

CALL FOR PAPERS

DIVERSIFICATION AND ITS DISCONTENTS: DYNAMICS OF THE DISCIPLINE

9th Brno International Conference of English, American and Canadian Studies

Organized and hosted by:
Czech Association for the Study of English (CZASE)
Department of English and American Studies, Masaryk University, Brno

Brno, Czech Republic
4 - 6 February 2010

Keynote Speakers: **Andreas H. Jucker (Universität Zürich)**
Nigel Leask (University of Glasgow)
Martin Hilský (Charles University, Prague)

The tradition of English, American and Canadian studies conferences in Brno stretches back to the mid-1980s. While the earlier conferences were mostly attended by Czech and Slovak scholars, more recent conferences have become increasingly international. The goal of the Ninth Brno Conference is to further establish itself as an international, interdisciplinary conference that attracts scholars from throughout Europe and further afield. The proposed conference topic is designed to give scholars from a range of areas (including linguistics, literary and cultural studies, translation studies and ELT methodology) a common platform from which to address issues specific to their discipline.

For several decades, diversification has been one of the major processes transforming English Studies worldwide. Apart from engendering new disciplines (e.g., pragmatics, corpus linguistics, studies of regional literatures and cultures, gender, queer and postcolonial studies) it has stimulated numerous interdisciplinary approaches and led to the revision of methodologies and canons. Moreover, the development of new media has not only influenced our notions of language, text and communication but also the status and understanding of body, identity and power. The conference will attempt to address problems connected with these transformations and to capture the dynamics of the discipline. Can we still speak of the unity of English Studies? What are the effects of the most important changes, such as the divergences between linguistics, literary and cultural studies? How do new disciplines such as the Transatlantic Post-nationalist or New Media Studies

rewrite the fields of English and American literature? How does the “devolution” or “hybridization” of the major literatures change our notions of cultural identity? What impact do these processes have on canons and curricula? What is the future of English Studies?

These and similar questions may be addressed in:

- keynote lectures
- panels
- seminars
- posters

All scholars working in the fields of English, American or Canadian studies are invited to submit proposals.

Conference **panels** of 3-6 speakers may be proposed by one or two academics (chair, co-chairs), who are expected to present papers. The proposal (500 words maximum) should contain the topic of the panel and a general description of it, the names of the chair (co-chairs) and other speakers, the titles and short abstracts of individual presentations, and the university affiliations and short CVs (bio-notes) of all panel members.

Conference **seminars** of 5-10 members may be proposed by one or two academics (chair, co-chairs). The proposal (300 words maximum) should contain the topic of the seminar, a description, and a brief CV of the author of the proposal. The chairs of the accepted seminars will select their participants from amongst those who answer the second call for papers (see below), and submit the final proposal containing the abstracts of all contributions to the conference organizers. In contrast to panels, seminars should be concentrated on discussion (papers may be circulated in advance). They should be open to all, including junior academics, Ph.D. students, and even gifted Master’s-level students.

Conference **posters** can be proposed by any participant. The proposal must contain the title and the description of the poster and the bio-note of the author.

The deadline for submitting proposals for conference panels and conference seminar topics is 30 June 2009. These proposals should be submitted to the conference organizers. All proposals and supporting materials, as well as questions, should be sent via email to: 9bc.eacs@phil.muni.cz

The second call for papers for the established conference panels and the offer of seminars will be made public no later than 31 August 2009. Conference registration will begin on 15 November 2009 and close on 15 January 2010.

The Organizing Committee hopes to see you in Brno.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee:

Martin Procházka, President, CZASE

Jeffrey A. Vanderziel, Head, Department of English and American Studies