NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS
OF AMERICAN LITERATURE
AND CULTURE AT POLISH UNIVERSITIES

Department of American Studies, University of Gdansk
Department of American Literature and Culture, University of Silesia, Katowice
Department of American Literature and Culture, UMCS, Lublin
English Department, Catholic University of Lublin
Department of American Studies & Mass Media, University of Lodz
Department of American Literature & Culture, University of Lodz
American Studies Center, University of Warsaw
Department of English, Nicholas Copernicus University, Torun
Department of American Literature, University of Warsaw
Institute of English Philology, University of Wroclaw

Department of American Studies
at the University of Gdansk

Publications and activities

Cheryl Alexander Malcolm

Understanding Anita Brookner (University of South Carolina Press). Also available from Amazon.com.


She gave several poetry readings: at the PAAS Conference in Pulawy in November, at the Biennial Conference of EFACIS in Aarhus, Denmark in December; at the IATEFL Conference and at Club Yesterday in Gdansk in March, and at the Jagiellonian University Triennial Conference in Cracow in April. She has received invitations to give poetry readings in September at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and at Northern Iowa University.

In November, she presented the paper "Portrait of the Shtetl or Suburbia?: Fiddler on the Roof" at the PAAS Conference in Pulawy.

At the EAAS Conference in Bordeaux, France, she presented the paper "Going for the Knockout: Boxing, Whiteness, and Masculinity in Gus Lee's China Boy."

At the Salzburg Conference "Tale, Novella, Short Story: Currents in Short Fiction" she presented a paper on Jean
Rhys.

At conferences at Jagiellonian University, Cracow, and at Aarhus University, Denmark, she presented papers in Irish literature and film. In Denmark, she organized an eight paper panel and was appointed to the steering committee of EFACIS.

Beata Williamson

At the EAAS Conference in Bordeaux, France, she presented the paper "Rascals, Weaklings, and Saviors: Fashionable Men in 19th-Century Domestic Fiction," at Workshop 12 "Yankee Doodle Dandyisme: The Dandy as a Transatlantic Messenger," chaired by Michael Hinds from Mater Dei Institute, Dublin, Ireland, and Joao Paulo Moreira, University of Coimbra, Portugal.

In April, she participated in the BelAAS Conference in Minsk "Moving Beyond the Great Narrative: The Challenge of the Postmodern in American Culture" where she presented a semi-plenary lecture "Maria Cummins: An Unpretentious Merry Scribbler, or a Weighty Discovery of Postmodern Criticism?." She also chaired one of the sessions.

Department of American Literature and Culture, University of Silesia, Katowice

Visiting Professors

In the academic year 2001/2002, the Department hosts Fulbright Professor Arthur Redding from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, who teaches courses in American literature.

Publications

Teresa Pyzik

Ed., Readings in American Civilization, second edition by:
Innowacje (Ustroń: 2001).


Other members of the Department published altogether 13 papers on American literature and culture as well as on literary theory and culture studies.

Call for papers

We would like to invite scholars to participate in the second volume of the series Great Themes in American Literature. The working title is: Amerykańska Granica (Frontier), Amerykański Zachód (The Myth of the West). The series is published in Polish due to the growing interest in American literature observable among the academic and non-academic readers and the limitedness of the number of Polish language Americanist publications. Deadline for submissions: 1 October, 2002. We welcome all interested contributors to contact:

Prof. Teresa Pyzik
Department of American Literature and Culture
Institute of British and American Literature and Culture
University of Silesia
Department of American Literature and Culture
UMCS Lublin

http://klio.umcs.lublin.pl/~ptsazlka/dalc/dalc.htm

2001 PAAS Conference

The Department of American Literature and Culture was the organizer of the annual conference of the Polish Association for American Studies. The conference "American Portraits and Self-portraits" was held in Pulawy November 11-13, 2001 and was the biggest PAAS conference ever. 90 participants from Poland, Germany, Denmark and the U.S. heard 42 papers and 3 plenary lectures on American literature, history, geography, politics, and art.

We were honored to have as special guests Professor Marjorie Perloff from Stanford University and Professor Heinz Ickstadt, the director of J. F. Kennedy Institute of Berlin, as well as representatives from American Embassy in Warsaw: Tania Chomiak-Salvi, Cultural Attaché and Andy Koss, Public Affairs Officer.

Frankfurt-Lublin Co-Teaching Seminar and Student Conference

In winter semester 2001/2002 the third co-teaching seminar in American literature and culture was organized by Joanna Durczak and Christa Buschendorf from Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität in Frankfurt am Main. The seminar, titled "The City in American Literature and Culture" culminated with a three-day student conference organized by Joanna Durczak in Lublin and sponsored by the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University. The meeting gave the participants an opportunity to read their papers to an international audience and to exchange views on the problems they had studied during classes.

Guest lectures

Nancy Burke (UW)
"Double Perspective: Canadian Literature"

Maciej Abramowicz (UMCS)
"Literatura Francuskojęzykowej Kanady"

Regina Grol (SUNY, Buffalo)
"The Challenges of Translating Polish Women's Poetry"

Holli Levitsky (Loyola-Marymount, Los Angeles):
"Suicide and Sex in Faulkner's Snopes Trilogy: The Cost of Desire (Is Death)"

Agnieszka Graff (UW)
"Making Patriarchy Strange: A Small Step Towards a Poetics of Feminism"

Jerzy Kutnik presented the paper titled "The Uses
of the American Flag by Non-Americans"
at the EAAS Conference in Bordeaux, in March 2002.

**Publications**

**Paweł Frelik**


**Dorota Janowska**


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**English Department,**

**Catholic University of Lublin**

**Conferences**


**Zofia Kolbuszewska** participated in the Symposium organized by Zakład Badań Literackich from Gdańsk University "Konwencje a Teksty", held in Gdańsk in September 2001, and she presented a paper titled "Fiction Squared: The Gothic Dream within a Dream in Ambrose Bierce's 'The Death of Halpin Frayser'.

**Publications**

**Patrycja Baran**

"W Poszukiwaniu Straconej Prawdy" (co-author) in *Literatura na Świecie*, Nr 1/2001 (354), pp. 130-149

Robert Coover's "Winda" (translation, co-author) in *Literatura na Świecie*, Nr 1/2001 (354), pp. 81-93


**Andrzej Antoszek**

"W Poszukiwaniu Straconej Prawdy" (co-author) in *Literatura na Świecie*, Nr 1/2001 (354), pp. 130-149.


Wszystko@jest.siecią.com in Internet. *Fenomen Społeczeństwa Informacyjnego*. (Edycja Świętego Pawła, Częstochowa 2001), pp. 89-104

**Zofia Kolbuszewska**

"A Rewriting of a Canonical Text as an Exploration of the Unspeakable: A Comparison of the Chronotopes of Henry James's The Turn of the Screw and Joyce Carol Oates's


Guest lecturers

Marek Wilczynski visited KUL in November 2001 and gave a lecture on "Female Class in the School of Hawthorne."

Larry Hussman, a Fulbright Visiting Professor, gave a lecture on "The Future of American Fiction" on April 5, 2002.

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Department of American Studies and Mass Media (AMS)
University of Łódź

Conferences and seminars

International Conference American Culture in the Era of Globalization
Łódź, 20-23 October 2001

International Conference American Culture in the Era of Globalization co-organized by Department of American Studies and Mass Media and Polish-American Fulbright Commission was described as a great success by the participants. It was opened by the welcome address was delivered by Elżbieta H. Oleksy - Dean of the Faculty of International and Political Studies and Chair of the Organizing Committee. Conference brought together scholars in American Studies from USA, Canada, Estonia, Greece, Finland, Poland, UK, Slovak Republic, and Australia. For three days, more than 30 presenters and 100 participants discussed various aspects of globalization/americanization. US Embassy in Warsaw was represented by Małgorzata Koszalew. September 11 events did not prevent our guests from attending the conference but echoed in some papers. One of the most emotional ones was the address by Professor Doris Friedensohn, New Jersey City University, entitled: News and Views from a Global City. The key-note lecture of the second conference day: Fulbright and Other Professional Exchanges in a Global System of Intellectual Exchange prepared by Professor Susan Hammond of American University, Washington, highlighted another major topic of the conference - the role of international organizations in integration processes.
Selected papers will be published.

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**American Studies Seminar**  
**Ethnicity and Gender in the United States**  
**University of Łódź**  
**March 14-16, 2002**

Organizers:  
Anna Wilbik-Świtaj - US Embassy Warsaw  
Wiesław Oleksy - Department of American Studies and Mass Media, University of Łódź  
Higher School of Linguistics, Częstochowa (WSL)

This seminar explored ethnic diversity of the United States with a special emphasis on racial and gender relations. Lectures and workshops discussed selected theoretical/general aspects of ethnicity and gender in contemporary America. They also addressed the issues of gender representation in American film and literature, and dealt with how these representations cross-sect with the diverse ethnic composition of American society. One workshop was a demonstration of an "ethnic and racial conflict resolution" course that is taught via internet and administered from W. Paterson University, New Jersey. The seminar was instructed by the faculty of the Department of American Studies and Mass Media, University of Łódź; Department of American Literature, Warsaw University; the US Embassy, Warsaw, and Americans currently visiting with the Department of American Studies and Mass Media, UL. Participants were instructors of American Studies/American history/American Culture who teach courses to Polish students (future teachers of English at various educational institutions in Poland) at ELT Colleges in Poland. Some of the participants were Ph.D. students preparing their dissertations and also teaching courses on the United States at American Literature/American Culture Departments.

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**The International Conference**  
"Research and Scholarship in Integration Processes: Poland--USA--EU"  
**University of Łódź Conference Center**  
**Ul. Kopeińskiego 16/18**  
**19 - 22 June, 2002**

Organizing Committee:  
Professor Elżbieta H. Oleksy,  
Professor Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk,  
Professor Bronisław Marciniak,  
Professor Józef Kobos,  
Professor Iwona Frydrych,  
Dr Andrzej Dakowski,  
Dr Kazimierz Sobotka,  
Dr Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski,  
Dr Krzysztof Kredens,  
Mgr Jarosław Wojcieszek

Additional information: Inter2000@krysia.uni.lodz.pl  
The conference is organized by the Polish Fulbright Alumni Association, the University of Łódź, Polish-US Fulbright Commission, and the Foundation for the European Studies-European Institute will be inaugurated on June 20,
2002, at 10:30 a.m. by:

Professor Stanislaw Liszewski, Rector of the University of Łódź

Christopher R. Hill, United States of America Ambassador in Poland

Professor Marek Belka, Deputy Prime Minister of Poland

Jarosław Pietras, Deputy Head of the European Integration Committee

Dr Józef Oleksy, Chair of the Parliamentary EU-Integration Committee

Professor Longin Pastusiak, Speaker of the Senate

Dr Andrzej Olechowski, Political Leader

Iwona Śledzińska-Katarasińska, Deputy Chair of the Parliamentary Committee of Education

The conference will gather scholars, higher education managers and research administrators from Poland, the United States, the European Union, and East Central Europe willing to participate in the exchange of ideas and experiences concerned with the role of research projects in the integration processes in the fields of: arts and humanities, social science, economics, medical science, technical science, research management and administration.

The opening ceremony will be followed at 11.45 by the key-note lecture given by Professor Paul Lauter, Trinity College, Hartford.

International Conference
Representing Gender in Cultures
University of Łódź Conference Center
Ul. Kopcińskiego 16/18
19-22 September, 2002

We are pleased to inform you that we have received 198 proposal for papers and panels for the International Conference "Representing Gender in Cultures." Given a limited space at the Conference Center, we have selected 150 papers and panels that explicitly addressed the theme of the Conference. The colleagues whose papers have been selected represent the following countries: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Moldavia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, and Yugoslavia.

On Setember 19, at 4 p.m., the Conference will be inaugurated by Professor Danuta Hubner, Polish Minister of European Integration and Ms. Nicole Dewandre, head of "Women and Science Unit" of the European Commission. In attendance at the opening ceremony will be representatives of the Polish parliament as well as local politicians and journalists. We have also invited distinguished professors from Europe and the US to give key-note lectures at the conference.
The opening ceremony will be followed at 5 p.m. by the first key-note lecture given by professor Rosi Braidotti from the University of Utrecht.

An exhibition "Public Space and Private Space in Polish Women's Art.," hosted by the Łódź Gallery 86, will be an integral part of the Conference.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy - Professor and Director
Joanna Rydzewska - Conference Secretary
Women's Studies Center
University of Łódź

Additional information: Jrydzew@krysia.uni.lodz.pl

**Publications**

**Wiesław Oleksy**


**Tomasz Pludowski**


**Agnieszka Borkowska**


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**Department of American Literature and Culture, University of Lodz**

**Events**

**WORKSHOP/SEMINAR**

**CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH**

ŁÖDŻ, SEPTEMBER 15-19, 2002

In September 2002, Department of American Literature and Culture of the University of Łódz will hold a workshop/seminar for junior Americanists from Central and
Eastern Europe on today's American South. The event is sponsored by the American Embassy in Warsaw, the Rector of the University of Łódź, and the Dean of Philological Faculty of our university. Similar workshops have previously been held in Pulawy. Our guest professors: Noel Polk from the University of Southern Mississippi, Peter Nicolaisen from Germany, and Richard Godden from Great Britain will give lectures, conduct seminars on selected short stories by contemporary Southern authors, and lead discussions on films shown during the workshop. The cost of participation will be covered by the sponsors.

For more information and a reading list, please contact:

Agnieszka Salska at Salska@krysia.uni.lodz.pl
or
Jadwiga Maszewska at jagamasz@krysia.uni.lodz.pl

Conferences

In November, Agnieszka Salska, Jadwiga Maszewska, Richard Profozich, Grzegorz Koś, Kacper Bartczak, Grażyna Zygadło and Małgorzata Myk participated in the Annual PAAS Conference in Pulawy "American Portraits and Self-portraits".

At PAAS Conference in Pulawy Grażyna Zygadło presented a paper titled "I Deny I Am Like My Mother-Mothers and Daughters in Amy Tan's The Joy Luck Club and Erica Jong's Inventing Memory."

At PAAS Conference in Pulawy Małgorzata Myk presented a paper titled "Louise Erdrich's Portraits of Contemporary Indians. A New Historical Perspective."

Activities

Grażyna Zygadło was invited to participate in the American Studies Seminar "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States" organized by the American Embassy and the Department of American Culture and Mass Media of Łódź University, held in Łódź on March 14-16, 2002.

Małgorzata Myk spent 4 weeks in the J.F. Kennedy Institute in Berlin researching for her Ph.D. on the theme of violence in works of Don DeLillo, Bret Easton Ellis, and Stephen Wright.

Publications

Kacper Bartczak


An earlier article by Kacper Bartczak on John Ashbery and Bohdan Zadura (akcent 1-2, 2002) is reviewed in Odpowiednie Duć Rzeczy Słowo by Wacław Sadkowski (Warszawa 2002) in the chapter devoted to contemporary translations of American poetry.

His poems have been recently published in Twórczość, Fa-art, and Akcent.
American Studies Center
Warsaw University

Events
The ASC Distinguished Speakers' Forum hosted Mr. Christopher Hill, the U. S. Ambassador to Poland, whose spoke on "The Fight Against Terrorism," and Dr. Strobe Talbot, former First Deputy Secretary of State, whose topic was "Current Issues of U. S. Foreign Policy."

In the Fall semester, Agnieszka Graff was once again parallel teaching with Heinz Ickstadt of the John F. Kennedy Institute at Free University Berlin; their course on Henry James and Vladimir Nabokov was offered simultaneously in Warsaw and Berlin. The Polish and the German students met for a three day session in Berlin in January 2002.

Conferences
In November, several ASC faculty gave papers at the PAAS Conference in Puławy.

Also in November, Krystyna Mazur gave a paper on Gloria Anzaldua and border literature at a session held jointly by the ASC and the Centro de Estudios Latinoamericanos (CESLA), Warsaw University.

Professor Volker Albrecht, visiting the ASC from Goethe Universität Frankfurt, gave a paper on the influence of ethnic changes on American cities.

Anna Sosnowska presented a paper on "American Ethnic Pluralism: Perspectives from Poland and Macedonia" in a panel on "The Continuing Challenge of America's Ethnic Pluralism" at a Salzburg Seminar American Studies Center workshop in February 2002.

Publications
The nineteenth volume of American Studies, which has just come from the press, contains two articles by ASC faculty: Agnieszka Graff's "Time and Space Confused - Faulkner's Apocalypse in Language" and Andrzej Filipiak's "American Neoconservatism."

Tomasz Basiuk's article "Apocalypse Now and Then: Affective Responses to Narrative Closure" was published in Apocalypse Now: Prophecy and Fulfillment, ed. by Agnieszka Salska and Zbigniew Maszewski (Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego 2001).


Agnieszka Graff authored entries on Henry James, James Joyce, Vladimir Nabokov, and Toni Morrison for Wielka Encyklopedia PWN.
Department of English  
Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun

Conferences  


Publications  
Mirosława Ziaja-Buchholtz


Visiting professors  
Professor Laurent Lepaludier of Angers University, France was invited to give two lectures on April 5 and 6, 2002. Within the field of short fiction, Professor Lepaludier specializes in the genre of urban legend, which is the subject of his lecture in Toruń.

A Canadian poet and scholar Professor Douglas Barbour is scheduled to lecture in Toruń on April 16. He promised to give an overview of the recent trends in Canadian and American poetry, as well as read from his own poetry.

American Literature Department  
University of Warsaw

Guest lecturers  
In the academic year 2001/2002 we have been hosting Fulbright Professor, Holli Levitsky of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, a Ph.D. graduate from Irvine UC and a specialist in American literature of the South, literary theory, and the literature of the Holocaust. All the courses she has offered have been extremely popular with students and graduates, especially her courses on literature and psychoanalysis.
As every year, we have been cooperating with a number of colleagues from outside the University of Warsaw: traditionally with Andrzej Sosnowski of Literatura na Świecie, teaching modern poetry to our students, Tadeusz Pióro, a Ph.D. from Berkeley, teaching an advanced course on postmodern literature, criticism and theory, Jadwiga Maszewska, covering Native American literature and the American Renaissance, and the Fulbright Professor from Lublin, Larry Hussman, offering two courses - on literature and the cinema, and on American realism and naturalism. In the current semester, our graduate student, Tomek Mirkowicz, a well-known writer and translator, is offering a survey course on American postmodern writers.

Publications

Our new assistant professor Marek Paryż has published his Ph.D. dissertation in book form.

In 2001, faculty and graduate students at the American Literature Section published one book and 11 critical articles and essays in Polish and German academic periodicals.

Conferences

In March of this year, Holli Levitsky, Agata Preis-Smith and Julia Fiedorczuk delivered papers at the workshop on "The Rhetorical Construction of Subjectivity in American and European Cultural and Literary Texts" at the Biennial EAAS Conference in Bordeaux, France.

Scholarships

Julia Fiedorczuk has won a Junior Fulbright scholarship and will spend the next academic year at Cornell University, completing her Ph.D. dissertation on the poetry of Laura Riding.

The Institute of English Philology
University of Wroclaw

Activities

Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak participated in "What is an American?" American Studies Workshop - Pulawy, September 19-23, 2001 (UMCS-American Literature and Culture Department).

Since the Fall of 1999, Dominika Ferens and Agnieszka Zembruska, a doctoral student at the Dept. of Philosophy, have been coordinating the Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Group at the University of Wrocław. The Group organizes an open lecture series on gender and sexuality. Its goals are to promote and legitimate gender studies and queer theory, to encourage interdisciplinary research, and to integrate students and teachers. During the past semester the Group hosted 10 lecturers from Poland and abroad.

Conferences

Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak


Dominika Ferens

At the Annual Conference of the Polish Association for American Studies "American Portraits and Self-portraits" in
Pulawy she presented the paper "Personal Reflections of a Half-Chinese Victorian Reporter in Jamaica."

**Piotr Zazula**


**Publications**

Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak


Dominika Ferens


"Native Americans, Chinese and White Progressivists in the Land of Sunshine." *ATQ Special Issue: Cohabiting America: Native Americans and Euroamericans in the Nineteenth Century* 15.4 (December 2001): 305-316.


**Piotr Zazula**


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**FROM THE TREASURER:**

The PAAS bank account is:
Bank PKO BP, XV Oddział w Warszawie 05 - 10201156 -123114426

The PAAS membership fee - 40 PLN.

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**FROM THE EDITOR:**
The next issue of the PAAS Newsletter can be expected in November 2002.
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:

Jadwiga Maszewska
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PAAS WWW PAGE:
The address of the PAAS WWW page has changed!
It is now:
http://klio.umcs.lublin.pl/~ptszalka/

The old address is still valid though, and will continue to re-direct the visitors to the new page

The page features the general information concerning PAAS, the Board as well as the archive with PAAS Newsletters.
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
c/o Pawel Frelik,