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H.-J. Grabbe, 12th President of EAAS
(Photograph EAAS Archives)

WORDS OF WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

“These are the times that try men’s souls.” Thus begins Thomas Paine’s famous article on “The Crisis,” published on December 23, 1776. As I write my introductory piece, the New York Times diagnoses a “leadership breakdown” in the United States because the first rescue plan for the country’s teetering financial system failed in Congress. The situation in Europe is only marginally better. The governments of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg had to bail out Fortis N.V. with 11.2 billion Euros. EAAS banks with Fortis. They are the administrators of our Amsterdam Trust Fund whose fortunes were already a concern during the EAAS Board Meeting in May. The interim report that Fortis prepared for us on September 29 is not critical. Still, we do not know what trials and tribulations may lie ahead.

The situation today is a far cry from September 2000, when Josef Jařab wrote his words of welcome as EAAS President. Reflecting on his experiences before and after 1989, he spoke of America as “one of the most dreamed of alternatives” for Eastern Europeans and marveled at the new Europe that was being constructed and its fruitful relationship with the United States as reflected in the theme of the 2002 Bordeaux conference: “The United States of / in Europe.” Two years later, Marc Chénétier described the

strengths of European Americanists and spoke of challenges to be met and evolutions to be encouraged. We should “bank on ever-renewed intellectual resources,” and indeed we should. The crisis of the international financial system may hurt us materially but shall not bring us down. The crises of European-American relations and within the European Union will only strengthen our resolve to become “a more perfect union” of Americanists and to continue in the development of specific and innovative themes and methods of research and teaching.

During its meetings in Oslo, the EAAS Board discussed the future of American Studies in Europe extensively and judiciously. We have grown to twenty-one national and multinational organizations. Ahead of us lies the daunting task of embracing Americanists in countries not yet represented in EAAS and at the same time keeping our association functional. We have therefore established a committee to make suggestions for the reform of EAAS which includes Hans Bak (NASA), Daniele Fiorentino (AISNA), Julia Stefanova (BASA), Jopi Nyman (NAAS), Tatiana Venediktova (RSAS), and Reinhold Wagnleitner (AAAS). The findings of the committee will be discussed during the April 2009 Board Meeting in Zurich.

Our conferences have always been the primary instrument in shaping European American Studies. In his preparatory notes for the EAAS founding conference of 1954 in Salzburg, Sigmund Skard wrote: “Break the loneliness. Many here – but usually alone!” With memories of the 27th conference in the proto-Mediterranean setting of beautiful Oslo still on my mind (thank you again, David, Ole), I can say: We are many, but we are family. The next reunion, in 2010, will be in Dublin on the theme “‘Forever Young’? The Changing Images of America.” Our hosts, the Irish Association for American Studies and Trinity and University Colleges Dublin, have already begun with their prepara-

tions. Those of you who have not been privy to Board meetings might be interested in learning how we arrived at the 2010 conference theme: It was Jazz aficionado and performer Reinhold Wagnleitner who suggested something along the lines of the Righteous Brothers no. 1 hit of 1964 (16 weeks at the top of the U.S. charts), “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feelin’.” Several discussants criticized the downbeat nature of the song. Thanks to Oslo University’s efficient wireless LAN, I then called up the official Bob Dylan web site that lists all his songs and has all the lyrics from “10,000 Men” to “You’re No Good.” For obvious reasons neither qualified, but “Forever Young” sounded like a responsible compromise. The rest went like a breeze. The call for workshops is published elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Many initiatives that were launched during the past four years have come to fruition: Established by a group of young literary scholars at the 2006 EAAS Biennial Conference in Cyprus, the European Study Group for Nineteenth-Century American Literature has received enthusiastic support of academics from all over Europe. Participants from the Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Spain, and Turkey made the group’s inaugural and follow-up meetings at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland in October of 2006 and 2007 a great success. The third meeting took place in Turkey at Istanbul’s

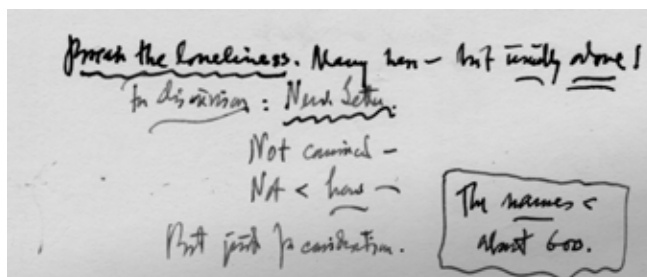
Fatih University in 2008, and the next conference will be held in October, 2009 in Paris on the work of Margaret Fuller. The American Studies Network of EAAS is still growing and has recently embraced two new members: Oxford University’s Rothermere American

Institute (<http://www.rai.ox.ac.uk/index.html>) and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (<http://www.hca.uni-hd.de/en/>).

The most important recent EAAS enterprise has been the founding of the European Journal of Ameri-



Handover Meeting in the Touraine
(Photograph by Anne Erminy)



“Break the loneliness”
(EAAS Archive, Lutherstadt Wittenberg)

can Studies. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of Marc Chénétier, the journal quickly came into its own as a respected voice in academic discourse. Following the 2006 inaugural issue, a highly competent and enthusiastic editorial team led by Pawel Frelik (responsible for contributions in literature, culture, the arts, and American Studies) and Giles Scott-Smith (history, the social sciences, and international relations) has already given us five more issues. EJAS is now listed in the ASA directory of worldwide American Studies resources (<http://www.theasa.net/journals/>). In this context, I am happy to report that the EAAS Board, in an e-mail ballot, unanimously voted to make Marc Chénétier adjunct editor-at-large of the European Journal of American Studies and web keeper of <http://ejas.revues.org>.

Which brings me to the changes at the helm of our organization. On May 9, 2008, I became the 12th president of EAAS and Tony Emmerson was elected treasurer. The handover, this time only involving those new to their offices, took place from June 13 to 15 in

Chissay-en-Touraine, the epitome of la douce France. We had a jolly good time picking raspberries for dessert, tasting a wide range of local cheeses and charcuterie, and savoring local wines in the beautiful country house from which our former President now hails. We also worked our way through a fifteen-point agenda, with the 2009 Board Meeting and the 2010 Biennial Conference foremost on our minds. For the past four years, Marc Chénétier was the formidable voice of EAAS. He left me his shoes, and they are big indeed. Building on my own experience of eight years on the Board—four of them as an officer—and with the help and ready advice of Vice President Martin Heusser and Secretary General Jenel Virden, I embrace the task before me, trusting that you will lend me your support.

Warm greetings to all!
Hans-Jürgen Grabbe
Halle, Sept. 29, 2008



Marc Chénétier Addressing the EAAS in Oslo
(Photograph by MH)

FAREWELL FROM THE FORMER PRESIDENT

Dear colleagues, dear friends,
As I take leave of you as President of EAAS and settle into “loafing at my ease observing,” if no longer “a spear of summer grass,” at least slowly and delightfully reddening fall leaves, my first thoughts go to my

predecessor and to my successor. It was an honor to be entrusted with our association after Josef Jařab masterminded the Prague Conference, where I was elected. It is a pleasure to pass on these wonderfully enriching responsibilities to President Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, with whom, these four years, I worked in absolute confidence and trust; on whom, also, I daily relied for many matters beyond my ken ; hardly a newcomer, he has made sure over the course of my mandate that our finances and statutes were in perfect condition and I believe EAAS is lucky to have such an efficient and competent colleague at its head. My gratitude goes out to both these friends, as well as to previous presidents who made EAAS the precious tool it has become. It also goes out to my fellow officers, thanks to whom we were able to take care of the numerous tasks at hand. Day after day, they provided their gracious support and comforted me with their presence. The Board members know how pleasant I found it to work with them.

It would be difficult to assert that EAAS, of late, has favored the smoother paths: Not only does our association stretch well beyond the limits of the EU, but during my mandate, I have seen this European Association go from Prague to Cyprus to Oslo, the capital of a country that does not belong to the European Union. And our next Biennial Conference will take place in delightful Dublin, the capital of an Ireland that answered the most recent referendum with a resounding “No” Not to mention the impenetrable European

hiccups of the country where I speak from I have known easier roads to travel, but do not know better ways towards our common goals than doggedly testing possibilities. European Americanists, I believe, should be exemplary in their openness and initiatives, in demonstrating what can be achieved with good will and cheerful disregard for unnecessary “obstacles.” Everything I have been witness to on the Board and at Conferences and meetings over the last four years gives me hope that grass root organizations such as ours will remain the best illustration of what Europe can be and the surest bases for its eventual achievements.

Obstacles there are, always, and difficulties of all sorts. EAAS must face those due to its very successes: With an ever-growing number of member associations, complex decisions will have to be made concerning the modes of representation on the Board, the turnover of mandates, the sharing of delegates and responsibilities between national associations; with the emergence and development of European research groups in American Studies and the growth of our travel grants program, the question of finances remains crucial; with the birth of the European Journal of American Studies, new collaborations must be secured; new initiatives

will require collective support; the specific identity and viewpoint of EAAS must be preserved. But better growing pains than sclerosis, travel incidents than immobility. The open road lies ahead. There is much to invent.

As I write these lines, the CERN’s LHC goes into operation. I am grateful for this other, more modest, but no less magical European achievement: the Large Human Collaborations I enjoyed during this period. It has been most rewarding to work with all of you and I will remember fondly a great wealth of moments, hoard an imposing treasure of knowledgeable minds and smiling faces.

Thank you Antonis and Thekla, thank you Ole and David, thank you Gülriz, Martin, Jenel. Thank you Hans-Jürgen. Thank you all, dear members of the pioneering editorial committee of EJAS. Thank you, dear European Americanists, for these years of true joy. And fare well.

September 10, 2008
Marc Chénétier



The Chénétier residence, 9 rue Basse, Chissay-en-Touraine
(Photograph by Hans-Jürgen Grabbe)

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Oslo Harbor sunset (Photograph by MH)

MINUTES OF THE EAAS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' MEETING

8, 9 and 12 May, Oslo, Norway

Participants

8, 9, and 12 May

Officers: Marc Chénétier (President), Martin Heusser (Vice President and representative of SANAS), Jenel Virden (Secretary General), Hans-Jürgen Grabbe (Treasurer and representative of DGfA)

Board Members: Marcel Arbeit (CSAA), Isabel Caldeira (APEAA), Catherine Collomp (AFEA), Philip John Davies (BAAS), Jerzy Durczak (PAAS), Rodica Mihaila (RAAS), Meldan Tanrisal (ASAT), Lehel Vadon (HAAS), Smaragda Yemenedzi-Malathouni (HELAAS)

8 and 9 May

Board Members: Hans Bak (NASA ad interim), Jesús Benito (AEDEAN), Gert Buelens (BLASA ad interim), W. Anthony Emmerson (IAAS), Daniele Fiorentino (AISNA), Jopi Nyman (NAAS), Julia Stefanova (BASA), Tatiana Venediktova (RSAS), Reinhold Wagnleitner (AAAS)

8 May

Other Participants: David C. Mauk, Ole Moen (Oslo organizers, Item 9), Pawel Frelik, Kees van Minnen (EJAS editors, Item 24)

12 May

Board Members: Stephen Matterson (IAAS)

Other Participants: David C. Mauk, Ole Moen (Item 27)

Item 1: Introductory Remarks of the President

Marc Chénétier (MC) began by thanking David Mauk for his hard work in preparing everything for the upcoming conference. He welcomed new members on the Board: Jopi Nyman for the Nordic Association, Philip Davies for the British Association and Smaragda Yemenedzi-Malathouni for the Greek Association. MC also noted the fact that Hans Bak would be standing in for Jaap Verheul (NASA) and Gert Buelens for Gilbert Debusscher (BLASA). Yuri Stulov (BELAAS) was unable to attend.

Item 2: Minutes of the Wittenberg Board Meeting, 12–14 April 2007

Minutes accepted.

Item 3: Report of the Officers' Meeting in Oslo, 23–24 February 2008

The report on the meeting of the officers in Oslo in February appeared in the last ASE Newsletter. The officers enjoyed a good two days with the Oslo organizers David Mauk and Ole Moen viewing the venues and sorting out some of the details.

Item 4: The President's Message

The organization of the conference took up most of the officers' time. The day-to-day operating and follow-up of items between conferences proceeded as usual over the course of the last year. Ill health required that MC could not accept two invitations as president of EAAS—one to the United States and one to the Rothermere Institute in Oxford, England. MC wrote a reaction to an article about American Studies for the European Journal of American Culture as President of EAAS. The President thanked his fellow officers for help throughout the year, noting that the Secretary General sent out a lot of information and EAAS Board members need to be sure to respond to correspondence from the officers in a timely fashion. He also thanked the Vice President for his work on the newsletter and the Treasurer for his work on the web site and archives. MC announced that the Board is due to meet with the editors of the EJAS the following day. Several issues arose with regard to the Journal throughout the year including problems with some of the members of the editorial board who could not devote enough time to the work. As a result two more have been invited onto the Board: Theresa Saxon (BAAS) and Jean-Yves Pellegrin (AFEA). Three issues are out and the next is opening in June which means that the operation of the journal has become routine in the sense that a general rhythm has emerged. MC noted that we need to discuss the general turnover of members of the EJAS Board. There is also the issue of the membership of the EAAS Board. This links naturally with new requests for memberships to EAAS. EAAS has been contacted by Serbia as well as receiving a last minute request about membership from Albania, Montenegro and Macedonia. This will come up later in the agenda. The officers are in the process of selecting the winners of the next travel grants and have given some travel funds to young scholars to a small conference in Turkey. This should be something that EAAS continues to sponsor

and encourage. MC also thanked the French Association for its efforts in bringing in doctoral students by sponsoring their attendance at the latest conference.

Item 5: Report of the Treasurer

Hans-Jürgen Grabbe (HJG) noted that one of the responsibilities of the Treasurer is overseeing the travel grants. At first EAAS had been giving out about 10 grants of approximately 2000 Euros each but the Treasurer had hoped that this would get further publicity. This year we have had 20 applications which the officers are currently assessing to determine who should receive awards. Applicants came from all over Europe. HJG noted that the Board needed to decide whether or not it wants to keep the Intra-European grant as most applications are for Trans-Atlantic trips. HJG also discussed the total membership of EAAS noting that the statistics indicate that the number of members in many of our member associations is in decline. Rodica Mihaila (RAAS) asked that results of the travel grant applications be sent to the representatives of the EAAS Board so that they can report back to their national associations as soon as the decisions are made. HJG agreed to this. Philip Davies pointed out that BAAS membership figures will be higher later in the year as the figure on 1 January only includes those people who have paid by that date. HJG asked PD to ask the BAAS Treasurer to report the higher figure. Jopi Nyman asked about this in relation to the overall decline in Humanities and American Studies throughout Europe which goes back to a deeper issue of continuity. The Bulgarian Association asked for clarification about membership which is based only on dues paying members of the national associations. It was suggested that it would be better to change the date of membership census to December 31st for collection of dues. HJG then gave an account of the Income and Expenses for EAAS for the year 2007. He noted that there have been some losses due to the current international financial situation. MC thanked HJG for his hard work over the years which have turned around the finances of the EAAS over the course of his tenure as Treasurer.

Item 6: Report on the Amsterdam Trust Fund and EAAS Financial Policies

Hans Bak, the steward of the Amsterdam Trust Fund, distributed information about the Trust Fund accounts of 2007. For the first time in many years rather than experiencing a growth we have experienced a small decline. The Board made a decision two years ago to change asset management and it is difficult to know if this has made the small loss or if it is the current

financial situation. The current financial situation is quite worrying and looks to continue throughout 2008. However, the Amsterdam Fund is not down as badly as the general market. HB circulated a letter from the bank advising on the trust fund. HB proposes that we follow the advice of the bank and basically do nothing at this point and then re-evaluate at the end of the second quarter of 2008. HJG agreed with this advice noting that it is best not to rush to change at this stage. Our alternative funds were invested in real estate. It might be possible to return to a more conservative portfolio but it would probably be best to wait at this point.

Item 7: Report of the Vice President and Newsletter

Martin Heusser (MH) gave a brief report as Vice President. He thanked his fellow officers for cooperation throughout the year. As far as the newsletter goes, the most important issue has to do with typography. When any copy comes to MH he needs to be told what format is used. Submissions should be in a PDF file so that special characters are clear, e.g. the Polish Ł. Specialized spellings with non-ASCII format need to be clear. Those submitting copy should put ASE for American Studies in Europe (EAAS) in the subject line to make sure MH knows they are for the newsletter. Illustrations, diagrams, etc. can be accommodated as well. MC congratulated MH on his presentation of the newsletter and photos.

Item 8: Report of the Secretary General

Jenel Virden (JV) discussed the preparations for the conference which mostly includes the collection and distribution of data. She noted several problems with information that had come in with odd formatting. HJG agreed that non-standard characters are indeed a problem. He suggested that for the future, once proposals are collected from various sources, the Secretary General send them out to the Board members to check the names and also to check that all of the proposals from people from their country are members of their respective associations. This is a requirement for the EAAS conference and will of course require that all Board members respond to the Secretary General rapidly.

Item 9: Pre-Conference Report of the Oslo Organizers

David Mauk (DM) and Ole Moen (OM) gave a report about the conference. In general the arrangements have gone well. DM reported that the US Embassy is very concerned about security in Oslo as elsewhere which has resulted in the situation where the final arrangements for the reception at the Ambassador's House

will only allow for 150 people despite many requests to accommodate the full 300 attending the conference. It has been arranged that sponsors of the conference would go first on the list, then the Board members so that there is at least one representative of each member organization. After this it would be on a first come first serve basis. Those who cannot make the Ambassador's residence reception have been offered an alternative at a restaurant with DM having negotiated a rebate. MC noted that this was unfortunate and a debate ensued about the possibility of any last minute alternatives and it was clear that there were none. DM reported that the program folders should be full of all possible details for alternative activities. DM also reported that as recently as yesterday one of the workshop leaders discovered a typographical error in the program. Saturday was listed as May 11th which might cause some confusion. This and other corrections will go up on the announcement board. MC took this opportunity to thank Ole Moen who had not been present at the earlier Item 1 in which MC had thanked the local organizers. OM noted that everyone is catered for for the cruise and everyone is being subsidized by 50 Norwegian crowns each.

Item 10: Items for the General Meeting

MC went over the General Meeting agenda. MC reminded the Board that the General Meeting is a consultative and not a deliberative body. Hans Bak agreed to discuss the Amsterdam Fund at the end of the Treasurer's report.

Item 11: Any Other Pre-Conference Business

See other items.

Item 12: The EAAS Web Site and Archives

HJG had prepared some statistics on usage of the web site for the entire year 2007. The web site experienced 49,317 individual hits. The Oslo conference was the most common item accessed. Downloads of the most recent ASE Newsletter numbered 953. He also showed the level of access by country. Discussion ensued about making sure that a listing of 'newsletter' appeared on the first page of the web site in the left hand column so that those people accessing the newsletter can find it from the first page. HJG asked members of the Board who received information about problems accessing the web site from their constituent members to let him know what the issues were. The Archives have received more material from Sigmund Skard which the Norwegian scholar had collected for his 1958 survey of American Studies in Europe. More information is needed on the more recent past, e.g. the Bordeaux or

Prague conferences. The Nordic Association has put all of their past newsletters on line.

Item 13: The EAAS Articles

For some time we have been revising our Articles to that which was agreed upon since the 2006 Cambridge Board meeting. The Articles are on the EAAS website. The seat of the association is Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany. Legally we are not a non-profit association because we are not yet registered as such. These things need to be arranged and HJG has been trying to take things further. The court of registry returned the by-laws to HJG because some clauses do not conform to legal requirements. One issue is easily resolved: Currently we can expel associations for nonpayment but we do not have an appeal process. This needs to be in place although these types of procedural regulations are a technicality. The second issue is more tricky, and it revolves around the question of what an association is. The standard definition is an organization where the body from which all power emanates is a general assembly. Our general assembly body is not advisory – it is just a "question and answer session." Our real general assembly is actually the Board. Some discussion ensued about the fact that we are a federation. There are 21 members. We need to make this clear in order to get it through because we need to get registered as soon as possible. For example, we could not register for the EU domain for the web site during the early registration period because we do not own the rights to the acronym EAAS. HJG is proceeding and will own rights for the association in the German and English name to be reported back at Zurich with a possible postal ballot taking place before that.

Item 14: The EAAS Book Prize

MC noted that over the last several months HJG has been involved in dealing with the publication of the Cyprus and subsequent volumes of conference proceedings. This led to a review of the list of publications under the aegis of EAAS. In the process of the review, HJG noted that Rob Kroes, as past editor of the EAAS series, had been unstintingly helpful in the past in promoting EAAS through these publications and had devoted much work and energy into the Amsterdam series to make it a success. The officers thought it would be a good idea to institutionalize a new prize that bears the name of Rob Kroes. This was debated by the officers at the Oslo meeting in February where it was decided to ask the Board their opinion on this suggestion. Our new series will include a publication in the off-year of conference years which will need help from the EAAS Board itself in terms

of handing out a prize for the best manuscript. This would be awarded in the name of Rob Kroes. Daniele Fiorentino (AISNA) suggested a committee to discuss the appropriate bylaws, etc. for this new venture. Gert Buelens (BLASA) suggested calling it a manuscript prize or publication grant as alternatives. It could be called the Rob Kroes Prize for an original monograph. Some discussion ensued about the various methods of publication that take place throughout Europe and the lack of specific commercial publishers. Jopi Nyman (NASA) noted the need to make clear who was eligible and Tatiana Venediktova (RSAS) noted the idea of making this open to young scholars. It was agreed that the details could be sorted out at a later date but that the idea of the prize named after Rob Kroes would be presented to the General Meeting.

Item 15: Auditor's Report and Vote on Budget/Accounting

Tony Emmerson (IAAS) and Jesús Benito (AEDEAN) looked over the accounts verifying the sums and doing spot checks on HJG's accounts and found everything to be fine. A vote was taken about the accounts and the Board approved the accounts of the EAAS.

Item 16: Election of President and Treasurer

MC and HJG were both elected in Prague and have reached the end of their four-year terms. A search and nominating committee had been established at the April, 2007 Board meeting in Wittenberg as outlined in the by-laws. The committee consulted and Hans Bak reported that they had spoken with the current Board members about who was available and who was willing to serve. The communication among committee members continued over the next few months. Suggestions are Hans-Jürgen Grabbe for President and Tony Emmerson for Treasurer. MC asked if there were any other candidates or volunteers. Both candidates accepted their nominations and expressed their willingness to take on their roles. Once the candidates had left the room the remaining Board voted on these candidates. Both candidates were elected unanimously. Hans Bak noted that the rule is usually that the outgoing Treasurer takes over the Amsterdam Trust Fund but since Hans-Jürgen is going on to be President this will not be practicable. Hans Bak agreed to remain in this role for the next four years while HJG is President.

Item 17: Application for Membership: Serbia; Joint Associations

MC received a request from a Serbian colleague some months ago and entered into a correspondence about the possibilities of joining EAAS. Most of the members of the association were previously members of the Society for the Study of English. Due to the separation

between Serbia and Montenegro, the Serbian association was dissolved and they are now re-applying to both EAAS and to ESSE. MC asked for more detail and was then sent information that included a copy of their articles and a list of possible members. Of the 26 members on the list many were from a single university. It was still not clear if the use of the term "English" meant they were actually looking at English literature. JV received an email re: Albania, Montenegro and Macedonia as a joint association. At a time when we are trying to encourage federation among existing members we are getting requests for even smaller regional areas of single membership. We also had an approach from someone from Croatia. The idea would be for them to get together and organize themselves, after identifying who the Americanists are and put together an association from all these areas based on the idea of the study of America. MC intends to write to these people to tell them to indicate who is doing American research and to put them in touch with each other. Other possibilities could include putting Macedonia in with Greece. This is problematic on several levels due to past national conflicts. Bulgaria could approach Macedonia. MC suggested that it was part of the EAAS duty to try to ameliorate past feelings and move them into a more co-operative stance. Currently 27 countries are represented by 21 Board members.

A long discussion ensued. Rodica Mihaila (RAAS) asked whether it was possible to put in the EAAS Articles something about a minimum membership of national or joint-national organizations. The by-laws specify that individual membership is possible. Alternatively, it would be possible to ask them to work with neighboring associations. Jopi Nyman from the Nordic Association noted that since the application from Serbia seemed overwhelmingly tied to one university it is problematic. HJG noted that some current member organizations of EAAS do not pay dues at the level that actually covers the per diems of the attendance of their representatives at the Board meetings. Jopi Nyman suggested that the central criterion should be that they can show they are established associations with relevant activities such as conferences. He also noted that the Nordic Association is not an ideal model of how a joint association works. There are serious organizational problems with a "rainbow" association of several national associations including questions about what that umbrella organization actually does. Individual members would have no feed into the EAAS legal association. Article 5 of the EAAS Articles points out the possibility of individual affiliate membership, but a decision has to be made by the Board with a two thirds majority.

The discussion then flowed into a discussion of the financial situation of EAAS and the potential for outlining future decisions about where the funds are spent. Tatiana Venediktova suggested that there might be other possibilities of people joining based on discipline rather than national background especially in the case of east Europeans. Cross-national affiliation might be a possibility. HJG noted that the issue is not how many people belong to EAAS, but rather who sends a representative to the Board. Another possibility was suggested: Perhaps associations could rotate their time or representation on the Board. Reinhold Wagnleitner (AAAS) noted that this is the European Association and therefore could and should be sure to take a Europeanist stance. It was suggested that a good way forward was for a personal letter from the outgoing president to be sent to all the membership about this topic to outline the difficulties. Julia Stefanova (BASA) offered to approach Albania and Macedonia (noting that Serbia was more difficult) and will report back to see what happens. Another suggestion was a biennial meeting with two representatives from each association who then all elect a Board. It was decided that the applications will be followed up by Julia Stefanova and we will continue the discussion. A small subcommittee to participate in a discussion of reforms of EAAS was established and includes Hans Bak, Daniele Fiorentino, Julia Stefanova, Jopi Nyman, Tatiana Venediktova, and Reinhold Wagnleitner.

Item 18: Younger Scholars and Post-Docs; Regional Meetings

After the earlier approach by the young Americanists to the EAAS for funding, EAAS tried to support a continuing forum for young scholars. This did not prove to be as profitable intellectually as had been hoped. However, other groupings have come together including a group in Turkey looking at humor. There was a post-doctoral meeting of the French Association that included participants from other EAAS organizations. MC encouraged Board members to think along these lines and see how we can generate more initiatives among young scholars and doctoral students. HELAAS had a postgraduate conference which included 90 papers from all over Europe. It was suggested that reports be sent to EAAS that might go into the next Newsletter. Ireland also has a postgraduate conference and BAAS has made a huge effort to get post-grads involved, often subsidized by the U.S. Embassy. Philip Davies will pass this information on to the new post-grad representative of BAAS. Regional or sub-discipline initiatives are also to be encouraged.

Item 19: 2009 Board Meeting in Zurich

MH noted that there was nothing to be reported as yet. There are currently re-shufflings taking place in the university that will lead to significant changes; so nothing can be settled at this point. The date is not yet known, but MH will let us know as soon as possible. There is some problem with gaining rooms for the meetings. The timing is more likely to be in May rather than April if that is acceptable. More will be known in two or three weeks. Having it in May is better administratively in order to make a good argument with the university. Martin will try to gather the information from the member associations to try to avoid clashes with the national associations' annual meetings. HJG felt that we should keep the traditional April date.

Item 20: 2010 Conference in Dublin

This is Tony Emmerson's (TE) last meeting as a representative of the Irish Association. The Irish Association decided that the Irish Representative should be someone from Dublin because they will be hosting the conference. TE noted that there was no briefing at the last business meeting of the Irish Association so he is not sure what the state of play is with regard to conference organization. Steven Matterson is coming back to the Board as Irish representative but at this point there is no news. MC has visited Dublin in the past year and reported that it is a very good venue and includes administrative back-up as well. Some element from Trinity College will also play a part in the conference.

Item 21: Theme for the 2010 Conference in Dublin

One Board member presented a document outlining a theme and giving a full description. Unfortunately, this was the only document to arrive despite a request from the Secretary General to Board Members to bring concrete proposals. As a result, the Board then opened up to the floor for other suggestions for proposals. The Board debated the final list and decided on the theme of "Forever Young"? The Changing Images of America."

Item 22: 2011 Board Meeting Venue

A general request was made to elicit an invitation for 2011. Daniele offered to go back and see if it would be possible to organize something in Italy. MC also offered to look into possibilities in France.

Item 23: 2012 Conference

A problem has arisen as to whether the conference can go ahead in Halle. There is a concern that once HJG retires in 2012, the Center for United States Studies there might not necessarily continue. (N.B. The con-

tinuation of the Center has since been guaranteed.) Clearly, HJG could not organize it on his own. He was also concerned about the workload if he were to become the local organizer in addition to his duties as President of EAAS. A final decision on the venue for the 2012 conference needs to be reached next year.

Item 24: Report on the European Journal of American Studies (Pawel Frelik and Kees van Minnen)

MC welcomed two of the editors of the EJAS to the Board meeting. He asked the editors to give a brief account of the operation of the Journal over the course of the last year to bring everyone up-to-date. At the first meeting of the editorial board in 2006 the committee was divided by disciplines and both editors will provide short reports. When articles are submitted to the committee that require specialist knowledge they then call upon the advisory board for advice and feedback. Two issues of the Journal appeared in 2007. 18 articles for the history side were submitted and 6 were accepted and posted in the Journal, another 6 are being re-written and 6 were rejected. The editors are in the process of preparing a special issue on May 1968 and the legacy of the 1960s. They have received another 18 articles. 2 are ready for publication and the other proposals are currently being reviewed. To promote EJAS they have produced flyers that have been distributed to a number of conferences. The CFP for the special issue was also sent out to several organizations. The problem on the side of history is that so far scholars are looking at EJAS as their second or third choice after major established hard-copy journals like the Journal of American History. The literature side does not have a similar problem. The better known the EJAS becomes hopefully the sooner this will be resolved. It was noted that on the EJAS web site, when articles are printed out, the first page is missing. This is a technical problem which can be resolved. The editors hope that the EAAS conference will give them an opportunity to recruit papers, keeping in mind that the conference procedures will be published at some stage by EAAS. The policy on this needs clarifying for the editorial board by EAAS. Another issue revolves around the fact that the editorial committee will come to the end of their third year of service. With the possibility of renewing terms with a maximum of 9 years, there is a possibility that one or two will not continue and therefore new editorial committee members will need to be recruited which is the responsibility of the EAAS Board.

Pawel Frelik then gave a summary of his experiences on the literature side of the EJAS. Over the past 18 months EJAS has received 34 submissions to the literature/cultural section. Thirteen have been accepted

and posted, another 14 or so are being reviewed or prepared for publication while 7 have been rejected or withdrawn. Several issues have arisen, the most significant one of which was the problem with some editorial committee members not being able to contribute fully to the process which has resulted in some delays. Two new members have been put on the board and hopefully this will resolve the problem of delayed posting of papers in the EJAS. Another issue is the ambiguous policy toward asking for contributors. The editorial committee does not want to be flooded by papers from graduate students in the United States which has resulted in a somewhat limited promotion of the journal in the United States. One of the priorities should be promoting European scholarship but it may help to open up recruitment. Finally, the editors asked for a decision on the issue of book reviews for the journal. Is the Board in favor of integrating the reviews (currently published on the EAAS web site) with the EJAS? A meeting will take place this afternoon which includes Dora Tsimpouki, the EAAS reviews editor, and a decision needs to be made on this. The question then arises as to how this will take place. Would Dora be on the editorial committee or would her work be taken over by somebody else?

MC thanked Pawel Frelik and Roxana Oltean for having done so much work on the literature side due to other members being unable to contribute fully to the process of editing. MC will go back and look into the technical problem once he gets back to France and investigate the possibilities of changing format. The Board discussed several points raised by the editorial committee. The Board agreed that the editors of EJAS could approach people to submit their papers to the Journal and JV will include information in her briefing sessions with the workshop chairs and it will be mentioned in the General Meeting. Regarding the recruitment and rotation of mandates to the editorial committee, the Board discussed where the authority lies for finding replacements for the editorial committee. MC suggested that when someone resigns the remaining members of the editorial committee select replacements that they then propose to the Board for approval. HJG suggests that replacements be discussed between the editorial committee and the officers especially when problems arise between the conferences. Consultation between the editors and the officers in the first instance would be most practicable. It would be reasonable to ask all members of the editorial committee, within six months of the end of their term, to declare their intentions to either end their term or renew. With regard to advertising the Journal within the American market, it was noted that one of the first steps would be

to get EJAS listed on the lists of recognized journals within the burgeoning field of ranked journals within disciplines. A further complication may be the requirement that recognized journals need to be formatted in such a way as to allow the journal to be printed easily. In terms of the book reviews it sees apparent that it has now become time to place the reviews within the remit of the Journal. It was noted that Dora Tsimpouki, having been running the reviews successfully for some time, be given the option to stay as reviews editor within the Journal. If she determines that she does not want to continue, then another reviews editor will be appointed. The reviews section on the EAAS web site will be transferred to the Journal web site from the 2007 reviews onward.

Item 25: EAAS Conference Proceedings Report: Cyprus Volume and Oslo Volume

HJG explained in detail some problems that had been developing over the last two years with regard to publishing conference proceedings. HJG took over the task of investigating alternatives to the previous arrangements with the Amsterdam Free Press which had gone to print-on-demand publishing. He approached the publisher of the German Association's series to see if EAAS might piggy-back onto their series. In the process HJG was able to collate information on all past publications under EAAS. Some problems arose in the final stages of publishing the Cyprus volume. The editors of the DGfA monograph series felt that EAAS had no responsibility for the volume, rather that it rested with the individuals who were editors. HJG noted that EAAS had to appear on the book cover and on the title page. HJG learned from Winter publishers that they would be willing to sponsor a separate EAAS series. It is the same publisher as the German association publisher and their concerns were that this would be a competing volume and would siphon off the best talent in the area. Ultimately, the arrangement that HJG has managed to put in place will go forward which is to include "published by the officers of the association" without any names but ensuring that an acting officer oversees the volumes. Copies of the Cyprus volume should be here at Oslo at the book display. MC noted that it was clear that EAAS needed to straighten out the responsibilities of everyone in producing the future volumes of EAAS conference proceedings. Editors of future series absolutely must deal with the details and minutiae of editing a series. Hans Bak asked if it was worth having a series editor as was the case in the past when Rob Kroes served in that capacity. The officers thought it best at this stage to keep to the officers. The next volume needs to be put together with very clear guidelines in place.

Item 26: Board Memberships and Mandates

This item was discussed earlier under Item 17.

Item 27: Conference Format and Desirable Reforms

An open discussion took place about the conference and several points were raised. People noted that: the layout of the conference program itself could be confusing; adding a list of participants and an index of speakers would be helpful. It was also noted that the spelling of some names and the title of the association were wrong in the Oslo program and HJG suggested that the future program should be sent to him as a PDF file so that he could check and change spellings. There was also no conference poster. The unfortunate situation of the last minute cutting of the guest list at the US Embassy did generate some discussion although this was not down to the conference organizers themselves. The lack of buses was problematic. If attendees had been told that there was no transportation for return this would have been better. There was no notification of cancellations at the Oslo conference which could be an addendum to the conference program. These could also be posted on the doors of the sessions along with the number of the workshops. Also, there needs to be better signage for the room locations and the EAAS logo on signs. Clearer notification of help for disabilities was also needed. The student helpers had not been very well briefed which meant that they could not provide all the help that was needed. No information about the conference was available at the hotel. Folders could be left for the Board members at the hotel. Concerns about the costs of the location of the conference were raised but these are not easily dealt with because the conference is being hosted by a volunteer university or association. Approximately 330 delegates attended at Oslo and HJG mentioned that this is now standard for an EAAS conference. Dublin has a good system of subsidies from departments so charges should be kept down. Julia Stefanova noted that it was difficult to see more than your own workshop's two sessions and asked if it was possible to have more time slots. Perhaps there are too many workshops because there was a problem of the size of the audience. We may want to reorganize the conference so that there are fewer workshops but this will cut down the number of papers and again the number of attendees. It is important for things to be described accurately. The sight-seeing tour was of very limited value and garnered some complaints. The question was raised about whether or not workshop chairs should be allowed to deliver their own papers. Twenty-one workshop chairs did give their own papers. Workshop chairs get funding and therefore do not need funding from their own

institutions. This will need to be sorted before the Cfp goes out in the newsletter. Bank holidays need to be avoided and there might be more performances. Dublin dates are Friday, 26 March to Monday, 29 March 2010. There was discussion about the shoptalk idea. The shoptalks might be combined or put into a different format so that the disciplines are less distinct. HJG made a point that historians are often in the minority at EAAS conferences and may need a separate forum. David Mauk and Ole Moen joined the meeting at this point and gave a brief outline of their views about how the conference went and what reforms might be put in place. They tried very hard to check things twice or three times but problems could not be avoided. OM spent much of his time transporting things which took time away from his ability to check things on the ground. Neither conference organizer had worked with the conference bureau before and admitted that although they did help, they did not advise well on some details and procedures. If a conference bureau is being used in the future, every detail needs to be clearly checked. DM was pleased with the opening of the conference which included the flautist who also sang and played the piano.

Item 28: Evaluations and Plans

This item was covered under other sections.

Item 29: AOB

Meldan Tanrisal (ASAT) suggested that Turkey may be available for 2012 as a possible alternative to Halle.

Jerzy Durczak (PAAS) said his farewells as he will be leaving the Board. Rodica Mihaila (RAAS) also said goodbye after serving under three presidents. Marc was also thanked for his work as president of EAAS. Smaragda Yemenedzi (HELAAS) had talked with Dora Tsimpouki and they think that they might be able to offer Thessaloniki as a venue for the 2011 Board meeting.

The editorial committee of the EJAS decided that reviews will be integrated into the EJAS site and will be taken care of by Dora Tsimpouki as an associate editor for reviews.

HJG agreed to write the Call for Papers for the next conference and bring it to the handover meeting scheduled for mid-June.

JV noted that as this was the completion of her first conference organization cycle she has plans to try to streamline the handing in of information by those who apply to run workshops before the next Board meeting in Zurich and then for the lead-up to the conference in Dublin. She will liaise with Stephen Matterson.

Marc Chénétier

Jenel Virden

Prepared by Jenel Virden,
EAAS Secretary General, Hull, Sept. 1, 2008



The Oslo Organizers, David Mauk and Ole Moen (Photograph by MH)

WORKSHOP REPORTS EAAS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

9-12 May 2008, Oslo, Norway

Workshop 1

Nativism Revisited? Political Responses to Immigration in the United States

Štěpánka Korytová-Magstadt, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

In this workshop the participants examined rising popular opposition in the United States to immigration – both legal and illegal – at the local, state and federal level. The workshop featured four papers on the rise of nativist sentiment in the United States, ranging from the epicenter in California from the 1980s into the 21st century, to the conflict between federal court rulings and local and national anti-immigrant measures, and to the media's exploitation of immigration issues within an increasingly multiracial population. The chair commented on the four papers, placing them and the contemporary period within the context of mass immigration to the United States. The papers complemented each other as they all followed the underlying context of illegal immigration, and they were critical of the lack of a coherent US Governmental policy. The papers also followed the theme of the conference keynote speaker.

Workshop 2

Staging the Nation: The Theatre of American Identities

Theresa Saxon, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK

Robert Vorlicky, New York University, USA

The papers chosen for the two panel sessions explored the variety and complexity of American drama. Jochen Achilles argued that demands and economic pressures of white mainstream show-business disrupted the integrity of black artists; yet a more authentic representation of blackness was secured, demonstrating what the theatre can specifically contribute to the debate of (African) American identities. Bob Vorlicky examined African-American playwrights – Amiri Baraka, Suzan-Lori Parks and James Scruggs – assessing on-stage manifestations and theatricalizations of the dead body of the African-American male. Zoe Detsoi's account

of George A. Baker's *A Glance at New York* (1848), examined the cultural bifurcation of American society and the creation of a popular theatre supported by a distinct working-class culture where values, fears, and expectations were aired in rowdy theatrical spaces. Theresa Saxon argued that melodramatic nineteenth-century American theatre forms a dialogue between a range of possible voices – a pluralizing effect that stimulated the range of performances across American stages. Valérie Systemans contended that Tennessee Williams' plays contest the validity of Bakhtin's monological theatre, where catharsis, rather than cohering dramatic action, introduces diversity and dissenting voices. Tina Parke-Sutherland's presentation on Yupik ritual theatre explored the traditions and revival of forms and structures, examining the use of masks as well as dance, audience participation and spatial dynamics. Ann Walsh discussed Robert Lowell's trilogy *Old Glory* and his dramatization of Benito Cereno, arguing that Lowell remoulded and expanded fiction into a dramatic presentation of violent tensions arising from disparate racial and cultural constituents.

Workshop 3

The Uses and Abuses of Diversity: Historical, Political and Philosophical Analyses of an Evolving Concept and Diverse Practices of Diversity

Pierre Guerlain, Université Paris 10 – Nanterre, France

Workshop 3 was entitled: "The uses and abuses of diversity: Historical, political and philosophical analyses of an evolving concept and diverse practices of diversity" and took place in two separate sessions. Pierre Guerlain (Paris, France), the chair, interrogated the rhetorical and ideological games played around the concept or pseudo-concept of diversity; Kevin McNamara (Houston, US) focused on the consensus about diversity and analyzed the relationship between diversity and democracy, wondering whether one should not talk instead of social administration; Agnieszka M. Soltysik (Lausanne, Switzerland) gave a very lively talk on the opposition between diversity and universalism in American culture; while Tunde Adeleke (Iowa,

US) suggested that Afrocentrism could be an alternative to both E Pluribus Unum and diversity.

In the second session Helena Maragou (Athens, Greece) gave a conceptual talk about the relationship between center and periphery in the discourse of American studies thus analyzing the uses and abuses of diversity within AS itself; Anne Ollivier-Mellios (Paris, France), in a historical presentation, studied the emergence of multiculturalism in academia and its different conflicting versions; while Erik Åsard (Uppsala, Sweden) commented upon the stigmatization of liberalism in the US and the rise of uniformity instead of diversity in the political landscape.

Altogether there were very diverse and sometimes contrasting ways of interpreting political, cultural and philosophical diversity and of analyzing the many facets of what has become an overused concept or a cliché in political thought and media presentations of the United States.

Workshop 4

Primitivist Modernisms and Diasporic Americas

Barbara Buchenau, University of Göttingen, Germany

Richard J. Ellis, University of Birmingham, UK

This workshop addressed the interfaces between racial representation, commodity culture and transatlantic modernist art in the media of painting, music, film and literature, and how primitivist representation and its Atlantic and diasporic contexts are foundational for definitions of modern subjectivity, modern artistic expression and cultural diversity. The workshop's speakers explored cases in which divisions between racialized communities and art forms cut through the middle of an artist's life and work, leading to accommodations of competing and contentious traditions.

Cristina Giorcelli's "Nella Larsen and Representations of African Americans" argued that Larsen's surrealist primitivism constricts social space for female blacks. In Larsen's *Quicksand* a triangulation between gazes establishes the protagonist as simultaneously enactor, spectator and commodified object, thus sceptically reflecting on the community-building potential of black modernist art. Following Alain Locke's vision of a racially representative tradition grounded in the critical assessment of European abstract art, Sara Wood's "African American Abstraction" showed how the work of Romare Bearden and Norman Lewis, by synthesizing modernist abstraction and African American cultural expression, offer a politicized form of individual artistic expression. Daniel Stein's "From Primitivist

Modernism to Popular Cultural Primitivism: Louis Armstrong, Robert Goffin, and the Transatlantic Jazz Debate" considered how the collaboration between the Belgian journalist and the iconic jazz musician fuses American and European primitivist traditions, the noble savage of print culture and the wit of black minstrelsy, and leads to a popular cultural primitivism foregrounding language and performance. A radical redefinition of primitivism through performance followed: Kerstin Knopf's "Sherman Alexie and PostIndian Cinema." Alexie's *The Business of Fancydancing* (2002) evokes colonial and neocolonial stereotypes and their humorous function, but dismantles the epistemological violence involved in generalized images which have not been displaced by public celebrations of cultural and artistic diversity. Subsequent workshop discussion foregrounded the complicity of both high art and popular culture with stances of radical, socially-debilitating difference, and how critiques of the segregation and social stratification may be evoked through primitivist performance.

Workshop 5

19th-Century American Literature and Art: Between Nation Building and Individuation

Ina Bergmann, University of Würzburg, Germany

Gregory Tomso, University of West Florida, Pensacola

We are very pleased to report that our workshop at the EAAS conference in Oslo was a great success. Entitled "19th-century American Literature and Art: Between Nation Building and Individuation," the workshop explored tensions between individuality and national collectivity as they emerged across the span of the tumultuous nineteenth-century. Both sessions were well-attended and led to lively discussion, and it is a pleasure to note that the second session drew a standing-room-only crowd. Participants explored the workshop themes using several different approaches. Some papers focused on genre, such as historical romance (Ina Bergmann, University of Würzburg) and plague narratives (Carmen Birkle, University of Mainz), while others focused on individual authors/artists, including Elizabeth Stoddard (Maria Holmgren-Troy, Karlstad University), Louisa Alcott (Magdalena Zapadowska, Adam Mickiewicz University), Emerson (Albena Bakratcheva, New Bulgarian University) and Vinnie Ream (Gregory Tomso, University of West Florida). In addition, the workshop's final paper (Joel Pfister, Wesleyan University) provided a meta-perspective by addressing the emergence of psychological interiority

in the context of the industrial revolution. Given the lively discussion and strength of interest from attendees and participants alike, it is clear that there is still much to be gained from turning our critical attention to the problem of the individual in the American nineteenth century.

Workshop 6

Cities and Diversity in the American Novel

Nathalie Cochoy, Toulouse le Mirail University, France

Kristiaan Versluys, University of Ghent, Belgium

This workshop explored the ambivalence of the city in the American novel: the metropolis was evoked both as a site of dislocation, deracination and adversity and as a site of reconstruction, recreation and fertile diversity. Far from focusing only on the thematic expression of this ambivalence, the participants examined its textual manifestation in the structure and the substance of discourse. An analysis of intertextuality in Chang-Rae Lee's *Native Speaker* led to a consideration of the multicultural metropolis as a territory of ethnic conflict but also as a theater where the "kaleidoscopic varieties of speech" foster a lyrical celebration of a "magnificent city." The paradoxical recreation of the characters' transience as an intimate shelter was also evoked in the papers dedicated to novels of immigration (those of Dave Egger, Kiran Desai or Elif Shafak) or disintegration (McInerney's *The Good Life*). Moreover, a close analysis of Nabokov's small-town America, blending "the trivial and the apothotic" foregrounded the essential otherness of the city. Finally, a survey of the abstract yet sensuous city of Isola in Ed McBain's detective novels entailed a questioning of the archetypal metropolis as a "multicolored, protean and yet unified" map of contemporary America. Discussions included a reflection on the sense of exile and elusiveness, the role of memory and nostalgia, and the stylistic rendering of the fusion of voices, languages or rituals in everyday city life.

Workshop 7

E Pluribus Unum? The Jewish Example

Susanne Rohr, University of Hamburg, Germany

Cheryl Alexander Malcolm, University of Gdansk, Poland

In this workshop we examined the question of why it is that Jews – in contrast to other ethnic groups – are often perceived as a single unified group in America.

When we have a closer look at literary and other representations of the Jewish community a very different – and decidedly heterogeneous – picture appears. Obviously, we see a lot of conflict between immigrant parents and their American-born children, European Jews (particularly Holocaust survivors) and American Jews, and religiously observant and secular Jews, etc.

The participants of the workshop approached this question from very different perspectives. As the phenomenon of projecting homogeneity on particular groups in society has to do with derogatory thinking, Catherine Collomp (Université Paris VII), in her lecture, had a closer look at anti-Semitism. She analyzed, in particular, the historical, political and intellectual significance of the Frankfurt School of Sociologists's report on "Anti-Semitism in the American Working Class, 1945-1949."

Dana Mihailescu (University of Bucharest) had a closer look at another area that certainly has to do with the image of homogeneity: the history of the Jewish people and the ensuing "rhetoric of displacement" as it shows in the concepts of "exile" and "diaspora."

Finally, Susan Winnett (Hamburg University), in her talk, entered into the dynamics of rituals of forgetting and rituals of remembering that makes the Jewish community of the past and that of the present have vastly different faces. The paper explored how and why the old communities' rituals of forgetting (shiva) have yielded to the new communities' rituals of remembering (trips to Eastern Europe, etc.).

Workshop 8

Ethnic Groups and US Foreign Policy since World War One: The Multicultural Search for the National Interest

Serge Ricard, Université Paris 3 – Sorbonne Nouvelle, France

Ole Moen, University of Oslo, Norway

Halina Parafianowicz (University of Bialystok, Poland) discussed divided loyalties, then Americanization of Polish-Americans after World War One, as well as Polonia's focus on bilateral commercial relations. David C. Mauk (University of Oslo) presented – as part of a research in progress – a case study of the mobilization of Norwegian America and the spectacular marshalling of resources ("American Relief for Norway") on behalf of an occupied ally. Daniele Fiorentino (University of Macerata, Italy) examined a touchy subject – the experience of American Jews and the creation of the State of Israel – in a well thought-out paper that evidenced the divisions within the Jewish

community and the Truman administration, as well as the diversity of American motivations. Kevern Verney (Edge Hill University, England) took a look at Walter White's leadership of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during the incipient Cold War from 1945 to 1948 and his advocacy of a retreat from the NAACP's involvement in foreign affairs, a move condemned by W.E.B. Du Bois, who favored retaining the radical agenda. For Salah Oueslati (University of Poitiers, France) who surveyed the Cuban-American lobby from 1982 to 1996, the core argument was that the various administrations practiced ethnic manipulation for foreign-policy purposes. Isabelle Vagnoux (University of Provence, France) capped two stimulating sessions with an informed update of the Washington-Havana relationship, still under influence in 2008 (and possibly better described as the Cuba-Washington-Miami ménage à trois!).

Serge Ricard

Workshop 9:

Many Wests: Contemporary Literary Approaches to the American West

David Rio, University of the Basque Country, Spain

Oyunn Hestetun, University of Bergen, Norway

This workshop explored the literature of the American West since the 1960s, examining how recent literary interpreters of the American West portray western places and myths, often with an emphasis on the West as a regionally diverse entity, and also as a fictional space to interrogate the past and explore neglected or suppressed stories about the region.

In session 1, Christian Hummelsund Voie examined how the conventional story system of the West has been subverted and reinvented in Annie Proulx's *That Old Ace in the Hole*. Turning to poetry, Jeffrey Gray focused on how Bidart deals with the pathologies of America, particularly the West. In her discussion of Hunter S. Thompson, Marlene Broemer examined the image that Thompson created of himself and his comments on the West in his late works. David Rio gave a presentation of Nevada fiction over the last four decades, which often parallels the evolution of postfrontier western writing in general.

In session 2, Eva-Sabine Zehelein discussed Joan Didion's overarching theme of "the center cannot hold," in reference to her home state California and her own private life. Michal J. Prince examined the ironic/satirical approach to the West in later works by William S. Burroughs. Aitor Ibarrola addressed the representation of a "degeografied" America in Cormac

McCarthy's *The Road*. Turning to the rendering of the West in recent American Indian poetry, Dean Rader argued that selected poems serve the dual purpose of representing Indian nationalism and Indian autoethnography.

Workshop 10

South or Souths? The American South and the Shaping of its Singular or Plural Identity/ies

Susanna Delfino, University of Genoa, Italy

Jacques Pothier, University of Versailles, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France

Although for practical reasons it was divided into two sessions, one historical, the other literary, the workshop as a whole revealed a high level of homogeneity and connectedness, thanks to the broad cultural perspective adopted by all presenters. This commonality of approach allowed for a wide participation in the ensuing general discussion, signalling the effective achievement of a well-sought interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange. Among the themes explored, the complex relationship between myth and history, ideology and manners (or "attitude") in the shaping of southern identity(ies) has been paramount. Much attention has also been devoted to the issue of ethnic and racial diversity, and to the changing definitions of ethnicity vis-à-vis an equally shifting perception of the "color line." Contrary to the famous statement that Faulkner lent to one of his characters, that "the past is never dead; it isn't even past," often construed as a sense of history as a burden, the panel suggested that what the South was really about was the mythology, the ideology, the art which could paper over the past. The discussion was all the more stimulating in light of the fact that, although firmly grounded in the South's past experience, a number of the papers presented strongly pointed toward a reflection on the South's more recent, and even contemporary, reality, and pointed out the South's defining interaction with the world. For all these reasons, the organizers and chair persons of the workshop think that it was very successful.

The Southern Studies Forum will convene in Paris for its 2009 meeting. See <http://www.sudam.uvsq.fr/southernstudiesforum.htm> for details.

Workshop 11

From ‘English only’ to ‘English plus’? Linguistic Pluralism in Early and 19th-Century American Literature

Wayne Franklin, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA

Ronald Jenn, Charles de Gaulle University, Lille, France

This workshop highlighted American figures grappling with the diversity of languages within and without the US. The sequential bilingualism displayed in Carl Schurz’s memoirs (childhood written in German; adulthood in English) exemplified the complexity of the German-American legacy in the multilingual (re) construction of America (Michael Boyden) and appeared as an echo of Crèvecoeur’s self-translation of *Letters*. Crèvecoeur’s link to the Castorland Colony on the New York frontier bore testimony to the presence of French settlers in that part of American territory while their legacy, in the form of *The Castorland Journal*, unveiled yet another layer of the American palimpsest (John Galucci). The multiplicity of languages without was successfully tackled by James Fenimore Cooper who, while in Paris, managed to circumvent the absence of an international copyright law regarding translation and turned the situation to his advantage by having the printing and translation of texts work in cahoots (Wayne Franklin).

The double bind of the translator appeared with striking acuteness in the context of immigration and acquiring a new nationality. Although concerned with an early period of America in the making, the workshop demonstrated that the latest breakthroughs in Translation Studies, Book History, and textual analysis can and should be successfully combined and that the multilingual (re)discovery of America still lays ahead.

Workshop 12

What Canonical Fiction? Realism and Its Discontents

Donatella Izzo, University of Naples – L’Orientale, Italy

Greg Zacharias, Creighton University, Omaha, NE, USA

Zacharias and Izzo were in regular email contact with panelists following the vetting of the submissions and organization of the panels. They encouraged panelists to be in contact with each other as they developed their papers in order to begin to develop a community among the workshop members and to develop cohe-

sion among the paper presentations. Panelists agreed to exchange finished or nearly finished papers one month before the meeting in Oslo. Both the preliminary discussion and exchange were accomplished and served their aims. Panelists were familiar with each other and with each other’s work when they arrived in Oslo. The workshop sessions and sense of community were enhanced by the preliminary work.

Each of the two panels of Workshop 12 went well. Papers were well prepared and the rooms were crowded. There was good discussion, which went past the scheduled time for the sessions, in the room for each of the two sessions. The discussion occurred mainly between presenters and audience members, but also between panelists and other workshop members. Discussion issues included aspects of methodology, subject matter, and implications of the presentations. Interesting was the emergence also of generational differences in terms of approach/methodology in the first workshop meeting.

In addition to the meetings and working to develop the workshop community, the co-chairs hosted the group for one lunch, panelists met for a second lunch, and most of the group met for dinner. Several of the workshop members, at least, continue to work together (Zacharias, Izzo, Pirgerou, Puente, Tsimpouki, Fusco, Wadsworth) on issues generated from and/or in the presentations.

Workshop 13

The Influence of Chinese and Japanese Poetry on American Imagism and Objectivism

Lina Unali, University of Rome – Tor Vergata, Italy

Sai Kin Lee, University of Burgos, Spain

It is remarkable that in the last ten to twelve years several EAAS workshops have shown an interest in the relationship between the West and Asia, in particular between the United States on one side and India, China and Japan on the other. The workshop focussed on the relationship between American poetry and the Asian poetical tradition, in particular Chinese and Japanese. Elisabetta Marino’s paper set out to explore the origin and the development of Amy Lowell’s multi-faceted interest in “Oriental” culture, mainly dealing with Japan, whose art provided the most long-lasting and powerful influence on her poetry. A biographical outline was followed by a detailed analysis of the artist’s production on Japanese themes, mainly concentrating on *Pictures of the Floating World* (1919). In Deborah Jenner’s paper, Ernest Fenollosa was seen as revolutionizing the visual arts in early 20th-century Amer-

ica. Dow's 20 Japanese-inspired woodblocks formed an 'époque-breaking' show put on by Fenollosa at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts where he was curator after actively reviving art in Japan. Fiona McMahon's paper discussed the legacy of an Asian poetical tradition in American poetics from within the context of an intellectual climate where poetic practice is allied with ethical purpose. Julia Fiedorczuk's presentation aimed at examining the political dimensions of the aesthetic revolution that began with Ezra Pound's "invention of China" and found its continuation in the writings of William Carlos Williams, Charles Olson, and contemporary language poets.

Workshop 14

'E Pluribus Plura': Second-generation American Immigrants, Nationality and American Culture(s)

Organized by the European Confederation of Upper Rhine Universities (EUCOR)

Sämi Ludwig, Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, France

Rüdiger Heinze, University of Freiburg i. Br., Germany

Rüdiger Heinze (Freiburg, Germany) opened the workshop with a surprising series of anonymous quotes and gave a survey of similar approaches to cultural integration throughout the 20th century. This was followed by Maria Roth-Lauret's (Sussex, UK) analysis of language experiments in Theresa Cha and the language criticism in the plot of Chang-rae Lee's *Native Speaker*. Aristi Trendel (Montpellier, France) discussed "symbolic ethnicity" in the case of Greek immigrants reinventing themselves in Jeffrey Eugenides' *Middlesex*. And Hubert Zander (Institute for Economic Studies, Europe) topped off the first morning with a discussion of Jewish-American identity in Philip Roth and Mordecai Richler, focusing, among other things, on the tension between diaspora and promised land.

The second session opened with Carmen Arzua (Madrid, Spain), who discussed "transdifference" as an alternative to divisive binarism in Sandra Cisneros' *Caramello*. Sämi Ludwig (Mulhouse, France) presented Gary Shteyngart's *Absurdistan* as an example of a very recent immigrant experience. The workshop ended with Claudia Neudecker's (Eichstätt, Germany) discussion of the "postethnic" and writing fiction beyond one's own ethnicity as applied to Chang-rae Lee's *Aloft*.

The discussions revealed some surprisingly recurrent questions and problems in all contributions, a fact which allowed for a highly focused methodological

debate. Overall, the chairs were delighted with the diverse but highly pertinent contributions, the lively discussions, and the friendly atmosphere of intellectual exchange in both sessions.

Workshop 15

"Indianness," Tribalism, and the Nation State

Laura Castor, University of Tromsø, Norway

Christian F. Feest, Museum für Völkerkunde Vienna, Austria

No text provided.

Workshop 16

Expounding the Constitution: Fulfilling the Founding Fathers' Ideal: E Pluribus Unum

Elisabeth Boulot, Université Paris-Est, France

Bill Merkel, Washburn University, Topeka, KS, USA

This workshop explored the Supreme Court's impact on American cultural-legal norms by examining tensions between judicial efforts to forge a national 'Unum' and countervailing desires to accommodate cultural 'Plura.' Malie Montagutelli analyzed the Court's holdings from the 1970s concerning disparities in local funding of public schools and access to free education for children of illegal immigrants. The deeply divided Court came within a single vote of recognizing an unwritten right to (equal) education, prompting alarm calls from conservatives who feared judicially imposed socialism. Mehmet Konar-Steenberg's study illustrated how defining the scope of congressional authority to regulate interstate commerce pits defenders of plenary power, national unity, and market efficiency against champions of states' rights and local interests. He explored tensions respecting preclusive effects of federal powers (including unexercised or "dormant" federal powers) on state regulatory authority, arguing that the "New Federalism" predicted of the Rehnquist Court may now finally be in the offing under Chief Justice Roberts. Mokhtar Ben Barka showed how the Christian Right has misread late nineteenth-century cases to advance the view that the United States is a "Christian Nation." To the extent the Court is moving towards accommodating a mythical national religious "consensus," its new teaching contradicts a long history of pluralism and separation deeply rooted in American political-legal traditions. The papers inspired lively debate addressing the legitimacy of judicial intervention in policy formation, "the People" as ultimate source of constitutional authority, federalism and laissez-faire,

equal treatment, equal entitlement, and the political power of the religious right.

Workshop 17

Nationhood and the Deployment of Sexuality: The Social Divisiveness of Sexual Diversity

Carol Smith, University of Winchester, Winchester, UK

Bart Eeckhout, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Nationhood and the Deployment of Sexuality: The Social Divisiveness of Sexual Diversity Chairs: Carol Smith and Bart Eeckhout The papers addressed the complexity of the phrase “E pluribus unum” as it related to the relationship between the reality of sexual diversity and the unitary heterosexual imaginary employed in sustaining the American nation. Lisa Merrill gave an elegant examination of homosocial/homosexual encoding of 19C masculinity in her paper ‘19th-Century Queer Americans: Backstage and in the Trenches in the Civil War.’ Her stress on the importance of archival work and recovery of marginal voices was echoed by the paper delivered by Marguerite Nguyen ‘American Postmoral Melodrama, Sexuality, American Nationhood, and Harry Hervey’s Early 20th-Century Vietnam.’ Here the performative aspect of non-white identity was revealed. Mihaela Precup’s paper ‘From Binky Brown to Fun Home: (Counter)Narratives of Gender and Sexuality in the American Graphic Memoir intertwined competing notions of masculinity, revolution and the contesting voices of feminist artists. Robert Freedman carefully outlined the silence and negative codification by Republican politicians in his paper ‘The only politically protected disease in the world’: The Challenge of AIDS to Conceptions of American Nationhood, 1979–89.’ Two papers examined the importance and influence of coming out and the visibility of the gay ‘male’ body; Roman Trušník, in his ‘Coming Out in America as Portrayed by Coming Out Anthologies and a paper by Maite Escudero (delivered by Mónica Calvo), ‘Questioning (Hetero)Normative Bodies: Parody, Homage, and the Resignification of American Masculinities.’ Alison Kelly delivered a careful and nuanced reading of ‘Deviance and Excommunication in the Fiction of Jenefer Shute’ which like the paper by Tomasz Basiuk, ‘Samuel R. Delany’s Challenge to Identity Politics’ managed to ground the larger issues of the panel in deft readings of texts.

Workshop 18

(B)ordering Unity: The Border as a Paradigm of Diversity

Ana María Manzanás Calvo, University of Salamanca, Spain

Santiago Vaquera, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA

The workshop opened with Laurence Gervais-Linon’s discussion about gated communities as the representation of a new “unum” or a new “Jerusalem” versus an alien “plura.” The aim of such communities is to establish a clear division between those who are out – equated with the threatening and the unknown – versus those on the other side of the divide, incorporated into a new community. Stan Kolar’s discussion of Alejandro Morales’ *The Rag Doll Plagues* shifted the focus to the literary arena, and, very fittingly, started with Robert Frost’s poem “Mending Wall.” In Kolar’s analysis, Frost’s poem – and the double vision of the wall as line of separation and communication – resonates throughout the social and racial divisions in the three books that make up the novel, and is manifest in the different stages of nation building that Morales delves into, from the pre-national to the post-national. The session concluded with Tom Idema’s vision of *la Mestiza* and the concept of bordering. Departing from Deleuze and Guattari’s concept of “becoming,” Idema fleshed out bordering as an attempt to rethink different subjectivities by dislodging them from traditional oppositions.

The session moved from geopolitics to geo-philosophy, and concluded with a lively discussion of different forms of gated communities that debated the initial vision of separation from the outside.

Workshop 19

Arab and Muslim Citizens in the US: Not Quite Americans?

Lotfi Bennour, University of Technology of Belfort-Montbéliard, France

Ines Karoui’s presentation explores the growing Arab American literary production within US multi-ethnic literary panorama in two novels by two Arab American women writers, Diana Abu-Jaber through her book *Crescent* (2003), and Laila Halaby through her *Once in a Promised Land* (2007).

Updike’s representation of a young Muslim American in post-9/11 New York employs all sorts of clichés. In her paper, Ulla Kriebner argues that Updike tries to emphasize the ‘Americanness’ of his protagonists

and thus to re-affirm a 'common ground' beyond ethnic and religious borders. Although these intensions are subverted by the ambivalence the text reveals, Updike stands in the tradition of a (utopian?) discourse of an American identity in spite of ethnic and religious differences.

In his paper Professor McKeever examines the response of the United States Supreme Court to the legal claims of those held in detention as 'enemy combatants' at Guantanamo Bay and elsewhere. He adopts a comparative-historical methodology of the kind advanced by the American Political Development School. The paper examines the judicial response to previous deprivations of constitutional liberties during national security crises, especially that of the internment of Japanese Americans in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941.

Lotfi Bennour examines the crisis of the Muslim and Arab-American communities in the wake of 9/11. The Bush administration has not only questioned their loyalty to the nation but also identified them as a potential threat to its unity. The political discourse in the United States is still considering them as "outsiders," as "others" or as the "enemies within."

Workshop 20

Popular Pluralisms: Negotiating American Identity in Recent Popular Culture

Astrid Böger, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Nicole Schröder, University of Paderborn, Germany

Popular culture is arguably the site where American national identity – and the question if America can be thought of as one or many different cultures – has been most poignantly negotiated roughly since the 1960s. Our workshop took a closer look at various concrete instances of such negotiations. Anita Ogurlu presented a reading of the pluribus vs. the unum not so much in terms of cultural or ethnic diversity as in terms of capital, using two films, *Casino* and *Castaway*. Paul Lewis discussed the unifying and divisive force of intentional humor in different contexts and for different audiences. Melinda Russell explored the attempt to create national unity through song, namely the Music Educators national conference project "Get America Singing ... Again" and the "National Anthem Project." Nicole Schröder discussed three post-9/11 movies and their presentation and construction of American identity, unity, and values. Tomáš Pospíšil looked at the movie *Crash* as an urban drama that presents American cultural plurality as deeply problematic and

perhaps even beyond repair. Mónica Calvo explored how Madonna's videoclips "American Pie" (2000) and "American Life" (2003) engage in a critique not only of the worlds of fashion, simulacra, and consumerism, but also of American military interventions. Philippe Murillo looked at the popular TV show *The Oprah Show* and its decisive role in fostering a national spiritual identity. Focusing on the first part of Michael Cunningham's *Specimen Days*, Jaroslav Kušnir showed how its postmodern narrative style creates a pluralistic vision of the world. The diversity of the papers reflected the many ways in which popular culture negotiates the dynamic exchange between dominant forces and marginalized positions in the struggle for a national identity.

Workshop 21

E Pluribus Unum in Wartime

Jude Davies, University of Winchester, Winchester, UK

Jaap Kooijman, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

In "The 1917 Espionage Acts and Judicial 'Minority Report' Opinions," Matthew Guillen (University of Paris XII, France) demonstrated how the "legal realism" mobilised in support of wartime censorship was part of a broader transition in the construction of criminality from "brute, concrete objects and events" to more sociological, psychological and predictive models. Jude Davies traced Theodore Dreiser's attempts to contest what he saw as the dangerously exceptionalistic and Anglophilic Wilsonian discourse of American democracy, and to rescue the truly democratic elements of the American tradition. In "Calliope Meets Ares: American Authors and the 1940 Blitzkrieg" Charles Kupfer (Penn State University, Harrisburg, USA) demonstrated the trajectory of American poets' responses to German military successes in 1940: "from being saddened by war, fearful of war, or against war, towards a mindset of being against Nazi success and prepared to work for an Allied victory." Kupfer made a strong case that, in 1940, poetry provided an index of changing national attitudes. In "American Literature and the Heart of Europe: F.O. Matthiessen and Alfred Kazin after World War II" George Blaustein (Harvard University, USA) presented new archival research giving a fascinatingly detailed sense of the parallels between the two Salzburg Seminary men.

Jenel Virden (University of Hull, UK) presented a comparative analysis of the "othering" of resident ethnic populations in World War I and World War II,

drawing on her recent work *Americans and the Wars of the Twentieth Century*. In “Dissident Heroes: Clint Eastwood’s ‘The Flags of Our Fathers and Letters from Iwo Jima,’” Walter Höbbling (University of Graz, Austria) related the shifts in Eastwood’s performances of masculine heroism to historical shifts in national politics. Anna Bendrat (Maria Curie Skłodowska University, Poland) analyzed the rhetorical and structural similarities between the construction of the enemy in key speeches by Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush. In “The Americans We Never Were: Anti-Americanism and Pop Culture in the Post 9/11 Era,” Jaap Kooijman explored some of the ironies in European affiliations and disaffiliations from perceptions of America, discussed at length in his new book *Fabricating the Absolute Fake*.

Workshop 22

Pluribus Unum or Pluribus Plura? Europeans Represent the United States on Screen

Melvyn Stokes, University College London, UK

Dominique Sipièrè, University of Paris 10, Nanterre, France

Workshop members took differing but often complementary approaches to the conference theme. Ian Scott (University of Manchester, UK) suggested that although British writers and directors in early American cinema were sometimes ghettoized into “Hollywood British” films, they were often important industry figures helping define American film culture and dealing in their work with representations of America as well. Alan Bilton (University of Swansea, UK) argued that Murnau’s *Sunrise* (1927) could be read both as a poetic representation of the immigrant experience and as commentary on the way immigrants themselves encountered the New World through the medium of motion pictures. Hilaria Loyo (University of Zaragoza, Spain) maintained that Fritz Lang’s *Rancho Notorious* (1952) offered an allegorical reading of the McCarthy era, mainly through the exploitation of Marlene Dietrich’s star persona. Helle Porsdam (University of Southern Denmark, Odense) analyzed the European tendency to view the U.S. with mixed Americanophilia and Americanphobia, exemplifying these divergent approaches in the work of Lars von Trier. Jeffrey L. Meikle (University of Texas, Austin) traced an alternative genealogy of Euro-American road movies that emphasized – in the films of Wim Wenders, Jim Jarmusch and Aki Kaurismäki – ambivalence and diminishing expectations rather than the exuberance of postwar American popular culture. David Roche (Uni-

versity of Dijon, France) argued that, although Kusturica’s *Arizona Dream* (1991) offered some indirect commentary on contemporary U.S., it constructed its portrayal of America mainly through reference to other films. Frank Mehring (Free University of Berlin, Germany) examined contrasting attitudes to American patriotism on the part of German-born film-makers from Emmerich’s celebratory *Independence Day* (1996) to Wenders’s *Land of Plenty* (2004), critiquing blind patriotism after 9/11.

Workshop 23

The Myth of Americanization or the Divided Heart: Views from Inside and Out

John F. Moe, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

Teresa Cid, University of Lisbon, Portugal

The first workshop session was introduced by Teresa Cid (University of Lisbon). Drawing on her own experience, she stressed the many ways in which views from the inside and out can and must differ. John F. Moe (Ohio State University) then addressed “The Myth of Americanization” in its many implications in the creation of a society comprised of immigrants, “The Great Experiment,” presenting statistics that support the argument that immigrants persist in arriving to the US in greater numbers than at any time in history. Teresa F. A. Alves (University of Lisbon) discussed in “Bridging Cultures: Translation as Trope and Portuguese American Ethnicity” how Portuguese Americans, such as Frank X. Gaspar, choose to translate in their stories of interrelatedness the often inscribed silent presence of complex allegiances and lives. Jørn Brøndal (University of Southern Denmark) in “What is an American? Danish Travel Writers Report Home about ‘the Americans’ in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries” focused on the reports sent home by different types of travellers of Danish origin. Thomas Clark (University of Kassel) in “To Americanize America: Randolph Bourne’s Vision of National Greatness through Diversity” looked at Bourne’s appropriation of the myth for his retelling of the American dream, making immigration-based diversity the basis of a new American exceptionalism.

Thomas Austenfeld (University of Fribourg) opened the second session with “*Four Visions of America: Beyond the Unum*,” discussing the protean form of the essay by placing it at the heart of the text USA, and engaged the title of the workshop itself to argue for the need of this form to use the language of the heart to be effective and celebrate a vital plurality. Rodica

Mihăilă (University of Bucharest) in “Challenging the American Multicultural Society: The Ethical Imperative and the Muslim ‘Other’ in the Post-9/11 American Novel” offered a critical reading of Updike’s *Terrorist*, DeLillo’s *Falling Man*, and Foer’s *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, in dialogue with novels by Americans of Islamic background, Azar Nafisi’s *Reading Lolita in Tehran* and Khaled Hosseini’s *Kite Runner*, stressing the importance of an ethical approach to such binaries and oppositions as us/them. Ann L. Patten (Trinity College Dublin) discussed in “How Many of You Are There? Immigration and Nativist Concerns in the Ghost Stories of Edith Wharton” the unique perspectives the stories offer on a period of immense change in America, when massive waves of immigration and the rise of a post-industrial, new wealthy class reopened the debate about the “responsibilities” that attended wealth. A most interesting complement to the papers of this workshop, which had throughout a good and intervening audience, was “Power in a Union: Joe Hill’s Wobbly Songs,” by Will Kaufman (University of Central Lancashire) who integrated live musical renditions of Joe Hill’s I.W.W. songs in his discussion of how Hill used parodies of popular and religious American songs whose premises he was vigorously against ‘to fan the flames of discontent’ among his fellow-workers. Kaufman’s argument about the political uses of parody closed with the story of an envelope with Joe Hill’s ashes confiscated due to its “subversive nature,” an anecdote which aptly closed the two-session discussion of the dividedness at the heart of Americanization.

Workshop 24

US Icons

Klaus Rieser, University of Graz, Austria

Louis Kern, Hofstra University, USA

According to the feedback from participants and audience, the workshop was highly successful. The call for papers had garnered 27 excellent proposals, ultimately resulting in 9 papers presented at the conference. These presentations attempted to theorize iconicity and iconology, but also gave an overview of possible approaches to the field through case studies.

Klaus Rieser attempted to delineate a theory of iconicity. Bent Sørensen looked at “Icons of Transgression” (Charles Manson & Patty Hearst), arguing that such icons bridged the normative and the extraordinary. Ingrid Gessner critically assessed the role of the National Park Service as a guardian of historical iconicity. David Monod presented a preliminary iconog-

raphy of the blues musician as icon. Katherine Hoffman traced the historical shifts in the production and reception of Dorothea Lange’s famous photograph *Migrant Mother*. Virginia Luzón-Aguado connected the star image of Harrison Ford to the American frontier myth. Eliane Elmaleh presented African American artists’ usage of the American flag, pointing out how that symbol/icon has been reinforced and contested. Louis Kern also focused on the U.S. flag by looking at the issue of flag desecration and the First Amendment. Kay Koppedrayner took yet another look at the flag: Through a study of the use of U.S. flags at a Lakota Sundance, she elucidated how this icon’s meaning is determined in part in the particularities of its use.

The workshop thus touched upon issues in art history, history, ethnography, ethnic studies, popular culture studies, and – obviously – visual culture studies. The participants and various audience members agreed that the topic was as yet underdeveloped and a thorough interdisciplinary study should be attempted. Publication opportunities are in development. Interested scholars can contact: Klaus.rieser@uni-graz.at.

Workshop 25

Nature Representation and the Geo-Environmental Development of the United States

Mark Luccarelli, University of Oslo, Norway

Steven Hartman, Växjö University, Sweden

The workshop combined literary and historical/social-science approaches to related questions concerning: 1) the implications of a conception of landscape consistent with Van Wyck Brooks’s observation that America is “half-built” – a landscape alternating between unmediated poles of dynamism and destruction, “life and death”; and 2) the potential of pastoral projects, in a variety of forms, to help reconceptualize America and its native landscape(s). The responses might be classified broadly into two categories. Three papers took on the theme of decay and destruction of the landscape, arriving at startlingly similar conclusions, while the remaining contributions debated the impacts and to some degree even the legitimacy of American pastoral projects.

Eric Sandeen presented work by photographers Robert Adams and Camilo Vergara, the former mapping the expansion of Denver suburbs in the 1970s and the latter chronicling the decay of neighborhoods in a near-Detroit suburb over several years in the 1980s; striking hybrid environments emerge in both cases, as Adams’ work presents a technologized, capitalistic culture that imprints its value on the land at the fringe

of metropolis, while Vergara's work seems to confirm nature's reemergence closer to the heart of metropolis, with the establishment of a "stabilized ruin" as only one of many possible consequences. With reference to a geographical spread of historical precedents, such as the Love Canal tragedy in the 1970s, as well as illustrations drawn from environmental apocalyptic literature such as Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, David Nye introduced his notion of the "anti-landscape" as denoting landscapes rendered incapable of supporting human communities. Likewise Erik Kielland-Lund explored the apocalyptic landscape of Don DeLillo's *Underworld* in which the hyper-real supersedes reality.

Fredrik Brøgger and Ekaterina Stetsenko chose to focus on problematic contradictions and limitations of American literary ecocentrism. Brøgger argues that key culturalizations of the concept of nature's wildness – as synonymous, for instance, with freedom – have served in effect to prevent the evolution of an effective environmental politics, especially insofar as they have been powerfully validated in the American nature writing tradition by such central figures as Henry David Thoreau and Gary Snyder; Stetsenko, on the other hand, criticizes "the movement from civilization to nature" purportedly evident in the contemporary American novel's "synthetic ecological consciousness," as a somewhat shallow attempt at a zero-sum negation of a destructive historic trend from nature to civilization. Ron Bosco's paper presented Ralph Waldo Emerson as a land-owner and planner who at one time had contemplated building a house at Walden Pond with a commanding view of the landscape – a metaphor for Emerson's transcendental irreverence for ecology. By contrast, in his discussion of writer Wallace Stegner's lifelong critique of American rootlessness, Steven Hartman focused on his subject's emergence as a public intellectual of the American West who, in his own words, had been "born on wheels" and shaped in relief as it were by the migratory life's deprivation of community and its disintegrating effect on the family structure; viewing his own early life in cautionary terms as typical of the modern American experience, Stegner argued for the necessity of developing a multi-generational ethic of land stewardship in which landscape could not be imagined independent of human communities, just as communities could not be formed and sustained without disillusioned reference to the physical limitations of land and climate. Finally, Torben Huus Larsen examined the case of Norris, Tennessee, planned and built in the 1930s under the TVA; against the backdrop of the town's celebrated reputation as an example of unprecedented democratic town planning, Larsen focused on urban planners'

contradictory practices of neglecting racial diversity by quietly sacrificing all ambitions of social equity for African Americans.

Workshop 26

Multicultural Autobiography: Cultural 'Plura' in American Self-Writing

Dilek Direnc, Ege University, Izmir, Turkey

Klara Kolinska, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

The workshop featured seven papers revolving around the genre of autobiography in the context of contemporary multiculturalism, both as theoretical discourse and cultural practice. The introductory paper by Elvira Osipova proposed the concept of "semi-autobiography" as a particularly apt format of narrating a personal story which becomes a story of any dictatorship and escape therefrom. Along similar lines, Rocío G. Davis discussed the sub-genre of family autobiography, as a type of collaborative autobiography, which typically serves the purpose of historical narrative in American ethnic writing. Camelia Elias, analyzing the structure of Raymond Federman's "blogosphere," argued that potentially "all writing is self-writing" in becoming "a constitutive act of self-representation." Elias focused, likewise, on the function of the reader in the specifics of the genre, that being "to graph the author's 'auto' perception in a pseudo-biographical gesture." Tanfer Emin Tunç, using the example of black feminist poet Lucille Clifton, explained the transgression of self-writing per se towards the feminine and feminist spheres, in which the genre performs the tasks of resisting not only white ethnic, but likewise masculine hegemony, and thus contributes to evidencing the complex history of social oppression in the US. Nicoleta Alexoae Zagni explored the particularly abundant and varied field of Asian-American memoir, and the means by which its texts redefine, recreate and deterritorialize the self "by inscribing a palimpsestic history of filiation and affiliation." Silvia Schultermandl applied the case study of Palestinian American writer Lisa Suhair Majaj and considered the prevalent dilemma of Arab American women in being torn between (not necessarily self)constructed identities of gender and national(ist) belonging.

**Workshop 27:
Passing Blacknesses**

Nilsen Gökçen, Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir, Turkey

Michaela Mudure, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania

This panel's focus was on passing as one of the most intriguing concepts of American history and which has triggered numerous literary and artistic representations. The seven participants in this workshop discussed passing from a wide array of perspectives as a literary trope and an act of transgression threatening the bipolarity of American racial politics. Since some passing stories involve American icons such as Jefferson, some papers dealt with examples of historiographic fiction including figures and events from American history. Whether with or without historically recognizable characters, passing was discussed as a

topic standing at the intersection of race, gender and class, for it is closely related not only to skin color but also to matrilineage vs. patrilineage, ownership and private property. Because whiteness is an invention for the protection of a set of privileges, the papers demonstrated how passing for white has inevitably inspired racial and ethnic groups other than African-Americans and how it has served as a catalyst of 19th-century Southern racial politics in which European immigrants threatened the bipolarity of black and white. At the end of the discussions, passing emerged as a complex issue in which the paradoxes of American history are inscribed and which has intimate ties with hybridity and liminality. The workshop as a whole also demonstrated that the responses to passing have become increasingly positive in contemporary fiction and art where it is employed to reveal the fluidity of identity and unreliability of physical racial markers, mocking and exposing the constructedness and susceptibility of the whole concept of race.



The participants of Workshop 12

2010 BIENNIAL EAAS CONFERENCE

26–29 March, Dublin, Ireland

Forever Young? The Changing Images of America

"The youth of America is their oldest tradition;
it has been going on now for three hundred years."
– Oscar Wilde

Among the first explorers of America, many avowedly went looking for the fountain of youth. Whether or not this was the goal of all, America always represented the idea of a fresh start in pre-colonial and colonial days, and the history of American immigration up to our times testifies to the power of this image. But the image of America entertained by the population of the United States on the one hand and by non-Americans on the other has also been in a state of constant vacillation. Conflicting images and conceptions have in turn taken hold of imaginations, structured political arguments and determined reactions to positions or attitudes adopted by the United States. From an object of desire and yearning to one of diffidence, fear or hostility, from being seen as a benevolent power to being rejected for its unilateralism, the United States has in turn behaved and/or been perceived as liberator, oppressor, a haven or an evil empire, generous or selfish, conservative or constantly innovative. Does it still make sense to think of the United States as the 'forever young' country of the new, in Seymour Martin Lipset's terms, 'the First New Nation'? How does one account for the varying perceptions of America, temporally and spatially or culturally. How does literature affect the image of America? How do the arts? How does history? How does the desire to establish an American tradition, a permanent hunger for 'the new thing' and the recent recourse to permanent reinterpretation cohabit? Is it because America is or no longer feels or looks 'young' that disaffection has set in? Or is the loss of "that lovin' feelin'" a temporary moment in the evolution of America's image? Are the various images of America, within and without, a hindrance to its actual evolution? This conference invites an examination, from all angles and in all periods, of the way images of America (based on reality, prejudice or fancy) impact its self-perception and its perception abroad.

Deadlines:

January 31, 2009: Deadline for submission of workshop and parallel lecture proposals to include a one-page abstract and a half-page c.v. of potential workshop chairs and parallel lecturers – with little or no formatting. Workshop chairs from the 2008 Oslo conference cannot be workshop chairs in Dublin.

Please do not submit proposals for individual workshop papers at this time. Such propositions may be sent to the selected workshop chairs who will be announced in the May 2009 issue of the ASE Newsletter.

September 1, 2009: Workshop paper proposals (with 150-200 word abstract) to be sent to Workshop Chairs by those proposing individual papers.

September 15, 2009: Deadline for sending the **tentative list of speakers and titles of workshop papers** to be included in the October 2009 issue of ASE.

December 1, 2009: Deadline for submitting **final titles of papers and names and addresses of speakers** to the conference organizers.

January 10, 2010: Deadline for information to be included in the 2010 biennial conference program.

Please send all information via e-mail to the EAAS Secretary General, Jenel Virden, at virden@eaas.eu.

EAAS TRAVEL GRANT REPORTS

Irene Bakhur, Minsk State Linguistics University, Minsk, Belarus

Research Project: “The Artistic Peculiarities of Modern Afro-American Historical Novel”

Institution: Warsaw University, Library of the American Studies Center

Thanks to the Intra-European Grant awarded by the European Association for American Studies and personal support of Dr. Tomasz Basiuk I had an opportunity to spend a fruitful month in Poland and conduct my research at the library of the American Studies Center, Warsaw University (July 2007).

I would like to express my gratitude to EAAS, Dr. Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, Dr. Tomasz Basiuk, and all the people involved who contributed to my work in Warsaw. I would also like to thank the personnel of the library who provided me with access to all the library books, journals, and periodicals available. Overall, I managed to study more than two hundred different books, articles, and critical pieces on the topic of my research making the bibliography of my dissertation quite impressive. I have to stress that most of them are not available at the libraries in my country, especially the recent issues of the journals.

The main focus of my interest lay on Slave narratives and such novels as *Roots* by A. Haley, *Beloved* by T. Morrison, *Amistad* by A. D. Pate, *Middle Passage*, and *Oxherding Tale* by Charles Johnson. From the sources I studied, I obtained a lot of useful information about the history of slave narratives and their structural elements. Even the first slave narratives show a certain semblance to the traditional picaresque novel. But this feature in the narratives of the slaves results more from their own experience than from the need to shape the description of their lives for a literary purpose. The slaves who became narrators in that period led a surprisingly autonomous or semi-autonomous life. Like the picaro, they were often adventurous not just in the act of escape but throughout their lives.

One of the most interesting theoretical books that has helped to shape the concept of my dissertation is Henry Louis Gates’s *The Signifying Monkey: A Theory of African-American Literary Criticism*. Gates argues that “Monkey’s language of Signifying functions [serves] as a metaphor for formal version, or intertextuality within African American literary tradition” (Gates xxi). The ideas presented in the book gave me a new understanding of some aspects of African American Fiction. Besides, I managed to read a few novels.

Of special importance for my concept is John Oliver Killens’s novel *The Cotillion, or One Good Bull is Half the Herd*. This novel will allow me to revise the structure of my dissertation by adding one more period to the history of the African American novel in my study – the Black Art Movement.

I have collected various materials concerning the novel *Beloved* by Tony Morrison, which will allow me to discuss at least five different discourse types: the dominant discourse of slavery, the discourse of the good mother, the discourse of masculinity, of black solidarity, and the psychoanalytical pre-Oedipal discourse of object relations.

I am currently processing the materials collected during my work at the library of the American Studies Center, and I am sure to use most of them in my dissertation and articles on the corresponding topics, which I am planning to complete by the end of the academic year.

This was a memorable stay, and I hope that all the students who were awarded the grant have benefited from their stay at other universities as much as I have. I was the first Belarusian to get this honor. There will be more, I am sure.

Emma Barber, Royal Holloway, University of London, England

Research Project: “The Impact of the American Civil War on the Medical Profession”

Institutions: Library of Congress Manuscript Division, National Archives of the United States, National Library of Medicine, Museum of Civil War Medicine

I was extremely honoured and privileged to obtain the travel grant from the EAAS which provided me with the means to undertake an extended research trip to the United States. Like most students of US History who are based outside of the United States, I am indebted to the wonderful research projects such as the “Making of America” project, a digital library of primary sources in American history from the antebellum through reconstruction. However, whilst access to scanned images and facsimiles of primary sources are available to the European student of US History, as any historian will tell you this is nothing compared to the opportunity to actually encounter the sources first hand, to touch them and read them for yourself rather than rely on somebody else to sift through the research for you.

Using the travel grant from EAAS I arranged to spend four weeks in Washington DC where my first port of call was the National Archives of the United States (NARA). Whilst there I was able to access the surviving records of the Confederate Army Medical Department. The majority of Civil War histories which address medical care simply discuss the Union Army, whereas since my thesis looks at the impact of the Civil War as a whole on the medical profession I wanted to be able to gain a complete picture of medical practice during the period. Judging by notations made on the boxes a number of these files had not been accessed in nearly a century, and although intellectually I knew that virtually all the Confederate Army records had been destroyed in the fire at Richmond in 1865, to see the fire damaged files suddenly made the framework of my thesis, namely the Civil War, very real to me.

The archivists at the NARA were also extremely helpful in helping me to locate the individual service records of army surgeons. Through the secondary research I had conducted whilst in England I had come across the names of several surgeons who had played significant roles in the field of postbellum American medicine, and through locating and reading through their wartime service files and correspondence I have been able to locate material which has proved invaluable to the furtherance of my thesis.

The Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress proved itself to be a hidden gem of a resource, containing the private papers of many individuals who worked on the periphery of medicine during the Civil War and who are normally overlooked by studies, hospital stewards and orderlies for example, and the information gathered here is currently being put to good use in a chapter of my thesis on the changing role of medical personnel.

Whilst in Washington I took advantage of my proximity to many of the famous battlefields of the Civil War to visit some of the battle sites. A trip to Gettysburg was especially fruitful, and I am indebted to the extremely knowledgeable guides at the park for pointing me in the direction of further sources I would not have considered otherwise, and for providing me with information I was able to utilise in a conference paper on the link between the Battle of Gettysburg and the formation of American identity which I gave upon my return to England.

Another invaluable resource to me during my stay was that of the National Library of Medicine. This particular library was actually established during the Civil War in order to keep a permanent record of the medical procedures performed and texts written during the war and beyond, and is now the foremost medical library in

the world. The librarians were quick to point me in the direction of original medical journals and tracts, and I was also able to read an original copy of the Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion, a complete record of all army medical cases during the Civil War. I was able to gather information from this source which I put to good use in a conference paper I delivered on my return to the UK, aiming to dispel many of the myths associated with Civil War medicine. Using statistics gathered from this source on the number of surgical operations performed during the war and the number of instances in which anaesthesia was administered, I was able to argue that contrary to popular belief, there were relatively few cases in which operations were performed without anaesthesia, and that amputations were not as common as is usually believed.

Owing to another travel grant I was able to extend my research trip to the United States by another month after my EAAS sponsored stay in Washington. Unfortunately, however, my continued stay was not to prove as fortuitous as that of my initial arrival. Whilst staying with a friend in Michigan and using the State Archive for research, her house was burgled and all computer paraphernalia stolen, including my laptop bag which I had not yet unpacked after my flight. This alas meant that I lost not only my laptop, which had my half completed thesis on it, but also my flash drive which had the only back up copy. Luckily I had packed a portion of my paper notes in my suitcase, which had not been touched by the robbers, but all of my electronic notes on my research trip have been lost forever.

My visit to the United States was useful not only in enabling me to gather and collect data not readily available in the United Kingdom, but also in helping me to gain a perspective on the Civil War and American attitudes towards it which you simply cannot get from a text book or other scholarly work. These perspectives have proved invaluable to my research, and I am indebted to the European Association for American Studies for this opportunity.

Gudrun Löhner, University of East London, School of Social Sciences, Media and Cultural Studies, UK

Research Project: "Fighting epidemics through conduct: the campaigns against Tuberculosis and Polio in US-American public health films from 1938 to 1957"

Institutions: various

I would like to thank Prof. Grabbe and the EAAS again for funding my research trip to the United States from

May to July 2007. The grant proved to be of enormous help to me. During the two months of my stay I was able to finish the archival research of my PhD project.

In the various archives I visited I found a wealth of published and unpublished material on the status of educational, recreational and public health/medical film in general. The moment the United States entered the Second World War movies became of ever-greater importance. Thousands of training films were produced to quickly improve the skills of the draftees, surgeons, nurses and engineers. Films were used to train, educate and entertain as well as for propaganda purposes. Not only in the military but also on the home front movies were seen as an important tool to support the war effort. From a military perspective motion pictures were regarded as one of the two new weapons of the Second World War (General George C. Marshall, 1944).

I found many documents showing the close working relations between different organisations (governmental and voluntary), most interestingly documents of the involvement of Hollywood film studios, directors and producers in the fight against epidemic diseases. The textual material I found will enable me to write about the general discourse and perception of the *égenreí* of educational/public health films from a medical as well as from a military and educational perspective.

The films, posters, postcards, advertising and other visual material I found will help me to contextualise the individual films I am analyzing as case studies and I will be able to write about the visual discourses of health and illness as well as gender and sexuality in the 1940s.

The research grant arrived just in time to enable me to attend a Graduate Student Symposium organized by the Washington Society for the History of Medicine, where I presented my PhD project. My paper was well received and the symposium proved to be not only an interesting event but also an invaluable networking opportunity.

I regard this archival research trip that was made possible by the EAAS travel grant as being very successful and I have now officially entered the write-up stage of my PhD research. Thank you again.

Claudia Schwarz, Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria

Research Project: "The Ethics of Storytelling in American Media and Literature: The Creative Power of a Nation Committed to 'the Truth'"

Institutions: Widener Library at Harvard University;

Hayden and Dewey Libraries at MIT; Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. and others

The aim of my research visit in the United States in the summer / fall of 2006 was to collect up-to-date and first-hand material for my dissertation project. I came back with much more material and many more ideas than I had dared to imagine.

At the beginning I stayed in Cambridge/Boston for two weeks and was able to work in the Widener Library at Harvard University and the Hayden and Dewey Libraries at MIT. Even though I could not be granted research scholar status at MIT because of a \$1,000 fee to be paid by the inviting institution (MIT Communications Forum) that could not be waived, there were no restrictions in access to the MIT libraries and computer facilities on campus that would have affected my research work. Due to the rich holdings at the libraries in Cambridge I had excellent access to the most current publications in the field of my research.

After the participation in a three-day annual meeting of the Emily Dickinson International Society at the University of Maryland, I continued my research for ten days at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., where I was granted reading room privileges. My research at the Library of Congress mainly focused on the early years of journalism in the United States. In the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room I could explore the originals of earliest periodical print media, especially from Boston and Pennsylvania. To work with the original old manuscripts was wonderful. Moreover, experts working at the library supported me with additional ideas, resources, and information.

Since one of my ambitions is to illuminate both theoretical and practical aspects of story ethics in the context of American media studies, I contacted and met one of the U.S. correspondents of the Austrian public broadcasting company (ORF), Christian Lininger. He took the time to show me the offices and studio of the ORF in Georgetown/Washington, D.C., introduced me to the staff, and discussed his present and former work as a foreign correspondent with me. The perspective of someone working with and through American media in a very practical manner is indispensable for the approach to my own research project.

At the US west coast, I was mainly interested in a project run at Sonoma State University. Unfortunately, several requests to do research in their archives and to meet people working for Project Censored were not answered (they finally were – on the day I returned to Austria). Nevertheless, I went there to make use of the library's considerable holdings of material on media criticism. Even on campus I could not establish

contact with people involved in the project. Since the overall working conditions did not quite meet my expectations, I decided to move on to Stanford University, where I was immediately granted access to reading rooms and stacks. At the humanities library I found a perfect place to elaborate and deepen my research and got valuable impulses to explore media ethics from the angle of the very new field of media anthropology. A short stay at the easily accessible and equally well-equipped University of California at Los Angeles rounded off my three-weeks stay in California.

Before heading home I stopped over in New York, where I had hoped to be admitted to the live broadcasting of John Stewart's news parody "The Daily Show." Unfortunately, tickets were not available to the public at that time. However, I was able to visit The New York Times and to follow the media-hype around the 5-year anniversary of 9/11 right in New York.

The two months in the United States were of immeasurable value for my academic progress. I found, accessed, collected, and copied material I would otherwise not even have known to exist. I was able to discuss major aspects of my ideas and findings with the people I met and had the possibility to experience American media culture first-hand.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the EAAS for supporting my academic endeavor.

István K. Vida, Institute of English and American Studies, The University of Debrecen, Hungary

Research Project: "The Participation of Hungarian Political Emigrants in the American Civil War"

Institutions: Texas Christian University, National Archives Southwest Region, Fort Worth, Texas; National Archives and The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

When I was considering applying for the Transatlantic Grant of the European Association for American Studies, what I had in mind was finding the means to travel to the United States and finish collecting the last bits and pieces of information that I had not been able to get hold of when I was overseas for the first time in 2002–2003 as a Fulbright visiting researcher at the University of Maryland, and which seemed indispensable for writing my dissertation.

Without the generous support of EAAS I probably would not have been able to spend a month in America in 2007 and it would have been impossible to track down most of the archival sources and printed material. But this grant enabled me to achieve more than I

had expected: I had the opportunity to discover some new sources through which I will definitely be able to widen the scope of my dissertation.

I am writing my dissertation on the first considerable wave of Hungarian immigrants in the United States of America, most of whom arrived after the defeat of the Hungarian War of Independence in 1848/49. As the largest number of these political refugees set their foot on American soil right before or during the visit of Lajos Kossuth, legendary leader of the Hungarian freedom fighters, this particular wave of immigration to the United States is generally referred to as Kossuth emigration. The Kossuth emigration and the participation of its members in the American Civil War are what I focus on in my doctoral dissertation.

What did I accomplish during my stay in the United States? Actually a lot more than I had ever hoped to. I had the opportunity to investigate one of the most intriguing chapters of my topic. In the Southwest Region of the National Archives in Fort Worth, TX I could finally prove that there were a number of Hungarians who settled down in the later Confederate states, what is more, there were some of them who even joined the Confederate armed forces in the War between the States. Texas was definitely the most important Hungarian community in the antebellum South and thus this was definitely the place for me to go. I made extensive use of the archival sources, I did a thorough research of the books that were not available in the libraries elsewhere, and also, I did a little digging in the genealogical research databases. With the help of all this, I feel that now I have a much clearer conception of the "Southern" Hungarians, and I better understand their motivations for joining the ranks of the Confederate army in a war that, quite frankly, seemed to be none of their business. The sources, however, showed that many of the Hungarians assimilated into the American society, considered it to be their adopted country, even applied for American citizenship and therefore felt that it was their patriotic duty to volunteer. In contrast to earlier assumptions, slavery was not a central issue for most of them, although I even managed to find traces of Hungarian slave-owners in the archival records!

I was lucky enough to be able to travel to Washington, D.C. as well, where I spent a week or so. Despite the usual heat and humidity, I enjoyed my stay very much, and I also had the opportunity to do last-minute research among the military records of the National Archives and also to check some books in the Library of Congress. As the Hungarian participants and their military careers in the United States are intended to be given particular importance in my doctoral dissertation, and I have managed to identify a number

of individuals who appeared to be Hungarians in the muster rolls of the Union and Confederate armies, I definitely needed to check their service records as well as their pension files in order to be able to verify their nationality and re-construct the stages of their military careers. Therefore, I was working long hours in the archives, and I identified a number of Civil War soldiers of Hungarian origin, indeed.

I decided to widen the scope of my work right then and there, as I managed to locate numerous Hungarian immigrants in the Census data. I had been working with Census data before, and in the National Archives I could correct many of the mistakes in my digital database. Moreover, I was able to compile a list of Hungarian passengers arriving onboard ships between 1847 and 1865. All of this finally made it possible to make more accurate estimates concerning the actual number of Hungarians who wound up on the shores of the United States of America in the mid-19th century and who decided to settle down. My research also proved that they typically applied for American citizenship,

which illustrates well that they looked upon the US as their adopted country.

I am indebted to the European Association for American Studies for providing me the means to travel overseas and do research in various archives and libraries. The month I spent in Texas and Washington, D.C. was really challenging academically, and, as I see it, I managed to make the best use of it. Moreover, the Transatlantic Grant enabled me to pay a visit to the country the culture and history of which I teach day by day at my home university. I consider these bits and pieces of first-hand experience invaluable, and, although this time I had to lay much more emphasis on the actual research, I feel that I absorbed as much of the American culture as I could during this relatively short period of time, and I am convinced that as a result I have grown as a scholar, as a teacher and as a person. I am at least as grateful to EAAS for this as for the academic opportunities.

MESEA CONFERENCE REPORT 2008

6th International MESEA Conference: “Migration Matters: Immigration, Homelands, and Border Crossings in Europe and the Americas” *Leiden, June 25-28, 2008*

The 6th international biennial MESEA conference, “Migration Matters,” co-sponsored by Leiden University, the Netherlands Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the United States Embassy in The Hague, was held at Leiden University in the Netherlands from June 25 through June 28, 2008. The conference was attended by more than 250 scholars from thirty-five countries.

Columbia University Professor Saskia Sassen’s opening keynote lecture explored the ways in which the global city facilitates the transformation of citizenship in today’s post-national states, allowing immigrants to reposition themselves as rights-bearing subjects and to successfully conceive ways of entering into the democratic process. In a second plenary lecture, sociologist Han Entzinger (Erasmus University Rotterdam) historicized and discussed the recent shift in integration policies in the Netherlands from a multiculturalist to an assimilationist approach, comparing Dutch policies with developments in other immigration countries in Western Europe. In the closing keynote, African-British visual artist and scholar Lubaina Himid discussed her recent art projects *Naming the Money* (2004) and *Negative Positives* (2007), in which she reclaims the identities of black slaves and servants in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe and deconstructs the media images of blacks in Britain by exposing and critiquing the racial preconceptions that underwrite those images.

In more than sixty panels, scholars from a variety of disciplines addressed aspects of immigration, homelands, and border crossings in Europe and the Americas, elucidating why “Migration Matters.” The multiplicity of angles from which the conference theme was approached is reflected in the panel titles, such as “Expatriation and Spacelessness,” “Human Trafficking,” “Slavery History, Memory,” “Transnational Migration,” “Migration, Gender and Public Policies,” “Multiethnic Immigrations in Film,” “Perilous Border Crossings in Contemporary Film,” “Detention Centers and Other Border Paradoxes,” “Diaspora, Exile, Relocation and Language,” “Transnational and Transcultural Migrations and the Challenge of U.S. Ethnic Studies in the Twenty-First Century.” For example,

the panel “Migrating Narratives, Migrating Subjects: Transnational Re-imaginings of National Histories” explored U.S. ethnic literatures and histories through narratives that reposition the nation within a transnational framework and a pluralized analysis of community histories in order to expose the implications border crossings have on political histories, immigrant subjects, and generic forms. The panelists triangulated U.S.–Europe–Africa and U.S.–Mexico–Asia as well as hemispheric U.S.–Latin American methodologies to reconsider national histories and the impact different types of migration have had on the narration of such histories. In “The Cultural Politics of Race and Nation in the United States and Great Britain: A Comparative Perspective, 1945-Present,” panelists problematized the notion of “cultural politics,” drawing attention to the ways in which such political processes take form on the cultural terrain. The papers explored the two counter-forces of a dialectic that has shaped the political cultures of the United States and Great Britain throughout much of the post-war era: the construction of mainstream discourses around conceptions of race and nation on the one hand, and the formation and mobilization of communities around languages of race, ethnicity, and locality, on the other.

The 2008 MESEA Young Scholar Excellence Awards were given to Maria Boletsi, Leiden University (The Netherlands), for her essay “Migratory Cultural Objects in the Balkans (or, When the Sound of the Other Sounds Strangely Familiar),” and Monika Fodor, University of Pecs (Hungary), for “We Just Are: Narrative Construction of Liminality among Second- and Third-Generation Hungarian-Americans.”

The keynote lectures, the Young Scholars Award essays, and a peer-reviewed selection of papers presented at the conference will be published in one or two conference volumes.

Various social events during the conference offered an opportunity to renew friendships and make academic contacts: a welcome dinner at the foot of the historic fortress in the center of Leiden, a reception in the city hall hosted by the mayor, and the traditional conference banquet. Two highlights were a bus excursion to the Peace Palace in The Hague, seat of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), and an evening of readings by authors Gordon Henry, Aritha Van Herk, Isabel Hoving, and Marie-Hélène Laforest.



EAAS ON THE WEB

The EAAS Web Site provides information about the European Association for American Studies – The Articles, Officers and Board, Constituent Members. Information on American Studies and related fields in Europe can be found under different entries in the navigation menu: upcoming conferences and the activities of member organizations under Conferences and Events and the ASE Newsletter. A new category, EAAS Archive & History has recently been added. This section includes lists of EAAS conferences since 1957 and of the officers since 1954. The link to European Journals is another feature which is hoped to be both valuable and practical for widening the peripheries of intellectual exchange among European Americanists.



The EAAS Mailing List is our free EAAS-L distribution list that disseminates to its subscribers, information pertaining to American Studies in Europe. Thus, it provides a venue for member associations as well as individual subscribers to post and, at the same time, to have access to information that might be useful to Americanists in Europe, such as research news, teaching projects, information about new internet resources, announcements of conferences, grants, fellowships, job opportunities, calls for submissions for Books and Journals and inquiries concerning American Studies in Europe in general. Members are encouraged to subscribe – if they are not already subscribers – to the EAAS Mailing List to follow up with recent academic activities conducted in Europe and thus contribute to maintain a dynamic interaction among the European Americanists. Members who wish to announce new publications are requested to include in their posting: Full bibliographical information (author/editor, title, place, publisher, and year of publication), ISBN number, retail price (and possibly discounts for EAAS members) and a 100-word abstract.

EAAS-L is moderated by Jaap Verheul, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

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THE AMERICAN STUDIES NETWORK

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The American Studies Network (ASN) is a group of European centers involved in American Studies. The idea of a network of centers arose during the European Association for American Studies (EAAS) meeting in London in April, 1990. The ASN was founded in November, 1990 in Berlin at a meeting of interested directors of American Studies centers. The initial group of eight members has expanded to include almost 20 members from all over Europe.

All members take an interdisciplinary approach to American Studies; are independent organizations with some of their own sources of funding, not exclusively linked to a university; have some research facilities; and are committed to a role of public service to the community at large. ASN works in close association with the EAAS. Its goals are those of promoting the study of the United States by close cooperation of the different institutions interested in this area of study. The ASN exists to provide mutual support for all the centers involved, help channel the flow of information on resources among the members and the community, establish joint projects that will increase cooperation and productivity and thus integrate the European studies of America. The ASN is willing to act as an advisory group to encourage the development of American Studies, particularly in Eastern and Central Europe.

One of the key activities of the ASN is the networking of resources and information such as the availability of visiting scholars for lecturing at the different institutions. Through different means of communication, the

ASN hopes to make available to members the library resources of each center and establish an interlibrary loan facility. Another goal is that of promoting the exchange of scholars and students of the different centers. One of the specific ASN projects is the establishment of the American Studies Network Book Prize, a prize of €1,000 for a remarkable book published in English by a European scholar on any aspect of American Studies. The jury for that biennial prize, presented at the EAAS conferences, is comprised of representatives from the EAAS and the ASN. The deadline for submitting books for this prize is announced in the EAAS newsletter in the year preceding the EAAS conference.

The Directors of the ASN member centers meet every year to discuss the joint projects and accept new members. The presidency of the ASN rotates among the current directors. In order to become a member, an institution should write and apply to the current president. The prospective institution should include a dossier with information on itself. Any institution that wishes to become a member should comply with the following four criteria:

1. Be an independent organization with some kind of external funding, although it may be linked to another institution such as a university or library.
2. Be of an interdisciplinary nature.
3. Have research facilities and carry out research.
4. Be of public service to the community by, for example, providing a public library or research archive.

THE AMERICAN- STUDIES NETWORK MEMBERS

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<http://www.salzburgseminar.org>

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<http://www.sdu.dk/Hum/amstud/>

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<http://www.sigu7.jussieu.fr/recherche/pagelabos.php?num=101D>

Germany

John F. Kennedy Institute (Berlin)
<http://www.jfki.fu-berlin.de/>

Heidelberg Center for American Studies (Heidelberg)
<http://www.hca.uni-hd.de/en/>

Center for United States Studies (Halle-Wittenberg)
http://www.zusas.uni-halle.de/en_index.html

Center for North American Studies (Frankfurt am Main)
<http://web.uni-frankfurt.de/zenaf/>

Great Britain

The David Bruce Centre for American Studies (Keele)
<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/as/Dbruce/bruce.htm>

Eccles Center for American Studies (London)
<http://www.bl.uk/ecclescentre>

Arthur Miller Center for American Studies (Norwich)
<http://www.uea.ac.uk/eas/centres/miller/miller.intro.shtml>

Rothermere American Institute (Oxford)
<http://www.rai.ox.ac.uk/index.html>

Italy

Centro di Studi Americani ed Euro-Americani "Piero Bairati" (Turin)
<http://incipit.sisbib.unito.it/~simone/bairati/e-index.htm>

Centro Studi Americani (Rome)
<http://www.centrostudiamericani.org>

Centro Studi Euro-Atlantici (Genoa)
http://www.dismec.unige.it/laboratori_centri/CSEA

Netherlands

Roosevelt Study Center (Middelburg)
<http://www.roosevelt.nl>

Poland

American Studies Center (Warsaw)
<http://www.asc.uw.edu.pl/>

Spain

Institute for North American Studies (Alcalá)
<http://www.iuien-uah.net/>

Sweden

The Swedish Institute for North American Studies (Uppsala)
<http://www.engelska.uu.se/sinas.html>

Other useful links:

Institute for the Study of the Americas (London)
<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/>

Rothermere American Institute (Oxford)
<http://www.rai.ox.ac.uk/institute/index.html>

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RAAS • Romanian Association for American Studies
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CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS: NEWS

News from BAAS

The major forthcoming BAAS event in autumn 2008 is the Association's Annual Postgraduate conference, "America and The West." The keynote speaker will be Professor Judith Newman (Nottingham University). The conference takes place at the University of Exeter, on November 15th 2008. For more details contact baas@exeter.ac.uk

The top American Studies event in Britain during the coming academic year will undoubtedly be the BAAS annual conference, to be hosted at the University of Nottingham from 16th to 19th April 2009. This will be the 54th annual meeting of BAAS and will, as always, be a multi- and inter-disciplinary feast of American Studies panels, and will include a series of plenaries by major guest speakers. For further details check the BAAS website, or contact the conference organiser Celeste-Marie Bernier at baas2009@nottingham.ac.uk.

The Eccles Centre for American Studies at the British Library in London continues to provide a vibrant programme. Forthcoming autumn events include appearances by Tommie Smith, as part of Black History month, a trans-Atlantic panel of journalists celebrating the centenary of Alistair Cooke's birth, Martin Halliwell, on US writers in Paris, Sir Robert Worcester plus US party political representatives debating the ap-

proaching presidential election, Professor Matthew Jones demonstrating some of the British Library's specialist US foreign policy resources, Congressman Jay Rhodes and George Hochbrueckner in conversation with students. In the spring Timothy Garton Ash and Larry Sabato will be on the programme. Check the Centre's website at <http://www.bl.uk/ecclescentre>.

London University's Institute for the Study of the Americas also presents a programme of events in London, listed on their site at <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/>.

The famous 1951 scroll manuscript of Jack Kerouac's *On The Road* will be exhibited at the University of Birmingham from 3 December to 27 January. Events linked to the exhibition include a two conference on 12th-13th December, an evening film event on 12th December, and a British Beat poetry reading on the evening of 21 January 2009. Further details can be found at <http://www.kerouac.bham.ac.uk/index.htm>.

The American Politics Group of the UK will be mounting a one-day colloquium at the US Embassy in London on November 14th, and its next annual conference will take place at St. Anne's College, Oxford University 8th-10th January 2009. For details see <http://web.mac.com/americanpoliticsweb/Site/Welcome.html>.

TERRA FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Terra Foundation for American Art Fellowships at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C.

Terra Fellowships at the Smithsonian American Art Museum seek to foster a cross-cultural dialogue about the history of art of the United States. They support work by scholars from abroad who are researching American art or by U.S. scholars, especially those who are investigating international contexts for American art. The fellowships are residential and support full-time independent and dissertation research.

The collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum spans the nation's artistic heritage, representing outstanding visual accomplishments from the seventeenth century to the present day. Comprising more than 40,000 objects, this unparalleled collection includes special strengths in nineteenth-century landscape painting, American impressionism, twentieth-century realism, New Deal works, photography and graphic art, folk art, Latino art, and African American art.

Each scholar is provided a carrel in the Fellowship Office located across the street from the Museum. Available research resources there include a 180,000-volume library that specializes in American art, history, and biography; the Archives of American Art; the National Portrait Gallery; and the graphics collections of SAAM and NPG; as well as a variety of image collections and research databases. Conveniently located in downtown Washington, D.C., the Museum and Fellowship Office are a short walk from other Smithsonian museums and

libraries, the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the National Gallery of Art. During their stay at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, scholars will be part of one of the nation's oldest and most distinguished fellowship programs in American art, and will have the opportunity to attend a wide variety of lectures, symposiums, and professional workshops. Short research trips are also possible.

Support

The stipend for a one-year predoctoral fellowship is \$27,000, plus research and travel allowances. The stipend for a one-year postdoctoral or senior fellowship is \$42,000, plus research and travel allowances. Postdoctoral and senior fellows are eligible for a substantial stipend supplement to assist with relocation, research, and housing costs. The standard term of residency for fellowships is twelve months, but shorter terms will be considered; stipends are prorated for periods of less than twelve months.

All applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their research proposals with potential Smithsonian advisors before submitting applications.

For research consultation, contact:

Dr. Virginia Mecklenburg at +1 202 633 8381 or mecklenburgv@si.edu; or Dr. Cynthia Mills at +1 202 633 8354 or millsc@si.edu.

Applications are due **January 15, 2009**

For applications and general information, visit AmericanArt.si.edu/fellowships or email SAAMFellowships@si.edu.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Calls for conference papers are published regularly on the EAAS website: <http://www.eaas.eu/events.htm>

June 26–28, 2009

NAHA–Norway 2009: Cultural Inventions, Transplantations and Transnationalisms in Norwegian America

The Norwegian Emigrant Museum, Ottestad, Norway

The tenth seminar of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, Norway Chapter, entitled Cultural Inventions, Transplantations and Transnationalisms in Norwegian America will be held on June 26–28, 2009, at The Norwegian Emigrant Museum, Ottestad near Hamar, Norway. As its theme title suggests, the seminar organizers welcome a wide range of paper topics within Norwegian-American studies. The seminar both emphasizes the study of the entire migration process and different approaches to the adaptation process among Norwegian immigrants and their descendants in America. We are particularly interested in papers on subjects related to migration across national frontiers and different aspects of Norwegian-American history, culture, and ethnicity in a multicultural context.

NAHA–Norway encourages seminar contributions based on many academic traditions. Topics related to literary, linguistic, and religious studies, to history, social science, fine and folk arts, and cultural studies – as well as multi- and interdisciplinary approaches – are appropriate. NAHA–Norway also emphasizes the need to see Norwegian-American Studies in the context of international migration and ethnic studies in general. Presentations may be delivered in English or Norwegian and, except for invited lecturers, should not exceed twenty minutes.

Prospective speakers are invited to submit a half-page proposal and a one-page CV to NAHA–Norway Chairperson Knut Djupedal, The Norwegian Emigrant Museum, 2312 Ottestad, Norway (knut.djupedal@emigrantmuseum.no) by **November 1, 2008**. For further information please contact Knut Djupedal (knut.djupedal@emigrantmuseum.no), Deputy Chair Terje Hasle Joranger (tinhjora@online.no), or Recording Secretary David C. Mauk (d.c.mauk@ilos.uio.no).

Those who wish to attend the seminar without giving a paper should also notify NAHA–Norway or The

Norwegian Emigrant Museum at the above address to receive information (program, accommodations, registration).

April 3–4, 2009

The First International Conference of The European Society of Jamesian Studies: Henry James's Europe: Cultural (Re)appropriations and Textual Relations

The American University of Paris, Paris, France

“To have no national stamp has hitherto been a defect and a drawback,” Henry James wrote to his friend T.S. Perry in 1867. Yet he also considered that being an American was “an excellent preparation for culture,” insofar as Americans could deal, more freely than Europeans, “with forms of civilization not their own,” could “pick and choose and assimilate,” and in short “aesthetically claim” their property wherever they found it.

The first conference organized by “The European Society of Jamesian Studies” will examine the various manners in which James achieved this aesthetic (re)appropriation – “the vast intellectual fusion and synthesis” he was dreaming of as a young writer. Conversely, what are the multiple ways in which he can be considered as part of a European heritage, interconnecting the culturally distinct European identities, (re)interpreting Europe, so to speak, “in the second degree,” both ethically and aesthetically?

We mean to reevaluate the ethical quality of the whole process, situated as it was at the meeting-point between historical and inner culture. For young Henry James, the American artist abroad possessed the unprecedented advantage of his “national cachet,” “a moral consciousness,” an “unprecedented lightness and vigour,” which generated an active relation with the old continent – compared to the seemingly passive relation of the European to his own history and heritage. How did this energetic conception of art as an active cultural force evolve, from the early interpretation of the international theme, the staging of American identity as innocence beguiled, to the arcane poetics of redemption

specific to the major phase? If art was indeed “making life,” creating values, as James himself later reasserted in his famous reply to H.G. Wells, didn’t those values prove to be at times, as again James enigmatically put it in his NYE preface to “The Turn of the Screw,” “positively all blanks”?

The process of aesthetic (re)appropriation is what we more specifically refer to by borrowing Genette’s conception of transtextuality as “all that puts one text in relation, whether manifest or secret, with other texts” (Palimpsests). The survey will draw on the whole of HJ’s lifetime – the genesis of his works of fiction, the question of literary influences, and his reinterpretations and reevaluations of European literary traditions (through his fiction and critical essays). As transtextual relations “stop nowhere,” we also mean to highlight HJ’s symbolic “life after death,” from a receptionist and transdisciplinary perspective – so as to include the multiple and multiform reverberations of his own work in modern and contemporary European fiction, literary theory, theatrical or film adaptations.

Annick Duperray, Université de Provence:

annick.duperray@free.fr

Adrian Harding, Université de Provence & American University of Paris: aharding@aup.fr

Dennis Tredy, Université de Paris 3 (Sorbonne Nouvelle): dennis.tredy@wanadoo.fr

Please send proposals (300 words maximum) to Annick.duperray@free.fr & aharding@aup.fr

Deadline **15 November 2008**.

The American University of Paris
31 avenue Bosquet
75007 Paris

Spring 2009 Issue Literary Journalism Studies

Literary Journalism Studies, a new peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the International Association for Literary Journalism Studies (www.ialjs.com), invites submissions of scholarly articles on literary journalism, narrative journalism, literary reportage, reportage

literature, “new journalism” and the nonfiction novel, as well as literary nonfiction and creative nonfiction that emphasize cultural revelation. The journal is international in scope and seeks submissions on the theory, history and pedagogy of literary journalism throughout the world. All disciplines are welcome.

E-mail submissions as an MS Word attachments. Submissions should be between 4,000 and 8,000 words, including notes. A cover page indicating title of paper, author’s name and institutional affiliation, and contact information must accompany submissions. The author’s name should not appear on a 250-word abstract or on the paper. Submissions will be blind reviewed. All submissions must be in English and follow the Chicago Manual of Style (Humanities). Please e-mail all submissions or queries to the editor at hartssockj@kortland.edu.

John C. Hartssock, Ph.D.

Editor, *Literary Journalism Studies*,
SUNY Cortland

Inaugural Note: Submissions will be accepted continuously. For the inaugural Spring 2009 issue, submissions are due by **30 September 2008**. Contributors will receive one copy of the journal. Copyright reverts to the contributor after publication with the provision that if republished *Literary Journalism Studies* is cited as the original publication.

Book Reviews: The journal includes a book review section and invites short reviews of 1,000–2,000 words on the scholarship of literary journalism and recent original works of literary journalism that deserve greater recognition. Book reviews are selected by the book review editors based on merit. Reviewers may propose book reviews or write the book review editors for suggestions. Usually reviewers will be responsible for obtaining their respective books. Book reviews and/or related queries should be e-mailed to Tom Connery at tbconnery@stthomas.edu or Susie Eisenhuth at susie.eisenhuth@uts.edu.au.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

News of upcoming conferences are published regularly on the EAAS website: <http://www.eaas.eu/events.htm>

December 9, 2008

**International Conference on Intercultural Studies
ISCAP**

Centre for Intercultural Studies of the Polytechnic Institute, Oporto, Portugal

The Centre for Intercultural Studies (www.iscap.ipp.pt/~cei/) of the Polytechnic Institute of Oporto's School of Accounting and Administration (ISCA-IPP) organizes and hosts an International Conference on Intercultural Studies, on 9 December 2008.

CEI invites all national and international researchers who develop an active interest for the vast field of Intercultural Studies.

Paper proposals should cover, but not be restricted to, one of the following broad subject areas:

Representations of Cultures
Journeys through Cultures
Translation and Interpreting
Compared Contemporary Legal Systems
Tourism and Intercultural Studies
Gender and Intercultural Studies
Learning / Teaching Languages and Cultures
Intra-Cultural Studies
The Portuguese Language in the World: New Approaches
Information Systems and Intercultural Studies
Economic and Cultural Globalization
Intercultural Studies in History / History and Intercultural Studies

Papers that are accepted and actually read at the Conference will be selected and considered for national and international publication.

Further details at the Conference's website: <http://www.iscap.ipp.pt/~cei/congresso.htm>.

Clara Sarmiento (cei@iscap.ipp.pt)

May 15–16, 2009

**International Seminar: Stories of Nationhood in
Plural Societies**

University of Aarhus, Denmark

The purposes of the seminar are, against the background of North American historical experiences, to examine and discuss the significance of immigration for historical and contemporary conceptions of nationhood / peoplehood and the role of social memory and narrativity for social incorporation, public culture, the identity of collectivities and academic historiography.

The seminar will take place over two full days and consist of papers given by invited speakers followed by a series workshops and master classes on the major themes of the seminar.

Confirmed speakers:

Professor Francis Fukuyama (Johns Hopkins University/University of Aarhus), Professor Rogers Brubaker (UC Los Angeles), Professor Desmond King (Oxford University), Professor Rogers M. Smith (University of Pennsylvania), Professor David Hollinger (UC Berkeley), Professor Eric Rauchway (UC Davis), Assistant Professor Tomás R. Jimenez (UC San Diego), Professor Arlene Dávila (New York University), Associate Professor Bernard Eric Jensen (University of Aarhus), Professor Richard Jenkins (University of Sheffield/University of Aarhus), Professor Adrian Favell (University of Aarhus), Associate Professor Mark Haugaard (NUI Galway), Professor Andrew Cohen (Carleton University, Ottawa), Prof. Emer. Jack Granatstein, Ottawa.

Access limited to 90. For further information and preliminary application/registration, contact Associate Professor of History Michael Böss, University of Aarhus at engmb@hum.au.dk.

Deadline for registration is March 1, 2009.

EAAS Book Reviews

Please note that reviews are now part of our electronic journal, *EJAS*, the *European Journal of American Studies* (<http://ejas.revues.org/index.html>). For more information, see http://www.eaas.eu/reviews_guidelines.htm or contact Theodora Tsimpouki:

Theodora Tsimpouki
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Editorial Notes

Deadlines:

- February 1, 2009 Deadline for the submission of updated member lists and Board members of National Associations with e-mail addresses to the Secretary General of EAAS. Please note, however, that new Board members should be reported right after their election since the website is updated continuously and the officers must know who is representing whom.
- March 1, 2009 Deadline for submission of relevant information for the Spring 2009 *ASE Newsletter* to the Editor-in-chief. Make sure to add “ASE-EAAS” (without quotes) to the subject line of your e-mail(s).

Martin Heusser
Editor-in-chief

Simone Heller-Andrist
Assistant Editor