

ACCUTE

NEWSLETTER

Department of English
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E5

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President's Remarks

The Newsletter has a new masthead this month, one that makes visible and explicit what has been a fact for sometime now in our Association: the welcome it extends to college as well as university teachers of English and its gratitude for the contributions both make to its activities. The change in our name comes with a second, equally important, decision taken by our membership to include a graduate student representative on the ACCUTE executive.

The naming of our Association has had its more frivolous moments. Founding members like to recall that it narrowly missed being CUTE, though they do not agree about who saved it from this fate worse than light verse. The short history of the Association written for its 25th anniversary, Ron Baker (a founding member of ACCUTE and former President of U.P.E.I.) reminds me, credited the "A" which made us ACCUTE to Northrop Frye but, he writes, "That is definitely not so. Roy Daniells made the suggestion." Whoever we must thank, successive officers of the Association can only be grateful for not having had to begin telephone conversations these many years by announcing themselves the President of CUTE.

Different versions of how we came to be ACCUTE are understandable, given that much of the work of the Association has always been done in discussions rather than on paper, that the biannual moves of the Association's offices make the option of "housecleaning" files unusually attractive, and that we

are reaching about thirty years back into our collective memory. But truth to tell, I can come up with no more accurate narrative of origin for how we have just become the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English; even after this short time, I do not recall who came up with the name that would let us work the designation "College" euphoniously into our acronym. I choose not to attribute this to incipient sclerosis on my part. Rather, it points to the collective impulse behind the name change--a desire on the part of college professors to be specifically included in the Association's name, a willingness on the part of university professors to make explicit the collegial ties between people working in the two kinds of institutions, and a recognition on the part of the Executive that its task was to respond to this collective impulse by suggesting the acronym that would make it part of our constitution. The ballot in which 92% of the returned votes were in favour of the name change attests to just how collective this decision and this welcome are.

ACUTE's founding members sought a forum in which to share their scholarly interests at a time when universities did little to encourage research and colleges actively discouraged it by hiring people comparatively untrained in research methods and assigning them teaching loads that left little time for other work. Our founders conceived of the Association as a "learned" society; papers were to address research interests which had been given little room in universities which emphasized teaching to the

near exclusion of all other activities. In recent years, universities have swung toward research (many think at the expense of teaching) and colleges have often presented themselves as centres devoted to the mission of undergraduate teaching supposedly now neglected in universities. Like many such divisions, this one proves more rooted in competition for resources than in the professional lives of college and university teachers of English. In fact, the hiring in colleges of Ph.D.s has meant that many college professors now have exactly the same research training as their university colleagues and are as anxious to discuss their research at ACCUTE's conferences. And university teachers, whatever the institutional rhetoric within which they work, and however responsive they have proven to the research imperative, spend a lot of time in the classroom and know that we all both teach and do research, and that we are training our graduate students to be both teachers and researchers and, at best, to integrate these two activities. In short, the hierarchy of activity once used to distinguish college from university professors has largely broken down; the boundaries that maintained it have proven tenuous constructions in the first place.

What is true for college professors is also true for graduate students. On the one hand the exigencies of the job-market are pushing students into earlier research publication; on the other hand graduate students support their work (as well as professors' teaching loads and the curricular objective of keeping class sizes down) by doing much of the lower-level teaching in many of our

departments. In short, we are all mutually implicated in the research and teaching activities of our post-secondary institutions in ways that have not always been characteristic of our profession in the past. Some of this change surely reflects a larger social democratization; much more is the product of the changed economic and political conditions in which we do our work; not a little responds to the growing demand, in times of tight money, that we explain our work to the tax-paying constituency that finances it--something we obviously can do better working together than against one another.

My pleasure is to record the collegiality represented by these two overwhelmingly favourable votes on the part of ACCUTE's membership. They are votes which render their full due to the research and teaching of faculty in colleges as well as of universities, and to the increasing participation of graduate students in teaching and in research dissemination, both by means of long-established journals and conferences such as ACCUTE's and by means of graduate student journals such as *Critical Mass* and the recently announced *RD* and *Literary Initiatives*. And they are votes which mark welcome changes in the configuration of our profession and in ACCUTE's activities: in an increased participation of college professors and graduate students in our conferences and journal, and the Association's increased interest in professional and pedagogical concerns as well as research.

Shirley Neuman

Thinking about the Profession

Lobbying: The Humanities and the Powerbrokers

(Rowland Smith, Dalhousie)

On October 24 the Board of Directors of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities held its annual lobby on Parliament Hill. This was my first lobby, and I was pleasantly surprised. Not that I approached the experience with anything resembling eagerness. By instinct I would rather attempt to regulate the moral and social tone of a rock concert than to solicit money in the service of learning. And there is an increasing demand for consciousness-raising, allied to university fund-raising, that can be as daunting an undertaking as straightforward money-grubbing.

The Ottawa meetings of the Humanities Federation had in fact been preceded--one month earlier--by a Social Science Federation of Canada conference, also in Ottawa, on Public Awareness of Social Science. All in all I have had my fill of public awareness and the begging-bowl-posture this fall, but reluctantly accept that such obligatory activities accompany old age along with honour, love, obedience and troops of friends.

What distinguished my own experience during the Humanities Lobby was the fact that those parliamentarians met by my lobby-partner and myself were already converted; they agreed with the basic thrust of the lobby, and they showed both sympathy and understanding. We were probably lucky. There was some degree of prior personal acquaintance--which always helps--and our people were themselves cultivated; for example, the fact that one Member

had ended her formal education in Grade Nine had only heightened her awareness of the value of general education.

Others lobbying on behalf of the Federation that day did meet primitives similar to the culture and communications expert who has recently made such pithy comments on Canadian books and Canadian reading habits. But the mood was generally sympathetic to the needs of the humanities, the importance of basic research, and by corollary the need for increased government funding for the research-funding agencies.

The goals of the lobby had been to urge increased support for the three research Councils along the lines of the Royal Society recommendations (and those include catch-up money for SSHRCC relative to the other two Councils), to argue the case for basic research in all fields in the face of government insistence on the national need for more applied research and technological expertise, and to call for the establishment of a national task force to investigate the state of university libraries.

Some parliamentarians did agree to support the specific monetary targets stipulated in the Royal Society report, but most pointed to the general shortage of government money while insisting on their intellectual and moral support. This was taken by several lobbyists to be a sign of failure, but they were, I believe, mistaken. The willingness to express support for the general aims of the Federation Lobby was in itself significant and certain to be beneficial in the long term. Any change in attitude towards general education as opposed to technical training can only be

good for those teaching in the humanities, and a recognition of the necessity for basic research in every form of academic endeavour can only benefit those who carry out research in fields not sanctioned by the current vogue for increased Canadian expertise in applied science and technology.

Some parliamentarians were even talking about education, particularly education in the humanities, as a way of improving the quality of life at a time when materialistic expectations have to be trimmed. Others agreed that what a society does with its technologies is just as important for its material well-being as the development of those technologies themselves, and to this end education in the humanities was more valuable than technical training.

Easy to say, I agree, when there is no accompanying loosening of purse strings. But would comments like these have been made a few years ago? Would there have been as noticeable a recognition of the limitations of science and technology alone as the sine qua non of national health?

Many MPs and Senators argued that a one-day lobby in Ottawa was all very well, but that to be really effective those of us who teach in the humanities would be lobbying at the constituency level all the time, and demonstrating both our needs and our uses to our representatives in their own ridings. I think it is worth trying. If we cannot demonstrate the obvious value of what we do by showing what sort of people we are and how we operate, our claims for our profession and our discipline may well be empty. My own immediate response to the much-

repeated injunction for academics to hit their local MPs locally was to invite all representatives, both federal and provincial, elected in the metropolitan region of my own university to the annual welcome-reception for new faculty members and those who have been promoted this year. If any politicians come (the invitations went out last week), surely we can demonstrate our case by our wit, charm, analytical powers, and... humanity?

ACCUTE members respond:

I found Richard Bevis's response to my column rather puzzling. I have in fact heard of M.H. Abrams, and I have read most of the works referred to in the response. But it he had read my column more carefully, Professor Bevis would have seen that I was not referring to such works at all, but to "attacks on literary theory in American newsmagazines and neoconservative journals." I had in mind, among other publications. *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Atlantic*, and the *New Criterion* (it has not in the past been customary to provide bibliographies in "Thinking about the Profession," but I will be happy to send Professor Bevis the bibliographic references if he would like them).

I have no objection to serious intellectual discussion of theory from any perspective, sympathetic or critical. Indeed, I myself have serious reservations about many aspects of contemporary theory. But I do object to people

who deliberately misrepresent complex issues to advance particular causes. The public has already been seriously misinformed about what is going on in the humanities; my suggestion was that an attempt be made to present a more informed view.

It seems to me that Professor Bevis has missed the point I was making, and to make things worse he distorts my argument by very selective quotation. I said that the articles in the journals I referred to "tend to have a thinly disguised or overt neoconservative political agenda." This is not quite the same as saying that they "reveal . . . a 'neoconservative political agenda.'" Other quotations are equally misleading. If my study of literature has taught me anything, it is the intellectual and ethical responsibility to read texts attentively. It seems to me that Professor Bevis was too busy responding to what he thought I said to read the words I actually wrote in my column.

J. Russell Perkin (Saint Mary's)

In the September 1991 ACCUTE Newsletter, Shirley Neuman attempts to assuage the anxiety of members who did not attend Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's plenary session by assuring them that her paper did not "refer to either Jane Austen or her characters" as masturbators. In fact, Professor Sedgwick emphasized repeatedly that Marianne Dashwood's identity is constructed according to a

model "that no longer exists--that of the masturbating girl" (quoted from the *Critical Inquiry* version of the paper, p.827). What Jane Austen presents as Marianne's excess of sensibility closely resembles what nineteenth century gynecologists would have considered symptomatic of an excess of female sexuality, an "addiction" to autoeroticism. Whether or not the ACCUTE membership considers it appropriate to read *Sense and Sensibility* as a study of female masturbation, Sedgwick did exactly that in her paper--a fact that surely need not be concealed from those members who chose not to attend because of the title. The title, while it might have been controversial and sensationalist, was not misleading.

I would also like to comment on the assertion that "The large audience attending [Sedgwick's] paper did not for the most part agree with her argument; it did find it worth hearing." I do not see how Professor Neuman could have determined what the majority opinion was. That she found it necessary to attribute a consensus to the audience suggests that the plenary session was meant to be a reminder of the Association's solidarity and homogeneity, a chance for members to band together in opposition to a paper that, we are now being informed, was not about Jane Austen and masturbation. Are we to conclude that Professor Sedgwick's paper was "worth hearing" not because it forced us to confront the differences in our critical methods and political agendas, but because it provided yet another opportunity to mask and dismiss them?

Sheila Barry (Toronto)

The "masturbating girl" of Professor Sedgwick's controversial title, refers, in the first instance, to a case history from the 1870s from which she drew her analogies about the rhetoric of *Sense and Sensibility*. In the question period at the ACCUTE plenary, asked directly about how referential the claims she was making were, Professor Sedgwick declined to claim that the rhetoric given Marianne Dashwood by Austen represented her as a masturbating character; she did claim that the similarities between this rhetoric and that of contemporary gynecological literature identified "sensibility" as a possible manifestation of female sexuality which, the mores of the time held, was in itself improper and in need of control.

As for my reading of the audience's reaction about the paper: it is derived from a discussion among nine outgoing and incoming Executive members at a meeting after the Learned's. We specifically discussed the reactions of the ACCUTE audience to this paper, and reported on comments made either spontaneously to us or in response to our asking people what they had thought of the paper. Between us we had talked to a large proportion of the audience members and what we heard was what I reported. These responses suggested that the paper was worth hearing because it introduced into the discussion of Austen an aspect of the social context in which her novels were written which had not previously been taken into consideration and because its methodology and presentation demanded serious thought. The large number of audience members we talked to did,

however, have reservations about the paper's methodology and its findings; these reservations point precisely to differences in critical methods and political agendas which they found it worthwhile to engage.

Shirley Neuman

"Thinking about the Profession" is a regular feature of the ACCUTE Newsletter. We invite submissions from our membership on any topic of concern to the profession. They should be written in a vigorous and engaging prose, and should be clear-thinking and stimulating. And they should be no longer than two double-spaced pages. We also invite brief, cogent responses to the writers of "Thinking about the Profession." These will be selected and edited for publication with an eye to the limitations of space on one hand, and to maintaining the integrity of the writers' views and a representation of a range of views on the other hand. Both submissions for the next Newsletter and responses to this month's "Thinking about the Profession" should reach the ACCUTE office by February 15.

Results of Ballot on Proposed Changes to the ACCUTE Constitution

On the motion that the name of the Association be changed from ACUTE to ACCUTE (Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English): FOR: 221 (92%)
AGAINST: 20 (8%).

On the motion that a graduate student be added to the Executive: FOR: 217 (90%) AGAINST: 24 (10%). At the AGM in June, members nominated and voted in a graduate student, Jane Sellwood (Victoria), to serve on the 1991-92 Executive should this motion be passed. She will officially join the Executive for its November meeting.

On the motion that the November Newsletter include a call for nominations to the upcoming Executive: FOR: 240 (99.6%)
AGAINST: 1 (.4%).

Report of Graduate Student Representative to ACCUTE

In the June ACCUTE Newsletter, responses of graduate student members David Leahy (Concordia) and Susan Johnston, Allison Newall, Dennis Denisoff (McGill) drew attention to the important issue of inclusion of professional development in English graduate studies curricula in Canadian universities first raised in Linda Hutcheon's column in the March ACCUTE Newsletter in which she

noted that American applicants for positions in Canadian universities seem better able to present themselves in the interview situation. Professor Hutcheon points out that these applicants appear to have an edge in professional training at the graduate level. There will be a graduate student panel at the Learned's in Charlottetown in May 1992 to discuss issues arising from the discussion about professional skills seminars in the Newsletter. Please send suggestions for this panel and about related matters to Shirley Neuman by January 15, 1992 at the latest.

Please emphasize to your graduate student colleagues that membership in ACCUTE offers a vehicle for an introduction to the academic profession with opportunities not only to develop skills in written and oral paper presentation in a conference setting, but also to provide a forum for graduate student interests and concerns regarding the profession of professing in Canadian universities and colleges.

I would like to thank the ACCUTE membership for its very positive vote in favour of the position of graduate student representative on the Executive. I look forward to hearing your responses to the issues raised here and all other matters you wish to address. Please write to me well before January 15, 1992 so I can address your concerns in the next Newsletter: Jane Sellwood, Department of English, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P4.

Call for Nominations to the 1992-93 Executive

There is one vacancy, for a graduate student representative, on the 1992-93 Executive. Nominations for this position should reach the Executive by January 15, 1992. They should be signed by two nominators and should be accompanied by a signed statement from the nominee indicating 1) that s/he is willing to stand; and 2) that s/he will be a graduate student in a Canadian university from July 1 1992 to June 30 1993. The term of office is for one year. All members of ACCUTE are eligible to nominate members to the Executive. Persons nominated must be members of ACCUTE.

Continuing members of the Executive in 1992-93 are:
 Shirley Neuman (Alberta):
 President (1990-92); Past-President (1992-93)
 Michael Keefer (Guelph): Vice-President (1991-92);
 President (1992-94)
 Smaro Kamboureli (Victoria):
 Member-at-large (1991-93)
 Martin Kreiswirth (UWO): Member-at-large (1991-93)
 Marjorie Stone (Dalhousie):
 Member-at-large (1991-93)

Report of ACCUTE Representative to CFH

The Canadian Federation for the Humanities (CFH) was founded in 1943 because a number of concerned professors recognized the need to lobby governments and universities in support of humanities research and education. In 1942 a group of leading academics, including the principals of both McGill and Queen's, recommended to the federal government "the elimination from university curricula of all courses in Commerce, Arts, Law, and Education for the duration of the War, and the diversion to the war effort of all the resources thus made available" (*CFH: A Short History*, 1). That recommendation, which was endorsed by the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, brought concerned professors to the defence of the humanities: in January 1943 a group, led by Watson Kirkconnell, successfully lobbied against the implementation of the recommendation; and in December of that year they founded the Humanities Research Council of Canada (HRCC), the forerunner of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities. Since its formation in 1943, the HRCC/CFH has fought an uphill battle in support of the humanities in this country. Until the creation of the Canada Council in 1957, the HRCC/CFH was forced, in the absence of financial support for the humanities in Canada, to fund its programmes with grants from both the Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation in the USA.

From its inception, CFH has recognized the need both to raise the profile of the humanities in Canada and to lobby the government on a wide range of issues, from

the need for a National Library (finally established in 1953) to the importance of research funding and a liberal arts education. On October 24th, CFH held its annual lobby on Parliament Hill. This year's lobby had three objectives: to generate support for the Royal Society's proposed strategy for university research in Canada; to secure support for renewed investment in the federal research councils; and to develop support for a national task force on problems facing Canadian university libraries. In support of the last objective, CFH conducted a survey of university libraries across Canada (in conjunction with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, the Canadian Association of Small University Libraries, and the library subcommittee of the Conférence des recteurs et principaux des universités du Québec) and held a workshop in the Centre Block on the serious underfunding of university libraries and the growing inability of the libraries either to safeguard existing collections or to keep pace with new publications.

In the "Thinking About the Profession" column in this *Newsletter* you will find Rowland Smith's comments concerning the lobby. To his comments, I should like to add the following. Like Rowland Smith, I found MPs and senators generally sympathetic to humanities research and education; what is more, some seemed genuinely concerned about the plight of university libraries. (They too have difficulty obtaining the books they need and have experienced the frustration of waiting interminably for interlibrary loans.) But even

those who supported our objectives had an important message for us: they felt that we were neither active nor vocal enough in support of humanities research and education. Why do you not respond, they asked, to the recurring attacks in the media on, for example, SSHRCC-sponsored research? Why don't our Associations speak out? our Deans? our university presidents? Have we considered, they asked, the implications for humanities research and education of proposed changes to the constitution? And they stressed the need to lobby year-round at the constituency level, to involve MPs, senators and MLAs in our activities, to send them material they can cite in support of our objectives and which they can include in constituency newsletters. The message is clear: if we believe in our work, if we want to maintain our libraries, we must speak out.

The day after the lobby, the CFH Board of Directors held its annual fall meeting. In addition to the lobby debriefing, the Board dealt with five major issues: plans to establish a permanent Learned's Secretariat; SSHRCC's review of the Aid to Scholarly Publishing Program; SSHRCC's decision both to reduce funding to private scholars and to cap release time stipends at 10 percent; the establishment of a Women's Issues Caucus and a Vice-President for Women's Issues within the CFH; and, finally, four recommendations issuing from the "Women, Research and Strategies" symposium. On the first issue, CFH resolved to ask SSFC to develop a joint set of overall policy guidelines before commissioning a business plan. On the second, the CFH Board

discussed the Watson Report, the review of the ASPP commissioned by SSHRCC, which found that ASPP-sponsored books are of high scholarly quality. On the third, Craig McNaughton, the Executive Director of CFH, discussed the response of members to SSHRCC's decisions on private scholars and research time stipends and on CFH's plan to make a joint representation with SSFC to have SSHRCC reconsider its decision. Finally, the Board approved the establishment of a Women's Caucus within CFH and endorsed the four recommendations to SSHRCC that developed out of the "Women, Research and Strategies" Symposium, including the recommendation that Women's Studies be recognized as a discipline by SSHRCC and have a place among the discipline committees.

Paul Hjartarson (Alberta)

CACE Employment Registry

The CACE Employment Registry, which seeks to provide information about job applicants to Chairs of English seeking part-time and sessional staff, is being revived. Those seeking jobs should fill out the questionnaire on page 11 and should enclose a cheque for \$5.00 to cover the cost of setting up the file.

Chairs ready to hire should send for the file, specifying whether they want everyone available to teach in a given region (e.g. B.C.) on a part-time basis, everyone available to teach a given subject on a part-time or sessional basis (e.g. 19th Century American literature) or whatever combination of field and geographical availability is appropriate. Chairs should specify whether they want the results by mail, courier, or fax; they will be billed for the cost of copying and sending however many sheets are germane.

Job applicants should send their cheque and the questionnaire, and Chairs should direct their inquiries, to Professor Melissa Furrow, Dept. of English, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 3J5. FAX 902-494-1957. E-mail MFURROW@adm.dal.ca.

INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FIELD OF STUDY: _____

FIELD OF THESIS: _____

(continued . . .)

UNIVERSITY: _____

SUPERVISOR: _____

DATE OF COMPLETION: _____

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Name and location of class, position and date(s) held):

PAPERS OR ARTICLES: _____

GEOGRAPHICAL AVAILABILITY: _____

(A) FOR FULL-TIME WORK: _____

(B) FOR PART-TIME WORK: _____

CACE/ACCUTE Questionnaire on Hiring: Correction

The March Newsletter incorrectly reported the Questionnaire on Hiring about the numbers of men and women graduating with a Ph.D. from 1987-90. The correct figures are: 103 men and 85 women.

Conference News

Vetting Papers: Papers submitted for the November 15 deadline have now been sent out for blind vetting. Each will be read by two assessors; should they not agree, the advice of a third reader will be called on. Organizers of Special Sessions are reminded that the deadline for their submission to ACCUTE of the papers they have selected for their session is December 15; these papers will be read by one additional reader. We aim to have all the readers' reports back by late January and will be planning the program in the first half of February. As always, readers' reports will play the key role in determining which papers are accepted; other factors that will be taken into decisive account include the need for a program that represents a range of scholarly subjects, critical approaches and methodologies; the suitability of the paper for oral delivery; and the possibilities for combining the paper intelligently with another in a two-paper session. Paper acceptances will be mailed in mid-February.

Travel Funding

ACCUTE will pay the 3-week advance booking, over-Saturday airfare (APEX) for those persons presenting papers; it can pay no higher fare than this. These fares are generally cheaper than even the Conventioair fares offered to the Learned by Canadian Airlines (people seeking Canadian's discounts should fax Island Travel at 902-566-5095). Since the cheaper APEX fares are sold out very early, those giving papers are advised to book early (by the end of February is advisable). The SSHRCC travel grant to cover the costs of those giving papers now in fact covers only 25% of such airfares; all other conference costs come out of membership revenues. Short of raising membership fees, then, ACCUTE cannot pay the accommodation costs of paper presenters nor can it pay any of the costs of session moderators. Wherever possible paper presenters are urged to seek money from their universities in order to stretch our resources to the fullest and to those who need them the most. Graduate students giving papers should apply to their Deans of Graduate Studies for funding for accommodation.

Accommodation

Inexpensive accommodation is available in the U.P.E.I. dormitories. Alternatively, there are many bed-and-breakfasts available. To find out about them order the P.E.I. 1992 tourism guide by phoning 800-565-7421 if from the Maritimes, and 800-565-0267 from elsewhere in North America. There will be a morning and evening shuttle service on a user-pay basis from both

Summerside and Cavendish to Charlottetown and a free shuttle service operating several times daily from Charlottetown to U.P.E.I. In addition, the following Charlottetown hotels will have rooms available at conference rates (area code 902 for all numbers): Banbridge Inn 368-2223 \$50-65; Charlottetown Hotel 894-7371 \$82; The Charlottetown International Hostel 892-8509 \$17.50; Confederation Inn 892-2481 \$53-65; C.P. Prince Edward Hotel 566-2222 \$104-112; Dundee Arms 892-2496 \$70; Garden Gate Inn 892-3411 \$45-55; Holiday Island 892-4141 \$57-67; The Inn on the Hill 894-8572 \$75; The Islander 892-1217 \$63-78; Journey's End 566-4424 \$61; The Kirkwood 892-4206 \$65-72; MacLaughlan's Best Western 892-2461 \$64-80; Princess Motel 566-3373 \$35-40; Queen's Arms 368-1110 \$45; Rodd Royalty Inn 894-8566 \$73-99; Sherwood Motel 892-1622 \$36; U.P.E.I. 566-0634 \$50; Wandlyn Inn 892-1201 \$55-65.

Calls for Papers / Announcements

Spring: The Journal of the E. E. Cummings Society is seeking scholarly-critical articles, poems, news and comments, bibliographical studies, reviews, notes, announcements, etc., re the poet's life, work, and times. Send submissions to Norman Friedman, 33-54 164 Street, Flushing, N.Y. 11358-1442. Annual membership dues, which include a subscription to Spring, of \$15 (\$10 for students) should be made out to Norman Friedman.

RD: Graduate Research in the Arts is a refereed journal dedicated to publishing the work of graduate scholars in the Arts. Papers for RD are now being solicited from graduate students in the Arts, Fine Arts and Humanities in any of the following areas: language, literature and other artifacts/artefacts; constructions of self, gender, class and race; the academy itself and its institutional imperatives. Multidisciplinary and collaborative work is encouraged.

Address two copies of each paper to the editors with an SASE and proof of current enrolment in a graduate programme (for instance, photocopy of student card or letter from programme). Submissions can also be sent on disk (DOS or Macintosh format) or by e-mail. All submissions should conform to the *MLA Style Manual*.

Each paper is vetted blindly by at least one reader working in a similar area and by editors and members of the editorial board, all of whom are graduate students from various disciplines and institutions. Responses to each submission will be sent no later than three months after receipt

and articles will be published no later than one year after acceptance.

RD is also presently accepting applications from graduate students to act as readers of papers. Volunteers should include a CV, or a brief summary of their scholarly work and publications.

Send inquiries, papers and applications to: Editors, RD, c/o Graduate Programme in English, 215 Stong College, York University, North York, Ontario M3J 1P3, e-mail: RD@WRITER.YORKU.CA.

Submissions for RD 1 (Spring 1992) must be postmarked by 15 December, 1991. Submissions for RD 2 (Fall 1992) will be accepted until 31 August, 1992.

The JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA will hold its annual conference for 1993 in Lake Louise, Alberta, October 7-10, 1993. Guest speakers include Margaret Drabble, Isobel Grundy, and Elaine Showalter. The Austen novel particularly under consideration will be *Persuasion*. The organizers will consider proposals for break-out sessions submitted by June, 1992, and will announce the program in October, 1992. Papers should be suitable for the educated general reader. For further information, contact: Juliet McMaster or Bruce Stovel, Dept. of English, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E5.

MLA AWARDS

The 1991 JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL PRIZE will be awarded for an outstanding literary or linguistic study, a critical edition of an important work, or a critical biography. Studies dealing with literary theory, media, cultural

history, and interdisciplinary topics are eligible; books that are primarily translations are not. Only 1991 publications by authors who are current members of the MLA are eligible. Send six copies and a letter of nomination indicating title, author, and date of publication and affirming author's membership in the MLA to the MLA by March 1, 1992.

The 1991 MLA PRIZE FOR INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS is awarded for distinguished published research in the fields of English and other modern languages and literatures. 1991 publications are eligible; the author must, at the time of publication of the work submitted, (1) have received a terminal academic degree no fewer than four years earlier, and (2) not hold a tenured, tenure-accruing, or "tenure-track" position in a postsecondary educational institution. Authors need not be members of the MLA. Request an application form by writing to Independent Scholars Prize, MLA; send completed application with six copies of the work by May 1, 1992.

The 1990-91 HOWARD R. MARRARO PRIZE will be awarded biannually for an outstanding scholarly study of book or essay length on any phase of Italian literature or comparative literature involving Italian. Eligible are works published in 1990 or 1991; authors of nominated books must be current members of the MLA. Send four copies and a letter of nomination indicating title, author, and date of publication and affirming author's membership in the MLA by May 1, 1992.

The 1991-92 MORTON N. COHEN AWARD

will be given biannually for a distinguished edition of letters, of which at least one volume was published in 1991 or 1992. Editors of important collections of letters are eligible to apply for the award, regardless of the fields the editors and the authors of the letters represent. Eligibility does not depend on membership in the MLA. Send four copies and a letter of nomination indicating titles, editors, and dates of publication by May 1, 1993.

The 1991 MINA P. SHAUGHNESSY PRIZE will be awarded for an outstanding research publication (book or article) in the field of teaching English language and literature. 1991 publications are eligible; authors need not be members of the MLA. Send six copies and a letter of nomination indicating title, author, and date of publication by May 1, 1992.

News of Members

Peter ALLEN (Toronto) has published "An American at Mid-Victorian Cambridge: William Everett and the Cambridge Apostles," *Notes and Queries* ns 37 (1990): 42-43, and "Victorian Studies at the Wilkie Collins Centenary Conference," *Victorian Studies Association Newsletter* 45 (1990): 5-10.

Laurel BRASWELL-MEANS (McMaster) has published "Chaucer's Summoner and Physiognomia: A New Look at an Old Patient," *Chaucer Review* 25 (1991): 275-84; and "The Vulnerability of Volvelles in Manuscript Codices," *Manuscripta* 35 (1991): 43-54. Her "The Mystery of the Old Charter Chest: From Printed Book to Manuscript in *De Cursione Lune*" will be published in the *Proceedings of the Early Book Society International Conference, 1991*; and "Ethnic Transformations Through the Literary Imagination: Suchen Christine Lim's Singapore" in the *Proceedings for the Canadian Council on Southeast Asian Studies, 1991*.

Dennis DENISOFF (McGill) has published a novel, *Dog Years* (Arsenal Pulp P), which analyses AIDS as a cultural and linguistic metaphor.

Marjorie GARSON (Toronto) has published *Hardy's Fables of Integrity: Woman, Body, Text* (Oxford: Clarendon P, 1991).

Barbara GODARD (York) published translations of Nicole Brossard's *Picture Theory* and France Théoret's *The Tangible Word* (Guernica 1991). Other publications: *Audrey Thomas and*

Her Works (ECW); "Theorizing Feminist Discourse/Translation" in *Translation, History and Culture* Eds. Bassnett and Lefevere (Pinter); "The Politics of Representation: Some Native Canadian Writers," in *Native Writers and Canadian Writing* Ed. W.H. New (UBC); "The Discourse of the Other: Canadian Literatures and the Question of Ethnicity," *Massachusetts Review* XXXI; "(Re)Appropriation as Translation," *Canadian Theatre Review* 64.

Michael GREENSTEIN (Sherbrooke, Trent, Toronto) has forthcoming "Bellow's Hand Writing: The Tactile Imagination" in *Saul Bellow and the Struggle for the Center*, ed. Eugene Hollahan (New York: AMS). "The Muse and the Messiah: Cynthia Ozick's Aesthetics" has been reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* (Gale, 1991).

Helen HOY (Minnesota) has published "Alice Munro: 'Unforgettable, Indigestible Messages,'" *Journal of Canadian Studies* 26.1 (Spring 1991): 5-21 and "Hugh MacLennan (1907-1990)," *Canadian Writers and Their Works, Fiction Series, Volume Five* ed. R. Lecker and others, Toronto: ECW, 1990: 149-206.

Manina JONES has accepted a position as Assistant Professor at Carleton University. Her essay "'The collage in motion': Staging the Document in Reaney's *Sticks and Stones*" (*Canadian Drama* 16.1) received the Richard Plant Essay Prize from the Association for Canadian Theatre History. She has published "Log Entries: Exploring Discursive Space in Kearns's *Convergences*" in *Beyond Tish: New*

Writing, Interviews, Critical Essays, ed. Douglas Barbour (Edmonton: NeWest Press/West Coast Line, 1991).

Thomas KING (Minnesota) has edited *All My Relations: An Anthology of Contemporary Canadian Native Fiction* (M&S). His "Godzilla vs. Postcolonialism" appeared in *World Literature in English*, 30.2 (Aug. 1990). He published "Little Bombs" in *West Magazine*, Spr. 1990; "The One about Coyote Going West," in *Journal of Wild Culture*, Fall 1990; "Traplines" in *Stiller's Pond*, ed. Jonis Agee and others, 2nd ed. (New Rivers), also forthcoming in *Best Canadian Short Stories*, 1991, ed. Maggie Helwig; "A Seat in the Garden" in *Books in Canada*, Dec. 1990, in *Agassiz Review*, 2.1 (Spring 1991), and in *Talking Leaves: Contemporary Native American Short Stories*, ed. Craig Lesley (Dell); "Joe the Painter," in *Glide Path*, ed. S.D. Robinson (Prentice-Hall) and in *Modern Stories in English*, ed. W.H. New and H.J. Rosengarten (Copp-Clark Pittman); and poems in *Canadian Literature* 124-25 (Spr.-Sum. 1990). *Medicine River* won the Writers' Guild of Alberta award for Best Alberta Novel of 1990. He has forthcoming "Domestic Furies" in *Malahat Review*, and "Borders" in *Saturday Night*.

Sam MACEY (Emeritus, Victoria) has forthcoming *Time: A Bibliographic Guide* (Garland, February 1992). This first major multidisciplinary bibliography of academic publications on time contains 6,000 entries divided into 25 major disciplines and about 100 subdisciplines. Macey has now been invited to produce the first *Encyclopedia of Time*.

Barbara PELL (Trinity Western University) has published *The Little, Brown Handbook*, first Canadian edition (Gage 1991) co-edited with Deane Downey. She has also published "Faith and Fiction: Hugh MacLennan's *The Watch That Ends the Night*" in *Canadian Literature* 128 (Spring 1991), and has completed *Introducing Ernest Buckler's The Mountain and The Valley: A Reader's Guide* for ECW Press.

Ronald ROMPKEY (Memorial) has published *Grenfell of Labrador: A Biography* with the University of Toronto Press.

Winfried SIEMERLING has published "Perception, Memory, Irony: Mavis Gallant Greet Proust and Flaubert," *Essays on Canadian Writing* 42 (Winter 1990): 131-53.

Andrew STUBBS' (WLU) *Myth, Origins, Magic: A Study of Form in Eli Mandel's Writing* will be published by Turnstone Press. A collection of essays *The Politics of Art: Eli Mandel's Poetry and Criticism*, co-edited with Ed Jewinski, will be published by University of Giessen (Germany) Press.

Clara THOMAS (Emeritus, York) was awarded an Honourary D.Litt. degree by Trent University on May 31, 1991.

Brian F. TYSON (Lethbridge) has published *Bernard Shaw's Book Reviews* (Pennsylvania UP, 1991); he is working on a second volume of Shaw's book reviews for the same press.

Jerry A. VARSAVA (Memorial) has published *Contingent Meanings: Postmodern Fiction, Mimesis, and*

the Reader (Tallahassee: Florida State UP, 1990).

Douglas WURTELE (Carleton) has published "Treachery in Chaucer's Poetry," *Fifteenth-Century Studies* 18 (1991): 315-43.

MEMBERSHIP FORM 1992

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