

## **THE EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ENGLISH STUDIES**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**CALL FOR TOPICS**

As the editors' and publishers' annual report to the ESSE Board demonstrated, *EJES* continues to go from strength to strength, both in terms of its publishing programme, subscriptions and downloads.

Keeping up this momentum, we are issuing a new **call for papers** for an issue on *Beyond Trauma: The Uses Of The Past In XXI Century Europe*, to be published in 2010 (14.1). At the same time, the guest editors for the issues to be published in 2009 (**vol. 13**) are happy to consider further proposals received before 31 December. Please see below for details of all four issues.

Colleagues are also invited to propose **topics for volumes 14 (2010) and 15 (2011)**. The general editors would be most happy to discuss potential ideas. Issues may be guest-edited by one individual or by two or three, as the proponents wish. Full support is provided by the general editors at all stages of the process.

Please ensure that your proposal demonstrates how it advances the ambitions of the journal for a distinctive 'European' approach to English Studies. For further details regarding the journal's Aims and Scopes and its Editorial Policy, please visit the ESSE website <<http://www.essenglish.org/ejes.html>>, or contact the general editors. Please also note that, in order to ensure accessibility to the pages of the journal as well as the quality of the material it publishes, all proposals are subject to review, as are the final version of submitted articles.

For further information regarding *EJES* more generally, go to the Taylor & Francis website: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/13825577.asp>.

### **General Editors**

Martin A. Kayman <KaymanM@cardiff.ac.uk>

Angela Locatelli <angela.locatelli@unibg.it>

Ansgar Nünning <Ansgar.Nuenning@anglistik.uni-giessen.de>

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### ***European Journal of English Studies*, Vol. 14, Issue 1**

#### **BEYOND TRAUMA: THE USES OF THE PAST IN XXI CENTURY EUROPE**

**Guest Editors: Jacek Gutorow, David Kennedy & Jerzy Jarniewicz**

The uses and abuses of cultural memory are inescapable facts of life in contemporary Europe. For example, the process of (re)construction of memory in the former Yugoslavia or in post-1990 Poland bears witness to the powerful desire of individuals and nations to transform history into narrative and interpretation. Cultural memory is therefore produced through acts of commemoration transformed into rhetoric. As Andreas Huyssen (2003) and others have noted, the rhetoric of memory is often dominated by the idea of 'trauma'. As such, the rhetorical acts of memory and commemoration might be said to be founded on ideas of wounding and healing. Their articulation and performance often seems then to involve a paradoxical act: a healing-through-voicing that is also a means of self-identification that relies on keeping the original 'wound' fresh and raw.

Do we therefore need new models of cultural memory ‘beyond trauma’? What should these involve? What is the (latent) rhetoric through which cultural memory transforms itself into commemoration? Is this rhetoric encoded into art and literature to such an extent that new models of cultural memory would need to involve a kind of resistance to art and literature themselves? Could new models of cultural memory be more concerned, after Sontag’s famous dictum, with the erotics of art as opposed to hermeneutic procedures? At the same time, it is important to note that cultural memory involves ideas of the future. Re-articulating and recovering the past necessarily involves the re-articulation and recovery of the past’s ideas of the future. An urgent question then becomes whether the very ‘pastness’ of cultural memory enables or disables new conceptions of the future.

In this issue, we invite papers that explore the complex and uneasy relationships between representations of the past and their impositions, and between modes of commemoration and their rhetoric, from specialists in all fields of the study of languages, literatures and cultures in English. Topics might include:

- methods of recording and repressing memory as well as modes of post-traumatic melancholy and mourning;
- methods of dealing with memory that question the rationalising of each and every commemorative act;
- the transformation of cultural memory into commemoration;
- the function and role of the archive and archiving;
- the ‘uncanny’ past;
- what happens when cultural memory crosses national/cultural boundaries?
- the sociolinguistics of commemoration – e.g. the conversion of trauma sites into tourist sites;
- the influence of English as a global language on memory/forgetting;
- the role of the study and teaching of literature in the rhetoric of memory and/or resistance to that rhetoric;
- the future point(s) at which can be said cultural memory to be ‘over’; when does it pass and can it pass out of memory?

Detailed proposals (500-1,000 words) for articles of c. 5,000 words, as well as any inquiries regarding this issue, should be sent by e-mail to all three guest editors: Jacek Gutorow at <jacek.gutorow@neostrada.pl>, Jerzy Jarniewicz at <jjarniew@kryisia.uni.lodz.pl>, and David Kennedy at <D.Kennedy@hull.ac.uk>. The deadline for proposals is **15 October 2008**, with delivery of completed essays by 31 March 2009. The issue will appear in Spring 2010.

**PROPOSALS ARE ALSO STILL WELCOME (BEFORE 31 DECEMBER) FOR  
THE FOLLOWING THREE ISSUES**

***European Journal of English Studies*, Vol. 13, Issue 1  
TRAVELLING CONCEPTS  
Guest Editors: Birgit Neumann & Frederik Tygstrup**

Concepts are the tools of academic discourse: They enable discussion and exchange on the basis of a common language. However, more often than not, the meaning and operational value of these concepts differ between diverse disciplines, national cultures and historical

periods. Concepts such as ‘performance’, ‘image’, ‘narration’, ‘identity’, ‘hybridity’, or ‘transnationality’, which are at the core of the study of culture and language, are not univocal or firmly established terms. Rather, they are dynamic and changeable as they travel back and forth between academic contexts. Hence, they constitute what Mieke Bal (2002) has felicitously called ‘travelling concepts’. With the move towards greater interdisciplinarity, the exchange of concepts between different disciplines has considerably intensified. Through constant appropriation, translation and reassessment across various fields these concepts have acquired new meanings, triggering a reorganisation of prevalent orders of knowledge. To the extent that their meaning must, therefore, be constantly renegotiated between different disciplines, travelling concepts can foster a self-reflexive approach to the interdisciplinary study of culture. This volume aims to review and critically examine the highly dynamic exchange of concepts, specifically providing the following:

- an overview of the journeys of key concepts and their effects on English Studies;
- a discussion of the conditions that facilitate the ‘import’ and ‘export’ of concepts;
- an analysis of the role that cultural changes play in the travelling of concepts;
- a discussion of literary and visual representations of travelling concepts;
- historical case studies illustrating the transformation concepts undergo as they migrate between different disciplines, national cultures and historical periods;
- an examination of the methodological consequences that the travelling of concepts has for interdisciplinary studies of culture.

Detailed proposals (500-1,000 words) for articles of c. 5,000 words, as well as any inquiries regarding this issue, should be sent by e-mail to both guest editors: Birgit Neumann at <Birgit.Neumann@anglistik.uni-giessen.de> and Frederik Tygstrup at <frederik@hum.ku.dk>. The deadline for proposals is **31 December 2007**, with delivery of completed essays by 31 March 2008. The issue will appear in Spring 2009.

***European Journal of English Studies*, Vol. 13, Issue 2**  
**INTERCULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS**  
**Guest Editors: Ian MacKenzie & Ildiko Polyak**

The study of English in Europe (and beyond) necessarily involves encounters between cultures. Teachers and students of English literature, language, linguistics and cultural studies, no less than the authors they read, are situated in concrete cultural and temporal contexts. International business is increasingly aware of the importance of intercultural communication and negotiation, but the questions raised by the topic are not only pragmatic; they traverse all levels of the study of English language, literatures and cultures. EJES invites submissions of papers from specialists in all these fields on intercultural negotiations in the widest sense. This might include areas such as intercultural communication theory and training; the teaching and reception of foreign literatures; diachronic reading as intercultural communication; cross-cultural pragmatics; European language and education policies and priorities; language, culture and identity; and multiculturalism and ‘intracultural’ communication.

Detailed proposals (500-1,000 words) for articles of c. 5,000 words, as well as any inquiries regarding this issue, should be sent by e-mail to all three guest editors: Ian MacKenzie at <ian.mackenzie@eti.unige.ch>, and Ildiko Polyak at <ipolyak@ibs-b.hu>. The deadline for proposals is **31 December 2007**, with delivery of completed essays by 31 July 2008. The issue will appear in Summer 2009.

**European Journal of English Studies, Vol. 13, Issue 3**  
**THE RHETORIC OF NATIONAL CHARACTER**  
**Guest Editors: Ton Hoenselaars and Joep Leerssen**

Cultural, literary and popular representations of collective peculiarities and behaviour frequently invoke 'national character' as a motivating explanation. Stereotypical in nature, such characters consist of attributions and prejudices established intertextually in a long tropical tradition. The study of such images of national character, established as a specialism in Comparative Literature known as 'imagology', has in recent years been attracting fresh interest (cf. the website <[www.hum.uva.nl/images](http://www.hum.uva.nl/images)>). Imagology is based on, but not limited to, the inventory and typology of how nations are typified, represented, and/or caricatured in a given tradition or corpus of cultural articulations. On the basis of the analysis of texts or cultural artefacts, it raises questions of the mechanism of national/ethnic 'othering' and its underlying self-images. Among the questions raised are those concerning the relation between 'character' and 'identity'; historical variability; genre, irony, and even canonicity; and intermediality.

EJES invites submissions on the rhetoric of national character from specialists across the disciplines of English Studies. How has the notion of the character of a given nation been deployed, in the representation of language or speech, in narrative, caricature, film, television or history-writing? What 'foreigners' have been a foil to English, or British representations of national difference, and how has Englishness or Britishness been perceived and represented elsewhere? While these questions may generate a great number of fascinating case studies, the editor would specifically welcome contributions addressing theoretical implications and future perspectives of the idea of a 'rhetoric of national character'.

Detailed proposals (500-1,000 words) for articles of c. 5,000 words, as well as any inquiries regarding this issue, should be sent by e-mail to the guest editors: Ton Hoenselaars at <[Ton.Hoenselaars@let.uu.nl](mailto:Ton.Hoenselaars@let.uu.nl)> and Joep Leerssen at <[Leerssen@Uva.Nl](mailto:Leerssen@Uva.Nl)>. The deadline for proposals is **31 December 2007**, with delivery of completed essays by 30 November 2008. The issue will appear in Winter 2009.

### **Forthcoming issues**

11.3: *Literature, Epistemology and Science*, ed. Ronald Shusterman

12.1: *New Englishes*, eds Bessie Dendrinos, Mina Karavanda & Bessie Mitsikopoulou

12.2: *Translation, Cultures and the Media*, eds Elena Di Giovanni & Rita Kothari

12.3: *Reading the Modernist Past*, eds H el ene Aji & Helen M. Dennis.