

Subject:  
AHSN October E-Newsletter  
From:  
Jessica Davis <jessmd@bigpond.net.au>  
Date:  
20/10/2011 6:14 PM  
To:  
AHSN-members <ahsn-members@mail.usyd.edu.au>

AHSN WEB-SITE: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/humourstudies>

[Please note: apologies that this is NOT a hot-link; please cut and paste it into your web browser.  
[Please also note: This e-list is NOT interactive and replies/comments should be sent to Jessica -- email address below]

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REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 18th AHSN COLLOQUIUM ON  
"VARIETIES OF HUMOUR AND LAUGHTER", 3-4 FEBRUARY 2012  
UNIVERSITY HOUSE, ANU, CANBERRA

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Registration for the Colloquium for both presenters and attendees is open with a concessional rate for students and the unwaged. Please visit the Events Page of the AHSN website (see above) and click on the Registration side-bar link to download the Registration Form. Follow the instructions to fill it out and make your payment to the University of Sydney by cheque or credit card.

Registration closes on 16 January, but you are asked to complete the forms as early as you can. To ensure that receipts are issued before Christmas, you will need to send completed forms in by 1 December 2011. Please return completed forms by email or mail (NOT by fax: we found these were likely to go astray) to the School address given on the form. Receipts issue some 2-3 weeks after processing and will be addressed to the name and contact address of the person registering.

Accommodation information and booking advice is also available on the Events page of the website (click on Information sidebar) and for more information contact Dr Jan Lloyd Jones, Colloquium Convenor, at ANU: [jan.lloyd-jones@anu.edu.au](mailto:jan.lloyd-jones@anu.edu.au)

Jan also asks you to contact her directly if you have any serious special food requirements.

Sincere thanks to Jan, and also to the College of Arts and Social Sciences, ANU, for making this event possible and for subsidizing the registration of ANU members (enquiries to Jessica or Jan, please).

Thank you also to the 40 members, old and new, who submitted the highest number of proposals for papers and workshops we have ever had, ensuring a hard task for the Review Panel, but also an excellent and full program.

Please see final item below for details of our confirmed Keynote Speaker, Dr Chris Rea, from UBC and the ANU.

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INVITATION TO THE AUSTRALIAN CARTOONISTS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE  
AND STANLEY AWARDS DINNER, 11-12 NOVEMBER, 2011

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The 27th Australian Cartoonists Association (ACA) Stanley Awards and Conference will be held in Sydney, 11-12 November 2011 at Hotel Mercure. Many of Australia's cartoonists will attend. The conference usually attracts 70 each day and the Awards Night Dinner 100 to 150. Both events are open to interested AHSN members. Talks will be given by professional cartoonists as well as industry-related speakers and many will appeal to anyone interested in cartooning. Special Guests are Reg Mombassa and Ron Cobb. At the Dinner, there will also be a comedy performance by AHSN member Rodney Marks - so do come along, but, mum's the word!

NB Keynote Address: Professor Ewan Dye, DFA (Harvard), Director of Color, Joint Universal Standard Technical Color Rating Assessment Project, New York City, on "The global color-identifying initiative: Adopting generally accepted names for proprietary colors".

More details and registration form in attached pdf file or email AHSN member and pocket cartoonist, Lindsay Foyle: lindsay44@optusnet.com.au

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LECTURE BY BARAK KUSHNER, CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,  
AT SYDNEY UNIVERSITY, MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2011, 4.15-6.00PM

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Visiting Scholar Barak Kushner (Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge), will give a Guest Lecture for Members and Guests of AHSN, and of The Oriental Society of Australia (OSA), in The Refectory Room (H113) Main Quad (S-W cnr, basement level), University of Sydney, on 13 December 2011, 4.15pm Refreshments, Lecture 5.00-6.00pm. His topic is: "Nothing to laugh at: Chinese humor and the image of Japan".

Abstract:

Humour is as much a cultural force in China as it is in other East Asian regions, although in the English-speaking world we might not always regard the offerings as ôfunnyö, in the strict laugh-out-loud sense. As a deep-seated barometer of social attitudes, humour is an informative historical set of values through which to examine the last century of Sino-Japan relations. Wartime and post-war layers of Chinese humour shaped an enduring motif of the guizi or ôdevilö image of Japanese soldiers. However, on the eve of the twenty-first century, these accumulated layers of representations of Japan have given rise to a marked change û Japanese depicted not only as humorous ôdevilsö but also as corruptible human entities.

Barak Kushner received his PhD in history from Princeton University and works on wartime propaganda, humour and media as well as history of Sino-Japanese relations. He is a Senior Lecturer in modern Japanese history at the University of Cambridge. His many publications include a parallel study to the present topic û of Japanese propaganda cartoons against the Chinese, ôLaughter as materiel: The mobilization of comedy in JapanÆs fifteen-year warö, Inter-national History Review 26, no. 2 (June 2004): 300-330. He is a contributor to "Humour in Chinese Life and Letters: Modern and Traditional Approaches" (eds. J. Chey and J. Milner Davis, forthcoming HKUP).

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REMINDER: ISHS BIENNIAL ELECTIONS COMING UP, 2 AHSN MEMBERS  
CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD

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AHSN Review Panel member, Dr Bruce Findlay (Psychology, Swinburne University of Technology) and Prof. Goh Abe (Tokushima Bunri University, Japan) have both

accepted nomination from the Nominating Committee of the International Society for Humor Studies to stand for election as members of the ISHS Executive Board in upcoming elections later this year. A new President will also be elected as well as 2 new Board members.

If you would like to e-vote in these elections, please ensure you have renewed your ISHS membership. Unless you wish to add a subscription to the journal, Humor: International Journal of Humor Research, the annual fee is only \$US30 (forms and info at: <http://www.hnu.edu/ishs/MembersCenter.htm> or email Exec. Sec. Dr Martin Lampert, Holy Names University, Oakland, Calif.: [ishs@hnu.edu](mailto:ishs@hnu.edu))

In January 2012, Prof Giseline Kuipers, Norbert Elias Professor of Sociology at Erasmus University, Rotterdam, and University of Amsterdam, will take office as the new Editor of the Journal, H:IJHR. She is the author of "Good Humor, Bad Taste: A Sociology of the Joke" (Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 2006), a study of the taste-cultures of humour in supposedly class-free Netherlands.

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#### AHSN MEMBER'S REPORT FROM NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

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At NYU in NYC, 2011 Fulbright Scholar and AHSN member, Angelina Yooleelar Hurley, is pursuing her humour-related research project in Creative Writing, working on developing a popular TV sitcom that would draw on the quirks and comic tonalities of Indigenous family culture in Australia. For a sneak preview of some dialogue, follow Angelina's splendid blog at: <http://wombaworld09.blogspot.com/>  
Good luck, Angelina!

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#### AHSN MEMBER'S REPORT FROM OXFORD UNIVERSITY

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AHSN member and 2011 Monash Scholarship Winner, Alison O'Connor, reports from Trinity College, Oxford, that she has passed her first exam (on swimming, to qualify for rowing), is studying research methods and eagerly anticipating the great Trinity Spring Tortoise Race. Meanwhile she's enjoying other Oxford quirks such as Trinity's long standing rivalry with Balliol College, which involves writing Latin insults on the Balliol Chapel roof after they released a goat in the Trinity JCR.  
Abundant food for research on in-group humour, evidently! Good luck, Alison!

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#### UPDATE ON CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR AHSN 18th COLLOQUIUM (ANU, 3-4 FEBRUARY 2012): DR CHRIS REA, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Dr Christopher G. Rea, Assistant Professor of Chinese Literature in the Dept of Asian Studies at The University of British Columbia, is joining the Australian Centre on China in the World at the ANU as a Postdoctoral Fellow. His Keynote presentation at the AHSN Colloquium will be titled, "Riding the Grass Mud

Horse: Parody and Spoofing (e'gao) on the Chinese Internet". He summarizes this way:

Back in the heady days of 2009, a mythical beast galloped its way across Chinese cyberspace and into the lexicon of China-watchers, netizens, and cultural cognoscenti around the world. The Grass Mud Horse (caonima) looked as adorable as an alpaca but sounded like a big FU to the Chinese Communist Party and its legions of cybercensors. The GMH was soon celebrated as an icon of e'gao, a sub-culture of spoofing and parodic irreverence that in the 21st century has grown into one of the biggest stories to date of the Chinese internet age. This talk considers the question "What, if anything, is different about Chinese parody in cyberspace?", by highlighting several of the unique features of e'gao culture, including its use of Chinese-language puns and its indebtedness to Mainland China's material culture of rampant knock-offs known as shanzhai. Finally, it asks: Jolly on, Grass Mud Horse, but, given how fast internet trends rise and fall, does this steed still have legs, or has it run its course?

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Good wishes to all!

Jessica

Dr Jessica Milner Davis

AHSN Co-ordinator

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Attachments:

Stanleys2011(web).pdf 1.7 MB