

July 13, 2010

Dear President Schmeling and Executive Committee Members,

I am pleased to present to you the **Report of the Coordinating Committee for a Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages** which I have had the honor to preside. Since the meeting of our committee at Aarhus, on May 21 2009, about which I reported last year, there have been notable achievements, most importantly the publication of three new volumes, the renovation of the Committee after a successful election, and further success at obtaining continued financial support from the International Union of Academies.

PUBLICATIONS

The Committee, since its creation in 1967, has overseen the publication of 24 volumes (with two more coming out soon), covering a great variety of periods, genres, and languages. They are notable for their theoretical thoughtfulness and their range, the great number of distinguished collaborators in each volume, and the ambition of their enterprise. A full listing can be found in Appendix 1, and the details for each volume are available at the John Benjamins Publishing Company's website, http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_seriesview.cgi?series=CHLEL.

The very recent publication of the first volume of *A Comparative History of Literatures in the Iberian Peninsula* is an extraordinary accomplishment, since usually literatures written in Spanish, Catalan, Basque, Galician, and Portuguese are studied, unrealistically, as isolated. This volume, soon to be followed by a second one, gathers 39 distinguished scholars from Europe, and the United States who examine "Discourses on Iberian Literary History," "The Iberian Peninsula as a Literary Space," "Identitarian Projections: Between Isolationism and Reintegrationism," "Cities, Cultural Centers and Enclaves," "The Multilingual Literary Space of the Iberian Peninsula," "Dimensions of Orality," and "Temporal Frames and Literary (Inter-)Systems." The volume has 750 pages, plus xiv for an introduction, and has been priced by Johns Benjamins at a high EUR 190.00 / USD 285.00, so any effort members of the Executive Committee can make to help in its distribution--as well as of other volumes of the series--would be of importance. Professors Fernando Cabo Aseguinolazaga, Anxo Albuín González, and César

Domínguez who did a masterful job at moving along this project with scholarly care, admirable promptness, diplomacy and wisdom.

Ready for publication and already announced in John Benjamins' website, are two other volumes of considerable importance:

The fourth and last volume of the *History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe: Junctures and Disjunctures in the 19th and 20th Centuries. Volume 4: Types and Stereotypes*, edited by Marcel Cornis-Pope and John Neubauer, concludes a monumental work, and is expected to be available in September. The Coordinating Committee has been able to cooperate to the completion of this project with commentaries in our meetings along many years and with support for some editorial expenses, but the work done by Marcel Cornis-Pope and John Neubauer is nothing short of exemplary and merits our admiration and gratitude. This volume examines in 41 essays, plus an Introduction and an Epilogue, figures of national poets, of the family, female identity, the Other, outlaws, trauma, and mediation. This book has 692 pages, plus introductory material and an extensive index. As the other three volumes in this series, it is theoretically audacious and successful in bringing together for a productive comparative examination the different languages and nations of Central Europe.

Equally admirable and a motive of pride for the Committee is the expected publication in September of the volume edited by Eva Kushner, *L'Époque de la Renaissance (1400–1600): Tome III: Maturations et mutations (1520–1560)*. With a projected 623 pages, and 12 chapters that include essays by 50 scholars, this is a major work, with only one of its four volumes still awaiting completion.

These three publications in one year are proof that while the books this Committee produces take time, editorial prowess, and fostering, they are brought to completion, constituting highly significant contributions to scholarship in general and to the goals of the International Comparative Literature Association in particular.

At different stages of preparation are several projects. Two advanced: Steven Sondrup is the editor of a Comparative History of Nordic Literary Culture, volume 1, while Eva Kushner and Ilana Zinguer are the editors of Renaissance II. And at different stages of progress are the

following volumes: Daniel Chamberlain and Ted Chamberlin edit *Oral Narrative Traditions*; Vivian Liska and Thomas Nolden edit *Towards a Theory of European Literature*; Inocência Mata and Laura Cavalcante Padilha edit *Africa and Portugal: Opening up the Atlantic--the Literary Routes of Confrontation and Convergence*; Randolph Pope edits *Realism*; and Fridun Rinner and Franca Sinopoli are the editors of *Migration and Literature in Europe in the Second Half of the 20th Century*.

ELECTION RESULTS

The election under the principal supervision of John Neubauer produced an executive board that augurs extremely well for the future of the Committee, since the new President, Vice-President, and Secretary have actively and most successfully participated for many years in the Committee. The Treasurer, Vivian Liska, continues in a position she has fulfilled superbly. As now past President I would like to express my absolute and even joyful confidence in this new team. The secretary has a difficult and vital function, since the nature of our committee is to be international and diverse, coming together (and not all members can always make it) only once a year. I cannot even begin to adequately praise the work that Margaret Higonnet has performed as Secretary. She has been the driving force, the inspiration, and the main organizer of all our activities. I am, therefore, confident that she will be an extraordinary effective President in whose talent, diplomacy, and administrative ability we can all trust. The Vice-President serves usually as the guarantor of the continuity of the Committee, and few people know us better than Marcel Cornis-Pope. His absolutely dazzling work as editor (with John Neubauer) of four volumes in our series provide him with the experience, insight and authority to help the President move ahead into new territories while respecting the accomplishments of our tradition. Finally, the secretary, as mentioned above, needs to keep the Committee together and inspire confidence in that all administrative needs will be fulfilled. Sven Erik Larsen demonstrated with the perfect organization of our meeting at Aarhus that he is a most reliable organizer and an inspiring colleague. With such a team the future looks very bright indeed. (A listing of the members is included as Appendix 2.)

The newly elected members of the CHLEL committee met on July 12, 2010 in Paris at Sorbonne 3 Censier Daubenton, at the invitation of Jean Bessière. In spite of interruptions in train and rail

services, thirteen of the sixteen members were able to attend, coming from Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France, Belgium, and the United States. ICLA President Manfred Schmeling was also able to attend. Having circulated comments in advance, the committee reviewed nine current projects and two proposed projects in detail. It also took note of the related workshops to be held at Seoul and made provisional plans for meetings in 2011 and 2012.

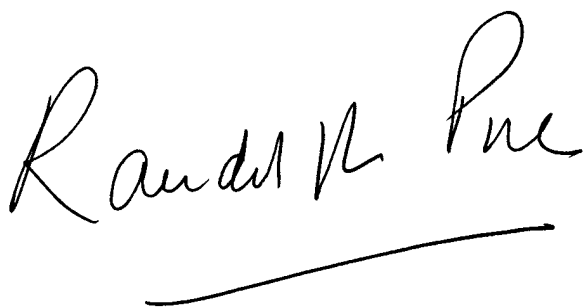
Finances

As in the past, the Committee has been able to help authors very modestly with costs associated with translation, proofreading, indexing, and other expenses associated with preparing the manuscript. We gratefully acknowledge the subvention received from the ICLA and from the International Union of the Academies, which granted us € 2,000.00 for last year. These subventions are essential to our work, so the Committee wishes to respectfully request a subvention of \$3,000.00 for the upcoming year.

IN CONCLUSION

I am very grateful to the Executive Committee and the CHLEL for having allowed me to serve as a member of the CHLEL for several years, first under the Presidency of Mario Valdés and then of Mihály-Szegedy-Maszák. I have learned very much from all of you and gained some great and admirable friends. I believe the work of this Committee and of the CHLEL is extremely valuable and wish you many future successes.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randolph D. Pope". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that serves as a separator.

Randolph D. Pope

President of the CHLEL Coordinating Committee for 2007–2010
 Commonwealth Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature
 Director of Comparative Literature
 University of Virginia

Appendix I

- [L'Époque de la Renaissance \(1400–1600\): Tome III: maturations et mutations \(1520–1560\)](#)
- XXVI. **Kushner, Eva** (dir.)
NEW! 2010. ix, 623 pp. + index
- [History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe: Junctures and disjunctures in the 19th and 20th centuries. Volume 4: Types and stereotypes](#)
- XXV. **Cornis-Pope, Marcel** and **John Neubauer** (eds.)
NEW! 2010. ix, 692 pp. + index
- [A Comparative History of Literatures in the Iberian Peninsula: Volume I](#)
- XXIV. **Cabo Aseguinolaza, Fernando**, **Anxo Abuín Gonzalez** and **César Domínguez**(eds.)
NEW! 2010. xiv, 750 pp.
- XXIII. [Romantic Prose Fiction](#)
Gillespie, Gerald, **Manfred Engel** and **Bernard Dieterle** (eds.)
 2008. xxi, 733 pp.
- XXII. [History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe: Junctures and disjunctures in the 19th and 20th centuries. Volume III: The making and remaking of literary institutions](#)
Cornis-Pope, Marcel and **John Neubauer** (eds.)
 2007. xiv, 522 pp.
- XXI. [Modernism](#)
Eysteinnsson, Astradur and **Vivian Liska** (eds.)
 2007. xii, 1043 pp. (2 vols.)
- XX. [History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe: Junctures and disjunctures in the 19th and 20th centuries. Volume II](#)
Cornis-Pope, Marcel and **John Neubauer** (eds.)
 2006. xiv, 512 pp.
- XIX. [History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe: Junctures and disjunctures in the 19th](#)

- [and 20th centuries. Volume I](#)
Cornis-Pope, Marcel and John **Neubauer** (eds.)
2004. xx, 648 pp.
- XVIII.** [Nonfictional Romantic Prose: Expanding borders](#)
Sondrup, Steven P. and Virgil **Nemoianu** (eds.)
2004. viii, 477 pp.
- XVII.** [Romantic Poetry](#)
Esterhammer, Angela (ed.)
2002. xii, 537 pp.
- XVI.** [L'Aube de la Modernité 1680-1760](#)
Knabe, Peter-Eckhard, Roland **Mortier** et François **Moureau** (dir.)
2002. viii, 554 pp.
- XV.** [A History of Literature in the Caribbean: Volume 2: English- and Dutch-speaking regions](#)
Arnold, A. James (ed.)
2001. x, 672 pp.
- XIV.** [Die Wende von der Aufklärung zur Romantik 1760–1820: Epoche im Überblick](#)
Glaser, Horst Albert und György M. **Vajda** † (Hrsg.)
2001. x, 760 pp.
- XIII.** [L'Époque de la Renaissance \(1400–1600\): Tome IV: Crises et essors nouveaux \(1560–1610\)](#)
Klaniczay, Tibor, Eva **Kushner** et Paul **Chavy** (dir.)
2000. xiv, 817 pp.
- XII.** [A History of Literature in the Caribbean: Volume 3: Cross-Cultural Studies](#)
Arnold, A. James (ed.)
1997. xviii, 398 pp.
- XI.** [International Postmodernism: Theory and literary practice](#)
Bertens, Hans and Douwe W. **Fokkema** (eds.)
1997. xvi, 581 pp.
- X.** [A History of Literature in the Caribbean: Volume 1: Hispanic and Francophone Regions](#)
Arnold, A. James, Julio **Rodriguez-Luis** and J. Michael **Dash** (eds.)
1994. xviii, 579 pp.
- IX.** [Romantic Drama](#)
Gillespie, Gerald (ed.)

1993. xvi, 516 pp.

VIII. [Romantic Irony](#)

Garber, Frederick (ed.)

1988. 395 pp.

VII. [L'Époque de la Renaissance \(1400–1600\): Tome I: L'avènement de l'esprit nouveau \(1400–1480\)](#)

Klaniczay, Tibor, Eva **Kushner** et André **Stegmann** (dir.)

1988. 594 pp.

VI. [European-language Writing in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Gérard, Albert S. (ed.)

1986. 1288 pp. 2 volumes

IV-V. [Les Avant-gardes littéraires au XXe siècle: Deux volumes. I: Histoire; II: Théorie](#)

Weisgerber, Jean (dir.)

1986. 622, 704 pp.

V. [Les Avant-gardes littéraires au XXe siècle: Volume II: Théorie](#)

Weisgerber, Jean (dir.)

1986. 704 pp.

IV. [Les Avant-gardes littéraires au XXe siècle: Volume I: Histoire](#)

Weisgerber, Jean (dir.)

1986. 622 pp.

III. [Le Tournant du siècle des Lumières 1760–1820: Les genres en vers des Lumières au romantisme](#)

Vajda, György M. † (dir.)

1982. 684 pp.

II. [The Symbolist Movement in the Literature of European Languages](#)

Balakian, Anna (ed.)

1984. 732 pp.

I. [Expressionism as an International Literary Phenomenon](#)

Weisstein, Ulrich (ed.)

1982.

Appendix 2: **ICLA COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, 2010-2013**

President: Professor Margaret R. Higonnet, English Department, University of Connecticut

Vice-President: Professor Marcel Cornis-Pope, English Department, Virginia Commonwealth University

Secretary: Professor Svend Erik Larsen, Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Department of Comparative Literature, Aarhus University

Treasurer: Professor Vivian Liska, Department of Literature and Philosophy, University of Antwerp

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Theo D'haen, Professor of English & Comparative Literature, Leuven University

César Dóminguez Prieto, Professor of Literatura española, Teoría da literatura e Lingüística xeral, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela

Angela Esterhammer, Professor of English, University of Zurich

Patrizia Lombardo, Professor of Modern French, Université de Genève

Inocência Mata, Professor of Portuguese Language and Culture, Universidade de Lisboa

Thomas Nolden, Director of Department of Comparative Literature, Wellesley College

Anders Petterson, Professor of Swedish and Comparative Literature, Umeå University

Fridrun Rinner, Professor of Comparative Literature, Université de Provence, Aix-Marseille

Franca Sinopoli, Professor of Italian, "La Sapienza" Università di Roma

Steven Sondrup, Professor of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University

Francesco Stella, Professor of Medieval Latin Literature, Università di Arezzo

Anja Tippner, Director, Fachbereich Slawistik, Universität Salzburg