

**WISPS X ANNIVERSARY VOLUME:
THE 'NOUGHTIES' IN THE HISPANIC AND LUSOPHONE WORLD**

Since its inception in 1999, WISPS (Women in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies) has provided opportunities for networking for female colleagues and a forum for feminist and gender studies research. In order to celebrate ten years of WISPS, we propose to publish an edited volume exploring the theme of the 'noughties', the decade within which the association has grown into an established contributor to research and professional development within our field.

As we come to the end of the 'noughties', this is a good opportunity to look back and consider whether there is anything unique about the first decade of a new century. After the *fin de siècle* malaise has lifted and the optimism of the dawn of a new century has lost its novelty, what's next? What changes have come about? Is there something distinct about the noughties? Even the fact that they rarely get named as such is unique among the many other decades whose nomenclatures are often supplemented with adjectival complements to summarise the mood of the time. Think of the roaring twenties, the greedy eighties, but, what of the noughties?

The editors wish to invite proposals from authors interested in looking back at the decade gone past, and others who would like to take a leap backwards at changes in previous centuries. Was there something unique about what happened in the 1700s in Peru?, the 1500s in Argentina?, the 1800s in Spain?, or the 2000s in Portugal?, and so on. Are there inventions that are introduced and consolidated at the turn of centuries (Film in 1900s, Internet in 2000s), which are worthwhile considering in the light of all that a new century brings? We are interested in those who consider these to be integral to the coming of a new century, or simply want to examine a phenomenon which came about at the turn of a century. The chapters can focus on single decades or take a comparative approach. Proposals are welcome from a variety of disciplines and across the Hispanic and Lusophone world.

Possible topics of interest:

Optimism/pessimism at the change of century
Technological developments
Adjustments in cultural production
What happens to *fin de siècle* malaise when the year turns
Political and social upheavals
New century, new freedoms?

As this publication is intended to celebrate the first decade of the existence of Women in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, all contributors must be members or associate members, or will be asked to become members when their paper is accepted. Membership details can be found here: <http://www.wisps.org.uk/>.

Please send proposals or expressions of interest (500 words maximum) to Niamh Thornton n.thornton@ulster.ac.uk or Kathy Bacon kathy.bacon@virgin.net by **November 6th 2009**.