POLISH ASSOCIATION FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

NEWSLETTER NO. 13

MARCH 1998

Editor: Jadwiga Maszewska

Assistant Editor: Magdalena Delicka

American Literature and Culture Department

University of Lodz

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Report on the PAAS Conference in Serock, 13-15 November, 1997

Last year's annual PAAS International Conference 'Cultural Policy or the Politics of Culture' took place in Serock near Warsaw, 13-15 November, 1997.
It was organized by Warsaw University's Institute of English Studies in cooperation with the Polish-American Fulbright Commission and celebrated
50 years of the Fulbright program in Poland and worldwide. Apart from the subsidies from KBN (Scientific Research Committee), the conference also received generous financial support from the USIS through the Cultural Section of the American Embassy in Warsaw.
Thanks to personal engagement of the Cultural Attache, Ms Kate Delaney, we received three grants which helped to finance the participation of foreign guests,
as well as covered some general costs of the conference. The conference addressed complex issues concerning political involvements and aspects of cultural processes in the light of American studies in Europe and in the United States. Besides a good turnout of Polish Americanists,
foreign participants ranged from such American and European academic institutions as: Columbia University, University of Louisville, Univeristy of Texas,
University of Pennsylvania, Erasmus University, Rotterdam and others. We heard 4 plenary lectures, and 33 papers were presented in 11 sessions.
All presentations will be published in the proceedings. The PAAS also held a board meeting at Serock.

News from the American Literature Section, University of Warsaw

Letter from the Editors of American Studies,

The American Studies journal (published since 1979) is now going to come out twice a year, in the winter and in the summer – thanks to the combined efforts
of the American Studies Center of Warsaw University, the Polish Association for American Studies and Warsaw University Press, and – perhaps most importantly – owing to the financial assistance of Warsaw University and the USIS. Following the agreement reached
by the American Studies Center of Warsaw University and the Polish Association for American Studies, our journal will now be a

joint publication of the two institutions. In light of this fact, the Editor-in-Chief and the Board of Editors will want to transform the journal into a publication which carries not only scholarly articles and reviews, but also one that will record the progress of American Studies scholarship in Poland: thus, we are going to publish the available information on all research on the United States, undertaken by the Polish scholars.

In order for the journal to succeed as a cementing agent for the Polish community of Americanists, we will be dependent on the feedback from our reader (including all dues-paying members of the PAAS who will automatically receive the successive issues). Please, keep us posted on research-in-progress, forthcoming conferences and publications, as well as on the recent M.A. theses, Ph.D. and habilitation dissertations defended at your institutions.
The journal issues the call for articles (10-25 pages, footnoted in MLA style, Word format) in all aspects of American Studies, which will be considered for publication in the forthcoming issues. Also, we will gladly accept proposals for publication of source and archive material, pertinent to the Polish-American relations, both political and cultural. We hope that with your help the American Studies will continue as an essential resource for the study of the Unites States in Poland, and that it will effectively bring the research of the Polish Americanists to the attention of foreign, especially European, specialists in the field.

Please address all correspondence to: Piotr Skurowski, Editor-in-Chief,
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News from the Department of American Literature and Culture, UMCS, Lublin

In October 1997 Jerzy Durczak presented a paper 'Teaching American Studies in Poland: Under and After Communism' at the ASA Conference in Washington.

In November 1997 Jerzy Kutnik received a post-doctoral degree. His dissertation 'Gra slów. Muzyka poezji Johna Cage'a' came out earlier that year.

In November American Literature and Culture Department hosted prof. Roy Goldblatt who presented a lecture 'Welcome back Joe McCarthy.'

Four Department members (Joanna Durczak, Jerzy Durczak, Dorota Janowska, Pawel Frelik) presented their papers in different workshops at the 1998 EAAS Conference in Lisbon.

In November 1997 Jerzy Kutnik was invited by University of Aachen to deliver a special lecture.

In January 1998 Radio Lublin hosted Jerzy Kutnik in a program devoted to John Cage.

Department of American Literature and Culture is preparing a workshop 'Teaching American Studies in Central and Eastern Europe' which will take place from 23 to 27 September 1998. The participants will include young teachers of the subjects from Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine and other Central and Eastern European countries.

Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska participated in the Twelfth World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, 29 July-5 August 1997 where she presented a paper 'Between Art and Stereotype: W. Reymont's The Promised Land and I.J. Singer's Brothers Ashkenazi.'

Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska was invited to speak at the conference Humanity at the Limit: The Impact of the Holocaust on Jews and Christians, April 26-28, Notre Dame University, Indiana. She was also granted a Fulbright fellowship for the academic year 1998/1999. She will spend next academic year at Brandeis University, Mass., working on a book on responses to the Holocaust in American literature. Last but not least, she is currently working together with professor Anthony Polonsky from Brandeis University on the anthology of postwar Polish Jewish writers to be published by the University of Nebraska Press.

In November 1997 Pawel Frelik took part in the annual conference of Austrian Association for American Studies in Graz where he presented a paper.

Malgorzata Siwek took part in the Sixth PASE Conference, Pulawy 21-23. 04.1997. She presented a paper: 'Interpreting the Wilderness: Responses to Nature in the 19th Century American Travel Accounts.'

NEW COURSES

Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska: Holocaust in American Literature: A Comparative Perspective
Joanna Durczak: Nature/Technology and the American Mind; Key Themes in American Literature; American Poetry After 1950
Jerzy Durczak: 200 Years of American Short Story
Jerzy Kutnik: American Legal System

News from the Insitute of English at University of Gdañsk

Cheryl Alexander Malcolm presented a paper entitled 'Emasculation and the Passing Protagonist: African American and Jewish American Perspectives'
in Paris at an International Conference on the Harlem Renaissance, January 29-31, 1998.

News from American Literature and Culture Department, University of Lodz

From 26 through 29 April, 1998, Al&CD organizes International Conference and Workshop: Native American Literature in Today's America.
Workshop sessions on American poetry, fiction, autobiography, and critical approaches will be conducted by Susan Perez Castillo of Glasgow University.
The aim of the conference is to introduce Native American writing to students of American in Poland, as well as to establish contacts between Polish
and international scholars interested in the subject.

Ms. Kate Delaney, the Cultural Attache at the American Embassy in Warsaw, visited the AL. & CD on Janurary 13, 1998. She met with staff and students
and delivered a paper on the subject of the role of women in modern American society.

James Deutsch from North American Studies Center visited the department on January 28, 1998 and deliver a guest lecture titled "Folklore in the Academia."

NEW COURSES

David Pichaske: Doctoral seminar: Chicago as an Emerging Political and Literary Center at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Century

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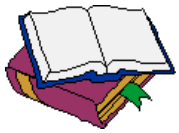
PUBLICATIONS



Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska
'I.B. Singer's Works in Yiddish English: The Language and the Addressee,' *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History*, The John Hopkins UP, no.3.1997; 265-276.

'Some Ideological Aspects in the Polish Reception of Jerzy Kosiñski's Work,' in *Jerzy Kosiñski: Man and Work at the Crossroads of Cultures*, eds. Agnieszka Salska & Marek Jedliñski, Wydawnictwo UL, Lodz; 169-181.

'Ideologiczne uwarunkowania polskiej recepcji twórczosci Jerzego Kosiñskiego,' in *Jerzy Kosiñski. Byc tu i tam. Materialy z konferencji*

naukowej: Jerzy Kosiñski: Czlowiek i dzielo na skrzyzowaniu kultur, ed. Agnieszka Salska & Marek Jedliñski, Wydawnictwo DaCapo, Warszawa; 178-191.

Kacper Bartczak

Translation of Marcus Wheeler, 'Kobieta znana jako hrabina Markiewicz,' *Tygiel Kultury*, 1/2 1998.

Translation of Tom Garvin, 'Patrioci i Republikanie: Irlandzka Rewolucja,' *Literatura na Swiecie* 10/11. 1998.

Jerzy Durczak

Review article of Ihab Hasaan, Rumors of Change: Essays of Five Decades. *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, 2 (1997); 311-313

Review article of Gerhard Hoffman and Alfred Hornung, eds. *Ethics and Aesthetics: The Moral Turn of Postmodernism*. *Americastudien/American Studies*, 2 (1997); 316-317.

Joanna Durczak

Two Tales of Two Hesters: Christopher Bigsby's *Hester* and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*,' *British and American Studies in Toruñ:*
America's Cultural Crossroads, ed. Marta Wiszniowska, Toruñ: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Mikolaja Kopernika, 1996; 109-125.

'Rezerwaty, kasyna i kojoty w trampkach albo indiañskie odrodzenie,' *Akcent* 4/1996, 73-92.

Review article of Alan Golding, From Outlaw to Classic, *Americastudien/American Studies* 2, 1997; 292-294.

Pawel Frelik

'Cyberpunk: The Narrative of Present Future Imperfect,' in *Canons, Revisions, Supplements in American Literature and Culture*, ed. Marek Wilczyñski, Bene Nati: Poznañ; 1997

Review article of Gerhard Hoffman, Alfred Hornung, eds. *Emotion in Postmodernism*. *Lubelskie Materialy Neofilologiczne* 21, 1997.

Dorota Janowska

'Opowiesc paradoksalna z francuskim akcentem,' *Akcent* 3, 97.

Translation of a selection of Raymond Federman's poems, *Akcent* 3, 97.

Translation of Raymond Carver's, Joyce Carol Oates', Carolyn Brown's and Merce Cunnigham's essays and short stories for *Tygiel Kultury*, no.5.

Review article of Steven Carter, Leopards in the Temple, *Lubelskie Materialy Neofilologiczne* 21, 1997.

'Kosiñski on Language: The Painted Bird and The Hermit of 69th Street," in *Jerzy Kosiñski: Man and Work at the Crossroads of Cultures*, eds. Agnieszka Salska & Marek Jedliñski, Wydawnictwo UL, Lodz 1997, 79-89.

'Kosiñski o jezyku: Malowany Ptak i Pustelnik z 69 ulicy,' in *Jerzy Kosiñski. Byc tu i tam. Materialy z konferencji naukowej 'Jerzy Kosiñski: Czlowiek*
i dzielo na skrzyzowaniu kultur,' eds. Agnieszka Salska & Marek Jedliñski, Wydawnictwo DaCapo, Warszawa 1997, 91-102.

Jerzy Kutnik
'Postmodern Language-Centered Writing and the Question of Ideology: A Polish Perspective,' *Journal of American Studies in Turkey*, No.4.

Jadwiga Maszewska
'Louise Erdrich and Other Writers of Mixed Blood," in *Canons, Revisions, Supplements in American Literature and Culture*, ed. Marek Wilczyñski, Bene Nati, Poznañ, 1997; 179-185.

Zbigniew Maszewski
'William Faulkner, Bruno Schultz, and the Book" in *Canons, Revisions, Supplements in American Literature and Culture*, ed. Marek Wilczyñski, Bene Nati, Poznañ, 1997; 235-250.

Agnieszka Salska
Agnieszka Salska, Grzegorz Gazda eds. *Jerzy Kosiñski. Byc tu i tam*. Wydawnictwo Da Capo, Warszawa, 1997.

'The Place of Letters in Dickinson's Opus,' ed. Antoine Caze in *Emily Dickinson. Profils Americains* No 8 CERCLA, Universite Paul-Valery Montpelier III, 1996; 27-40.

'Freedom and Form: Galway Kinnell's When One Has Lived a Long Time Ago. *Amerikanskie Issledowania* 1997, Miñsk 1997; 68-74.

'Renesans opowiadania i powrót do realizmu we wspólczesnej prozie amerykañskiej,' *Tygiel Kultury* 5, 1997; 28-34.

'The Continuing Canonization of Emily Dickinson,' ed. Marek Wilczyñski in *Canons, Revisions, Supplements in American Literature and Culture*,
Bene Nati, Poznañ 1997; 31-44.

'American Short Story Cycles and the Changing Sense of Community,' in *Discourses of Literature, Studies in Honor of Alina Szala*, University of Maria Curie-Sklodowska Press, Lublin, 1997; 137-151.

'Emily Dickinson's Letters: From Correspondence to Poetry," *Acta Universitatis Nicolai Copernici: English Studies VII-Humanities and Social Sciences*,
vol. 319, Toruñ, 1997; 39-47.

Malgorzata Siwek
'Noble Savages or Thorough Savages? Encounters with Indians in four 19th Century American Travel Narratives,' *Lubelskie Materialy Neofilologiczne* 21, Lublin 1997.

Changes to the PAAS statutes

Document in Word 6.0/7.0 to be downloaded and viewed.
Online viewing difficult due to the presence of Polish fonts
which do not display on all browsers.

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The Polish association for American Studies announces the 1998 PAAS Conference, which will take place in Ustron, from 22 through 24 October, 1998.
The conference will be organized by the Institute of British and American Culture and Literature, University of Silesia, Poland.
The theme of the conference will be:

Ethical Values in Post(?)modern American Societies and Cultures

The organizers are expecting presentations in any field of North American Studies that relate to the theme, whether in historical, literary,
or sociological perspective. We believe that the subject of values in the modern world is of utmost importance to people of all nationalities
and all countries, in particular to the countries dominating in the world of politics and economy. At the end of the century it seems necessary to examine
which values have been questioned, which have been rejected, and which are still cherished by writers, historians, politicians, sociologists,
members of various societies, cultures and communities – and how the situation is reflected in cultural and academic circles at the time when many
question the validity of any values. Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes and the number of pages to 35. We plan on the publications
of conference proceedings. These scholars who are interested in participating and presenting papers are asked to contact the secretary
of the conference committee and submit their proposals by May 30th, 1998 to:

Department of American Literature and Culture, University of Silesia, Zytnia 10, 41-205 Sosnowiec, Poland

The 50th International Congress of Americanists

"The Americas' Universal Message for the XXI Century" Warsaw, July 10-15, 2000

Invitation

The Rector of Warsaw University, the academic community of Warsaw University, the Organizing Committee of the Congress and all the sponsors
kindly invite all memebers of the Polish Association for American Studies to participate in the 50th Congress of Americanists which will be held
in Warsaw from July 10-15, 2000.

We look forward to your presence, co-operation, and personal involvement, so that achievement of our common goals would be possible.

International Congress of Americanists, 1875-2000

The history of the Congress goes back to 1875, when the Americanists first gathered in Nancy, France. The first then Congresses were held in Europe,
and then the New World became the host for the event interchangeably with Europe. Recently, Congresses were hels in Amsterdam (1988),
Stockholm (1994), and Quito (1997).

International meetings of scholars reflect intellectual interests in the Americas, as well as need to learn and to understand the American problems. Scholars have been for a long time fascinated with the Americas and "the American style." Thus, International Congresses have become a remarkable scholar event.

Basic subjects of the 50th Congress

One of the greates challenges is to prevent excessive atomization of the congresses. This is why it has been suggested to organize

the 50th Congress around a number of "basic symposia." These will be related to the most important American problems of universal character, which will be complemented with several sessions dedicated to specific subjects.

Details on criteria concerning conditions of both the inscription and the approval of the symposia topics will be announced in Circular I. Initial consultation by the Organizing Committee has revealed the first suggestions of symposia topics, which are presented below:

1. Processes, trends and projections of regional, continental and global integration in the Americas
2. The right to culture and self-government: experience and current tendencies in ethno-cultural movements in the Americas – multi-ethnic and pluri-cultural societies 3. Religions and churches in Latin America at the threshold of the 21st century
4. Afroamericas: experience and empirical and theoretical problems
5. Latin American societies and cultures in the United States: co-existence, competition, and expansion.
6. Protection of the cultural heritage of the Americas: experience and challenges for the 21st century.
7. Brazil in its 500th anniversary: social and political challenges for the country and for America.

The following PAAS members have been invited by the Rector of Warsaw University to participate in the organization of the 50th International Congress of the Americanists: Professors Izabella Rusin, Agnieszka Salska, Halina Parafianowicz, Marek Golebiewski, Krzysztof Michalek (Vice-president of the Organizing Committee), and dr. Irmina Wawrzyczek. Agnieszka Salska accepted the responsibility for coordinating the sessions in the field of Anglo-American literature and linguistics. Jerzy Durczak was nominated a member of the Honorary Organizing Committee.

The PAAS memebers are encouraged to include the 50th International Congress of the Americanists into their research and scholarly plans.

FROM THE TREASURER:

The new number of PAAS bank account is: PKO bp XV O./ Warszawa Nr 10201156-424851-270-1

FROM THE EDITOR:

The next issue of the PAAS Newsletter can be expected in October 1998. We warmly invite you to share with us any information concerning your research and activities in the field of American Studies.
You may use the following address to contact the Newsletter:

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PAAS WWW PAGE:

The Polish Association for American Studies WWW page is located at:

http://klio.umsc.lublin.pl./users/ptsazlka/paas.htm

It features the general information concerning PAAS, the Board as well as the latest PAAS Newsletter.
The page is hosted by the Department of American Literature and Culture in Lublin and maintained by Pawel Frelik.
All centers in Poland are kindly requested to send in all relevant information to

ptszalka@klio.umcs.lublin.pl
or the snail mail address:
Department of American Literature and Culture
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Abbreviations in the text:
AL&CD-American Literature and Culture Department, University of Lodz
ALS-American Literature Section of the Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw
ASC-American Studies Center, Warsaw
IU-Indiana University
NAS-North American Studies Center, University of Lodz
DAL&C-UMCS, Lublin-Department of American Literature & Culture, UMCS, Lublin

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