

15 June 2006

Executive Committee Members

Please find herein the Report of the Coordinating Committee. I have asked one of our members, Professor Margaret Higonnet, to represent the Coordinating Committee at the meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Coordinating Committee for *Histoire Comparée des Littératures en Langues Européennes / A Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages* is in a period of renewal with one quarter of its members joining the Committee this year. I have welcomed Professors Vivian Liska, Gábor Bezeczky, Laura Cavalcante Padilha and Inocência Mata to the Committee this year. In addition we will replace two members this year as members' terms come to an end. The Committee is also in the process of revising its by-laws in order to be able to operate more efficiently by way of e-mail consultation and in order to streamline the election process. It hopes to present the revisions to the Executive Committee in the immediate future.

The Committee held its annual meeting at the Antwerp University on June 14, 2006, which was followed by a highly successful colloquium on "Modernism and The Modern Through The Ages" on 15-16 June, 2006.

The work on Modernism was presented to the Coordinating Committee at last year's meeting in manuscript form. It was sent to two external readers, Theo D'haen and Geert Lernout. Both readers sent very favourable reports within months. They also made very helpful suggestions for the final revisions. These are now complete and the manuscript will be sent to John Benjamins. Since this is a monumental work (circa 1100 pages), Benjamins may decide to publish it in two volumes.

The team of contributors to *Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe*, co-edited by Marcel Cornis-Pope and John Neubauer, has completed Volume 2 on "The Shifting Topography of East-Central European Literatures" and it has been sent to press. This volume, which is 510 pages long and includes 30 contributors, is slated to be published in the fall of 2006. Volume 3 of the project on the "Institutional Frames" of East-Central European Literatures has been submitted to two readers. Volume 4 is near completion and will be submitted to readers in the spring of 2007. Very positive critical reviews of Volumes I and II have appeared in *The Comparatist* 30 (2006), *Arcadia*, *Kakanieu 1* (Aug. 2005), *The Slavic and East European Review*, and in *CLC Web on Comparative Literature and Culture*. Another review has been scheduled to appear in the *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*. A discussion of the whole project will also appear in a volume on *Studying Transcultural Literary History* edited by Gunilla Lindberg – Wada (Stockholm University).

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Romanticism sub-series will soon come to an end with the completion of the fifth volume, *Romantic Prose Fiction* (volumes 1-4), edited by Gerald Gillespie, Manfred Engel and Bernard Dieterle. This work was begun in 1999-2000 and approximately two hundred scholars were contacted. In addition to the *Preface*, the *Conclusion* and the *Introduction* by Gerald Gillespie and his co-editors, the book has thirty-six chapters. The Committee has already received the report of one reader and is looking forward to receiving the second in a short time. The report submitted to date is very favourable.

The project *L'époque de la Renaissance* comprises four volumes, of which two (I and II) have been published. Volume III, *Maturations et mutations 1520-1560*, is being completed under the direction of Professor Eva Kushner. The Committee has received one of the two reader

reports and the second is expected in the near future. The reader report received to date enthusiastically recommends the manuscript for publication. Professor Kushner is carrying out final copy editing tasks and the translation of a few remaining chapters.

Professor Fernando Cabo Aseguinolaza submitted a detailed report on his three-volume project, *A Comparative Literary History of the Iberian Peninsula*. It is progressing rapidly, although one of the subsections is running behind schedule. The other sections are now being translated into English. The editorial work is continuing on volumes I and II.

The Coordinating Committee discussed Steven P. Sondrup's report of *A Comparative History of Nordic Literary Cultures* and discussed aspects of the project's "Temporal Nodes." The project has had several large meetings and is moving quickly ahead. It has received important recognition from Scandinavian Academic institutions. The director expects the project to be completed by approximately 2009.

Professors Elrud Ibsch and Vivian Liska informed the Committee of their intention to submit two new project proposals in the context of a new series of volumes presenting a problematic aspect of Literary History: *Jewish Literature after 1945* and *Diasporic Writing and Beyond*. The new series will look to see published shorter highly focused volumes on specific topics.

The Coordinating Committee agreed to seek out possible directors for projects regarding Realism, Naturalism, and the Middle Ages in order to bring the series on periods to a close. The Coordinating Committee is now playing a greater role in helping projects with editorial costs and reader honoraria. Although the current budget is healthy; it will be quickly exhausted if our ICLA subsidy continues at its current level. In spite of inflation, the subsidy has not been adjusted in fourteen years and remains at US\$2000 a year and if the demand for legitimate support continues at the current rate it will soon be exhausted. With this in mind the Committee is exploring other sources of economic support, such as the International Association of Academies and John Benjamins. It would also like to request that the current yearly subsidy from the ICLA Bureau be increased from US\$2000 to US\$3000.

The Coordinating Committee is currently developing a set of guidelines to help readers complete their task promptly and efficiently.

The Coordinating Committee agreed to seek help in building a new web site that would be connected to both the I. C. L. A. page and the Benjamins page

Respectfully submitted,

Mihaly Szegedy-Maszak