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ACLALS

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ACLALS

Abstract

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ACLALS

FIJI CONFERENCE

The theme of the conference is 'Language and literature in multi-cultural contexts'. Offers of papers accompanied by a 300-word synopsis should be sent to Professor K. Goodwin, Department of English, University of Queensland, St Lucia, 4067, Queensland, Australia. The conference will take place at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji between 3-8 January 1980.

FINANCES

The Chairman has been informed by the Director of the Commonwealth Foundation that it will no longer be possible to finance large-scale pan-Commonwealth conferences. This puts the future of such conferences in doubt. One suggestion put forward is that regional conferences be continued with as much representation from other regions as possible.

ACLALS BULLETIN

The first St Lucia issue is now in press and the second issue is due before December. The St Lucia committee have apologized for the delay pointing out that one of the problems has been finding a method of production sufficiently cheap to fit the budget.

SPACLALS

South Pacific Images

This book is the proceedings of the first SPACLALS conference and is reviewed in this issue. Copies are available to ACLALS members for $A6 paid in advance.

SPACLALS SHORT STORY COMPETITION

This was won by Subramani for his story 'Marigolds'. Subramani is a lecturer in the School of Education at the University of the South Pacific and edits *Mana: a South Pacific Journal of Language and Literature.*

CACLALS

Cecil Abrahams reports that the recent conference held at Concordia University, Montreal was a tremendous success. The theme of the conference was 'The Commonwealth in Canada' and the majority of the time was devoted to addresses by writers who included Mulk Raj Anand, Witi Ihimaera, Samuel Selvon, Ron Blair, Michael Anthony and John Pepper Clark. A report on the conference will appear in the next issue of *Kunapipi.*

EACLALS

CONFERENCES

Dieter Riemenschneider has written to say that plans are progressing towards having the next conference of EACLALS in Frankfurt. The next issue of *Kunapipi* should carry more definite news.

VISITING WRITER

Margaret Laurence declined the invitation and Margaret Atwood has now been invited. So far she has not replied.

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITIES

Barcelona:

Doireann MacDermott has sent the following information about Barcelona:

> We started this year 1977-78 with one course in our fifth year called 'Civilización de paises de habla inglesa', an optional course for which about 35 students signed up. The theme this year was the early exploration and settlement of America compared with the early exploration of the Pacific and the settlement of Australia and New Zealand. Some students have

worked on assignments related to early settlers and the aborigines and so on and parallel to this they have read some Australian literature, including relevant short stories and *Voss*. We have also had film shows on the same lines.

Barcelona is the first university in Spain to take up Commonwealth studies which we hope to extend as we go along and build up more of a library.

Germany:

The second meeting of German scholars, university and school teachers interested in Commonwealth literature took place in Augsburg from 23-25 June 1978. The meeting was organised by Professor Jürgen Schäfer and the theme was the Commonwealth Short Story.

Italy:

Bernard Hickey has produced the first *Australian Literature Bulletin* whose aim is 'to provide a forum for Italian scholars to express their views on Australian literature and to keep them informed of latest developments at centres in Italy, Australia and beyond'.

Aarhus:

The event of the year was the Australian Arts Festival. A full report on the Festival will be included in the next issue of *Kunapipi*. This issue will have a special emphasis on Australia and a number of papers given at the conference which was run in conjunction with the Festival will be published.

The following courses were given at Aarhus in 1978: *Africa*: 1) 'Introduction to West African Literature', 2) 'Black South African Writing', 3) 'Dramas of Athol Fugard'. These courses were all given by Kirsten Holst Petersen.
Australia: 1) 'Convict Literature', 2) 'The Literature of Exploration', 3) 'Recent Australian Fiction', 4) 'Introduction to Australian Literature', 5) 'Australian Literature in the Seventies', 6-7) Two courses on Australian drama. The course on exploration was given by Dr R. Sellick, University of Adelaide, and the two courses on modern drama were given by David Williamson who was visiting professor at Aarhus during the Spring term. The course on Australian literature in the Seventies was shared between Mark O'Connor, Anna Rutherford and David Williamson. Anna Rutherford gave the remaining courses.
Canada: 1) 'Recent Canadian Fiction' given by Johannes Riis and 2) 'Margaret Laurence' given by Jørn Carlsen.

India: 'Continuity and Change: Recent English Literature in English' given by Philip Edmonds.
New Zealand: 'An Introduction to New Zealand Literature' given by Annemarie Backmann.
West Indies: 1) 'National Identity as a Literary Concern' and 2) 'Themes of Exile'. Both courses were given by Johannes Riis.

Apart from David Williamson, Robert Sellick and Mark O'Connor other visitors to Aarhus during 1978 included Dorothy Livesay, Robert Brissenden (Australian National University), Alan Lawson (University of Queensland), Michael Wilding (University of Sydney), Gareth Griffiths (Macquarie University), Marlis Thiersch (University of New South Wales). Delegates at the Festival included Randolph Stow, Les Murray, Peter Porter, Rosemary Wighton, Lloyd Robson, Stephen Murray-Smith, John Heyer.

Dangaroo Press published its third book, *Bird, Hawk, Bogie: Essays on Janet Frame* edited by Jeanne Delbaere.

COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE

The annual award of the Commonwealth Poetry Prize has gone to Timoshenko Aslanides for his first book of poetry *The Greek connection.*

Worth £250, the Prize is awarded annually for a first book of poetry in English by writers from Commonwealth countries other than Britain.

Timoshenko Aslanides was born in Sydney, Australia in 1943 of a Greek father and Australian mother. He began writing in 1974, publishing some fifty poems in magazines and newspapers. His book represents the best of his writing over the last three years, and reflects both his Greek and Australian heritage.

The judges also highly commended Kevin Hart for his book *The departure* (published by the University of Queensland Press, Paperback Poets Second Series no. 17. Agent in the U.K. - Prentice-Hall International).

COMMONWEALTH POETRY PRIZE 1979

The Prize is awarded annually for a first book of poetry in English published by an author from a Commonwealth country other than Britain. Manuscripts and typescripts cannot be accepted.

Information can be obtained from Michael Foster, Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 6NQ, England.

COMMONWEALTH SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The European branch of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies proposes to award a prize of £500 for a previously unpublished short story written by a Commonwealth citizen.* The story must be written in English and not exceed approximately 10,000 words. The Committee retains the right to publish any entry.

Entries (3 copies) accompanied by an entry fee of £5 should be submitted no later than 30 March 1979 to The Chairman of EACLALS, Department of English, University of Aarhus, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark.

*For the purposes of definition a Commonwealth writer will be a citizen of any Commonwealth country other than Britain or a former Commonwealth citizen who has taken up British nationality.