

Report of the Co-Ordinating Committee (CHLEL)

For the period: Summer 2015-Summer 2016

**Presented at ICLA, Vienna, July 20, 2016 by Karen-Margrethe Simonsen
Co-written by former Vice-President Theo D'Haen and President Karen-Margrethe Simonsen**

REGARDING CHANGE OF COMMITTEE

OLD MEMBERS:

As of the Paris 2014 ICLA General Assembly the composition of the Co-ordinating Committee responsible for CHLEL was as follows:

OFFICERS

President: Professor **Marcel Cornis-Pope**, English Department, Virginia Commonwealth University, USA, mcornis@vcu.edu

Vice-President: Professor **Theo D'haen**, English & Comparative Literature, Leuven University, Belgium, theo.dhaen@skynet.be; theo.dhaen@arts.kuleuven.ac.be

Secretary: Professor **César Domínguez**, Dept. of Spanish Literature, Theory of Literature and Language, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain, cesar.dominguez@usc.es

Treasurer: Professor **Vivian Liska**, Dept. of Literature and Philosophy, University of Antwerp, Belgium, vivian.liska@uantwerpen.be

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kjersti Bale, Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages, Oslo University, Norway, kjersti.bale@ilos.uio.no

Robert Dixon, Professor of Australian Literature, University of Sydney, Australia, robert.dixon@sydney.edu.au

Dirk Götsche, Professor of German Studies, University of Nottingham, UK, Dirk.Goettsche@nottingham.ac.uk

Patrizia Lombardo, Professor of Modern French, Université de Genève, Switzerland, patrizia.lombardo@unige.ch

Thomas Nolden, Director of Department of Comparative Literature, Wellesley College, Mass., USA, tnolden@wellesley.edu

Thomas Pavel, Gordon J. Laing Distinguished Service Professor, Romance Languages and Literature, and Comparative Literature, University of Chicago, USA, tpavel@uchicago.edu

Karen-Margrethe Simonsen, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Director of Humanistic Studies of Human Rights, Aarhus University, Denmark, litkms@hum.au.dk

Franca Sinopoli, Professor in the Dipartimento di Italianistica e Spettacolo, "La Sapienza" Università di Roma, Italy, franca.sinopoli@uniroma1.it

Steven Sondrup, Professor of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA, steven.sondrup@gmail.com; steven_sondrup@byu.edu

Francesco Stella, Professor of Medieval Latin Literature, Università di Arezzo, Italy, centrostudicomparati@libero.it

Anja Tippner, Professor of Slavic Studies, Universität Hamburg, Germany, anja.tippner@uni-hamburg.de

Robert K. Weninger, Professor of German, King's College London, Great Britain, robert.weninger@kcl.ac.uk

NEW MEMBERS (as of March 2016)

Owing to illness, the President, Marcel Cornis-Pope, resigned over the summer of 2015. The Vice-President, Theo D'haen, stood in as Acting President until a new President should be appointed. After consultation with the ICLA President Hans Bertens and the Executive Board of ICLA it was decided to use this opportunity to bring forward the elections of the composition of the Co-Ordinating Committee for the period 2016-2019, effective as of 1 March 2016. Svend-Erik Larsen, a former Secretary to the Committee, accepted the task of organizing these elections. As a result the new Committee in place as of 1 March 2016 now looks as follows:

OFFICERS

President: Ass. Professor **Karen-Margrethe Lindskov Simonsen**, Aarhus University, litkms@dac.au.dk

Vice-President: Professor **Mark Bennion Sandberg**, Department of Scandinavian and Department of Film and Media, University of California, Berkeley, sandberg@berkeley.edu

Secretary: Ass. Professor **César Domínguez**, Comparative Literature, Jean Monnet Chair, University of Santiago de Compostela, cesar.dominguez@usc.es

Treasurer: Professor **Vivian Liska**, Department of Literature, Director of the Institute of Jewish Studies, University of Antwerp, Belgium, vivian.liska@uantwerpen.be

COMMITTEE MEMBERS (as of March 2016)

Prof. **Helena Buescu**, Full Prof. of Comparative Literature, University of Lisbon, Departamento de Literaturas Românicas, hbuescu@fl.ul.pt

Prof. **Massimo Fusillo**, Literary Criticism and Comparative Literature, Università de l'Aquila, massimo.fusillo@gmail.com

Prof. Dr **Dirk Götttsche**, Professor of German, Nottingham University, dirk.goettsche@nottingham.ac.uk

Prof. **Margaret-Anne Hutton**, Prof. of French and Comparative Literature / Director of the Institute for Contemporary and Comparative Literature, University of St Andrews, mh80@st-andrews.ac.uk

Prof. **Patrizia Lombardo**, French, Comparative Literature and Film Studies & Affective Sciences, University of Geneva, Patrizia.Lombardo@unige.ch

Prof. **Helga Mitterbauer**, Chaire de Littérature allemande, Département de Langues et Lettres, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be

Prof. Dr. **Birgit Neumann**, Chair of Anglophone Literatures and Literary Translation, University of Düsseldorf, Birgit.Neumann@uni-duesseldorf.de

Prof. **Thomas Pavel**, Gordon J. Laing Distinguished Service Professor, University of Chicago, tgpavel@yahoo.com

Prof. **Galin Tihanov**, Comparative Literature, Queen Mary University of London, g.tihanov@qmul.ac.uk

Prof. **Anja Tippner**, Institut für Slawistik, Universität Hamburg, anja.tippner@uni-hamburg.de

Prof. Dr. **Dirk Van Hulle**, English Studies / Head of Department, University of Antwerp, dirk.van hulle@uantwerpen.be

Prof. Emer. **Robert Weninger**, German and Comparative Literature, King's College London, Robert.weninger@kcl.ac.uk

PROJECT DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATED EDITORS

European Literature/s, Vivian Liska, Dept. of Literature and Philosophy, University of Antwerp, Belgium, vivian.liska@uantwerpen.be; Thomas Nolden, Comparative Literature, Wellesley College, USA, tnolden@wellesley.edu

Iberia (*A Comparative History of Literatures in the Iberian Peninsula*), César Domínguez, Literary Theory and Comparative Literature, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain, cesar.dominguez@usc.es; Anxo Abuín González, Dept. of Spanish and Theory of Literature, University of Santiago de Compostela, anxo.abuin@usc.es; and Ellen Sapega, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin/Madison, USA, ewsapega@wisc.edu

Medieval Literatures (*Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times inside and outside Europe. A millennium history*), Francesco Stella, Università degli Studi di Siena, Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica delle letterature antiche e moderne, Via Roma 56, 53100 Siena - Italy, Tel. 0577 234855 (int. 4855), Fax 0577 234839

Migrant Literatures (*Migration and Literature in Europe in the second half of the Twentieth Century*), Fridrun Rinner, Comparative Literature, Université de Provence, Aix-Marseille I, France, rinner@up.univ-aix.fr; Franca Sinopoli, Dipartimento di Italianistica e Spettacolo, "La Sapienza" University of Rome, Italy, franca.sinopoli@uniroma1.it

Nordic Literatures, Steven Sondrup, Dept. of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University, USA, sondrup@byu.edu, steven.sondrup@gmail.com; Mark Sandberg, Film Studies, University of California, Berkeley, USA, sandberg@berkeley.edu

Orality Project, David F. Chamberlain, Dept. of Spanish and Italian, Queen's University, Canada, chamberl@queensu.ca; J. Edward Chamberlin, New College, University of Toronto, Canada, ted.speakeasy@utoronto.ca

Renaissance II: La nouvelle culture: 1480-1520, Eva Kushner, Center for Comparative Literature, University of Toronto, Canada, eva.kushner@utoronto.ca

Transatlantic Literatures, Jean-Marc Moura, Université Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Défense, France, jean-marc.moura@u-paris10.fr

Landscapes of Realism, Dirk Götsche, University of Nottingham, dirk.goettsche@nottingham.ac.uk

Comparative Literary Histories of Slavery, Karen-Margrethe Simonsen, Comparative Literature, Aarhus University, Denmark, (litkms@cc.au.dk), Mads Anders Baggesgaard, Comparative Literature, Aarhus University, Denmark (litmab@cc.au.dk), Madeleine Dobie, French Literature, Columbia University, New York

STATUS OF PROJECTS

Published volumes:

Of the projects under way at the Paris ICLA General Assembly, the following have been completed and published:

XXVII. *New Literary Hybrids in the Age of Multimedia Expression: Crossing Borders: Crossing Genres*. Ed. Marcel Cornis-Pope. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2014. 456 pp. Vol. XXVII of the Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages (CHLEL) sponsored by the International Comparative Literature Association. ISBN 978 90 272 3463 6.

Or Words to That Effect. Orality and the Writing of Literary History. Ed. Daniel Chamberlain (chamberl@queensu.ca) and J. Edward Chamberlin (ted.speakeasy@utoronto.ca), John Benjamins Publishing Company, Sponsored by ICLA; ISBN: 978 90 272 3464 3

In Final Stages

The following are in the final stages of completion and expected to be published in 2016 or 2017:

Iberia: A Comparative History of Literatures in the Iberian Peninsula, Vol II

Directors: César Domínguez Prieto (project director, cesar.dominguez@usc.es), Anxo Abuín González (anxo.abuin@usc.es), and Ellen Sapega (ewsapega@wisc.edu). This volume completes this literary history. The manuscript is being copy-edited.

Renaissance II: La nouvelle culture: 1480-1520

Directors: Eva Kushner (eva.kushner@utoronto.ca). This volume completes this literary history. The volume has been sent to internal and external peer reviewers.

Nordic Literatures: A Comparative History of Nordic Literary Cultures

Directors: Steven P. Sondrup (steven.sondrup@gmail.com, sondrup@comcast.net, or sondrup@byu.edu) and Mark Sandberg (sandberg@berkeley.edu).

Vol I: Spatial Nodes has now been completed and has been sent to or will be sent to peer reviewers within the next few weeks. (The other two volumes are in process: *Vol. II: Temporal Nodes* has progressed moderately through the year. All articles are there but have to be revised. *Vol. III: Figural Nodes*, almost all articles have been through first editing process.)

In Process

The other projects listed on the University of Antwerp website for CHLEL (and above) are making steady progress but it is too early to forecast a definitive date of publication.

Grants

The General Assembly of the UAI (Union académique internationale) decided on May 28th, 2015 to award a grant of 1.500 euros for the year 2016 and a grant of 1.500 euros for the year 2017 to the Committee of the project 66 - *Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages* to aid in the publication of the next volumes in the series.

The Project “Landscapes of Realism: Rethinking Literary Realism(s) in Global Comparative Perspective”. Director, Professor Dirk Götsche obtained a substantial grant from UK’s Leverhulme Trust: £124,942 for network activities during the funding period which is strictly restricted to the period January 1, 2016–December 31, 2018, and that funds cannot be spent after the end date.

Application for support for 3 projects

Two projects are in the process of translation. I kindly ask the support of 2.000 EUR for each of these two projects, namely the project on **Migrant Literatures** (*Migration and Literature in Europe in the second half of the Twentieth Century*), Ed. Fridrun Rinner, Comparative

Literature, Université de Provence, Aix-Marseille and **Transatlantic Literatures**, Ed. Jean-Marc Moura, Université Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Défense, France,

Also the volume on Nordic Volumes asks for support for photo permission, also 2.000 Euro. **Nordic Literatures**, Ed. Steven Sondrup, Dept. of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University, USA and Mark Sandberg, University of California, Berkeley, USA,

Special application to ICLA for 50th Anniversary of CHLEL, 2017

In 2017, CHLEL can celebrate its 50th Anniversary since it was launched by the ICLA in 1967. As it is described on the internet: It was and is based on two fundamental premises. First of all, the writing of literary histories confined to specific nations, peoples, or languages must be complemented by the writing of literary history that coordinates related or comparable phenomena from an international point of view. Secondly, it is almost impossible for individual scholars to write such comprehensive histories, which implies we must now rely on structured teamwork drawing collaborators from different nations.

Since then CHLEL has published different series of volumes: historical volumes (both on periods (like the Renaissance, and Modernity) and on periods of stylistic expression (like romanticism, modernism etc.), geographical volumes (untraditional areas like the Central East Europe, Iberian Peninsula, and Caribbean), and topographical volumes (on orality, hybrid media).

After 50 years the series is still strong but we also think it needs further development. We would therefore like to arrange a two day seminar that will take place in the spring of 2017. It will be a festive event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary and an event for rethinking the series. The idea is to invite one of the founding ‘parents’ of the series, either Linda Hutcheon or Mario Valdés, some members of former committees of CHLEL and all current members + selected guests to participate in a seminar that will consist of a number of lectures on the status of literary history today and open panels for dialogue on this issue. These lectures will discuss the genre of literary history in relation to a number of recent developments in literary theory and literary culture (the Anthropocene, the Big Data, internet media, new presentisms, aesthetic and politics, cosmopolitanism, developments of world literature on the world market etc.). The aim of the seminar is therefore both to look back and forward. After the seminar, a small publication will come out. I have had a very brief contact with John Benjamins who seems interested in supporting such a publication. Details about this are still to be settled. We think that this will be a huge branding opportunity and a way of drawing attention to the series.

The seminar will take place in connection with next year’s meeting within the CHLEL in May or June 2017 at University of St. Andrews. The costs of the seminar will be approximately:

Honorarium for Linda Hutcheon (or Mario Valdés):	1.000 Euro
2 guest speakers, Honorarium 2 x 1.000 EUR	2.000 Euro
Hotel for 3 persons x 2 nights à 120 EUR	720 Euro
3 flights: 3 x 1300	3.900 Euro
2 Evening Meals for 25 people à 80 Euro=	4.000 Euro
Lunches and coffees for 25 people à 60 =	1.500 Euro
Total	13.120 EURO

We hope that the ICLA agrees that such an event is important for the visibility of and academic interest for the series and for ICLA and that you are able to support the event.

Meeting in CHLEL for the new committee on July 25 in Vienna.

Report of CHLEL respectfully submitted by Theo D'Haen and Karen-Margrethe Simonsen