

NEWW newsletter

5.4

December 2011



Pictured above: participants in the International COST conference *Voices in Dialogue*, held in Chawton. They had come to Southampton University for the public lecture held by Prof. Markman Ellis (in front).

COST-WWIH: Milestone 2

The International COST-WWIH Conference: *Voices in Dialogue: Ideational production and reception of Women's Writing in Europe*, held at Chawton House Library in Chawton (UK), 3-5 November 2011, was a great success. Action members from all over Europe gathered together in this beautiful place – directly related to Jane Austen – to exchange their knowledge and experience.

At the Conference, which represented our “Second Milestone”, results were presented and discussed concerning in particular the ways in which the quantitative approach must give way to including qualitative elements and aspects. This kind of problems have been discussed and tested during Training Schools, Short Time Scientific Missions and a Think-Tank-Meeting which have been held during the last year.

The Conference program (with abstracts of contributions) is still online. Action members

and other interested colleagues as well as students are invited to consult it. Indeed the texts will not be published as Conference proceedings: we had decided earlier that participants would be encouraged to present their papers to peer-reviewed journals, in order to assure larger dissemination. If discussion is needed about this, please take contact with the colleagues concerned.

The organization of the Conference was excellent and we would all like to thank Gillian Dow and Nicole Pohl for their good work.

COST-WWIH: Milestone 3

The location of the next Workshop of the COST-WWIH Action was also decided: it will take place in Bucharest (26-28 April 2012), organized by Ramona Mihaila (Spiru Haret University). Theme will be: *Women's Writing and the East-*

West Connections within Europe: Visualizing the Channels.

Organizing this Workshop in Bucharest allows focusing on the ways in which women – as authors – have contributed to establishing contacts between the Western and the Eastern part of Europe: which influences were at play here? Political developments? Growing curiosity? In view of the third Milestone of our COST Action we will continue reflecting on what kind of factors were at stake when women put themselves to writing, publishing and entering into contact with readers.

On the technological level Visualizing is at stake now: what kinds of “maps, trees, graphs” (cf. Moretti) do we want the programme to generate for us, in view of our really progressing and approaching the questions on a larger scale?

We invite colleagues to propose contributions for this Workshop, which is preparatory to the November meeting (for which we will add the North – South dimension...), and will help explaining to developers what we need. Therefore, in case you are working on authors, works or receptions not yet entered into the WomenWriters database, we also ask you to include references to your research material.

Please send a proposal (about 300 words) before 31 December 2011, to Ramona Mihaila: ramona.mihaila@gmail.com.

A more detailed version of the Call is online in the NEWW site.

Database news

Under the aegis of COST-WWIH, we regularly organize Training Schools for our colleagues to help them become familiar with the ways of inputting data into the online WomenWriters database and to help them benefit from and work on existing data.

After the first very successful COST-WWIH Training School (held in October 2010 in The Hague), a second and third Training School were organized in The Hague in May and in August/September this year. All together 24 action members participated until now.

Reports of the Training Schools are to be found here.

COST-WWIH news

Two young researchers, Begona Regueiro (Madrid) and Tanja Badalic (Nova Gorica) have carried out Short Time Scientific Missions, collaborating in Nancy with Kerstin Wiedemann, from 23 to 30 June 2011.

They worked on the international reception (in Spain and Slovenia) of one of the most important 19th-century women authors: George Sand. Together they have discussed the ways in which to handle their research material, and to use the database in order to address more specific, and qualitative, research questions. This can be done by appropriate use of narrative and reception topoi to be included in the records.

This approach, presented during the Chawton Conference, will allow creating a useful methodological basis, in the first place now for those colleagues working on authors like Sand who have frequently been used as models for other female authors.

See the reporting in the NEWW site.

In view of the further developing of the online WomenWriters database into a Virtual Research Environment, a 4 days Think-Tank-Meeting was held 27-30 September 2011 in Göteborg, organised by Jenny Bergenmar and Yvonne Leffler. Here came together: a group of colleagues (researchers as well as developers) working, next to the WomenWriters database, in one or more other online projects. The objective is creating interconnectivity between our database and the other projects. This will be not only useful in order to avoid copying information from one tool into another, but is needed for having the full benefit of working online on a subject for which numerous projects are being carried out, which should not duplicate each other, but provide complements.

During these four days we first – as researchers – communicated to each other the aims of the projects, while the developers made a start with creating common metadata for the first level: the one of the authors' names.

For the reporting about the meeting, see in the NEWW site.

Calls for proposals: STSMs and Training Schools

Action members (Early and Later Stage Researchers) have been invited to send proposals for participating in Training Schools to be held next year (deadline was 30 November 2011), and for carrying out Short Time Scientific Missions (deadline: 15 January 2012). All the information and important details can be found here: <http://www.costwwih.net/project-updates/callsforproposalsstsm sandtrainingschools>

Members' activities

A new project on the reception of George Eliot in Europe started with a colloquium at New College, University of Oxford on September 26th, led by the editor of the volume, Dr Catherine Brown, and the general editor of *The Reception of British and Irish Authors in Europe*, Dr Elinor Shaffer. Thirteen of the participating countries were presented, see program at: http://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/rbae/Eliot_Colloquium.pdf. More countries will be included in the final book. COST/NEWW-member Marie Nedregotten Sørbø is writing the chapter on George Eliot in Norway, and reports that the colloquium was highly inspirational, and gave the contributors a valued opportunity to compare issues of reception in the different countries.

Kati Launis from Turku had a research grant (5.6–5.7.2011) at the University of Cologne, Institute for Scandinavian/Fennistic. She had a visiting lecture of the Russian-Finnish female author Marie Linder titled “Crossing Borders: Russian-Finnish Author Marie Linder (1840–1870)” (9 June 2011).

A Research Seminar was held at Oslo University on the day before the meeting of the MC core group in Oslo (19th September 2011). It was organised by Anne Birgitte Ronning, Torill Steinfeld and Tone Brekke, and was very interesting and successful. Several of the core

group members participated in it. See the program in the NEWW site.

COST Action member Monica Burguera from Spain (Valencia) gave birth to her second child Diego 25th of October 2011. We very much would like to congratulate Monica and wish her and her family all the best.

In the International conference *Translation and Gender: a gap between theory and practice*, Els Biesemans presented a contribution entitled: “Women writers in history: Scandinavian authors and their translators 1860-1900” (8-9 November 2011, Cosenza, Calabria, Italy).

Member profile

Nina Geerdink works as a Lecturer at the department for Dutch Language and Literature at Radboud University Nijmegen, since September 2011. She will complete her PhD in Dutch Literature at VU University Amsterdam this year. Her dissertation is about poets, patronage and self-representation in the seventeenth-century Dutch Republic. She has published on the occasional poetry of Katharina Lescailje (1649-1711). New research plans include a project about the possibilities for early modern female authors to “live by their pen”: earning money with their poetry, through patronage or commercial authorship; to be included also: the discourse about women profiting from their literary work.

Sessions in upcoming conferences

For the *Women in French* conference (Arizona State University, 24-25 February 2012) Hilde Hoogenboom organized a COST-WWIH session entitled: *Bio-Bibliographic Compilations of Women in France Before and After Fortunée Briquet (1804): Quantitative Literary Studies and COST Action IS0901*. Contributions by Vicki Mistacco, Caterina Nosdeo, Nicole Pellegrin, Suzan van Dijk. Programme can be found here.

The International conference *Displaced Women: Multilingual Narratives of Migration in Europe* will be held in Glasgow 28-30 March 2012. It is organized by Lucia Aiello, Joy Charnley and Mariangela Palladino. Participating COST-WWIH members: Zsuzsanna Varga, Juliana Jovicic, Elena Gretchanaia, Suzan van Dijk, Çimen Günay-Erkol and Senem Timuroğlu. The programme is [online](#).

In the [SATOR](#) annual conference, to be held in Victoria (Canada), there will also be COST-WWIH participation: Madeleine Jeay, Yasmina Foehr-Janssens, Suzan van Dijk (20-23 June 2012).

Sessions/contributions to be proposed?

IGEL, the International Society for the Empirical Study of Literature and Media, will have its annual conference in Montréal, 7-10 July 2012.

It might seem a good idea to propose a COST-WWIH session for this meeting. Interested Action members can take contact with Suzan van Dijk, in order to discuss appropriate themes – please well before the deadline: 15 January 2012.

Information is [online](#).

Chawton House Library is organizing a conference entitled: “Anna Letitia Barbauld in Twenty Hundred and Twelve: New Perspectives”, to be held 11-12 May 2012. The conference is co-hosted by Chawton House Library, the University of Leicester, and the University of Southampton Centre for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SCECS).

Please send abstracts of 200-500 words for the attention of the conference organisers Gillian Dow, Felicity James and Olivia Murphy to Sandy White: sw17@soton.ac.uk. The deadline for abstracts is the 30th of January 2012.

For the [SHARP conference](#) (Dublin, 26-29 June 2012) and for the [Digital Humanities](#) conference

(Hamburg, 18-20 July 2012), COST-WWIH sessions have been proposed. The first one by Nina Geerdink, entitled: “Economic Imperatives for Women’s Writing”; the second by Suzan van Dijk entitled: “Data Sharing, Virtual Collaboration, and Textual Analysis: Working on *Women Writers In History*”. We will be informed about acceptance in February.

Call for articles

In September 2010 an international symposium entitled *Women’s Authorship and Literatures of Small Countries in the 19th Century* was organized in Ljubljana. Participants from 17 countries investigated the role and place of women authors within “smaller” cultures, and their connections with their female counterparts in “larger”, dominating cultures.

Now the programme committee of the symposium decided to prepare the volume on the women writers in the literatures of small countries. The editors [Katja Mihurko Poniž](#) (University of Nova Gorica), [Henriette Partzsch](#) (University of St Andrews) gave this volume the following working title: *Women’s Writings in the Literatures of Small Countries in the 19th Century*. This volume will present articles that give good insight in questions concerning female authorship of the 19th century in smaller countries.

The COST Action *Women Writers In History* is asking for the contributions from the speakers and from other scholars working on the topics of the volume. The complete Call for articles is in the [NEWW site](#). Deadline for sending articles is 31 January 2012. Each article should be a total of max. 6000 words. Please send the articles to: katja.mihurko-poniz@guest.arnes.si and hamp2@st-andrews.ac.uk.

New journal

Recently has been created the *Journal of Research in Gender Studies*, a peer-reviewed bilingual interdisciplinary journal that aims to publish critical and theoretical constructive

contributions across the large spectrum of the Humanities. The journal publishes articles in a range of formats, including reviewed papers, research papers, interviews, book reviews, conference papers, short communications, feminist approaches that analyze scholarly inquiry concerning gender, femininity, masculinity, race, class, culture.

The next issue of this journal will be dedicated to the subject: *Women Writers in the Austro-Hungarian Empire*. The Call for papers will follow soon and will be sent by Ramona Mihaila, ramona.mihaila@gmail.com.

For more details see:
<http://www.addletonacademicpublishers.com/journal-of-research-in-gender-studies/journals/jrgs/about-the-journal.html>.

Belle de Zuylen Prize awarding MA-thesis

The new issue of the *Cahiers Isabelle de Charrière / Belle de Zuylen Papers* has been presented 24 November 2011 at the Museum of Dutch Literary History in The Hague. On this occasion the Belle de Zuylen award for MA theses studying Belle de Zuylen or (one of) her contemporaries has been granted to Wyneke de Gelder. Her MA thesis (University of Groningen, director: Alicia Montoya) is entitled: *Op het raakvlak van Verlichting en geloof. De russische receptie van Jeanne Marie Leprince de Beaumont (1711-1780) [Between Enlightenment and Religion. The Russian Reception of Jeanne Marie Leprince de Beaumont]*. Wyneke de Gelder has been invited to publish an article in English about the subject in the next *Cahier Isabelle de Charrière*.

Recent articles by NEWW members

Biljana Dojčinović, “History, Identity and Diversity”, in *Women’s History Review*, Routledge, Taylor and Francis, vol. 20, no. 4, September 2011, pp. 629-639.

In *Aino Kallas. Negotiations with Modernity*. Ed. Leena Kurvet-Käosaar and Lea Rojola (Finnish

Literature Society, 2011), Maarit Leskelä-Kärki and Kukku Melkas published respectively: “Songs of Comfort and Lamentation. Autobiographical Connections in the Texts of the Ageing Aino Kallas” (p. 198-214) and “From Apocalypse to the New Paradise. Early Ecological Thinking and Aino Kallas’ Work in the 1920s” (p. 53-64).

Ele Carpenter published an article about her participation at the COST-WWIH Belgrade Conference. You can read about her impressions on:

<http://eleweekend.blogspot.com/2011/11/embroidered-digital-commons-nodes.html>.

There is also a Face Book Group called “Embroidered Digital Commons” which you are welcome to join.

Receiving the NEWWletter

If you do not wish to receive the NEWW newsletter, please send a message stating so to Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl.

Contacts

NEWW network manager:

Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl.

Project websites: <http://www.womenwriters.nl> (general website, currently under reconstruction), <http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl> (database).

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