



PARLANCE

*PALA 27, Kansai
Gaidai, Japan 2007*

PALA Newsletter

October 2007

Letter from the Chair

Dear PALAn friends,

I hope that those of you who went enjoyed your participation in the annual conference of PALA in Japan. I am writing to confirm the details of two issues which were announced at the conference. These are as follows:

(1) The Longman Prize, awarded for the best postgraduate paper delivered at the conference, will be judged on the basis of written versions of the papers, by the conference organiser, Masanori Toyota, and the Chair of PALA, Lesley Jeffries. You should submit your paper by email to Lesley (l.jeffries@hud.ac.uk) by 30th November 2007. You may, of course, make changes to accommodate the comments you received during or after the conference, but it must be based on the paper that you gave there. The papers should not be longer than 7000 words, and should include full references.

(2) The decision was taken at the AGM to discontinue the printed volumes of papers from annual conferences, and to pilot instead electronic proceedings which will be

accessible from the website. Pala Japan will be the first conference to produce such proceedings, and we would be grateful if all participants would consider submitting their papers for inclusion. Authors will have the right to publish elsewhere of course, but this swift e-publication of our work should be seen as an opportunity to read each others' work in early form in order to respond to others' ideas. The proceedings will also give scholars who cannot attend conferences the chance to catch up with the latest in stylistic research! Full instructions for submission can be found on the website now. Please note, however, that the closing date is 15th November 2007. We will then have the proceedings up on the site early in 2008.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual conference in Sheffield next year.

Thanks and best wishes to you all
Lesley Jeffries
Pala Chair

Editorial

Welcome to the October 2007 newsletter!

I also hope that you all enjoyed the PALA conference in Japan! Unfortunately, I was not able to be there, but everyone I have spoken to says it was a real success!

In this issue, you will find information related to PALA 2007, a 'PALA virgin' report and even more...

Please send anything that might be of interest to PALA members to be published in the newsletter to busseb@uni-muenster.de.

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PALA 27, Kansai Gaidai, Osaka, Japan 2007 – Afterthought by Masanori Toyota

Dear PALA members,

It was a great pleasure and privilege to host the PALA 2007 at Kansai Gaidai University, Hirakata, Osaka, Japan from 31 July to 4 August. In spite of the geographical disadvantages of Japan's location in the 'Farthest East', a lot of PALAns, colleagues and graduate students came to KGU from Europe, North or South America, Africa, Middle East, Australia and Asia.

We are very grateful to all of the participants for their great contribution to the PALA annual conference. Special thanks go to the plenary speakers, Professor Geoffrey Leech (Lancaster), Professor Andreas Jucker (Zurich), Professor Yoshiko Ikegami (Showa Women's University) and Professor Sylvia Adamson (Sheffield). Hirakata is well known as one of the hottest cities in Japan and it was even hotter this year due to the heated discussions on 'Style and Communication'. As it was the first conference in East Asia, there were a number of new faces and they were unanimously impressed with the

friendly atmosphere of the PALA conference, which is a long and excellent tradition of the association.

In the course of the preparations for the annual event, we received constant encouragement and support from the PALA committee members - above all, Professor Lesley Jeffries, new chair of PALA, and Professor Greg Watson, the organiser of the successful Joensuu conference in 2006 and Professor Mick Short, who visited Japan in 2006 in order to promote the coming conference and gave us very useful advice and suggestions.

Now you know where Japan is, it should be slightly easier for you to come back to these shores. We have a small and informal organisation, PALA Japan, which holds an annual conference in late May. If you are somewhere near Japan, please drop us a line: we could organise a special meeting for you or another excursion to Kyoto (there is still so much to see).

Masanori Toyota (a member of local organising committee, Japan)

PALA Virgin Report, PALA 27, Kansai Gaidai, Osaka, Japan 2007

Dear all,

PALA2007 was a great experience. It was a well organised conference with high quality papers, interesting plenaries, and marvellous food. And it was my first proper conference. What a wonderful place to start!

I travelled to Japan with Qatar Airlines, going to Osaka from Manchester via Doha. When I arrived at Osaka airport, I noticed almost immediately that the weather was a bit close and the long sleeved thermal that had kept me comfortable during the night on the plane from Qatar to Japan was now becoming less comfortable – not to mention a bit minging.

It took (me) a couple of trains, a bus and a bit of a walk to reach the International Seminar House – my accommodation for the duration of the conference. I have to admit I got totally lost trying to find my way there from where the bus dropped me and when I eventually I arrived, I was absolutely lathered. I tried to stay downwind from the person looking after reception while he greeted me warmly, ticked my name off his list and showed me to my lovely spacious room.

PALA2007 started with an excellent pre-conference workshop on the theme of corpus approaches to stylistics. On the first day Tomoji Tabata introduced us to regular expressions – which for me turned out to be mostly frowns – this stuff was not easy, while Martin Wynne talked about resources and methods useful for stylistics, and demonstrated a (free) concordancer called AntConc.

Day two included a session that I was to co-present with Mick Short. It started with a lecture by Mick on a corpus analysis of *Betrayal* by Harold

Pinter and was followed by a session demonstrating Wmatrix. This was the session I was involved with and while Mick gave his lecture I sat nervously and fiddled with Wmatrix, making last minute preparations. Of course, back in Lancaster, a lot of time had already been spent preparing for the workshop: writing the handouts, setting up the user environments and so on, but it was only on the morning of day one of the pre-conference workshop (yesterday if you happen to be inhabiting the day-two-of-the-workshop part of the story world) over green tea in Mick's palatial suite that we really discussed who was going to speak when. It was during this meeting that my mind began to properly comprehend that I was going to have to say something during the workshop rather than just lurk. I retreated to my (student) room to think of some possible words – which was actually a really stupid thing to do – because it took me about 20 minutes to get there, and I realised that in order to get back to campus in time for the first session I'd have to set off straight away. I walked quickly and took my seat for Tomoji's session feeling very much the wrong side of moist.

The following day was the start of the conference proper. My paper was scheduled for day three of the conference which meant I had a lot of time to fret about it and plenty of time to fiddle with it. And fiddled with it I did - every night – adding extra bits of analysis and key points I thought I needed to make. Then on the night before the morning of my presentation I realised that I had much too much to say in 20 minutes and hastily fiddled with it some more. By Thursday

morning I'd got it back to its original form.

I don't remember much about the presentation other than noticing, while I was talking, that one of my tables had a mistake in it which, although I managed to ignore, made my heart drop through the bottom of my rib cage and bounce back up to my gullet as though on a bungee, and that someone waved a card at me with "5 mins" - or something like that - written on it, which fortunately was not the time used but the time remaining because I'd galloped through my spiel so quickly I'd almost run out of things to say Oh, and I also noticed an overall increase in personal moistness. The food served during the conference was marvellous with the banquet being

the absolute highlight. The Banquet also included a feast of entertainment, with some traditional Japanese offerings before the food and some traditional PALA entertainment after. Neither was a disappointment, with the PALA version of Japanese Noh theatre perhaps providing evidence that sometimes things can be found in translation.

Generally, PALA2007 was a fantastic experience. Thank you to the organisers for arranging such a great conference.

Yours gratefully,
Brian Walker, Lancaster University



Action shot - the Noh translation of the mime version of that famous film 'Gone with the Corpora'

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following PALAns:

Lesley Jeffries who has been awarded a Chair in English Language at the University of Huddersfield

Yu-Fang Ho who has been awarded her PhD from Lancaster University

Forthcoming PALA Events

PALA 28 2008 at The University of Sheffield

23rd July to 26th 2007

Visit <http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/pala2008>

AGM Minutes, 1. 08. 2007, Kansai Gaidai, Osaka, Japan

1. Minutes 2005 approved.

2. Chair's Report: Lesley Jeffries reported that the committee had met once since her term of office began in January 2007. They had agreed to pursue some initiatives aimed at widening the base of Pala membership and supporting those members in places where few stylisticians were to be found. These initiatives include appointing a new Publicity Officer, in addition to the webmaster and developing a team of 'Pala Ambassadors' to take the message out to the regions of the world. She also announced that a new look to the website and the Pala image was in preparation.

3. *Language and Literature* Report: Paul Simpson reported a continuing healthy state for the journal. A reminder that Sage is going to make all back issues available electronically, starting with 1:1. *Martin Wynne suggested members should have access to electronic copies. Paul Simpson to take this up at editorial meeting in the autumn. Link to be set up on L&L page to PALA.*

PALA prize 2006 is awarded to Vera Tobin.

4. Treasurer's Report: Dan McIntyre

5. Membership Report: Michael Burke gave an update on membership, which has risen, particularly the postgraduate category. Andrea McRae has been co-opted as student membership secretary. Nina Nørgaard takes over from Michael as membership secretary.

6. Newsletter report: Dan McIntyre finished his term as newsletter editor and Beatrix Busse takes over from him. Please send her any contributions you may have for the newsletter: busseb@uni-muenster.de

7. Publicity Report: Martin Wynne. PALA has a new logo and website design. The website will be updated during the coming year to provide more material on-line, such as newsfeeds; links; online teaching materials and so on. Martin's term of office as a committee member has come to an end, but he has been co-opted as webmaster, following the creation of a new committee post, that of publicity officer.

8. PALA Series Report: The 2004 volume has been published, and the 2005 and 2006 volumes should appear shortly. The AGM agreed to discontinue the series after publication of the 2006 volume. Instead, for 2007, the committee will trial an open access on-line proceedings. This innovation will be reviewed at the AGM next year.

9. Longman Prize 2006: Prize awarded for best conference paper given by a postgraduate student. 2005 winner is Nicola Lennon, Queens' University, Belfast.

10. Future conferences:

2008: Sheffield, UK

2009: Middelburg, The Netherlands

2010: Sardinia or Genua, Italy

Interest in possible future conference venues was expressed from the Ukraine, Namibia, Edinburgh and New York State. Interested prospective conference organizers were asked to prepare short presentations for next year's AGM.

11. Constitutional issues:

5 committee posts fell due for election during 2007 for which 4 nominations were received:

newsletter editor: Beatrix Busse

treasurer: Dan McIntyre

membership secretary: Nina Nørgaard

publicity: Ernestine Lahey

One committee post remains vacant, that of membership secretary. Nominations will be re-opened for this post.

The Chair thanked Dan McIntyre, Peter Stockwell, Michael Burke and Urszula Clark for their sterling work the committee.

12. AOB:

Ruby Rennie has created an unofficial PALA facebook website. On behalf of the executive committee and PALA, Lesley Jeffries thanked the out-going Chair, Isil Bas, for all her hard work and commitment to PALA during her term in office.

Membership

Senior membership: 171

Student membership: 100

Books Available for Review in *Language and Literature*

If you are interested in writing a review please contact Peter Stockwell at peter.stockwell@nottingham.ac.uk

Bal, M. (2006) *A Mieke Bal Reader*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

- Barry, E. (2006) *Beckett and Authority: The Uses of Cliché*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Benwell, B. and Stokoe, E. (2006) *Discourse and Identity*. Edinburgh: EUP.
- Bloomer, W.M. (ed.) (2005) *The Contest of Language: Before and Beyond Nationalism*. Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press.
- Chapman, S. and Routledge, C. (eds) (2005) *Key Thinkers in Linguistics and the Philosophy of Language*. Edinburgh: EUP.
- Chapman, S.(2006) *Thinking About Language: Theories of English*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Clark, U. (2007) *Studying Language: English in Action*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Cohen, B. and Kujundzic, D. (eds) (2005) *Provocations to Reading: J Hillis Miller and the Democracy to Come*. New York: Fordham.
- Cox, A. (2005) *Writing Short Stories*. London: Routledge.
- Davies, D. (2005) *Varieties of Modern English: An Introduction*. Harlow: Longman.
- Dawson, P. (2005) *Creative Writing and the New Humanities*. London: Routledge.
- Evans, V. and Green, M. (2006) *Cognitive Linguistics: An Introduction*. Edinburgh: EUP.
- Field, J. (2005) *Language and the Mind*. London: Routledge.
- Goatly, A. (2007) *Washing the Brain: Metaphor and Hidden Ideology*. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- Goodman, S. and O'Halloran, K. (eds) (2006) *The Art of English: Literary Creativity*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Graddol, D. et al (eds) (2007) *Changing English*. London: Routledge.
- Gregoriou, C. (2006) *Deviance in Contemporary Crime Fiction*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Hägglom, C. (2006) *Young EFL-pupils Reading Multicultural Children's Fiction*. Abö: Abö Akademi University Press.
- Heffer, C. (2005) *The Language of Jury Trial*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Horobin, S. (2007) *Chaucer's English*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Huddart, D. (2006) *Homi K. Bhabha*. London: Routledge.
- Jeffries, L. (2006) *Discovering Language: The Structure of Modern English*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Jospeh, J.E. (2006) *Language and Politics*. Edinburgh: EUP.
- Mackean, I. (2005) *The Essentials of Literature in English Post-1914*. London: Hodder Arnold.
- Malpas, S. (2005) *The Postmodern*. London: Routledge.
- Marsen, S. (2006) *Narrative Dimensions of Philosophy*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Martin, J.R. and White, P.R.R. (2005) *The Language of Evaluation: Appraisal in English*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Maybin, J. and Swann, J. (eds) (2006) *The Art of English: Everyday Creativity*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Maybin, J. et al (eds) (2007) *Using English*. London: Routledge.
- McEnery, T. (2006) *Swearing in English: Bad Language, Purity and Power from 1586 to the Present*. London: Routledge.
- Mieszkowski, J. (2006) *Labors of Imagination: Aesthetics and Political Economy from Kant to Althusser*. New York: Fordham.
- Miller, J.H. (2005) *Literature as Conduct: Speech Acts in Henry James*. New York: Fordham.
- Mills, P. (2006) *The Routledge Creative Writing Coursebook*. London: Routledge.
- Page, R. (2006) *Literary and Linguistic Approaches to Feminist Narratology*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.

- Phillips, D.Z. (2006) *From Fantasy to Faith: Morality, Religion and Twentieth-Century Literature*. Canterbury: SCM.
- Pope, R. (2005) *Creativity: Theory, History, Practice*. London: Routledge.
- Siemerling, W. (2005) *The New North American Studies*. London: Routledge.
- Strack, D.E. (2007) *Literature in the Crucible of Translation: A Cognitive Account*. Okayama: Education Press.
- Vandavelde, P. (2005) *The Task of the Interpreter: Text, Meaning, and Negotiation*. Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University Press.
- Wright, E. (2005) *Narrative, Perception, Language, and Faith*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Wynne, M. (ed.) (2005) *Developing Linguistic Corpora: A Guide to Good Practice*. Oxford: Oxbow.

The PALA Committee

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