

The European English Messenger

Volume 23.2 – Winter 2014

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The ESSE President's Column

Liliane Louvel

Dear colleagues, you will be reading this column in deep mid-winter, while I am still writing it with very recent (and happy) memories of our 2014 ESSE Conference in Košice, a major event (as the pictures on our website testify). Of course, nothing this momentous could have happened without the dedication, the energy and the generous work of Slávka Tomaščíková and the whole organizing committee, members of the Department of British and American Studies and of the Faculty of Arts, and, last but not least, the University's MA students, whose efficient presence - signalled by unforgettable yellow tee-shirts - was appreciated by all. The department's PhD students were also a tremendous help, designing materials and posters and welcoming visitors. All of these people deserve to be lauded and thanked here. Special thanks go to Prof. Pavol Štekauer who came up with the brilliant idea of holding the 13th ESSE Conference in Košice when he founded the department in 2006.

Everyone attending our conference in Košice will remember how much we enjoyed our hosts' generosity and dedication. We were offered two dinners, each with music and dancing, and all free of charge. Over 700 delegates registered. Together we shared ideas and met up with friends from across Europe and from much further afield, too, for there were delegates from almost all the continents. In this way we renewed and prolonged links among the scholars in our community, all to the good of advancing English Studies in Europe.

The conference was a success in many respects. The Doctoral Sessions - first implemented in Istanbul under the aegis of the then President Prof. Fernando Galvan and now organized by Prof. J. Lachlan Mackenzie - are well underway, having become a well-established feature of our Conferences. In light of this success and the clear need for such a facility, the Board of ESSE has decided to organize doctoral sessions annually as of 2017, following those to be organized during our 2016 Conference in Galway. They will be held in conjunction with our ESSE Board meetings. In this way, every year young scholars will have the opportunity to meet and exchange views on their favourite topics. None of this would be possible without our federation.

The Book Awards Ceremony was held on the penultimate day, during our General Assembly, and was very well attended too. It was a very moving ceremony, with most of the successful candidates present. We were thus able to make a personal award of the First Prizes and the Honourable Mentions. Please refer to the ESSE website to find all the information about the Awards Ceremony and to enjoy the brilliant pictures taken by our webmaster Jacques Ramel, who works wonders and very regularly updates our website.

On the day before the Conference and on the morning before the official opening, the ESSE Board met as usual to deal with the main decisions to be taken. We appointed various committees: the Bursary Committee and the Nominations Committees for the election of the ESSE President and of the editor of the *Messenger*. Kindly note that this year for the first time the Bursary Committee will not just award bursaries, but also book grants. I gladly take this opportunity to thank all the members of our ESSE Board for their dedication, their commitment and the valuable time they give to serving on the Board's various committees, often travelling far from home just to contribute to ESSE's work. I also want to thank them all personally for the very friendly and trusting atmosphere that prevails during our often long drawn-out meetings.

We are also very grateful to our Irish colleagues, in particular Aoife Leahy and Patrick Lonergan, who have volunteered to organize the next ESSE Conference that will take place from 22 to 26 August 2016 in Galway, Republic of Ireland. We had to comply

with these comparatively early dates, since the Irish University year starts rather earlier than in certain more southerly countries of Europe. Something similar applied to our 2008 Conference in Aarhus, Denmark. The Galway Conference will once more be a major event and I am sure that you will all be very eager to come and join us in this lovely Irish port, famous for its music, its entertainment, its complex history and, of course, its achievements and fine University. All particulars will be given both in the next winter issue of the *Messenger* and on our website. So please be on the lookout for information about deadlines, programmes, workshop proposals, submissions, and social events. Everything will be starting up next year, and vital decisions will be taken in July 2015 by the Academic Programme Committee (APC). I take this opportunity to thank the nine members of the APC, who will also be working extensively with the Irish organizers to ensure the success of ESSE-13.

Among the main decisions taken by the ESSE Board, one concerned the format of *The Messenger*. The question of moving to an electronic-only format has been with us for several years. Of course, we all are cognizant of the difficulties entailed by such a decision, since we are all strongly attached to the physical presence of the publication. Still, many arguments were put forward in favour of *The Messenger* changing from printed to open-access electronic format, probably with a concomitant adaptation of its contents. Last year the Board decided to have the members of the national associations vote on this question. The results of the vote pointed in favour of our newsletter going online at the beginning of 2016. The Board in Košice took the decision to implement this change and appointed a committee to discuss technical aspects and possible alterations to the contents; the committee will report back to the Board next year.

I would like to thank the current editorial team of the *Messenger*, its main editor, Aba Pârlog, who is a well-known figure in ESSE and has been serving its interests for many years in several capacities. She is a wonderful editor, with a noteworthy combination of patience and rigour. Her task is a demanding and painstaking one, as we all know. I also want to thank the three editors of our academic journal *EJES*, Martin A. Kayman, Stephanos Stephanides and Greta Olson, who contribute to the high esteem enjoyed by ESSE as a scholarly community. All information concerning *EJES* forthcoming issues is to be found on the website. The three editors welcome proposals for new issues.

I will end this column by wishing you all, together with the two invaluable members of the Executive whose presence has been a joy to me, Smilja Komar and Alberto Lázaro, very happy end-of-year celebrations.

The password for all online editions, past and present, of *The Messenger* is *Hermes*.

ESSE BOOK AWARDS FOR 2014 *

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

Award in Category A: no award

Award in Category B:

Lutzky, Ursula. *Discourse Markers in Early Modern English*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2012.

Honourable mentions:

Podhajecka, Mirosława. *Russian Borrowings in English. A Dictionary and Corpus Study*. Opole: Uniwersytet Opolski, 2013.

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Tizón-Couto, David. *Left Dislocation in English. A Functional-Discoursal Approach*. Bern: Peter Lang AG, 2012.

LITERATURES IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Award in Category A: no award

Award in Category B:

Kirchknopf, Andrea. *Rewriting the Victorians: Modes of Literary Engagement with the 19th Century Paperback*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2013.

Honourable mention:

De Angelis, Irene. *The Japanese Effect in Contemporary Irish Poetry*. Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

CULTURAL STUDIES

Award in Category A:

Hurtley, Jacqueline. *Walter Starkie: An Odyssey*. Dublin: Four Courts, 2013.

Honourable mention:

Huggan, Graham. *Nature's Saviours: Celebrity Conservationists in the Television Age*. Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2013.

Award in Category B:

Marianne O'Doherty. *The Indies and the Medieval West: Thought, Report, Imagination*. Turnhout: Brepols, 2013.

* For more details and photos, see www.essenglish.org

ESSE BURSARIES for 2015

In 2015, ESSE continues to offer TWO types of travel bursaries:

Type A: a number of bursaries of up to € 1500 each will be available for scholars in need of support to pursue a project or research programme leading to the writing of their PhD dissertation.

Type B: a number of bursaries of up to € 1500 each will be available for scholars already holding a doctorate or its equivalent.

Applications are invited from all member countries. Awards are made on the basis of academic merit. Priority will be given to scholars employed at Universities in Central and Eastern Europe who are in need of support to pursue a project or research programme.

Only one application per person is allowed.

Bursaries may not be used to support research trips begun before the Bursary Committee has announced the outcome of the competition.

Applications for both Type A and Type B Bursaries will not normally be entertained from candidates who have previously been successful in that competition. In the case of both competitions, A and B, winners are expected to make a short-term visit to a country where they identify an outstanding holding, collection, or other type of material relevant to their research. Conference participation is *not* supported by these bursaries; award winners may extend their visit at their own expense to attend a conference in the country concerned, but no part of the conference expenses will be covered by the bursary. Bursaries must be utilized and the study trips completed by the application deadline for next year's bursaries, i.e. 1 March 2016.

After completing the research trip, winners will be asked to send a financial report to the Treasurer of ESSE and a report about their results to both the Treasurer and the Chair of the Selection Committee.

Applicants for the first type of bursary are required to be members of their national associations affiliated to ESSE, except for those whose associations do not consider PhD students eligible as members; in this case, their supervisors or the department to which they are affiliated must be ESSE members. Applicants for the second type of bursaries must be registered members of their national associations affiliated to ESSE.

The deadline for applications for both types of Bursaries is **1 March 2015**.

Electronic notification will be sent to the applicants by 15 April.

Applicants should send electronically to all three members of the Selection Committee:

- the completed application form (see below) with sections on personal information, a list of the applicant's most important publications, a research plan, and a provisional budget proposal;
- a scanned or electronically generated letter issued by the president or the secretary of the appropriate national organization to certify the membership of the applicant (or of his/her supervisor in Germany and the UK);
- for Type A bursaries, a letter of recommendation, sent directly via email to all three members of the Selection Committee by the supervisor of the PhD candidate.

Selection Committee:

Prof. Lilla Maria Crisafulli (Chair): lilla.crisafulli@unibo.it

Prof. Andreas H. Jucker: ahjucker@es.uzh.ch

Prof. Ludmilla Kostova: ludmillak3@gmail.com

APPLICATION FORM

ESSE Bursaries, Type A and B, for 2015

Application deadline: 1 March 2015

Notification about decision: **15 April 2015**

Bursaries to be utilized by: **1 March 2016**

I. PERSONAL SECTION

Name of applicant:

Title of research project:

Brief summary of research project (no more than 5 printed lines):

Affiliation and position:

(for Type A indicate your PhD Program, for Type B your University and Department):

Best email address and telephone number (the latter in case of emergency):

MA degree (year and major/s):

PhD degree (for type b only; year, university and topic):

Other degrees (if applicable):

Most important scholarships.

II. PUBLICATIONS (The list below applies only to Type B applications. For the pre-doctoral Type A application simply list your publications if you have any, or disregard this section. *Please provide translations into English of any titles and other details in languages other than English.*)

a/ Books authored by applicant

b/ Books edited by applicant

- c/ Five most important articles in peer-reviewed journals
- d/ Five most important papers in collections or conference proceedings

III. THE RESEARCH PROJECT (Should be no longer than 2 printed pages!)

- a/ Research question, general description of the topic
- b/ The projected research activities during the bursary period
- c/ Expected results

IV. BUDGET PROPOSAL. Please remember, that, while the € 1500 is the maximum award, smaller requests are welcome! Conference participation expenses are not eligible for coverage by ESSE bursaries.

- a/ Travel expenses
- b/ Accommodation
- c/ Everyday expenses (€ 25 per day)
- d/ miscellaneous costs, including any book purchases (though please check the guidelines before applying for money to cover book purchases)
- e/ Total of expenses

13TH ESSE CONFERENCE, GALWAY 2016

The National University of Ireland, Galway, looks forward to welcoming you to the 13th ESSE Conference in Galway, Ireland, **Monday 22 August – Friday 26 August 2016.**

DEADLINES

- For Parallel Lectures (nomination by National Associations): **1 May 2015**
- For Seminars and Round Tables (proposals from prospective convenors): **1 May 2015**
- For posters and individual papers at seminar and PhD students' sessions: **31 January 2016**
- Registration will begin on **1 March 2016**

CALL FOR SEMINARS, ROUND TABLES AND PARALLEL LECTURES

ESSE members are invited to submit proposals for seminars and round tables on topics related to our fields of study: English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural Studies (broadly defined). Proposals for seminars and round tables should be submitted directly to the Academic Programme Committee (APC) at esseabstracts2016@gmail.com. National Associations are invited to nominate potential lecturers. Suggestions for lecturers should be sent to the Presidents or representatives of the National Associations, who will send the nominations to the APC.

Programme Format

SEMINARS - Proposals for seminars on specialised topics within our field should be submitted jointly by two ESSE members, preferably from two different National Associations. The degree of international appeal will be one of the selection criteria used by the APC. Proposals will not be entertained if they come from two people in the same institution. In exceptional cases, the APC may permit one of the two convenors not to be an ESSE member (e.g. because they come from outside Europe), if it is argued that their presence is especially important for the seminar. Seminar proposals must include the names, affiliations and e-mail addresses of the convenors and a 100-word description of the topic. Unlike round tables, seminars are not pre-constituted events and will therefore be included within the APC's future call for papers, although convenors may take an active role in approaching potential participants. The seminar format is intended to

encourage lively participation on the part of both speakers and members of the audience. For this reason, papers will be orally presented in no longer than 15 minutes rather than read. Reduced versions of the papers will be circulated beforehand among participants. Further directions will follow in the call for papers.

NB: proposals for individual papers should NOT be submitted at this stage. The deadline for individual papers will be the **31 January 2016**.

ROUND TABLES - The aim of round tables is to present topics and problems currently seen as shaping the nature of the discipline. At a round table a pre-constituted panel discusses issues of fairly general scholarly or professional interest in front of (and subsequently with) an audience. In other words, round tables are not sequences of papers, but debate sessions. Proposals should include a 100-word description of the topic and the names and affiliations of at least three participants (including the convenor), who must be drawn from more than one national association. The maximum number of speakers will be five.

LECTURES - A number of distinguished keynote speakers, including at least one representing each of the three main fields covered by ESSE (English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural Studies), will give plenary lectures by direct invitation of the organisers. In addition, there will be approximately 12 parallel lectures given by ESSE members nominated by their National Associations. These parallel lectures are expected to have a wide appeal and to reflect recent developments in scholarship in one of the three areas mentioned above. They will be fifty minutes in length. National Associations should forward a description of their nominee's proposed topic together with a brief summary of his or her CV. Each national association can propose up to three lecturers, each of them in one of the three main fields mentioned above, so that the APC can have a wide range of options for the final selection. Please note that ESSE will not finance the parallel lecturers' costs of attending the conference, but that their conference fees will be waived.

POSTERS - Posters will be devoted to research-in-progress and project presentations. The aim is to provide additional opportunities for feedback and personal contacts. Further details will appear in a future issue of the Messenger and the deadline for posters will be the **31 January 2016**.

SESSIONS FOR PhD STUDENTS - Young scholars who are writing their PhD theses in English studies may apply to make a brief presentation of their work-in-progress at one of three workshops in the fields of English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural Studies respectively. These presentations should deal with the issues/hypotheses addressed in the thesis, the results so far obtained and above all the methodology applied, with the purpose of getting feedback from peers and established scholars in the field. Each workshop will be coordinated by two international experts, who will select from the applications and convene the corresponding sessions. Enquiries about this feature should be addressed to Professor J. Lachlan Mackenzie (VU University Amsterdam, NL and ILTEC, PT): lachlan_mackenzie@hotmail.com. Further details will appear in a future issue of the Messenger. The deadline for the submission of applications will be **31 January 2016**.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

- Professor Patrick Lonergan (National University of Ireland, Galway) (Chair)
- Professor Lieven Buysse (University of Leuven, Belgium)
- Professor Claire Connolly (University College Cork, Ireland)
- Professor Anne Fogarty (University College Dublin, Ireland)
- Professor Irene Gilsenan Nordin (Dalarna University, Sweden)

- Dr Aoife Leahy (Independent Scholar, Ireland)
- Professor Biljana Mišić Ilić (University of Niš, Serbia)
- Professor Nóra Séllei (University of Debrecen, Hungary)
- Associate Professor Slávka Tomaščíková (P. J. Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia)

The address for

• **PROPOSALS FOR SEMINARS, ROUND TABLES, LECTURES AND POSTERS**
esseabstracts2016@gmail.com

• **GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ESSE 2016 CONFERENCE**
www.esse2016.org

ESSE POSITIONS
Call for applications or nominations for the positions of
PRESIDENT OF ESSE
and
EDITOR OF *THE EUROPEAN ENGLISH MESSENGER*

The Nominations Committee of the ESSE Board seeks nominations for the positions of **President of ESSE** and **Editor of *The European English Messenger***, which fall vacant in January 2016.

For the position of ESSE President, candidates should be Professors of English, and have a distinguished scholarly career.

The new Editor will take over with the summer 2016 edition of *The European English Messenger*, which will make the switch to the electronic-only format of the publication.

The usual term of office for both positions is three years. Candidates should preferably have been involved in ESSE affairs. They need to obtain the written support from two national associations.

Candidates should submit, as e-mail attachments:

- a letter of application
- a short (2–3 page) CV
- letters of support from two national associations.

Each national association can also nominate candidates for these positions (a national association can nominate only one candidate). In this case, national associations will submit, as e-mail attachments:

- a letter, signed by the President of the Association, describing the candidate's competence for the specific office
- a short (2–3 page) CV of the candidate proposed
- a letter, signed by another Association President, seconding this proposal
- a letter in which the candidate will express his/her agreement with the candidacy.

Applications and nominations must be submitted electronically, **by 1 June 2015 at the latest**, to the members of the Nominations Committee:

- María Socorro Suárez Lafuente (Chair): lafuente@uniovi.es
- Jana Chamonikolasová: chamonik@phil.muni.cz
- Alison Waller: a.waller@roehampton.ac.uk

From the applications and nominations received, the Committee will select the best candidates. They will be interviewed (if possible) and elected by vote at the ESSE Board meeting in Braga, 27–29 August 2015.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORY OF GEOFFREY LEECH (1936-2014)

Mick Short
Lancaster University



Professor Geoffrey Leech, one of the finest British linguists of the last hundred years, died suddenly, aged 78, on 19 August 2014. At the time of his death, he was still tirelessly researching, publishing, debating, supporting colleagues and supervising students. I am proud and grateful to have been his close colleague for more than 40 years, benefiting continually from his insight, wisdom and kindness.

Geoff, as everyone knew him, was a Fellow of the British Academy, the Academia Europea, Lancaster University and University College London. He was the founding Chair (1974) of Lancaster University's Department of Linguistics and English Language. He had the confidence, passion and energy to pursue huge long-term projects until the rest of his subject came to understand their value. He wrote more than 30 books and well over 100 articles, led the Lancaster University team which built the British National Corpus, a major research tool used by linguists worldwide, and acted as series editor of linguistics monographs for Longman and Routledge. He played a leading, sometimes founding role in a number of significant areas of linguistics and English language: English grammar, the construction and automatic annotation of large electronic corpora for linguistic research, stylistics, semantics and pragmatics. He had the enviable skill of writing books which showed academic colleagues new insights and at the same time were applauded by students for their accessibility, elegance and clarity.

In 1985, Geoff and his co-authors (Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum and Jan Svartvik) won the English-Speaking Union's *Duke of Edinburgh Language Competition* for their book *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (Longman). In 2005, the book Geoff had invited me to write with him, *Style in Fiction* (Longman 1981) won the Poetics and Linguistics Association's *Silver Jubilee Prize*, for being 'the most influential book in stylistics' since the founding of the Association. Not surprisingly, given the high quality of his research and writing, Geoff received honorary degrees from a number of excellent universities in Europe and China, notably Lund, Charles University, Prague, and Beijing Foreign Studies University. Such was his international standing that, on hearing of his death, the International Society for the Linguistics of English (ISLE) dedicated its 24-27 August 2014 conference to Geoff's memory.

In addition to his work in linguistics, Geoff was a dedicated family man, a talented musician, a committed Christian and a lover of the north Lancashire countryside, where he enjoyed walking with Fanny, his wife, and his family and friends. He was choirmaster and played the organ at Leck parish church, where he is now buried outside the door of

the church, in recognition of his commitment to, and work for, the church, a devotion which Fanny shared enthusiastically and continues.

Geoff was born in Gloucester in 1936 and was an undergraduate and postgraduate student of English at University College London (UCL), attending lectures by J. R. Firth, Daniel Jones and Winifred Nowottny, notably. His early love, developed first at UCL, for English literature and English language (and indeed their integration) became a hallmark of his career. As a young lecturer, he worked alongside Randolph Quirk, who had just accepted a professorship at UCL. Professor (now Lord) Quirk was a huge influence on Geoff's academic work and they collaborated in their research and publication on English grammar for many years. Geoff and Fanny met around the time of Geoff's BA graduation and he proposed to her within a week, saying, when she accepted his proposal, that he was glad he didn't now have to go to any more dances!

Geoff's first book-length publication was *English in Advertising* (Longman 1966) which was based on his MA dissertation. This was the first substantial book on the language of advertising and marks the first of Geoff's forays into new areas of linguistic study. This pioneering effort was followed in 1969 by another, his *Linguistic Guide to English Poetry* (Longman). This book, which is still in print, was the first which Geoff aimed at fellow academics and students together, as can be seen in his provision of poems for discussion at the end of each chapter.

In the early 1960s, another significant influence on Geoff's thinking, Michael Halliday, arrived at UCL sparking Geoff's interest in semantics. He developed this strand of his work in his PhD, which included a period as a Harkness Fellow (1964-5), when the Leech family (Geoff and Fanny's son, Tom, now Tom Leech QC, was 'an obstreperous toddler') travelled to the USA and, in particular, MIT, for a year. At MIT, Geoff met Noam Chomsky and the other leading generative linguists of that period but, having attended many of their courses, decided that generative grammar was a bit to constraining for him, even though his time at MIT had developed his analytical and argumentative powers considerably. Geoff's PhD thesis became the basis for his *Towards a Semantic Description of English* (Longman 1969). His work in semantics continued with *Meaning and the English Verb* (Longman 1971) and *Semantics* (Penguin 1974), which David Crystal invited him to write and quickly became another of Geoff's best-selling student guides.

In 1969, the year his first stylistics and semantics books were published, Geoff took up a Readership at the new University of Lancaster. This was the era when student unrest was pretty much the norm (Paris 1968 and all that) and the Leech family's arrival in Lancaster coincided with a struggle between left and right in Lancaster's English department, which eventually involved the whole university and became known as 'the Craig affair'. Despite this distraction, Geoff was now working steadfastly on English grammar, and in particular, under Randolph Quirk's leadership, the *Grammar of Contemporary English* (Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik, Longman 1972). This compendium approach to the grammatical description of English, became a hallmark of Geoff Leech's approach to linguistics, as did a collaborative approach to publication.

This first grammar Geoff was involved in led to two advanced student grammars, based on it and each written by a pair of the four *GCE* authors. Quirk and Greenbaum wrote the *University Grammar of English* (Longman 1973) and Geoff collaborated with Jan Svartvik on *A Communicative Grammar of English* (Longman 1975). The first draft of this most successful book, which has sold more than 250,000 copies worldwide, was written in a fortnight. The authors took over a seminar room during the summer vacation and worked a series of 18-hour days. Even though the book was based on another, already written, this was an extraordinary achievement. The *Communicative Grammar* was a hit with non-native learners of English and their teachers, and Geoff followed that volume

with a popular grammar, *English Grammar for Today* (Macmillan 1982), written with Robert Hoogenraad and Margaret Deuchar, and aimed mainly at the UK undergraduate market. As well as presenting the grammatical model itself, this book contained analyses of styles and texts using the model, illustrating Geoff's felt need to make his linguistic studies relevant to concerns outside linguistics wherever possible.

What was originally intended to be a second edition of *GCE* eventually evolved into an even bigger comprehensive grammar by its co-authors, called *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (Longman 1985), known affectionately in Lancaster as the 'gang of four's Mega-Grammar'. But Geoff's work on compendium English grammars was still not complete, and in 1999 he published, with Douglas Biber, Stig Johansson, Susan Conrad and Edward Finegan, an entirely new *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English* (Longman 1999). In this grammar, which was based on electronic corpus data, the authors compare both spoken and written English, and British and American English; and not surprisingly, a collaboratively authored student volume soon followed. Geoff's contribution to the study and teaching of English grammar has been truly monumental and may be said to surpass even his foundational work in corpus linguistics, which I describe below.

On his arrival in Lancaster in 1969, Geoff had become the head of the English department's Linguistics Section and, among the concerns of administration, his young family, publishing, and student unrest, he set about developing English language and linguistics courses and degree structures. The Linguistics Section became a fully-fledged department in 1974 and Geoff became the university's first Professor of Linguistics and Modern English Language and head of the department of that name.

In 1977, when he stepped down as head of department, Geoff made an arrangement with Lancaster University to go half-time and so be able to devote more time to research and publication, funding himself from his own freelance earnings. This arrangement lasted for eight years. In 1976 and 1977 he published a series of articles on the border between semantics and pragmatics, and these papers formed the basis for his influential *Principles of Pragmatics* (Longman 1983). His departmental colleagues thought it particularly appropriate that Geoff, who was well-known for his polite and considerate behaviour, even when chairing stormy department meetings, should develop his own theory of politeness.

In addition to his monumental work on English grammar, Geoff Leech will probably be remembered best for his foundational role in corpus linguistics. He had decided in 1970 that Lancaster should develop a computer corpus of British English to match Brown University's one-million-word Corpus of American English, thus enabling accurate comparative research between British and American English. This was an onerous and time-consuming task at a time when computing facilities in Lancaster were primitive and little funding was available. Geoff and Fanny decided that she should become his unpaid research assistant and on most Sunday afternoons they could be found in the department, working away at the corpus. Eventually, during a year's visit to Lancaster, Oslo University's Stig Johansson became involved in the project and in 1978 the Lancaster-Oslo/Bergen (LOB) corpus was born. In 1977, Randolph Quirk, Jan Svartvik, W. Nelson Francis, Stig Johansson and Geoff formed, in Oslo, the International Computer Archive of Modern English Texts (ICAME), a move which led to the flourishing ICAME conferences and journal. This early corpus work led to the establishment of the 100-million word British National Corpus. Geoff led the Lancaster-based research team (notably including Roger Garside and Geoffrey Sampson), compiling and manually tagging the corpus and then writing software to enable automatic grammatical parsing. This was an extraordinary achievement involving many years of work. Geoff, Tony McEnery and Roger Garside were also heavily involved in the

European EAGLES initiative, developing parallel corpora among English, Spanish and French as an aid to translation. This extended work on corpus development and automatic annotation led to four co-edited collections: *Computers in English Language Teaching and Research* (Longman 1986), *The Computational Analysis of English* (Longman 1987), *Spoken English on Computer* (Longman 1997) and *Corpus Annotation* (Longman 1997).

When Geoff retired in 2001, becoming Professor Emeritus, he continued his corpus work as well as working on other areas of linguistics. In particular, he continued to work, among others, with Nick Smith and Paul Rayson, who had both originally been his PhD students, developing new corpora and using them for research purposes. Working with Christian Mair and Marianne Hundt in Freiburg, they created two 1960s corpora matching the 1990s Brown and LOB corpora. The new corpora were called Freiburg-Brown (or FROWN) and Freiburg-LOB (or FLOB), and enabled the study of the historical development of British and American grammar.

Geoff kept up his other linguistic interests after retirement too, writing more papers on English grammar, politeness, stylistics, the history of English and applied linguistics. This work included *English – One Tongue, Many Voices* (Palgrave Macmillan 2006), written with Jan Svartvik, and a collection of papers in stylistics, *Language in Literature: Style and Foregrounding* (Longman 2008). He continued to play a significant part in departmental life in Lancaster (including playing the piano at Professor Anna Siewierska's memorial service), teach overseas and take an active role in conferences. In 2006 he and I co-organised a Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA) Style in Fiction symposium in Lancaster and, a few weeks before he died, he gave a plenary paper at the PALA conference in Maribor, Slovenia, and also played piano accompaniment to sketches in the post-conference-dinner entertainments.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Geoff Leech managed to get by with less sleep than most. I can remember when he and I were writing *Style in Fiction*, that, when we had agreed who would draft each of the next two chapters, at the end of my first night's work I would have, say, four or five draft pages, but would find a completed first draft of Geoff's next chapter in my pigeonhole the following morning. He would start work when the rest of the family went to bed and still be up in time to help prepare the family breakfast. He also needed a steely side to achieve all he did. I remember him coming to visit me during the period we were writing *Style in Fiction* together, Terry's chocolate orange in hand, when I was confined to bed with a nasty virus. My wife, Hilary, was charmed but as soon as she left us alone, out came chapter 4. We needed to talk about some revisions!

Lancaster University's Department of Linguistics and English Language website has a page at <http://wp.lancs.ac.uk/geoffreyleech/> for those who knew Geoff to leave memories of him. Below I quote (part of) two such comments. The first is by a fellow grammarian and corpus linguist, Professor Bas Aarts (UCL):

The news about Geoff's death was a big blow for me. He was a truly great scholar in every way and one of the finest grammarians of the English language. Only a few days before he died he was engaged in a lively email discussion about a finer point of English grammar with a few fellow linguists. As ever, he was full of passion for his subject.

The second quotation is from a former PhD student, Urszula Skrzypik:

. . . His knowledge of English grammar and of other areas of linguistics was boundless and inspiring. He was my Linguistics hero, my greatest mentor, and he has changed the way I think about grammar. . . . his modesty was remarkable, his encouragement and interest in my work enabled me to complete my thesis, his kindness and generosity helped me achieve the best of my potential and his great sense of humour kept me cheerful. I thank God for having been given the opportunity to be supervised by such a humble genius.

Geoff Leech was an assiduous scholar and enthusiastic collaborator in research and publication (he thought that collaboration took more time than working alone, but that the eventual results were better). A world-renowned figure, he was a most fair-minded man who always treated others with respect, whatever their status. He would always make time for others and go out of his way to help. He was more painstaking and careful of detail than anyone I have ever met. How he fitted it all in, I will never know. He will be sorely missed.

Geoff Leech is survived by his wife, Fanny, his children, Tom and Camilla and his grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM: RAINER SCHÖWERLING
(1937-2014)

Werner Huber
University of Vienna

It is with great sadness that I have to report the passing away of Rainer Schöwerling, Professor Emeritus at the University of Paderborn, on 21 January 2014.¹ Rainer Schöwerling was born in Hanover in 1937 and studied English and German at the universities of Göttingen and Marburg. He received his Ph.D. in 1967 and, soon after, became assistant professor of English at the University of Regensburg working under Karl-Heinz Göller. After his *Habilitation* in 1975, he was appointed Professor of English Literature at the University of Paderborn in 1978.

Apart from his early interest in mediaeval literature, Schöwerling's main research concentrated on the field of literary and cultural history of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, always coupled with a strong methodological regard for reader-response theory and reception history. After his first book on 'simple' forms of narrative, i.e. English anecdotes of the eighteenth century (*Die Anekdote im England des 18. Jahrhunderts*, Diss. University of Göttingen 1967), Schöwerling moved on to the propaedeutics of scholarly reading when he, together with Rolf Breuer, co-authored and co-edited a general introduction to the study of English: *Das Studium der Anglistik*, (Munich: Beck, 1974, rev. ed. 1980). In his *Habilitationsschrift* – a reception history and sociology-informed study on chapbooks as 'literature for consumption' – he was concerned with yet another class of 'simple' readers, i.e. the 'newly literate readers' of mass-produced literature from the long eighteenth century: *Chapbooks: Zur Literaturgeschichte des einfachen Lesers: Englische Konsumliteratur 1680-1840* Frankfurt a. M.: Peter Lang, 1980).

In terms of service to the scholarly community, Schöwerling combined his interest in the Romantic period with his dedication to the German Society for English Romanticism (the former German Byron Society) between 1982 and 1986, when he took over the Presidency of this newly founded association from Hermann Fischer of Mannheim University. Between 1985 and 1994 he also served on the board of directors of the International Byron Society.

The rediscovery of the Corvey Library was, without a doubt, the decisive event in Schöwerling's career. This sensational find was all the more astonishing, as the library

¹ See also my earlier tributes in *Anglistik* 9.1 (1998): 221-224, *Anglistik* 14.1 (2003): 223-226, and the introduction to *The Corvey Library and Anglo-German Cultural Exchanges, 1770-1837: Essays to Honour Rainer Schöwerling*. Ed. Werner Huber. Corvey-Studien, 8. Munich: Fink, 2004.

(housed in the Duke of Ratibor's Castle Corvey near Höxter on the river Weser) had virtually escaped the attention of scholars. In view of the library's considerable holdings of English-language titles, it was only natural that Schöwerling the 'Anglicist' and expert on English Romanticism became the initiator of the Corvey Project based at the University of Paderborn. Indeed, it must have appeared to him as a classic case of serendipity to discover that the Corvey Library, with its 73,000 volumes over all, holds some 2,600 novels in English, dating from what could loosely be described as the Romantic era. In relative terms, this means that – with regard to certain peak years – more than 90 per cent of the total fiction output from the British Isles is still extant in this private library, hidden away in the easternmost parts of Westphalia. Apart from sharing in the analytical work (e.g. cataloguing and describing the collection), Schöwerling took on the responsibility to make available to the public large sections of the Corvey Library as *Edition Corvey* microfiches (Stuttgart: Belser WD, 1989-1990). This edition, comprising *belles lettres* (i.e. fiction) in German, English, and French, was followed by another one concentrating on non-fiction, i.e. travelogues, memoirs, biographies, history, theology, and reproducing some 10,000 volumes: *Fürstliche Bibliothek Corvey: Microfiche-Volltext-Edition der Sachliteratur* (Hildesheim: Olms, 2000). As a consequence, the Paderborn Corvey Project spawned similar enterprises in Great Britain and the US, such as, for example, *The Sheffield Hallam Corvey Project* (Sheffield), *Cardiff Corvey: Reading the Romantic Text* (Cardiff), and *The Corvey Novels Project* (University of Nebraska, Lincoln). The Corvey Project also turned out to be a mirror of technological progress and possibilities, with microfiches as a cumbersome reproduction technology (but considered state of the art still in the late 1980s) giving way to digitisation and online accessibility, as for example, in the case of the *Nineteenth Century Collections Online: European Literature, 1790-1840: The Corvey Collection* (Gale) or the *Corvey Digital Collection* (Belser).

From an international perspective, the most sustainable result of Schöwerling's Paderborn Corvey Project is undoubtedly the monumental historical bibliography which he co-compiled and co-edited with Peter Garside and James Raven and which would not have been possible without the discovery of the collection of novels at Corvey: *The English Novel 1770-1829: A Bibliographical Survey of Prose Fiction Published in the British Isles*, 2 vols. (Oxford: OUP, 2000). This is an inventory of the total output of novels for the period (i.e. the Corvey period and the Romantic era) and it clearly revises and supersedes the reputable work of such authorities as Andrew Block, Montague Summers, Michael Sadleir, and Dorothy Blakey.

Finally, it should be mentioned that Schöwerling's forays into the fields of library history and the history of the book towards the end of his career did go well beyond Corvey. Schöwerling also initiated the reorganisation and restoration of the libraries of a Westphalian noble family (the Barons of Haxthausen), of a Lusatian anglophile, travel-writer, landscape gardener and general eccentric (Prince Pückler-Muskau), and of a notorious Prussian chancellor (Prince of Hardenberg). These efforts may appear less conspicuous and less well documented, as they have yet to reach the level of public notice held by Corvey.

All the high points of his career attest to Rainer Schöwerling's tenacious interest in, and devotion to, the study of the history of the book as cultural and political history. Sometimes it appeared to those working closely with him on various projects as if the diplomatic skills, the scholarship, the contagious enthusiasm, and the generosity of the book collectors whose motives he had been determined to investigate reflected back on him across the ages.