

PARLANCE

Spring/summer 2019



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All identified people in photos have given permission

PARLANCE contributions

If you would like to contribute to the next issue of Parlance, please email the newsletter editor
Contact details are on <https://www.pala.ac.uk/committee.html>

From the PALA Chair

We are very pleased to welcome Dr Marina Lambrou as the next Chair of PALA. Dr Lambrou has been a member of PALA and a regular presenter at the PALA conference, being also one of the keynote speakers at PALA 2015 in the University of Kent. She is currently Associate Professor in English Language and Linguistics in Kingston University, London. Her research and publications centre around literary and non-literary stylistics, media discourses and narratology, and her most recent work has a focus on disnarration in fictional and factual texts.



Dear PALAns

PALA 2019 will be upon us next week, hosted by the University of Liverpool in the historic city of Liverpool. This will be the 39th PALA conference, bringing together those researching in stylistics from around the world to meet, present and share their work among the friendliest bunch of scholars!

Our host, Prof Paul Simpson and his team have organised four days packed with panels and plenaries, and this year there is also a handy app ([PALA2019 available to download from the App store](#)) where you can find useful information about the conference organised under: *Schedule, Speakers, My Planner, Information, Search Sessions and Maps* to make the experience even more enjoyable. The PALA guitar may also be making an appearance and there may even be songs made famous by certain musicians from the city (no - I don't mean A Flock of Seagulls...).

I'll leave you to put the final touches to your papers and look forward to seeing you soon.

Dr Marina Lambrou

Chair of PALA



The 2018 PALA conference

The University of Birmingham hosted the 2018 PALA conference, with excellent facilities provided in the Alan Walters Building. The conference dinner was in Hornton Grange, and the conference excursion was to Stratford-Upon-Avon.

The conference reception took place in the Barber Institute of Fine Art, at the end of the first full day of conference.

Following a welcome to conference delegates, Dr Ruth Page gave a tribute to PALA Chair Professor Michael Toolan, remembering his dedication to PALA, and also language studies and linguistics at the University of Birmingham since 1996.



Dr Page presented Prof Toolan with a volume which had been co-edited by herself, Prof Beatrix Busse (Heidelberg University) and Dr Nina Nørgaard (Associate Professor, University of Southern Denmark):

Rethinking Language, Text and Context: Interdisciplinary Research in Stylistics in Honour of Michael Toolan.



Overview of the book: "It is now 25 years since *Language, Text and Context* was edited by Michael Toolan. Since then, the connections between language, text and context have been theorised in different ways and have been investigated using a wide range of methods, informed by, for example, corpus linguistics, cognitive linguistics, pragmatics and multimodality. The essays in this collection are original research papers which reflect the different ways in which language, text and context are connected. The collection explores the contextualising potential of stylistics in five key thematic areas that have developed at the interface between language, text and context since 1992. Each section comprises papers covering a range of texts, from different genres and cultural contexts."

Prof Toolan has had an immense contribution to stylistics and to PALA for many years. He has been Chair of PALA for 3 years, and during that time he has supported events and individuals in his quiet, generous manner. He has been an incredible ambassador for stylistics, in his books and as editor of several prestigious journals. Although he is currently Professor of English Language and currently Head of the Division of English Language and Applied Linguistics, at the University of Birmingham, his career has spanned the globe - from an MA degree in the University of Edinburgh, and including the National University of Singapore and the University of Washington. His many books are staple reading for scholars in stylistics.



We thank him for his contributions to PALA for many, many years, and wish him all the best as he retires from Chair of PALA

Conference SIGs

Conference SIGs

At each conference, the PALA Special Interest Groups (SIGs) have the opportunity to host a series of presentations related to the SIG. This gives the presenters the opportunity to meet with others who have similar interests, and gives conference attendees an easy way to be able to have related papers following each other, with discussions that can sometimes go much deeper into issues.

PALA is keen to support the creation and support of SIG groups, so get in touch with the publicity officer if you'd like to know more about existing SIGs or you would like to start your own. More information is on <http://www.pala.ac.uk/sigs.html>

Crime SIG at PALA Birmingham

PALA Birmingham was the site of our fourth Crime SIG, and one of our largest yet, with six speakers and, as always, a large number of engaged PALAns providing excellent and much appreciated feedback. The wide range of texts analysed in the papers delivered as part of this SIG showed us that 'crime' is a broad topic that can be difficult to define. Crime can be a form of resistance as much as a deviant act or illegal behaviour; crime writing, on the other hand, can be entertaining, threatening, rhetorical, informative, and many other things. The texts examined in this panel included a threat letter; an examination of witness statements to a politically sensitive event; funk lyrics; Icelandic crime fiction; *The Sopranos*, and newspaper reports on human trafficking and modern slavery.

We invite everyone who is interested in crime writing, regardless of genre and text type, to join our CrimeSIG. We aim to hold our fifth panel at PALA 2019 in Liverpool, and are hoping to see many of you there (again). Our panel CfP will published on our webpage: <https://crimesig.wordpress.com> and communicated to all PALAns in due course.

Ulrike Tabbert, University of Huddersfield (ulritab@gmail.com)

Ilse Ras (i.a.ras@live.nl)

photos courtesy of Ulrike Tabbert



My first PALA

The annual PALA conference has often been described as one of the friendliest and welcoming conferences on the academic calendar. It's always great, then, to welcome "newbies" into the PALA conference family. We have a tradition of giving newcomers the opportunity to write a short piece about themselves and their experiences at the conference - so here we have contributions from "newbies" to PALA who came to the Birmingham conference. Thanks for your enthusiastic reports about the PALA conference, and looking forward to seeing you in many more!



PALA 2018 wasn't just my first PALA, but was my first proper academic conference. I suspect I'm spoiled now for other conferences: I heard the phrase "this only happens at PALA" a lot.

Everyone was friendly and welcoming, and there was always someone to explain any PALA in-jokes. It was thoroughly enjoyable.

I chose not to present a paper this year: as a part-time PhD student, I felt my research wasn't ready for that yet. Perhaps that was a mistake, however: many others presented research that was in its early stages, and in doing so generated lots of helpful suggestions as well as the thought-provoking discussion that accompanied all the presentations.

I returned home exhausted, with more ideas than I knew what to do with. Thank you all.

Lucy Peacock
Nottingham University

There and Back Again: the PALA experience by a Brazilian student

In which a Brazilian student goes to a PALA Conference for the first time, and what he found there

PALA, what a curious acronym for a Brazilian Portuguese speaker! It is a word that depending on its use can mean an item of clothing, a piece of cloth-covered cardboard used in liturgical practices, a heraldic feature, among many others; very different meanings from the acronym itself, *Poetics and Linguistics Association*. It should come as no surprise then that when I saw it on the *Language and Literature* journal webpage I was intrigued by what it could possibly mean in English.



Photos for this article contributed by Raphael

I had barely finished the first semester of my PhD studies and was searching for bibliographic references on my research topic when I came across the *Language and Literature* (L&L) journal. Not hearing anything from anyone before, I was drawn to it after seeing the PALA logo on L&L. The logo led me to PALA's webpage. I browsed through its many sections, and it struck me that I could be part of it. So I sent an email to Martine van Driel, signed up as a student member, and started receiving PALA's emails. In one of them, I saw a call for papers for PALA Conference 2018 to be held at the University of Birmingham. *Why not send an abstract?*, thought I, not without a bunch of misgivings. It would be my second time abroad (first time, Paris), and my first time in an English-speaking country presenting my research in English to an international community of scholars; the prospect was daunting enough for me. But even so, I dared send the abstract. What was my surprise when not only was the abstract accepted, but I also got a bursary to help me with the conference expenses! Little did I know that another surprise lay in store for me. When the conference programme came out, I saw that I was expected to chair a session at the conference, even though I had never attended one. I was most apprehensive about it, and thought I would send an email asking for a replacement. But on second thoughts, I decided to give it a go. After months of hand-wringing and preparation, I was set to go. Turns out I went there and came back, and here are some impressions of what I found there.

First off, I found kindness everywhere, from everybody as soon as I arrived in Birmingham. I felt really welcome and at ease throughout the summer school and the main conference. All the talks with attendees during breakfast, coffee breaks, and lunch were very friendly. I was impressed by the sheer number of attendees from all over the world; I had never been in such a diverse crowd before. There was not a single day I would not talk to somebody new from a different country. Being the only Brazilian at the conference made me engage more with other participants than I might have had with other Brazilians around. I had the opportunity to share my interests with like-minded people and even get involved in future research collaboration.

I had a hard time deciding which presentations to attend as they all had something interesting to offer. The ones I saw brought me in contact with new topics and synergies I was unaware of. The plenaries were outstanding, especially Alice Bells riveting one that gave me the creeps (but in a good way) and set me thinking about the ways fiction can resonate in the so-called real world.

I enjoyed the poetry reading, and the guided tour in the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, particularly Renée Magritte's painting *The Flavour of Tears*. I loved travelling to Stratford-upon-Avon, learning about Shakespeare's life, walking through the innards of the theatre, and even getting a scare from Shakespeare's ghost on the street (a Shakespeare-impersonated artist). The huge swans strolling by the river were just stunning! Also, sitting at a table in the Dirty Duck and talking to Michael Toolan, who wanted to know more about my hometown and university, was priceless. (And this is something that surprised me at the conference, seeing well-known stylists demonstrate an interest in getting to know me and my interests). It was all worth it, in spite of the drenched state I found myself in at the end of that rainy day.

The empty names I saw on the conference programme have now acquired faces of their own and meanings they did not have before. Meeting all those people from different walks of life and learning from their presentations well and truly widened my horizons. It was an eye-opening experience which has triggered far-reaching ripples in my academic and personal life. One does not simply go to a PALA conference and comes back unchanged.



I am grateful to Stephen Pihlaja, Lesley Jeffries and Brian Walker for the wonderful summer school, all the conference organisers, and everyone else involved in providing such life-enhancing experience. I should also say thank you to my supervisor, Ariel Novodvorski, for his unstinting support in this adventure.

My experience has made me acknowledge that I am “[...] only quite a little fellow in a wide world after all!” I am glad I managed to be there. Now I can say from experience that PALA means much more than what the individual letters stand for. It is a byword for kindness, friendliness, diversity, commitment, and interdisciplinarity. It is the one place where language and literature truly co-exist. If only I had heard of PALA before! Now that I have been bitten by the PALA bug, I just cannot wait to go to Liverpool in 2019! I hope that as an ambassador to Brazil I can enthuse fellow students with the same excitement I have for all things stylistics now.

I cannot end this text without saying that I found the woods there, with a range of birch, cedar, oak, yew, and willow trees, though no giant spiders, elves, or Ents to speak of. Crows, ducks, and geese abounded, but there were no giant eagles about. I found the high tower, albeit no wizard lived there, for all I know. I found rivers and canals, yet no barrels on sight to sail them. And I found it, of course, not inside the mountain though: stylistics, the sleeping dragon I was afraid to nudge awake, lest it in a fit of anger blazed me into charred smithereens. I learnt not to be afraid of it. I learnt that if gently awoken, it might let me in on its secrets and allow me to partake of its guarded treasures.

Raphael Marco Oliveira Carneiro
Federal University of Uberlândia
Uberlândia, Minas Gerais, Brazil

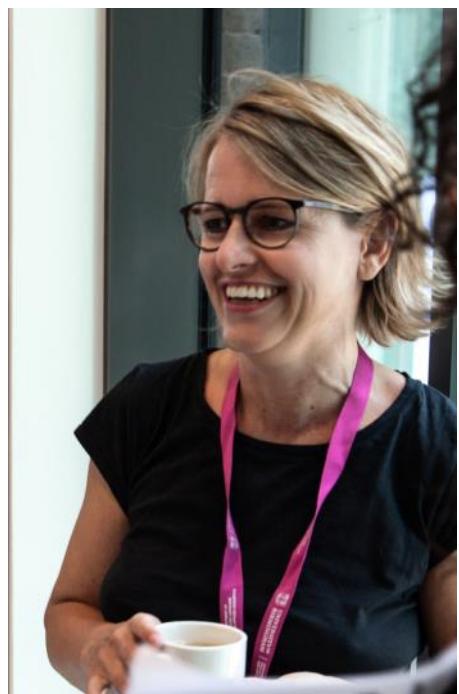
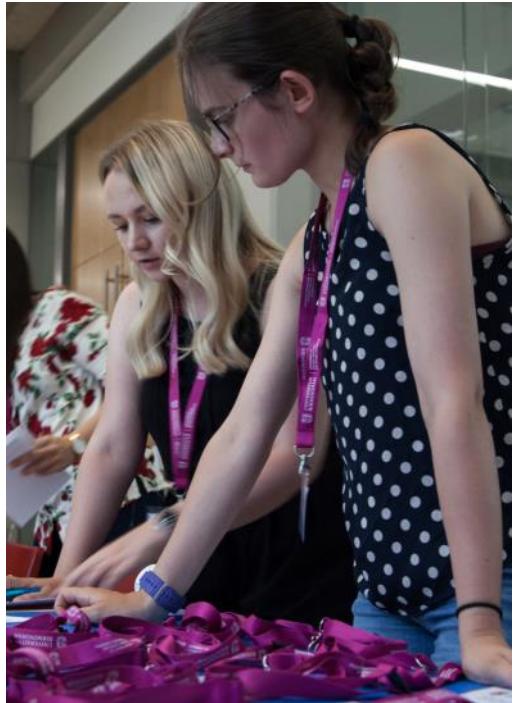


Conference 2018 gallery

It was great to have so many people from so many different places, all meeting at the Birmingham conference. The newsletter editor did some "roving photos" to try to capture the moments.

(Everyone in these photos gave their permission to be included in the newsletter)

The conference support given by the student assistants was exemplary, and we thank them for their tireless help and ability to resolve issues!





Gallery cont.



PALA sponsored events

Integrating English Conference

In November 2017, PALA once again sponsored the annual Integrating English Conference for secondary English teachers. This year's event was held at Aston University and included talks and workshops by leading stylisticians and teachers.

Urszula Clark (Aston University) led the first session on dialect and identity in poetry, giving delegates the tools to examine the representation of the Birmingham dialect in contemporary verse. In the next session Stephen Pihlaja (Newman University) talked through methodologies associated with online discourse analysis and provided some useful tips for students wishing to conduct their own research. Chloe Harrison (Aston University) then led a workshop on schemas, re-reading and the contemporary novel, drawing on her own research. After lunch, Cathy Eldridge (St John Wallis Catholic College) explained to delegates how she had integrated language and literature into Key Stage 4 (GCSE) schemes of work at her school, and Michaela Mahlberg and Viola Wiegand (University of Birmingham) gave a demonstration of CLiC Dickens project and corpus tool, which included showing some brand new applications! Finally, we ended the day with a workshop where presenters and delegates came together to reflect on the value of integrated lang-lit work, to share thoughts on the sessions and to develop resources. This final session is always an integral part of the day and it was great to see academics and teachers working together and learning from each other.

Once again, the day was a huge success and we received very positive feedback including the following comments:

'A stimulating day'
'All very useful - good range of materials and concepts'
'All was so fascinating - will definitely attend more!'
'Practical approaches to applying theoretical concepts really appreciated'
'Thank you for a well thought out conference with resources. I look forward to future events'
'All of it!' (in response to the question 'What were particularly useful aspects?')

We are looking forward to our 2018 conference!

Billy Clark (Northumbria University)
Marcello Giovanelli (Aston University)
Andrea Macrae (Oxford Brookes University)



If you have had a PALA-sponsored event, please send a short report and photos to the newsletter editor
Contact details are on <https://www.pala.ac.uk/committee.html>

Conference 2019

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2019 PALA conference in Liverpool

The conference website can be found on

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/english/our-events/pala2019/>



PALA Conference 2019

The University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

'Stylistics Without Borders'

10th-14th July 2019

Summer School: 8th-9th July

Theme: Text-World Theory

Tutors: Professor Jo Gavins & Dr. Sara Whiteley

We are pleased to announce the following Keynote Conference Speakers:

Dr Patricia Canning, Utrecht University

Professor Billy Clark, Northumbria University

Professor Nandini Das, University of Liverpool

Professor Jane Hodson, University of Sheffield

Professor Kay Richardson, University of Liverpool

Professor Sandrine Sorlin, University of Montpellier University

The conference programme is now live, and there is an [app with the programme available!](#)

There will be a selection of conference excursions; here (provisionally and subject to availability on the day) are some of the options we will be suggesting:

The Beatles Story Museum (+ optional Ferry trip)

The International Slavery Museum

The World Museum

The Mersey Maritime Museum

The Tate Gallery

The Walker Art Gallery

The Magical Mystery Tour Bus (Beatles-themed tour)

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Chair (Michael Toolan) and Treasurer (Joe Bray) – Welcome, and Chair's business

The treasurer thanks the PALA 2018 Birmingham conference organisers, namely the chair Michael Toolan and Stephen Pihlaja, and presents them with gifts on behalf of the whole PALA committee. The conference organisers thank the summer school teachers, Lesley Jeffries and Brian Walker, the conference organising committee and student team at the University of Birmingham and at Newman University (Jai Mackenzie, Ruth Page, Eva Gomez, Matthew Collins, Emily Trivette, Martine van Driel, Kate Pearce, Marianne Cronin), the participants in the conference and in the summer school and the chairs of the sessions.

The chair reminds the membership that this is his last AGM as Chair of PALA. It has been a joy and an honour to serve as chair and he will remain involved in PALA. The association is thriving and becoming more and more international: more stylistics-related conferences are held outside the UK and more local seminars and workshops are financed by PALA.

The chair announces that Martine van Driel is stepping down from the post of student membership secretary, since she has completed her PhD. The PALA committee has proposed and agreed that Martine continue in post until December 2018, so that the new chair can co-opt the new student membership secretary. Martine is presented a gift on behalf of the whole PALA committee.

B. REPORTS AND UPDATES

2. Treasurer (Joe Bray)

PALA Account Summary (21 June 2017 – 20 June 2018)	
Income	£ UK Sterling
2017/18 membership subscriptions	7,110.00
Donated profit from 2016 Conference	1,865.46
Total income	8,975.46
Expenditure	£ UK Sterling
Journal payments to Sage	3,806.00
West Chester Bursaries	921.00
PALA sponsorship to support events:	
University of Cagliari (Metaphor 2017)	250.00
Aston University (Integrating English)	250.00
University Paul Valéry (Constructions)	250.00
University of Glasgow (Cognitive Approaches)	250.00
Aston University (Cognitive Grammar in Stylistics)	250.00
Stylistics Circle	250.00
PayPal charges	335.01
Gifts for conference hosts plus tour guide tip	141.22
Website design and management	195.81
Committee Expenses	0
Total expenditure	6,899.04
Surplus of income over expenditure	2,076.42
Opening account balance (@21 June 2017)	13,162.98
Operating surplus	+2,076.42
Closing account balance (@20 June 2018)	15,239.40

Notes

3. The account balance for the year is closed off in accordance with the bank's monthly statement ending 20 June 2018.
4. As decided at the committee meeting last year the standard sponsorship for events has risen from £200 to £250. The committee is still keen to sponsor more events (especially overseas ones).
5. The reduction in expenditure this year is partly a result of the fact that only 8 student bursaries were taken up at the West Chester conference.
6. As in previous years, the cost of the student bursaries for the 2018 conference will be partly shared by the conference hosts. 24 bursaries were offered, though there have been 2 withdrawals. A reduction of £100 from the conference fee has been awarded to the successful applicants, and a handout of £100 will be given at the conference itself. The total cost to PALA (with 22 successful bursary-holders, one to be paid in full) will be £2,300.
7. In addition this year there were 8 successful applicants to the PALA Legacy Fund. 4 have since withdrawn; the remaining 4 will be paid at the conference. The amount of each of their bursaries will match the student bursary (£200). This fund exists to support 'those non-student members who are unable to meet the full costs of attending the conference from their home institutions'.

3. Secretary (Daniela Francesca Virdis)

The secretary presents the 2018 PALA Chair Election Procedure.

Nomination and voting procedure in the autumn for the new PALA Chair (2019-2021)

Schedule and procedures

Dates	Process	Procedures	Outcomes
Sept. 1-30, 2018	Nominations	Candidates must be nominated & seconded and all involved must be paid-up members of PALA. Send an email to the PALA Secretary Daniela Virdis (dfvirdis@unica.it) and cc to the PALA Chair Michael Toolan (m.toolan@bham.ac.uk) (checks to be conducted with the PALA Membership Secretary)	Only 1 candidate = elected unopposed = immediate announcement by the outgoing PALA Chair
	More than 1 candidate = the PALA Secretary asks for a 1-page 'manifesto' (no more than 300 words) to be received before October 10	Manifestos are sent around via the Announce list between October 10 and October 15	Electn to be held
Oct. 15 - Nov. 15, 2018	Official voting period	Send an email to the PALA Secretary Daniela Virdis (dfvirdis@unica.it) stating your choice of candidate and cc to either (a) the PALA Membership Secretary,	After November 15 the PALA Secretary checks with the two Membership Secretaries and all ineligible votes are struck off

		Stephen Pihlaja (s.pihlaja@staff.newman.ac.uk), if you are a standard or basic member, or (b) the PALA Student Membership Secretary, Martine van Driel (martinevandriel@gmail.com), if you are a student member	
Between Nov. 20 and Dec. 1, 2018	Vote counting	The PALA Secretary and the PALA Chair recount and appraise the outcomes	Announcement of the new PALA Chair by the outgoing Chair (approx. December 1)

PALA members who have joined the Association after the AGM on 28 July 2018 are ineligible to vote in this election, but are eligible to vote in elections from 1 January 2019.

4. Student Membership Secretary (Martine van Driel)

Total Student Members: 349

New Members Joining in 2017: 85

Members joining in 2018 up to 20 July: 29

Countries with most members:

1. England (96)
2. Italy (72)
3. USA (20)
4. Germany (13)
5. China (13)

Top 5 Universities:

1. University of Turin (38)
2. University of Huddersfield (25)
3. University of Nottingham (23)
4. University of Cagliari (22)
5. University of Birmingham (11)

Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/324264611782/>): 163

The student membership secretary invites the members to encourage their (fellow) students to join, and encourage students finishing their studies to join as standard or full members. Students attending the conference but not yet registered as student members can register by emailing the student membership secretary: palastudentmembers@gmail.com.

The student membership secretary also presents the proposal to make having a **Code of Conduct** obligatory for every future PALA conference.

Conferences can use the CoC employed for this conference (add any points about how it worked during the conference) plus an email address for reporting plus a designated person/persons from the organising committee as reporter – preferably someone who has had related training through the university. Additionally, the methods for dealing with incidents should be in line with the hosting university.

It is becoming more common, e.g. Leeds Institute for Medieval Studies, American Association of Physical Anthropologists, The Association for Computing Machinery, Feminist & Women's Studies Association, American Political Science Association, Alliance of Digital Humanities Organization, International Studies Associations.

The PALA committee and the membership discuss whether the student membership secretary should

continue to be co-opted by the chair and the committee or should be elected like most of the committee members. The committee proposes that nominations are presented to the committee, then the committee selects the new membership secretary. Members at the AGM approve.

<http://www.pala.ac.uk/student-membership.html>

5. Membership Secretary (Stephen Pihlaja)

1. Membership numbers

PALA has enjoyed the highest membership in five years

92 Standard Members

100 Basic

43 Auto-renewals

(as of July 2018)

2. New, clearer messaging about data

Because of changes to laws about what we may and may not do with person data, PALA will no longer keep individual information after someone is no longer a member. We will make clear what we do with individual member data when someone joins PALA in the following way:

"You will also be included on the PALA-ANNOUNCE email list where you will be sent information related to the Association. If you prefer to not be included on this list, please respond to this email with the subject like OPT OUT.

PALA retains your name, address, and email address and may contact you directly in relation to your membership. We will hold this data until May 2019 and will delete all personal information if you choose to not renew your membership.

If you have registered as a member with a subscription to *Language and Literature*, your information is also passed to Sage Publishing. They use this information to send you the journal and contact you if there are any problems with delivery."

3. Renaming Membership

We are renaming the two kinds of membership we offer to be clearer. Previously we had basic and standard members (standard members being those with the *Language and Literature* subscription). Now we will simply have members and members with journal subscription.

<http://www.pala.ac.uk/join-pala.html>

6. Publicity Officer (Elisabetta Zurru)

PALA Ambassadors

- We have some new PALA ambassadors this year: <http://www.pala.ac.uk/ambassadors.html>.
- There are still regions which do not have an ambassador or regions (e.g. USA and Russia) in which it could be useful to have more than one ambassador.
- If you are interested in becoming an ambassador, please get in touch with the publicity officer: elisabetta.zurru@unige.it.
- If they are not student members, PALA ambassadors need to be paid-up members (with or without subscription).

PALA Announce list and social media

- 634 Twitter followers @PoeticsLinguist (were 398 in May 2017): <https://twitter.com/PoeticsLinguist>.
- 1,647 followers on the Facebook page Poetics and Linguistics Association (were 1,541 in May 2017): <https://www.facebook.com/PoeticsandLinguisticsAssociation>.
- Information about conferences, PhDs and job opportunities is promoted via the PALA Announce list.
- As agreed last year, information about conferences is also promoted via social media (Twitter and FB).
- PhDs and job opportunities have been promoted on Twitter mainly through RTs.

- NB: If you post something on FB/Twitter that you want publicised also through PALA's SM, don't forget to tag PALA's official account(s).
- The creation by the webster of the FB feed which links the FB page to the PALA website allows the events publicised on FB to be promoted on the PALA website as well.
- The publicity guidelines can be found on the website: <http://www.pala.ac.uk/publicity-guidelines.html>.

Code of conduct and special thanks

- During this conference, only those tweets that respected the code of conduct and the norms agreed on in the past (no pictures showing people, no tweets containing slides with sensitive data, etc.) were liked/RT'd by @PoeticsLinguist. This will be the rationale after the conference as well.
- Shout out to everyone who live-tweeted/liked/RT'd during PALA 2018: THANK YOU so much!

7. Newsletter Editor (Ruby Rennie)

The newsletter editor thanks everyone who has contributed to the recent editions of Parlance, which is now only in electronic format. Feedback from PALA members is that people still look forward to receiving the newsletter, and contributions from a range of people is popular. Parlance has also included photos of people, places and events, and these have received a lot of good reports. So if people are writing an article for Parlance, they are invited to consider including a relevant photo (with the usual proviso that any people featured have given their permission); the editor will assume that the photo has been taken by the person sending it, unless told otherwise.

There have been a number of events held that have had support from PALA, and organisers have sent a report about the event. The editor hopes to include more of these in the next edition, so a request is made for those who have organised an event with PALA support to send contributions to the editor. Similarly, this conference has had an impressive number of SIG strands and it is hoped that SIG organisers will contribute a review or overview of the SIG. The same request is also made for some reports (and photos) from the Summer School.

The editor notes that PALA has a tradition of asking "newbies" to the conference to contribute a short piece about their experiences. Similarly, one or more short reports about the conference dinner and outing would be excellent. Any contributions can be sent to the editor (ruby.rennie@ed.ac.uk), with due permission having been asked for all people in the photos. A reminder is given for all PALA members about the archive of past editions of Parlance, which is on the PALA website:

<http://www.pala.ac.uk/parlance-newsletter.html>.

8. Webster (Brian Walker)

The website (<http://www.pala.ac.uk/>) has had a few minor changes including a revamped homepage, committee page, publicity page and Parlance page. A new social media feed page has also been added for those who want to follow social media comments, but don't have a Twitter or Facebook account. There are pages for various SIGs, some of which have not been updated for a while. If any members wish to contribute anything to the SIG pages, they are invited to contact the webster: b.d.walker@hud.ac.uk. As always, the webster is happy to hear from members about any additions/deletions/changes they would like to see on the website.

The call for PALA2018 online proceedings will follow soon.

The password for the password-protected pages is now set to Brum2018.

9. Editor Language and Literature (Dan McIntyre)

The editor of *Language and Literature* (<http://lal.sagepub.com/>) thanks the contributors to the journal, the reviewers, the editorial board and the reviews editor: he expresses his gratitude because they all keep the quality of the journal high.

The journal often receives more than one submission a day via the new online system. The acceptance rate used to be three per cent, given that many submissions were inappropriate to the journal. The aims and scope of the journal have been changed in order to make them clearer and to receive more targeted submissions: now the acceptance rate has increased to seven per cent.

The impact factor has also increased substantially and is now 0.525 (five-year impact factor 0.602). The editor reminds the membership that books for review are available from the reviews editor, Jane Lugea: j.lugea@qub.ac.uk. The conference pack includes a list of books available for review.

C. AWARDS

10. The PALA and Palgrave prizes

❖ The PALA Prize

£250 from Sage, free subscription to the journal for one year, free membership of PALA for one year. Best article published in a particular year by a newcomer to the field. Judges: L&L Editor, 1 member of Editorial team and 1 member of Editorial board.

Awarded to:

Davide Castiglione, Vilnius University

"Difficult poetry processing: Reading times and the narrativity hypothesis"

Language and Literature, May 2017, vol. 26, 2: pp. 99-121

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0963947017704726>

❖ The Palgrave Prize

£200 of books. Prize for written version of best postgraduate paper presented at the annual conference, and judged by two members of the PALA executive committee.

Awarded to:

Matthew Collins, University of Birmingham

"Old texts and new: A digital King Arthur"

PALA 2017 Proceedings on-line

http://www.pala.ac.uk/uploads/2/5/1/0/25105678/collins_matthew.pdf

The judges were impressed in general with the high quality of entrants for the Palgrave Prize.

D. LOOKING FORWARD

11. 2019: Annual Conference and Summer School at the University of Liverpool (Paul Simpson)

Paul Simpson gives a slideshow presentation with all the essential information:

Conference Wed 10-Sat 13 July: 'Stylistics Without Borders'

Summer school Mon 8-Tue 9 July: 'Text World Theory', Jo Gavins and Sarah Whiteley

The presentation also covers abstracts, accommodation, conference dinner, conference costs and website.

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/english/our-events/pala2019/>

Furthermore, as previous PALA Chair, Paul thanks Michael Toolan, the outgoing PALA Chair, on behalf of the PALA committee and membership for his commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism in leading the organisation over the past three years.

12. 2020: Annual Conference and Summer School at Université de Provence-Aix-Marseille (Aix-en-Provence) (Linda Pillière and Sandrine Sorlin)

The chair informs that we had the bid above. Members at the AGM approve the bid.

E. AOB

No other business.

The 2018 AGM closes.

The PALA Chair
Michael Toolan

The PALA Secretary
Daniela Francesca Virdis

PALA Online

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

<https://www.facebook.com/PoeticsandLinguisticsAssociation/>

Twitter: @PoeticsLinguist (<https://twitter.com/PoeticsLinguist>)

WELCOME TO PALA

Welcome to the **Poetics And Linguistics Association** (PALA) - an international association for those who work in stylistics, poetics, language and linguistics.



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Language and Literature is
the foremost publication in
stylistics

Members' publications

We are happy to collect information about new and current publications written by PALA members and include them in [PARLANCE](#), although we do not attempt to maintain a full PALA or stylistics bibliography. Please send in the relevant information in the following format: author; date of publication; title; publisher.

We may need to edit any text sent to us to ensure that it is of a suitable format and length.

Host a PALA conference

If you would like to consider hosting a PALA conference, please have a look at our guidelines and get in touch. We have a wealth of experience to help you plan and prepare, and we would like to have interest in hosting a conference from anywhere in the world.

<http://www.pala.ac.uk/guidelines-for-organising.html>

About PALA

PALA is an international academic association for those who work in stylistics, poetics, and associated fields of language and linguistics.

PALA is growing and includes members from many countries worldwide.

PALA hosts an international conference each year, and sponsors seminars and symposia.

PALA's journal, *Language and Literature*, is the foremost publication in the field.

PALA Committee

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