

PALA Spring Newsletter 2004

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter (for those of you whose seasons include Spring that is!) This newsletter is rather late because there were a few things the committee wanted to discuss before sending it out, and so I'm writing it after our meeting in Wolverhampton. There are some important announcements in here, so don't just glance at it! You will find committee election announcements, upcoming conference information, Language and Literature news, website news, and other exciting things!

Looking forward to meeting many of you (old friends and new) in New York – if you can't make it this year, make sure you get to Huddersfield next year. PALA is one of the friendliest conferences you can get to – make it the one you never miss!

Lesley Jeffries, Newsletter Editor

Elections to the committee and constitutional changes

This year there are two committee posts up for election (subject to agreement by the AGM). I warned last year's AGM that I would be standing down this year as newsletter editor, because I have the next PALA conference to organise, and feel it is the right time to give someone else a chance to thrill you all three times a year! We had two nominations for this post by the closing date of January 31st, and they are:

Michael Burke and Dan McIntyre

We are also hoping to reverse a constitutional change made a few years ago, to merge the posts of treasurer and membership secretary. Peter Stockwell has valiantly been carrying both of these roles, but we feel it is too much for one committee member, and will therefore be asking the AGM to approve the addition of membership secretary as a separate post. Having approved this change, we will then be asking the AGM to elect someone to the role, so what we need from you now are the nominations. Please send nominations to Isil (Chair) and Urszula (Secretary) **by 15th June** (email addresses below). If potential nominees wish to find out more about what is involved in the role,

please contact Peter. Names of nominees and short statements by them (and by Michael and Dan – please!) will be on the website in June.

These are likely to be the last committee members elected at the AGM itself. In the past there have been few contested nominations, but it seems that more and more people wish to help PALA by serving on the committee, and as we grow ever more international, it seems only right to make sure that members throughout the world have a chance to vote in committee elections, whether or not they are able to attend the annual conference. We will therefore be asking the AGM to approve changes to the constitution (enclosed) which will result in future elections being held by email and postal voting. We have yet to finalise the details, and the question of secret balloting will be debated at the conference, but this step is one that we hope will enable more of our members to feel involved.

The proposed changes to the constitution (see attached) are as follows:

Section 3 d. e) of the constitution - the insertion of a clause between the first and second to read: 'to ratify the results of elections as necessary'.

Section 1 of the constitution - the number of members required to summon a Special General Meeting to be altered from 12 to one third of the membership.

Changes to subscription rates

After years of exceptionally low subscription rates, the committee wishes to raise rates from £40 to £50 for membership plus journal, from £10 to £20 for standard membership and to leave the student/unwaged subscription unchanged at £5. The reason for this change is partly because of the increased cost of mailing but also to increase student bursaries and to create funds to support other events such as mini conferences and postgrad conferences. The AGM will be asked to vote on this change.

Future Conferences

PALA 2004 in New York – see website (<http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/english/PALA2004/>) for details.

Register NOW if you haven't already done so!

PALA 2005 in Huddersfield, Yorkshire. Dates are July 18th – 22nd 2005 and we hope the website will be up and running soon.

PALA 2006 in Joensuu, Finland. Projected dates as follows: August 2nd – 5th 2006

Postgraduate Bursaries for conference

All full-time postgraduate members of PALA who are giving a paper at the conference are eligible for a small bursary toward the cost of their attendance. If you would like to apply for one, please send your details, including where you study and the title of your paper, to Peter Stockwell (details below) **by 15th June 2004**. The amount of the bursary (depending on numbers applying) will be communicated to you shortly after the closing date, in order for you to make your plans. No applications can therefore be accepted after that date.

Language and Literature Journal – reviews

The reviews editor is Jo Gavins. If you wish to review a book for the journal, please contact Jo at the following address:

Department Of English Language And Linguistics
University of Sheffield
5 Shearwood Road,
Sheffield, S10 2TD
UK
j.gavins@sheffield.ac.uk

Attridge, Derek (2004) *The Singularity of Literature*, London: Routledge.
Allen, Graham (2004) *Roland Barthes* (Routledge Critical Thinkers), London: Routledge.
Al-Sharafi, Abdul (2004) *Textual Metonymy: A Semiotic Approach*, London: Palgrave.
Byron, Glennis (2003) *Dramatic Monologue*, London: Routledge.
Colebrook, Claire (2004) *Irony*, London: Routledge.

Collins, Beverley (2003) *Practical Phonetics and Phonology* (Routledge English Language Introductions), London: Routledge.
Davis, Colin (2004) *After Poststructuralism: Reading, Stories and Theory*, London: Routledge.
Dworkin, Craig (2003) *Reading the Illegible*, Northwestern University Press.
Firmat, Gustavo (2004) *Tongue Ties*, London: Palgrave.
Hamilton, Paul (2003) *Historicism*, London: Routledge.
Ostovich, Helen and Sauer, Elizabeth (eds) (2004) *Reading Early Modern Women*, London: Routledge.
McAfee, Noel (2004) *Julia Kristeva* (Routledge Critical Thinkers), London: Routledge.
Nel, Philip (2004) *Dr Suess: American Icon*, New York: Continuum.
Saraceni, Mario (2003) *The Language of Comics*, London: Routledge.
Simpson, Paul (2003) *On the Discourse of Satire*, Amsterdam: Benjamins.
Thomas, Linda et al (eds) (2004) *Language, Society and Power* (2nd Edition), London: Routledge.
Trott, Kate et al (eds) (2004) *The Child Language Reader*, London: Routledge.

For an updated list of books, see the PALA website:

<http://www.pala.ac.uk/review.htm>

Membership Renewal

Please make the membership secretary's job easier by remembering to renew your membership! If you are not sure if you have done so, please contact Peter Stockwell asap (details below). You can check the methods of payment etc on the website.

PALA Website

Martin Wynne would like to hear from all members about their research interests, for the website. This service enables members to contact other members with similar interests, and is only really useful if kept up-to-date. Please send a few keywords on your current interests to Martin (details below).

Martin would also like members to know that there will shortly be a discussion list available to members at announce@pala.ac.uk which

will enable us to keep each other informed about developments, new books of interest, other conferences, job advertisements etc. At this stage we don't envisage it being a discussion list in the sense of debating aspects of our subject, but if it looks as though this might be useful, there may be scope for another address discuss@pala.ac.uk
Please keep an eye on the website for developments of this kind!

Prizes, prizes, prizes!

There is still time to apply for the Longman Prize for the best postgraduate paper at last year's conference in Istanbul. Please send your paper to Isil Bas and Urszula Clark (details below) **by 15th June 2004**. The Prize is free conference registration at the next PALA conference you attend, so it's worth applying.

Committee and contacts

Chair

Isil Bas: isil@boun.edu.tr

Secretary

Urszula Clark: U.Clark@wlv.ac.uk.

Editor, *Language and Literature*

Paul Simpson: P.Simpson@qub.ac.uk

Treasurer and Membership

Peter Stockwell: peter.stockwell@nottingham.ac.uk.

Newsletter Editor

Lesley Jeffries: l.jeffries@hud.ac.uk

Publicity and Website

Martin Wynne: martin.wynne@ota.ahds.ac.uk.

News! News! News!

Members will be delighted to learn of the birth of a baby girl, Ada Mebdh, to Peter Stockwell and Jo Gavins earlier this year.
Congratulations!

CALL FOR PAPERS on PEDAGOGICAL STYLISTICS

The field of stylistics has greatly developed since the late 1950s. One cannot state that it is simply an interface between literature and linguistics any longer, especially after the development of cognitive studies. We are interested in publishing an edited volume on the state of the art of stylistics, specifically in classroom contexts. How has pedagogical stylistics developed since the late 1950s? Where do we stand now? How has research in this area progressed? What are the prospects for the future in terms of research and application? These are some of the issues which we believe should belong to this volume. In order not to influence the scope of submissions, we refrain from setting predefined sections. On the contrary, we welcome a wide variety of submissions from theoretical discussions, relations between stylistics and new technology, research on students' response to texts, and all sorts of classroom applications.

Submissions should be preceded by 300-500 word abstracts. All work must be original, non-published material and should follow the style of the Instructions to Authors published in *Language and Literature*. Language of submission should be English, and we especially welcome work from non-English speaking countries. All papers will be reviewed.

The proposed timetable for this project is:

Submission of abstract: December 2004

Submission of papers (upon invitation): July 2005.

Submission of manuscript to reputable publisher: December 2005

If you wish to contribute to this volume, please contact either Greg Watson or Sonia Zyngier, preferably by email. (In case you prefer to use regular mail, please address your envelope to Dr. Greg Watson):

Dr. Greg Watson
Department of Foreign Languages
PO Box 111
University of Joensuu.
Finland

greg.watson@joensuu.fi

Dr. Sonia Zyngier
Post-Graduate Programme of
Applied Linguistics
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

szyngier@globo.com