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Editor: Jadwiga Maszewska
Assistant Editor: Malgorzata Myk

Department of American Literature and Culture
University of Lodz

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

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Institute of English Philology University of Białystok

Events **Halina Parafianowicz** became Dean of the Faculty of History and Sociology at the University of Białystok for the second term 2002-2005. She teaches courses on the World and American twentieth century history; MA seminar on American social and political history, foreign policy of US, modern presidency and biography.

On June 5, 2002 Fulbright Scholar Professor Paul Rundquist visited the Faculty of History and Sociology.

Publications **Lucyna Aleksandrowicz-Pędich**

"Ocena realizacji przedmiotu literatura amerykańska w nauczycielskich kolegiach językowych" *Ewaluacja w Nauce Języka Obcego*. Ed. Hanna Komorowska. Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku. Białystok 2002.

"American literature in the curriculum - students' responses" *Cultural Curriculum. Theory Practice Trends*. Ed. Julitta Rydlewska. AMP Studio. Szczecin 2002.

Halina Parafianowicz

"Jeszcze raz o prezydencie Woodrow Wilson" *Dzieje*

Najnowsze, Vol. 3, 2002.

"Nawiązanie stosunków dyplomatycznych ZSRR i USA w 1933r. Echa prasowe" *Księga Pamiątkowa Profesora Stanisława Sierpowskiego*. Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Adama Mickiewicza, Poznań, 2002.

Conferences On September 12, 2002, **Halina Parafianowicz** delivered a paper "Americanization of Inter-War Poland and the Spread of the American Dream in Central and Eastern Europe" at the conference at Charles University, Prague.

Department of American Studies at the University of Gdansk

**Publications
and activities** **Cheryl Alexander Malcolm**

BOOKS

The Good Wife - poetry under the pseudonym Georgia Scott - 2nd edition, revised and expanded (Poetry Salzburg, 2002), available from <http://www.poetrysalzburg.com>

ESSAYS

"The Lucky Ones? Child Evacuees and the Legacy of the Holocaust" *The Legacy of the Holocaust: Children and the Holocaust* Ed. by Zygmunt Mazur et al. Jagiellonian UP, 2002.

"A Good Pole in Yavneh: Cynthia Ozick's *The Shawl*" *Studies in American Jewish Literature* 21.2002. Ed. by Daniel Walden, University of Nebraska Press.

"Jewish Faith and American Identity: A Literary Perspective" *Spirituality and Religion in American Culture*. Ed. by Matthew Sweney and Michel Peprnik. Palacky University, 2002.

Poetry - under the pseudonym Georgia Scott.

PUBLICATIONS

14 poem sequence and 4 other poems in *Poetry Salzburg Review* 3.2002

6 poems in *Steaua* 2-3.2002 (in Romanian translation).

PERFORMANCE READINGS

In September and October, she went on a reading tour of the USA with the support of the Polish Embassy in Washington and several universities at which *The Good Wife* is on the curriculum. In Iowa, she gave performance readings from *The Good Wife* at Bertha Martin Theatre with the sponsorship of the Martha Ellen Tye Guest Artist Fund and at Heritage Hall as part of the program "Events on the Hill." She also gave performances at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and Emmanuel College in Boston and at area bookstores.

On the invitation of the Austro-American Society for Styria, she gave a performance reading at Literaturcafe in Graz,

Austria, in October.

With the support of the American Embassy in Prague, she joined Galway Kinnell, Jerome Rothenberg, and Sylvester Pollet to read her poetry at the international festival "Poetry Without Borders" in October.

CONFERENCES

At Salzburg University in October, she gave a paper on Jewish and Polish stereotypes at the conference "Drama Translation and Theatre Practice."

In Padua in June, she gave a paper on Jewish humor and David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly* at "Sites of Ethnicity" the biennial conference of MESEA.

GUEST LECTURES AND TEACHING

At Georgetown University, she gave a lecture on poetry in October.

At Rhode Island College, she team taught a class in poetry with Amritij Singh.

At Mount Mercy College in Iowa, she conducted poetry workshops in September.

At Joensuu University in Finland, she taught a summer course on Jewish American Women Writers.

Department of American Literature and Culture UMCS Lublin

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

Events

In May 2005 **Christopher Hill**, the Ambassador of the United States, met with students of the department and delivered a lecture "War on Terrorism: What's Next."

In the same month **Marjorie Piechowiak** from DePaul University talked to the Department students and faculty about multicultural autobiography.

In June 2002 **Pawel Frelik** defended his doctoral dissertation titled "Man in the World of Technology in Postmodern American Science Fiction"

Jerzy Durczak was elected a member of the Advisory Board in The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA)

In October 2002 the Department opened a new M. A. program in American Studies.

Prof. Gary Harrington from Salisbury University, Maryland, is a new Fulbright Chair in Lublin for the fall semester. His research and teaching areas are modern American fiction and drama.

The volume of the 2001 PAAS conference proceedings is out. Entitled *American Portraits and Self-Portraits* and edited by Jerzy Durczak and Pawel Frelik, the 456-page volume comprises 34 articles.

Two new members have joined the faculty of the department - **Magdalena Hebda** and **Mirella Czerwiec-Dykiel**.

Publications

Jerzy Durczak (editor) & **Pawel Frelik** (assistant editor) *American Portraits and Self-Portraits* (Lublin: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, 2002).

Joanna Durczak

"Poezja Murzynów amerykańskich drugiej połowy XX wieku" (*Akcent*, 1-2, 2002).

Dorota Janowska

"Gdzie właściwie jest czarny tancerz?" (*Akcent*, 1-2 2002).

Bianka Zarzycka

"Opowiesci niewolników- zapiski białe na czarnym" (*Akcent*, 1-2 2002).

New courses

Gary Harrington:

- * American Southern Renaissance
- * Hemingway and Faulkner
- * The American Shakespeare

Jerzy Durczak:

- * Contact and Conflict of Cultures in American Literature and Film
- * New Realism

Joanna Durczak:

- * Contemporary Native American Fiction
- * An American in the City, An American in the Wilderness

Pawel Frelik:

- * Seven SF Novels that Conquered the World

Conferences

In June **Joanna Durczak** conducted a workshop during the Summer School in American Studies at National University of Ostrov Academy, in Ostroh, Ukraine.

In late June **Pawel Frelik** took part in the annual conference of Science Fiction Research Association, this time held in New Lanark in Scotland.

Jerzy Kutnik spent four weeks in Christchurch, New Zealand, where he was a Fellow at the American Studies Center.

Jerzy Durczak delivered a paper at the American Literature on the Edge of the XX and XXI Centuries conference in

Kiev.

In September **Mirella Czerwiec-Dykiel** took part in the conference "Literature and Culture of Today's American South" organized by Department of American Literature and Culture, University of Łódź.

In October **Bianka Zarzycka** took part in the American Studies session of the Salzburg Seminar. The session was devoted to "The Politics of American Popular Culture: Here, There and Everywhere."

English Department, Catholic University of Lublin

Conferences **Andrzej Antoszek** became a Local Faculty Fellow of Civic Education Project and participated in CEP's conference in Hungary. CEP, supported by the Soros network, helps to introduce Western standards of teaching into institutions of higher education across Europe.

Urszula Niewiadomska-Flis participated in the Conference on "Literature and Culture of Today's American South" held in Łódź in September, 2002

Publications **Andrzej Antoszek**
"Rap - gdzie się podziały te rymy z naszych podwórek?"
Akcent no.1-2 (87-88) 2002, pp. 254-264.

Patrycja Baran
"Sula, albo wiedźma: czarna Ameryka w powieści Toni Morrison" *Akcent* no. 1-2 (87-88) 2002, pp. 163-6.

Visiting professors Prof. **Marjorie Piechowski** from Wisconsin spent the spring semester at KUL as a Fulbright scholar. She is a professor in Marquette University in Milwaukee. Prof. Piechowski taught courses in "American Regionalism" and "Autobiography."

Grants In July and August 2002, **Patrycja Baran** participated in the Fulbright American Studies Institute on Contemporary American Literature organized by Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois and Lake George, Colorado.

In the summer of 2002, **Patrycja Baran** spent three weeks on a library grant in London University Library and The British Library, this scholarship was sponsored by Towarzystwo Przyjaciół KUL.

In the summer of 2002, **Zofia Kolbuszewska** spent two months on a grant in the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. This grant was possible thanks to the exchange between KULublin and KULEuven.

Activities **Marjorie Piechowski**, a visiting Fulbright Professor, gave a lecture on "Small Town America" in our department, 11 April 2002.

Marjorie Piechowski, a visiting Fulbright Professor, gave a lecture on "Autobiography: Giving Voice to Multicultural America" in our department, 16 May 2002.

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

Honors **Elżbieta H. Oleksy** has been appointed an expert of the European Commission for Women in Science

Awards and scholarships **Agnieszka Borkowska** spent the spring semester at the University of California, Riverside, as a Visiting Scholar on a Kościuszko Foundation grant.

Joanna Rydzewska is spending the 2002/03 academic year at the University of California, Berkeley, as a Fulbright scholar.

Conferences International Conference "Research and Scholarship in Integration Processes: Poland - USA - EU," June 20-22, 2002. The conference was co-organized with the Philological Faculty, University of Łódź, Technical University of Łódź, European Institute, Łódź, and the Polish-US Fulbright Commission.

Activities On September 11, 2002, **Agnieszka Borkowska** was interviewed by the Radio Łódź on American reality and culture.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy taught a unit Gender and Race in American Cinema during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

Wiesław Oleksy taught a unit Ethnic and Racial Conflict Resolution during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

Tomasz Pludowski taught a unit The Social Construction of Manhood in America during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

In May 2002 **Tomasz Pludowski** taught a seminar on American and Polish political communication at the University of Surrey, London, UK.

Tomasz Pludowski's presentation: "The Coverage of 9/11 and its Aftermath in the Polish Media" was a part of a panel on mediated reactions to September 11 around the world,

organized by the American Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication during its annual convention in Miami Beach, Florida, August 2002.

Helene Sinnreich taught a unit Gendered Judaism: American Interpretations of a Cross-Dressing Yeshiva Student during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

Piotr Skurowski taught a unit Perspectives on Ethnicity in the U.S. during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

Bohdan Szklarski taught a unit Hooded Americanism - The Fear of the 'Other' and the Paranoid Style in American Politics during an American Studies Seminar: "Ethnicity and Gender in the United States," on March 14-16, 2002.

Jarosław Wojcieszek participated in a seminar "Media on the Road to Convergence: The State of Play in Europe," European Journalism Centre, July 19 - 20, 2002.

Presentations

Agnieszka Borkowska, "My Name is Croft. Lara Croft: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider and the Popular Imagination" at the international conference "Representing Gender in Cultures" organized by Women's Studies Centre, University of Łódź; September 19-22, 2002.

Elżbieta Durys, "Przełom w życiu młodych kobiet. Bohaterki filmów Michała Rosy: Farba i Cisza" at the international conference "Representing Gender in Cultures" organized by Women's Studies Centre, University of Łódź; September 19-22, 2002

Dorota Golańska, "Cyberspace, Carnival, and Playing with Gender" at the international conference "Representing Gender in Cultures" organized by Women's Studies Centre, University of Łódź; September 19-22, 2002.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy, "American Feminism and Pedagogy. The Case of Poland" at the International Conference "Research and Scholarship in Integration Processes: Poland - USA - EU," June 20-22, 2002.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy, "Men in Europe: National and Transnational Perspectives" at the International Conference "Research and Scholarship in Integration Processes: Poland - USA - EU," June 20-22, 2002.

Aleksandra M. Różalska, "Black Audience and Theories of Black Spectatorship" at the international conference "Representing Gender in Cultures" organized by Women's Studies Centre, University of Łódź; September 19-22, 2002.

Bohdan Szklarski, "Studying American Politics in Post-Communist Poland," at the International Conference "Research and Scholarship in Integration Processes: Poland - USA - EU," June 20-22, 2002.

Jarosław Wojcieszek, "Political Marketing" at the International Project Week, Nordhausen Fachhochschule, Germany, April 21-26, 2002.

Jarosław Wojcieszek, "Terrorism and Mass Media" at the conference "Medicine and Bioterrorism: Dangers and Challenges," organized by Military Medical Academy, Łódź, April 27-28, 2002.

New series A new publication series "American Studies and Media" has been recently established by Peter Lang Scientific Publications (Germany). The general editors of the series are Elżbieta H. Oleksy and Wiesław Oleksy. The series will carry monographs and edited volumes on broadly understood American studies and media in the United States. Two volumes are planned to appear per year. Prospective authors/editors of collections of papers are requested to submit proposals to the general editors. Please use ASM's address.

Publications **Elżbieta Durys** "Czy <kino wyciszone> może być kinem społecznym? Andrzeja Barańskiego trylogia o prostym człowieku," in: *Studia Filmoznawcze* No 22, Andrzej Bobowski (ed.), Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław 2001, pp. 69-100.

Elżbieta Durys "Zjednoczenie społeczności w milczeniu o zbrodni. Jestem niewinny Fritza Langa," in: *Lustra i krzywe zwierciadła. Społeczne konteksty kina i telewizji*, (eds.) Konrad Klejsa and Grzegorz Skonieczko, Rabid, Kraków 2002, pp. 9-22.

Elżbieta Durys "Interdyscyplinarna konferencja w UŁ: Nauka w procesach integracyjnych," in: *Kronika. Pismo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego* 2002 No 4 (75), pp. 20-22.

Elżbieta H. Oleksy "Action Heroines in Polish and American Film," in: *Studies in Literature and Culture in Honour of Professor Janicka-Świdorska*, Maria Edelson (ed.), Łódź University Press: Łódź, 2002. pp. 167-175.

New courses Elżbieta Durys *Visual Culture*
Jeff Kleiman *American Business History*
Jeff Kleiman *Minorities in the US*
Helene Sinnreich *History and Culture of the American Jews*
Helene Sinnreich *The Holocaust in the Media*
Helene Sinnreich *The Holocaust in American Culture*
Piotr Skurowski *American Ideology, Myth and History* - MA Seminar
Piotr Skurowski *American Individualism: Ideas and Cultural Patterns*
Bohdan Szklarski *American Institutions and Political Culture* - MA Seminar
Bohdan Szklarski *The American Presidency: The Institution and the People*

New faculty **Jeff Kleiman**, Ph.D., has joined ASM as a Fulbright recipient for the 2002-2003 academic year. He teaches for the University of Wisconsin Colleges at their Marshfield campus and has spent the first part of his academic career researching about American urban history, ethnicity, religious issues, labor and politics. Over the past four years, he has moved into research and writing about the Holocaust and post-war Europe, along with the roots of Holocaust Denial. He is currently working on a series of Ostfront diaries and post-war letters of a German soldier in hopes of writing a case study about a German city in the American Zone in the decade after the war. While with ASM, he will teach courses in American Minorities, American Business History, and the American History survey along with advising several Master's Students.

Helene Sinnreich has become a lecturer at ASM. She is completing her dissertation on the Łódź Ghetto at Brandeis University under the direction of Professor Antony

Polonsky. While with ASM she will teach Jewish Studies classes.

In October 2002 the ASM's faculty was joined by two new Ph.D. students.

Dorota Golańska received her MA degree in International Relations: American Studies and Mass Media Specialization from the University of Łódź in 2002. She wrote her MA thesis on "Cyberspace in Post-Gender and Post-Modern Context." At ASM she is going to do research on the artificial human in literature and film.

Aleksandra M. Różalska received her MA degree in International Relations: American Studies and Mass Media Specialization from the University of Łódź in 2002, too. She wrote her MA thesis on "Race and Gender in American Cinema: The Case of African-Americans" and she is going to do research in audience studies.

Special programs In October 2002, 56 students were admitted to the MA Special Program in American Studies and Mass Media directed by Wiesław Oleksy. Altogether, over 120 students are currently enrolled in this program.

The graduates will receive the MA Degree in International Relations and American Studies.

The following MA Seminars are offered in this program in the fall of 2002:

Ewa Brzezińska *Organizational Behavior*

Jeff Kleiman *U.S. Politics and History*

Wiesław Oleksy *Language Use and Function in Interpersonal Communication, the Media and Politics*

Tomasz Pludowski *Political and Sociological Propaganda in the Media*

Jan Rek *American Cinema: Social Problems and Politics*

Call for papers Polish Americanists are invited to submit books, monographs, edited collections, and articles published in 2002 to be considered for review in the "Central European Contribution" of American Literary Scholarship. An Annual 2002, Durham and London: Duke University Press. Deadline for submission of materials: April 15, 2003.

Please send your materials to:

Prof. dr hab. Elżbieta H. Oleksy
Department of American Studies and Mass Media
University of Łódź
Ul. Składowa 41/43
90-127 Łódź
Poland

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

On September 15-19, 2002 the Department of American Literature and Culture held a conference and workshop session for junior Americanists from Central and Eastern European countries. In the past similar conferences had been organized by the Maria Curie Skłodowska University from Lublin. This year's conference was dedicated to the American South. The conference was opened by the Deputy Chief of Mission from the American Embassy in Warsaw, Mr. Cameron Munter and the Vice-Rector of the University of Łódź, professor Piotr Daranowski.

Three invited speakers: professors Noel Polk from the US, Peter Nicolaisen from Germany, and Richard Godden from Great Britain, as well as professor Agnieszka Salska, the head of our department, presented lectures and conducted workshop sessions for twenty participants from outside Poland (Hungary, Bulgaria, Moldova, Lithuania, Estonia, Slovakia, Georgia, the Czech Republic, the Ukraine, and Belarus), and twenty three participants from various Polish universities and colleges, including ten from the University of Łódź. Altogether, 43 people took part in the event. In his introductory lecture Noel Polk gave an overview of current developments in the literature of the American South and introduced a number of significant writers from the region, many of whom were little known to the participants. The following lectures and workshops were dedicated to such authors as Ernest Gaines, Jayne Anne Phillips, Annie Proulx, Tim Gautreaux, Peter Taylor. Apart from lectures and workshop sessions, conference participants saw and discussed three films about life in the American South: A Lesson Before Dying, The Sky is Gray, and Accidental Tourist.

Creating a network of exchange and cooperation among young Americanists in Central and Eastern Europe was also a major goal of our conference. Participants had the opportunity to get to know one another in both formal and informal settings. While workshop sessions provided occasion for scholarly discussions, excursions in and around Łódź gave our guests a chance to exchange personal views and experiences.

The conference was financed mainly by the American Embassy in Warsaw. The Department of American Literature and Culture at the University of Łódź is extremely grateful to the Embassy for its generous support of the event. However, it should be mentioned that both the Rector of the University of Łódź and the Dean of the Philological Faculty supported the conference financially as well.

Events

On October 18 **Dorota Wiśniewska** defended her doctoral dissertation titled "Androgynous Monsters, Erotic Misfits: Literary and Film Vampires As Representations of Repressed Desire."

Conferences

Richard Profozich attended the European Association of American Studies Conference held in March in Bordeaux, France.

Grażyna Zygałło participated in the international conference "Representing Gender in Cultures" organized by the Women's Studies Center of University of Łódź,

Department of American Literature Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań

Activities **Agnieszka Rzepa** delivered a lecture on "(Post)feminizm a postkolonializm i postmodernizm: punkty styyczne i rozbieżności" at the Interdisciplinary Group for Gender Studies at Wrocław University on May 27, 2002.

On May 25, 2002, **Marek Wilczyński** delivered a guest lecture at the University of Silesia titled "The Forgotten American Romanticism."

Scholarships **Paulina Ambroży** is spending the fall semester as a Junior Fulbright Fellow at Stanford University, where she is completing her doctoral dissertation.

Magdalena Zapędowska has won the Kościuszko Foundation Fellowship for a nine-month research stay at Stanford University. She is also receiving the Foundation for Polish Science Annual Stipend for Young Scholars for 2002.

Conferences **Agnieszka Rzepa** participated in the following conferences, seminars, and workshops:

* "(Re)Inventing the Canadian West": Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien e.V. Conference. Grainau, Germany, February 15-17, 2002.

* "Continentalism and Nationhood": Inauguration conference of Eotvos Lorand University Canadian Studies Centre. Budapest, Hungary, February 18-19, 2002, where she presented a paper "Alistair MacLeod's Magic Configurations of Cape Breton" (now in press).

* British and American Studies Seminar "Raising Literary and Cultural Awareness," Obrzycko, Poland, June 18-20, 2002, where she delivered a lecture titled "Vagaries of Postcolonialism in Canada."

* "Ethnicity and Gender in American Culture," Przesieka, Poland, August 18 - 24, 2002, a training workshop for teachers of English which she co-taught with Ida Baj (Teacher Training College in Jelenia Góra) and Małgorzata Zdybiewska (Teacher Training College in Radom). She taught classes on gender and ethnicity in US and Canadian literature.

* International Conference "Canada in the European Mind," Debrecen, Hungary, October 24-27, 2002, where she presented a paper "Canada in the Polish Mind: Canada as Constructed by a Polish Traveller" and chaired one session.

Marek Wilczyński took part in the conference "Multicultural Dilemmas: Identity - Difference - Otherness," organized by the Institute of British and American Literature and Culture, University of Silesia, Ustron, September 25-28, 2002, where he presented a paper "Impressions d'Amerique: Scribbling the Wilderness - from Chateaubriand to Baudrillard."

Publications

Andrzej Kopcewicz

"Limbo: From Finnegans Wake to At Swim-Two-Birds." *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia* 37 (2002): 329-57.

Agnieszka Rzepa

"Elephant's Mug Shot: Americans in Contemporary Canadian Prose." *American Portraits and Self-Portraits*. Eds. Jerzy Durczak and Paweł Frelik. Lublin: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, 2002. 337-46.

"A Little Transvestite Thrill and a Miraculous Harmony: Janet Hobhouse's Dancing in the Dark." *Queer Perspectives: The Growth Pains and Prospects of Queer Studies in Poland and Central/Eastern Europe*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo UW, 2002. 1-9.

Marcin Turski

"On With the Story: Self-Portrait of John Barth as a Fabulator," *American Portraits and Self-Portraits*. Eds. Jerzy Durczak and Paweł Frelik. Lublin: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, 2002, 375-84.

"The Last Voyage of Somebody the Sailor: John Barth's Supplement to The Thousand and One Nights." *Neo-Lit* 4. Online. <http://www.router.fil.us.edu.pl/neolit>

Marek Wilczyński

"The Lesson of the Mirror: Ego and Other in the New England Gothic." *American Portraits and Self-Portraits*. Eds. Jerzy Durczak and Paweł Frelik. Lublin: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, 2002. 397-413.

American Studies Center Warsaw University

- New faculty** Prof. **Clifford Bates, Jr.** (political science/history) and Dr **Robert Piotrowski** (philosophy) have joined the permanent faculty of ASC, raising the total number to 17, after Piotr Ostaszewski left the Center.
- Honors** **Zbigniew Lewicki** and **Cynthia Dominik** were re-elected the ASC Director and Deputy Director respectively
- Activities** The Center has signed an Erasmus agreement with the Kennedy Institute in Berlin, calling for a yearly faculty and student exchange until 2007.
- Krystyna Mazur** took part in the School of Criticism and Theory, a six-week faculty summer program organized by Cornell University's Society for the Humanities.
- Tomasz Basiuk** spent a week at Hamburg University's English Department, where he worked in the library and discussed a parallel teaching project with faculty members there.

- Degrees** **Anna Sosnowska** was awarded her doctoral degree by the Warsaw University Institute of Sociology for her dissertation "Ku historycznej socjologii zacofania. 'Debata wschodnioeuropejska' w polskiej historiografii społeczno-gospodarczej (1947-1994)" (Toward a Historical Sociology of Backwardness. The 'Eastern European Debate' in Polish Socio-Economic Historiography 1947-1994).
- Conferences** **Agnieszka Graff** took part in Third Wave Feminism International Conference organized by the University of Exeter (UK) in August 2002, where she gave a paper titled "Lost Between the Waves? The Paradoxes of Feminism in Contemporary Poland."
- Ewa Grzeszczyk** attended a workshop on globalization and community at Lancaster University, co-sponsored by the Cultural Theory Department of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Science. She also participated in the 30th Salzburg American Studies Center session "The Politics of American Popular Culture: Here, There and Everywhere."
- Publications** **Zbigniew Lewicki**
 "Post-9/11 Evolution of American Policy in Asia" *The Polish Quarterly of International Affairs*, Vol. 11/1 (2002): 57-76. (The Polish version is forthcoming in *Sprawy Międzynarodowe*)
- Two ASC faculty members have had articles published in the Warsaw-based journal *Ameryka Łacińska*:
- Zbigniew Kwiecień**
 "USA - Kuba: dzieje stosunków specjalnych" (USA - Cuba: a history of special relations). Vol. X (2002), no. 2 (36): 26-31.
- Krystyna Mazur**
 "Gloria Anzaldua: pisanie na granicach" (Gloria Anzaldua: Writing on the Borders); vol. X, 2002, no 1 (35): 33-41.
- Articles by four of the ASC faculty are included in *American Portraits and Self-Portraits*, Jerzy Durczak, ed. (Lublin: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, 2002):
- Agnieszka Graff**
 "The Third Wave of American Feminism: Portrait of a Young Girl with her Mother Breathing down her Neck": 165-181.
- Krystyna Mazur**
 "Lesbian Autobiography: Audre Lorde's *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*: 237-255.
- Andrzej Filipiak**
 "The Catholic Whig Tradition in the United States. An Intellectual Portrait": 137-150.
- Tomasz Basiuk**
 "From The Best Little Boy in the World to Autopornography. The Critical Edge of the Gay Memoir": 59-80.
- Tomasz Basiuk** co-edited (with Dominika Ferens at Wrocław University and Tomasz Sikora in Silesia) a bilingual volume of conference papers on queer studies titled *Odmiany odmienca. Mniejszościowe orientacje seksualne w perspektywie gender / A Queer Mixture. Gender Perspectives on Minority Sexual Identities* (Katowice:

Wydawnictwo Śląsk, 2002), with an Introduction by the editors. His article "Madres embarazadas? W odmiennym stanie: Pedro Almodóvar, Elia Kazan i Tennessee Williams" on *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Todo sobre mi madre* is among the papers in the volume.

Prof. Willi Paul Adams, a very prominent German historian of the United States and former Chairman of the GAAS, has passed away recently; he bequeathed his vast book and periodical collection to the ASC Library

Department of English Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun

Grants **Mirosława Ziaja-Buchholtz** received a faculty enrichment award from the Department of Foreign Affairs in Ottawa to develop a course in Canadian children's literature, and spent September 2002 in Toronto.

Mirosława Ziaja-Buchholtz and the team of Canadianists from Nicholas Copernicus University received a grant to study the image of Canada in Poland.

Publications **Mirosława Ziaja-Buchholtz**
"Kings, Queens, and Company: The (R)Evolutionary Scenario of Frank Stockton's Fairy Tales." *Studia Anglica Resoviensia* 1 (6) 2002, 201-213.

"Strategies for Survival: Daily Trot and Sudden Insights in Sinclair Ross's 'Cornet at Night.'" *Journal of the Short Story in English* Angers, (38) 2002, 15-22.

Guest lecturers Professor **Dennis Danielson**, head of the English Department at the University of British Columbia, Canada, was invited to give a lecture on October 23, 2002. Prof. Danielson is a best-selling author who has sought to bridge the gap between humanities and sciences. His lecture in Toruń dealt with the ways of presenting Copernicus in the New World.

On November 4-6, a poet and translator, **Adam Czerniawski**, visited Toruń. In March and April 2003 he will give a series of seminars on the poetry of Polish emigrants, and workshops for students of translation.

American Literature Department University of Warsaw

Activities In Fall Semester 2002/2003 we have offered 11 courses to our students, on topics as diverse as, among others, the

literature of the American Renaissance, Native American writing, American detective stories, modernist and post-modernist fiction and poetry, questions of ideology and aesthetics within the so-called New American Studies.

There are currently 7 graduate students in our Section, preparing their PhD projects on topics related to Asian American women writing, modernist poetry, questions of metaphysics in American postmodern and ethnic prose, and American science fiction.

In April 2002, Nancy Burke delivered lectures: "Memory, Expectation, Conflict - Immigrant Literature in Canada" (St. Petersburg University, Russia), "The Ex-Centric at the Centre - Women Writers in Canada" (Nicholas Copernicus University, Toruń, Poland).

Aneta Dybska, a doctoral student in the Section of Anglo-Saxon Cultures, spent the Summer Semester 2001/2002 on a Junior Research Grant at Kent State University, Ohio. She conducted research on black nationalism and masculinity, and attended classes at the Pan-African Studies Department. While at KSU, she participated in the National Model Organization of African Unity Conference, held in Washington, D.C., in March, 2002. The project carried out in Kent was preceded by research funded by a library grant at the John F. Kennedy Institute, Freie Universität, Berlin in August 2002.

Publications Four faculty members of the American Literature Section (**Ewa Łuczak, Marek Paryż, Agata Preis-Smith, and Julia Fiedorczuk**) published their essays in the 2001 PAAS conference proceedings *American Portraits and Self-Portraits*, edited by Jerzy Durczak and Paweł Frelik from the Maria Skłodowska-Curie University in Lublin.

Nancy Burke

"The Voice of the Native Peoples as an Expression of Identity in Canadian Literature" in *Problems of National Identity*. Voronezh Press, Voronezh University, Russia.

"Review of Hidden Canada - an Intimate Travelogue by Norman Ravvin." *Central European Journal of Canadian Studies*. Volume 2, 2002, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic.

Conferences **Agata Preis-Smith**

"Gender Masquerade as Social Critique in American Poetry of the 1950s and 1960s" at the University of Silesia international conference "Multicultural Dilemmas: Identity - Difference - Otherness," held at Ustroń in September 2002.

Agnieszka Bedingfield

"Trans-memory and Diaspora: Memories of Europe and Asia in American Immigrant Narratives" at the international conference organized by MESEA, "The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas," held in Padua, Italy, June 2002.

Nancy Burke

"Urban Space in Canadian and American Literatures" at Moscow Pedagogical University, Moscow, Russia (April 2002).

"Cityscapes - the Canadian World in Selected Fiction and Non-Fiction" at the conference "Old Environments - New Environments," University of Stockholm, Sweden (August 2002).

"Urban landscapes in Canadian Fiction" at the international seminar, University of Tallin, Tallin, Estonia (September 2002).

"Fascination with The Other - European Perspectives on the Native Peoples of Canada" at the conference "Canada in the European Mind," Debrecen University, Debrecen, Hungary (October 2002).

Nancy Burke - readings

Polish Writers' Association, Warsaw, Poland (November 2001)

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada (December 2001)

Nicholas Copernicus University, Toruń, Poland (April 2002)

Arts Event, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. (June 2002)

Scholarships

Julia Fiedorczuk continues her research on the poetry and prose of Laura Riding Jackson at Cornell University, on her 9-month Junior Fulbright Scholarship.

Agata Preis-Smith has received a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation for a 1-month stay at the Bellagio Center in Italy, to develop her project on performativity and gender masquerade in 20th-century American poetry.

The Institute of English Philology University of Wrocław

Activities

In Spring 2002, **Piotr Zazula** taught a 2-week seminar on "Women and Goddesses in Modern American Literature" at the University of Szeged, Hungary. Sponsored by a CEEPUS Mobility Grant, the seminar was part of an exchange program between the Universities of Szeged and Wrocław.

In May 2002, **Dominika Ferens** gave a series of lectures on "Race in Popular Fiction at the Turn of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Century" at Vilnius Pedagogical University, Lithuania. The visit was part of an ongoing exchange program between Vilnius Pedagogical University and the University of Wrocław.

For the past three years **Dominika Ferens** and **Agnieszka Zembrzuska** (Dolnośląska Szkoła Wyższa Edukacji) have conducted the Interdisciplinary Genders Studies Group, an informal group of teachers and students engaged in fostering and legitimating gender studies, feminist theory, and queer theory at the University of Wrocław. During this time the Group has hosted over sixty guest speakers, including: Dr. Erzsebet Barat, Institute of English and American Studies, University of Szeged; Dr. Tomasz Basiuk, American Studies

Center, UW; Chris Caes, MA, Slavic Studies, UC Berkeley; Prof. Stanisław Cebrat, Institute of Microbiology, UW; dr hab. Bożena Chołuj, Gender Studies, UW; Dr. Agnieszka Graff, American Studies Center, UW; Dr. Dobrochna Kałwa, Instytut Historii, UJ; Prof. Alexia Kosmider, Dept. of English, University of Rhode Island; Dr. Izabela Kowalczyk, Institute of Art History, UAM; Marcin Łakomski, Amnesty International, Warsaw; dr hab. Jacek Łucewicz, School of Economics, Wrocław; Prof. Diane Negra, Dept. of Radio, Television and Film, U. of North Texas; Prof. Orlanda Lie, Medieval Dutch Studies, Utrecht; dr hab. Elżbieta Pakszys, Dept. of Philosophy, UAM; Dr. Małgorzata Radkiewicz, Department of Film Studies, UJ; Dr. Agnieszka Rzepa, Dept. of English, UAM; Dr Tomasz Sikora, Institute of British and American Literature and Culture, UŚ; Dr. Krzysztof Szewior, Dept. of Political Science, UW

Conferences

Elżbieta Klimek-Dominak

Representing Gender in Cultures. Women's Studies Centre, University of Łódź .19-22.09.2002. Paper: "The Code of 'True Womanhood' and the American West: Gender and Race in the Native American and Anglo-American Narratives"

Dominika Ferens

W poszukiwaniu małej dziewczynki, Centrum Kultury Zamek, Poznań, April 2002. Paper: "Heteronormatywna funkcja angielskiej szkoły żeńskiej."

National Association of Ethnic Studies Conference, Vancouver, April 2002. Paper: "Irish Maids, Cowboys, Indians, and Others: The Fiction of Onoto Watanna."

Publications

Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak

"The Category of Gender and New Historicism." *Anglica Wratislaviensia* 38 (2002).

Piotr Zazula

"Duch miejsca", "Tao osiedlowe", "Dopiero poza stadem", "Ojciec" (POEMS). In: *Kresy. Kwartalnik Literacki* (1-2/2001): 73-75.

A Queer Mixture: Gender perspectives on Minority Sexual Identities/Odmiany odmienca. Mniejszościowe orientacje seksualne w perspektywie gender. Eds. Tomasz Basiuk, **Dominika Ferens**, and Tomasz Sikora. Katowice: Wydawnictwo Śląsk, 2002.

FROM THE TREASURER:

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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:



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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:

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