

To: AHSN-members
Subject: AHSN – December 2014 Humour Studies Digest
Sent: 23/12/2014 3.00PM

"The Humour Studies Digest", e-Newsletter for members of the Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN), University of Sydney

Please do NOT reply to this email as the AHSN-list is not interactive.
AHSN Co-ordinator's contact details appear at end of this message.

UPDATE ON AHSN2015 CONFERENCE, 4-6 FEBRUARY, FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

The AHSN Conference Committee writes:

Thanks to the presenters, we have a terrific line-up of papers for the 21st Annual AHSN Conference 2015 here in Adelaide and the initial version of the Program is now posted on the Flinders University Conference website at:

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/ehl/firth/firth-research-theme/21st-ahsn-conference/program.cfm>

Please also watch this page for more information which will be coming soon, including a full copy of all Abstracts.

Online registration is still available for the Early Bird rate until 12pm this Wednesday, 24 December 2014. Owing to website problems, it is suggested you call our Cashier's Office, Flinders University, on 8201 3146 and they will process your credit card payment over the telephone. Please do not forget to also return your registration form.

Stay safe over the Christmas and New Year break, and on behalf of the conference organising team (Robert Phiddian, Colette Mrowa-Hopkins and Antonella Strambi), we're very much looking forward to hosting you at this conference's 21st birthday party.

With thanks and best wishes

Christine Nicholls, on behalf of the Flinders University 2015 AHSN Organising Committee:

· Associate Professor Robert Phiddian (English)

· Dr Colette Mrowa-Hopkins (French)

· Dr Antonella Strambi (Italian)

For conference queries, email:

Ms Joy Tennant: joy.tennant@flinders.edu.au

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS, AHSN2015 CONFERENCE, 4-6 FEBRUARY, FLINDERS UNIVERSITY!

The Conference Committee and AHSN Review Panel are delighted to announce that five post-graduate humour researchers across Australia and Asia have been recognized with fee-waiver scholarships:

Anna Laszlo, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, "What Grammar Can Tell Us about Sarcasm: A Corpus-based Analysis of American Soap Operas"

Robyn Brown, Swinburne University of Technology, "Can observers distinguish between self-defeating and self-deprecating humour?"

Cale Bain, University of Technology, Sydney, "News should be funny: How comedy news audiences become better participants in a democracy"

Rod Grant, University of Sydney, "Kenneth Slessor and Bertha Blither"

Ann Lever Lee, National University of Singapore, "'No, no, no, no, no, the Minister of Misinformation Approves': The Satirical Revues of Instant Café theatre company in Malaysia"

Congratulations to all and we look forward to five particularly good papers!

POST-CONFERENCE STUDY DAY PROGRAM ANNOUNCED: FLINDERS UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, 7 FEB 2015

The Convenor of the Post-Conference Study Day for students researching humour and laughter has announced the program to be conducted on SATURDAY, 7 FEB 2015, at Flinders University, from 9.45am to 4.00pm.

The theme for the day is 'INVESTIGATING HUMOUR AND LAUGHTER: TRANS-DISCIPLINARY APPROACHES' and the two presenters are Dr Jessica Milner Davis (Letters, Art and Media, University of Sydney, and AHSN Co-ordinator) and Dr Bruce Findlay (Psychology, Swinburne University of Technology, and AHSN Review Panel Chair). This is a free event and each student will have an opportunity to outline their own project and issues.

For enquiries and details, please contact the Convenor:
Ms Karen Austin: newi0001@uni.flinders.edu.au

AHSN PANEL AT Mini-ASAL CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND, 11 FEBRUARY 2015

Seven AHSN members will come together to present a commentated panel at the Association for the Study of Australian Literature (ASAL) conference at the University of New England, Armidale, in

February 2015. With thanks to Dr Anne Pender and Conference Convenors, the following Panel has been accepted:

“Humour and Politics: Tradition and Reality in Australasia”

Mark Rolfe, Politics and International Relations, UNSW, "The Populist Elements of Australian Political Satire and the Debt to the Americans and the Augustans"

Nicholas Holm, Media Studies, Massey University, "The Politics of Deadpan in Australasian Satire"

Rebecca Higgie, Communication and Cultural Studies, Curtin University, "The King Playing The Fool: Play and Interplay Between Australian Politicians and Satirists"

Lindsay Foyle, Cartoon Historian/Independent Scholar, "The Life and Death of the Larrikin Image: Satire and the Australian identity"

Chair: Jessica Milner Davis, Letters, Art and Media, University of Sydney

Co-Discussant: Peter Kirkpatrick, Dept of English, University of Sydney

Co-Discussant: Rodney Marks, Hoaxes and Jokeses

More details at the Conference website:

<http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/school-of-arts/asal2015/program>

4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERARY JUVENILIA, BARCELONA 17-20 JUNE 2015

Fourth International Conference on Literary Juvenilia, Barcelona (17–20 June 2015) will be held in association with Juvenilia Press (UNSW, Sydney) and organised by Dr David Owen at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona in the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts. The theme this year is “The Child Writer and Poetry”. Dr Owen’s contacts are below and he assures the AHSN members that the conference is very interested in papers on the issue of humour and juvenilia.

Please check out the website and call for papers:

<https://barcelonajuveniliainconference2015.wordpress.com/>

Dr David Owen

Department of English Literature

Faculty of Philosophy & Arts

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Email: juvenilia.conference@gmail.com

Juvenilia Press is a long-standing and successful specialist small press, founded and directed by Emeritus Prof. Christine Alexander, Dept of English, University of NSW, Sydney, Australia:

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/juvenilia/>

CENTRE FOR COMEDY STUDIES RESEARCH, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY, ANNOUNCES 3 EARLY 2105 EVENTS

The Director of the CCSR, Dr Sharon Lockyer, is pleased to announce three interesting and exciting

CCSR events organised for January-March 2015. These include a symposium on Italian Comedy Audiences, a seminar in the CCSR Comedy, Health and Disability seminar series and a symposium on the Comedy of Sacha Baron Cohen. Please see the details and registration instructions at the CCSR website below.

Dr Sharon Lockyer
Director, Centre for Comedy Studies Research (CCSR)
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Department of Social Sciences, Media and Communications
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15th INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON HUMOUR AND LAUGHTER, ST PETERSBURG, 13-18 JULY 2015

The 15th International Summer School and Symposium on Humour and Laughter: Theory, Research and Applications will be held in Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 13th July to 18th July 2015. The Course Director is Prof. Willibald Ruch, Psychology, UNiversity of Zurich, and the Local Organisers are Dr. Sergei Troitckii and Dr. Alyona Ivanova.

The Summer School is endorsed by the International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS) and ISHS members qualify for a fee discount at the Summer School. More information and enquiries at: <http://humoursummerschool.org/15/>

AHSN PANEL at 2015 ISHS, HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY, OAKLAND CA, 29 JUNE-3 JULY

The 27th conference of the International Society for Humor Studies will take place June 29 to July 3, 2015, in Oakland, California. Conference Convenor is Dr Martin Lampert, Dept of Psychology, Holy Names University, and ISHS Executive Secretary.

AHSN is convening a panel entitled: "Australasian Perspectives on Humour Research", with the following descriptor:

Australian and New Zealand cultures are marked by a broad cultural licence for all forms and modes of humour. It is not surprising therefore that a very wide range of humour scholarship is undertaken across these two neighbouring countries, frequently involving international collaboration, particularly around the Pacific Rim. AHSN offers a regional meeting point for humour scholars and practitioners. The two countries have also produced innovative and important applications of humour in fields such as education, hospital and aged care clowning, corporate comedy and advertising, as well developing their own highly appreciated strains of humour on TV and stage and

in film. Individual exchanges of “citizen” humour via social media and the internet are also exchanged across linguistic and geographical divides, owing to both countries’ history of high immigration (post-War and current). Together, Australia and New Zealand recognize a myriad different background cultures, both European and Asian, and increasingly their own Indigenous Aboriginal and Maori cultures. All this enriches the scope of contemporary humour research programs which will be sampled by the presentations offered in this panel.

If you would like to contribute to this Panel, please contact the chair, Dr Jessica Davis:

jessica.davis@sydney.edu.au.

So far (subject to confirmation) participants include:

Mike Lloyd, Victoria University of Wellington, NZ, "Putting words in their mouths: Granularity and humour targets in a New Zealand photo caption competition"

Jocelyn Chey, University of Sydney, and Marjorie Chan, Ohio State University, "Cantonese xiehouyu: Traditional Chinese witty proverbs in a regional dialect culture"

Jocelyn Chey, University of Sydney, "'Point at the mulberry tree to curse the locust tree': Smog jokes in China 2013/14"

Bruce Findlay, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, "Development of a scale of self-deprecating humour, and its difference from self-defeating humour"

Jessica Milner Davis, University of Sydney (Chair), "A Conceptual model of humour: Creation, transmission, reception"

HUMOUR IN SMART ENVIRONMENTS: CALL FOR PAPERS, LOS ANGELES, AUGUST 2015

Calling Humour Researchers: Humour in Smart Environments!! Prof Anton Nijholt, University of Twente, Netherlands, writes:

At the next Human-Computer Interaction International Conference (HCI, Los Angeles, August 2015) I'm organizing a special session on “Humor in Smart Environments”. The aim of this session is to see how humor research can contribute to the view of ambient and ubiquitous humor facilitation, creation and interpretation. Various theories of humor exist. Rather than being independent theories, each of them has a particular complimentary focus, for example on cognitive, psychological or functional aspects. There has been much attention for verbal humor, but there have also been attempts to design glossaries of humor techniques in real-life situations, in comedy, in audiovisual media, or in video games (interactive virtual worlds). Attempts to model humor in real-life situations or simulated real-life situations often start with observations on verbal humor, but surely they have to take into account physical humor too. We invite humor, human-computer interaction and human-robot interaction researchers to contribute with their research on including humor in interactions in smart environments. We are interested to see how current research on humor can contribute to generating and understanding humorous interactions in smart environments.

If you think you can have a scientific contribution to this special session, please contact me to discuss your ideas. Accepted papers will appear in Springer Lecture Notes.

Kind regards,

Anton

Email: A.Nijholt@UTWENTE.NL

5th NORTHEAST TEXAS HUMOR RESEARCH CONFERENCE, "HUMOR AND PEDAGOGY", 20-22
FEBRUARY 2015

5th Humor Research Conference in Northeast Texas 2015 will have the theme, "Humor and Pedagogy", and be held from February 20-22, 2015, at Texas A&M University-Commerce at Universities Center in downtown Dallas, Texas.

Conference Website: <http://www.tamuc.edu/humor>

The 5th annual Humor Research Conference (HRC) 2015 in Texas will take place as an international multidisciplinary all-plenary 3-day event at Texas A&M—Commerce's Universities Center in downtown Dallas, TX. Invited speakers include John Banas (U of Oklahoma), Catherine Evans Davies (U of Alabama), and Karina Hess Zimmermann (U Autónoma de Querétaro, México). Selected peer-reviewed papers will appear in a special issue of E-JournALL (EuroAmerican Journal for Applied Linguistics and Languages), guest-edited by Salvatore Attardo.

Conference Organizers:

Christian F. Hempelmann, Department of Literature & Languages, Texas A&M-Commerce, Email: c.hempelmann@tamuc.edu

Owen Hanley Lynch, Communication Studies, Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, Dallas Email: olynch@mail.smu.edu

Program Committee:

- Salvatore Attardo, Texas A&M-Commerce, TX
- Sarah Seewoester Cain, Rice, Houston, TX
- Elisa Gironzetti, Texas A&M-Commerce, TX
- Jyotsna Vaid, Texas A&M-College Station, TX
- Christian F. Hempelmann, Texas A&M-Commerce, TX
- Andrea Samson, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Conference Fee:

- Registration Site
- \$40 preregistration by January 31, 2015
- \$50 after January 31, 2015
- \$25 for students (proof of student status required)

Conference Venue:

Universities Center at Dallas (UCD), 1910 Pacific Place, Floors 2-4
1910 Pacific Avenue, Dallas, TX 75201

Conference Hotel: Hotel Indigo, 1933 Main Street, Dallas, TX, 75201

AUSTRALIA'S SILENT FILM FESTIVAL, SYDNEY, JANUARY 2015

The Festival is back in January over three Sundays at 2pm in the State Library with three of Charlie Chaplin's greatest features: the Oscar-winning "The Circus", January 11, "Monsieur Verdoux", January 18 and "Limelight", January 25.

Further details of these acclaimed films can be accessed at the website.

Other sessions are planned for February onwards with some brief details below. On the menu are films from France, Russia, China and Japan; documentary wonders of the silent age including the Oscar nominated "" from 1928 and the South Pole exploration classic, "The Great White Silence"; and the iconic Charles Chauvel film, "Rats of Tobruk".

Ronnie and Sharon

AUSTRALIA'S SILENT FILM FESTIVAL

Website: www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au

Phone: 0419 267 318

Email: info@ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au

With warmest good wishes for the Festive Season and the coming New Year, and an assurance from the Editors that our usual colourful AHSN Digest will return in early in 2015,

Jessica

Dr Jessica Milner Davis, AHSN Co-ordinator

Email: jessica.davis@sydney.edu.au