

# ACCUTE Newsletter

September 1993

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## Calling All Members

It's time again to be preparing papers and proposals for presentation at the 1994 ACCUTE Conference. Remember, our conference depends for its success on the quality and originality of our members' presentations. See pp. 6-10 for submission guidelines and descriptions of proposed special sessions.

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## ACCUTE Office Hours

You can reach the ACCUTE office at (519) 824-4120, ext. 3268. The phone line is staffed Monday and Thursday, 1-3 p.m., (EST). If you call at any other time, please leave a message for us on the machine. Or send us a fax any time at (519) 766-0844.

## Thinking about the Profession

by Ed Pechter  
Concordia University

Many thanks to Bill Readings for his elegant and smart commentary, "Identity Crisis: The University and Culture" (*ACCUTE Newsletter*, June 1993, 8-10). He's right about "excellence" as the new transcendental signified. We're all for it, but since we disagree about its meaning, the term serves further to empower bureaucrats. This was Samuel Weber's general point in *Institution and Interpretation*. In the absence of consensus, meaning is determined by the people with the institutional power to make their version stick. In short, "excellence" is what the Vice Chancellor says it is.

But this raises the familiar question, what is to be done? Bill Readings suggests that "we have to think the University without an idea, as a place structured by the interminable dissymmetry that characterizes the pedagogic relationship." This is a good idea—for me and Bill Readings and our friends to talk about among ourselves; but when the managerial cadres begin fanning out from the Chancellor's office, armed with "excellence" as the basis to advise us what to teach and how to teach it if we wish to get new appointments, then such non-identity thinking isn't going to get us very far.

Let me suggest an alternative based on my experience at Concordia. Down the hill from *chez* Bill, we too are up to our eyeballs in "excellence," but even more so in "Academic Responsibility" (AR). In promoting the virtues of AR, our administrators have at the same time (and here's the key point) carefully juxtaposed it to Academic Freedom, whose status they systematically try to reduce or call into question.

You can see what they're doing. The

problem (from their point of view) with Academic Freedom is that it has substantial meanings defined cumulatively by a long legal and social and political history. In the specific context of tenure in Canada, it derives its meanings from the Crowe case in Manitoba in the 1950s and the development of CAUT, but the broader context goes back to Mill and Locke and includes free speech and individual rights. I'm talking about the liberal tradition.

I'd suggest that all of us—even those who see it as an ideological screen for bourgeois hegemony—ought to rally together around traditional liberalism in order to oppose the new bureaucrats. This isn't "Luddite nostalgia." It's more like what Queer Theorists call "strategic essentialism." Or maybe it's just plain coalition politics. We can (and should) fight among ourselves, but in this struggle we ought as academics to try for a common front. Academic Freedom gives us a shared ground to defend against the "ever more autonomous bureaucratic system" Bill Readings describes in his brilliant piece—and even some weapons by means of which to defend it.

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## In Memoriam Clarence Tracy

By James Gray

Professor Emeritus, Dalhousie University

Dr. Clarence Tracy, who was honoured by our Association some years ago, died in an Edmonton nursing home on Thursday, August 19, 1993. He was in his eighty-sixth year. A graduate student of Toronto and Yale, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, he taught at Queen's, Cornell, Alberta, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Acadia. He was Head of the English Department at Acadia from 1968 until his retirement in 1973, and from 1973 to 1975 he was Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto. His many publications include *The Artificial Bastard: A Biography of Richard Savage* (Toronto and Harvard 1953), an edition of *The Poetical Works of Richard Savage* (Cambridge 1962), the Oxford English Novels edition of Richard Graves's *The Spiritual Quixote* (1967), an edition of Samuel Johnson's *Life of Richard Savage* (Oxford 1971), *The Rape Observed*, an illustrated edition of Pope's *Rape of the Lock* (Toronto 1974), and *A Portrait of Richard Graves* (Toronto 1987). One of the founding members of our Association, Dr. Tracy participated in many of its meetings up to and beyond his retirement. In spite of a crippling arthritic condition, he continued active in scholarship well into the late eighties, when his last book was published. His wife, Minerva Jacox Tracy, and a daughter, Prudence, a senior editor in the University of Toronto Press, predeceased him very recently. He is survived by another daughter, Sarah Tracy Bohnet of Edmonton, Alberta, a son, Nicholas Tracy, and seven grandchildren.

## President's Column

### Election Fever

by Michael Keefer  
University of Guelph

The upcoming federal election is one I have been looking forward to -- not because I feel sanguine about the likely outcome, or anticipate that the campaign rhetoric of our politicians will be especially illuminating. (Prime Minister Campbell's recent attempts to deflect public attention to the question of which party is toughest on crime do not augur well for the prospects of intelligent debate on more fundamental issues.)

My reason is a simple one. This will be the first federal or provincial election since the mid-1980s in which I will have been eligible to vote. During the Nova Scotia election which followed Premier John Buchanan's resignation and his elevation amid billowing clouds of scandal to life everlasting in the Senate, I was in England doing research -- an expedition that also encompassed the period of Mr. Mulroney's Free Trade election. Presenting myself on both occasions at Canada House in London, scrubbed and eager, I was told that action-at-a-distance of the kind I had blandly assumed to be my democratic right was a privilege reserved for diplomats, soldiers and other servants of the state; sophisticated arguments as to the relative value of my own services as teacher, scholar and rhetorician cut no ice. In 1990, moving to Ontario, I found myself once again voteless in the provincial election of that year, thanks to a six-month residency requirement: it made no difference that I first saw the light in Kirkland Lake, Ont., and spent most of the first quarter-century of my life in that province.

So this time I'll be at the polling booth, stubby pencil in hand, teeth clenched with determination. I won't be so indiscreet as to predict which party will garner my precious vote -- although given the Conservative party's record in government on matters of higher education and national culture, the odds in their favour don't look good.

Let's consider some of the salient features of that record.

1. Although members of the Conservative government have periodically made statements recognizing the crucial contribution of postsecondary education and of university-based research to the country's social and economic health, these statements have been belied by the government's actions. Its policy from the start has been to cut back on federal transfer payments to the provinces, with the eventual aim of phasing them out altogether. Since 1986 this has meant the cutting of \$4.7 billion in transfer payments for postsecondary education alone. This policy has exacerbated the existing differences in funding available to colleges and universities in different parts of the country, and has contributed materially to the present crisis of underfunding in postsecondary education. (By 1990, the funding per student received by Ontario universities was approximately two-thirds of that received by comparable state-funded universities in the U.S.)

2. Since coming to power nearly a decade ago the Conservatives have made cuts totalling almost \$500 million to the CBC, the NFB, The Canada Council, Telefilm Canada and other cultural agencies. Insisting single-mindedly on a need to economize, the government has obstinately ignored arguments about the net economic benefits of cultural spending. The wide divergence between its handling of defense budgets and those of cultural agencies is clear evidence of

an ideologically driven agenda in which the support of Canadian cultural workers and the preservation of specifically Canadian cultural forms have a very low priority. (The cuts to the Canada Council, which have reduced its funding power by 25% from what it was in 1986, have led to the downscaling of the Reading Program and the cancellation of the Writers-in-Residence Program, thus reducing the access of college and university students to Canadian writers.)

3. The government's insistence on applying GST to books has had a serious effect on humanities research and scholarship in Canadian universities and colleges. Libraries have had to face what amounts to a 7% cut to their purchasing budgets, while universities and colleges have also had to absorb the administrative costs of collecting GST and applying for the applicable rebates. Some foreign academic publishers, refusing to collect the tax for the Canadian government, have simply abandoned the Canadian market; publisher's agents, which are required to pay tax on books held in stock, have often stopped holding books in stock, making the ordering process both slower and less efficient. Adding insult to injury, the government has made Canadian academics pay GST on manuscripts sent for evaluation by foreign publishers, as well as on complimentary copies of their own books published outside Canada. (Representations by ACCUTE to the Minister of Revenue on these issues have received only the most cursory of responses.)

4. The government's policy with respect to research funding has been as cynical as it has been vacillating. In his spring budget in 1992 the Minister of Finance announced a long-term program of increased funding (increases of 4% per year) for SSHRCC, NSERC, and MRC; in December, having allowed the Councils to make plans for

research funding on that basis, he declared that their budgets would be frozen (which in constant dollars means a cut in funding). A similar pattern is evident in the program for Networks of Centres of Excellence, which was announced with great fanfare in 1989. In November 1992 Brian Mulroney described this program, which had been funded with \$240 million over four years, as one of the great successes of his time in office; he declared that the government would "make our support permanent," since it would "be part of the government's strategy to ... work with industry, with labour, the scientific community and the provincial governments to build a more competitive economy." By early May, however, members of the government were suggesting that the program would be drastically cut; this has since happened.

5. Finally (though I won't recapitulate my comments on this subject in the December 1992 and March 1993 issues of the *ACCUTE Newsletter*), mention must be made of the government's attempted merger of SSHRCC with the Canada Council. This episode seems in several respects noteworthy.

(a) The merger was announced in February 1992 without any prior consultation of the affected communities. Subsequent input from the arts community, from the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and from the Social Sciences Federation was not welcomed.

(b) The statements made by government spokespersons about the financial implication of the merger were repeatedly shown to be disingenuous. Treasury Board projections made public in February 1993 revealed the initial claims that the merger would save money to have been untrue. Shortly thereafter, the assurances made by Tom Hockin, Minister for Science, in the House of Commons to the effect that

arts and research funding would remain clearly distinct, and the assurances given to Paule Leduc (president of SSHRCC and of the new amalgamated council-to-be) that research community funding was secure for three years, were flatly contradicted by the statements of Treasury Board officials to the Commons legislative committee. These officials made it clear that there would not be separate funding votes for the arts and research functions and for the administrative costs of each, but only a single vote for program expenditures and a single vote for administrative expenses--the clear intention being to make it possible to move resources around within the new council.

(c) The government refused to make any substantive amendment to the section of Bill C-93 which dealt with the merger. Even when the Conservative members of the Commons legislative committee assigned to review the bill acknowledged the merger to be ill-advised, and proposed a deal with the Liberals and the NDP for the immediate passage of the rest of C-93 in return for dropping the council merger section, the government was not willing to compromise.

(d) The defeat of Bill C-93 in the Senate appears to have set a historical precedent: it was, I believe, the first time in Canadian history that a government possessing a clear majority both in the House of Commons and the Senate has had its legislation defeated in the Senate.

Perhaps we should be taking a hint from that vote in the Senate. If people who are indebted to the Mulroney-Campbell government for a lifetime sinecure in the Senate find themselves unable, finally, to hold their noses and vote for it, what should that suggest to the rest of us about what to do on election day?

## Conference 1994: June 3-6

### Call for Papers

The 1994 ACCUTE Conference will be hosted by the University of Calgary from June 3 to 6. As always, the nature and the quality of our conference depends on our members: ACCUTE 1994 will only be as good as the papers you submit.

ACCUTE members are invited, then, to submit papers or proposals for consideration for the conference program; the final deadline for submissions is **November 15, 1993**.

If you are responding to our general call for papers, please send **three copies** of your paper or proposal to the ACCUTE office at the University of Guelph; if you are responding to the organizer of a proposed special session, please send **two copies** of your paper or proposal directly to the organizer (who will forward them to the ACCUTE office by mid-December). In either case, please include as well a **brief abstract** (not more than a paragraph in length). Each copy of your paper or proposal should also be accompanied by a **cover page** containing the following information: your name (in the form LAST, FIRST), address, phone and fax numbers, and a brief bio-bibliographical note.

Unless otherwise indicated by the organizer of a proposed special session, proposals should be at least 2-3 double-spaced pages in length, and completed papers must not be longer than 12-13 pages double-spaced (20 minutes speaking time). In order to permit blind reviewing by assessors, the papers and proposals themselves should contain no indication of the author's identity.

Please note that you must be a paid-up member of the Association for your submission to be considered for presentation at the ACCUTE Conference. And please do

not double-submit: members who do so will be asked to choose which paper or proposal they would like to have sent to the assessors. The ACCUTE office will do everything within its power to ensure that papers or proposals submitted in response to the general call for papers and those submitted to the organizers of special sessions have an equal chance of being included in the conference program. (The former are read by two specialist assessors as well as by the President of ACCUTE; the latter are passed on by the organizer to the ACCUTE office, where they will be read by at least two people, including the President and if possible a second specialist reader.)

Assessors will be asked to judge each paper or proposal according to the following criteria:

- ◆ its importance and originality as a work of scholarship, a contribution to theoretical understanding, or an assessment of issues that are (or should be) currently under debate among us;
- ◆ its argumentative coherence, interpretive subtlety, and rhetorical or writerly elegance;
- ◆ its suitability for oral delivery within the allotted time;
- ◆ the skill with which it makes its specialized concerns accessible to an audience many or most of whom will not be specialists in the area under consideration.

When making final decisions about the programme, the conference organizers consider the readers' reports, the necessity of including a range of period, national, theoretical and critical interests on the programme, and the ways in which the papers can be intelligently coupled in sessions.

Decisions will be announced in February, and a draft version of the program will appear in the March issue of the *ACCUTE Newsletter*.

### Proposed Joint Session

ACCUTE and ACQL/ALCQ will be organizing a joint session on **(E)Merging Literatures**. Members who would like papers or proposals which are submitted in response to the general call for papers to be considered for this session should indicate this on the cover sheet.

### Proposals for Special Sessions

The following Special Sessions have been proposed for the 1994 conference.

Submissions of proposals or completed papers should be received **in duplicate** by the organizer by **November 15, 1993**; they must be forwarded by the organizer of the Special Session to ACCUTE by December 15.

#### "Literature Producing Masculinities"

From Chaucer's miller to Mailer's Miller to Miller's Foucault,; from Defoe's Crusoe to Coetzee's Foe, Christianity's Father God to Coppola's Godfather, Freud's Oedipus, Jung's Animus, Lacan's Name-of-the-Father, Bly's Iron John, to Sedgwick's inhabitant of the glass closet, representations of masculinity have participated not just in reflecting social codes of male behaviour but also in producing, reinforcing, or resisting varieties of masculinity. This session invites as wide a range as possible of the ways literature produces certain masculinities as well as the ways masculinities produce certain literatures. Papers of all theoretical and methodological orientations will be considered, from surveys of existing scholarship to visionary speculations about future directions, from feminist analyses to those of the emerging "men's movement," from theoretical formulations to close

readings of particular texts. **Two copies** of papers or proposals must be received by **November 15**. Contact:

Daniel Coleman  
Department of English  
3-5 Humanities Centre  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E5  
Fax: 403 492-8142.

#### "T.S. Eliot's Cultural Work"

Submissions are invited for papers that examine such topics as Eliot's extra-literary criticism, his role as editor of writers such as Djuna Barnes and Marianne Moore, his bid in the first half of the century for control of the literary modes of production, configurations of gender in his writing, and questions of axiology. Work on other modernist writers that deals obliquely with Eliot would also be welcome. Submissions may take the form of two-page proposals or completed papers and should be sent **in duplicate** by **November 15**. Contact:

Lianne Moyes  
Etudes anglaises  
Univerité de Montréal  
C.P. 6128, Succ. A  
Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7.

#### "Re: Writing Canadian Literary History"

This session will focus on the representation of Canadian literary history in both the past and the present. Possible topics include the structural principles, evaluative norms, and cultural ends that necessarily inform its representations; the theoretical and methodological grounds of its power and limits; and the importance of international, regional, ethnic, and feminist perspectives. Papers primarily concerned with rethinking the theory of literary history in Canada or with reassessing the work of particular historians of Canadian literature

are equally welcome. Please send **two copies** of ten-page papers or two-page proposals, accompanied by a brief abstract and bio-bibliographical sketch, by **November 15** to

Philip Kokotailo  
English Department  
McGill University  
853 Sherbrooke St. West  
Montreal, PQ H3A 2T6  
Fax: 514 398-8146.

### "Cultural Studies *versus* English Studies?"

The lure of interdisciplinary studies is both intellectual and institutional -- at least at the level of funding (SSHRC). Yet departmental and disciplinary structures create practical barriers. This is a call for papers on either pragmatic issues/instances or theoretical concerns involved in being a literarily-trained scholar working in "cultural studies." Please send either completed papers (no more than 8 double-spaced pages) or 2-3 page proposals in **duplicate** by **November 15**, accompanied by a brief abstract and a brief bio-bibliographical sketch, to

Linda Hutcheon  
Department of English  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1.

### "Unsettling the Frontier"

A century after the Turner Thesis, the frontier as zone of cultural expression continues to excite public and scholarly debate. The question arises whether the U.S. and Canadian Wests can be conceptualized in new ways, especially in terms which challenge their incorporation into dominant national mythologies. This session seeks contributions which address new paradigms for Western study, either by discussing "lost voices," or by theorizing the field in revisionist terms, or by exploring the

processes of production, circulation, and reception which popularize fictional frontiers within and beyond North America. Submissions may take the form of detailed proposals or substantially completed papers and should be submitted in **duplicate** by **November 15** to:

Christine Bold  
Department of English  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1  
Phone: 519 824-4120 ext. 6315/3269  
Fax: 519 766-0844;  
e-mail: engbold@vm.uoguelph.ca.

### Special Session on Leonard Cohen

Submissions are invited for a Special Session at the 1994 ACCUTE Conference on the poetry and song of Leonard Cohen. Contemporary re-readings of Cohen, taking into full account the Proceedings of the Leonard Cohen Conference (Red Deer College, October 1993), and based on the forthcoming *Stranger Music* (M & S, October 1993) are preferred. Send **two copies** of papers and/or proposals, accompanied by a brief abstract and a brief bio-bibliographical sketch by **November 15** to:

Dr. E.F. Dyck  
English Department  
Red Deer College  
Red Deer, AB T4N 5H5.

### "Travel Writing and the Construction of Canada"

Submissions are invited for a session examining the role of travellers writing about Canada in the discursive construction of their object. While recent work in this vein on other colonies become nations has attracted much attention, the Canadian field is only now beginning to open up. Possible issues to be addressed include: transculturation and empire, nation and narration, representation

and appropriation, colony and post-colony, gender and class, centre and margin, occidentalism and aboriginalism, alterity and belonging. Submissions can take the form of two-page proposals or substantially complete 20-minute papers, and should be accompanied by a brief abstract and a brief bio-bibliographical sketch, all in **two copies** and by **15 November**. Contact:

Dr. John Thurston  
96 Rochester St.  
Ottawa, ON K1R 6R7.

### Special Session on Christina Rossetti

In recognition of the centenary of the death of Christina Rossetti, submissions are invited for a special session to be held at the 1994 ACCUTE conference in Calgary. **Two copies** of papers (not more than 12-13 double-spaced pages) or proposals (at least 2-3 double-spaced pages), accompanied by a brief abstract and one-paragraph bio-bibliographical sketch, on any aspect of Rossetti's work or biography should be sent by **November 15, 1993** to:

Mary Arseneau  
Department of English  
University of Ottawa  
175 Waller  
Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5.

### "Teaching *Communities* in the Canadian College System"

We are calling for papers on any aspect of the subject for a Member-organized session for the 1994 conference. Possible subjects might include: Moving from university to college teaching; Team teaching; Working in a multi-disciplinary classroom; Teaching habits and strategies that work in the classroom but never make it to the CV; Skills needed in colleges from which universities could benefit; What are university-colleges and why are people from BC so proud of

them?; Why post-graduates should look again at the college teaching option; Pedagogy; Curriculum: changes/alterations, relationships between lower and upper level courses, college as more than a "branch-plant" or feeder to university; Understanding *Community* in Colleges and Universities. **Two copies** of proposals and papers should be accompanied by a brief abstract and a brief bio-bibliographical sketch and be received no later than **15 November 1993** by:

Mary L. Griffin	or	Craig Tapping
Dept of English		Dept of English
& Creative Writing		Malaspina University
Kwantlen College		College
PO Box 9030		900 Fifth Street
Surrey, BC V3T 5H8		Nanaimo, BC V9R 5S5
phone: 604 599-2187		604 753-3245 x2125
Voice Mail Box #9161		email:
		TAPPING@mala.bc.ca
fax: 604 599-2068		604 741-2667.

### "The Rhetoric of Early Modern Colonialism"

Submissions are invited for a special session on the rhetoric deployed both for and against colonial expansion in the 16th and 17th centuries. Papers that interrogate and historicize the conventional terms of colonial criticism, such as "race," "primitive," "other," nation," "autochthony," are especially welcome. **Two copies** of completed papers or proposals should be sent by **November 15** to

Paul Stevens  
Department of English  
Queen's University  
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6.

### "Canadian Native Writers"

Submissions are invited for a Special Session on contemporary Native writers in Canada. Possible areas of exploration could be: the Native writer within the post-colonial situation; Canada's colonial policy vis-a-vis

its indigenous peoples and its impact upon the Native writer; re-imagining the aboriginal identity; sites of conflict within Native discourses on identity (tradition vs. modernity, for example); narrative strategies in the treatment of Western literary genres; pedagogical approaches to Native content in the college and university classroom; autobiographical and life-writing. Other topics are also welcome. Papers must adhere to a 20-minute presentation length. Send suggestions or two copies of submissions to:

Angelika Maeser Lemieux  
876 Gray Circle  
St. Laurent, PQ H4M 2C4.

#### "Theorizing Fashion/Fashioning Theory"

Submissions are invited for a Special Member-Organized Session focusing on the intersection between fashion and critical theory. Proposals covering any period or topic are welcome. Suggested areas of exploration include: fashion and feminist theory (How does fashion maintain and/or "trouble" notions of fixed gender categories?); fashion and queer theory (How do cross-dressing fetishism, and camp contribute to the (de)construction of identity politics?); fashion and postcolonial theory (How does fashion relate to questions of appropriation and otherness?); fashion and semiotics (How do we read the narratives embodied in such recent fashion trends as tattooing, piercing and branding?); fashion and pedagogy (How do academics "dress for success" in the classroom?). Submissions from graduate students and private scholars are especially encouraged. Please send **two copies** of proposals and/or papers, along with a brief abstract and bio to:

Peter Dickinson  
Department of English  
University of British Columbia  
#397-1873 East Mall  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1.

#### Special Session on D. H. Lawrence

Submissions are invited for a special session on D.H. Lawrence sponsored by the D.H. Lawrence Society of North America. The topic is open and could include evaluations of the Cambridge texts, influence upon Canadian writers/poets, gender studies, textual analysis, etc. Submissions may take the form of detailed proposals or substantially completed papers and should be sent to the organizer **in duplicate** by **November 15**. Contact:

Nanette Norris  
Department of English  
Marianopolis College  
3880 Cote des Neiges  
Montreal, PQ H3H 1W1.

#### Fulbright Scholarships Available

The Foundation for Educational Exchange Between Canada and the United States of America (The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program) supports faculty visits for research purposes by Canadian scholars to American universities for periods of up to nine months. The Foundation also supports scholarly exchanges for Canadian citizens engaged in doctoral or final degree programs. Proposed projects must further the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program to enhance the study of Canada in the United States, the United States in Canada and the relationship between the two countries. In addition to the general Canada-U.S. Fulbright awards, the Foundation offers fifteen corporate awards for students. The deadline for Canadian applicants for awards tenable during the 1994-95 academic year is September 30, 1993. For additional information, please contact

The Foundation for Educational  
Exchange Between Canada and the  
United States of America  
The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program  
29 Beechwood at MacKay, Suite 300  
Ottawa, ON K1M 1M2;  
phone 613 746-3324; fax 613 746-9170.

## Conferences/Calls for Papers

**Race, Ethnicity, and "Otherness" in America**, the 30th Conference of the Canadian Association of American Studies, will be held in Ottawa, November 3-5, 1994. This interdisciplinary conference will address race, ethnicity, and "Otherness" in the construction of America, and will examine the politics of multiculturalism from dominant and alternative perspectives. Individual abstracts are welcome, and participants are also encouraged to organize and submit sessions of two to three papers on a common topic. Innovative forms of presentation and collaboration are welcomed. Proposals to be submitted by February 15, 1994. For further information contact Priscilla Walton, Department of English, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6; phone 613 788-2600, ext. 2322; e-mail pwalton@ccs.carleton.ca.

**Culture/Counter-culture**, a conference for graduate students in eighteenth-century studies, will take place at Queen's University on October 16, 1993. The conference will feature presentations on a wide range of topics and works, all dealing in some way with the theme of "Culture/Counter-culture." Plenary speaker will be Dr. Felicity Nussbaum of Syracuse University. While the conference is designed as a forum for graduate student participation, anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Barbara Darby, Robert Eggleston, or Barbara Seeber, Department of English, Queen's University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6; phone 613 545-2153.

So how does a central Alberta college get to host an international and interdisciplinary celebration of the achievements of Leonrad Cohen?

The answer begins in a double whiskey,

neat, in a Rocky Mountain House bar called "The Bottom." It becomes a spawning cutthroat fishtailing its way up Hummingbird Creek; it surfaces briefly in a decision to "go" in December 1991, seduces dozens of faculty and students through the long winter of '92, nearly drowns in a net of budget and funding applications, but gets away in the pool of programming details. It will be taken on a wet gold-ribbed hare's ear, October 22.

Linda Hutcheon (Toronto) says, "It's time we took Cohen more seriously here in Canada." Cohen, in an interview with Peter Gzowski, dryly counters with the observation that his "comedic vision" has been, well, somehow missed -- so far. Robert Kroetsch (Manitoba) feels that a Cohen conference would be "a great thing for the literary scene." The serious, the comedic, the great thing? That's a fair description of the conference: "**Leonard Cohen: Singer as Lover, Reconsidered.**" It's happening October 22-24, 1993 at Red Deer College. Keynote speakers: Stephen Scobie and Ira Nadel. For information, contact T/Ed Dyck, Conference Chairperson, Red Deer College, Box 5005, Red Deer, AB T4N 5H5; phone 403 342-3320; fax: 403 340-8940.

Papers of approximately 25 minutes in English or French are solicited for the 1994 conference of the **Canadian Society for Aesthetics** the first week in June at the University of Calgary. Papers are welcome in any area of aesthetics or theory of the arts, especially on the set topics for the conference: Interdisciplinary approaches to the study of visual systems of representation; Mass Media: social and political aspects; Art and ontology; the existence of a post-colonial aesthetic; Popular art, popular culture: dinosaurs and contemporary bestiaries; the persistence of Country & Western. Please send three copies of the paper prepared for blind reviewing accompanied by an abstract

of 150 words to Astrid Vicas, Department of Philosophy, The University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5.

**Bibliography and Western Canada:** The Bibliographical Society of Canada is seeking proposals for papers to be delivered at the 1994 annual BSC conference, which will be held in conjunction with the Learned Societies meetins at the University of Calgary, June 7-8, 1994. Areas of special interest are: papers on library collections in Western Canada, papers on library collections about Western Canada, papers on bibliographical aspects of scholarly research relating to Western Canada, papers on bibliographical aspects of scholarly research projects situated in Western Canada, papers on publishing activities in Western Canada, papers on the book and literacy in Western Canada. Proposals should be submitted to the BSC, PO Box 575, Postal Station P, Toronto, ON M5S 2T1 by **January 1, 1994**.

**Discontinuities in Contemporary Renaissance Criticism:** The editors of a volume for the University of Toronto Press's Theory/Culture Series invite submissions of previously unpublished essays addressing the discontinuities, failures, problems apparent in recent criticism of the English Renaissance. Of special interest are essays that explore the contradictions between theory and practice: e.g., inconsistencies between postmodern theory and the desire to historicize; the growing opposition between poststructuralist and feminist approaches; the inclination to aestheticize political criticism; the reluctance even among radical critics to decentre canonical texts; biases generated by gender or sexual orientation, such as the tendency to universalize the heterosexual subject; tensions produced by a middle-class professoriate promoting various modes of

materialist criticism. Also welcome are essays that rehistoricize or recontextualize specific canonical or non-canonical literary texts. Please send proposals by **15 January 1994** or completed manuscripts by **1 June 1994** to: Viviana Comensoli, English Department, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON N2L 3C5; or Paul Stevens, English Department, Queen's University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6.

*Essays on Canadian Writing* invites submissions for a special issue on "Writing Ethnicity" to be guest edited by Winfried Siemerling. Papers on any aspect of the intersection between contemporary Canadian writing and recent theoretical debates on ethnicity and multiculturalism are welcome.

Essays could deal with individual writers/works in the context of ethnicity, offer comparisons between writers, or concentrate more closely on theoretical aspects of ethnicity, perhaps with reference to a larger corpus. Possible topics might include: ethnicity as category of reading/of critical reception; ethnicity as category of writing/of literary production; the construction (or "invention") of ethnicity; relationships between ethnicity and gender, ethnicity and race, ethnicity and class, ethnicity and the postcolonial; ethnicity and the canon; the return of the author (the question of the signature); appropriation; linguistic address and community; cross-cultural encounters/discoveries/invention; otherness and "othering."

Contributions of 6,000-7,500 words should be written in current MLA format. Please submit **two copies** by **15 December 1993** to: Dr. Winfried Siemerling, Centre for Comparative Literature, Room 14045, Robarts Library, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 1A1.

## News of Members

**Frances BEER** (York) has recently published *Women and Mystical Experience in the Middle Ages* (Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer 1992).

**Diana BRYDON** (Guelph) has co-authored, with Helen Tiffin of the University of Queensland, a book on postcolonial literatures entitled *Decolonising Fictions* (Dangaroo 1993).

**Ted CHAMBERLIN** (Toronto) has published *Come Back to Me My Language: Poetry and the West Indies* (McClelland and Stewart 1993). He is also directing the Aboriginal History project for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

**Brian CORMAN** (Toronto) has recently published *Genre and Generio Change in English Comedy 1660-1710* (University of Toronto Press, 1993). His "What is the Canon of English Drama, 1660-1737?" appeared in *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 26 (Winter 1992-93): 307-21.

**Tom GERRY** (Laurentian) has published *Contemporary Canadian and U.S. Women of Letters* (New York & London: Garland Publishing 1993), an annotated bibliography of the critical/theoretical works of women crossing the boundaries of fiction and/or poetry and criticism and theory.

**Barbara GODARD** (York) has recently published "Between Repetition and Rehearsa: Conditions of (Women's) Theatre in Canada" *Theatre Research in Canada* 13.1-2; "Petticoat Anarchists: The Sex of Fiction, the Fictive Sex, Joanna Wood" in *Women's Writing and the Literary Institution* (Edmonton: University of Alberta, History of the Literary Institution of Canada, 1992); "Critical Fictions," in *One Hundred Years of Critical Solitudes* (Toronto: ECW 1992); "Terroriestes d'amour; terroristes du récit" in *Le discours féminin dans la littérature postmoderne au Québec* (Lewiston: Mellen Research University Press 1992); "Traduzione: soggetto/i in transito" in *Questionis di teoria femminista* (Milan: La Tartaruga edizioni 1993); "Access, Responsibility/Une éthique de la difference raciale," *Tessera* 12 (Summer/été 1992); "Coloring

Rhetoric/Colorier la rhétorique," *Tessera* 13 (Winter/hiver 1993); "For the record..." *Tessera* 14 (Summer/été 1993) as well as entries on Hélène Cixous, Luce Irigaray and Intertextuality for the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Literary Terms* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 1993). She also edited the anglophone Canadian section for the *World Reader* (Harper Collins 1993).

**Ajay HEBLE** (Guelph) has published "A Foreign Presence in the Stall: Towards a Poetics of Cultural Hybridity in Rohinton Mistry's Migration Stories" in *Canadian Literature* 137 (Summer 1993): 51-61, and "La lente montée de l'étonnement: inclusion et transgression dans la poésie de Michael Ondaatje" (trans. Charly Bouchara) in *Ellipse* 46 (1991): 110-121.

**Dee HORNE** (Toronto) has accepted a tenure-track position in English at the University of Northern British Columbia (Prince George). She has recently published "Biography in Disguise: Sylvia Plath's Journals" in the *Wascana Review* 27.1 (Spring 1992).

**Chris JOHNSON** (Manitoba) has published essays in *Post-Colonial English Drama: Commonwealth Drama since 1960* (New York: St Martin's 1992) and *Images of Louis Riel in Canadian Culture* (Lewiston: Mellen 1992). His article, "Beyond Rhetorical Nationalism" will appear in *Canadian Theatre Review* 76, and while on leave in the coming academic year, he will be doing dramaturgical work with the Prairie Theatre Exchange.

**Trent KEOUGH** (RMC/Queen's) has published "The Dystopia Factor: Industrial Capitalism in *Sybil* and *The Grapes of Wrath*," in *Utopian Studies* 4.1 (1993): 38-54, and "The Existential Cycle of Bowering's B.C. Trilogy: Juan, John, Harry, and Heraclitus," in *Open Letter* 8th ser 7 (Summer 1993): 80-106.

**David LEAHY** (Concordia) has recently published "The Carnavalesque as Quiet Revolution in 1950s Quebec Fiction" in *Quebec Studies* 14 (1992); and has forthcoming "Engendering Wo/men and 'other' Anxieties in Hugh MacLennan's Novels" in the proceedings of *The Hugh MacLennan Symposium* (University

of Ottawa Press); and "Running in the Family, *Vokswagen Blues* and *Heroine: Three Post/Colonial Postmodernist Quests?*" in *Kunapipi* (Denmark). He is the current Secretary-Treasurer of the Association for Canadian and Quebec Literatures (ACQL/ALCQ).

**Joanne S. NORMAN** (Bishop's) has published "Text and Image in Medieval Preaching" in *Word and Image Interactions*, ed. Martin Heusser (Wiese Verlag 1993) and "Images and Image-Making at the Court of Francis I: Rondeaux for Louise de Savoie," *Proceedings of the Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric* 4 (1991-92).

**Malcolm PAGE** (Simon Fraser) has published this year *Howards End* (Macmillan: The Critics Debate series) and *File on Pinter* (Methuen: Writers on File series). He served as Visiting Lecturer in Theatre at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, from March to June.

**Norman RAVVIN** (Toronto) has upcoming in *Canadian Poetry*, "Writing Around the Holocaust: Uncovering the Ethical Centre of *Beautiful Losers*." A short story, "A Jew's House," will appear in the fall issue of *Parchment: Contemporary Canadian Jewish Writing*.

**Marian SCHOLTMEIJER** (Kwantlen College) has published *Animal Victims in Modern Fiction: From Sanctity to Sacrifice* (University of Toronto Press), a taxonomy of the cultural dilemmas that cluster around animal victims in fiction written since the acceptance of Darwinian continuity

between human and nonhuman animals.

**Eleanor TY** (Wilfrid Laurier) has accepted a tenure-track position in English at Wilfrid Laurier University. She has published *Unsex'd Revolutionaries: Five Women Novelists of the 1790s* (University of Toronto Press 1993). An article, "Jane West's Feminine Ideals of the 1790s," appears in *1650-1850: Ideas, Aesthetics, and Inquiries in the Early Modern Era* 1 (May-June 1993): 1-19.

### News of Members and other Announcements of Interest to ACCUTE Members

Using the format of the *Newsletter* [Percy SHELLEY (Oxford) has published ...], please let us know about your recent publications and other matters of interest to the membership. Items must be typed, *must not exceed 50 words*, and must not require copy-editing. Space constraints preclude the mention of conference papers, research grants, reviews or encyclopedia entries. To appear in the September 1993 issue of the *Newsletter*, items must reach the ACCUTE office by August 16, 1993.

## Membership Renewals

It's that time again to think about renewing your membership to ACCUTE to ensure that you continue to enjoy the benefits of your professional organization — including the ACCUTE newsletter, which keeps you abreast of the professional issues facing faculty teaching English across Canada; *English Studies in Canada*, the journal forum for new research; and of course, the opportunity for stimulating professional, intellectual, and social exchange offered by the annual conference.

If the address label on this newsletter (or your last copy of *ESC*) indicates "(93)" after your name, your membership will expire at the end of this year. You will find a membership renewal form on the last two pages of this newsletter. Please take a few moments to fill it out and send it back. Should you or your colleagues require additional copies of the form, feel free to photocopy as many as you need. All membership fees will be acknowledged by a receipt.

# 1994 Membership Form

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**Primary Listing (*List only 1 area of specialization*)**

List specialization by Period / Nationality / Genre first; include other areas (Theoretical Methodology, Culture / Gender Studies; Authors / Works, etc.) if necessary.

Example: Modern British Drama; Feminist Theory, G.B. Shaw

If you are applying for a household membership, please differentiate clearly between research interests for each member.

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