

HOLD THE DATES: 27th AHSN CONFERENCE, 3-5 FEBRUARY 2021

**Message from the Convenor, Nick Holm,
Massey University, Wellington:**

I'd like to extend a warm invitation to all members of the AHSN to attend the 27th meeting of the association in Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand from 3-5 February 2021 at Massey University. The conference will be open to all scholars studying any aspect of humour, but we will be in particular welcoming presentations on the theme of 'Humour at Work.' This includes any research concerned with the industrial and economic aspects of humour, such as:

- The humour industries;
- The political economics of comedy;
- Humor in workplaces;
- Comedy as art, business and profession;
- Joking about business, work or capitalism;
- New technologies of humour production and distribution;
- Instrumentalist uses of humour (and reflections on those uses)
- Humour for sale;
- Any other application of that theme.

Wellington in February is a wonderful place to be with (relatively) settled and mild weather. Wellington is a compact city that is easy to navigate in order to experience its wealth of cultural and outdoor options and the Wellington campus of Massey University is centrally located which will allow you easy access to the vibrant inner city. In addition, New Zealand isn't nearly as terrifying or far-away as many AHSN members seem to presume and this conference will give you the opportunity to experience the country from the safety of an AHSN-sanctioned event.

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About the Convenor:

Nicholas Holm is Senior Lecturer in Media Studies on the Wellington campus of Massey University. He first attended an AHSN event back in 2014 and is now a member of the organisation's Board and Review Panel. His research addresses humour, politics and satire: he is the author of *Humour as Politics* (Palgrave, 2017) and his recent work has been published in journals such as *Comedy Studies*, *Cultural Studies* and the *Journal of American Studies*, and collections including *Satire and Politics* (Palgrave, 2017) and *Comedy and Critical Thought* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2018). He is currently working on a new project on Fun and developing an edited collection on the Comedy Industries with Christelle Paré, Co-Convenor of the 2018 International Society for Humor Studies Conference in Montreal, Canada (with Jean-Marie Lafortune, Université de Québec).



Eds: Thank you, Nick, for taking on the task of hosting us all in 2021. We all look forward to an exciting event and the chance to visit Wellington again (AHSN Conference was first there in 2014). For more on Dr Christelle Paré, see the article on *L'Observatoire de l'humour* and GRIH.



HUMOUR AT WORK

27TH CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALASIAN HUMOUR STUDIES NETWORK (AHSN)

APPLICATIONS, INDUSTRIES & ECONOMIES

Massey University (Wellington)
Aotearoa New Zealand
February 3-5, 2021

AHSN2020, 26th Annual Conference at Griffith University (5-7 Feb 2020) Went with a Bang!

From the Organising Committee

Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Studies (GCSCR) at Griffith University (Brisbane, Australia) hosted and welcomed **over 60 delegates** at the 26th annual Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN) conference. The venue was the Ship Inn at South Bank.

Delegates came from 5 Australian states and from Japan, New Zealand, the UK, the US, South Africa and Germany. The theme was “Laughter and Belonging”, which attracted many interesting and insightful papers. Like other recent conferences, AHSN2020 brought together researchers from **many disciplines** (historians, literary scholars, media and communication scholars, linguists, psychologists, politics scholars, among others), as well as **practitioners** (cartoonists, satirists, stand-up comedians, documentary makers). Cale Bain (University Technology Sydney), who is also a professional stand-up comedian, organised a pre-conference workshop on “Balancing the Grounded and the Absurd in Improv” on 5 February.

The **conference Convenor** was Prof. Cliff Goddard who was assisted by an organising committee consisting of Reza Arab (committee Chair), Zarek Hennessy, and Angelina Hurley, all from Griffith University. On the day there were two volunteer conference assistants: Alena Kazmaly and Paige Townsend, both Griffith University students.

The conference had **four keynote speakers**, including for the first time at an AHSN conference, one remote keynote speaker:

- **Prof. Meredith Marra** (Victoria University of Wellington, NZ) presented the opening keynote on “I Laugh to Show I Belong: Negotiating Workplace Humour as a Newcomer”
- **Prof. Robert Phiddian** (Flinders University) presented on his recent work on “Satire and the Contempt Anger Disgust (CAD) triad of emotions”
- **Leon Filewood** (Stand-up comedian, writer, and producer) whose keynote was titled, “The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stand-Up Comedian’s dilemma: Solidarity in Humour?”
- **Prof. Daniel Kadar** (Hungarian Academy of Sciences) who delivered his talk on “Ritual Activity Types and Humour” remotely via Skype

AHSN2020 also had a special panel on the final day, titled *Gods and Monsters in the Media*. It was co-chaired by Jessica Milner Davis (University of Sydney) and Robert Phiddian (Flinders University); panellists were Mark Rolfe (UNSW), Benjamin Nickl (University of Sydney), Richard Scully (University of New England), and Lucien Leon (ANU).

During the **closing ceremony**, Prof. Susan Forde, Director of the Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Studies, gave a short address praising the conference for its multi-disciplinarity, inclusiveness and collegiality. Then followed the presentation of new Fellows in the AHSN Order of the Jess-ters (with pins designed by AHSN Review Panel member and cartoonist, Lindsay Foyle): Rodney Marks and Carmen Moran, both 1997 founding members of AHSN. **Postgraduate scholarship winners** were awarded their certificates: Ying Cao (University of Western Sydney), Amir Sheikhan (University of Queensland), Lara Weinglass (University of Queensland), Amanda Cooper (University of Western Sydney), and Alex Cothren (Flinders University).

The **full program** will be archived on the AHSN website at: <https://sydney.edu.au/arts/our-research/centres-institutes-and-groups/australasian-humour-studies-network.html>

Reza Arab and Cliff Goddard, for the Committee

A message from the Chair of the AHSN Board

On behalf of the AHSN Board, I would like to thank and congratulate Cliff, Reza, Angelina and Zarek for hosting such a wonderful 26th AHSN conference! We have received a lot of informal feedback from delegates (including newcomers) who were delighted with the very warm welcome they received from both the organisers and other delegates, the wide range of topics and excellent presentations on offer, the interdisciplinary nature of the conference, the seamless organisation, the catering and the venue. (Comments about the rainy weather were less complimentary, but perhaps they were just mine!)

For me personally, this annual conference is one of the highlights of my year (especially when RMIT is not organising it!). I love catching up with the AHSN community, seeing what research people are doing, and constantly learning and being stimulated. For me, the social aspect is just as important as the academic learning that takes place, and the team at Griffith provided a wonderful environment for us all to enjoy both.

I look forward to seeing you all again next year in Wellington, New Zealand. In the meantime, watch this space for news of the website as it develops and a new format later in the year for the Digest.

Kerry Mullan

Associate Professor Kerry Mullan
School of Global, Urban and Social Studies
RMIT University
E: kerry.mullan@rmit.edu.au

Eds: For AHSN 2021, see separate item and make your plans to visit the Land of the Long White Cloud, Aotearoa/New Zealand, in February 2021.

The 26th AHSN Conference:

Report by Paige Townsend, Creative Writing and Literature, Griffith University (Gold Coast)

How to summarise so many captivating presentations and conversations? Humour studies' interdisciplinarity and cross-cultural foundation shone through at the 26th AHSN Conference. Each day, three sessions ran simultaneously, offering a smorgasbord of ideas and approaches nested within the grand theme of "Laughter and Belonging".

Professor Meredith Marra's keynote presentation was a fitting entry point to the theme, as well as the shape, of the conference. Travelling from Victoria University of Wellington to prove the point about AHSN being Australasian, not Australian, Meredith highlighted the gravity and significance of humour in terms of belonging, how it can become an act of translation both beyond and within language. "Humour," she said, "can make or break your life in a new country." She spoke of the "context" and "subtlety" involved, adding that "you can do things differently". Frameworks can be broken, long-held notions overcome. As the conference progressed, this idea of both understanding and resisting the status quo rose to the surface.

What we have in this network is a dialogue – between cultures, universities, countries, and disciplines. Documentary filmmaker Paul Horan (author of *Funny As: A History of NZ Comedy*, both a book and a NZTV series) described how in Australia and New Zealand we wield comedy as a "mode of expression" and a way of "best saying what we need to say", rather than a "genre". In such a universal concept as humour, despite its strata and differences, the conference tapped into a similar esprit de corps and way of seeing as Horan outlined in comedy.



Speaking of esprit de corps, as Jessica Milner Davis (University of Sydney) pointed out in her presentation on Bergsonian humour, “progressing in humour came from combining cross-cultural studies”, the work of a “wildly fruitful group”. A chiming of bells emerges from within the varied presentations, a baton passed along, an act of translation. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Stand-up Comedian Leon Filewood (winner of the 2018 Deadlies at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival) touched on the importance of his different audiences’ contexts in what they’d find funny or not – “national, local, and community” politics play a part, just as Horan outlined the “rules [that] frame a local, regional, national, or ethnic sense of humour”.

Filewood spoke of working hard as a performer to reach the audience, chiming with Chrisoula Lionis’ presentation, wherein she highlighted the significance of the audience themselves doing the work to “access” cross-cultural humour, as well as its context, on a deeper level. Chrisoula travelled from University of Manchester in the UK to be in Brisbane.

Bringing together such a range of perspectives provokes a kinetic, mind-opening synthesis. Michael Meany (University of Newcastle) said that from a distance, conferences can come across as “rather alien”, removed as they are from their context and atmosphere, their rhythm. This seems to be the case with so much of humour, too.

Of course, cohesion is not necessarily the point; the flight of ideas, their clashing as well as their melding, is the point. The immersion of a conference reveals a pattern that emerges piecemeal, mirroring Lucien Leon’s definition of a rhythmic montage: bringing together discordant details “to provoke the audience into seeing a whole that’s greater than the sum of its parts”. Leon studies cartoons and their transformation in the digital age at the School of Art and Design, ANU, Canberra.

At the closing ceremony, GSCR director Professor Susan Forde Dean of Humanities at Griffith University spoke of invigorating this process, of “putting the flesh on the bones on this notion of interdisciplinarity”. How heartening to see such progress in action. As Jessica Milner Davis said before inducting two new members into the ceremonial AHSN Order of the Jess-ters, the Humour Studies Network began 25 years ago “on the smell of an oily rag”, and for a while there it “hung on by the skin of its teeth”.

Now, the flesh is growing within our esprit de corps. Our network and its attendant conferences provide a space to explore in ever-varying ways, and it’s for this that we extend a hearty thank you to all attendees and presenters for making this conference so refreshing in its newness, its many perspectives unified, its ongoing dialogues so global in scope.

Eds: Paige, along with Alena Kazmaly, kindly staffed the Conference Desk throughout the Conference and did a fantastic job – many thanks to both!

Image Gallery

For more photos of the 26th AHSN Conference, 4-7 February 2020, at Griffith University Southbank Campus, visit:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1W5c1p9TYPmwwlIVHNUVp8qoQWVuKi2pJ>

Photography courtesy of Zarek Hennessy, Conference Organising Committee.

Eds: Thank you Zarek!



Kerry Mullan, Chair of the AHSN Board, presents the 2020 Scholars with their certificates: Ying Cao, University of Western Sydney, Amir Sheikhan, University of Queensland, Lara Weinglass, University of Queensland, Amanda Cooper, University of Western Sydney, and Alex Cothren, Flinders University.



Meredith Marra, Victoria University of Wellington, presents her keynote lecture.



Sorting the admin: Kerry Mullan, AHSN Board Chair, with Cliff Goddard, Conference Convenor and Reza Arab, Conference Committee Chair



Thanks to the Griffith Conference Committee and Staff, L-R: Cliff Goddard, Reza Arab, Alena Kazmaly, Paige Townsend and Zarek Hennessy (Angelina Hurley was unable to be present).



The 4 Jess-ters. L-R: Founding Fellows: Jessica Milner Davis and Bruce Findlay (former Chair, AHSN Review Panel), 2020 Fellows: Carmen Moran, Rodney Marks



Coffee Time



Yes, you CAN laugh at a humour conference!

University of Newcastle delegates get together!
Dorcas Zuvalinyenga meets Michael Meany



Angelina Hurley, Griffith University, presenting her work



Barbara Plester, University of Auckland



Angus McLachlan, Chair of the AHSN Review Panel, presents his research



Cale Bain, University of Technology Sydney



Benjamin Nickl, University of Sydney, presenting on *Funny Gods and Monsters in the Media*



Valeria Sinkeviciute, University of Queensland



Debra Aarons, University of New South Wales, and member of the Scientific Committee for the 2020 ISHS Conference, University of Bologna, Italy



Thorsten Aichele, University of Würzburg, Germany



Scott Gardner, Okayama University, Japan

New Researcher Profile - Susi Herti Afriani

Susi Herti Afriani is a third year PhD candidate at the School of Humanities and Communication Arts, Western Sydney University, Australia. Susi's research focuses on language: in particular, the distinctive language and humour of her home district, Palembang in Indonesia. Palembang is one of the oldest cities in Indonesia and the language that has developed over generations is unique. The Palembang Malay Language, known locally as *Palembangnese*, has two levels. The first level is *Baso Palembang Alus* (BPA) and the second, *Baso Palembang Sari-sari* (BPS). Susi's research focuses on BPS. It explores the nuances of Palembangnese to illustrate the distinctive humour and directive speech acts that function as humour in Palembangnese. This depiction is significant as the humour and directives that might be considered as face-threatening acts in certain cultures are shown to be a form of solidarity in Palembang language and culture. Susi's research highlights how Palembang language and culture, as one of the local languages in Indonesia, acts to unite the community. Her research thus contributes to distinguishing Palembangnese as a unique facet of Malay civilization.



Susi's publications promote global awareness of the Palembangnese language and culture and introduce Palembang Malay language to the world (Afriani, 2015, 2016, and 2019). '*Kelakar Bethook in Palembang Malay Language: A Linguistic Analysis*', published in the *Journal of Malay Islamic Studies* in 2019 (Vol. 3 No. 1), introduces and explores a tradition of humour in Palembang culture called *kelakar* (jokes). It explains that *kelakar* is a distinctive cultural-linguistic practice in Palembangnese humour and directives in Indonesia. In this article, Susi emphasises that in Palembang culture humour *kelakar* (joking) is a communication strategy used in everyday life in Palembang to promote a friendly atmosphere without offending or harming the interlocutor or audience.

Susi's current research builds on her undergraduate and postgraduate studies. In 2004 she graduated from Yogyakarta State University with a Bachelor's degree *Cum Laude* in English Linguistics and Literature. With a scholarship from the Ford Foundation, Susi then completed her postgraduate study at the University of Indonesia in 2009. In 2010, Susi accepted a permanent lecturer position at the State Islamic University (UIN) Raden Fatah Palembang, where she taught Linguistics in the Faculty of Adab and Humanities prior to being awarded a Ministry of Religious Affairs scholarship (MORA) from the Republic of Indonesia to complete her PhD (Grant Number 1377 / Dj.I / Dt.I.IV / 4 / Hm.01 / 08/2016). After completing her PhD at Western Sydney University, Susi will return to Indonesia to continue her research and work and to share and preserve the tradition of Palembangnese language and humour, especially with the younger generation in the city of Palembang.

Susi currently lives in suburban Sydney, NSW, with her husband and three children. She recently attended at the 26th AHSN Conference at Griffith University in Brisbane.

Contact Susi about her work on: 18491454@student.westernsydney.edu.au and susihertiafriani_uin@radenfatah.ac.id

New Researcher Profile - Stephen Skalicky

Lecturer, School of Linguistics and Applied
Language Studies

Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New
Zealand



Like most of my major life experiences, my entry into humour studies was awkward, confusing, and happened more or less by complete accident. Really, it was my supervisors and mentors that found a place for me in the field while I was too busy worrying about things like affording rent and food on a PhD stipend. I owe every academic success and accomplishment to them. My main research focus is on empirical studies of how people perceive, comprehend, and respond to contemporary satirical discourse, which situates me somewhere among the disciplines of cognitive linguistics, figurative language, and humour studies.

My first taste of humour studies came during my MA degree at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, USA. It was there I met Dr. Nancy Bell who eventually became my MA supervisor. Nancy has published prolifically on the role of humour and language play during second language learning, the intercultural pragmatics of humour, how interlocutors negotiate failed humour, and more. As a postgraduate student in an English department, of course I thought I already knew everything and decided at the time that I did not care much about studying humour. However, Nancy must have seen something in me (or maybe it was because I went one time to her office hours), because she invited me to work with her on a project examining how low proficiency English learners developed their humour and language play abilities as they learned English.

At the same time, I was writing my MA thesis on the rhetorical structure of online product reviews. I read a lot of reviews published to Amazon.com – like, a lot of them. It was then I stumbled across the “funny” Amazon.com reviews, which are fictional reviews posted to the site to mock products or the people and companies who made them. I became very interested in this phenomenon and wanted to understand better what was going on. This was my entry into studying satire. I do not remember how or why, but I read Paul Simpson’s book *On the discourse of satire* and realised the “funny” Amazon.com product reviews were examples of spontaneous satire written by everyday people. At this time, it was more of a side interest of mine than anything serious.

I graduated, published a few papers on humour with Nancy, and I thought I had wiped my hands clean of the silly field of humour studies. Maybe it was Nancy’s warm encouragement or perhaps my desire to escape a lifetime of teaching first-year writing, but I decided to enrol in a PhD programme in Applied Linguistics at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. During my first week of coursework for my PhD (where, in the USA system, we spend two years flailing about trying to discover ourselves), my statistics professor asked us to share our research interests with the rest of the class. When it was my turn, and before I could say anything, the professor said that he knew Nancy was my MA advisor, so therefore my research interest must be related to humour. Not wanting to be contrarian (and also because I did not have a real answer at the time), I wholeheartedly agreed with him. As I said, things happened by accident.

In that class I was able to use those satirical Amazon reviews I had previously encountered as data for a computational analysis of the linguistic features of satirical discourse. That professor, Dr. Scott Crossley, eventually became my PhD supervisor. He taught me all about the world of statistics, psycholinguistics, and experimental research. With Scott’s help, I was able to carve a niche for myself by applying these methods to the study of satirical discourse and wrote my PhD thesis on that very topic. I became active with conferences and journals associated with figurative language, humour, and linguistics, and have not looked back since.

In February of 2019 I boarded an airplane and landed 13,000km away from Atlanta in Wellington, New Zealand, to start my appointment as a lecturer in the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. I have been busy with the typical things associated with a first-time academic position and trying to establish myself in this new context (primarily by making sure people know that I am originally from Canada). I met a lot of you Digest readers at the 2020 AHSN conference and really enjoyed my time there – I look forward to more to come!

Contact Stephen about his work at stephen.skalicky@vuw.ac.nz or visit his website at www.stephenskalicky.com

Member's News – Leon Filewood

[Leon Filewood - Winner, Deadly Funny 2018](#), and applauded Keynote Speaker at the recent 26th AHSN Conference, 5-7 February, Griffith University, Brisbane.

Watch #LeonFilewood competing at the 2018 Deadly Funny finals. Recorded at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival for NITV. Fierce, loud, black and proud, Deadly Funny is Melbourne International Comedy Festival's national program that celebrates the wealth of comedic talent coming from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia. At:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUfRB-FncXE>

Message from Leon: Leon is really keen to get feedback from people about his talk at AHSN, and would love people to follow his work. Contact Leon by email:

leonfilewood@gmail.com

About the MIC Festival

Established in 1987, Melbourne International Comedy Festival is one of the three largest comedy festivals in the world, alongside Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival. Over the last week of March and into April every year, #MICF transforms Melbourne into the comedy capital of the world, as local and international comedians take to theatres, pubs, clubs and broom cupboards citywide - shining a spotlight on the silly, the serious, the heart-breaking and the hilarious. Filming hours of comedy content every Festival, this channel delivers some of the highlights over the years. Delve into the archive of comedy with international stars (such as: Katherine Ryan, Michael Che, Sara Pascoe, James Veitch) and home-grown #aussiecomedy heroes (including: Hannah Gadsby, Josh Thomas, Aunty Donna, Ronny Chieng) and so many more! To find out what's happening in Australian comedy, head to our website: www.comedyfestival.com.au

Other ways to follow the #MICF funnies:

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/facebookMICF>

Twitter: <http://bit.ly/twitterMICF>

Instagram: <http://bit.ly/instagramMICF>

More laughs? Festival Club Highlights: <http://bit.ly/2IRy2mp>

The Gala 2004: <http://bit.ly/2x690KN>

Classic Clips: <http://bit.ly/2x690KN>



Member's New Book

John Rucynski Jr. and Caleb Prichard eds. 2020. *Bridging the Humor Barrier: Humor Competency Training in English Language Teaching*. Lanham MD: Lexington Books / Rowman & Littlefield

Contributions by: Anne Pomerantz; Jules Winchester; Maria Ramirez de Arellano; Mohammad Ali Heidari-Shahreza; Scott Gardner; Nadezda Pimenova; Richard Hodson and Maria Petkova

“As our world is becoming more divided between the conservatives and the progressives, we need a tool to help us all see the common ground. Humor, language play, satire, sarcasm, irony, and parody all require people to see an issue from more than a single perspective. Bridging the Humor Barrier is a perfect tool for allowing advanced English learners around the world not only to develop sophisticated English language skills, but also to better understand cultural and political differences.”

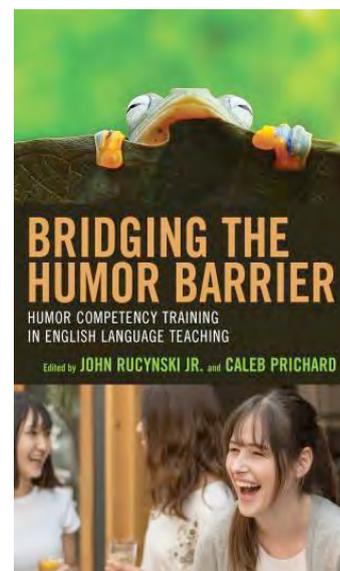
— Don Nilsen, Arizona State University

“I found the book to be an original contribution that belongs in the library of all humor scholars interested in the intersection of teaching English in an intercultural setting and humor. It is a very rich collection of articles, with a wide breadth of methodologies and goals, which fills a significant gap in the literature.”

— Salvatore Attardo, Texas A&M University

Publisher's Blurb: About this Book

The language barrier is a familiar term, but what exactly is the humor barrier? Humor is a universal phenomenon, but the cultural variance in how humor is used can prove to be a major obstacle for English language learners hoping to communicate effectively in cross-cultural contexts. While a growing number of researchers have explored the importance of helping language learners better understand the humor of the target culture, in *Bridging the Humor Barrier: Humor Competency Training in English Language Teaching*, editors John Rucynski Jr. and Caleb Prichard bring together language teachers and researchers from a range of cultural and teaching contexts to tackle how to actually overcome the humor barrier. This book empirically examines humor competency training and presents related research bearing implications for humor training. Contributors address a wide range of genres of humor, providing fresh insights into helping language learners deepen their understanding and appreciation of the humor of the English-speaking world, including jokes, sarcasm, and satire. This book is an excellent resource for English language teachers looking to help their learners avoid the pitfalls and reap the benefits of humor in the target language.



Hardback: ISBN 978-1-4985-9200-0 March 2020 Regular price: \$95.00/£75.00 After discount: \$66.50/£52.50

ebook: ISBN 978-1-4985-9201-7 March 2020 Regular price: \$90.00 /£70.00 After discount: \$63.00/£49.00 *eBooks can only be ordered online: <https://Rowman.com/Lexington>

Special 30% Discount Offer! To get discount, use code LEX30AUTH20 when ordering.

*May not be combined with other offers and discounts, valid until 02/12/2021. Author Information

Dear AHSN Members,

We have just finished editing this new book entitled *Bridging the Humor Barrier: Humor Competency Training in English Language Teaching*. As longtime English language teachers (currently associate professors in the Center for Liberal Arts & Language Education at Okayama University in Japan), we have always felt the need for more empirical research designed to help our learners better comprehend the complex humor of the English-speaking world. With this new volume, we were fortunate to compile contributions from teachers and researchers from a range of teaching and cultural contexts, including Iran, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Chapters in the volume investigate ways educators can help their learners overcome the humor barrier by examining different genres of humor, from joke telling to sarcasm to satirical news. The book is divided into three sections: Humor Competence Development Outside the Class, Integrated Humor Instruction, and Explicit Humor Competency Training. It's a unique new volume that should appeal to not only English language teachers, but to any scholars interested in the role humor comprehension plays in language acquisition, cross-cultural adaptation, and cross-cultural communicative competence.

John Rucynski, AHSN member, & Caleb Prichard

AHSN Board and Review Panel News – Comment on ANZSRC Review Consultation Draft: Fields of Research.

Noting the new proposed classification for Humour Studies, the Board and Panel resolved to submit the following comment to the review: Language, Communication and Culture -- 200216: Humour Studies (New Field)

Comment:

From the Australasian Humour Research Network (AHSN): A commendable addition to the classification system which will greatly assist the research reporting of all the many disciplines contributing to Australian and New Zealand research into humour and laughter.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write on behalf of the Australasian Humour Research Network (AHSN) who passed a motion at the recent annual meeting of the Board and Review Panel fully supporting the inclusion of Humour Studies (200216) as a new field of study in the ANZSRC Review Consultation Draft: Fields of Research.

The attached Spreadsheet notes our commendation within the Comments section, while the members of the Review Panel are appended below. Your attention is drawn to the range of disciplines represented on the Review Panel.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Angus McLachlan
Chair of AHSN Review Panel
Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, Federation University Australia

On behalf of the AHSN Review Panel, 2020:

Linguistics

Dr Debra Aarons, University of New South Wales
Professor Michael Haugh FAHA, University of Queensland
Associate Professor Kerry Mullan, RMIT University

Literature and Humanities

Conjoint Professor Michael Ewans FAHA, University of Newcastle
Associate Professor Peter Kirkpatrick, University of Sydney
Professor Robert Phiddian, Flinders University

Media and Cultural Studies

Professor Craig Batty, University of Technology Sydney
Dr Nicholas Holm, Massey University, Wellington
Dr Michael Lloyd, Victoria University of Wellington
Dr Jessica Milner Davis FRSN, University of Sydney

Psychology and Health

Dr Bruce Findlay, Swinburne University of Technology
Dr Angus McLachlan, Federation University Australia
Dr David Rawlings, University of Melbourne

Social Sciences and History

Emeritus Scientia Professor Conal Condren FAHA FASSA, University of Queensland
Dr Mark Rolfe, University of New South Wales

Visual Art and Practice

Mr Lindsay Foyle, Cartoonist and Cartoon historian
Dr Lucien Leon, Australian National University
Associate Professor Richard Scully, University of New England

Call Open - Symposium on (inter-)cultural perspectives on humour in the globalised world

June 11, 2020

School of Languages and Cultures

The University of Queensland

Brisbane, Australia

Organisers:

Dr Valeria Sinkeviciute (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Dr Wei-Lin Melody Chang (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Keynote speakers:

Prof Meredith Marra (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)

Assoc. Prof Marta Dynel (University of Lodz, Poland)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Humour – a complex phenomenon central to human communication – has been approached from different points in various fields of research, such as cultural studies, linguistics, psychology, and sociology. Even though not much research has paid due attention to the role culture plays in humour in interaction, we argue that it is a crucial contextual factor that helps not only to use humour appropriately, but also to understand what functions it performs in interpersonal communication. Therefore, in this one-day symposium, we would like to explore that intrinsic relationship between humour and culture.

We welcome linguistically and socially-oriented studies in different languages focusing on humour in both intracultural and intercultural settings.

We anticipate there will be approximately 30 minutes allocated per paper (20 minutes for presentation followed by 10min for Q&A), but it will ultimately depend on the number of accepted submissions. All presentations will be in English.

Abstract submission:

Please submit your abstract (max. 300 words) to Dr Valeria Sinkeviciute at v.sinkeviciute@uq.edu.au

Key dates:

Abstract submission deadline

Notification of acceptance

February 28, 2020

March 15, 2020

This is a fee-free event for both presenters and attendees, but please register on the website, as the places in the venue are limited.

Website: <https://languages-cultures.uq.edu.au/humour-symposium>

9th International Conference on Intercultural Pragmatics and Communication – INPRA 2020

School of Languages and Cultures - University of Queensland

Call for Papers. The 9th International Conference on Intercultural Pragmatics and Communication (INPRA) will be held 12-14 June 2020 at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. The main aim of INPRA is to bring together researchers from around the world who have diverse scientific backgrounds but share the same field of interest – pragmatics, broadly understood as a cognitive, philosophical, social, and intercultural perspective on language and communication.

Abstracts (max. 300 words) are invited for papers on any topic relevant to the fields of pragmatics and intercultural communication, including but not limited to:

- (i) **Pragmatics theories:** neo-Gricean approaches, relevance theory, theory of mind, meaning, role of context, semantics-pragmatics interface, explicature, implicature, grammaticalisation, speech act theory, presuppositions, (im)politeness, etc.
- (ii) **Intercultural, cross-cultural and societal aspects of pragmatics:** research involving more than one language and culture or varieties of one language, lingua franca, computer mediated communication, bilinguals' and heritage speakers' language use, intercultural misunderstandings, effect of dual language and multilingual systems on the development and use of pragmatic skills, language of aggression and conflict, etc.
- (iii) **Applications:** usage and corpus-based approaches, pragmatic competence, teachability and learnability of pragmatic skills, pragmatic variations within one language and across languages, developmental pragmatics, etc.

Presentations will be 20-minutes long plus 10 minutes for questions. All presentations will be in English.

Conference Convenors:

Prof Michael Haugh (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Dr Valeria Sinkeviciute (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Prof István Kecskés (State University of New York, Albany, USA)

Email: inpra2020@uq.edu.au

<https://languages-cultures.uq.edu.au/INPRA2020>

Important Dates

First Call for Papers: **September 1, 2019**

Early Abstract deadline:

December 15, 2019

Early Acceptance notification:

January 31, 2020

Regular Abstract deadline:

February 10, 2020 (EXTENDED)

Regular Acceptance notification:

March 1, 2020

Early bird registration: **February 5, 2020**

Early bird registration ends: **March 31, 2020**

Regular registration from: **April 1, 2020**

Deadline for registration: **May 25, 2020**

Provisional programme: **May 15, 2020**

Final programme: **June 5, 2020**

Call Open: 2020 ISHS Annual Conference, University of Bologna, Italy 29 June – 3 July 2020

Dear Members of the AHSN,

After almost 20 years the ISHS Annual Conference comes back to the University of Bologna and will be held June 29th – July 3rd 2020. The Call for papers and early registration are both open and here is the website:

<https://eventi.unibo.it/ishs-2020>

This year Debbie Cameron, Don Kulick and Martin Rowson are our confirmed keynote speakers.

Those of you who may have been here at the last ISHS Conference in 2002 in lovely Bertinoro, the medieval castle that is University of Bologna's international conference centre, will remember that playwright and comedian Dario Fo was guest speaker then: unfortunately he is no longer with us, but I do have a few surprises up my sleeve.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible there,

Yours in good humour,

Delia

Delia Chiaro

Professor of English Language and Translation

University of Bologna Alma mater studiorum

Department of Interpreting and Translation

Corso della Repubblica 136

47121 FORLÌ ITALY

Tel: ++ 39 0543 374504

Email: delia.chiaro@unibo.it

Call for Papers – ISHS Panel

Panel on “Humor and the public sphere”, ISHS Conference 2020,
Bertinoro, Italy, 29 June to 3 July 2020

Convenor: Giselinde Kuipers (giselinde.kuipers@kuleuven.be)

This panel invites presentations on humor in the public sphere. What role can humor play in the public sphere? Under what conditions is humor conducive to the free, open debate required for a healthy public sphere? Can humor also hamper or sabotage the public sphere? How is the working of humor in the public sphere impacted by humorous genres, forms, styles, media or platforms? How does the role of humor in the public sphere vary across place and time? And: is the notion of public sphere actually useful in understanding humor as a form of public communication and debate?

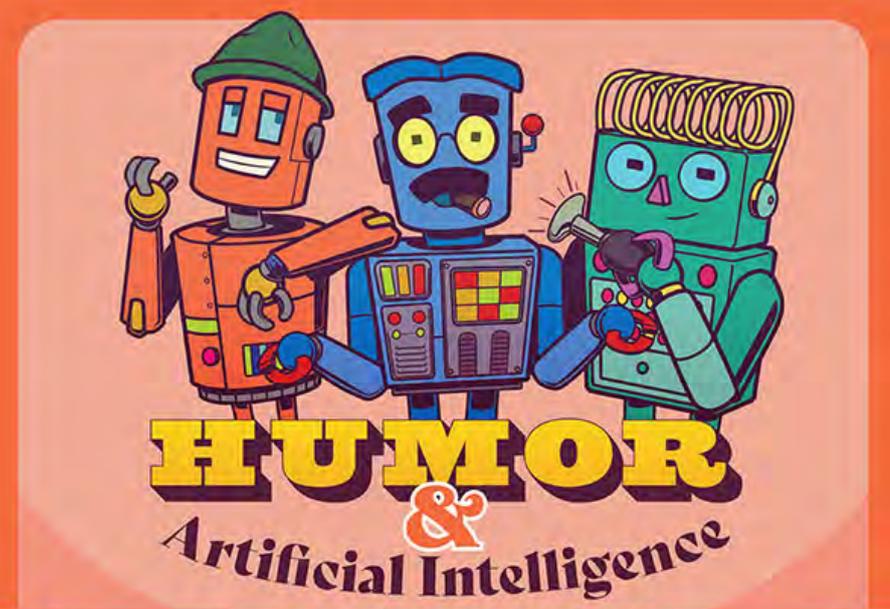
Jürgen Habermas coined the notion of the Public Sphere (Öffentlichkeit in German) in 1962 to describe the arena for free public debate and discussion, neither part of the private sphere nor controlled by governments or economic interest, as it emerged in early modern Europe. For Habermas, the public sphere in its idealtypical form is a place of rational and open exchange of arguments, that happens between free, equal citizens. As such, it is crucial to the emergence and functioning of democratic societies. While contested by scholars, this notion of a semi-separate sphere for public conversation has been central to ongoing debates on politics (e.g. democracy, citizenship, participation, inclusivity) and public communication (including media, platforms, media systems, critique, censorship, free speech and its limits). Despite its limitations – in particular its normative, some say unrealistic or utopian character -- the notion of “public sphere” has proven good to think with. It directs our attention to the fundamental question for democratic societies: what is needed to make everyone participate? What sort of conversations can we have, and do we need to have, to create and sustain a free and open society? What sort of institutions and cultural forms can support an open, free and inclusive society?

Although discussions of the public sphere typically stress the importance of serious, rational talk, this is of course not the only form of communication that happens in the public sphere. Later formulations have incorporated the importance of other types of talk, including more emotional, poetic or humorous forms of exchange. Satire, in particular has been mentioned as an important part of a vibrant public sphere (cf. Habermas 1996). However, thus far there has not been any systematic investigation of the role of humorous communication in the public sphere. In humor research, there has been an ongoing, yet undecided debate. A long tradition of scholarship has highlighted the importance of humor and satire for open and democratic societies, and especially: the rather scary politics often associated with political attempts to curb or regulate humor and satire. More recently, however, the humor scholars have pointed to the “dark side” of humor: Politicians, humorists and citizens also humor in ways that are less than conducive to free, equal, open and democratic exchange.

Since Habermas’s original analysis of the public sphere, this idealized notion of a public sphere populated by reasonable, carefully arguing citizens has only become less realistic. Public speech and public debates these days are multimodal, multilingual, mediated, full of jokes and emotions, not to mention emojis, gifs and memes. Humor is a more central feature of public communication, on all levels of civic participation, than ever before. Thus, a further exploration of the role of humor in public spheres is long overdue.

This open panel therefore aims to bring together humor scholars from a range of disciplines to discuss the role humor and the public sphere. This could include both theoretical contributions and empirical papers discussing various forms, genres, places, and historical periods. However, in order to maintain coherence, contributors are urged to engage explicitly with the (post)Habermasian notion of the public sphere. This engagement, of course, does not need to mean an acceptance or embracing of this notion: scholars may present endorsements, applications or extensions, but of course also hesitations, objections, critiques or rejections. The aim is a two-way exchange: how can we better understand humor through the lens of the public sphere? But also, how can we think through this notion of the public sphere, through the lens of humor?

Humor and Artificial Intelligence – ISHS Panel



HUMOR & Artificial Intelligence

Panel at the 2020 Conference of the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HUMOR STUDIES
Bertinoro, Italy • June 29 to July 3, 2020
<https://eventi.unibo.it/ishs-2020>

Humor is a universal and ubiquitous facet of human communication, but is among the hardest to process in artificial intelligence environments.

Application areas include, but are not limited to:

- Human-computer interaction
- Computer-mediated communication
- Intelligent writing assistants
- Conversational agents
- Machine and computer-assisted translation
- Digital humanities
- Natural language processing
- Computer vision

The 3rd Panel on Humor and Artificial Intelligence at ISHS 2020 solicits abstracts on the computational representation, detection, classification, interpretation, and generation of any and all forms of verbal or non-verbal humor.

Conveners:

Luca Bischetti
University School for Advanced Studies IUSS Pavia

Kiki Hempelmann
Texas A&M University-Commerce

Tristan Miller
Austrian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence

Julia M. Rayz
Purdue University

Manfred Stede
University of Potsdam

Submission deadline: March 1, 2020

American Comedy/Humor - Call for Participants

Sponsored by:

American Humor Studies Association

The Comedy and Humor Studies SIG of SCMS

Humor in America Project—UT English Department

Website: <https://humorinamericaconference.wordpress.com>

“Comedy/Humor” will be held on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin from June 18-20, 2020. The conference will feature paper panels and roundtables on all aspects of American humor, American comedy, and all thing and topics inbetween.

NOTE: all graduate students are eligible for the Constance Rourke Prize to help defray costs.

Please send proposals to ahsa.humorstudies@gmail.com by February 7 (extended date), 2020. Notifications will be sent by March 20. Please feel free to contact the conference organizers with any questions at ahsa.humorstudies@gmail.com.

PAPERS:

Proposals for paper presentations of 15-17 minutes should consist of a 250-word proposal and A/V requests.

ROUNDTABLES:

Proposals for organized roundtables of 8-10 minute statements from each participant with significant time for discussion. Include an overview of 100 words for the overall theme, a brief description of each presenter's topic, a proposed Chair (not required), and A/V requests.

NOTE: you may participate in one roundtable and give one paper.

WORKS IN PROGRESS:

Participant will submit a working draft of a book chapter or journal article one month before the conference for posting on conference website. Participants will sign up to read and discuss work in progress during a lunch or breakfast session, with food provided.

Note: you may submit a "Works in Progress" proposal and a paper or roundtable proposal, but the topics should be different.

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES:

We are willing to consider approaches to humor studies that incorporate non-traditional modes. We are also willing to facilitate a performance or screening to encourage discussion. Email with questions.

We welcome proposals for paper presentations on any topic related to American humor and/or American comedy, broadly conceived. Scholars across the humanities are invited to present research on any of the following topics (or others related to humor, comedy, laughter, etc., etc.):

- the relationship between comedy and humor as conceptual categories, along with all other related questions of theory and terminology
- comedy in all its forms (TV, film, stand-up, podcasts, sketch, improv, theater, improv, etc.)
- literary humor (novels, tales, sketches, poetry, children's books, YA, science fiction, magazines, etc. from all times and places)
- visual humor, comics, and graphic narratives
- podcasts, internet humor, memes, and other new media
- humor and gender, race, sexuality, class, religion, etc.
- satire, ridicule, parody, wit and other forms of humor
- humor in "serious" contexts or works
- humor in regional, national, transnational, international, and other spatial contexts

We especially welcome proposals from scholars of color, junior scholars, and independent scholars. Graduate students attending the conference will be eligible for "[Constance Rourke Travel Grant](#)" to assist with travel funds. We highly encourage scholars to contribute to this fund. See the conference website for more information.

Attendees must be (or become) [a member](#) of the American Humor Studies Association. Presenters will be highly encouraged to submit article-length versions of their work for possible publication in [Studies in American Humor](#), a peer-reviewed journal published by the American Humor Studies Association since 1974 and in conjunction with the Penn State University Press since 2015.

The conference [registration fee](#) will be \$40 for graduate students, adjunct faculty, and independent scholars, and \$75 for tenure-track faculty members.

10th Humor Research Conference 2020, Texas A&M University at Commerce, Texas

CALL FOR PAPERS -- Theme: Multidisciplinary

Call for Papers and General Registration

Call Deadline: March 1st, 2020

The 10th annual Humor Research Conference (HRC) 2020 is a dual-modality conference, that is it will take place at Texas A&M - Commerce's main campus in Commerce, TX and will be simultaneously live-broadcast on the web. The Humor Research Conference is a student-organized international multidisciplinary all-plenary event dedicated to the study of humor in all its facets. The conference is student-friendly and invites submissions on any topic in humor research, including and not restricted to literary studies, psychology, sociology, and linguistics.

Our goal in organizing a 'green' conference is to contribute to a sustainable future through a cost-efficient and energy-saving conference, while acknowledging the need for scholarly interaction.

Date: March 20, 2020

Location: Commerce, TX

Questions? HRC@tamuc.edu

Registration and additional information at:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/newsandevents/nethrc/default.aspx>

Call for Papers:

Abstract for general submission (up to 250 words plus 1 extra page for images, references, etc.); indicate if paper (20m + Q/A) or poster or either, provide a title.

Submission Email: HRC@tamuc.edu

Faculty sponsors:

Salvatore Attardo, PhD

Professor, Department of Literature and Languages

Christian F. Hempelmann, PhD

Associate Professor of Computational Linguistics

Director, Ontological Semantic Technology Lab

Department of Literature and Languages

Students:

Reza Panahi (preza@leomail.tamuc.edu)

Nabiha El Khatib (nelkhatib@leomail.tamuc.edu)

Call for Papers by Humours of the Past

Workshop - Humour and Religion in the Early Modern World
Universiteit Utrecht 15-16 January 2021

(<https://humoursofthepast.wordpress.com/author/humoursofthepast/>)

In recent decades, early modern conceptions of both humour and religion have received much scholarly attention. Humour has been studied as a rhetorical instrument, as an important aspect of theatrical and political culture, and for its role in shaping notions of class, race, gender and other social identities. Similarly, the renewed interest in religion that is part of the 'turn to religion' in early modern cultural history has yielded new insights into sensory, emotive, affective, and various other aspects of religious experience. At the same time, however, the mutual relationships between humour and religion as equally complex and pervasive features of early modern society have received significantly less attention. This workshop, which is intended to be informal and explorative in nature, aims to investigate the variety of ways in which humour and religion interacted with each other in the early modern period.

It has often been argued that during the Protestant Reformation, the mixing of humour and faith was suppressed in the form of strictures and injunctions, leading to the conclusion that the Reformation caused a de facto separation between the two. Yet the abundant presence of religious themes in jest books and comedic drama and of satire in religious polemic shows the persistent correlation between humour and religion. Likewise, contemporary condemnations of the use of humour in sermons suggest that this practice had not disappeared. In addition, early moderns were acutely aware of humour as a double-edged sword. Jest, wit and comedy could relieve tensions, ease melancholy and create a sense of community, but also antagonize, hurt and exclude others. Bearing this in mind, this workshop seeks to explore early modern reflections on and concrete examples of the use of wit in religious contexts and of sacred themes in comedic genres. In so doing, we aim to reach a clearer understanding of the way in which the Reformation affected the appreciation of humour and how humour was used to address questions of religion and belief. The workshop will bring literary scholars, historians, and art historians into dialogue with each other in the hope that an interdisciplinary approach will expand and enhance our understanding of the topic.

Participants are asked to prepare 20-minute papers on topics that include (but are not limited to):

- Religious satire
- Laughter and religious polemic
- Anti-clerical, anti-Catholic and anti-Protestant humour
- Wit and humour in sermons
- Sacred parody
- Humour as a coping mechanism for religious anxiety
- Religious themes in comedy
- Humour, gender and religion
- Reformation discourse on laughter and mirth
- Humour and death
- Humour and non-Christian religions
- Humanist perspectives on the relationship between humour and religion
- Humour and Puritanism

The workshop will likely take the form of five panels of two or three papers, each allowing substantial time for discussion, and a closing discussion.

Deadline for abstracts: 15 June 2020

Please send your abstract to: L.J.Stelling@uu.nl

Organizing committee: Dr Lieke Stelling (Universiteit Utrecht), Dr Sonja Kleij (Universiteit Utrecht), Professor Johan Verberckmoes (KU Leuven)

Incitatus 2020 Symposium

On Political Humor applied philosophical comedy

Lisbon, 27 June, 2020

Museum Bordalo Pinheiro

The symposium **INCITATUS 2020** aims to provide an open space for reflection on humor and politics. The title of the conference opens space to question the primary logic of the political phenomenon as the relationship between rulers and ruled, power and obedience, or authority and submission. From corruption to bad business, from abuse of power to the caricature of hypocrisy and social mediocrity, the realm of appearances in the political game has never gone untouched under the acute inspection of humor. Many even believe that the health of a political regime can be measured by the barometer of tolerance for laughter, or, consequently, of freedom itself. Thus, the **INCITATUS 2020 Symposium** recalls that old story of Emperor Caligula who made, or intended to make, his favorite horse a roman consul. It does not matter here whether the story is true or not. The power of myths and magical thinking goes beyond fact checking. The image has an almost absolute power as a shadow. The game inside the political arena of struggle for power often forces dissimulated, devious, and sometimes humiliating strategies. This power has ancient roots from Greek culture to the Roman Empire, and is thrown precisely on the razor's edge between the strength of the ruling power and the weakness of its exposure. Humor displays its potency precisely in this small gap, in the affirmation of freedom, laughing in a more old or modern style, more refined or crude, but its formal, transcendental and speculative logic remains the same. In political theater, in this eternal game of light and shadow, humor as a weapon of defense and attack arises to amuse, distract, or to tell simply the truth that no one else dares. The tripartite of the political-theatrical problem is permanent and stable in its playing: the actors, the public, the critics. In all this, laughter and politics join hands in the celebration of spectacle, feast, anarchy and subversion, even if only for one night. In this case, during the **INCITATUS 2020**, humor and politics will take the stage for just one day.



On the 27th of June 2020 the seminar on Humor and Politics will welcome all authors from any field, theoretical or pragmatic approach, and may cover any time or period. We encourage paper presentations focused on the intersections between humor and politics, including, but not limited to:

- Humor under authoritarian governments
- Humor as a tool used by politicians
- Cartoons and memes
- Humor, elections and campaigns
- Humor and democracy
- Humor and the internet
- Humor and media (satire in cinema, TV, radio, newspapers etc)
- Irony and politics: basic survival kit for democracy
- Humor and political discourse
- Humor politics and social sciences (sociology, psychology, history etc)
- Politics and ridicule
- Political-legal paradoxes: freedom vs limits
- Dark humor, scorn and mockery

- Humor taboo
- Humor and anthropology (particular or singular events of political humor)
- Political humor and authors, or particular publications (such as Bordalo Pinheiro, Crumb, Laerte, Canard Enchaîné, NY Times, Fanzines etc)

Confirmed Keynote Speaker :

Don Waisanen, Baruch College, CUNY

<https://donwaisanen.com/>

Confirmed special invited speakers:

Domingo Hernández Sánchez, University of Salamanca

<https://usal.academia.edu/DomingoHern%C3%A1ndezS%C3%A1nchez>

Isabel Ermida, Universidade do Minho

<http://cehum.ilch.uminho.pt/researchers/72>

Abstracts, in Portuguese or English, must be sent to the following email addresses: constantinomar@gmail.com or joao.capelotti@gmail.com. They must not exceed 500 words and must be followed by a small biographical note (up to 100 words). Presentations, in Portuguese or English, will be 20 minutes long . Conference proceedings will be published in e-book format only in English. Participation and attendance is free. More information about the conference and the submission of proposals can be found at this address: <http://www.uc.pt/fluc/uidief>.

Important Dates:

Submission: until 1 April 2019

Notification of the decision: 1 May 2019

Organization:

Constantino Pereira Martins

FCSH-NOVA University of Lisbon / IEF - University of Coimbra

<http://www.uc.pt/fluc/uidief/members/CPM>

constantinomar@gmail.com

João Paulo Capelotti

joao.capelotti@gmail.com



Introducing two Canadian humour research groups



L'Observatoire de l'humour

Founded in 2011 by Louise Richer (founder and director of **L'École Nationale de L'Humour**, in Montréal) and Robert Aird (historian), **l'Observatoire de l'Humour (OH)** brings together researchers and academics from various fields (sociology, politics, literature, communications), as well as the people involved in the francophone humor industry (humorists, scripters, managers, etc.). Ironically, in Quebec, although humorists are all over the place and attract large attendance and media attention, humor itself is not yet so well accepted by the academic world.

Therefore, the purpose of the OH is to enhance humor studies in order to give to this field of research the place it deserves.

Website: <https://observatoiredelhumour.org/> (more information in French)

From AHSN member, Lucie Joubert
Professeure titulaire
Département de Français
Université d'Ottawa, Canada
E: Info@observatoiredelhumour.org

Groupe de recherche sur l'industrie de l'humour / Research Group in Comedy Industry (GRIH)

Based in the Sprott School of Business, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, the **Research Group on Comedy Industry / Groupe de recherche sur l'industrie de l'humour (GRIH)** focusses on the Québec francophone comedy industry, but is also interested by the Canadian industry. Members are affiliated with the [Observatoire de l'humour](https://observatoiredelhumour.org/). As part of the research program, reports are prepared by members of the research group. Reports examined management, culture and territoriality. A database is under development to examine comedians / humorists, shows, theaters and awards.

Co-founders:

François BROUARD, DBA, FCPA, FCA, Sprott
School of Business, Carleton University
Christelle PARÉ, MA, PhD

Twitter: [Tw@IndustrieHumour](https://twitter.com/Tw@IndustrieHumour)

Website: <http://carleton.ca/profbrouard/humour>
(more information in French)

E: GRIHinfo@sprott.carleton.ca



GRIH
SOMMAIRE

Groupe de recherche sur l'industrie de l'humour

*François Brouard, DBA, FCPA, FCA, Professeur et Co-fondateur du GRIH
Christelle Paré, PhD, MA, Chercheuse et Co-fondatrice du GRIH
Février 2019*

Mission

À titre de groupe de recherche, le GRIH s'intéresse plus particulièrement à l'industrie de l'humour francophone au Québec. Ses membres sont liés à l'Observatoire de l'humour (OH). Les projets de recherche bénéficient de l'appui de l'APIH (Association des professionnels de l'industrie de l'humour), de l'ENH (École nationale de l'humour) et d'entreprises privées.

Objectifs

- préparer et diffuser des recherches sur l'industrie de l'humour
- encourager les contacts et les partenariats avec les autres chercheurs s'intéressant à l'humour et avec des praticiens travaillant dans l'industrie de l'humour
- encourager les étudiants à choisir l'humour comme domaine d'intérêt

Le GRIH offre un forum pour les chercheurs et sert de catalyseur aux occasions de recherche pour les professeurs, chercheurs et étudiants.

Axes de recherche

L'accent se situe principalement au niveau de l'industrie de l'humour, notamment la gestion, la culture et la territorialité. Le GRIH développe une base de données sur l'industrie de l'humour.

Portail Web Humour

Le GRIH soutient un portail web sur l'humour.

Voir nos membres, publications, études, activités, projets et liens sur notre site web.



Call for Papers: Deflating the Dictators: Satire, Humor, and Twenty-First-Century Tyranny, Special Issue of Humanities

Submission Guidelines at: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/humanities/special_issues/humor_satire

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2019

Guest Editor: Dr. Jill E. Twark, Dept. of Foreign Languages & Literatures, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353, USA

Website: <https://foreign.ecu.edu/about-us/jill-e-twark/>

E-Mail: twarkj@ecu.edu

About the Journal

The journal Humanities seeks to publish international analyses of current efforts by satirists and humorists to call attention to the injustice and abuse inflicted by autocrats. Which satirists are engaging in a national or international struggle for justice against repressive leadership and with what means? How are satire and the related mode of humor currently functioning, despite censorship, in oppressive regimes? How do current satirical or humorous texts depicting oppression incorporate facts and artefacts that generate countercultural memories and thereby fill gaps in other historical or mass media narratives? A few examples of such artworks include the novel Day of the Oprichnik by Vladimir Sorokin (2006); the essay collection United States of Banana by Giannina Braschi (2011); the Masasit Mati acting group's finger puppet show series "Top Goon: Diaries of a Little Dictator" (2011-2012), created to deflate Syrian president Bashar al-Assad; and Trevor Stankiewicz's mixed genre satirical play The Darfur Compromised (2015). As Martha C. Nussbaum writes, "the ability to imagine vividly, and then to assess judicially, another person's pain, to participate in it and then to ask about its significance, is a powerful way of learning what the human facts are and of acquiring a motivation to alter them" (Poetic Justice 91).

This issue of Humanities delves into the political outcries and aesthetic innovations of satirical and humorous responses to twenty-first-century oppressive regimes.

Please send completed article of approximately 9,000 words, including references, to Jill Twark, East Carolina University, twarkj@ecu.edu by September 30, 2019.

Keywords: satire, satire in literature, satire in film, satire and dictatorship, satire and justice, twenty-first-century satire, humor in literature, humor in film, twenty-first-century humor.

The Humour Studies Digest

The Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN)

'We put the "U" back into "HUMOUR"!'

Send newsletter submissions to our Co-Editors:

Michael at michael.meany@newcastle.edu.au or Jessica at jessica.davis@sydney.edu.au

To subscribe or unsubscribe, visit the AHSN website (<http://www.sydney.edu.au/humourstudies>), click on "Subscribe to e-Newsletter" and follow the prompts to enter or remove an email address.