoloniale Bilder im Film in Zusammenarbeit mit Kino 46
Hoerder	Nordamerika heute: Probleme und Perspektiven
---	Regionen und social spaces in Kanada: Vom Nationalstaatskonstrukt zu Erfahrungswelten
---	Überblick zur Geschichte Nordamerikas: Industrienation und Weltmacht, 1870er – 1990er Jahre

Schaffeld	Canadian Women Playwrights
Starck	Margaret Atwood's Short Stories
Ueckmann	Reiseliteratur und Globalisierung
CHEMNITZ	
Schmied	English in Africa
DORTMUND	
Bell	Project Design and Evaluation: Australia/New Zealand
DRESDEN	
Lange	New Englishes
Georgi-Findlay	Introduction to North American Cultural Studies
---	Early North American Culture
N.N.	Canadian Studies
Raji	Postcolonial Identities in African Prose Narratives
DÜSSELDORF	
Kern-Stähler	Constructions of Home in the New English Literatures
---	Postcolonial Literature in the EFL Classroom
Stierstorfer	Negotiations of Fundamentalism in Literatures in English
DUISBURG	
Gurr	Three Contemporary Novelists: Zadie Smith (<i>White Teeth</i>), Julian Barnes (<i>Flaubert's Parrot</i>), Ian McEwan (<i>Enduring Love</i>)
Maksymiuk	An Introduction to the History and Culture of Canada
EICHSTÄTT	
Glaser	New English Literatures: Major Developments/Important Writers
ERFURT	
Neumann	Empire and Imperialism in English Literature
ERLANGEN	
Binder	Caribbean Literature and Culture since the 1980s
Meindl	Nordamerikanische Dystopien: Coover, Atwood, u.a.
Späth	Afrika im englischen Unterhaltungsroman
ESSEN	
Davis	Australian Aboriginal Literature and Culture
Drawe	"From Johannesburg to Jozi": South Africa's City of Gold
Hickey	The English Language in North America
Lehmann	Liberation & Liberalism: South African Novels in the Apartheid State
Lehman/ Reckwitz	Kolloquium Südafrika
Ndeh	The Rise of the African Novel in English

Paulick Aotearoa – Land of the Long White Cloud
 Siebers African Varieties of English

FLENSBURG

Parker International Varieties of English

FRANKFURT/M

Brancato Transcultural Performance Poetry in Britain and the Caribbean
 Helff Where is Home? Transcultural Voices from the Caribbean
 Migge Creole Studies
 Schulze-Engler Introduction to Anglophone African Literature
 --- Stereotypes, Dreams, Self-Assertions: Aborigines in Australian Literature
 --- Literature and Empire (II): Colonial Romance and Adventure
 --- Margaret Laurence: The Manawaka Cycle
 Solmecke Englisch als Weltsprache, das Normenproblem und das Interkulturelle Lernen im Fremdsprachenunterricht

FREIBURG

Hochbruck Cultural Life in the Canadian Maritime Provinces

GIEßEN

Colavincenzo ‘You Can Study It If You Want’: Canadian Poets on Theory, Inspiration, and the Life of Poetry
 Collier Fictions of the Black Diaspora (Tony Morrison, Caryl Phillips and others)
 Horstmann Schreiben in Südafrika: J.M. Coetzee
 Mukherjee English in the World and World Englishness
 Oakley Australia: An Introduction

GREIFSWALD

Koll-Stobbe World Englishes: Language, Dialect, Register
 Lowry Contemporary/Postmodern Canadian Writing
 --- Canadian Multiculturalism and Racialized Writing
 Susemihl Jewish Canadian Writing
 Vanderbeke/ Düring ‘And never the twain shall meet’: Phantastische Literatur in Osteuropa und den anglophonen Ländern

HALLE-WITTENBERG

Kindermann Literature of the Black Diaspora

HAMBURG

Siemund Varieties of English
 --- Variation Within and Across Varieties of English

HANNOVER

Bettinger Black British Writing

Czypull The British Empire from 1875-1918
Pishwa Englishes of the World

HEIDELBERG

Fischer-Hornung Gardens, Culture, and Civilization: Leslie Marmon Silko's
Gardens in the Dunes, V.S. Naipaul's *Enigma of Arrival* and
Jamaica Kincaid's *My Garden*
Beste "Quiet as it's kept" – Female Voices in African and American
Writing

JENA

O'Regan Mapping Individual, Cultural and National Identities in
Contemporary Canadian Literature
--- The Search for Identities in Canadian Aboriginal Literatures

KARLSRUHE, PH

Altendorf English as a World Language – An Introduction to National
Varieties of English around the World

KASSEL

Wallmannsberger Varieties of English

KIEL

Bünsch K. Mansfield
Groß North American Colonial Literature and Culture
--- Ecocriticism in North America
--- A German Novelist in Canada: Felix Paul Greve/Frederick
Philip Grove
Kunze Varieties of English
Labrie Sprachenpolitik in Kanada
N.N. Nordamerikanische Literatur

KOBLENZ-LANDAU

Gohrbandt Introduction to British and Postcolonial Cultural Studies
Pütz World Englishes: English as a Global Language
Smieja Getting to Know the Places Where English is Spoken
Uebel Canada: Diversity and Unity

KÖLN

Antor African Fiction in English
--- The Canadian Short Story
Bölling Native North American Literature
--- The Great Depression in American and Canadian Literature

KONSTANZ

Nischik The Canadian Artist Story and Gender: Alice Munro and John
Metcalf

- Margaret Atwood's Prose Poetry and Short Fiction
 --- Multiculturalism and North American Literature
 Reif-Hülser South African Literature – From a Post-Colonial Perspective

LEIPZIG

- Berndt Contemporary African Women Writers
 Dannenberg Postcolonial Narratives in English
 --- Mapping Time, Space and Identity in the Colonial and Post-colonial Novel
 Lörscher English Around the World
 Tomic Cultures in the English-Speaking World

MAGDEBURG

- Ebeling World Englishes
 Lange Introduction to Postcolonial Studies
 Martini South African Literature

MAINZ

- Gernalzick The Canadian North
 Nagel English Colonialism and Colonial Englishes
 Simons Culture Studies (Canada)

Mainz, Germersheim

- Rüttgers Britische Kolonialgeschichte in Indien, Birma und Malaysia vor dem Hintergrund des Romans *The Glass Palace* von Amitav Ghosh
 Stoll Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *Matigari*
 --- Cyprian Ekwensi, *Jagua Nana*

MANNHEIM

- Bach Canadian Authors: Findley, Atwood, van Herk
 Degenring/Stear Transnational Identities in Contemporary British and German Literature

MARBURG

- Handke Varieties of English
 Heuser Canada from Sea to Sea to Sea
 Kuester Nineteenth-Century Novels from Britain and Canada
 Quennet The Jewish Short Story in England, Canada and the US

MÜNCHEN

- Clemm Kiwi, Sheep and Maoritanga: New Zealand in a Literary, Political and Historical Context
 Falkner Varieties of English
 Janney Postcolonial Pragmatics
 Kirchhofer The Nigerian Novel

Sanchez	International Trade and Development with Reference to North America and the Caribbean
Schabert	Der Mensch als geschichtenerzählendes Wesen (Texte v. Isak Dinesen, Graham Swift und Salman Rushdie)
Sedlak	Canadian Women Authors in Context: M. Laurence, A. Munro, M. Atwood
Stummer	New Zealand
---	Features of Canadianness – Advanced Comprehension Exercises
---	The Pacific Rim with Special Emphasis on Australia and New Zealand
Zwingenberger	Civil Society in den USA und Kanada

MÜNSTER

Brack	Immigration and Racism in Great Britain
Gohrisch	Caribbean and African Appropriations of English Classics
Nowak	Salman Rushdie (<i>Midnight's Children, The Satanic Verses, The Moor's Last Sigh, Imaginary Homelands: Essays and Criticism 1981-1991</i>)
Traxel	Varieties of Standard English around the World

OLDENBURG

Dauids	The Atlantic: History and Meaning
Duncan	South Africa: Apartheid and After
Hillgärtner	J.M. Coetzee, <i>Disgrace</i>

OSNABRÜCK

Asu	English-Speaking Africa
Husemann	History of the English Novel: Waterhouse (1959) to Rushdie (1980)
Husemann/ Horstmann	Africa in British Novels
Karrer	Post Colonial Studies and the Imperial Romance
Markmann	Carving a Future out of the Past: Witi Ihimaera and Patricia Grace
---	Australian Short Fiction
---	The Issue of Land in the New Literatures in English
---	Canadian Writers: The Manawaka World of Margaret Laurence

PADERBORN

Poschen	Pidgins and Creoles
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PASSAU

Pankatz	The Construction of Britain on TV: <i>Blackadder, The Office, The Kumars</i>
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POTSDAM

Stein	Colonial History – Postcolonial Fiction
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--- Between Worlds: Edward Said's Cultural and Literary Theory
West Research Forum Postcolonial and Transcultural Studies

ROSTOCK

Ramin Major National Varieties of English
Susemihl The Canadian North

SAARBRÜCKEN

Alexander South African Drama
Ghosh-Schellhorn TAS Survey: Polycultural North America
--- Anglophone Indian Drama
--- Transculturality and Virtual Communities
Martens Canadian Prairie Literature
Martens/Morris Canadian and American Perspectives on Selected North
American Writers
v. Lutz Colonialism and After
--- Englishness and Multi-Cultural Britain
Zehle 'Crisis Media and the Politics of Humanitarianism' – An Intro-
duction to Transcultural Media Studies

SIEGEN

Thomsen Recent British and American Novels by Ian McEwan and
Margaret Atwood
Waegner Narrative Strategies: Hemingway vs. Faulkner; and what about
Coetzee?

STUTTGART

Alexiadou English-based Creoles and Varieties of English
Michel Landeskunde Südafrika

TRIER

Kloob Discovering/Exploring the Arctic in English-Canadian Fiction
Platz Australian Short Stories
N.N. Culture Studies (Kanada)

TÜBINGEN

Harvie The British Empire: Zenith and Decline
Stilz/Trossbach J.M. Coetzee, Apartheid and the South African Novel

WÜRZBURG

Ikas Identity and Transgression in English Colonial Literature
Merkl Canadian Identity in the EFL Teaching Material

WUPPERTAL

Foskett Varieties of English
Swann Post-Colonial Literature

Österreich

GRAZ

- Devine SE in Anglophone Cultures: Feminist Documentary Films
 Szaffkó Postcolonial Drama and Theatre
 Wilson 'Imagining Indians'

INNSBRUCK

- Klein 'The Great Unwritten Story': Mothers and Daughters in Canadian Short Fiction
 Markus Varieties of English Worldwide
 Ramsey-Kurz The Postcolonial Novel
 Zach Colonialism and English Literature: Victorianism to Modernism

KLAGENFURT

- Cranston The Aussie Body in the Text
 --- Screening the Nation: Australian Films and Discourses of Identity
 --- Grass-Roots Australian Literature
 James English Pidgins and Creoles
 Wildburger/Tschachler Survey of Anglophone Cultures

SALZBURG

- Bachinger Desirable Body: US/CanCulture of Consumption
 Crimmel Aspects of Anglophone Civilizations: The Wilderness as a Cultural Concept
 Grosser Globalizing English: Changes and Trends in Modern English
 Kaltenbacher Aspects of Anglophone Civilizations: Corpuslinguistics. Cultural Identities on www
 Steiner Contemporary American and South African Poetry

WIEN

- Landesmann/Aibara Indian Women: Local and Global Identities
 Mengel Cultures in Contact: The Novels of Chinua Achebe
 Reichl Introduction to the Study of Literature in English
 Zacharasiewicz Canadian Narratives since WWII
 --- Satire in Anglophone Literatures

PUBLIKATIONEN

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AACHEN

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Forschungsergebnisse



Caroline Berg, „Inszenierungen kultureller Identität in ausgewählten britisch-indischen Gegenwartsromanen“, Magisterarbeit, Frankfurt am Main 2004, (Prof. Frank Schulze-Engler).

I believe in Hindu philosophy
I am not religious
I am a pacifist
I am a British Asian

My identity and my history are
Defined only by myself – beyond
Politics, beyond nationality,
beyond religion and beyond skin.

(Nitin Sawhney 1999)

Globalisation has changed our world at many different levels. We live in a constantly changing world dominated by concepts of globalisation, migration processes, identity, culture, fragmentation and homogenisation. The public discussion mainly concerns the economic and national impact of globalisation. There are, however, other much ignored aspects that are also influenced by it.

My thesis discusses how culture, especially literature, is influenced by the impact of globalisation. An analysis of three novels and their protagonists supports the discussion: Meera Syal's *Life isn't all ha ha hee hee* (1999), and Atima Srivastava's *Transmission* (1992) and *Looking for Maya* (1999). Both writers put the lives of their Indian origin protagonists in a cosmopolitan environment of a metropolis like London. The analysis reviews how the protagonists see themselves in different situations. Does their behaviour adapt to the situation or is it something static? How are the protagonists seen, especially in terms of their Indian families and background, within a White British environment? The most important questions boil down to identity. But what is identity? What is cultural identity? How do the protagonists define their identity?

The term Black British can not be valid for all authors of minority communities because it is too static. For those of Asian origin, it is seen mainly as a political momentum and is not strongly associated with their skin colour. Therefore it becomes imperative to look for new differentiating categories. The currency of globalisation adds a new dimension in this debate which is about the “third room”. The old parameters of heterogeneity and homogeneity, as well as geographical borders and spaces, are changing or are dissolved. New space and time conceptions go hand in hand with globalisation, and many areas of daily life are influenced by it. New networks become reality which create an even larger field of experience. These changes are reflected in Humanities as one can observe the field of English Literature transforming into Cultural Studies.

Since the term Black British and other such traditional terms are not adequate anymore the concept of transculturality assumes much importance. Also the terms multiculturalism and interculturality are not accurate enough in the context of

globalisation. These terms are too static and impermeable, and they reflect an “either-or” perspective rather than an “as well as” view. Transculturality proposes that individuals are influenced by many different origins and interactions, which make them into patchwork individuals with more than one home. There is no ‘authenticity’ anymore.

The key concepts in Literary Studies in the wake of the globalisation are hybridity, transculturality as well as transnationality. The traditional concepts in Literary Studies with their rigid definitions need to be replaced by a new definition of literatures where the importance lies in the dissolution or blurring of borders. There is a pressing need for new parameters in the interpretation of cultures and nations. New terms like transculturality or transnationality do not exclude the older terms such as Black British or Asian-British (“either – or”), instead they unite many different definitions or categories in itself (“as well as”).

Identity and culture are not entities anymore but are multilayered and fragmented. Identity comprises a dynamic multi-layered process which is never complete. Recognising a state of flux in culture and identity makes the concept transculturality inevitable. Contrary to common fears related to globalisation, transculturality does not view identities and culture being against each other or next to each other, but being together and being mixed. This doesn’t mean that there is homogeneity of cultures or identities.

In the three novels the search for identity of the protagonists is no longer about the question to decide which identity to choose, but more about (re)combining the elements and adapting to the situation.

Authors of the second and third generation of Indian immigrants can not be seen as a homogenous group. The notion of ‘the immigrant’ of Indian origin does not hold fast. To the extent that literatures nowadays develop themselves to hybrid mixed products, transcultural new creations and transnational network of connections, identities also creates themselves new according to the context. Therefore the concept of cultural identity needs to be extended with the prefix trans. Because our society is made multilayered by various different influences that every individual experiences and therefore chooses differently, the individual has the possibility to construct identity according to the situation. Identity does not stay unchanged for a whole lifetime but is in a state of permanent redefinition.

Cosima Wittmann, “Crossing Borders: Representations of Burgher Culture in Literature from and about Sri Lanka”, Magisterarbeit, Frankfurt am Main 2003 (Prof. Frank Schulze-Engler)

The Burghers of Sri Lanka are an ethnically and culturally mixed population situated in an ambiguous space between multiple dominant discourses. Descendants of relationships between members of the erstwhile colonising nations, Portuguese, Dutch and English, and the indigenous population Sinhalese or Tamil, their origins lie only a few centuries back; the period of contact lasting approximately 450 years. Visibly different, they developed an ethnic and cultural awareness as a distinct group situated somewhere between the other cultures. In Dutch and later in British colonial times, the

discourse of the European powers came from the one side of the cultural border, while the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority together constituted the indigenous discourse from the other side. The Burghers therefore had to define themselves in contrast to both the European and Ceylonese cultures, but identified strongly with the former. After independence, the situation and the cultural borders changed, so that the dominant discourses now came from an indigenous majority and minority population while the Burghers took the position of the alien, ‘mixed’ culture in between. Consequently, in “ethnic, political, and cultural terms [they] occupied not so much a homeland as a nebulous borderland; they were a liminal people, neither here nor there, fully at home only within their created Burgherhood.”¹ Thus, the community increasingly had to negotiate the narrow path between total assimilation into and total exclusion from Sri Lankan society.

With the departure of the British to whom they could never reach out socially, and with the arrival of the native gentlemen whom they could never join massively in political history, these lordly Burghers threw their creative energies into fantastic individual biographies.²

These biographies are the subject of the novels *Jam Fruit Tree* and *Yakada Yaka* by Carl Muller; *Running in the Family* by Michael Ondaatje; and *The Man-Eater of Punanai* by Christopher Ondaatje. These novels form the core of the literary analysis. Muller, an author from Sri Lanka and a member of the Burgher community, presents the inside view of Burgher culture, whereas the Ondaatje brothers’ perspective is more ambivalent. As Burghers claiming a point of view from the inside, they nevertheless write from the outside as expatriates of long standing. The literary representations show a slightly eccentric, fun-loving people, living a life of insouciance during the 1920s and 1930s, favoured by the English and negotiating cultural differences and liminality with ease. The Mexican proverb saying that “a people that loses its memory loses its destiny” can be applied to the narratives of Michael Ondaatje and Carl Muller. These narratives function as the cultural memory of the Burghers of Ceylon reminding them of their past, present and future by reconstructing out of memories the ignored histories of origin. They fulfil their function by revitalising and re-inscribing cultural specificities thereby reinstating pride in their community and hope for their survival as such.

The aim of the thesis is first of all to find out how Burgher culture can be defined, secondly to look at the way it is represented in literature and finally to discuss questions of borders and border crossings by applying border theory. This examines cultural situations and products on both sides of the Mexican-US border, originating within a transcultural dialogue between the two dominant cultural discourses. Many stereotypes about border culture, for example lack of morals especially regarding sexuality and alcohol consumption are reinforced within the novels. In spite of this, the Burghers are depicted as an empowered people whose hybridity is a site of intellectual creativity and moral possibilities.

1 Charles P. Sarvan, “Carl Muller’s Trilogy and the Burghers of Sri Lanka”, *World Literature Today* 71.3 (1997): 527-32, 530.

2 Ernest MacIntyre, “Outside of Time: *Running in the Family*”, Sam Solecki, ed., *Spider Blues: Essays on Michael Ondaatje* (Montreal: Vehicule Press, 1985): 315-19, 316.