



Newsletter February 2008

www.cutg.ac.uk

The Seventieth-First Meeting in Nottingham 26-28 March 2008

Members will find enclosed a draft programme for the 71st Meeting of the CUTG to be hosted in March by the University of Nottingham and the Nottingham Trent University. Alongside the lead panel on 'National Identities, Minority Cultures and Their International Contexts: From Medieval Universalism to Postcolonial Globalisation', organised by the host departments, the Meeting features the usual wide range of panels on literature, history and linguistics.

Committee News

At its meeting on 10 January 2008 the CUTG Committee discussed the following points and made the following decisions:

1. Conference Programme

The Committee was pleased again with the wide range of panels represented at the 71st Meeting in Nottingham, a true reflection of the diversity of German Studies in the UK and Ireland. Regrettably, the Medieval and Early Modern panels could not be constituted this year due to a lack of submissions; it was hoped that this was a temporary lapse. The traditional President's Guest slot, having been relinquished to the host Department for an invited speaker, will not be used in 2008. There was some discussion of the relationship of the Lead Panel to the overall character of the Meetings, and the Committee agreed on the following clarification. The Lead Panel is not intended to produce a Meeting entirely focused on one single theme, as the CUTG still aims to provide a forum for all aspects of German Studies in the UK and Ireland. However, the Lead Panel will run through the whole of the programme alongside the other regular panels and help to provide a sense of cohesion to the Meetings.

2. Budget and Postgraduate Support

Our budget is in a healthy state, partly because the Bristol Meeting in 2007 did not require a subsidy. The costs for Nottingham, however, will be substantial and cannot be covered from conference fees alone.

The demand for postgraduate support (travel and publication grants) has, of late, been moderate and is to be advertised more prominently.

Members are reminded that the CUTG will consider remitting the conference fees of postgraduate students who are unable to secure funding for attendance at the Meeting from other sources. Applications should be made to the Treasurer Dr Jim Jordan (J.A.Jordan@warwick.ac.uk) by email and should fulfil the following guidelines:

1. The applicant's proposal for a paper at the CUTG must have been accepted.
2. He/she must state clearly the sources approached for funding and the outcome of the applications.
3. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that her/his PhD supervisor or Head of Department writes an email confirming the efforts of the applicant to secure funding. The referee must also confirm that it is not possible for the applicant's department to provide funding to attend the Meeting.

The application and the referee's confirmation must be submitted to the Treasurer by the publicised deadline for payment of the conference fee. The CUTG will not normally provide partial or match funding. Awards are made at the discretion of the CUTG Committee, which retains the right to apply further criteria of selection and eligibility.

3. Membership

At the Nottingham Meeting, members will be asked to update the addresses on the membership list, also on behalf of colleagues not present whose change of address is known.

The Committee would like to encourage members to pay their annual fees by Standing Order. Forms (instructions to banks in Ireland or the UK) can be obtained from Christiane Schönfeld. Please contact her at christiane.schonfeld@nuigalway.ie. The Committee has also decided that the Newsletter will no longer be

distributed to members who have not paid their annual fees for two years running until payment is resumed.

4. Election of Officers

Due to the increase in workload for some officers over the last three years, the office of Vice-President is to involve new responsibilities:

(a) taking minutes of meetings; (b) assembling materials for the twice-yearly newsletters.

Jim Jordan will step down as Honorary Treasurer at the Nottingham Meeting. Nominations are invited for this post and must be seconded according to the usual rules. Martina Lauster will also come to the end of her term as President in Nottingham. She will be succeeded by Frank Finlay, the current Vice-President. Nominations for the new Vice-President are also invited. David Clarke and Christiane Schönfeld will reach the end of their first 3-year terms as Publicity and Publications Secretary and Membership Secretary respectively at the Nottingham Meeting. Both David and Christiane are happy to continue for a further term of office, but other members are welcome to put themselves forward for election for these posts. Nominations should reach the President not later than the Opening Business of the Nottingham Meeting (m.lauster@exeter.ac.uk).

5. Newsletters

These are to be placed on the CUTG website at the end of each calendar year. The 2006 and 2007 Newsletters will therefore become accessible there soon.