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# ACCUTE Newsletter

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September 1997

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**Important Information: if your address label contains (97) it is time to renew!**

## 1998 Call for Papers

1998 will mark the inaugural meeting of the Learned Societies under the format of the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities, 27-30 May at the University of Ottawa. Many new features will be added to the familiar programs, making the 1998 Congress one you won't want to miss. See pp. 2-13 for Calls for Papers for ACCUTE 98.

**Deadline for submission of papers and proposals is 15 November 1997.**

**Calls for Papers and Proposals  
The 1998 ACCUTE Conference  
University of Ottawa, May 27th-30th**

**\*Deadline for Submissions:  
November 15th, 1997\***

**The New Congress**

1998 will mark the inaugural meeting of the Learned Societies under the format of the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities, in which many new features will be added to the familiar programs. These include a series of three high-profile colloquia on the Congress themes, featuring leading national and international scholars, and special events linking the Congress meetings with the private and public sectors of the host regions. Discussions are also underway concerning the possibility of transforming the Publishers' Exhibit into a Book Fair and Writers' Salon.

The initiatives planned by the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada (HSSFC) for the new congress will make the 1998 meeting of the Learned Societies a historically significant one. In part these initiatives are a response to the intense pressure for accountability that organizations such as SSHRC and HSSFC have experienced from political constituencies pressing for cuts in funding to the Humanities and Social Sciences. The changes are also designed to address the continuing problems that the Learned Societies have had with public perception and media coverage (for more on this, see the President's Column in the June newsletter). Some ACCUTE members may be inclined, for very legitimate reasons, to question changes in the format of the Learned Societies meetings or ACCUTE's own conference that respond to pressures for accountability and public relevance. We encourage such members to attend the new Congress and to propose papers that stimulate debate about the broader issues at stake.

**Allied Associations and the Shared Program**

The colloquia planned for the new Congress will give added momentum to the enhanced spirit of cooperation and the cross-disciplinary linkages generated by last year's Shared Program of the Allied Societies. Coordinated by the ACCUTE office, the Shared Program brought together in one combined program the conference sessions of nine scholarly associations, and led to an unprecedented number of joint sessions and plenaries.

Given the positive response to the 1997 Shared Program from members of all the participating societies, the executive will make every effort to continue this venture in 1998. We welcome your suggestions regarding opportunities for cooperation with other societies you may belong to, as well as your comments on how to improve the format of the Shared Program.

**ACCUTE Presenters: A Profile**

At the Memorial conference, approximately 70% of the papers presented were given by researchers with doctorates, from the sessional to the full professor and retired ranks. The remaining 30% were presented by graduate students, almost all of whom were doctoral students in English. Our discipline is enriched by the exchange of ideas and approaches among researchers at various stages of their careers. To promote this dialogue and exchange, we encourage members from all ranks and in a wide range of fields to submit papers and proposals for the 1998 Conference. Given the high number of early retirements that have recently taken place across the country, we issue a special invitation to recently retired members. Many of these members have earned distinguished reputations for their scholarship, and have retired from full-time teaching in order to devote more time to their research and scholarly work.

### **A Note About Travel Funding**

Last year's ACCUTE survey indicated that not all of our members were aware that ACCUTE normally is able to offer substantial travel support to presenters. In the last year, the executive has cut back severely on administrative expenses in order to preserve this travel budget. Given the large reduction in SSHRC support our Association has experienced, we strongly encourage members to apply to their own institutions when travel support is available from such sources. The more pressure on our budget, the less completely we can cover each presenter's transportation costs. But we also wish all members of our Association to be aware that accepted presenters are eligible to apply for travel costs. In the past, ACCUTE has normally been able to cover from 70 to 100% of the cost of seat-sale airfares or the most economical form of ground transportation. In the case of members presenting in joint sessions with other societies, the other participating society may be asked to contribute 50% of the travel costs incurred.

#### **The 1998 Calls for Papers: Options**

Members of ACCUTE are invited to submit proposals or papers in response to our general Call for Papers, or to respond to the calls on particular topics issued by members seeking to organize sessions or joint sessions with other societies. Under the general Call for Papers, members can submit papers or proposals on topics of their choice, or alternatively, they can choose to address one of the 1998 ACCUTE Conference Themes, listed below. We also encourage members to propose papers or proposals for the Health Colloquium ACCUTE is helping to coordinate (see below) or for our Professional Concerns sessions.

#### **(1) An Open Call for Papers and Proposals Related to Your Current Research**

The ACCUTE conference provides an

opportunity for members to communicate important transformations in their own fields of expertise to specialists in other fields, and to learn about new developments in other fields themselves. Unlike more specialist societies, ACCUTE seeks to promote the general exchange of ideas, paradigms and pedagogical and professional concerns among Canadian university and college teachers of English. To this end, we invite members to submit papers and proposals reflecting their current research projects and interests. The executive would particularly like to receive submissions in areas and fields that have been under-represented in recent ACCUTE conferences (Eighteenth-Century is one particularly notable example of such a field). If you would like to see the field you work in better represented in the 1998 ACCUTE conference, why not submit a proposal, and encourage other colleagues working in your field to do the same?

#### **(2) A Call for Papers Addressing the 1998 ACCUTE Conference Themes**

The new practice of establishing themes for ACCUTE's annual conference, linked to the overall theme or themes of each year's Learned Societies meetings, was supported by more than 80% of the respondents to last year's cross-country survey. The 1998 Congress Themes are **Health, The Public Good, and Migration/Immigration**. In our June newsletter, we circulated a preliminary list of tentative themes linked to the Congress Themes, and asked members for their input on these. We would like to thank all of those members who responded to this invitation. We have taken your comments into account in revising our preliminary list.

In establishing themes for the 1998 ACCUTE conference, the executive has tried to select topics appropriate for critics, scholars and teachers working in a range of historical periods and suited to varying approaches and disciplinary contexts. We emphasize, however, that members should not feel limited to the

particular themes suggested below. On the contrary, members, should feel free to extend the themes in ways that their own research interests may suggest.

### **ACCUTE 98: Conference Themes**

#### **Literature, Health, and Disease**

- Representations of Illness (e.g. the plague, melancholia, consumption, madness, cancer, AIDS)
- Constructions of the Body
- Medicine and Literature
- Literature and Science
- Trauma Narratives; the Memory Wars
- Literature and Psychoanalysis
- Tragedy, Comedy and Healing
- Disposed Peoples and Cultural Healing
- Literature and Addiction; Drugs or Alcohol and Creativity
- Food, Feast and Famine

#### **The Public Good**

- Literature and Ethics
- The Social Functions of Literature (e.g. Satire and Social Health, Literature and Recreation)
- The Body Politic; Paradigms of the State
- The "Good Citizen"
- Political Languages and Public Values
- Languages of Tolerance
- Privacy and the Public Good
- Culture and Censorship

#### **Migration/Immigration**

- The Migration of Cultures, Languages and Learning
- Writers in Exile/Expatriate Writers
- Dispossession; Diasporas
- Nomadism; Homelessness
- Borders and Barriers
- The Country and the City; Centres and Margins
- The Traffic in Women, Workers or Slaves

### **(3) The Health Colloquium: An Invitation for Proposals and Input**

ACCUTE has been invited to take the lead, with the Canadian Philosophical Association, in coordinating the first of the three high-profile colloquia planned for the 1998 Congress, the Colloquium on the contribution of the Humanities and Social Sciences to the Study of Health. Each of the Congress Colloquia must meet certain criteria: sponsorship by two or more societies; pertinence across several disciplines; high-profile speakers who are leading researchers in their fields, including international speakers; and representation from sectors outside the academy.

Discussions over the summer with the CPA have resulted in the following tentative format for the Health Colloquium, now scheduled for May 28th, the second day of ACCUTE. (This format may change in the process of consultation with the executives of other participating societies.)

The morning sessions will be taken up by sessions sponsored by various societies and/or joint sessions. (See below for the Call for Submissions for an executive-organized joint ACCUTE/CPA session on Health Care Ethics: Literary and Philosophical Perspectives.)

The lunch hour may be used for more informal "brown bag" workshops and sessions bringing together academic researchers with representatives of community groups, professional organizations, and government offices in the host region, and various organizations and constituencies (for example, health professionals, societies focused on certain illnesses or on disabilities, women's groups, aboriginal associations). By planning these events during the lunch hour when non-academics in the host region may be able to attend them, and by drawing on the resources of the HSSFC to advertise them, we hope to facilitate the kind of outreach to the public that the new format of the 1998 Congress is designed

to foster.

The afternoon may feature additional sessions sponsored by societies, and, in the late afternoon, a plenary session. During the evening, we hope to organize a plenary panel with high-profile speakers, possibly involving participation by the Minister of Health or a Deputy Minister, to be followed by performances of drama, art or music related to the theme of Health and healing.

Other events associated with the Health Colloquium will run through the ACCUTE conference, given the varying meeting dates of participating societies, and the kinds of submissions we receive from members (for instance, possible joint sessions with the Canadian Association of Women's Studies cannot take place until May 30th, when the CWSA meetings begin).

We encourage ACCUTE members to contact us during September and October with their suggestions regarding appropriate speakers, sessions or workshops for the Health Colloquium, possible joint sessions with other societies you may belong to, and ideas for outreach into the wider community.

### **Professional Concerns and the the CPC**

At the meeting with Campus Reps in St. John's, interest in Professional Concerns Sessions on two subjects was expressed. The first topic was new structures for graduate programs, possibly involving joint college-university ventures for classes in Professional and Technical Writing, a more flexible system of faculty exchange among institutions, and the sharing of resources among institutions. In keeping with the "Migration/Immigration" theme of the 1998 Congress, a session on the Migration and Immigration of Expertise was also suggested, focusing on hiring policies and practices (for example, "open borders" versus hiring Canadian).

In his report as outgoing Chair of the Committee for Professional Concerns (see the June newsletter, pp. 8-11), Professor Herbert

Rosengarten listed a number of other possible subjects calling for attention or continuing investigation: the working conditions of sessionals; preparing students for the job market; the training of Teaching Assistants; criteria for tenure and promotion and recognition, in assessments for tenure and promotion, of non-core activities such as journal editing and other forms of service to the profession.

As usual, the Executive welcomes comments on any of these topics or suggestions regarding other professional concerns you would like to see addressed, including suggestions for speakers and proposals for presentation.

### **(5) Member-Organized Sessions**

A number of Calls for Member-Organized Sessions are listed below. Check the ACCUTE website for possible additional Calls for Papers for joint sessions with other societies received too late for inclusion in this newsletter.

### **Procedures for Submitting Papers or Proposals:**

If you are responding to our general call for papers, please send **three copies** of your paper or proposal to the ACCUTE office at Dalhousie (c/o Department of English, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 3J5). Submissions should be postmarked no later than **15 November 1997**. If you are responding to the organizer of a proposed special session please send **three copies** of your paper or proposal directly to the organizer by the same date. The organizer will forward copies of the proposals or papers received to the ACCUTE office by **December 15th**, together with assessments of each submission.

Unless otherwise indicated by the organizer of a special session, proposals should be **300 to 500 words** in length. **This year, we also strongly encourage submission of an electronic copy of all proposals by e-mail as well as three hard copies.** This rule applies in the case of member-organized sessions as well as submissions sent in response to the general call for papers.

Electronic copy will facilitate the vetting of proposals and reduce the costs of postage for our Association. By saving postage, we hope to reserve more money to support presenters' travel costs.

If you are submitting a completed paper, it should be no longer than **12 to 13** double-spaced pages (approximately 20 minutes speaking time). Please include a copy on disk, if you can, clearly labelling the disk with your name, the title of your paper, and the computer program used. The aging ACCUTE computer can most easily handle electronic text saved in WordPerfect 5.1 for MSDOS.

Each copy of your paper or proposal should be accompanied by a **cover page** containing the following information: your name (in the form LAST, FIRST), address, e-mail, phone and fax numbers, the title of your paper, and a **50-word bio-bibliographical note**. Also include with each copy, on a separate page, a **100-word abstract** of your paper, including its title. **Abstracts and bios exceeding these limits will have to be cut for inclusion in the conference program.** If you are submitting electronic copy or a disk, please include electronic copies of your abstract and bio as well. In order to permit blind reviewing by assessors, the papers and proposals themselves should not include the author's name, position or institutional affiliation.

**\*\*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. Submitting a paper or proposal to a member-organized session as well as one in response to our general call for papers is a form of double submission.**

#### **Vetting of Papers and Proposals**

With the exception of presentations in

#### **Executive-Organized Joint Session with the Canadian Philosophical Association Health Care Ethics: Literary and Philosophical Perspectives**

Whether the subject be the treatment of the insane, euthanasia, sexual behavior, state interventions in the family "at risk," or debates about abortion and new reproductive technologies, dilemmas in health care ethics often form the focus of literary works and philosophical analysis. The ACCUTE executive invites papers and/or proposals for a panel focusing on issues in health care ethics. Presentations for this panel should be no longer than 15 minutes, suited to an interdisciplinary audience, and designed to encourage debate. Possible topics include literary representations of the ethics of health care; changing historical constructions of ethical standards; the metaphors and/or narrative structures used to frame questions of ethics; and the ways in which literary representations of health care ethics are inflected by gender, class, race and ethnicity, or assumptions about "able" bodies and sexual orientation. Submissions to this executive-organized joint session should be sent to the ACCUTE office, with a note requesting that they be considered for the joint session on Health Ethics, by November 15th. Submissions that receive strong endorsements from our vetters but that cannot be included in this session may be placed elsewhere in the conference program.

executive-organized sessions, all submissions for the ACCUTE Conference Program are vetted by a least two specialists in the field and read by the ACCUTE President. In the case of member-organized sessions, the organizer acts as the first vettor; the submissions to the proposed session are then sent out to a second vettor, with the names of the submitters withheld, as in the case of submissions received in reponse to the general Call for Papers. 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.

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

#### **A. Guidelines for the Assessment of Papers:**

1. *Significance*: the paper should make an original contribution to scholarship, to theoretical understanding, or to current debates on matters of common interest to ACCUTE members.
2. *Accessibility*: if focusing on a single and little-known text, the paper should address issues that would be of interest to members unfamiliar with it, and indicate these in its title. A good paper should invite the interest of non-specialists.
3. *Presentation*: the arguments of the paper should be made coherently and with rhetorical polish.
4. *Length*: papers at the conference must be effectively presented in 20 minutes or less. Papers written without consideration of this time constraint (i.e. papers over 3000 words in length) will need significant re-writing. In cases in which the scholarly significance of the paper might justify such re-writing, vettors may make the case for it, but this remains a matter of their professional judgement.

#### **B. Guidelines for the Assessment of Proposals:**

1. A good proposal should have a clear thesis. It should present some indication of the evidence that will be put forward to support it. It should

take into account published criticism relevant to the topic being investigated. In short, it should read like the abstract of an argument written by someone knowledgeable in the field concerned, not the description of an interesting area for investigation.

2. As well, a good proposal should give a strong indication that it will result in a paper meeting the criteria in ACCUTE's guidelines for papers, above.

#### **Criteria for Selection**

When making final decisions about the program, the conference organizers place most emphasis on the reports of the vettors. Any submission receiving two assessments of "Outstanding" by our vettors is automatically included on the conference program. In the small number of cases where a proposal or paper is assessed as outstanding by one vettor and poor by another, the organizers try, wherever possible, to obtain the opinion of a third specialist vettor.

The organizers also consider 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 grouped in coherent sessions. Other factors taken into account in deciding between equally ranked submissions include the scholarly achievement reflected in the bio-bibliographical note (particularly in the case of proposals as opposed to completed papers); regional representation; and whether or not the submitter has presented at the preceding year's ACCUTE conference. In the case of joint sessions with other societies, ACCUTE has to be prepared to respect the other society's procedures for selection. But wherever possible, we also seek the opinion of a specialist reader who is a member of our own Association as well. You will receive notification of the decision concerning your submission in late February. A draft version of the program will appear in the March 1998 issue of the *ACCUTE Newsletter*.

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## Proposals for Member-Organized Joint Sessions

### **Representations of Commerce in Early Modern England A Joint Session of ACCUTE and the Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies**

One of the most fruitful collaborations between historians and literary scholars has been the recent work on economics and literature. This panel will provide a forum for interdisciplinary perspectives on representations of early modern commerce. Topics might include: merchants and mercantile activity; the relationship between producers, merchants, and consumers; early modern finance (banking, moneylending, investment, foreign exchange); numismatic problems; international versus domestic markets; representations of foreign traders and aliens; trade routes and travel; shipping and commodities; civic versus national or international interests and institutions; the Merchant Adventurers and other companies; New World ventures; redefinitions of the market; and culture and the rise of capitalism. We are particularly interested in papers which consider both historical events/phenomena and textual representations of those events in drama, literature, or historical documents. Please send 3 copies of proposals or papers, 100-word abstracts, and 50-word bio-bibliographical sketches by 15 November 1997 to:

Janelle Jenstad, Department of English, Queen's University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6 email: 3jaj6@qsilver.queensu.ca

or

Karen Bamford, Department of English, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB E0A 3C0  
email: kbamford@mta.ca e-mail submissions are welcome, but hard copy must follow

### **Age and Ageism A Joint Session of ACCUTE and the Canadian Women's Studies Association**

Given that aging and ageism are experienced differently by women and men, as by sexualized, racialized and classed groups, how does culture differentially construct aging and ageism in literature, art, film and other media? How is ageism gendered and racialized? Do ageism and homophobia intersect? Papers might also consider different cultural histories of aging and ageism: when and under what conditions does ageism begin to emerge in literature and non-literary discourses? Organizers Mary Wilson Carpenter (Queen's) and Virginia Rock (York). Please send 3 copies of papers or proposals, 100-word abstracts, and 50-word bio-bibliographical sketches by 15 November 1997 to:

Mary Wilson Carpenter, 16 Stafford Rd., Newton Centre, MA 02159, USA  
email mcarpenter2@compuserve.com



**The Migrating Subject:  
Displacement, Dispossession and the Reconstitution of Identity  
A Joint Session of ACCUTE and  
the Canadian Association of Commonwealth Literatures and Languages**

This panel seeks to expand upon ongoing investigations of the migrant condition both as social phenomenon and as a trope for a destabilised subjectivity by examining texts which take as their focus the question of how the subject comes to configure a self or a community that has heretofore been DISpossessed. Dislocation and displacement may simultaneously entail an expropriation of material belongings, an eradication of social position, an expulsion from a homeland, a psychic trauma, the dismantling of a political or ideological system, a loss of community. How do texts addressing extreme instances of dispossession (those dealing with victims of slavery, ethnic cleansing, genocide or communalist violence, refugees or illegal immigrants, for instance) treat processes of identity formation, both individual and social, in the aftermath of such radical dislocation? How are different subjectivities negotiated in the process of displacement? How do experiments with language and narrative technique inform or influence the processes of reconstitution or reorientation? How, if at all, are clashes between different locations or loyalties circumvented? Please send three copies of your paper (12-13 pages, double-spaced) or proposal (2-3 pages, double-spaced), along with a brief abstract and 50 word bio-bibliographical sketch by 15 November 1997 to:

Dr. Susan Spearey, Department of English, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON L2S 3A1  
email: [sspearey@spartan.ac.brocku.ca](mailto:sspearey@spartan.ac.brocku.ca)

**Religion and Literature  
A Joint Session of ACCUTE and the Christianity and Literature Study Group**

The Christianity and Literature Study Group (which will meet concurrently with the ACCUTE meetings at the Congress in Ottawa in May 1998) invites 20-25 minute papers on any subject under the general rubric of "religion and literature." We welcome submissions from doctoral students and contributions to sessions on critical theory and pedagogy.

Please contact:

Barbara Pell, Department of English, Trinity Western University, Langley, BC V2Y 1Y1 (604) 888-7511, FAX 513-2010, e-mail: [pell@twu.ca](mailto:pell@twu.ca)

**Check the ACCUTE website for additional proposals for joint sessions  
with other societies that arrived after this newsletter was typeset.**

## Proposals for Member-Organized Sessions, 1998

**Note:** Those submitting to a Member-Organized Session should read the Procedures for Submitting Papers or Proposals above (pp. 5-6). Please submit 3 copies of your abstract and bio, as well as 3 copies of your paper or proposal.

### Contemporary Canadian Trauma Narratives

Psychological trauma plays a significant role in several recent Canadian novels. This session will focus on 5 novels whose narratives center on traumatic events and their lasting psychological effects: *Alias Grace*, *The Cure for Death by Lightning*, *The English Patient*, *The Englishman's Boy* and *Fugitive Pieces*. The traumatic events portrayed in these novels include war, genocide, physical violence, and pain, sexual violence, betrayal and loss. The session will explore issues such as trauma's relationship to narrative, and trauma as a source of narrative, as well as narrative techniques for portraying trauma. Possible subjects for papers include the appropriation of one person's trauma to create narratives for the entertainment or titillation of others, a subject central to both *The Englishman's Boy* and *Alias Grace*. Other potential topics include the relation of trauma to memory, mystery, and guilt, as well as the role of gender, race, and childhood in trauma narratives.

Finally, we might ask why trauma is a central theme in so many current Canadian novels, and if there is anything particularly Canadian about the way these writers depict trauma. Psychological trauma is not a new theme in Canadian literature; Atwood's *Surfacing*, Kogawa's *Obasan*, and Findley's *The Wars* are all trauma narratives. Are such narratives increasingly common, however, because the fragmentary, repressed, and recurring patterns of traumatic memories particularly suit the contemporary novel? Or does the presence of trauma in a novel such as *The English Patient* permit the expression of emotions that would

otherwise risk sentimentality?

Proposals should be about 2 pages long, papers, about 10 pages. I prefer papers on one or more of these 5 novels, but I welcome other suggestions. Please send three copies of your proposal or paper, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bio-bibliographical sketch, by November 15 to:

Karen Kebarle, Apt. O, 173 Daly St.  
Ottawa, ON K1N 6E8  
PHONE (613) 231-4526  
EMAIL kkebarle@istar.ca

### AIDS and Literature

Beginning around the time of the 1996 International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver, our understanding of the syndrome, according to many observers, altered significantly. New treatments that are highly effective in suppressing HIV have caused many to argue that AIDS is now typically a chronic condition, rather than a mortal illness. How does this new understanding alter our perception of the literature of the 80s and early 90s that took AIDS as a theme? How is AIDS represented in these literary texts? What does "AIDS" signify in such texts? What themes occur—or recur—in the literature of AIDS? Finally, are these texts still relevant as "AIDS literature," or should they now be read in different—possibly broader—terms? This panel will attempt to address such questions and to suggest possible answers. Submissions concerning any genre—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, libretto—are encouraged. Submissions on Canadian literature are particularly sought, although studies of works from any national background are welcomed. Please send, no later than 15 November, three copies of your paper or proposal, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word biographical note to:

George Piggford  
English Department  
Tufts University  
Medford, MA 02155

### **Women/Community/Health: Narrative Intersections**

Submissions are invited for a proposed session at the 1998 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities on the intersections that exist between a community's narrative(s) of itself, women's narratives, and community health. In what ways do women's stories complement or challenge their narratives of community? Possible topics include fictional and non-fictional accounts of midwifery; care of the elderly; child-rearing; intergenerational relationships; memory and memory-loss or repression; drug dependency and recovery; gender and sexual orientation; death and dying. Please send three copies of 300-500 word proposals or completed papers (also submit a 100-word abstract and a 50-word academic biography with both papers and proposals) by November 15, to:

Shelley Hulan or Edith Snook,  
Department of English  
(University College Rm. 173),  
University of Western Ontario,  
London, ON N6A 3K7  
email: shulan@julian.uwo.ca or  
esnook@julian.uwo.ca

### **What's the Problem with Trollope?**

Anthony Trollope remains a guilty pleasure, despite the revival of interest in his works; his novels are all in print, many in multiple editions, and scholarly studies of his work appear regularly. Since A. O. J. Cockshut asserted Trollope is "a gloomier, more introspective, more satirical, and more profound writer than he is usually credited with being," many commentators invite us to find Trollope more serious or problematic than has hitherto been recognized, thereby justifying study of a writer widely thought to be essentially comic, conservative, and bourgeois. Despite such attempts to problematize Trollope and therefore justify Trollope studies, though, a stigma still remains; as recently as 1993, an article asked in its title, "Is It All Right to Read Trollope?" (Louise

Weinberg, *The American Scholar* 62). What is so problematic about Trollope that he must be made a problematic writer to justify study? Must we problematize his writing to appreciate it? If so, why should we indulge in the exercise? If not, why do we indulge in it? I invite papers which defend, decry, or demonstrate in action the problematization of Trollope. Please submit three copies of papers and proposals, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bibliographical sketch, by November 15 to:

Dr. Dominick M. Grace  
English Department  
Algoma University College  
1520 Queen St. E.  
Sault Ste Marie, ON P6A 2G4  
E-mail submissions may be sent to  
grace@tbird.auc.on.ca, but please provide  
hard copies before November 30.

### **Twentieth-Century Literary Magazines and the Expatriate Experience**

The growth of literary magazines (both "little" and more commercially viable) has played an often-acknowledged role in the development of twentieth-century literature. But these publications seem to be particularly well-suited to the experience of the expatriate or exiled writer. By defying narrow national boundaries in search of diversity, literary magazines have shared the vision of emerging artists across new and varied readerships and have even provided the means by which expatriates and exiles address anew a readership left behind. Papers are invited, then, on any aspect of the twentieth-century literary magazine and the expatriate experience. Subjects might include studies of individual titles that fostered exiled writers, considerations of particular expatriates who made use of the proliferation of literary magazines, or theoretical discussions of magazine publishing itself and its suitability in furthering the cause of literary wayfarers. Three copies of proposals or completed papers with a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bibliographical sketch should reach, by November 15,

Dr. Craig Monk  
 Department of English  
 University of Lethbridge  
 4401 University Drive  
 Lethbridge, AB T1K 3M4  
 email: craig.monk@uleth.ca  
 Web: <http://home.uleth.ca/craig.monk/home.htm>

### **Asian(-)Canadian Writing II: Towards Emergent Poetics, Prosaics, and Politics**

The 1998 panel(s) will continue the lively discussion and debate initiated at St. John's, 1997. Submissions are invited on established and particularly new writers (published within the past few years) such as Wayson Choy, Larissa Lai, Thuong Vuong-Riddick, Sally Ito, Paul Yee, Terry Watada, Hiromi Goto, Lydia Kwa, Denise Chong, Yan Li, Phinder Dulai, Judy Fong Bates, Lily Chow, Jan Wong, Sadhu Binning, Himani Bannerji, Ashok Mathur, David Fujino, Poh Seng Goh, Lakshmi Gill, Ven Begamudre, Anita Rau Badami, and many others. Though papers on any aspects of this emergent writing are welcome, some systematization or theorization is encouraged about its poetics, prosaics, and politics. Please send three copies of proposals or papers, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bio-bibliographical sketch by November 15, 1997, to:

Dr. Zhong Ming Chen,  
 Program in Comparative Literature,  
 the University of British Columbia,  
 Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

### **The Convergences/Divergences of Asian(-)Canadian and Asian(-)American Literatures**

The mid-1980's and 1990's have ushered in an age of flourishing Asian Canadian and Asian American literatures. The panel(s) seek(s) to address the literary-cum-cultural phenomena from a number of approaches (e.g., individual case

study; paired authors comparison; cross-national or cross-cultural examination), but theorization about new directions and discussions of recent developments are particularly welcome.

Tentative topics include: distinctive poetics or prosaics related to cultural sensitivities (e.g., immanence, monism); narratology, poetic genres, or dramatic forms (e.g., haiku, haiban; episodic/circular structures; Kabuki, Noh, Peking/cantonese opera) diverging from dominant Anglo-American or Anglo-Canadian modes and genres; and postcolonial and/or diasporic aesthetics, philosophies, religions and cultural symbolism (e.g., [Zen-]Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islamism, and pantheism) contrasting with, complementing, contesting, and challenging Western or mainstream (e.g., Christian) ones. Please send three copies of proposals or papers, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bio-bibliographical sketch by November 15, 1997, to:

Dr. Zhong Ming Chen,  
 Program in Comparative Literature,  
 the University of British Columbia,  
 Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

### **Frederick Philip Grove: Fifty Years of Revelations**

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of his death, organizers seek twenty-minute papers for a member-organized session dealing with Frederick Philip Grove, his writing, and his life. Possible topics include biographical historiography, the influences of Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven, new critical approaches, the writing of Grove and the writing of Greve, and Grove's changing role and place in Canadian Literature. Those interested should send three copies of proposals or papers, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bio-bibliographical sketch by November 15, 1997 to:

Judy Dudar,  
 Department of English,  
 Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3J 3J5  
 e-mail: [jdudar@shark.stmarys.ca](mailto:jdudar@shark.stmarys.ca)

**Richardson to Rhys: The Great "Chain" of Novels**

*Pamela, Camilla, Mansfield Park, Jane Eyre, and Wide Sargasso Sea* all share plots of violence and imprisonment. More than 220 years stand between Richardson and Rhys, but only one degree of separation: they are part of a chain of novels frequently seen as both precursors and inheritors of each other. The session will focus on representations of domestic violence within this chain. Comparative and joint presentations are particularly welcomed (a Victorianist, say, and a Modernist). Please send three copies of papers or proposals, accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a 50-word bio-bibliographical sketch, by November 15 to:

Dr. Barbara K. Seeber,  
Dept. of English  
University of Prince Edward Island  
550 University Avenue  
Charlottetown, PEI C1A 3V2  
FAX 902-566-0363  
EMAIL bseeber@upei.ca

**Note:** The Congress Secretariat of the New Congress will be mailing out Registration forms in December.

For further information, please contact

The Secretariat for the Congress of Social Science and Humanities

415 - 157 Slater St.

Ottawa, ON K1P 5H3

PHONE (613) 238-6112

FAX (613) 236-4853

EMAIL: CONGRESS@HSSFC.CA

**Copyright Legislation Report:  
Implications of Bill C-32 for Archival Research  
in Canada**

I would like to begin this report by emphasizing that I have no legal training, nor am I an "expert" in copyright matters. I was asked to write this report as a literary historian concerned about the implications of the new copyright legislation on archival research in Canada. I have received a great deal of help from Helen Buss (Department of English, University of Calgary) and Bernard Katz (Head of Special Collections and Library Development at the University of Guelph and Chair of the Ontario Library Association's Copyright Task Force), in particular, though I alone take responsibility for the contents of this report.

There are at least three sections of real significance for archival researchers: Sections 7, 30.21, and 77. I will discuss each of these beginning with Section 30.21, which covers copying work deposited in an archive.

As originally proposed in April 1996, the copyright legislation made no provision for document-copying for private study or research. However, the bill given Royal Assent on April 25, 1997 was amended to add Section 30.21, which permits a single copy of a work to be made for a researcher with no infringement of copyright, provided copying has not been prohibited by the copyright owner(s) and provided the "archive is satisfied that the person for whom it is made will use the copy only for purposes of research or private study" (30.21 (3) (c)).

The new Section 30.21 will mean that researchers who are unable for financial or other reasons to travel to the archive may now request and receive a single copy of archived material. It will also mean that researchers whose time is limited will be able to identify important documents and have them copied for further study at a later date. Researchers who feared that they would have to make typed or handwritten notes on all documents required may



rest easier with the passage of this section. On a personal note, my PhD research relied heavily on rare published and unpublished documents of which I was permitted to make single copies of 100s of pages. And had regulations in the UK been like those contemplated by the Government of Canada, my PhD dissertation, on biography, would certainly not have been researched or written, let alone within the prescribed time frame. The implications of the new allowance for copying will be especially important to those graduate students conducting original archival research to complete MA projects and theses, and PhD dissertations in a timely and less costly fashion than would be the case were extended trips to archives necessary.

As good as Section 30.21 may seem, however, there is a catch. I have been advised by Bernard Katz that copying is permitted ONLY for private research and study, meaning that copyright would be infringed were one “even [to] read out a letter (for example) at a conference, if the copy were made under this section, because that would be considered performing the work in public” (e-mail, Bernard Katz to the author, May 6, 1997). Clearly, the bill given Royal Assent is an improvement—but is a small one when it comes to the actual sharing of research at academic conferences.

One further implication of the new legislation concerns the copyright period of published and unpublished posthumous works as described in Section 7. For unpublished works by an author who died more than 50 years after the section is proclaimed, copyright protection will extend for another 5 years, when it will move into the public domain even if the work is published within those 5 years. Unpublished works by an author who died less than 50 years after Section 7 is proclaimed will be protected by copyright for 50 years, even if the work is published within those 50 years. As the new legislation applies, any author who dies after Section 7 comes into force will have her/his works—published and unpublished—protected for 50 years from the end

of the year of death, after which time, ALL the works will enter the public domain at the same time. “This,” according to Bernard Katz, “eliminates the current distinction between published and unpublished works, as far as the term of protection under copyright is concerned” (Bernard Katz e-mail to the author, 6 May 1997).

The final point I will make about the new Copyright Act concerns Section 77 covering the Copyright Board’s role in cases where the owners of copyright are unable to be located. The section, as it reads now, provides guidelines to the Board in the case of published works. If a copyright owner is unable to be \*located for permission to, say, reprint a work, then application may be made to the Copyright Board of Canada for such permission. Section 77, however, leaves out entirely mention of guidelines to the Board in the case of unpublished works. In practice, this means that, while a researcher may obtain from an archive a single copy of a document for research and private study, as Bernard Katz notes, “the situation for publishing is not clear, because of Sec. 77.” What might help clear up this confusion—if it is indeed an oversight rather than a deliberate omission—will be the regulations interpreting the section and establishing procedures for dealing with the principles set forth in the Copyright Act.

I will end with the reminder that the three sections of greatest importance for archival researchers seem to be Sections 7, 30.21 and 77 and that until regulations for these sections are written, much about the use of materials obtained through Section 30.21 will remain unclear.

Kathryn Harvey  
University of Alberta

NOTE: The Copyright Bill (Bill C-32) may be found on the Government of Canada’s website. The URL address for the government publication English search engine is: “<http://parl30.parl.gc.ca/english/ebus.html>”. Do a keyword search either under “copyright” or “C-32” and choose the “Bills” publication option.

## Executive Members Reports:

### Graduate Representative's Column

Jason Potts, the outgoing graduate student representative for ACCUTE, posed an important question in his first column last year when he asked how he could best represent such a diverse and often diffuse body of graduate student constituents. The task of being a national spokesperson for a student body that is facing enormous challenges in the areas of funding and employment poses particular difficulties. The small number of students who attended the ACCUTE Graduate Student Meeting during the St. John's, Newfoundland Learned's this spring was a visible reminder of the problems of trying to bring together a group of graduate students who are increasingly unable to afford to attend conferences because of lack of department, government, or conference funding. While ACCUTE is certainly generous in this regard, with the organization's continued commitment to covering at least 70% of a speaker's airfare, the reality remains that funding continues to fall and tuition costs are escalating rapidly. So, how can we create a sense of community and ensure that our concerns (both shared and institution specific) are best represented?

This column offers one place where a variety of different voices can be heard and my intention throughout this academic year is to ensure that we use this space to create a dialogue about our concerns rather than a monologue written by me! Jason initiated this dialogue last year when he invited several ACCUTE graduate students to contribute columns to the newsletter regarding pressing issues for the student population. This year, I would like to ensure that various regions and different sizes of institutions are represented in the contributions to this column. At the ACCUTE meeting in St. John's, our

discussion and different sizes of institutions are represented in the contributions to this column. At the ACCUTE meeting in St. John's, our discussion revealed some of the problems we face when generalizing about Canadian graduate institutions and their English departments. Provincial government policies and the size and specialties within a particular department often need to be addressed individually. But we can also take this opportunity to learn from each other. I have just relocated to London, Ontario for the year (to accommodate a spouse who has returned to school) and had a fascinating discussion with Professor Elizabeth Harvey, the Director of Graduate Studies at the University of Western Ontario, about how the department was servicing graduate students who were considering non-academic employment. I know and admire the strategies used by the Career Placement Officer at University of Toronto, my home institution, to introduce students to the wide range of non-academic employment possibilities but a short conversation with Professor Harvey offered a new array of ideas that would be worth trying out at Toronto. My suspicion is that the exchange of ideas within and beyond various provinces and regions in Canada as well as across the border and the ocean will yield great results and create an increased sense of community for ACCUTE graduate student members.

While I am eager to gather contributions to the column, I will also be actively discussing and representing the perspectives that were expressed at the Graduate Student meeting in St. John's. There are many issues that need renewed consideration with the increasing pressure put on students to complete their degrees rapidly and professionalize immediately, often without adequate funding or departmental resources. Here are just two of the concerns expressed by graduate students at the meeting that I will be raising with the ACCUTE executive and the membership at large:

--Admission policies--What funding is being offered to students? Is it enough to live on and complete the program? Are students receiving adequate information about the high rate of unemployment and underemployment in academia?

--The status of women who have families with young children or who may be pregnant and the difficulties of realistically adhering to a rapid completion timetable while juggling these responsibilities--What implications does this have for funding? The interviewing process and hiring?

In addition, the students at the meeting in St. John's suggested that we must continue to debate the difficult question of how departments can survive in an era of funding cuts, retirements, and decreased hirings. There are no easy answers but the issue should not disappear, especially given the fact that many of our student members are directly affected by the increased specialization, amalgamation, and even closure of departments.

I look forward to making this space in the ACCUTE newsletter a useful one. I welcome any suggestions for future columns from graduate students who wish to contribute to this dialogue. I can be reached via e-mail at [jandrews@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:jandrews@chass.utoronto.ca) or by snail mail at 59 Ardsley Road, London, Ontario N6G 3J4 if you'd like to discuss writing a column. I will also be participating in the graduate listserv, Engrad, which Jason organized last year. To subscribe to Engrad, write to [listserv@yorku.ca](mailto:listserv@yorku.ca) and in the first line of the message, write "subscribe engrad". This list offers us another way to communicate our concerns, find other graduate students with similar interests, share conference postings and job postings, and discuss strategies for making it through our respective programs. Have a great year!

Jennifer Andrews  
University of Toronto

## Secretary - Treasurer's Report

### Travel Claims '97

First, we would like to thank all those who found other sources of funding to attend the '97 conference. Even when this was only part of the total expenses, it still took some pressure off the ACCUTE budget. Second, many of our members did exceedingly well at getting low fares, which also meant that we could stretch the money further. Our original projections indicated that we would be able to reimburse participants for only 70% of their travel costs but in many cases we were able to cover the full "seatsale" fare or something close to it.

We are sorry for the delays in processing the Travel Claims this year. Part of the problem was simply due to the fact that this was the first time such claims were paid through Dalhousie, and the procedures here are really geared for employees of the university as opposed to members of a national organization. In any case, we now know where the snags are likely to occur and believe that the situation should be much better next year. However, had claimants submitted their official ticket receipts (not statements from their travel agents or photocopies) in the first place, we could have issued the cheques much more quickly. In cases where partial reimbursement comes from one institution and a partial claim is made to ACCUTE, members should still submit the original receipt (stamped by the other institution with the amount reimbursed). Vice versa, ACCUTE would be happy to return your original receipt (stamped with the amount paid by Dalhousie) if you can get another portion of it reimbursed from a second source. We realize that holding on to receipts or ticket stubs and filling out forms are a hassle. However, in looking back over the process, I would say that stricter procedures ensure that **your money is being spent properly.**

As most ACCUTE members will know, the largest single expense incurred by our association every year is the travel budget for the annual



conference. Financial assistance for presenters to attend the annual conference is one of the benefits of membership. When the Congress meets somewhere in Central Canada (Quebec and Ontario), travel claims from presenters usually total in the neighbourhood of \$20,000; this figure has been more like \$30,000 when the conference is in the west or east (e.g. Calgary or St. John's).

### **Update on the electronic ACCUTE**

#### **The ACCUTE Website**

If you've checked out the ACCUTE WWW-site recently, you'll have noticed a new look. Keith Lawson has made some design changes to the HomePage and is about to proceed with the "members only" section of the site. In short, there will be two sections to the ACCUTE WWW-site: one devoted specifically to prospective members; and a second reserved for paid-up members only. The first section will contain general information have all kinds of useful resources, including links to all English Departments in Canada, the latest job advertisements, information on careers for English Majors, research projects, online journals, members' HomePages, an ACCUTE directory, the Newsletter, list of publishers, etc. It is important to have a restricted area if we are to maintain membership fees. Please start e-mailing us with your HomePage URLs and any other links that we think would be of use to ACCUTE members.

#### **A notice to hiring committees and those looking for employment:**

The ACCUTE website is posting job listings. This provides a quick and inexpensive way for departments to advertise positions and likewise is an excellent resource for anyone seeking an academic job.

#### **The ACCUTE Listserv**

The ACCUTE Listserv is now up and running (ACCUTE-L@ac.dal.ca)! There are two primary purposes of ACCUTE-L: first, it will be used to facilitate communication between the executive and the membership at large; two, it will be a means for ACCUTE members to communicate with one another. Appropriate subjects for general discussion could include any issues having to do with our profession (e.g., tenure or sessional positions, teaching loads, public policy). Because there are so many Lists that currently serve specific areas (e.g., Shakespeare, Medieval Literature, the eighteenth century, Romantics, Victorian and Modern), ACCUTE-L probably isn't the best place for exchanges on specialized literary topics, but we want to be very tolerant on these matters at first. ACCUTE-L can potentially be extremely useful in organizing the annual conference (Call for Papers, etc.). While we do not see that it would be useful to distribute the Newsletter on ACCUTE-L, we could always send out a message indicating its availability at a certain URL. (Many of you have indicated that you would be happy to receive only an electronic version of the Newsletter, a service due to begin with this issue.) If a significant number of members could go this route, ACCUTE could save thousands of dollars annually.

We also envision real-time, electronic mini-conferences on a variety of topics of interest to ACCUTE members.

David McNeil

ACCUTE members who wish to subscribe to the ACCUTE-L should send a request to

**accute@is.dal.ca**

or to the list address

**accute-l-request@ac.dal.ca**

## President's Column:

### New Directions for *English Studies in Canada*

With Doug Wurtele's retirement as Editor last spring, the summer has been a time of transition for *English Studies in Canada*. At the Memorial conference, members of the ESC Editorial Advisory Board met to discuss the journal and directions it might move in under a new Editor. The ACCUTE executive also considered this question at some length. A number of suggestions and recommendations were made, although both the Editorial Board Members and the ACCUTE executive emphasized that any final decisions regarding these should rest with the new editorial team. Through the summer, discussion has been underway with interested editorial groups at two different institutions. In the St. John's discussions, consensus seemed to emerge around the following recommendations and suggestions for the new editorial team to consider:

1. Changing the name of the journal from *English Studies in Canada*, given the problems the current name creates in marketing the journal outside of Canada.
2. Producing more special theme and guest-edited issues, linked on occasions to the annual conference program.
3. Planning issues in which prominent Canadian critics and scholars enter into debate or appear in conjunction with critics from other countries to make the journal more international in its scope.
4. Possibly moving to a format in which each of the four issues produced annually would focus on different periods or fields, as in the case of journals like *Studies in English Literature*.
5. Increasing the involvement of the Editorial Advisory Board in decisions about the journal through regular e-mail networking.
6. Responding to opportunities for increasing the interdisciplinary range and the audience of the journal that may be created through joint ventures with other associations promoted by the Shared Program of the Allied Associations.

7. Investigating electronic modes of dissemination of the journal and other economies in production that may be achieved through new electronic technologies.

We encourage any interested member of ACCUTE to e-mail or write to us with your comments on these suggestions, or your further recommendations. The ACCUTE office can forward your e-mail messages to members of the ESC Editorial Advisory Board and to the full ACCUTE executive. Alternatively, you may wish to convey your comments and suggestions to a member of either group, or to post them on the new ACCUTE list-serv discussion group. (See p.17 for more information on ACCUTE-L.) Addresses for the Executive can be found on p. 21 of this newsletter. The current Editorial Board members are listed in each issue of *ESC*.

### SSHRC Strategic Themes

Shortly before the Memorial Conference, Dr. Lynn Penrod, outgoing President of SSHRC, sent a letter to ACCUTE, requesting our Association to help in the process of identifying "broad social, cultural and intellectual issues of national importance or public concern" to be targeted for research under SSHRC's Strategic Grants Program. Between 1992 and 1997 SSHRC identified four themes under which support was available in the Strategic Grants Program: Applied Ethics, Managing for Global Competitiveness, Science and Technology Policy in Canada, and Women and Change.

Discussion at the Memorial AGM reflected the strong criticisms many ACCUTE members and members of other Humanities associations have made over the last few years concerning the suitability of these four themes. At a SSHRC Workshop on Research organized by the Women's Caucus of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and the Canadian Social Sciences Federation in 1993, almost every Humanities association delegate emphasized that the then newly established Strategic Themes were heavily biased towards the Social Sciences.

In the weeks following the St. John's conference, the executive continued discussion of new Strategic Themes to identify and submit to SSHRC Council, and used our network of ACCUTE reps to make the process of consultation as wide as possible. Many members across the country responded to our request for input on this question. Given the volume and the diversity of the response, it was not easy for the executive to identify one or two themes to propose. In arriving at a decision about these, we tried to keep in mind the degree of consensus that emerged around particular topics, and the suitability of the topics proposed for research in a range of fields and disciplines. We also had to keep in mind the requirement that proposed Strategic Themes focus on issues of "national interest and intellectual importance," and that both users of the research generated and partners in carrying it out be clearly identified.

The brief I submitted to SSHRC Council in June outlined two proposed themes:

### **Multilingual Societies and Changing Literacies**

#### **Cultural Production and National Identities**

A copy of the ACCUTE brief, together with a cover letter setting out our members' criticisms of the last set of Strategic Themes, can be found on the ACCUTE website (<http://is.dal.ca/~accute>).

#### **BC University Colleges**

During the past year, many of BC's University Colleges have moved towards full independence, and the ties affiliating their English Departments with BC's University English Departments have been severed. During this period, ACCUTE engaged in two rounds of consultation with Chairs of English at both the university colleges and the universities in BC concerning a range of issues affecting English programs and faculty members. These included procedures for regular external academic reviews

and academic self-governance in the university colleges, the provision of opportunities for research, guidelines governing workload, and provincial governmental policies (in particular, the heavy emphasis on "training" in applied skills) impinging on English programs in BC's university colleges.

After the first round of consultation, the executive decided that ACCUTE should write to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada as some of the university colleges went through the provincial government's accreditation process. I therefore drafted a letter to Robert Giroux and circulated it to BC Chairs of English for comment. The letter outlines the history of ACCUTE's concerns, and indicates appropriate measures for ensuring that they are addressed on a continuing basis.

This final version of this letter, copied to BC's Minister of Education, Skills and Training, recommends (1) the establishment of procedures for external reviews of English programs at all of the university colleges (2) protection and improvement of clauses on workload and scholarly activity (3) provision of sabbaticals for faculty teaching upper-level English courses at university colleges and (4) assurance that third and fourth-year English Literature classes are taught by faculty with appropriate qualifications. The letter places most emphasis on the provision of external review procedures, since effective monitoring of the other matters we identified depends upon a credible and regular review process. A copy of ACCUTE's letter to AUCC can be found on the ACCUTE website.

During our second round of consultation, we heard from members at various university colleges that appropriate external review procedures were now established, or in the process of being established and implemented. One member wrote to say that a review taking place at his university college had resulted in a recommendation that the teaching loads of certain faculty be reduced to provide for more opportunity for scholarly activity.

## ACCUTE, CACE and Academic Review Guidelines

The concerns raised in the context of BC's university colleges have contributed to a more general concern with reviews of Canadian college and university Departments of English, and the role of professional bodies such as ACCUTE and CACE in relation to such reviews. In 1996, at the Brock conference, a motion was passed at the AGM calling for an investigation of ACCUTE's role in departmental reviews. This past year, Robert Martin, President of CACE, chaired a subcommittee of the ACCUTE executive investigating this question, and also carried out a CACE survey of review procedures for English Departments and/or programs in Canada. Twenty-seven institutions responded to the survey on current review procedures.

The results revealed considerable variability in the terminology used to denote such reviews ("external," for example, might mean that the reviewers were external to the Department or external to the university). Review procedures also varied considerably from institution to institution, as did the normal length of time between reviews.

In the discussion that followed presentation of Professor Martin's report, Chairs reported on ways in which reviews had been used to obtain appointments or resources, and also, on occasion to justify cuts. General consensus seemed to emerge on the following points.

1. General academic reviews imposed by government bureaucracies were often thought to be of little value. But self-studies and external reviews carried out in a manner suited to the Department and/or the discipline by experts in the profession were described as beneficial in their effects by many Chairs present.
2. Given the "downsizing" of many English Departments, and government or institutional agendas promoting "applied skills" training and higher faculty-student ratios, external reviews by experts in the profession were seen as important

tools in maintaining program integrity. Motions affirming the importance of regular, objective external reviews were passed at both the CACE meeting and the ACCUTE AGM (for the wording of the ACCUTE motion, see the June newsletter, p. 3).

3. A majority of those present at the Memorial CACE meeting agreed that it would not be appropriate for either ACCUTE or CACE to play a directly interventionist role in reviews, or to develop a cadre of informed and experienced reviewers.

4. ACCUTE and CACE in conjunction can, however, play a role in promoting appropriate review procedures (as ACCUTE has done in the case of BC's university colleges), in developing a set of guidelines for reviews of English Departments and/or programs, and in disseminating these guidelines to academic administrators concerned. The guidelines should ensure that

- (a) reviews are carried out at regular intervals
- (b) reviewers are objective and external to the institution, with expertise suitable to the departments and/or programs being reviewed
- (c) the process of assessing scholarship and teaching is fair, constructive, and appropriate to the program and the discipline (or to the particular interdisciplinary mix of a department or program, in certain cases)
- (d) assessments reflect national standards, given the movement towards increased transferability of credits
- (e) the administrators concerned are accountable for disseminating and responding to review recommendations and notifying reviewers of actions taken in response to these

In the coming year, the ACCUTE and CACE executives will work, in consultation with Chairs of English, to develop a set of guidelines incorporating these criteria.

### **Continuing Professional Concerns**

In the year-end report of the Professional Concerns Committee published in the June newsletter (pp. 8-11), Herbert Rosengarten (UBC) summarizes a number of continuing matters of concern. See p. 5 under Calls for Papers for a list of these, and suggestions made by the Memorial meeting of ACCUTE reps for possible 1998 Professional Concerns sessions. Joint sessions with other societies can be particularly effective, we found at Memorial, where the well-attended joint session on publishing with the Association of Canadian Theatre Research led to a wide-ranging and productive discussion of a range of issues and strategies for addressing them. Professor Rosengarten closed his June report by recommending a closer relationship between the ACCUTE executive and the CPC. The executive has decided to achieve this by appointing a Member-at-Large as Chair of the CPC, and reviewing the structure of the committee. We welcome suggestions from members on this point.

### **ACCUTE Regional Colloquia**

The executive is interested in investigating ACCUTE sponsorship of regional colloquia or workshops on matters of scholarly or critical interest or professional concerns issues, in between annual conferences. Please contact any member of the executive if you have a proposal for such a colloquium or workshop.

Marjorie Stone

### **ACCUTE Executive Addresses for 1997-98**

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(Editor, English Studies in Canada)  
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**New People in the ACCUTE Office**

Dr. Barbara Darby and Dr. Keith Lawson are splitting the ACCUTE Executive Assistant position with the departure of Dr. Gisèle Baxter for a position at University of British Columbia. Barbara will be taking care of the membership database and the correspondence, while Keith will be looking after the ACCUTE Website and new Listserv.

Barbara has research interests in eighteenth-century literature and has taught at the University of Lethbridge and Queen's. She is teaching at Dalhousie and Mount St. Vincent Universities this year in addition to keeping your files in order. Keith is interested in Romantic literature, educational technology, and Canadian literature. He will be teaching at Dalhousie and Acadia Universities this year.

ACCUTE's new Graduate Assistant is Shauna Barry. She is a SSHRC Doctoral Fellow at Dalhousie University.

**Calls for Papers: Forthcoming Publications**

*Canadian Literature* invites submissions for a special issue on Gay/Lesbian Writing. Please send 3 copies of your paper by 1 April 1998 to:  
 The Editor

*Canadian Literature*  
 #167-1855 West Mall  
 U.B.C. Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2  
 PHONE (604) 822-2780  
 FAX (604) 822-5504  
 EMAIL emk@cdn-lit.ubc.ca.

The deadline for the call for papers on **Canadian Class Discourse** (June 97 newsletter) has been extended to 31 October 1997.

While class analysis is one of the dominant modes of research in other disciplines (e.g. sociology, history, political science), it has not fared well in Canadian literary criticism. We invite submissions for a collection, *From Moodie to Lee: Towards Post/Colonial Discourses of Class in Canadian Literature*. We encourage both paradigmatic theorization and specific textual analyses; suggested topics include:

- What might be the paradigms for class studies in literary criticism (traditional liberal humanist? Marxist? postcolonial?)
- Why is it that, since the heyday of the explicitly class-inflected discourse of Susanne Moodie and other British immigrant writers, Canadian critics have failed to embrace class analysis?
- Why do many writers of colour or minority writers (e.g. Michael Ondaatje, SKY Lee, Joy Kogawa, Wayson Choy, Fred Wah, Sahu Binning, Anita Rau Badami) bring up issues of class in relation to race, nation, caste, or ethnicity?
- What are the relationships between class and nation/race, or between class and gender?
- How does class consciousness affect characterization, themes, or ideological content?

Submissions must be previously

unpublished. Please send, by October 31, 1997, two copies of papers (approx. 22 pages), with a brief abstract, short bio-bibliographical sketch, and SASE, to:

Dr. John M. Chen,  
English, Arts and Humanities,  
Malaspina University-College, 900 Fifth St.,  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5S5

**Rhetoric, Uncertainty, and the University as Text:  
How Students Construct the Academic  
Experience**

We invite submissions for a collection of essays on student writing in the first year of university to be published by Canadian Plains Research Centre, University of Regina.

The ways that students experience university are reflected in the articulated and non-articulated, overt and covert messages that they create in the course of their university careers. Student writing, especially in the first year, may be seen as less a direct expression of acquired knowledge and skills, than a symptom of students' perception--and misperception--of the learning environment itself.

We invite papers that explore the positive and negative ramifications of this hypothesis. We want to ask questions such as: What is the impact of apparent uncertainty on the nature and value of academic knowledge? Can the discipline of rhetoric supply a method for articulating uncertainty as a learning model, and if so how can this be presented? What is the impact of uncertainty on how we assess student performance?

We invite papers on these and related issues: student writing as a genre; the politics of the classroom; personal writing in first-year courses; the polarities of process and product; student perspectives on academic and public writing; the difference between first- and fourth-year writing; evaluating student writing.

The collection will be edited by Judy Chapman, Coordinator of First Year Services, and

Andrew Stubbs, Department of English, University of Regina. Date of publication: Fall 1998. Send proposals or manuscripts to: Office of First Year Services, University of Regina, Regina, SK, S4S 0A2 Deadline for complete manuscripts: January 16, 1998.

*The Dalhousie Review* has a new Editor (Ronald Huebert) and is in the process of making changes of many kinds designed to reanimate the relationship between the *Review* and its readers. The strong commitment to creative work, both poetry and fiction, will continue. As for critical and scholarly work, the *Review* hopes to foster writing that addresses the concerns of any one discipline in such a way as to be at least comprehensible to readers outside it. A special issue on Aspects of Privacy is in the planning stage, but at present contributions dealing with any intellectual or cultural questions are welcome. Enquiries and manuscripts should be sent to:

Ronald Huebert, Editor  
*The Dalhousie Review*  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NSB3H 3J5

**Calls for Papers/Announcements:  
Conferences**

**Women and Literary History**

11-13 September 1997

The Orlando Project's Women and Literary History Conference will be held 11-13 September 1997, at the University of Alberta. Speakers will include Jacky Bratton, Patricia Demers, Antonia Forster, Carole Gerson, Elaine Hobby, Leslie Howsam, Ludmilla Jordanova, Gary Kelly, Jane Marcus, Felicity Nussbaum, Valerie Rumbold, Betty A. Schellenberg, Bonnie Kime Scott, Ann B. Shteir, Jane Spencer, Susan Staves, Marjorie Stone, and Jo-Ann Wallace.

**Inquiries:**

Inge Brown, Conference Secretary  
 The Orlando Project, 3-5 Humanities Centre,  
 University of Alberta,  
 Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E5  
 Fax: (403) 492-8142 Phone: (403) 492-7803  
 E-mail: Orlando.Project@ualberta.ca  
 Inquiries: Inge Brown, Conference Secretary  
 Web page: <http://www.ualberta.ca/ORLANDO>

**Making Contact: Natives, Strangers, and Barbarians**

(1-4 October 1998)

With its inaugural conference the Medieval and Early Modern Institute, an interdisciplinary group of scholars at the University of Alberta, seeks to promote contact among different disciplines and theoretical approaches involved in the investigation and critical representation of the medieval and early modern world. This conference will explore cross-cultural contacts and other boundary crossings in the medieval and early modern periods.

Proposals for papers and sessions on any topic connected with cross-cultural contact and other boundary crossing are welcome; interdisciplinary sessions will be given priority. In particular we invite proposals for papers and sessions on the following topics:

- Multilingualism and/or multiculturalism before and after the nation state
- Early Canadian contact narratives
- Crossing boundaries: women, Jews, heretics, sodomites, infidels, indigenes, and strangers within
- The production and disruption of hegemonic identities
- Europeans as barbarians and strangers
- War and peace making
- Issues of representation: travel and exploration, mapping and map making
- Religious polemics/conversion
- Linguistic encounters: “farfetched” languages, contamination, and translation

Papers must be limited to a reading time of 20 minutes. Abstracts of 1-2 pages (250-500 words) and a short c.v., or proposals for entire sessions including abstracts and c.v. should be sent by November 1, 1997 to:

Glenn Burger, Department of English,  
 University of Alberta,  
 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E5  
 (tel.: 403-492-4639 fax: 403-492-8142  
 email: [glenn.burger@ualberta.ca](mailto:glenn.burger@ualberta.ca)).

**(The) Concrete Matters: Feminist Materialisms Across the Disciplines**

5-7 March 1998

This interdisciplinary conference hosted by a graduate student collective at the University of Alberta will feature keynote addresses by Hazel Carby (African American Studies, Yale), Teresa Ebert (English, SUNY, Albany), and Dorothy Smith (Centre for Women's Studies in Education, OISE/Toronto). Plenary speakers include Aniko Bodroghkozy (Modern Languages and Comparative Studies, Alberta), Christine Bold (Centre for Cultural Studies/Centre d'Etudes sur la Culture, Guelph), Len Findlay (Humanities Research Institute, Saskatchewan), Heather Murray (English, Toronto), Sandra Niessen (Human Ecology, Alberta), and Lorna Weir (Sociology, York). We invite proposals for papers either on specific case studies or on theoretical questions involved in feminist materialism. Papers might address questions such as: What is feminist materialism? Does it mean the same thing in the Social Sciences and Humanities? How is feminist materialism applied in such fields as economics, history, literary history, political theory, and social theory? How do you understand feminist materialism as a methodology in your own work? We welcome submissions on these and other related topics. Please forward your 500-word proposals for 20-minute papers by 21 October 1997 to: (The) Concrete Matters, Department of English, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2E5 (tel: 403 492-3258; fax: 403 492-8142; email: [Concrete.Matters@UAlberta.ca](mailto:Concrete.Matters@UAlberta.ca)).



### Women's Worlds 99

20-26 June 1999

The 7th International Interdisciplinary Congress, "Women's Worlds 99," will be held in Tromsø, Norway, June 20-26, 1999. Conference themes include women and development, women artists, women's history, women in academia, publishing feminist research/women's studies, growing up fe/male, and women in the 21st century: utopias or dystopias? Other suggestions, both general and detailed, are welcome. The deadline for proposals/abstracts is 1 November 1997. For information, contact Women's Worlds 99, University of Tromsø, N-9037 Tromsø, Norway. email: [womens.worlds.99@skk.uit.no](mailto:womens.worlds.99@skk.uit.no) web: <http://www.skk.uit.no/WW99/ww99.html> fax: +4777 64 64 20

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### News of Members:

*La Création biographique/Biographical Creation*, edited by Marta Dvorak, has been published by the University of Rennes Press and the French Association of Canadian Studies. This bilingual collection of 35 essays on biography, autobiography, and life-writing includes essays by Russell BROWN (Toronto), Frank DAVEY (Western), and Kathy MEZEI (Simon Fraser), among other contributors.

Ron Huebert (Dalhousie University) has taken up the position of editor for the *Dalhousie Review*.

Norman RAVVIN's (University of New Brunswick) new collection of short stories is called *Sex, Skyscrapers, and Standard Yiddish* (paperplates books). He has forthcoming from McGill-Queen's University Press a collection of essays called *A House of Words: Jewish Writing, Identity, and Memory*. His piece on Vancouver's West End, "Buying Leo Dinner," appeared in the *Wascana Review's* 30th Anniversary issue. His essay

"Have You Reread Levinas Lately?" is due out in a volume on ethics and literature to be published by Macmillan and St. Martins. In September he will join the English Department at the University of New Brunswick, teaching both Creative Writing and Literature.

Steven TOTOSY de ZEPETNEK (University of Alberta) has published "Early German-Canadian Ethnic Minority Writing," *Canadian Ethnic Studies* 27:1 (1995): 99-122 and "Readership Research, Cultural Studies, and Canadian Scholarship" in *Literary Reading and Readership*, edited by Totosy de Zepetnek, a Special Issue of *Essays in Reader-Oriented Theory, Criticism, and Pedagogy* 35-36 (1996): 108-20.

Herbert WEIL (University of Manitoba) will be chairing a seminar for the Shakespeare Association of America (19-21 MARCH 1998) in Cleveland: "The 60s and 70s Revisited." Why are many exciting innovative critic-scholars of 1960-80 absent from the dominant discourse—and most student papers? Not surprisingly, after years of praise and rebellion, a lull sets in. Except for precursors of (alleged) special-interest groups and performance critics, even the most lucid writers infrequently reach committed younger students. This seminar will emphasize connections, bridges, points of departure. Some might argue that certain approaches and vocabularies deserve our neglect.

NOTE: Younger scholars especially invited.

Herbert WEIL (University of Manitoba) and Judith WEIL (University of Manitoba) have edited *The First Part of King Henry IV* in the New Cambridge Shakespeare (pub March 1997).

## Corrections to ACCUTE Member Directory

We sincerely apologize to those members whose listings in the June newsletter contained errors or were omitted. The following members' entries should have been included:

Totosy, Steven (Alberta)  
E-mail: stotosy@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca  
PL: Compar AA: Cdn; Culture & Media

Wood, Derek N.C. (p, St. Francis Xavier)  
E-mail: dwood@stfx.ca  
PL: Ren; Italian Ren; Compar; Spenser, Tasso, Shakespeare, Milton

Professor Constance Hieatt's entry should read as follows:

Hieatt, Constance (em, Western)  
E-mail: constance.hieatt@yale.edu  
PL: Mdv, OE, ME, Old Norse, Old Fr; Mdv culinary recipes

Professor Adrienne Kertzer is an ex-officio executive member because she chairs CACE. Her postal code (executive addresses) should read T2N 1N4.

Professor Joanne Craig's e-mail should read jrcraig@ubishops.ca and her rank is "P".

Professor A. Kent Hieatt's e-mail is hieatt@mail.snet.net

Professor Craig Monk's e-mail address should read craig.monk@uleth.ca

Please let us know of any errors or changes in your Directory entry. We will incorporate corrections and alterations in the version of the database on our website.

## Looking Ahead...

At the suggestion of ACCUTE members, we plan to reserve space in future newsletters for open "letters to the editor." If you have issues you would like to see addressed in this space, please write to ACCUTE at our address below. Coming in our December issue, a Forum on Graduate Training by Diana Brydon (Guelph), Ken Hoepfner (Mount Royal), Jason Potts (York) and Catherine Schryer (Waterloo).

## Deadline for next issue of the ACCUTE Newsletter

ACCUTE welcomes submissions from members for inclusion in the next newsletter. Please send items (on disk or electronically, in a format compatible with WordPerfect, if possible) to:

ACCUTE Newsletter  
Department of English  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NS B3H 3J5  
FAX (902) 494-2176  
E-MAIL accute@is.dal.ca

Copy must reach the ACCUTE office by November 15, 1997 to be included in the December issue.

# 1998 Membership Form

- New Member  
 Renewal

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Academic Affiliation Information

Professional Designation:

- Professor  
 Assoc. Professor  
 Asst. Professor  
 Sessional Lecturer  
 Instructor  
 Retired Faculty  
 Grad. Student/T.A.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (use home address *only* if you are without academic affiliation):

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (wk): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (hm): \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your e-mail address added to the ACCUTE listserv (ACCUTE-L)? Yes  No

Languages spoken (besides English): \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose: (**Please make cheque payable to ACCUTE** and mail to David McNeil, Secretary-Treasurer, ACCUTE, Department of English, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 3J5)

- The regular membership fee of \$75  
 The reduced fee of \$40 (student/unemployed/underemployed/retired)  
 The household membership fee of \$125 (2 memberships, one subscription to ESC)  
 Second householder's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second householder's professional designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 The three-year membership fee (1998-2000) of \$195

## ACCUTE Membership Directory Information

Please complete the information on research interests found overleaf, for use in the 1998 ACCUTE *Directory*. The *Directory* is used mainly by colleagues seeking scholars to review books, prepare scholarly papers on special topics, and to evaluate manuscripts, grant applications, conference papers, and graduate student theses. In order to help colleagues locate specialists more easily, the 1998 *Directory* will again list scholars categorically by primary area of research interest first. In addition, members may specify other categories in which they would feel comfortable performing professional tasks; these will be included in a secondary listing format.

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**Primary Listing** (*List only one 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 photocopy this page for the use of your spouse or partner.

Primary area of specialization:

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**Additional areas**

Periods/Nationalities/Genres: \_\_\_\_\_

Culture/Gender Studies: \_\_\_\_\_

Criticism/Theory/Methodology: \_\_\_\_\_

Language/Linguistics: \_\_\_\_\_

Pedagogy: \_\_\_\_\_

Authors/Works: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

