

POLISH ASSOCIATION FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

No. 27, October 2006

NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Paweł Frelík

Department of American Literature & Culture, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University

OBITUARY

Professor Nancy Burke (1935-2006)

Professor Nancy Burke was born in Connecticut, studied at Radcliffe, taught at Seneca College in Toronto, Canada. In 1988 she came to Poland to teach American literature at the American Literature Section of the Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw. She gave lectures on the history of American literature and offered invariably popular courses and seminars on an impressive variety of subjects connected with North American literature and culture: American drama, detective fiction, postcolonial literature, Canadian fiction, Canadian ethnic literatures, American and Canadian women writers, male and female literary archetypes.

In 1998 Nancy Burke co-founded the Polish Association for Canadian Studies, in the previous years she also founded and directed the Canadian Resources Center at the Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw. Her publications included essays and articles published in Europe and America; she gave lectures in England, Germany, France, Russia, Serbia, Hungary, Lithuania, recently also in China. She mostly wrote on Canadian fiction and Canadian writers, such as Margaret Atwood, Margaret Lawrence, Robertson Davis, or Mavis Gallant. In 2004 Professor Nancy Burke became member of the editorial board of the prestigious *International Journal of Canadian Studies*.

Nancy Burke also wrote poems which warmly and subtly, but incisively, referred to her unique multicultural personal experience. She published and recited her poems on several memorable occasions. She was an exceptionally warm and friendly person, of great inner strength but also insight and sensitivity, which allowed her to deeply empathize with people and cultural circumstances very much different from her own. We will remember her as our great friend, a mentor and supporter, an intellectual and moral authority who inspired and helped shape the program of North American studies at our Institute.

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tel. (61) 829 3506, 829 3530
fax (61) 852 3103
- Events**
- Paulina Ambroży-Lis**
- ❑ participated in Teaching American Poetry in Poland Symposium, Warsaw, 2006
- Magdalena Zapędowska**
- ❑ co-chaired Workshop #7, “Conformism & Non-Conformism in US women’s literature in the 19th and 20th centuries,” at the EAAS Conference in Nicosia, Cyprus, 7-10 April 2006 (with Tatiana Komarovskaya)
 - ❑ co-organized a symposium on “American Poetry in Poland: Teaching, Translation, Reception” at the American Studies Center, Warsaw, 18 March 2006 (with Krystyna Mazur)
 - ❑ organized round-tables on “Reading 19th-century American Literature” and “Teaching American Poetry” at the PAAS Conference in Kamień Śląski, 23-25 October 2005
 - ❑ taught workshops on “Dźwięk, rym, sens: Emily Dickinson i problemy przekładu” and “Co zmieści się w wierszu? Whitman i jego następcy” as part of the creative writing program “Warsztaty Twórczego Pisania,” Centrum Kultury Zamek, Poznań, 11 and 25 March 2006
 - ❑ moderated an off-campus American poetry student discussion group in the academic year 2005-2006
- Katarzyna Kuczma**
- ❑ participated in Teaching American Poetry in Poland Symposium, Warsaw, 2006
- Conferences**
- Paulina Ambroży-Lis**
- ❑ Polish Association for American Studies Conference, Kamień Śląski, October 2005; Paper: “A Contrapuntalist – Composer of Chorales” – Marianne Moore’s Dialogical Imagination
 - ❑ EAAS Annual Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus, April 2006; Paper: “Emancipation comes from within” – the female poet and the question of non-conformity in the works of Marianne Moore and Gertrude Stein
- Magdalena Zapędowska**
- ❑ PAAS Conference “Conformity and Resistance in America,” Kamień Śląski, 23-25 October 2005. Paper, “Elizabeth Stoddard, Antisentimentalism, and the Female World of *The Morgesons*”; round-table presentation, “Reading Longfellow’s ‘The Lighthouse’”
 - ❑ “American Poetry in Poland: Teaching, Translation, Reception” Symposium, Warsaw, 18 March 2006. Round-table presentation, “Useful criticism for teaching poetry”
- Now courses**
- Paulina Ambroży-Lis**
- ❑ B.A. seminar: American fiction and Contemporary Critical Theories
- Magdalena Zapędowska**
- ❑ Orphaned girls and white herons: American literature from sentimentalism to regionalism (3rd year undergraduate seminar); syllabus at <http://elex.amu.edu.pl/ifa/studies/seminars/SYLLABUS.html>
 - ❑ American literature: Representations of otherness (Master’s seminar); syllabus at <http://elex.amu.edu.pl/ifa/studies/seminars/syllabus.htm>
- Agnieszka Rzepa**
- ❑ Contemporary Canadian Prose in English (MA seminar)
- Publications**
- Paulina Ambroży-Lis**

- ""Nature is a stranger yet": Nature and man in the poetry of Wallace Stevens and Emily Dickinson". (In:) Dziubalska-Kołodziej, K. (ed.) *IFatuation: A Life in IFA. A Festschrift for Professor Jacek Fisiak on the Occasion of His 70th Birthday*, Poznań: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, 43-59.

Magdalena Zapędowska

- "A Lesson in Grammar: Dickinson's 'Grasped by God' and 'Drowning is not so pitiful.'" *Emily Dickinson Journal* 15.1 (Spring 2006): 16-34.
- "'An Ample Word': Reading Dickinsonian Desire in the Twenty-First Century." *IFatuation: A Life in IFA. A Festschrift for Professor Jacek Fisiak on the Occasion of His 70th Birthday*. Ed. Katarzyna Dziubalska-Kołodziej. Poznań: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, 2006. 853-867.
- "Wrestling with Silence: Emily Dickinson's Calvinist God." *ATQ* 20.1 (March 2006): 379-398.
- "From Very to Whitman: The Shaping of Emerson's Poet." *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia* 41 (2005): 297-325.
- "'Most bez Filarów'. Poezja religijna Emily Dickinson" ['A Pierless Bridge': Emily Dickinson's religious poetry]. *Piękniejszy dom od Prozy: O amerykańskiej poezji kobiecej*. Ed. Lucyna Aleksandrowicz-Pędich and Jerzy Kamionowski. Białystok: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 2005. 37-51.
- "Fraser Fallon Scholar in Amherst Report." *Emily Dickinson International Society Bulletin* 17.2 (November/December 2005): 8-9, 23.
- [What Emily Dickinson means to me]. *A Message from the Meadows: Emily Dickinson Museum Newsletter* 4.2 (Fall 2005): 6.

Agnieszka Rzepa

- "Lieux de Memoire, or Canadian Magic Realism Revisited." In: *Place and Memory in Canada: Global Perspectives/Lieu et Memoire au Canada: Perspective Globales*. Eds Magdalena Paluszkiwicz-Misiaczek, Anna Reczyńska, and Anna Śpiewak. Kraków: Polska Akademia Umiejętności, 2005. 455-462.
- "Beyond Hodgins and Kroetsch: Other Spaces of English-Canadian Magic Realism." *Central European Journal of Canadian Studies* 5(2006)

Guest lecturers

- David Lehman, John Leo, Josie Campbell, Marit MacArthur

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Events

- **Beata Williamson** took part in round-table discussion on 19th-century novel *Ruth Hall*, organized by Magda Zapędowska in Poznań, featuring Marianne Noble as the guest of honor (Oct. 7-8, 2006). What a stimulating, friendly, interesting AND relaxing event!

Conferences

- **Cheryl Malcolm** - "The 'What If' Factor: From *The Manchurian Candidate* to *The Plot Against America*" EAAS Conference, Cyprus, April 2006

Publications

- **Cheryl Malcolm** - *Unshtetling Narratives: Depictions of Jewish Identities in British and American Literature and Film*, foreword by Jules Chametzky (University of Salzburg, Salzburg Anglophone Critical Studies, 2006).
- **Grzegorz Welizarowicz**: "Problems of Ethnic Identity in Luis Valdez's 'Mummified Deer'", *Narrating the Other: Cultures and Perspectives*. Edited by Wojciech Kalaga and Marzena Kubisz. (Częstochowa: Wyższa Szkoła

Lingwistyczna, 2005).

- ❑ **Grzegorz Welizarowicz:** "Folklore as Modern Theater," *Mobile Crossings: Representations of Chicana/o Cultures*. Ed. Anja Bandau and Marc Priewe. (Trier: WVT, 2006).

Guest lecturers/our faculty abroad

Cheryl Malcolm

- ❑ Dartmouth College, USA, October 2006 "Beyond Belief: The Jewish Novel in America and Britain"
- ❑ University of Jaen, Spain, March 2006 "The Holocaust Novel in America"

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Grants

April 17-31, 2006. **Zofia Kolbuszewska** - Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. Host: Prof. Theo D'haen. Project: *The Apocryphal Mode in the Novels of Thomas Pynchon*.

Conferences

- ❑ September 21-23, 2005. Olsztyn. **Zofia Kolbuszewska** Conference "Texts of Texts" organized by the English Department of University of Warmia and Mazury. Paper: "Performativity as an (Ambivalent) Instrument of Revenge: Kressmann Taylor's 'Address Unknown' and the Speech Act Theory"
- ❑ October 23-25, 2005. Kamień Śląski. **Ewelina Bańska, Zofia Kolbuszewska, Piotr Kondraszuk, Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis, and Iwona Rospędek** participated in PAAS annual conference. They had respective presentations: "Understanding 'Indian Killers' – Resisting Ethnocentrism in Multi-Ethnic America in *A Dream Like Mine* by M.T.Kelly and *Indian Killer* by Sherman Alexie," "Shirley Jackson's Witch Children," "To Resist is to Create: Music as a Form of Resistance in Gayl Jones' *Corregidora* and James Baldwin's *Sonny's Blues*," "Storytelling as Rebellion against White Trash Identity in Dorothy Allison's *Trash*," and "Tracing Rebellion in John Updike's *Toward the End of Time*."
- ❑ February 2-5, 2006. Puławy. **Ewelina Bańska, Zofia Kolbuszewska, Piotr Kondraszuk, Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis** attended a conference *Bridges across the Nations: African American Culture in the 21st Century*
- ❑ March 29-31, 2006. Swansea, Wales. **Ewelina Bańska** presented a paper "Homing in the City - Sherman Alexie's Perspectives on Urban Indian Country" during *American Indian Workshop Conference on Place and Indian History, Literature and Culture*.
- ❑ May 18-20, 2006. Pamplona, Spain. **Andrzej Antoszek** participated in the Fifth MESEA Conference: "Ethnic Life Writing and Histories," at University of Navarra, where he presented a paper "Back to the Roots? Dorota Masłowska's *Snow White and Russian Red* and Sylwester Latkowski's *Blokiersi* as Real Hip Hop Narratives or Life Writing."
- ❑ June 13-16, 2006. **Zofia Kolbuszewska** participated in *International Pynchon Week*, in Granada, Spain, organized by University of Granada, University of Zaragossa, and *Pynchon Notes*, where she presented a paper "Childhood as a Metaphor, Motif and Narrative Device in *Mason & Dixon*"
- ❑ June 23-25, 2006. Pułtusk – **Krzysztof Flis** participated in *III Forum Studiów Zaawansowanych nad Stanami Zjednoczonymi im. Profesora Andrzeja Bartnickiego* organized by WSH in Pułtusk, where he had a presentation on "Amerykańskie Zaangażowanie w Wietnamie w latach 1945-56 a Ideały Deklaracji Niepodległości."

Publications

- **Andrzej Antoszek**, an online review for the European Association for American Studies of Heike Raphael-Fernandez, ed., *Blackening Europe; The African American Presence* (New York: Routledge, 2004). (<http://www.eaas.info/reviews.htm>)
- **Andrzej Antoszek**, a review of Heinz Ickstadt, *Faces of Fictions; Essays on American Literature and Culture from the Jacksonian Period to Postmodernity* (*American Studies*: Vol. 92). Edited by Susan Rohr, Sabine Sielke. Heidelberg: Winter, 2001 in *Arbeiten aus Anglistik u. Amerikanistik*, Band 31, Heft 1 (2006))
- **Andrzej Antoszek**, Kate Delaney, "Poland: Transmissions and Translations" in Alexander Stephan, ed., *The Americanization of Europe: Culture, Diplomacy, and Anti-Americanism after 1945* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2006).
- **Marek Brola**, "Louisa May Alcott's Gothic Tales: Subversive Voice in the Victorian Order," *American Freedoms: American (Dis)orders*. Vol.1. Ed. Zbigniew Lewicki. Warsaw: Warsaw University Press, American Studies Center, 2005, 41-48.
- **Marek Brola**, „Louisa May Alcott's 'A Pair of Eyes; or, Modern Magic' – a Denunciation of Artificiality," *Roczniki Humanistyczne KUL* 53:5 (2005): 41-46.
- **Zofia Kolbuszewska**. "Ekphrastic Tension between Verbal and Visual Representation in 'Pictures of the Artist': Bernard Malamud's Synthesis of the Western and Judaic Traditions." *Texts of Literature, Texts of Culture*. Ed. by Ludmiła Gruszewska-Blaim and Artur Blaim. Lublin: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 2005. 151-166.
- **Zofia Kolbuszewska**. "Thomasa Pynchona (neo)barokowa filozofia tekstyliów" [Thomas Pynchon's (Neo)baroque Philosophy of Textiles]. *Pejzaże kultury. Prace ofiarowane Prof. Jackowi Kolbuszewskiemu w 65 rocznicę Jego urodzin*. Ed. By Władysław Dynak and Marian Ursel. Wrocław: Wyd. Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 2005. 559-568.
- **Zofia Kolbuszewska**. "What's Really Haunting King Yrjö's Estate?: The Uncanny and the Discourse of Waste in Thomas Pynchon's 'The Secret Integration.'" *Memory, Haunting Discourse*. Ed. by Maria Holmgren Troy and Elisabeth Wennö. Karlstadt: Karlstadt University Press, 2005. 255-264.
- **Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis** "Adjustment of Individuals into Society in John Steinbeck's *The Pastures of Heaven, Tortilla Flat, Of Mice and Men, and Cannery Row*." *Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos* (Secretariado de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Sevilla) 11: 2006. 23-39.
- **Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis** "Double Standards in the Aristocratic South: an Ironic Portrayal of Selective Freedoms in Ellen Glasgow's Fiction." *American Freedoms: American (Dis)orders*. Vol.1. Ed. Zbigniew Lewicki. Warsaw: Warsaw University Press, American Studies Center, 2005, 227-242.
- **Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis** "The Relationship between an Individual and a Society: Adjustment Disorders of John Steinbeck's Characters." *Roczniki Humanistyczne KUL* 53:5 (2005): 49-65.

Now courses

- Contemporary Black Identity
- Psychoanalytical Literary Criticism
- Contemporary American Ethnic Literature
- American Gothic
- Literature of Regional America.
- Southern Literature

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Events/Activities

- Jerzy Durczak** participated in EAAS Board meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus
- Joanna Durczak** received Silver Cross of Merit
- Joanna Durczak** taught a course "City and Wilderness" in Joensuu, Finland
- Jerzy Durczak** taught a course "After Postmodernism" in Joensuu, Finland
- Pawel Frelik** was elected member of the Editorial Committee and the Literature and Culture Editor of *European Journal of American Studies* (<http://ejas.revues.org>), the official journal of EAAS. In April 2006 he attended the meeting of editors in Middelburg, The Netherlands.
- Jerzy Kutnik** "Czarna sztuka Ameryki: źródła i inspiracje od afrykańskich korzeni do postmodernizmu," part of the series entitled "Czarny Alfabet: konTEKSTY współczesnej sztuki amerykańskiej", Narodowa Galeria Sztuki "Zachęta", 5 October 2006

Conferences

Ewa Antoszek

- October 23-25, 2005 *Conformity and Resistance in America*, The 2005 PAAS Conference, Kamień Śląski, Poland; paper: "Being a Chicana – 'Moving Forward While Looking Back.'"
- February 2-5, 2006 – *Bridges Across the Nations: African American Culture in the 21st Century*, Puławy, Poland
- February 19-22, 2006 *New Developments in American Ethnic Literature*, University of Łódź, Łódź, Poland.
- April 7-10, 2006 – *Conformism, Non-conformism and Anti-conformism in the Culture of the United States*, EAAS Biennial Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus, paper: "The City as a Place of Dialogue, Negotiation and Struggle in Terri de la Peña and Mona Ruiz."

Anna Bulanda

- In April 2006 took part in the European Seminar for Ph.D. candidates in American Studies (HCA Spring Academy 2006) at Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Heidelberg University, Germany. She presented the paper "How to define rhetoric?"
- In August 2006 participated in the international conference at Charles University in Prague organized by the American foundation Expanding Human Consciousness entitled *Consequentiality III: The Global Political and Social Order*. The title of her paper was "President Bush's War Rhetoric and its Impact on Poland's Public Opinion."

Mirella Czerwicz-Dykiel

- "Conformity and Resistance in America", Kamień Śląski 23-25 Oct. 2005; paper: "Adrian Louis' *Skins* ' Conformity and Resistance – Paradoxes of the Reservation Reality."

Joanna Durczak

- workshop "Teaching American Poetry" (Kamień, PAAS)
- workshop "Groups, schools, movements. Between conformity and belonging", Nicosia, Cyprus, EAAS
- workshop "Contemporary Native American literature: Where do we go from here"

Jerzy Durczak

- "Rodriguez and Huntington: Where Are They?", Istanbul, MESEA conference

Edyta Frelik

- “Conformity and Resistance in America”, Kamień Śląski 23-25 Oct. 2005; paper: “A Rebel without a Pose: the Artist According to Thomas Hart Benton”

Paweł Frelik

- Science Fiction Research Association conference, White Plains, NY, paper: “Against the (Slip)stream - science fiction and border bleeding”

Jerzy Kutnik

- “Bridges Across the Nations: African American Culture in the 21st Century,” Puławy, 2-5 lutego, 2006, paper: “African Americans in the Visual Arts”

Malgorzata Rutkowska

- Space, haunting, discourse 2006-06-15 –2006-06-18 Karlstad University, Sweden. paper: “For that cruel land can cast a spell no temperate clime can match”: desert as a liminal space in the 20th c. Western Travel writing.”

Publications

- **Anna Bulanda**: “Retoryka prezydenckich przemówień inauguracyjnych w USA,” *Forum Artis Rhetoricae*, Polskie Towarzystwo Retoryczne UW, nr 1 (3)-2 (4), 2005, s. 106-125.
- **Anna Bulanda**: “Antyamerykanizm po francusku,” *Stosunki Międzynarodowe*, nr 42-43, 2006, s. 45-47.
- **Jerzy Durczak**, „Who Are We (going to become)?”: Vasconcelos, Huntington, Rodriguez (in) *Return to Postmodernism: Theory, Travel Writing, Autobiography*, ed. Klaus Stierstorfer (Heidelberg: Universitatverlag WINTER, 2005), 307-316.
- **Paweł Frelik** “Love in the Times of the Virus,” *The Arthur C. Clarke Award. A Critical Anthology*, ed. Paul Kincaid, Daventry: Serendip Foundation, 2006, 77-84.
- **Paweł Frelik** Rev. of *Double Vision*, by Tricia Sullivan, *Foundation 95* (2005): 137-140.
- **Paweł Frelik** “Dispatches from the Cloning Frontier,” rev. of *I Am The Other: Literary Negotiations of Human Cloning*, by Maria Aline Salgueiro Seabra Ferreira, *Science Fiction Studies* 99 (2006), 355-357.
- **Jerzy Kutnik** “The Wrong Way Up: Or How to Take the Post-Historical Turn”, *Zeszyty Naukowe WSS-P*, tom 1, 2006, 39-56
- **Jerzy Kutnik** “‘Twarze Ameryki’ w Krakowie”, *Akcent*, 1 (103), 2006, 168-173
- **Jerzy Kutnik** “Kiedy sztuka trafia do klozetu. W przeddzień 90 rocznicy Fontanny Duchampa”, *Akcent*, nr 2 (104), 2006, 151-165
- **Malgorzata Rutkowska** “Powrót do przeszłości. Obraz małego miasteczka we współczesnej amerykańskiej literaturze podróżniczej” [w:] *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej, t. III Miasteczka, miasta, metropolie*, Wydawnictwo UŚ, Katowice 2006

Now courses

- **Stan Breckenridge** “History of Jazz”
- **Stan Breckenridge** “Jazz, Rock, Pop”
- **Stan Breckenridge** “Black American Entertainers”
- **Jerzy Durczak** “The Old West and the New West”
- **Jerzy Durczak** “New realism”
- **Joanna Durczak** “Canadian Culture, Canadian Literature”
- **Edyta Frelik** “American Cinema in the 20th Century”
- **Edyta Frelik** “American Pop Culture”
- **Paweł Frelik** “Ocular narratives. The convergence of text and image in contemporary literature.” (http://nomadism.org/?page_id=75)
- **Paweł Frelik** “From Utopia to Science Fiction” (http://nomadism.org/?page_id=74)
- **Andrea Herrera** “Cuban American literature”
- **Andrea Herrera** “Latina writers”
- **Andrea Herrera** “Chicano/Chicana Voices”
- **Malgorzata Rutkowska** - America in Travel Writing from Columbus to

the Present

Guest lecturers

- Douglas Barbour** "Fantasy Literature in Canada"
- John Leo** "Representations of the West in Popular Culture"
- Josie Campbell** "Women Writers in Canada"
- Larry Hussman** "Teaching Naturalism"
- Paweł Zając** "The Culture of the Inuit"
- Stan Breckenridge** "History of Jazz", concert, multimedia presentation

Calls for papers

CANADIAN GHOSTS, HOPES, AND VALUES -- CALL FOR PAPERS

4th Congress of Polish Canadianists to be held 26 - 28 April 2007, in Puławy, Poland. History, understood as the sum of past events and processes, both positive and negative, determines our understanding of the present and provides the substance out of which we build the future. While some of these events and processes are remembered with pride and others are relegated by collective memory to oblivion, in their sum they shape the present, whether by surviving in social practices and discourses or by surfacing – often unexpectedly – in currently embraced visions of reality. If there is one area in which these continuities between the past and the present can be studied most fruitfully, it is in the domain of values – the social, the ethical and the cultural. These values, being the most enduring components of the human psyche, express in crystallized form every community's past experiences and visions of the future. Canada seems to be a particularly rich subject for studying such relationships. Historically, the Canadian experience was shaped by various encounters with "otherness" – they were encounters between the First Nations and white European newcomers, the Canadian French and the Canadian English, and, more recently, between the many peoples brought together to create Canada's multicultural mosaic. Collectively, all those encounters, both fruitful and unsuccessful, have shaped Canadian vision of the future and become a source of inspiration for other nations. As different ways of perceiving and relating to the "Other" evolved over years, oscillating among hostility, rejection, curiosity and sympathy, they were always conditioned by their historical context, especially that of currently held values. This long process of evolutionary shaping of the nation's collective values finds its record in Canadian culture, especially in Canadian literature, film and the visual arts. **Deadline** (proposals in English or French, together with a 250-word abstracts, CVs and participation forms available at web page <http://www3.uj.edu.pl/ISR/kanada/>): 15 October 2006. **Contact:** Organizers, Maciej Abramowicz and Joanna Dureczak, at kanada@hektor.umcs.lublin.pl, Centrum Studiów Kanadyjskich UMCS, Ul. Sowińskiego 17, 20-040 Lublin, Poland.

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Events/Activities

- Grzegorz Kość** did research on a grant from the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, August 2006
- Agnieszka Salska** was Invited Speaker at an American Studies Conference organized by the Ukrainian Academy of Science, Kiev, October 2005
- Agnieszka Salska** organized (with Izolda Geniusiene of the Vilnius University) a workshop section for the Biennial Conference of EAAS, Nicosia, April 2006. The workshop's theme: "The American Artist 1800-1860. Problems of Conformity and Non-Conformity"

Conferences

- Agnieszka Salska** took part in a round table meeting on teaching American poetry and marketing poetry courses, Warsaw, OSA, March 2006
- Krzysztof Majer** did research for his PhD as part of the Erasmus/Socrates scholarship in Flensburg, Germany, from April to August 2006
- Alicja Piechucka** received her PhD from Łódź University in June 2006. Her dissertation is entitled "The Last of the Symbolists: A Comparative Study of T. S. Eliot and the French Symbolist Poets"
- Kacper Bartczak** (guest speaker), "A Reading of John Ashbery's "Two Scenes."" John Ashbery Festival, New York, 6-8 April 2006
- Kevin Magee** "Infallible Indices: Reinscriptions of Shakespeare in Postwar American Poetry." British Drama Through the Ages / Medieval Studies, Uniwersytet Łódzki 17-18 October 2005
- Kevin Magee** "Uneasy Laughter: Degrees of Light and Dark in the Poetry of Frank O'Hara, Jack Spicer and Stephen Jonas." Humor: Teoria, Praktyka, Zastosowania, Konferencja Międzynarodowa, Piotrków Trybunalski, 2-3 June, 2006
- Jadwiga Maszewska** (organiser), New Developments in American Ethnic Literatures, Łódź, 19-22 February 2006. Guest speakers: Sanae Tokizane, Chiba University, Japan; Daniel Chacon, University of Texas at El Paso

Publications

- Kacper Bartczak** *In Search of Communication and Community: The Poetry of John Ashbery*. Peter Lang, 2006
- Grzegorz Kość** "The Third-World Underdog Alliance: Adrian C. Louis's Symbolic Action in Ancient Acid Flashes Back." *Multiculturalism: For and Against*. Ed. Andrzej Wicher. Łódź: Wyższa Szkoła Humanistyczno-Ekonomiczna, 2005. 43-67
- Kevin Magee** *Proletariaria* (a collection of poetry vols. 1&2) Blue Lion Books. Eds. Peter Ganick and Jukka-Pekka Kervinen. West Hartford, CT 2005

Now courses

- Agnieszka Salska**, Western Expansion and the Frontier Experience in American 19th Century Culture

Guest lecturers

- Prof. Bland Crowder, from Hendricks College, Little Rock, Arkansas. Łódź, 2006
- Prof. David Pichaske, Southwest State University, Minnesota, 14-22 October 2005
- Prof. David Lehman 26-28 October 2005

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Events/Activities

In 2006 the University of Łódź signed an academic agreement with the University of Pittsburgh (USA). Department of American Studies and Mass Media (ASM) represents the Polish partner.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy, expert and evaluator of Directorate General Research of the European Commission was invited, as one of 7 EU experts, to carry out the last evaluation of Framework Programme 6 of the EC. She performed the task in the

summer months of 2006.

ASM together with Women's Studies Centre (WSC) organized an International Conference "**Gender and Citizenship in a Multicultural Context**" (Łódź, August 31-September 3, 2006). The Conference, hosted by the University of Łódź, was a joint event of the ASM and WSC, AOIFE (Association of Institutions for Feminist Education and Research in Europe), and ATHENA (Advanced Thematic Network in Activities in Women's Studies in Europe). Its major aims were creating a forum for gender researchers from all Europe and facilitating networking between them. The 450 Conference participants were experts and established scholars in the field of gender studies, as well as young researchers and doctoral students from all European countries and USA. The Conference was structured into 4 plenary sessions and 12 workshop strands. The keynote speakers were:

- Ayse Gul Altinay, Sabanci University, Turkey,
- Rosi Braidotti, Utrecht University, the Netherlands,
- Judith Butler, University of California at Berkeley, USA,
- Ruth Lister, Loughborough University, Great Britain,
- Keith Pringle, Aalborg University, Denmark,
- Magdalena Środa, University of Warsaw, Poland.

Prof. Elżbieta H. Oleksy delivered the opening lecture. She also chaired several sessions including the plenary one "From ENWISE to the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities of All" and coordinated a workshop strand "Culture and Citizenship."

Guest lecturers

In the past academic year ASM hosted several distinguished guest lecturers:

- ❑ On 8 December 2005, **Kenneth MacLean Hillas, Jr**, Deputy Chief of Mission from the American Embassy, Warsaw, visited the department and gave a speech about "The U.S and Human Rights."
- ❑ In May 2006 Prof. **Victor Greene** from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA, gave a lecture on "Significant Dates in American Immigration Policy; Sanctuary and Hostility."
- ❑ Also in May Prof. **Helena Goscilo** from the University of Pittsburgh, USA visited ASM and gave a lecture "American Intellectuals and Republican Interior and Foreign Policy."

Also ASM faculty were invited to a number of different events:

- ❑ In September and October 2005, **Elżbieta H. Oleksy** visited the University of Pittsburgh, USA, where she gave guest lectures on gender in visual culture.
- ❑ In June 2006, **Elżbieta H. Oleksy** visited the University of Granada, Spain, where she gave lectures entitled "Gender in American and European Cinema."
- ❑ **Wiesław Oleksy** visited the University of Pittsburgh, USA where he presented two lectures:
 1. "US and the current political scene in Poland" (October 17, 2006)
 2. "American Studies in Poland - a continuation or a transformation?" (November 10, 2006).
- ❑ In May 2006, **Grażyna Zygadło** visited the University of Granada, Spain, where she gave lectures on "Chicana Feminism in Contemporary Chicana Literature."

Conferences

- ❑ **Wiesław Oleksy** took part in "GROUNDWORK: SPACE AND PLACE IN AMERICAN CULTURES" American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (3-5 November, 2006), during which he coordinated one of the talkshops of the ASA International Committee, entitled "Teaching the Cold War."

- ❑ **Wiesław Oleksy** also participated in the Business Meeting of the ASA International Committee and was elected to serve as IC member for the years 2005-2008.
- ❑ **Aleksandra M. Różalska** participated in VI Festiwal Nauki, Techniki i Sztuki (6th Festival of Science, Technology and Art), Łódź April 2006; where she had a presentation on “African, Latino, and Native Americans in American Television.”
- ❑ **Jarosław Wojcieszek** took part in a conference “American Democracy in 21st Century” organized by the Institute of American Studies, Jagiellonian University (Kraków, 9-11 December 2005) with a presentation entitled “American TV, American Democracy – Global Culture.”
- ❑ **Jarosław Wojcieszek** also took part in the International Conference “Media and Politics,” organized by Wyższa Szkoła Studiów Międzynarodowych, Łódź (27-28 April 2006), where he presented a paper “Mass Media in a Civic Society – the American Case.”
- ❑ **Grażyna Zygałdo** took part in PAAS 2005 International Conference “Conformity and Resistance in America,” Kamień Śląski (23-25. October, 2005), where she delivered a paper “We Accept Food Stamps – American Dream in Chicano/a Art.”
- ❑ **Grażyna Zygałdo** participated in VI Festiwal Nauki, Techniki i Sztuki (6th Festival of Science, Technology and Art), Łódź April 2006; where she had a presentation on “The Image of Minorities in the Oscar-winning production *Crash*.”
- ❑ **Grażyna Zygałdo** participated in the Fifth International Conference on Chicano Literature “Interpreting the Nuevo Milenio” organized by the Research Institute for North American Studies, Universidad de Alcalá, Spain, (21-25 May 2006), where she presented a paper entitled “Mexifornia without Mexicans – Contemporary Visions of Mexican-American Presence in the U.S.”

Publications

- ❑ **Dorota Golańska** “Presidential Elections in the USA and Poland in the Context of Political Culture” In *Challenges in Global Constitutional Democracy and Democracy Education*, Vilnius: Vilnius Pedagogical University Press Leidykla, 2005, 41-53.
- ❑ **Paulina Matera** (co-author: Rafał Matera) “Links and Obstacles in Transatlantic Relations after 9/11.” In *American Politics, Media, and Elections. Contemporary International Perspectives on U.S. Presidency, Foreign Policy, and Political Communication*, ed. T. Płudowski, Toruń: Collegium Civitas Press/ Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, 2005, 161-179.
- ❑ **Paulina Matera** “The Influence of the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Bill of June the 28th 1930 on the French-American Relations.” In *International Studies*, 2005, no. 1, 23-34.
- ❑ **Elżbieta H. Oleksy** “The Politics of Representing Gender in Contemporary Polish Cinema and Visual Art.” In *East European Cinemas*, ed. A. Imre. New York and London: Routledge, 2005, 49-62.
- ❑ **Elżbieta H. Oleksy** “Central European Contributions,” co-authored with Z. Abádi-Nagy. In *American Literary Scholarship: An Annual 2004*, ed. D. J. Nordloh. Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2006, 515-532.

Now courses

- ❑ **Elżbieta Durys** *Ideologia a kino amerykańskie (Ideology in American Cinema)*
- ❑ **Magdalena Marczuk** *Historia Stanów Zjednoczonych (part I till 1865, part II since 1865)*
- ❑ **Elżbieta Oleksy** *Gender and Diversity: International Perspective* – MA Seminar
- ❑ **Maja Sager** *Intersections of Class, Gender and Ethnicity in a Globalised Era*
- ❑ **Agnieszka Kisztełińska-Węgrzyńska** “CIA przeciw KGB”. *Rywalizacja*

szużb wywiadowczych USA i ZSRS w latach 1953 – 1985. (CIA vs. KGB. History of the USA – USSR relations in 1945 –1990).

- ❑ **Agnieszka Kisztelińska–Węgrzyńska** *Dyplomacja Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki wobec wybranych obszarów politycznych i geograficznych w XIX-XX w (US Diplomacy towards Special Geographical and Political Areas in 1890 – 1990).*
- ❑ **Agnieszka Kisztelińska–Węgrzyńska** *Niemcy w polityce zagranicznej Stanów Zjednoczonych w latach 1914-1990 (American – German Relations in 1914 – 1990).*
- ❑ **Agnieszka Kisztelińska–Węgrzyńska** *“I like Ike”. Administracja Dwighta Davida Eisenhowera w latach 1953-1960 (“I like Ike.” Administration of Dwight David Eisenhower in 1953 – 1960).*

Now faculty

- ❑ **Karin Lenke** and **Maja Sager** (both from Sweden) were accepted as Marie Curie Fellows (within the project funded by the 6th Framework Programme of the European Union).
- ❑ **Marek Wojtaszek** was accepted as a PhD student.
- ❑ In October 2006 Professor **David G. LaFrance** and Professor **Stanisław Obirek**, both historians, joined the department. Prof. Obirek is also an expert on interreligious dialogue.
- ❑ Also in October 2006 two former ASM PhD students **Aleksandra Różalska** and **Dorota Golańska** defended their dissertations and joined ASM faculty.

American Studies Center, University of Warsaw

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Events/Activities

Anna Sosnowska:

- ❑ October 2005-September 2006 a visiting scholar in New York University; 12 month fellowship awarded by Foundation for Polish Science; research ‘Periphery in the Center? Polish Migrants in Greenpoint, NY on Global and City Economic Relations’
- ❑ Guest lecture in March 2006, New York University, The Steinhardt School of Education - Humanities and Social Science Dpt, paper: Models of Eastern European Backwardness in the post-1945 Polish Historiography

Guest lecturers

- ❑ **Judith Butler**, “‘Transgender’ and the Spirit of Revolt”, August 29, 2006 (key note address at the “Seeking Queer Alliances” Conference).
- ❑ **Marit MacArthur**, California State University, “The New Elizabeth Bishop” June 8, 2006
- ❑ **Grzegorz Kość**, Department of English, University of Lodz, “Reproduction of Power and Resistance during Robert Frost’s Recital at JFK’s Inaugural, June 7, 2006
- ❑ **Katherine Hoffman**, Saint Anselm College, “Alfred Stieglitz and the Rise of Modernism”, June 2, 2006
- ❑ **Victor Greene**, University of Wisconsin, “A Singing Ambivalence: American Immigrants between Old World and New”, May 25, 2006
- ❑ **Heinz Ickstadt**, Fraie Universitaat Berlin, “American Democracy and the Reality of Race: A History of Race Relations from Slavery to Harlem Renaissance”, December 8, 2005
- ❑ **Piotr Bernaś**, *Gazeta Wyborcza*, “Images of War in Iraq”, January 26, 2006 (Debating America series)
- ❑ **Martha Bayles**, Boston College, “What Does American Popular Culture Say about the United States”, May 24, 2006
- ❑ **Rick Grescyk**, University of Minnesota, “American Indians: Questions and

Answers”, December 3, 2005

- **Mary Curtin**, American Embassy Warsaw, Mirella Panek, Amnesty International, “The U.S. and the Human Rights” (Debating America series), December 2, 2005

Conferences

Conferences at ASC

- “Seeking Queer Alliances” co-sponsored by the American Studies Center and the Gender Studies Program at Warsaw University, August 29-30, 2006.
- “From Mariel to Miami – 25 lat po exodusie” konferencja zorganizowana wspólnie z Centrum Studiów Latinoamerykańskich UW, 26.04.2006

Anna Sosnowska

- 64th Annual Meeting of Polish Institute for Arts and Sciences in America, New York City, June 3-4 2006; paper: Central or Eastern Europe? The Debate of Historians in the Post-1945 Poland.

Krystyna Mazur

- Krystyna Mazur co-organized with Magdalena Zapędowska from UAM, Poznan a conference “American Poetry in Poland: Teaching, Translation, Reception,” March 18, 2006.
- Krystyna Mazur co-organized with Francisco J. Rodriguez from CESLA, UW, a conference “From Mariel to Miami: 25 Years After the Exodus,” April 26, 2006.

Zbigniew Kwiecień

- “Ewolucja stosunków USA z Kubą w kontekście kubańskich fal emigracyjnych”- referat wygłoszony na konferencji naukowej CESLA – OSA UW “Z Mariel do Miami – 25 lat po exodusie” [From Mariel to Miami – 25 Years after the Exodus], Warszawa, 26 kwietnia 2006r.

Ewa Grzeszczyk

- *Images of America: Polish Perspectives on the U.S.*, University of Rochester, Rochester NY, USA, 11.10.2006, E. Grzeszczyk, “American Models of Success in Contemporary Poland”
- *Sens życia, sens śmierci – graniczne doświadczenia człowieka*, Wyższa Szkoła Humanistyczna Towarzystwa Wiedzy Powszechnej w Szczecinie, Międzyzdroje 26-27.09.2006
- *Amerykańska demokracja w XXI wieku*, Instytut Amerykanistyki i Studiów Polonijnych Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, Kraków, 9-11.12.2005, Ewa Grzeszczyk, „Konsumpcja sposobem na sygnalizowanie statusu w społeczeństwach demokratycznych na przykładzie USA i Polski”
- *Ambivalent Americanizations: Popular and Consumer Culture in Central and Eastern Europe*, 24-26 November 2005, Leipzig University; E. Grzeszczyk, “American Models of Consumption and their Presence in Poland”
- *Conformity and Resistance in America*, 23-25.10.2005, Polish Association for American Studies, Kamień Śląski, E. Grzeszczyk “Contesting the Dominant Culture? The Promise keepers and Aglow International Parachurch Movements”

Andrzej Filipiak

- “The End of Democracy: The Crisis of the Institutions or Civic Culture? Around the First Things Symposium on the Usurpation of Politics by the Oligarchic Federal Judiciary”, the Conference “American Democracy in the 21st Century”, Jagiellonian University, December 2005;
- “‘What We Are Fighting For’ – A New Declaration of Independence?”, III Forum Zaawansowanych Studiów nad Stanmi Zjednoczonymi im. Profesora Andrzeja Bartnickiego, Wyższa Szkoła Humanistyczna w Pułtusku, czerwiec 2006;
- “Conservatives Against the Imperial Judiciary: The Debate Around the First Things Symposium on the End of Democracy”, the PAAS Conference, Kamień Śląski, October 2005.

Publications**Tomasz Basiuk**

- co-edited with Dominika Ferens and Tomasz Sikora *Out Here: Local and International Perspectives in Queer Studies*. Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006.
- co-edited with Dominika Ferens and Tomasz Sikora *Parametry pożądania. Kultura odmieńców wobec homofobii*. Kraków: Universitas, 2006.
- "Exposures: American Gay Men's Autobiography and Edmund White's Work." Christa Buschendorf, ed. *Artists and Intellectuals and the Challenge of Political Commitment*. Frankfurt am Main: ZENAF, 2005.
- Tomasz Basiuk and Agnieszka Graff „Falszerstwo Wilkomirskiego: trauma jako konwencja kulturowa i narracyjna”. *Stosowność i forma: Jak opowiadać o zagładzie?* Michał Głowiński *et al.*, eds. Kraków: Universitas, 2005.

Anna Sosnowska

- 2006, "Models of Eastern European Backwardness in the post-1945 Polish Historiography" [in:] East Central Europe- Europe D'centre-est- eine wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift, vol. 52, no I-II.
- 2005, review: Elizabeth Skomp and Roman Żyła, Harmony and Discord: Moving Towards a New Europe. Vol. 17 part 1.
- 2005, "Wydobyć się z zacofania. Czego Europa Wschodnia może i nie może nauczyć się z historii", *Lewa Noga*, t. 17.

Ewa Grzeszczyk

- "Komercjalizacja amerykańskiej religii; megakościoły, tele-ewangeliści i zjawisko *shopping for religion*" (Commercialization of American Religion: Megachurches, Televangelists and Shopping for Religion"), [in:] *Religia, prawo, reklama: Dylematy kultury współczesnej (Religion, Law and Advertising: The Dilemmas of Contemporary Culture)*, ed. R. Paradowski, Media Form, Warsaw, 2006
- Grzech się źle sprzedaje: Przemiany we współczesnej amerykańskiej religijności" ("Sin Does not Sell Well: Changes in Contemporary American Religiosity"), *Edukacja Humanistyczna*, nr 1, 2006

Andrzej Filipiak

- "Śmierć Boga i bunt elit. Nowa klasa jako zjawisko kulturowe i religijne," *Religia. Prawo. Reklama. Dylematy kultury współczesnej*. Red. Ryszard Paradowski, Ośrodek Studiów Amerykańskich UW, Warszawa 2006, 245-254;
- "Wartości, które wspólnie wyznajemy? Cywilizacyjne źródła napięć pomiędzy Stanami Zjednoczonymi a niektórymi państwami europejskimi," *Studia polityczne*, nr 18, 2006, 7-28. "Wartości, które wspólnie wyznajemy? Cywilizacyjne źródła napięć pomiędzy Stanami Zjednoczonymi a niektórymi państwami europejskimi," *Studia polityczne*, nr 18, 2006, 7-28.

Bohdan Szklarski

- Przywództwo symboliczne – między rządzeniem a reprezentacją. Amerykańska prezydentura końca XX wieku, Warszawa, ISPPAN, s. 395*

Now faculty

- Grzegorz Kość** joined the ASC faculty in the Spring 2006 term.
- Agnieszka Weinar** re-joined the faculty in the Fall 2006.

Institute of English Philology, University of Opole**Mailing address**

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Conferences

- Jacek Gutorow** and **Paweł Marcinkiewicz** read their poems and delivered papers during The John Ashbery Festival, April 6-8, The New School,

NYC.

- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow** chaired David Lehman's poetry reading during the PAAS conference *Conformity and Resistance in America* in Kamień Śląski, October 2005.
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow** presented his paper on Wallace Stevens and George Santayana: "The Second International Conference on George Santayana: American and European Values", University of Opole, June 2006.
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow** participated in the Kraków Poetry Seminar: Americans in Kraków/Meetings of Poets. He read his translations of Jorie Graham's poems and discussed the Polish reception of Wallace Stevens. University of Houston and Jagiellonian University, Kraków, June 2006.
- ❑ **Tomasz Lebiecki**: "Esta Tierra Es Nuestra: The Mexican-American Dream of Aztlán". *Conformity and Resistance in America*, Polish Association for American Studies: 2005 Conference, Kamień Śląski, October 2005.
- ❑ **Tomasz Lebiecki**: "Estados Unidos, anybody? - contemporary Latino political dissent", *Conformism, Non-Conformism, and Anti-Conformism in the Culture of the United States* Biennial Conference, European Association for American Studies (EAAS), University of Cyprus, Nicosia, April 2006.
- ❑ **Tomasz Lebiecki** participated in the conference *Z Mariel do Miami – 25 lat po exodusie*, Centrum Studiów Latinoamerykańskich i Ośrodek Studiów Amerykańskich Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, April 2006.
- ❑ **Tomasz Lebiecki**: "The Chicano (un)American Dream", *Engaging with the New American Studies* Conference, University of Birmingham, England, May 2006.
- ❑ **Paweł Marcinkiewicz**: "Teaching Literature as a Form of Resistance", *Conformity and Resistance in America*, Polish Association for American Studies: 2005 Conference, Kamień Śląski, October 2005.

Publications

- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow**: "Dwie Wenecje Henry Jamesa", *Literatura na Świecie* 3-4 (2006), 360-368.
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow**: „Nowojorskie rozproszenie. O pewnej fascynacji Wallace'a Stevensa." *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej (III). Miasteczka, miasta, metropolie*. Pod red. Teresy Pyzik. Wyd. Uniw. Śląskiego, Katowice 2006, 182-195.
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow**: translations of Henry James's Venetian texts – two letters and an essay, *Literatura na Świecie* 3-4 (2006).
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow**: translations of "The Intentional Fallacy" by Wimsatt and Beardsley and "The Heresy of Paraphrase" by Cleanth Brooks, *Teorie literatury XX wieku. Antologia*. Pod red. Anny Burzyńskiej i M.P. Markowskiego. Wydawnictwo Znak, Kraków 2006.
- ❑ **Jacek Gutorow** and **Paweł Marcinkiewicz** translated fragments of David Lehman's *The Last Avant-Garde. The Making of the New York School of Poets*, *Literatura na Świecie* 3-4 (2006). Their translations of Lehman's poems appeared in the same issue.
- ❑ **Tomasz Lebiecki**: "Abraham Lincoln and his Concept of Political Religion", *America, Home of the Brave*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackeho v Olomouci, 2005, 93-102.
- ❑ In "Europa" **Paweł Marcinkiewicz** published numerous translations of American poetry, including A.R. Ammons, John Ashbery, Sylvia Plath, Billy Collins and Henry Cole.

Calls for papers

COMMUNITY AND NEARNESS

We are seeking essays on any aspect of the above topic for a book to be published by Opole University Press in 2007. We would be particularly interested in exploring the ways in which communities are culturally constructed by people who perceive themselves to be part of a given community, and the ways in which these cultural constructions find their representations in British and American literature and culture of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth

century.

Our deadlines are December 31st, 2006 for brief abstracts, and February 28th, 2007 for whole papers.

In case of inquiries please contact: Ilona Dobosiewicz (Dobosiewicz@interia.pl) or Jacek Gutorow (Jacek.Gutorow@neostrada.pl); both at English Department, University of Opole, Pl. Kopernika 11, 45-040 Opole, Poland.

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<http://american-studies.us.edu.pl>

Events and activities

- ❑ **Aleksandra Podgórnika** successfully defended her doctoral dissertation entitled *Magical Realism: Postcolonial Theory and Practice* (advisor prof. UŚ doc. dr hab. Teresa Pyzik).
- ❑ **Jarosław Szurman** is visiting Stockholms Universitet, Sweden, 20 August 2006 -15 January 2007, within SOCRATES/ERASMUS. He is doing research for his doctoral dissertation *Anglo/American Folksong: Ballads of the Frontier and the West*

Conferences

- ❑ **Sonia Caputa** presented a paper "Shades and Voices of Cultural Nostalgia: Anthony Bukoski's Polish-American short stories" at the conference *Caught in the treadmill? Recycling culture/the culture of recycling* organized by the Insitute of British and American Culture and Literature, University of Silesia, Ustroń, 14-15 September 2006.
- ❑ **Jarosław Szurman** presented a paper "The Blues Ballad " at the 36th International Ballad Commission Conference *Vom Wunderhorn zum Internet*, Freiburg am Breisgau, 3-7 April 2006. The conference was organized by Kommission fur Volksdichtung/IBC, Deutsches Volksliedarchiv, SIEF.
- ❑ **Jarosław Szurman** presented a paper "The Blues Ballad Revisited: Donald Knight Wilgus' Research Files at the Southern Folklife Center, UNC, Chapel Hill" at the conference *Between Orthodoxy and Pleasure: The Making of the Reading List* organized by the Insitute of British and American Culture and Literature, University of Silesia, Szczyrk, 18 - 20 May 2006.
- ❑ **Jarosław Szurman** and **Sonia Caputa** participated in the conference *Bridges Across the Nations: African American Culture in the 21st Century*, organized by the Collegium for African American Research (CAAR), Warsaw University, Catholic University of Lublin, Puławy, 2-5 February 2006.

Publications

- ❑ **Red. Teresa Pyzik:** *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, (tom III) Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.
- ❑ **Sonia Caputa:** " (Polskie) Chicago w powieściach Nelsona Algrena." *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.
- ❑ **Aleksandra Kiełtucka:** "Ucieczka z Raju, czyli utracony sen o wolności. Obraz społeczności przedmieścia w *Expensive People* [Droży ludzie] Joyce Carol Oates." *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.

- ❑ **Krzysztof Kowalczyk-Twarowski:** *Glebae adscripti. Troping Place/Region/Nature in America*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2005.
- ❑ **Krzysztof Kowalczyk-Twarowski:** "Między Palcem Waszyngtona a Lower East Side. Wizja Nowego Jorku w wybranych utworach Edith Wharton, Henry'ego Jamesa, Williama Deana Hawellsa i Henry'ego Rotha." *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.
- ❑ **Magdalena Słonka:** "(Do)chodzenie w Nowym Jorku. Perypatetyczne doświadczenie miasta w *Szklanym Mieście* Paula Austera," *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.
- ❑ **Jarosław Szurman:** "(Anglo)amerykańskie ballady bulwarowe," *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.
- ❑ **Agnieszka Woźniakowska:** "Miasteczko Grover's Corners – 'Nasze Miasto' Thorntona Wildera." *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej: Miasteczka, Miasta, Metropolie*, red. Teresa Pyzik, Katowice: Wydawnictwo UŚ 2006.

Guest lecturers

- ❑ **Prof. Andrzej Szmidt** (Akademia Muzyczna w Katowicach) "American Jazz and Blues Music."

Now faculty

- ❑ **Marcin Sarnek** joined the Department in June.

Calls for papers

- ❑ Do końca stycznia 2007 czekamy na artykuły do piątego tomu z serii *Wielkie Tematy Literatury Amerykańskiej* pod redakcją prof. UŚ doc. dr hab. T. Pyzik, który będzie zatytułowany "Podróże, wędrówki, włóczęgi" ("Travels, Voyages, Trips"). Termin nadsyłania artykułów w języku polskim: do 30.01.2007 r.

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Events/Activities

- ❑ On 19 September 2006 **Jakub Wójcik** defended his doctoral dissertation "The Devil Incarnate, the Noble Savage, or the Good Indian: the Construction of the Portrayal of the Native Americans In Pre-Civil War American Fiction (1790-1860)" written under the supervision of Prof. Marek Wilczyński.

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Events/Activities

- ❑ VI Zachodniopomorski Festiwal Nauki Szczecin -Koszalin, 16-24 September 2006 in a workshop "W krainie języka angielskiego" Anna Łakowicz-Dopiera conducted a seminar entitled "Who is an American?"
- ❑ **Renata Nowaczewska** defended her Ph.D. thesis at the History Institute, Warsaw University. The title: "Prywatna i pozarządowa działalność

dobroczynna czy państwo opiekuńcze? Koncepcje zwalczania ubóstwa w Stanach Zjednoczonych w latach 1929-37.” (“Private and nongovernmental relief or the welfare state? Ways of eradicating poverty in the United States, 1929-1937.”) The thesis supervisor: Prof. Krzysztof Michałek

Conferences

- PAAS conference 2005 **Anna Łakowicz-Dopiera** delivered a paper "Nonconformity and resistance in portraying the US in the writings of Czesław Miłosz and Aleksander Hertz."

American Literature Section, Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw

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Events/Activities

- Agnieszka Bedingfield** has left the department to join her husband in Boston. We wish her all the best in her American life!!!
- In October 2006, Professor **Richard Yarborough**, University of California, Los Angeles, is a Fulbright Senior Specialist at the English Department, University of Warsaw. He has given a series of lectures for students as well as talked during staff meetings on African American literature, its social, historical and aesthetic contexts. He has been invited to lecture at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, and the University of Gdańsk.
- Agata Preis-Smith**, **Ewa Łuczak** and **Marek Paryż** will be editing a volume of essays on American and Canadian literature dedicated to the memory of the late professor Nancy Burke. They have collected almost thirty contributions from scholars from the USA, Canada, France, Germany, Austria, Serbia and Poland. The book is scheduled to appear at the turn of 2006 and 2007.
- In February 2006, **Ewa Łuczak**, together with Andrzej Antoszek, Lublin Catholic University, organized an international seminar aimed at Ph.D. students from Eastern and Central Europe. The seminar was entitled: “Bridges Across the Nations: African American Culture in the Twenty-First Century” and was held in Puławy.
- In September 2006, **Ewa Łuczak** was invited by Emmanuel College, Franklin Springs, Georgia, to give two talks: “Reading Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*” and “Postcolonial Poland”.
- In June 2006 **Tadeusz Pióro** read his poems at the Runnymede Literary Festival, Royal Holloway College, University of London.
- Tadeusz Pióro**’s poems have recently appeared in two major on-line literary journals: the Australian *Jacket* and the American *Literature Without Borders*, the latter published by Bard College.
- Julia Fiedorczyk**’s new book of poems, *Planeta rzeczy zagubionych*, has just been published by Biuro Literackie, Wrocław.
- Julia Fiedorczyk** has contributed a critical essay on John Ashbery and translations of his poems to the forthcoming issue of *Literatura na Świecie*.
- Joanna Ziarkowska** spent last September on a research grant at the JFK Institute for North American Studies, Berlin.

- In the academic year 2006/2007, **Justyna Włodarczyk** will be a Fulbright fellow at the University of Indiana, Bloomington.
- In the Summer semester 2007, **Marek Paryż** will be a senior Fulbright Scholar at the University of Illinois, Chicago.

Guest lecturers

- In November 2005, Professor **Deborah Castillo**, Cornell University, lectured on Latina/o literature in the United States.
- In March 2006, Professor **Josie Campbell** and Professor **John Leo**, both University of Rhode Island, Kingston, gave a joint lecture on “Debating the American Literary Canon: Conservative Defense and Liberal Intervention.”
- In April 2006, Chicano writer **Daniel Chacón** talked on “What It Means to Be a Chicano Writer?” and read from his books.
- In October 2006, Professor **Marianne Noble**, American University, Washington, D.C., lectured on “The Role of Sentimentality as an Aesthetic Category and Its Political and Social Values in Nineteenth-Century American Fiction.”

Conferences

- The following members of the American Literature Section presented papers at the 2005 PAAS Conference in Kamień Śląski: **Hanna Boguta Marchel** (“Reconciliation of the individual and the Social as an Instance of the Puritan-American Ideology of Consensus”), **Iwona Rentflejsz** (“When the Victims Cease to Conform – Challenging the Media Image of the People with AIDS”), **Zuzanna Ladyga** (“The Defiant Other in Ann Beattie’s *The Doctor’s House* and *Follies*”), **Agnieszka Bedingfield** (“Women at Wartime/Women on Wartime: Discursive Non-Conformity in Literature by Women”), **Julia Fiedorczuk** (“Limited Revolutions: From Pound and Riding to L-A-N-G-U-A-G-E”), **Ewa Łuczak** (“The Particular, the Universal and Black Writers of the 1960s: The Case of William Demby”), **Justyna Włodarczyk** (“When Resistance is Conformity. Upward Social Mobility in the Works of Dorothy Allison”), **Tadeusz Pióro** (“Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man*: A Civic Perspective”), **Marek Paryż** (“Narration and Surveillance in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Tale ‘Wakefield’”).
- In November 2005, **Marek Paryż** took part in the conference “Between Literature and Medicine 3”, held in Lublin. He read a paper entitled “The Game of Surgery: Edgar Allan Poe’s ‘Some Words with a Mummy’ and Herman Melville’s *White Jacket*.”
- In February 2006, **Agata Preis-Smith** participated in the conference “New Developments in Contemporary American Ethnic Literatures” in Łódź. She conducted the session on the teaching of American literature. The primary source used in the session was Toni Morrison’s essay “Unspeaking Things Unspoken: The Afro-American Presence in American Literature.”
- In May 2006, **Ewa Łuczak** read a paper “William Demby’s Skeptical Auto/fiction” at the 5th MESEA (The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and Americas) conference: “Ethnic Life Writing and Histories”, held in Pamplona, Spain.
- **Hanna Boguta-Marchel** took part in the conference “Caught in a Treadmill? Recycling Culture / The Culture of Recycling” in Ustroń, September 2006. She presented a paper entitled “‘Memories are uncertain and the past that was differs little from the past that was not’: Some Reflections on Repetitiveness and Originality of Cormac McCarthy’s *Blood Meridian*’.”
- In September 2006 **Marek Paryż** attended the symposium “Australia: Memory, Identity and Destiny” at the University of Opole, presenting a paper “The Topography of History: Narrating the Place, Narrating the Past in David Malouf’s Novel *The Great World*.”

Publications**Julia Fiedorczuk**

- “‘Poem talking silence’: on Laura Riding’s Renunciation of Poetry.” (*a*) *the journal of culture and the unconscious* (San Francisco) 4:2 (2004).
- “Pytania w kwestii domu: Elizabeth Bishop.” *Piękniejszy dom od Prozy. O amerykańskiej poezji kobiecej*. Ed. Lucyna Aleksandrowicz-Pędich and Jerzy Kamionowski. Białystok: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 2005.

Marek Paryż

- “Proza amerykańska XX i początku XXI wieku.” *Historia literatury światowej. Tom 9: XX wiek – proza*. Ed. Marian Szulc. Kraków: Pinnex, 2005, pp.167-276.
- “Lekarze, pacjenci i język medycyny w prozie pisarzy amerykańskich połowy XIX wieku – Edgara Allana Poe’go i Nathaniela Hawthorne’a.” *Między literaturą a medycyną. Literackie i pozaliterackie działania środowisk medycznych a problemy egzystencjalne człowieka XIX i XX wieku*. Ed. Eugenia Łoch and Grzegorz Wallner. Lublin: Wydawnictwo UMCS, 2005.
- “‘Biała’ czarna poezja – fenomen Phyllis Wheatley.” *Piękniejszy dom od Prozy. O amerykańskiej poezji kobiecej*. Ed. Lucyna Aleksandrowicz-Pędich and Jerzy Kamionowski. Białystok: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 2005.
- “Oblicza terroru w reportażach V.S. Naipaula.” *Człowiek wobec rewolucji i terroru*. Ed. Eugenia Łoch. Lublin: Lubelskie Towarzystwo Naukowe, 2005.
- “Filming the Unfilmable: *The Golden Bowl* on Screen.” *American Studies* (Warsaw). Special Issue: “Henry James’s Afterlife: Opera, Film, RPG.” Vol. 22 (2005).
- “Wizerunki amerykańskich miast w szkicach Trumana Capote’a z tomu *Koloryt lokalny: Nowy Orlean, Nowy Jork, Los Angeles*.” *Wielkie tematy literatury amerykańskiej. Tom III: Miasteczka, miasta, metropolie*. Ed. Teresa Pyzik. Katowice: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego, 2006.
- “Papierowe kolty (o powieści Roberta Coovera *Miasto widmo*).” *Tygiel Kultury*, 10-12 (2005).
- (with Piotr Czaplą) “Pod powierzchnią zdarzeń. Wywiad z Kazuo Ishiguro.” *Nowe Książki*, 1 (2006).
- “Ian McEwan: pochwała nieoczywistości.” *ARTE*, 2 (2006).
- “*American Psycho*: część 1 i 2.” *ARTE*, 6 (2006).
- “Pynchon: geometria chaosu.” *ARTE*, 7-8 (2006).
- Translation of “Venice: An Early Impression” by Henry James. *Literatura na Świecie*, 3-4 (2006).
- Reviews of the Polish editions of *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones, *Prisoners of War* by Steve Yarbrough, *Middle Age: A Romance* by Joyce Carol Oates, *The Master* by Colm Tóibin, *Rules of Attraction* by Bret Easton Ellis, *The Middle Passage* by V.S. Naipaul, *The Collected Stories of Truman Capote*, *Elizabeth Costello* by J.M. Coetzee, *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss, *Villages* by John Updike, *The Anatomy Lesson* by Philip Roth, *What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Love* by Raymond Carver; *Nowe Książki*, 11 (2005) – 10 (2006), respectively. Reviews published under the pen-name Paweł Sokołowski: *Gra w SS. Poetyka (nie)powieści Jerzego Kosińskiego* by Ludmiła Gruszewska Błaim, *One*

Matchless Time. The Life of William Faulkner by Jay Parini, *Nowe Książki*, 1 (2006) and 8 (2006).

Now faculty

- ❑ **Brian Chanen** will be a part-time lecturer in the American Literature Section, offering courses on American postmodern fiction.
- ❑ **Agnieszka Warso** and **Paweł Pyrka** are new doctoral students in the American Literature Section.

Now courses

- ❑ **Brian Chanen**, "The Reading of an American Novel: Mark Danielewski's *House of Leaves*."

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Events

- ❑ In December 2005 **Aneta Dybska** defended her doctoral dissertation on *Black men's (auto)creations: Constructing gender and race in the social sciences and self-writing in the U.S. in the 1960s and 1970s*. In March 2006 she joined the teaching faculty of the Section of Cultures of Anglo-Saxon Countries.

Conferences**Anna Pochmara**

- ❑ Maria Curie Skłodowska University, Lublin 2006, Męskość jako kategoria kulturowa: Paper title: „Babilon, świat bab, czyli 'kryzys męskości' w powieści *Zwał* Sławomira Shutego.”
- ❑ PAAS conference 2005, Kamień Śląski: Paper title: "White Rebels, Black Masks – Racial Idioms of Rebellion in American Culture."

Now courses**Aneta Dybska**

- ❑ *Slavery in American Culture* (Spring 2006)
- ❑ *The Black Community and the Black Family in the Twentieth-Century African American Narrative* (Spring 2006)
- ❑ *Introduction to Cultural Studies* (Spring 2006)

Anna Pochmara

- ❑ American Literature (Fall 2006)

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Events/Activities

- ❑ **Dominika Ferens** is a coeditor of the international electronic journal of queer studies *Interalia* whose first issue was published on June 2006 www.interalia.org.pl

Conferences

- ❑ **Stephanie Branson**, Fulbright Visiting Professor, organized a comparative literature conference titled *Definitions of Reality* (Wrocław, May 6-7, 2006).
- ❑ **Justyna Kociatkiewicz** co-authored the paper "Outside Athens, outside Poznan: Intertextuality in Malgorzata Musierowicz's *Nutria i Nerwus*." *Definitions of Reality* (Wrocław, May 6-7, 2006).
- ❑ **Elzbieta Klimek-Dominiak** presented the paper "Topography of

Conquests, Resistance and Re-invention: Opening Up of the Midwest for Environmental History and Women's Voices in J. Smiley's *A Thousand Acres*." *Mapping Space(s): Memory, Place, Locality* (Uniwersytet Śląski Ustroń 14-17.09.2005)

Publications

- ❑ **Mariusz Marszalski**, "Maxwell Anderson's Post-Positivist Metaphysics." *Pase Papes in Literature, Language and Culture. Part One. Papers in Literature and Culture*. Eds. Grazyna Bystydzienska, Emma Harris, and Paddy Lyons. Uniwersytet Warszawski, Warszawa, 2005. 224-231.
- ❑ **Mariusz Marszalski**, "Ambiguous Nature of Moral Values in Roger Zelazny's Cycle *The Chronicles of Amber*." *Towards or Back to Human Values? Spiritual and Moral Dimensions of Contemporary Fantasy*. Eds. Justyna Deszcz-Tryhubczak and Marek Oziewicz, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006.
- ❑ *Out Here: Local and International Perspectives in Queer Studies*. Eds. **Dominika Ferens, Tomasz Basiuk and Tomasz Sikora**. Amersham: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006.
- ❑ *Parametry pożądania: Kultura odmieńców wobec homofobii*. Co-editor, with **Tomasz Basiuk and Tomasz Sikora**. Kraków: Universitas, 2006.
- ❑ **Dominika Ferens**. "Gossip From Behind a Closed Door: Revisiting Girls' Boarding School Culture." *Out Here: Local and International Perspectives in Queer Studies*. Eds. Dominika Ferens, Tomasz Basiuk, and Tomasz Sikora. Amersham: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006.

Now courses

- ❑ **Justyna Kociatkiewicz** teaches a new MA course "Americans and Conspiracy"
- ❑ **Elzbieta Klimek-Dominiak** teaches a new MA seminar "Race, Gender and Region in the 19th- and 20th-century American Fiction"

Now faculty

- ❑ **Katarzyna Nowak**, Ph.D.

* * *

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