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## Plenary lectures

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**Leo Hoyer**

### **Defining Identity: Self, Others, and Image**

Drawing primarily from the scholarship of Benedict Andersen, Edward Said, and Eric Hobsbawm, I wish to explore the dynamics of 'identity' or rather the dynamics of the 'territorialization' of identity. Identity is seen as a mesh of individual and communal processes, of being and becoming, which are driven by our senses of 'self' and the communities to which we feel we 'belong'. The paper contrasts 'Occidentalism' and 'Orientalism' and interrogates that most potent of English suffixes – the *-ism* itself. Whose *-ism*? What is 'identity'? What is the aetiology of 'belonging'?

**Sharon Millar**

### **Sex, crime and religion: the online rhetorical construction of 'new' Danes**

Working within the framework of rhetorical psychology (Billig, 1996) the paper examines the argumentative strategies used in the construction of Danish identities in the multicultural, national context, specifically that of the so-called 'new' Dane. The concept of 'new' + national label is used in various European countries, for example new Swedes, new Norwegians, new Finns, new Scots, new Dutch, new Belgians, new Germans, new Italians, but its meaning may vary depending on context. My focus will be on processes of categorisation and the contents of these categories as well as on the rhetorical concept of invention (creation of arguments) with its associated notions of enthymeme and topos.

The data consists of emails taken from a Danish online debate forum managed by internet portal SOL.dk (which is part of Eniro.com, a leading search company in the Nordic media market). The debate threads are on issues relating to immigration and integration. Such data is especially interesting as it is interactive in nature and gives us an insight into the dynamics of argumentation and the often far from politically correct realities of online discussion groups. The data reveals disagreement about the very label 'new' Dane and what it represents – immigrant, Islamic immigrant, immigrant with Danish citizenship etc. Moreover, 'new' Danishness is debated in relation to the 'other', be this 'real' Danes or 'Muslims', so what occurs is a simultaneous construction of numerous identities. Under negotiation is the idea of national identity as a fixed and unchanging inheritance, possibly available for others to adopt if certain requirements are met. Frequently occurring themes are that of crime, religion and sex/gender.

**Eve Patten**

### **The end of a 'national' literature? Reviewing the Irish canon**

This paper will analyse concepts of 'nation' and 'national' with particular reference to twentieth-century Irish and British literature (and with an emphasis on the work of W.B. Yeats), to suggest that such terms have obscured rather than clarified our understanding of literary movements in the period.

**Slávka Tomaščíková**

### **Construction of narrative identities in media discourses.**

The end of the 20th century's concern with matters of globalisation has moved the focus of media studies to the areas of the relationships among cultures, of the creation of identity, and of the establishment of symbolic power. Consequently, media studies cover the rich ground of recipients, users, consumers, audiences, viewers, readers - who approach, create, consume, or are exposed to multi-layered texts - in the context of individual or group consumption within a particular culture, society, or global perspective. This paper will examine the changing status, functions, and characteristics of British television news narrative. Narrative that had previously been viewed as rather peripheral in the context of media communication research became realm, tool, mechanism and focus for numerous researchers of the field. Its central position is endorsed and promoted by the philosophy of post-modernism. For post-modernism, narrative represents a fundamental element linking society, culture and individual. Narrative is both a mode by which knowledge is distributed to a society by its media (but not only by media) and the natural, inner structure of discourses. As such, narrative is crucial in the discourse of media primarily for the role it plays in structuring an individual's sense of reality.

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## Round tables

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### Round table 1

#### Literary Translation vs. Non-literary Translation: Past, Present or Future

For a long time translation meant and still means for a lot of people literary translation. This is what predominated on the market and in education. Today, in the age of industrialization, business and globalization the more traditional literary approaches in translation are being shifted to translation as a service in the global business environment. The result of this new direction has led to a reconsideration of translator training programmes.

Consequently, this round table will be an informal discussion on such aspects as:

- (a) translation theory and practice problems which we are dealing with at present,
- (b) envisaging such issues as: literary vs. technical translation,
- (c) the necessity of re-translation,
- (d) projects we are working at now.

### Round table 2

#### Modernity (canonicity) - canonization and the teaching of literature

Defining the relationship between modernity and canonicity (in art and literature) implies going through certain steps (difficult, quite often) when the necessity arises to acknowledge the "authority" which gives the verdict - reader, cultural journals, university, curriculum, syllabus, etc. The teaching of literature (methods and modalities), the reading (and the act of interpretation), book reviews can turn into as many stimuli / agents of canonization.

Hence, a discussion on:

- (a) Modernity - the contemporary, tradition and the canon in literature;
- (b) Critical reception and canonization;
- (c) "Classicized text" - "classified text" - "canonic" (?), "non-canon", "not-canon"
- (d) The dynamics and the revision of the categories specified above.

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## Paper abstracts

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### Anemona Alb

#### Protean Femininities: Shifting Stereotypes in 'Chick Lit'

This paper looks at the paradigmatic ways whereby the old sedimented stereotypes about femininity are now revisited and reconfigured in 'chick lit'. Samples of text extracted from novels by Candace Bushnell, Sophie Kinsella and Lauren Weisberger will be analysed within frameworks proposed by Fraser (1994) and Moi (1996).

### Natalia Alhazov

#### Male and Female Coming of Age in America (based on "Black Boy" by R. Wright and "The Color Purple" by A. Walker)

Two protagonists – male and female - find their ways to self-discovery. Identity formation is investigated tracing a black man's growing up in racist South and challenging societal oppression. A parallel study is made of a black woman's evolution from a victim to an empowered personality. Is the experience globally applicable?

## **Florentina Anghel**

### **Narrative Techniques in John Updike's *Seek My Face***

Seek My Face encloses a century of art not only in point of topic but also in point of technique. Although having as a main character an artist who speaks about his art is not an innovation, the mixture of literary and pictorial devices helps Updike create an original novel.

## **Timea Ardelean**

### **Identity and Memory in Brian Friel's Plays**

The centuries-long colonial dispossession and the huge emigration played a great role in the special relationship with place of the Irish. The quest for re-finding and re-defining self is still central in contemporary Irish drama. In my paper I intend to study how memory acts as a mediator between self and world, and how it helps in the construction of identity in Brian Friel's two plays.

## **Andrei A. Avram**

### **On the syllabification of /s/-initial consonant clusters in English**

The paper looks at the English /s/-initial consonant clusters whose syllabification is a matter of dispute in the literature. These clusters are analyzed either as tautosyllabic (Kaye 1989, Ewen and van der Hulst 2001, Gussmann 2002) or as heterosyllabic (Spencer 1996, Carr 1999, Hammond 1999, McMahon 2002). The evidence examined in the paper challenges the empirical adequacy of the tautosyllabic analysis.

## **Larisa Avram**

### **Early subjects in child English and child Romanian**

The paper addresses the problem of how children set the value of the *pro*-drop parameter from the perspective of Romanian, an Inflection-licensed null subject language, and of English, a non-null subject language. The main aim is to find an account which can best explain the growth of subjects across languages.

## **Alina-Marcela Banea**

### **The Narrative Ekphrasis – a special type of intertextuality**

The paper will focus on the aesthetics of *ekphrasis* -the meeting point of literature and visual arts, but more precisely to one of its neglected forms: the *narrative ekphrasis*. In comparison to *picturality* and *iconicity*, ekphrasis embodies the *representation itself*, sometimes opening a *revolution* of the image against the word as a common form of metanarrative. We intend to regard it as a concept foregrounding notions of relationality, interconnectedness, interdependence – in terms of Kristeva's **transposition**, Gennete's **transtextuality** or Baudrillard's "**commutability**".

## **Iulia Blănuță Milică**

### **White Identity / Black Identity. An Overview of Kate Chopin's Creole World.**

The paper aims to explore the intricate interracial relationships that are presented in Kate Chopin's Creole world. Racial relationships in the American South were, in general, problematic both before and after the Civil War and such issues as racial violence or miscegenation are evident motifs in many Southern writings. In such a context, Kate Chopin's stories set in Louisiana display an even more complicated set of relationships. The mixture of races: white, black or Indian as well as the mixture of cultures: Anglo-American, French, Spanish makes of Louisiana not only a more exotic place in the context of the American South, but also a world where boundaries are blurred and rules challenged. The short story *Desiree's Baby*, for instance, apparently deals with the strictness of rules regarding racial purity in the upper classes, but actually undermines the illusion of purity by showing how easily lines can be crossed.

## **Borbála Bökös**

### **On Mourning and (Re)membering in *Dead Man* and *Smoke Signals***

In my paper I wish to look at the processes of mourning and/or (re)membering connected to Native American experience in two contemporary, independent films: Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man* and Chris Eyre's *Smoke Signals*.

I argue that the two movies thematically engage in a Ghost Dance, an expression of both cultural and individual mourning and an attempt to restore and re-appropriate the lost cultural values. Remembering is close connected to mourning, as it occurs to repeat a past memory, to make up for a loss, to fill a void left by a trauma, to bring back what is dead. I want to interpret the movies against theories of mourning and remembering (Freud, Derrida, Bhabha, Lyotard) examining at the same time how cultural and personal remembering are interrelated and what is the role of remembering in redefining Native American identity and in ameliorating individual/communal pains.

## **Carmen-Veronica Borbély**

### **‘Whither Albion?’ Chutnificated Identities in Marina Warner’s *The Leto Bundle***

Chutnification, the cross-cultural merger of identities encrypted in the archival ‘bundle’ of Marina Warner’s narrative, appears to be the result of a transformational imagery based on four metamorphic processes. Mutating, hatching, splitting and doubling engender heterochronic and heterotopian facets of a global migrant identity that fluidly traverses and redefines frontiers.

## **Ileana Botescu Sireteanu**

### **Mapping the Unknown, Marking the Difference: Angela Carter’s Spatial Identities**

This paper investigates the spatial discourse in Angela Carter’s *The Passion of New Eve* and *The Infernal Desire Machines of Dr. Hoffman*, outlining the importance of the spatial component in identity construction. The paper also connects Carter’s fictional effort to chart a female identity whose essential trait is being different to a space whose primary feature is its being blank. Space exploration is envisaged thus as a crucial element in identity construction, whereas difference constitutes the foundation of both.

## **Elena Butoescu**

### **View Through a Frame: Wim Wenders and his American Friends**

In the present article I will consider the case of postwar German cinema in its attempt to survive after Nazism and preserve its identity, despite its intertextual engagement with Hollywood and American cinema. America was seen by the Germans both as a liberator and as a threat to their national and cultural identity. My attempt is to prove wrong the assumption according to which all cinemas outside Hollywood 'can only function and develop in its shadow,' while considering Wenders's film "The American Friend" in support of the idea that Hollywood and German cinema worked on an exchange, and not a colonising, basis.

## **Gabriela Chefneux and Liliana Hamzea**

### **Changes of frames in face-to-face and telephone conferences**

The paper presents part of an on-going CNCSIS financed project on intercultural communication in joint companies in Romania; it analyses the changes of frames in a meeting and several telephone conversations as a possible way of dealing with misunderstandings in the process of professional communication

## **Ioana-Maria Cistelecan**

### **Failure in Scott Fitzgerald’s Characters**

*Failure*, a recurrent theme in Fitzgerald’s works, will be regarded and, thus, analysed in its progression, starting with the author’s pattern in presenting his characters first as promising successes and later on as victims of their own ambitions, but above all, as men defeated by the very confidence they once had in the American dream of success. The paper will focus its interpretation on scanning *The Great Gatsby* and *Tender Is the Night*.

## **Elena Ramona Cojocaru**

### **Reading Arthur Miller: An American Experience**

Arthur Miller is mostly known as being the author of the famous play “Death of a Salesman”. At a closer look, however, we discover he has done more than that: his work is an insight into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, giving the reader the opportunity to become familiar with the social, political, and economic issues which triggered a certain pattern of thinking in America. The aim of this paper is to throw light on some of his less known plays.

## **Mircea Crăciun**

### **On the “Non-Fiction” Novel; The Case of D. Mendelsohn's “The Lost”**

By using Truman Capote's famous concoction, “the non-fiction novel”, the paper approaches the intricate relationship between self-referentiality and journalism, as well as the problem of “psychological biography”. The focus is on Mendelsohn's “The Lost”, both a testimony and a thriller-like account of an abominable family saga.

## **Ileana Cristea**

### **Non-verbal Communication during a Job Interview**

One of the most common methods of hiring people today is interviewing. And even if at first sight it may seem a simple or even an insignificant step in the complicated process of hiring employees, in the long run it proves to be of a crucial importance. It is this impact of the interview that we want to stress upon in this paper.

## **Elena Croitoru**

### **Displacement as a Cultural Process**

Displacement is part of the process of nativizing the translated text. It consists in removing or at least diminishing any overt “signs of debt to” the source culture (SC). Displacement is needed when different cultural backgrounds are brought into contact. It is the translator as negotiator who has to manage the conflict between the two cultures. The greater the diversity existing within any culture, the more difficult it is to be rendered into the TLC.

## **Dorothea Depner**

### **Beyond Nostalgia: Building Cultural Memory from the Outside**

Focussing on the novels and memoirs of Hugo Hamilton, I will demonstrate how creative reconstructions of self and of the past, decisively informed by the author’s observations of German culture and history, play an intriguing part in the shaping of cultural memory in the twenty-first century. Reconstructions of the Irish past by pariah or outsider protagonists have been an essential theme in Irish literature since the 1970s, and I suggest that exploring the Irish-German perspective will yield valuable insights into the ongoing project of ‘writing the nation’. More topically, I will argue that Hamilton’s long examination and eventual assertion of his Irish-German inheritance makes him particularly suited to address the challenges facing a pluralist and globalised Ireland. Indeed, his experience in reconciling his allegiance to two spiritual and geographical homes is highly instructive for a society that has yet to come to terms with the intricacies of integrating migrants from many different homelands.

## **Georgiana Dilă**

### **Struggling with your heart. Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible***

In the *Crucible* the tragic mode is broken down into three essential parts. The first part shows the tragic hero, John Proctor, and his constant struggle within himself to preserve his dignity. The second part shows the outward manifestation of this struggle. The third part shows the transition of the hero into an enlightened state of mind, as his conscience is clear and he is at peace with himself. The terms tragic action, tragic feeling, tragic hero, and tragic flaw are all used by Miller to help describe the three components of the tragic mode.

## **Daniela Doboş**

### **On Face and Communication**

The area of facial expression in communication is poorly researched. The paper strives to explore the extent to which our facial responses to emotional stimuli are innate. A related question is how such expressions convey meaning in conversation. The only fact that more than a century of research into the subject has made clear is that our faces are capable of betraying our feelings, but nobody quite knows how it is done.

## **Judit Dombi**

### **Plurilingual Identities – Tomorrow’s *European Citizen* sits in the classrooms of today**

This paper investigates the impact of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) on individuals’ lives. CLIL is a relatively new, but all the more prosperous language teaching policy promoted by different institutions and programmes in the European Union. The present study is a qualitative multiple case study exploring the influence of CLIL on participants’ perceptions of themselves as dual- or multi-lingual individuals. The study attempts to scrutinize how participants’ identity is shaped by CLIL, and how this type of education helped them to develop a sense of *European citizenship*.

## **Dumitru Dorobăț and Oana Macari**

### **Alternative Assessment: a Constructivist View**

The authors aim at presenting the philosophy behind alternative assessment, a means of deemphasizing the structure and formality of regular evaluation.

## **Costinela Drăgan**

### **Representations of American *Otherness* in the post-Communism Romanian travel writing**

The Romanian travel writers seem committed to theorizing what they feel most keenly, and to investigating how cultural confrontation and change impact not only on human experience itself but also on the human sciences to whose study human experience is submitted. The aims of the travel writer are of course multiple, various and changing and even on the most basic or generic level never simple. But a denominator common to the Romanian travel writers has been the aim, on the level of experience, to get as close as possible to the other, the exotic, the different as subject; then to try to make sense of this object by grasping the deeper epistemic (mythological or semiotic) principles shaping the cultural and meaning structures of the other as a social or ethnic group; and finally to relay or communicate the message of both their experience and, where applicable, their grasp, in theoretical, individual or fictional terms, of the other to their own group.

## **Irina Drobot**

### **Indian English: Phonological Features**

The aim of the paper is to present phonological features of Indian English, a variety of New English. I will examine features of the sound system, characteristics of stress, rhythm, intonation, phonological processes. The way in which the accent and characteristics differ from standard, RP English, will be pointed out.

## **Gabriela Dumbravă**

### **The American South between Quotation Marks (?): Regional Identity in the Context of Globalization**

The survival of the American South as a distinct cultural space basically relies on successive resurrections of its mythology, which more often than not obscures history and fosters stereotypical perceptions constantly substantiated by the North – South antagonism. The paper proposes an approach to this historic tension by projecting it against the more complex background of globalism, which adds a new vector to the need of self – construction in relation with otherness. By using samples of contemporary Southern prose, as well as interviews conducted by the author with Southern writers and scholars in Southern Studies, the paper is an attempt to outline the way in which the most controversial American space re – assesses itself in a larger, and equally controversial context of the post – modern world of globalization.

## **Antoanela Dumitrașcu**

### **On Translating Collocations**

When confronted with the translation of collocations, the translators’ task to appropriately transfer such lexical structures from a given SLC into a TLC is by no means “a piece of cake”. The cultural specificity and the formal restrictions characterizing such lexical patterns are elements which favour their misuse by non-native speakers and their mistranslation by translators who are not so well trained. The appropriate translation of collocations largely depends on the translator’s ability to recognize language such fixed lexical patterns in the

SLT and to transfer them in the TLT by using structures which are formally, semantically and culturally equivalent to the to those used in the SLT.

## **Denisa Dumitrașcu**

### **Society and Power in Jonathan Coe's Novel *The Rotters' Club***

This paper looks at the intricate social power relations in Britain, in the 70s, as they are rendered by Jonathan Coe in his novel "The Rotters' Club", in a world in which where the trade unions dominated the scenery and accepting "the other" was still a pioneering attitude.

## **Andrada Fătu-Tutoveanu**

### **Identity and Exoticism: Opium Experiences in the Perspective of 19<sup>th</sup> Century European Travellers to the Far East**

The present study deals with a series of 19<sup>th</sup> century European writings (fictional or not) on the theme of opium use, as a result of the voyages the authors took to the Far East. In this context, the analysis also focuses on the development of European representations/stereotypes around the image of the Other.

## **Ana-Maria Florescu**

### **Council of Europe Tools & Documents in Use**

The presentation will show how some of the Council of Europe documents and tools, which are related to the study and teaching of languages, are integrated and used in the English language practical courses

## **Eva Forintos**

### **The Status of the Hungarian as a Community Language in Australia: The Private Sphere vs. The Public Sphere**

The present study is based on sociolinguistic research, which discusses the situation of the Hungarian as a community language in Australia. The aim of the study is to investigate the language use of the community in informal encounters, in inner domains and in public sphere in order to provide valuable insight into the functions and status of the Hungarian language in Australia where the environment or contact language is English.

## **Crenguța Gânscă**

### **The Obsession of Identity in Andrei Makine's novels**

Andrei Makine is considered now one of the best novelists of the beginning of the 21st century, and one of the most successful. Born in 1957 in the Soviet Siberia, master of arts in Moscow and Paris, immigrant in the Western Europe since 1987, then settled down in France, Andrei Makine is perpetuating the literary tradition of the unrivalled Russian prose writers, but he has very soon gained recognition, in spite of his youth, as one of the most famous and profound contemporary French writers. Like any other exiled writer, Makine had to struggle first for getting an identity. So, it is not surprising at all that the identity problem is recurrent, maybe even obsessive in Andrei Makine's novels, his characters being always on a long journey to find out who they really are.

## **Anamaria Ramona Gellert**

### **The Wife of Bath's Identity as Constructed by Fifteenth-century Editors of the *Canterbury Tales***

In discussing the relationship between text and image in the extant manuscripts of the *Canterbury Tales*, scholars have often argued for or against the fidelity of the miniatures to Chaucer's description of the pilgrims in the *General Prologue*. While acknowledging the importance of establishing to what extent the visual representations of the pilgrims contain conventional elements and in what degree they reflect original features present in the text, this paper will analyse the relationship between text and image in the *Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* from a perspective which takes into account a fundamental dimension of the history of books pointed out by such scholars as Donald McKenzie and Roger Chartier: the fact that "new readers make new texts, and their new meanings are a function of their new forms" (D. F. McKenzie). As is known, the *Wife of Bath's Prologue* represents one of the most richly glossed sections of the *Canterbury Tales*. In the Huntington

Library MS El.26.C.9 (c. 1400-1410), the verbal glosses to the *Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* are accompanied and completed by the Wife of Bath's picture which, I intend to argue, functions as a visual gloss and reflects the editor's biased reading of her *Prologue* and *Tale*. The function of a visual non-verbal gloss is also present in her miniature which appears in the Cambridge University Library MS Gg.4.27 (c. 1400-1420). By extending the analysis of the Wife of Bath's iconographic representation from the above mentioned codices to Caxton's 1484 illustrated edition of the *Canterbury Tales* I also intend to demonstrate that her representation has undergone important changes during the fifteenth century which reflect the editors' manipulation of her image and inevitably influence the new readers' interpretation of the text.

## **Raluca Mihaela Ghentulescu**

### **An Anatomy of Power: Women in Tracy Chevalier's Fiction**

The aim of this paper is to present Tracy Chevalier's perspective on the female body as a product of visual culture, both socially constructed and culturally mediated. Connoted as an instrument of power, woman's anatomy is seen both as a producer of artistic images (in painting, sculpture and tapestry) and as a shifting icon throughout time.

## **Eric Gilder and Clementina Mihăilescu**

### **Dag Hammarskjöld's *Markings* as a Public Text of Private Christian Piety**

The (in)famous posthumously published *Markings* of Swedish diplomat and UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld "marked" the at once very public diplomatic personality and yet very private man. We will locate in the multivocal (via a contested translation edited by W. H. Auden) English text the core and superordinal constructs of this elusive "implied author."

## **Saddik Gouhar**

### **Narrating the female subaltern in contemporary Arabic Novel**

The paper argues that in contemporary Arabic novels by male authors, the female subaltern is either silenced or marginalized or allowed to enter the fictional text as an embodiment of male fears and sexual fantasies. Displaced as a female Other and assigned a status of inferiority conforming to her image in a patriarchal / masculine culture, she is frequently reduced to an object against which male superiority and refined sensibility are formed. The paper emphasizes that the female self in masculine Arabic fiction is constructed as a non-entity, subjugated by the roles of a backward culture and a religious dogma that conflates her with a status of inferiority and debasement. The paper illustrates that the negative representation of the female in Arabic novel is deeply rooted in fundamental Islamic traditions and discourses of female subjugation embedded in Arabic folklore and *A Thousand Nights and One Night* narratives.

## **Anca Greere**

### **LANQUA- European Language Network for Quality Assurance**

*LanQua* is a European Language Network of 63 partners from 31 countries. The network aims to produce a European quality benchmark for the area of languages, which will enable institutions and stakeholders to assure and enhance the quality of provision in higher education. This paper intends to present an overview of the project with its 5 main areas of analysis: *Intercultural Communication, Language Teacher Education, Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), Language and Culture, and Language Learning*. We will indicate the steps envisaged towards producing the Toolkit and the progress that has been made so far.

## **Bianca Han**

### **Translator identity**

The paper focuses on the issue of the identity of the one courageous and daring enough to venture in the very demanding job of translation. We will try to provide enough arguments to underline how important and challenging the job of a translator is, how he is caught, somehow, between the source text and the target text, between the faithfulness to the sense or to the form, thus being a "slave of two masters".

## **Ramona Hosu**

### **Poetry, (Anti)elitism and Public Discourse**

In the 1930s, many progressive poets declared their commitment to the social, cultural and political life of their time and designed their poems as social satires, closely intertwined with public discourse, meant to make their subjects virtually invest in textual power. Consequently, such poems addressed not only individuals, but also groups that were dealing with problems of identity.

## **Olga Iliashenko**

### **Translation brings the world together**

The presentation deals with translation both as an interdisciplinary theory and practical activity across cultures, mentalities, not only languages. Main attention is paid to translation as a regulated process. Rules (used at ASM) are suggested to demonstrate that “the only difference between an ordinary translation and an extraordinary one is this little *extra*.”

## **Diana Ionescu**

### **Inferencing – a keyword in the study of pragmatics**

The present paper draws upon several types of INFERENCING, namely entailment, presupposition and implicature, as well as the meaningful silence. It thus aims to highlight the centrality of this complex process in any pragmatic approach. The concrete examples of inferencing are provided by some postmodernist plays, written by Harold Pinter.

## **Eliana Ionoaia**

### **The Perpetual Iran – An Othering of the Gendered National Self in Iranian Women’s Memoirs**

Azar Nafisi, Farah Pahlavi and Shirin Ebadi are three Iranian women who – after 1979 – endured hardships and underwent changes professionally and individually; their freedom was abolished and the veil was imposed on them. They were stripped of their functions. While declaring themselves Iranian, they assert their identities by undermining the regime.

## **Silvia Irimiea**

### **Text Quality. The evaluation of functional texts**

The study looks at some approaches to text quality trying to assess their reliability and usefulness for teaching purposes. The study goes out from text functions and reviews evaluation methods for functional texts. It further tackles the difficulties involved in quality assessment and, finally, conveys the author’s *empirical and reconciling views* on the quality of *functional texts*.

## **Dragoş Ivana**

### **An Eighteenth-Century Sense of Popular Political Identity: John Wilkes and the Crowd Spirit**

Heavily relying on 18<sup>th</sup>-century English popular culture texts, I tackle the issue of cultural identity and popular/alternative politics illustrated by John Wilkes between 1768 and 1770. The paper shows how Wilkes and his supporters managed to shape public opinion with a skill that was totally new in extraparliamentary politics.

## **Ema Jelinkova**

### **Through the Lens of the Past: Ambivalent Heritage of Scottish Literature**

Scottish literature has traditionally perceived itself as protean, based on ambivalence. This paper is going to trace this tendency back to its roots, utilizing the legacy of James Hogg, Robert Louis Stevenson and their impact on the contemporary perception of self in Scottish literature.

## **Attila Kelemen**

### **On some aspects of the grammatical borrowing**

This paper deals with one of the most controversial topics, namely the grammatical borrowing, considered by Weinreich of „a considerable complexity”. Regarding the grammatical (morphological and syntactic) borrowings, Meillet believed that these are possible only between very similar systems, especially between the dialects între dialectele of a single language, meanwhile (for instance Thomason & Kaufman) consider that the grammatical categories cannot be transferred from a language to another.

## **Blanka Klimova Frydrychova**

### **National History and Identity Issues Reflected in Literature**

The paper will examine a course on British cultural history taught at a Czech university. The talk will outline its structure, materials, assessment and evaluation. Moreover, it will demonstrate how students reflect on the British history and other national aspects when writing their essays on British literature.

## **Lilla Kolos**

### **Gendered Nation – Gender/National Identities in Modern American Drama**

According to Gayle Austin the problem with American drama ‘is that [Death of a Salesman] has become a paradigm for what the ‘serious American’ play should be.’ This paper attempts to examine how modern American drama aims to provide the Nation with an anew sense of national identity, and how this identity is challenged by secondary debates and discourses on gender roles and gender identity.

## **Crina Leon Laurențiu**

### **Henrik Ibsen’s Search for Identity in the German Cultural Context as William Shakespeare’s Successor**

Henrik Ibsen, the most important Norwegian playwright in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was influenced by both his predecessor Shakespeare and the cultural context of his adoptive country, Germany. His entire struggle as a promoter of the modern theatre was nothing else than a feverish search by art for his own identity.

## **Réka Lugossy**

### **Constructing knowledge through narratives: A case study with a lower-primary school teacher of English**

The study explores a teacher’s daily practice, her beliefs, and how she has benefited from observing regular, short, story-based activities and from professional discussions. Results reveal the importance of teachers’ narratives in questioning culturally shared beliefs about teaching and learning, and ultimately in shaping teachers’ thinking and practice.

## **Enikő Maior**

### **Jewish Identity in Malamud’s *The Fixer***

Malamud’s novel *The Fixer* deals with the question of Jewish identity. Bok, the protagonist of the novel has to suffer in order to understand his own identity. The task of my paper is to show his struggle and whether he succeeds or not to accept the burden of being a Jew.

## **Dan Mateescu**

### **Translating between paraphrasing and interpreting**

My paper discusses the role of the translator as a go-between and the choices he has to make in order to convey the meaning(s) of the original text to its potential readership. The presentation, largely based on my own experience as a translator, also tries to present the new challenges that translators are confronted with in an age when technology facilitates contacts between cultures, reducing both geographical and temporal distances.

## **Teodor Mateoc**

### **Locating the Self in Walker Percy's *The Moviegoer***

The paper argues that Percy's novel, while dwelling on existentialist philosophy, is a comment on the dialectics of escape and return, as the hero is engaged in what he calls a 'vertical search', i.e., a stable moral grounding of the soul in a modern world patterned on change, flux and consumerism.

## **Erika Mihálycsa**

### **Errorist Joyce**

The presentation explores some of the volitional errors, *dislocutions*, misprints and misplaced words in James Joyce's *Ulysses*, arguing how linguistic misrepresentation is a constant undercurrent and one of the informing structural principles of the novel, making language visible and forcing the reader to a fresh reconceptualization of language as an expressive medium.

## **Roxana Mihaela Mihele**

### **The American Multiculturalism – In Search of a Definition: From the Melting Pot to Post-ethnic America**

From Horace Kallen's Cultural Pluralism to the "affirmative action" type of multiculturalism of the 1990's and the post-ethnic perspective on American nationality, a long line of intellectuals have brought forth various theories and analyses regarding the American identity and the way in which an immigrant society managed to forge for itself a common culture and destiny. The present paper attempts to present the various successive attempts to define the American society as a multicultural construct.

## **Octavian More**

### **"After the Leaves Have Fallen" – Zen and the Enlightening of the Self in Modernist Poetry**

This paper sets out to examine a number of connections between Modernist poetry and the path towards the enlightening of the self as proposed by Oriental philosophy and religion, in particular the Buddhist/Zen perspective on the role of meditation, spiritual advancement, as well as the search for balance and harmony.

## **Liana Muthu**

### **D. Lodge's Dialogue of the Extremes: Humanities and Sciences**

Starting with C.P. Snow's assertion regarding the existence of a "gulf of mutual incomprehension" between the literary intellectuals and other scientists, this paper brings into discussion D. Lodge's novels, *Nice Work* and *Thinks*, analysing the professional communication established between Robyn Penrose and Vic Wilcox, respectively Helen Reed and Ralph Messenger. Both novels offer not only a captivating survey of scientific discussions on human consciousness, but also a look at the manner in which humanities and sciences try to find out a common language about issues that concern both.

## **Noémi Najbauer**

### **"Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth:" A comparative study of St. Augustine's and John Donne's theories of memory**

St. Augustine, the greatest convert of Antiquity and John Donne, important convert of the English Reformation share a tempestuous youth, agonizing conversion and eloquence in spiritual maturity. I will examine how Donne, the English Augustine (Walton), appropriates throughout his sermons St. Augustine's theory of memory as a key to redemption.

## **Adriana Neagu**

### **Postmodern Duplicities: Neo-Imperialism, Anti-Americanism, and the 'Condition' of the Other in the Age of Corporate Ethics**

Viewing corporate capitalism as a manifestation of postmodern ethic, the proposed talk addresses developments in conceptions of American identity and cultural plurality in post-9/11 context. The primary scope of the

enquiry is to articulate a radical critique of America's collusion in the new imperialism of western culture, especially as reflected in presidential rhetoric and the "new protestant ethic."

## **Lidia Mihaela Necula**

### **David Lodge's *Novel Geographics of Identities***

In a strongly *mediating* and *mediated* contemporary *textual(ized)* environment which is able to *broadcast* and *regain*, to *re-picture* and *disseminate* memories in all possible ways, David Lodge's novels seem to be communicating a tremendous amount of thought and feeling on the human condition, and information on how it came to be what it is, what it presupposes and to what extent it may be formulated in language, summed up by the written word and caught between the covers of a book. By constructing (construes) and deconstructing patterns of identity in and of fiction, the present paper intends to delineate the *textualized* borders of a *novel Geographics of identity* set within some of David Lodge's novels (*The Picturegoers*, *The British Museum is Falling Down*, *How Far Can You Go*, *Paradise News*, *Therapy*, *Thinks...*) by following premises, all part of the theoretical matrix the author himself proposes.

## **Monica Oprescu**

### **Becoming teachers – still an option?**

My paper focuses on the Romanian students' desire and motivation to become teachers. It is based on a case study which tries to answer this question. Second year students in English, at the West University in Timișoara, participated in the research, expressing their opinions and giving their perspective on the subject.

## **Adrian Papahagi**

### **The French Connection: Cultural Exchanges between Anglo-Saxon England and Carolingian Francia (9th-10th c.)**

In 781 Charlemagne invited Alcuin to help him promote his ambitious education programme. Two centuries later, Abbo of Fleury was invited to teach at Ramsey (985-87) in recognition of Fleury's long-standing support of Anglo-Saxon monasticism and scholarship. My paper will explore the circulation of scribes, scholars, and manuscripts between Anglo-Saxon and continental centres in the centuries separating Alcuin from Abbo (d. 1004).

## **Aba-Carina Pârlog**

### **The Consumed Body in L. Durrell's *The Alexandria Quartet***

The paper focuses on several types of consumed bodies. These are analysed from several theoretical perspectives developed by Michel Foucault, Angela Locatelli, Beth Newman and Mary Poovey. The modern crisis of value and judgement can be read on the characters' bodies, in the manner in which they choose to live their lives and in the consequences this has upon their bodies.

## **Ecaterina Pătrașcu**

### **The Enchantress of Florence or the Nation of a Storyteller**

The paper aims to discuss the construction of identity and the defining of historical realms in Salman Rushdie's latest novel, *The Enchantress of Florence*. Storytelling is not just a means of telling about already existent histories, but the means of building territories and histories, therefore specificities.

## **Petronia Petrar**

### **Emplacing texts / textualising places: the dialectic of subjectification in Salman Rushdie's novels**

The paper investigates a paradoxical presence in Rushdie's writing: the notion of *place*, which is both debunked as inimical to the migrational ethics of the author, and nostalgically recreated by means of storytelling as the *sine qua non* condition of the subject and its encounter with alterity.

## **Marcel Pikhart**

### **National Identity and Multi-ethnic Society in Current Cultural Studies**

I would like to concentrate on possible future roles of Cultural Studies in modern European cultural and ethnic diversity. The twenty-first century will probably move towards multi-ethnic society, for which intercultural dialogue and cross-cultural communication will be a must, absolutely necessary for its survival. National identity, thus, represents a phenomenon to be closely analysed by Cultural Studies which may become a catalyst reducing, or even eliminating, fierce nationalism, racism and xenophobia in the modern world.

## **Márta Pintér**

### **The Interconnections of the Growth of National Mass Movements and the Decline of the Native Language in 19th-Century Ireland**

The following paper is part of an extensive study into the history of language policy in Ireland, and as such, it is concerned with one of the most complex language-related issues of modern Ireland: the evolution of the early-20th century position of the Irish language, when the nearly extinct native language was reconstructed as a powerful symbol and rallying point in national political ideology. The present paper traces the origins of this phenomenon in 19th-century national mass movements and seeks to answer two key questions: (1) What interconnections can be identified between the dramatic decline of the Irish language in the 19th century and the contemporaneous emergence and spread of national mass movements in Ireland? (2) To what extent was the language policy of early 20th-century nationalist Ireland grounded in the linguistic attitudes and behaviour of the political movements of the 19th century?

## **Adina Popa**

### ***Paradise News* and the Displacement of the Individual**

The paper deals with the shaping of the postmodern individual embarked on a quest of re-creation and re-gaining of a lost centre that still defines the being. One who is running from old limits only to adopt new ones and come to terms with the first by undergoing a journey of self-discovery.

## **Diana Popa**

### ***Cal* and *Trainspotting* - Irishness and Scottishness in literature and film**

In this literary case-study I am interested in analysing two books (*Cal* by Bernard MacLaverly and *Trainspotting* by Irvine Welsh) and two films based on the previously mentioned books from the point of view of national identity. How is Irishness and Scottishness constructed and represented in *Cal* and *Trainspotting* - the book as compared to the film?

## **Martin Potter**

### **Ambiguities of Nationality in Evelyn Waugh's *Helena***

I shall discuss the complexities that result from Waugh's using his protagonist, the Empress Helena, to represent Englishness, having her grow up in Roman Britain, but at a time before England's existence, and also the way that her cosmopolitan experience reflects Waugh's sense of his British Catholic identity.

## **Alina Preda**

### ***The Stone Gods* as an Ebullition of Genres**

This paper aims to prove that despite the complaints of those critics obsessed with nailed-down definitions and tidy categories *The Stone Gods* is a piece of writing that defies labels and eludes definitions. This resistance to labels, characteristic of Winterson's works, is the result of the wide variety of themes and discourse types employed in her fiction.

## **Brândușa Prepelită – Răileanu**

### **Malcolm Bradbury. The Writer's Liberal and Academic Dilemmas**

The paper analyses the concept of *liberal humanism* which was defined by Malcolm Bradbury himself both in his theoretical and artistic writings. It is explained why his early novels might be described as *exposés of liberalism*. The paper also discusses the concept of *Englishness* by contrast with the American way of life and culture.

## **José Igor Prieto Arranz**

### **Projections onto a greater self: Britishness and Spanishness compared**

This paper will highlight the parallels between the discourses behind the British and Spanish 'imagined communities', both built upon the core values of earlier, narrower identities, so as to account for some of the challenges both discourses are currently facing, as well as tentatively provide a key to the interpretation of other national identity discourses in Europe.

## **Corina Pușcaș**

### **Rhetorical Complexities in Philip Roth's Zuckerman Books**

The paper engages in a brief rhetorical narrative analysis of Philip Roth's books linked by the presence of the character Nathan Zuckerman. It argues that the zigzaggedness of identity construction in this series is closely followed (if not sometimes directly determined) by the rhetorical devices employed.

## **Adrian Radu**

### **The Brehon Laws: Bad Law and Bad Literature?**

The corpus of ancient Irish law, known as the Brehon Laws, have very seldom been read by modern people, despite the fact that they were rediscovered a century and a half ago. It represents all that remains of an immensely complex and progressive legal system that functioned in Ireland for a period of at least 1,000 years, until its annihilation in the mid-seventeenth century. Today, when the Brehon Laws are again a matter of interest, some scholars consider this corpus as a collection of laws – a sort of pristine constitution of Gaelic Ireland – some as text of literature. But there are not few who regard the text of the Law as bad law and bad literature at the same time. It is the purpose of this paper to challenge such an assertion and attempt to reconsider such a categorical verdict.

## **Patricia Bastida Rodriguez**

### **Haunted Selves: Diasporic Identity in Helen Oyeyemi's *The Icarus Girl***

Drawing on recent theorising in the fields of postcolonial and cultural studies, this paper intends to examine the representation of diasporic identity in Helen Oyeyemi's debut novel *The Icarus Girl* (2005), as it focuses on the conflicts experienced by a mixed-race child growing up in racist Britain as a result of her Nigerian-British background.

## **Daniela Rogobete**

### **Next Stop, India: Cultural routes and fictional Crossroads in Tabish Khair's *The Bus Stopped***

Tabish Khair's novel *The Bus Stopped* offers a panorama of contemporary India. Playing with perspectives, humorously debunking colonial stereotypes and nationalistic clichés, this novel could be taken as an attempt to recapture the essence of Indianness and to reformulate the concept of "home" in a period of shifting boundaries and relative spaces.

## **Marina-Cristiana Rotaru**

### **Queen Elisabeth II – A Self-Conscious Style of Performing the Symbolic Power of a Sovereign**

In this paper I discuss the concept of the symbolic power of the sovereign in the context of the reign of Queen Elisabeth II after August 1997 (the death of the Princess of Wales). I also analyze how the lack of exercise of this kind of power can lead to a dysfunctional relationship between the Queen and her people.

## **Steluța Sanislău-Sălăjan**

### **Loss of Identity in Utopian and Dystopian Fiction**

The paper will focus on the loss of identity in Orwell's works and in some other British utopian and dystopian writings. Its purpose will be to present the way individuals are imposed to renounce their identity and take a "general identity" imposed by the State. Individuality is eliminated and a new identity, a common and general one, is given to all individuals.

## **Ana-Karina Schneider**

### **Julian Barnes and the History of Englishness in Five ½ Pages**

Julian Barnes's definitions of Englishness, emerging cumulatively from the compelling, protean narratives of memory in *The History of the World in Ten ½ Chapters*, *England, England* and *Arthur and George*, are eminently dialogic and open. The constant shifts from the personal to the factual enable the thematisation of the productive tensions at the heart of identity construction. My paper takes stock of these conflicting narratives that subvert conventional forms of realism and investigates their cumulative constitution of a coherent discourse of Englishness.

## **Iustin Sfâriac**

### **Ways of Constructing Identity in Saul Bellow's Work**

The paper identifies the main obstacles that Bellow's characters come across while trying to build their identity. As they spring from the more general postmodern conundrum of trying to find direction in a world that has a deep suspicion of all values, these obstacles are considered from the point of view of the postmodern quest for meaning studied by Frankl.

## **Smaranda Stefanovici**

### **Cultural Conflict in Jade Snow Wong's *The Fifth Daughter***

The paper will analyse various forms of conflicts (ethnic, generational, gender, identity, etc.) and the resolutions Jade Snow Wong, Chinese-American author, offers to the readers in her autobiographical novel *The Fifth Chinese Daughter*. Hybridity and/or normality as ingredients in Wong's definition of the Chinese American Dream will be also considered.

## **Eva Szekely**

### **Space and the Imaginary in J.M. Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World***

My paper focuses on the means through which the members of an obscure rural Irish community conceal the drabness of their existence and boost their sense of self-importance.

## **Iulia Toma**

### **Clashing Nations and Cultures in David Lodge's *Changing Places***

This paper focuses on the ideas of identity, nation and nationhood in David Lodge's *Changing Places*. The novel is largely the result of Lodge's fascination with American society and with the differences between American and British cultures. These differences are embodied into two academic teachers, Morris Zapp and Philip Swallow, who come from an American University, Euphoric State, and a British "redbrick" university, Rummidge. The comparison between the worlds of academe, English and American, becomes a microcosm for the two nations, and the two academics represent stereotyped versions of national identities, Englishness and Americanness.

## **Adriana Vințean**

### **Language Policy Challenges in Today's Europe**

Languages play an important role in the way Europe is being integrated. The way in which the EU and its member states deal with multilingualism has considerable implications for fellows, states and international relationships. The languages of the European nations are being changed by globalization, the EU and English.

## **Elena Voj**

### **Inside and Outside Dublin: James Joyce's Double Vision**

Joyce's cosmopolitan view has been regarded as a mark of his inherent modernism. His artistic label as "a citizen of the world" echoes the critics' position that usually lead to a double reading of Joyce's "identity": either Irish or European/universal. Joyce's spatial and cultural in-betweenness accounts for Joyce's double vision which makes *Ulysses* a "book of many turns" and returns.

## **George Volceanov**

### **"Ah, but it is mine oath...": On Alexandru Tocilescu's Re-reading of *Edward III***

The newly canonized Shakespeare play *Edward III* has not yet originated much critical debate in Britain and the USA. Alexandru Tocilescu's Romanian staging of this canonically marginal play may be considered to fill in a blank, as it proposes a personal, original reading of the text.

## **Gabriella Vöö**

### **Imagining Nationhood in the Southern Romance of the Frontier**

The paper investigates how the concept of "nation" is constructed in the historical romance *The Yemassee* by William Gilmore Simms. It will demonstrate that Southern notions of nationhood rested on ideological foundations different from, and sometimes antagonistic to, those embraced in New England. The argument relies on postcolonial theory and Homi Bhabha's concept of the Third Space.

## **Richard Witt**

### **The multiple self in Elytis' *Axion Esti***

In his 1950 masterpiece the *Axion Esti*, the Greek poet Elytis simultaneously describes the experience of the Second World War and the self of Greece, the Greek nation, and Elytis as a *poete elu* within the nation: a harmony of individual and the corporate identity.

## **Cristina-Mihaela Zamfir**

### **Language patterns and NLP techniques in business interactions**

Neuro-Linguistic Programming is widely applied to the study of how language patterns influence sales and negotiation skills. When people interact and establish *rapport*, there is frequently a *matching* of certain key verbal cues. Paying attention to the language patterns used in a negotiation, the interlocutors engage themselves in a reciprocal *matching-pacing-leading* process. Therefore, adapting aspects of a particular technique to pace the map of the world of different clients and cultures is often necessary.

## **Ioana Zirra**

### **Is there still an Instance Patronizing the Late Modern Views on Identity in the End of History Age ?**

The paper raises the issue of identity in the age of late modernity, after decades of cultural work subverting, to correct them, all modern traditions or modern wholes. We shall interrogate semiotically some cultural objects from the field of literary and art theory, also seeking for any traces of non-differential thinking.