

## WISPS MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2006

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**Welcome to the Summer 2006 newsletter, also covering Winter 2005/6!**

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### NEWS FROM THE EXEC

The following posts will be up for election at the October conference:

- **President** - Remit: To give direction to the association for the next two years. To lead on policy initiatives. To liaise with other national associations and bodies. To respond on behalf of the association at national level.
- **Vice President** - Remit: To assist the president in giving direction to the association for the next two years. To assist the president in her lead on policy initiatives. To liaise with other national associations and bodies. To assist the president in responding on behalf of the association at national level.
- **Secretary** - Remit: To organize meetings and AGMS. To minute meetings and AGMs. To ensure that procedures are followed in meetings. To act as a point of contact for prospective members. To contact members for renewals of membership in Summer each year. To maintain accurate lists of members. To update WISPS documentation.
- **Treasurer** - Remit: To pay cheques in, oversee paying cheques out, keep track of the account and discuss any problems with the bank. To report the annual accounts to the AGM. To oversee the changing of the mandate as the principal officers change

(President, Vice-P, Secretary, Treasurer).

If you are interested in standing for one of these posts, or if you would like to nominate somebody for one of these posts, please contact the [current postholder](#) in the first instance.

### Summer retreat at [Sneaton Castle](#), Whitby

Enjoy a summer weekend in Whitby at a venue near the cliff tops and within walking distance from the town. Planned for 30 June-2 July 2007 (Saturday to Monday). Book this in your diary now! More news coming shortly. Further details from [Lesley](#)

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### PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN JOB

- **Hilary Owen (Manchester)** has been promoted to a Chair position at Manchester University (*Congratulations!* -Ed)
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### MEMBERS' RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

#### **Margaret Ann Clarke (Portsmouth)**

- I have authored a working paper for the Higher Education Academy, "Creativity in Modern Foreign Languages Teaching and Learning", based on a survey of sixteen tutors and lecturers in modern foreign language departments in the UK. Many thanks to Par Kumaraswami, Hilary Rollin, Louise Haywood, Lesley Twomey, Susana Lorenzo and Manuela Cook for their contributions - your names are at the top of the paper, which can be found [here](#). A book proposal framed around developed versions of all the working papers is being submitted to Routledge.
- I also gave a keynote talk on the same topic, entitled "The Multilingual European Situation and Creative Writing" at the first Symposium of the European Network of Creative Writing Programmes, Josef Skorecky Literary Academy, Prague, Czech Republic, 27 October 2005. An article on the same theme, "Creative Writing in the Borderlands" is forthcoming in the journal *Rukopis* Autumn 1:3, 2006.

- Forthcoming: "Olga Savary" in *Encyclopedia of Latin American Women's Literature* (eds. Maria H. André and Eva P. Bueno) London: Routledge, 2007
- Forthcoming: "Utopian Transformations of the Body in Brazilian Digital Culture." In *Navegando: Latin American Cyberliteratures and Cybercultures* (eds. Claire Taylor and Thea Pitman) Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2007

**Kirsty Hooper (Liverpool):**

- Guest editor of [special issue](#) of *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*. 7.2 (July 2006): "New Spaces, New Voices: Notes on Contemporary Galician Studies", which includes the following article:
  - "Galicia desde Londres desde Galicia: New Voices in the 21st-century Diaspora". *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies* 7.2 (July 2006): 171-188.
- "Reading Spain's African Vocation: The Figure of the Moorish Priest in Three Novels of the *fin de siglo* (1891-1907)". *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* 40.1 (2006): 175-199

**Vanessa Knights (Newcastle):**

- 'Queer Pleasures: The Bolero, Camp and Almodóvar', in *Changing Tunes: The Use of Pre-existing Music in Film*, (eds) Phil Powrie & Robynn Stilwell (Aldershot, Ashgate: 2006), 91-104
- 'Tears and Screams: Performances of Pain and Pleasure in the Bolero', in *Queering the Popular Pitch*, (eds) Jennifer Rycenga & Sheila Whiteley (New York, Routledge: 2006), 104-118

**Par Kumaraswami (Heriot-Watt):**

- Edited with Niamh Thornton, *Revolucionarias: Gender and Conflict in Latin American Narratives by Women*, (Oxford/Bern: Peter Lang, in press). To be launched at the WISPS Annual Conference 2006!
- "'El día que no haya combate será un día perdido" (Antonio Maceo): conflict as a catalyst of self-transformation in women's testimonial writing from revolutionary Cuba', *Revolucionarias: Gender and Conflict in Latin American Narratives By Women*, (Oxford/Bern: Peter Lang, in press).
- 'Cultural policy, writers and readership in revolutionary Cuba: the view from the twenty-first century', *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, in press.
- (With Antoni Kapcia) 'The ritualisation of cultural belonging in Havana: the Feria del Libro', *The Cultured City: Building Identities in Urban Latin/o America*, in press.

**Niamh Thornton (Ulster at Coleraine):**

- *Women and the Novela de la Revolución in Mexico* (New York and Lampeter: Edwin Mellen Press, 2006). More info is available [here](#).

**Claire Williams (Liverpool):**

- Review Article: 'The Star of the Hour: The Lispector Industry'. *Journal of Romance Studies* vol 5 issue 3 (2005) pp 115-122
  - "As Primas Portuguesas de Bridget Jones: 'Chick Lit' Portuguesa". In: Vitor Oliveira Jorge ed(s). *Cultura Light*. Porto, Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto; Departamento de Ciencias e Tecnicas do Patrimonio, 2005. pp. 157-168
  - (Forthcoming) *The Encounter Between Opposites in the Works of Clarice Lispector*. HiPLAM: Hispanic, Portuguese and Latin American Monographs. University of Bristol, Bristol, 2006. Buy it from Amazon! More info [here](#)
  - (Forthcoming) Clarice Entre Vistas' an introduction to Clarice Lispector, *As Melhores Entrevistas*. Rocco, Rio de Janeiro, 2006
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AWARDS AND FUNDING

**Kirsty Hooper (Liverpool)** was co-recipient (with Dr Harald Braun, U of Liverpool School of History) of a British Academy Conference grant for the international conference *Rethinking the Iberian Atlantic*, which took place in Liverpool in April 2006. More information about the Iberian Atlantic project and conference is available [here](#).

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NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS' PROJECTS

**Kathy Bacon (formerly Cambridge/Edinburgh)** graduated as PhD from the University of Cambridge on 28 January 2006 (*congratulations!* - Ed). Kathy was also visiting lecturer at Heriot-Watt for 3 weeks in May and post-doctoral fellow at Edinburgh, of which she writes:

- I have just completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Edinburgh University's Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities. I

used my time at IASH to look at constructions of Teresa of Avila in late-nineteenth-century Spanish devotional texts. Having kicked off the project by giving a paper on it at the WISPS conference in October, I then began exploring the question of how hagiographical texts might be considered within the paradigm of "life-writing". I gave a seminar paper at IASH as part of a series on "Life-Writing, Testimony, and Self-Construction", in which I argued that hagiography is a curious form of life-writing, since it aims not only to write the life of a saint, but also, in some sense, to "write" the lives of its readers. I am currently working on preparing the work I did at IASH for publication. I hope to take this project forward by looking at the uses of Teresa in other contexts throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: I am particularly interested in the use of Teresa to define the range of constructions of acceptable femininity, and also her role in constructions of nationhood. In June I presented a paper about views of Teresa in British travel writing about Spain, at a conference entitled *Mediations and Meditations: Iberia and Latin America in Travel Writing*, to be held at the IGRS, 16-17 June.

**Margaret Ann Clarke (Portsmouth)** has given a variety of conference papers on digital matters:

- "Moving Towards the Digital Classroom" EUROCALL 2005, Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland, 24 August 2005
- "Voyages Through the Interface: Digital Writing and the Geography of Textual Positioning." British Comparative Literature Association, University of Wolverhampton, 12 September 2005
- "The Knowledge, Practice and Ownership of Genre with Multimedia Digital Applications", British Association of Applied Linguistics, University of Bristol, 17 September 2005
- "One Term, One Flesh, One Group:" Transformations of the Body in Brazilian Digital Culture." WISPS VI Annual Conference, October 15 2005
- "Symbolic Ecology and the Redimension of the Self in Brazilian Digital Culture." Latin American Cyberliterature and Cyberculture, University of Leeds, 29 March 2006
- I also organised a one day conference, sponsored by EUROCALL, entitled "Multimedia Language Learning: Where Are We Now?" at the School of Languages and Area Studies, University of Portsmouth, 9 February 2006

**Kirsty Hooper (Liverpool):**

- I co-organised the conference *Rethinking the Iberian Atlantic* in April 2006 (for weblink, see above). We had over 70 speakers from 3 continents and it was a wonderful 3 days. The project will continue with a series of workshops during 2006-7, so watch this space!
- took part in the AHRC Review of Research in Modern Languages Delphi Study as a rising researcher.
- founding editor of the new Liverpool University Press journal *Migrations and Identities: A Journal of People and Ideas in Motion* - first issue scheduled for publication in 2007.

**Par Kumaraswami (Heriot-Watt)** is currently organising a collaborative translation project between Heriot-Watt University and the University of Havana. Details of the project launch below (under forthcoming events).

**Helena Miguelez-Carballeira (U Wales Bangor)** will be the director of the new Bangor Centre for Galician Studies, from September 2006. Helena writes:

- The Centre will make available new courses on Galician language, contemporary narrative and politics for students of Hispanic Studies. It will also promote the Galician language and culture through a series of joint projects with the Department of Welsh Studies at the University. In particular, the Centre will launch a Writers in Residence Scheme for new Galician writers, who will be invited to stay in the region and participate in seminars, workshops and round tables with local academics, students, translators and writers.

**Hilary Rollin (Oxford Brookes):**

- Hilary has been invited to "Bridging Cultures, Reaching Heights" the New Zealand Association of Language Teachers International Biennial Conference (July 2-5, 2006), being held in Auckland. She will give a paper ("Moving Towards Intercultural Competence: The Experience and Perceptions of Students and Colleagues") and a workshop ("Intercultural Awareness: Working through some Practical Issues"). She has been awarded a British Academy Overseas Conference Grant for this conference.
- Hilary will also be giving a paper "Literature: Passport to Intercultural Competence?" at 'Literature Matters' the Romance Studies Colloquium at the University of Oregon, USA (October 19-21).

**Claire Taylor (Liverpool)** was invited to speak at the conference "Women in Latin America", part of the "International Women's Week" activities at Canning House in March 2006. Claire spoke on the topic "Best-sellers, Movies and Weblogs: Latin American Women and Popular Culture".

**Niamh Thornton (Ulster at Coleraine):**

- Co-organizer of 3rd annual Irish Latin Americanists Conference, held on the 16th and 17th of June.
- "Púrpura: Innocence Corrupted in Mexico City". Paper presented at the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland University of Liverpool. 24th- 26th April 2006.
- "Imagining the Impossible: Textual, Aural and Visual Negotiations of the City in Latin America". Panel organised for the Society of Latin American Studies Conference, The University of Nottingham. 31st March - 2nd of April 2006.
- "From the City Looking Out, Out of the City Looking In", paper given at SLAS conference.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Translating Scotland and Cuba: 2006 Symposium**

First Symposium on Translating Scotland and Cuba -- theories, methodologies and practices, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, 27 June 2006, 2-5:30pm, MBG14 (Mary Burton/Management Building), Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton Campus, Edinburgh.

The aim of this initial half-day symposium is to launch a new joint project on Scottish and Cuban literatures in translation between the Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies, Heriot-Watt University, and the Facultad de Lenguas Extranjeras, Universidad de La Habana. Running in parallel with a series of informal practical workshops, the June 2006 Symposium will offer a range of presentations on contexts, theories, practices and methodologies of literary translation, as a starting point for the collaborative project. All welcome! More info from [Par](#)

## **¡VAMOS! Latin & Lusophone Festival, NewcastleGateshead, 7th - 16th July 2006**

Co-organised by Vanessa Knights:

Popular Musics of the Hispanic and Lusophone Worlds, 14th-16th July 2006, University of Newcastle upon Tyne and Vamos Festival (7-16 July 2006)

This conference aims to bring together scholars from all over the world, in any discipline, working on popular musics from Hispanic and Lusophone communities worldwide (plus groups within those communities who are not Spanish/Portuguese speakers). Interest has been expressed by scholars from Europe, Latin America and the U.S.A. It is being organised by [Dr Vanessa Knights](#) (School of Modern Languages, University of Newcastle), in collaboration with Drs [Ian Biddle](#) (International Centre for Music Studies, University of Newcastle) and [Mark Sabine](#) (School of Modern Languages, University of Nottingham) and in conjunction with The Sage Gateshead. Recognised world experts in the field have been confirmed as plenary speakers:

- Salwa El-Shawan Castelo Branco (Instituto de Etnomusicologia, Lisbon)
- Timothy Mitchell (A&M University, Texas)
- David Treece (King's College, University of London)

Registration forms will soon be available online at the [conference website](#) where you can also check out the programme. There will also be an extensive programme of cultural events around the city of Newcastle and Gateshead, organised in conjunction with Name and involving leading local arts organisations such as The Sage Gateshead. For more info see the [festival website](#).

Click [here](#) for a flier in Word format

### **UCL Postgraduate conference (June 2007)**

Maria-Jose Blanco writes: At UCL we are organizing a postgraduate conference on the theme of Diaries. Here is some information about it. We will keep you informed as soon as we have the dates and we have confirmed the keynote speaker.

#### *Aireando lo privado / Airing the Private*

We live in a time when the boundaries between public and private lives have been redefined. Politicians publish their memoirs; weblogs tell intimate and trivial details of people's lives, directors keep diaries of making films and newspapers print fictional diaries of people's love lives.

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to address some of the issues of the diary narrative. Topics might include, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- The use of diaries as historical source
- Self-reflection, interior reality
- Diaries as micro history
- Issues in publishing diaries posthumously
- The boundaries of fiction and non-fiction
- Public figures-Private diaries

We invite proposals from postgraduate students in Hispanic Studies on the theme of Diaries. We welcome papers from students working in any of the following areas or beyond: Graphic novels, film, blogs, photo or video diaries, travel writing, fiction and non-fiction related to Spain or Latin America. Papers should be no more than 20 minutes long and may be delivered in English or Spanish.

Conference organisers:

Sinead Wall / Maria-José Blanco

Spanish and Latin American Studies Department, UCL

Gower Street, London, W1V 6EH

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#### WISPS VII ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The WISPS VII Annual Conference, on the theme **Language, Gender, Power**, will take place in Birmingham on October 13-14 2006. Many thanks to conference organisers Susanne Meachem and Pat Odber.

Website and further information now available [here](#)

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**That's all, folks! Winter newsletter will appear at the end of the year.**