



# Regions and Regionalism in and Beyond Europe

Institute for Advanced Studies Annual Research Programme



*carum generumque effectum. Quod vero vos hic agitis et vultis? Illi vaccae et tauros  
postulare. Modo pecuniam consuetam non negarent, appromisit  
illa. Dederunt quadratus aeris particulas 40, nam  
aerem hic non aestimatur ob inorantiam.*

**Annual Research Programme 2006-07**

**Conference**

**Performing Regions/Regional Performance**

**Lancaster University**

**17-19 September 2007**

<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/ias/annualprogramme/regionalism/index.htm>

*Et subito 40 vaccae ab illo  
abductae. Ipse quoque rex  
persuasus a suo genero  
venit. Dicebat gener  
Lusitanos esse suos  
consanguineos, quod ab  
illis aere sibi concredito  
probabat, nam in istis  
partibus neque uxor  
multo. Et campanam  
ipse rex saepius inspiciens*

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## **'Performing Regions/Regional Performance'**

This conference marks the culmination of more than two years reflection on the issue of regions and regionalism seen from a multidisciplinary perspective. The topic was originally prompted by its prominence as a priority in EU policy and by the resulting tension between regional and national identities, at a time when traditions of nationalism and the nation state seemed to be on the decline. Yet in certain European countries such as Spain and the UK and in the aftermath of the Balkan conflicts of the previous decade, the separation between regional identities and national aspirations, especially on Europe's Eastern periphery, was never clear-cut. The systems of multi-level governance which underpinned the European Commission's ideal of plural citizenship varied from state to state and changes in the status of individual regions had led to local economic in-fighting as new regional configurations were drawn up. Even where inter-regional networks had been established with EU support, in most member states, EU structural funds passed first through the national exchequer. Insofar as EU regional policy sought primarily to redress economic balance within the Union as a whole, the redirection of funds was as likely to increase tensions between member states and the EU as it was between regions and national government.

At the same time, the stronger emphasis on regional identities appeared to run counter to the growing challenge of ethnic diversity. In a period when the increased mobility of populations was leading to calls for more openness to cultural difference in all spheres of social life, the need to look to local heritage as a source of groundedness in a world dominated by the blandness of neo-liberal corporatism, economic colonialism and the religious/ideological clash between East and West appeared to be more acute than ever. In terms of policy, respect for 'diversity' and the enhancement of regional identity could all too easily be in conflict with each other.

In addition to the multiple complexities of governance at the level of the EU, the term 'region' clearly also had a geo-political dimension which went well beyond Europe. This issue applied first and foremost to the territories on Europe's Eastern borders where the acquisition of statehood following the collapse of the Soviet Union had exacerbated internal divisions within the newly independent nations in ways which made their relationship with the 'West' more rather than less problematic. Much more widely, if the term 'region' could be applied to Europe as a whole, it could also be said to embrace other supranational blocs such as the Middle East and the Pacific Rim whose contexts could be compared to that of Europe from an economic and political perspective, in terms both of their internal dynamics and of their future relations with Europe.

It was clear that, as a field of study, 'regions and regionalism' did not lend itself to easy definition; but it was precisely because the topic lay at the crossroads of a number of different disciplines that it seemed worthy of closer analysis. At the heart of the Annual Research Programme of Lancaster University's Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS) has therefore been the desire to bring an interdisciplinary perspective to bear on issues which have hitherto been approached from a 'discipline specific' angle. This meant calling into question some of the theoretical assumptions on which research had been based and inviting participants in the programme to consider aspects of regionalism topic from what was for them a new conceptual and methodological position.

Nevertheless, both in the year-long discussions preceding the submission of our proposal and in the Annual Research Programme itself, particular themes and disciplines stood out. This was in large measure a function of the way the programme was structured and funded. Separate pairs of colleagues from Lancaster from a variety of disciplines took responsibility for organising colloquia, bringing together international experts from within their own fields. The colloquia - five in number - each dealt with a specific topic: defining regions' historical origins, considering their reality as the outcome of politically motivated and often conflicting discourses, reviewing the balance between the urban and the rural and the concomitant role of transport in determining regions' internal economic and demographic character, regions' as poles of enterprise, legacy and innovation and finally as emerging entities within the nations on the borders of the former European Community.

Alongside the colloquia, the Programme has comprised a range of what we have termed 'related activities'. These have been projects, symposia and visiting lectures, sponsored by research clusters or established 'Centres' at Lancaster, which shed light on different aspects of regionalism, nationally and internationally. Typical amongst these have been one or two day mini-conferences: on the Mediterranean as a liminal region between two continents and on the geographical impact of financial centres and the networks between them in different parts of the world. Similarly, the activities of Lancaster's *Centre for Mobilities Research (CeMoRe)* have had clear links with the Programme. Forthcoming activities include symposia on the effect of regional policy on the structure of the legal profession and a closer review of the intra-regional economic tensions in the North-West of England resulting from national re-configurations. Detailed reports on the outcomes of the colloquia, including summaries of the papers and discussions feature on The Programme's website: <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/ias/annualprogramme/regionalism/index.htm> .

One of the main, if obvious, conclusions to emerge from the Programme so far is that 'regions' are essentially artificial and variable constructs, the product of national economic and political imperatives, themselves often determined by geo-political and financial factors over which the individual citizen has little control. The impact of these pressures cannot be ignored by regional institutions or by local inhabitants since economic regeneration depends on actions taken within the frameworks set by government at the national or supranational level. Yet these superordinate structures, supported by discourses ranging from policy statements and legal documents to grant application forms and media-led promotional campaigns frequently cut across the historic interests and loyalties of local people. Similarly, as has always been the case, the re-designation of borders often overrides linguistic and cultural differences leaving minority groups caught 'between cultures', unable to identify with the regional groupings imposed from above and promoting rather than resolving internal conflict. This aspect of regionalism has lent fresh prominence to creative writing and sociolinguistics as fields of study alongside the approaches of historians, geographers, economists, sociologists and political scientists.

The lack of identification between individual groups and regional structures raises more fundamental human issues which impact as much on theory as on the chosen object of study. To attempt to understand regions means understanding the relationship between people, space and place. The sociological turn within geography towards understanding space, and, by extension, territory, as a mental rather than a political or physical phenomenon makes it impossible to study regions without considering how individuals make sense of the spaces around them and develop a sense of being. Regions are 'performed' not simply because they are constructed by governments or supranational federations as factors of economic management or political control. From that limited perspective, 'performance' implies the relative evaluation of economic success. Equally, individuals and communities 'perform' themselves within and increasingly between regions. To study regions and regionalism is at one and the same time to analyse critically scales of external measurement and ways of life within their political contexts.

It is in that last sense that universities have a special role to play within the so-called 'knowledge economy'. They are not simply sites of economic regeneration, though it is vital that they fulfil that role through partnership in regional entrepreneurial initiatives; they are equally and perhaps more importantly the locus of understanding of the ways in which political and economic structures and social well-being interact at the regional level. Ultimately, the fulfilment of this latter role is the aim of the Annual Research Programme and the present conference. Like the colloquia, the conference brings together leading specialists in different disciplines through a combination of keynote lectures, individual academic papers and panel discussions, organised in thematic strands. It also incorporates events and exhibitions which directly reflect the themes discussed above. These are described in greater detail in the present handbook. Apart from the selected publications which we see as its immediate outcome, we hope that '*Performing Regions/Regional Performance*' will both validate and undermine existing disciplinary methodologies. Our aim is that it should offer an unusual opportunity to step 'outside the frame' and to study the issues of 'regionalism' from an academically pluralistic standpoint.

**Robert Crawshaw, Programme Director**

## Keynote Speakers

**Professor Mark Casson** Reading Business School, University of Reading

### **Transport Infrastructure and Regional Development: An Historical Perspective**

Transport infrastructure has recently moved up the political agenda in the UK. Infrastructure constraints have long been recognised as a factor inhibiting the development of poorer countries and regions. The failure of the UK's Ten Year Transport Plan, introduced in 1997, and the problems of road congestion and over-crowding on trains and at airports, highlight the fact that infrastructure constrains the growth of prosperous countries and regions too. Current transport policy within the UK is riddled with ambiguities: in particular, it is unclear whether it is local, regional or national bottlenecks on which investment is being targeted. The future balance between public and private infrastructure provision is also unclear.

This paper argues that maximising network externalities is the key to the successful planning of transport infrastructure. The basic principles of network analysis are reviewed, and their application to transport infrastructure is discussed. Alternative network configurations are presented and discussed. Particular attention is paid to the relations between local, regional and national networks. The relations between these networks and the global networks in which they are embedded is also considered.

Alternative institutional arrangements for organising and financing investments in transport infrastructure are then considered. It is suggested that certain types of institutional arrangement are best adapted to investment in particular types of network.

The paper concludes by examining the role of network investment in the development of the Victorian railway system in the UK. The regional configuration of the railway system is discussed, and the role of regional communities and regional business networks in planning and financing the railway system is considered.

It is argued that local and regional entrepreneurship was very vibrant in Victorian times, and played a major role in railway investment. However, rivalries between towns and regions prevented a coherent national railway policy from being developed. This led to wasteful duplication of railway routes and to serious overcapitalisation of the railway network. This in turn generated high railway charges which raised producer's costs and reduced passengers' standards of living. It created a 'legacy' railway system that was badly suited to modern needs, and the cost of this legacy are still incurred today.

The failure to coordinate local, regional and national infrastructure investments was a significant failing of Victorian period – just as it is today. Although, in principle, current policy makers can learn much from a study of the past, it appears that little has so far been learned in the UK so far as the efficient provision of transport infrastructure is concerned. If the problems incurred in the past were better understood, it seems likely that future policy could be much improved.

*Mark Casson is Professor of Economics at the University of Reading, where he is Director of the Centre for Institutional Performance. He is Leverhulme Major Research Fellow in the Economics of Social Networks, 2006-2009.*

**Professor Michael Emerson** Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels

### **Conceptualising and Operationalising the Wider European Region**

The concept of the region is elastic to say the least. Maybe it is most frequently thought of as a sub-state territorial unit (Lancashire) or a natural geographic region (the Lake District), or in the European context as cross-border regions (Carpathians). I will stretch the concept to the extreme by discussing the Wider European Region, which is a hybrid geographic and political concept. As a first approximation this consists of all of the cartographer's Europe plus the Mediterranean basin. Politically this is the space that the European Union calls its 'neighbourhood', throughout which it says it wants to extend its political and economic norms and integration processes, without however offering perspectives of EU membership at least for some of the most outer neighbourhood. However this incremental expansion of the EU's normative space currently sees maybe both a weakening European resolve and stiffening resistances - to the North, where Russia asserts its ambitions for its geo-political space, and the South where European ideas of political norms are now in a big tangle with political Islam. My contribution will discuss whether the idea of this Wider European Region has overreached itself or not.

*Michael Emerson is senior research fellow at the centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels. Graduate of Balliol College, Oxford, in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, his early career was as an economist with OECD and the European Commission. His last post for the Commission was as ambassador to the USSR and then Russia from 1991 to 1996. Since then he has worked independently on wider European affairs, with many books and articles published by CEPS.*

**Professor Mark Goodwin** Department of Geography, University of Exeter

### **Exploring the relational region in a 'one planet' world**

Recent conceptual innovations in the discipline of Geography have sought to establish the notion of the 'relational region'. In opposition to the idea that regions are bounded and discrete, lying within a hierarchy of nested scales, the relational view sees a region as open and discontinuous, forged through a set of spatially stretched articulations and networks. This paper explores what this relational view might contribute to an understanding of the region's role in promoting sustainable development and combating climate change. Indeed, climate change is at once global and local; simultaneously a concern for the state and for civil society, for individuals and for whole societies. It is not scale dependant or scale determined. Interestingly, the UK Government has promoted the region as a key political and administrative space for delivering its sustainable development strategy *Securing the Future*. And here lies the paradox, for regional spaces of governance are territorially bounded, and do exhibit "an avowedly territorial narrative and scalar ontology" (Jones and MacLeod, 2004, 448). This paper explores this paradox, and in doing so will look at how "networks, scales and territories are not alternatives, but are intimately connected" (Bulkeley, 2005, 896).

*Mark Goodwin is Professor of Human Geography at the University of Exeter, and Director of Research for the School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources. His own research centres on the geographies of governance, and he is currently interested in the governance of 'sustainability' at different scales. He is Vice-Chair of the ESRC's Strategic Research Board.*

**Professor Roger Kemp**, Department of Engineering, Lancaster University

**Transport – the nexus of communities, globalisation, self-image and the environment**

Transport is the glue that holds communities together, whether the London Underground, Napoleon's *Routes Nationales*, McBrane's ferries between Scottish Isles or tracks between Cumbrian villages.

The European Commission sees developing transport links for the movement of people and goods between member states as a key facilitator of open markets and social integration. However, this greater interconnectivity risks permanent damage to the environment. Transport carbon emissions continue to rise, despite official targets, policies and strategies to the contrary.

One of the barriers to controlling emissions is that people define themselves by their mode of transport. A university lecturer carrying a folding bike onto a train or a Chelsea player getting into a Maserati are each making a statement of self-identity. This session will examine the politics involved in untying this Gordian Knot of conflicting objectives.

*Roger Kemp is a Professorial Fellow in the Engineering Department at Lancaster University and a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering. He is course director of the MSc programmes on Low-carbon Energy and Safety Engineering.*

*Roger's recent research into comparative energy use in the transport sector has been featured widely in the national press. Apart from his work on transport, he has contributed lectures on Managing unquantifiable risk to the EPSRC Risk Network and on Risk regulation in the nuclear industry to the Westminster Energy Forum.*

*Prior to joining the University in 2002, Roger was UK Technical and Safety Director of Alstom Transport. He spent most of his working life in the rail industry, including managing the systems engineering of Seoul Subway and a spell in Paris as Director of the consortium that designed and built the Eurostar trains.*

**Martin Kenney (and Donald Patton)** University College Davis, California, USA

**University-Centric Cluster Formation in the U.S.: Synergy**

This paper describes the characteristics and behavior of the university research-centric clusters. Although such clusters exist in other countries, these districts first emerged in the U.S. in the postwar period and are most common in American settings.

People have noticed universities as social institutions in economic clusters, but the case we are discussing in detail is where they are a major source of new firms, not just producers of public goods, but actually the producers of the private agents of capitalism.

This seems to be a particularly appropriate topic because of the growing importance of knowledge-based economies, even as firms are increasingly becoming short-term oriented as industrial labs have collapsed. Universities are doing more of this type of research and it is being extruded from the university to the wider economy through entrepreneurship. In biotechnology these entrepreneurial firms can be seen as "proving grounds" for concepts or molecules developed in university labs. If there are hints of success existing firms often purchase the startup. In information technology such startups frequently secure venture capital and quickly enter the market.

The question is: what is truly unique about these university based clusters? It is not that the university is training highly skilled people, but that the university is the source of entrepreneurs and the ideas that create firms.

II. The Research University as Social Institution and as the Foundation of Entrepreneurship within the Cluster

Because the U.S. is so vast we must restrict our attention to a relevant and fairly representative regional phenomenon in the U.S. that is also somewhat unique to America. The university based entrepreneurial cluster fits this description. In this case the driver of economic activity and entrepreneurship is not in response to market demands, but is in response to university based science and technology. As such universities act as social institutions within the cluster. Universities provide a setting for the exchange of ideas and the building of reputations, as well as supporting a variety of communities of practice across numerous disciplines. Here the university fulfills many of the roles of other actors found in more traditional clusters.

The second distinguishing role of the university within the cluster is its role of being the source of ideas that create firms as well as the source of entrepreneurs that found them. In the process of faculty conducting research potentially commercializable inventions and knowledge are generated. As a result of this process the university accepts the role of generating new firms which are instrumental in building the industrial cluster.

Some of the following are a few of the unique characteristics of the university research-centric cluster.

- 1.) The firms within the cluster may have little dependency upon or interaction with each other (this would be necessary for a totally evolved cluster).
- 2.) The firms may be from widely varying disciplines, as the university is not a unitary organization like a firm that has a coherent set of commercial competencies. For example, electrical engineering, biotechnology, alternative energy, software, internet firms may all be present within the cluster.
- 3.) The university as a tax-exempt institution cannot commercialize its inventions directly.
- 4.) Professors/inventors are odd agents as they are not paid to invent commercializable objects. Their relationship to the university is therefore not as paid researchers.
- 5.) Professors have the unique ability of to start firms and yet remain employed by the university, thus creating a different type of entrepreneur.

### III. Concrete Cases and What They Illustrate. The Case of Silicon Valley/Route 128, Stanford University, and UC Berkeley

The case of Silicon Valley and the role of Stanford and the University of California in creating this region will be discussed, informed in part by Martin Kenney's previous research (Kenney 2000; Kenney and von Burg 2001; Kenney and Goe 2004). Besides commenting on general attributes of local university communities in promoting clusters (Miner et al. 2001), we have conducted research on three rather interesting examples of smaller aspiring clusters; University of Wisconsin-Madison, UC Davis, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In each case the university has been the source of entrepreneurship and economic development with varying degrees of success. The universities also have different histories in promoting such entrepreneurship. The performance of these communities, both as entrepreneurial clusters and as clusters vary significantly, with UWM being at one end of the scale, and UIUC being on the other end.

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*Martin Kenney is a Professor at the University of California, Davis and a Senior Project Director at the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy. He is a fellow at the Center for Entrepreneurship at UC Davis. He has published five books and over 120 scholarly articles on the development of Silicon Valley, venture capital, university-industry relations and the globalization of services. His two recent edited books *Understanding Silicon Valley* and *Locating Global Advantage* (with Richard Florida) were published by Stanford University Press where he is the editor (with Bruce Kogut) of a book series in innovation and globalization. Currently, he is preparing a book on the history and globalization of the venture capital industry. He was a visiting professor at the Copenhagen Business School, Cambridge University, Hitotsubashi University, Kobe University, and Tokyo University. He has consulted for or presented to various organizations including the InterAmerican Development Bank, the World Bank, Presidential Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Association of Computing Machinery, and the OECD and consulted for various firms. His research is currently supported by the NSF, the Sloan Foundation, and the Kauffman Foundation.*

**Joe Lambert** Founding Director of the Center for Digital Storytelling, Berkeley, California, USA

### **Digital Storytelling and the Space Between**

Digital Storytelling is a model of new media education that has its roots in community-based activism and social engagement. The phenomenal international growth of this genre suggests a role for citizen-created media in all parts of civic discourse. Just as blogs have integrated themselves into the fabric of political life, short narrative films and audio essays produced by "normal" people are finding their way into countless public presentations, civic engagement websites, and grassroots organizing campaigns.

Joe Lambert and his colleagues around the world have been looking at ways that Digital Stories can be used in civic planning and development processes. Lambert will discuss relevant examples of his efforts and the issues they suggest, including his collaboration with the Institute for the Future in using stories for scenario planning, and his more recent work in using place-based stories to confront redevelopment, environmental and gentrification issues.

*Joe Lambert is the Founding Director of the Center for Digital Storytelling ([www.storycenter.org](http://www.storycenter.org)). Lambert and colleagues developed a unique computer training and arts program known as the *Digital Storytelling Workshop*. Since 1994, Joe has been the lead in offering the process in 45 U.S. states and 20 countries, assisting in the completion of more than 10,000 video works. Joe is the author of the *Digital Storytelling Cookbook*, and *Digital Storytelling: Capturing Lives, Creating Community*.*

**Professor Nigel Thrift** Vice Chancellor, University of Warwick

### **Talent Worlds**

The paper is laid out as follows. In the first part of the paper, I will concentrate on the production of commodities by means of the commodity of talent. Here, my main concern will be to highlight the growth of talent as a contemporary sigil as the result of a redefinition of what constitutes labour, a sigil adding in to the notion of labour power all kinds of qualities which were formerly considered as outside its orbit.

In the second part of the paper, I will move to the consumption of commodities which I will argue also means harnessing talent. Here, my main concern will be to outline a 'flock and flow' economy in which the passions and inventions of consumers become central, not least because it is becoming possible to construct 'worlds', rather than simple spaces of consumption.

Finally, there is a brief conclusion to the paper which summarizes the main parts and offers some thoughts on alternative ways forward in the context of regions and regional development.

*Professor Nigel Thrift was educated at Aberystwyth where he graduated with a BA Hons in Geography in 1971. After Aberystwyth he went onto gain his PhD in Geography from the University of Bristol in 1979, his DSc from the University of Bristol in 1992, as well as being granted an MA (Oxon) in January 2004. He is an Emeritus Professor of the University of Bristol and a Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford.*

*Nigel took up his role as the Vice-Chancellor of The University of Warwick in July 2006. He joined Warwick from the University of Oxford where he was Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research. He was made Head of the Division of Life and Environmental Sciences at Oxford in 2003, prior to which he chaired the Research Committee at the University of Bristol (2001-2003) and also chaired Bristol's Research Assessment Panel (1997-2001).*

*He was made a Fellow of the British Academy in 2003 and is co-author, author or co-editor of over 35 books.*

## Panels

### Panel 1: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 16.00-17.30

#### ***Language Policies, Ideologies and Identities in Contemporary Europe: Regional, National and Supranational Perspectives***

##### **Rationale**

Building upon Colloquium 2 of the 2006/07 IAS Annual Research Programme on ‘Construction and Legitimation of Regional Identities’ (November 2006), the panel aims at exploring the role which language policies and language ideologies play in construction, reformulation and legitimation for different types of (collective) identities in contemporary Europe. As language-related policies and ideologies are frequently used to demarcate and emphasise group identities, we are willing to explore different contexts in which they are strategically chosen to construct different collectivities in the process of sustaining diverse forms of intra- and inter-group *Gemeinschaftlichkeit* and *Fremdheit* (B. Giesen). From such perspective, language policies should be seen as means of putting diverse language ideologies into practice, according to the differently chosen strategic goals and aims.

We are particularly interested in how different forms of language policies and ideologies are both constructed and put into practice at the three levels encompassing regional, national and supranational contexts. Presentations within the panel shall therefore aim at exploring, both theoretically and empirically, the mutual interdependence between different forms of regional, national and supranational language policies and ideologies. In so doing, we are willing to show that, although eventually used to construct particular types of identities bound to specific locations and milieus (of differently-viewed European regions, of different national collectivities in Europe or of different supranational political and otherwise understood constructs such as, e.g., the EU) the specifically localised language ideologies and policies are closely tied to those subsequently created in other contexts (synchronic dimension) as well as those constructed before (diachronic or historical dimension).

##### **Abstracts of the Presentations**

#### ***“The Invasion of the Biggest Pest since the Cockroach, yes, the Scouser”: Exploring Language Ideologies and Relationships between Regions in England’s North-West***

**Kevin Watson and Paul Kerswill, Lancaster University**

It is well known that when people are asked to rank regional varieties of English in order of preference, certain accents consistently fare quite well, and others consistently fare quite badly. Varieties of Scottish and Irish English, for example, are typically viewed positively, whilst the accents of Birmingham (Brummie) and Liverpool (Scouse) usually do less well. In fact, rankings such as these tell us more about listeners’ reactions to (stereotypes of) cities, regions and people than they tell us about accents, but they nevertheless allow us to explore relationships between language, regionality and identity. Whereas most previous work in this area has tended to examine listeners’ perceptions of the varieties of English of major urban centres (see e.g. Strongman & Woosley 1967; Giles 1970; Giles & Powesland 1975, Coupland and Bishop 2007), this paper explores the relationships between regions in a much smaller geographical space – England’s north-west.

Using a new corpus of data collected from online forums and chat rooms, this paper maps the friendships and rivalries in the north-west of England as they are articulated by its people. We show (i) that unity and discord in regions even across a relatively small geographical space is rife,

but (ii) that unity is usually attested only when set against a larger and/or more distant region (e.g. people in various northern towns are happy to be associated with each other if set in opposition to e.g. 'the south'), (iii) that these relationships are very salient to the inhabitants of the region, (iv) that commentary about regional identity is inseparably intertwined with commentary about the accent of the region, and, on a methodological level (v) that this type of online data is a useful but as yet untapped resource for accessing ideological judgements of regions and the accents spoken there.

***Language Policies, Ideologies and Identities  
in Central/Eastern European Contexts***  
**Gabriele Hogan-Brun, University of Bristol**

This contribution explores the role language policies and language ideologies play in the construction of collective identities in selected Central/Eastern European contexts. A particular focus will be given to the function of historical memory in the social co-construction and re-formulation of identity in the Baltic Republics. We shall attempt to show how, in line with the work by Wodak, this can be exploited in the reformulation and legitimisation of local diversity management practices that can lead to inclusion of some and exclusion of others through legalistically founded discursive strategies that accentuate the process of differentiation.

***Scots and Ulster Scots language policy:  
Two countries ignoring the same language?***  
**Yasuko Yamada and J.W. Unger, Lancaster University**

This paper explores how language ideologies about the Scots Language are linguistically realised in key texts drawn from different policy levels, and also in focus groups consisting of and discussions held by Scots speakers. We employ the discourse-historical approach (Wodak, 2001) to analyse these texts and also examine the implicit and explicit valuations of Scots following Bourdieu's (1991) metaphor of the linguistic market.

The Scots language is spoken in two countries of the United Kingdom: Scotland and Northern Ireland. Although the UK government has ratified the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages for Scots in both countries, at the 'national' (UK) policy-making level, the languages are treated very differently. Within each country (i.e. the 'regional' level), the 'top-down' provisions for the promotion, teaching and public use of Scots are very different. This is mirrored by an unequal distribution of material resources; despite having a much smaller community of speakers, initiatives connected to Ulster Scots in Northern Ireland receive considerably more funding than those connected to Scots in Scotland.

Unlike the role of minority languages in many other European *Kulturnationen* (e.g. Catalunya, see Trudgill 2004), the Scots language has not been widely used in 'top-down' or 'bottom-up' national identity construction in either country. However, it seems that recently Ulster Scots has started to be used in 'top-down' identity construction by Unionist politicians as a response to the equivalent use of Irish by Republican politicians. With respect to grass-roots identity construction, Ulster Scots may be one facet, but is not consistently an important factor (Wilson and Stapleton 2006). By contrast, in Scotland politicians rarely discuss Scots (Millar 2006), let alone use it as a symbol of Scottish national identity. Scots is, however, the subject of activist campaigns (although these cannot be considered to be grass-roots campaigns) and there are local initiatives to promote Scots in individual schools and classrooms. In these different contexts, we find that strategy documents drafted by the devolved administrations, although seemingly well-intentioned, do not reflect the needs of Scots speakers and are not likely to be effective in improving the material or symbolic situation of the Scots language.

***Are national policies barriers against a European multilingual strategy? Supranationality and language learning in Europe: the case of Romania***  
**Daniel Ivanus, University of Craiova**

Since the beginning of the 1990s, the European Union has intensified its attempts to stimulate and support linguistic diversity and foreign language learning through large-scale programmes implemented by all member states and partner countries of the EU.

The reconciliation between the opposed principles of unity and diversity is at the heart of European identity (Wright 2000). Therefore, it is not surprising to find this integration paradox even in the field of language policy. The tension between officially promoted multilingualism and the dominance of a possible future *lingua franca* requires a thorough analysis of European language education policies. How are (symbolic) European language policies reflected in Romanian language practice? With it being seemingly almost impossible to influence languages through supranational policies, are Europeans tempted to continue and follow other external forces and economic influences rather than adopt European theories on multilingual education?

The presentation intends to evaluate the normative effect and attitude of such initiatives on Romanian language-educational policy. I accept the broader meaning of the term 'normative', understood as guidance and suggestion, not only as an initiative setting strict rules to be acted upon. I argue that it is important to assess these attempts to foster foreign language provision in the classroom and evaluate the success and limitations in their struggle to maintain the balance between market-driven forces and the unity-in-diversity principle and its commitment to plurilingualism.

## Panel 2: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 12.15-13.30

### *Imagined Spaces*

(Chaired by Professor Lynne Pearce)

This panel will reflect upon the ways in which cities, regions, nations and various public / private spaces within them have been (re)constituted through works of the creative imagination. Members of the panel will make brief (5-10 minute) presentations on how their own projects relate to the theme of the conference and will also be invited to reflect upon the papers from the morning sessions.

**Dr Graham Mort (Creative Writing, Lancaster)** will focus, in particular, on the way in which 'action research' techniques can stimulate new creative and reflexive writing *vis-à-vis* his work on the 'Crossing Borders', 'Moving Manchester' and 'Radiophonics' projects; **Dr Corinne Fowler ('Moving Manchester' researcher, Lancaster)** will discuss the commercial and (multi)cultural logic by which novels by black northern writers are coded as worthy (or unworthy) of national and international readerships; **Dr Emma Rose (Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts)** will talk about the ways in which her AHRC-funded project, 'Re-enchantment and Reclamation' has engaged dance, film and the sonic arts in an artistic re-presentation of Morecambe Bay and the Lune Estuary; **Dr Danielle Fuller (American and Canadian Studies, University of Birmingham)** will reflect upon the geo-cultural rationale for her AHRC-funded project 'Beyond the Book: Mass Reading Events and Contemporary Cultures of Reading in the UK, USA and Canada' and how local / regional / national identifications impact upon mass reading events (or not); **Dr Anita Wilson (Centre for Literacy Research)** will talk about her work as a prison ethnographer and, in particular, the ways in which prisoners commodify the spaces in which they find themselves through a range of creative / aesthetic acts.

**N.B. Several of these panel presentations will be linked to visual / multi-media presentations in the Conference Exhibition Rooms.**

### Panel Members

**Panel Chair: Professor Lynne Pearce** is Chair of Literary Theory and Women's Writing in the Department of English and Creative Writing. She has published widely in the field of literary and cultural theory and is Principal Investigator for the AHRC-funded project 'Moving Manchester / Mediating Marginalities: How the experience of migration has informed writing from Manchester 1960 – the present'. She has edited a collection of essays on Literature and British Devolution entitled *Devolving Identities: Feminist Readings in Home and Belonging* (Ashgate 2000) whilst her most recent book is *Romance Writing* (Polity 2007). Further details of 'Moving Manchester' can be found on the project website at: [www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/projects/movingmanchester](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/projects/movingmanchester).

**Dr Corinne Fowler** is a full time researcher on the Moving Manchester project (see web details above). She specialises in postcolonial writing and travel writing. She is author of *Chasing Tales: travel writing, journalism and the history of British ideas about Afghanistan* (2007).

**Dr Danielle Fuller** is a Senior Lecturer within the Department of American & Canadian Studies at the University of Birmingham. She was born and brought up in Essex and has always preferred to self-identify as an East Anglian: a regional affiliation that was particularly useful in social situations during the 1980s! Her publications include *Writing the Everyday: Atlantic Canadian Women's Textual Communities* (2004). More recently she has been working on the trans-national commodification of Atlantic Canada through the dissemination of popular film and best-selling fiction.

Further details of the 'Beyond the Book' project may be found at: [www.beyondthebookproject.org](http://www.beyondthebookproject.org)

**Dr Graham Mort** is a Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at Lancaster University. He is project leader for the British Council's 'Crossing Borders' and 'Radiophonics' projects in Africa and directs the recently established Centre for Transcultural Writing and Research at Lancaster. His latest publication is *Visibility: New & Selected Poems* (Seren 2007).

Further details of the Centre for Transcultural Writing can be found at: [www.transculturalwriting.com](http://www.transculturalwriting.com)

**Dr Emma Rose** is Associate Director: Research and Enterprise, The Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts. She studied as a postgraduate at Chelsea College of Art and then a Lecturer at Leeds University before coming to Lancaster. As a practicing artist she exhibits her work internationally. Recent experimental videos made since 2004 with her collaborator Neil Boynton have been shown in Croatia, Iceland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland and many times in London and the UK.

**Dr Anita Wilson** is a prison ethnographer, based in the Lancaster Literacy Research Centre at Lancaster University. Her long-term interest is in the ways that prisoners maintain a sense of personal identity in institutional settings, and the role of material and visual markers in communicative practice.

### **Panel 3: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 17.45-18.45**

#### ***Legacy, Enterprise, Devolution and Governance***

**Professor Mary Rose - Institute for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development, Lancaster University**

**Jacqueline Whiteside - Centre for North West Regional Studies, Lancaster University**

**Dr. Gordon Clark - Dept of Geography, Lancaster University**

One of the main features of regions in the modern European political economy is the promotion by the EU and Member States' central governments of regional initiatives based on devolved political decision making, policy-driven venture capital and enterprise. Such policies in their turn demand in their turn a strong sense of local identity and an enhanced relationship between regional research centres and the business environment. It means a coming together of politics and economics in which funds are made available at regional level, a process leading to the reassessment of the balance between urban and rural and increased competition for regional resources between the political institutions representing disparate localities. Heritage and culture become industries in their own right and the notion of regional identity is harnessed for economic ends: a phenomenon which is experienced differently within Europe and elsewhere in the world. This panel will consider these developments with particular reference to the North-West of England, but from a comparative perspective.

## **Panel 4: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 13.30-15.00**

### ***Researching Regions: Past presents, future perfect?***

**Professor Robert Crawshaw - Annual Research Programme Director 2006/7 (Dept of Languages and Cultures, Lancaster University)**

**Professor Bob Jessop - Director of The Institute for Advanced Studies (Dept of Sociology, Lancaster University)**

**Professor Ruth Wodak - Dept of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University**

The principal focus of this conference will have been to consider 'regions and regionalism' as an object of interdisciplinary research. To what extent have the themes of the conference and the programme as a whole covered the ground? What benefits are brought to bear on our understanding of regionalism as a phenomenon as a result of an interdisciplinary approach? How can such an approach best be articulated within the range of academic instruments currently available? Does 'regions and regionalism' make sense at all as an identifiable field of research? If so, what should its objectives be? The final panel will seek to address the above questions in the light of the conference. It will offer a synthesis and discuss ways in which the work of the research programme can be carried forward.

## Abstracts

### Hayward Alker

It is with great sadness that we announce the death in August of Hayward Alker who had agreed to participate in our conference as an honorary speaker and panellist. It would have been an privilege to share the floor with Hayward Alker. As Professor of International Relations at the University of Southern California, he was a world figure in international studies whose recent publications focused on the global challenge to boundaries, international politics and security. While missing his input to the conference, we extend our sincere condolences to his wife and family and colleagues.

**Charlotte Baker** Department of European Languages and Culture, Lancaster University.  
[c.baker@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:c.baker@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **Constructing Marginal Identities in the Novels of Didier Destremau, Patrick Grainville and Williams Sassine.**

People with albinism are highly visible in sub-Saharan Africa; a visibility that has been manipulated into a symbolic otherness by writers, film-makers and artists. In the fictional work of Guinean writer Williams Sassine, and French writers Didier Destremau and Patrick Grainville, the albino protagonists are defined by their otherness, set apart from society and placed firmly at the margins. In this sense the novels can be seen as representative of all fictional writing about albinism since, irrespective of the background of the writer, the cultural context of the work or its subject matter, writers of fiction insistently locate the albino at the margins; as a mysterious, excluded figure.

However, where Sassine, Destremau and Grainville succeed is in resisting the tendency to portray the marginal space where the albino is located as an intrinsically negative one. Preferring to portray the margins as a space removed from the constraints of society, these writers present the marginal spaces of their novels as, to use Bhabha's terms, an 'interstitial passage'<sup>1</sup>, a locus of agency in which albino identity can be performed and contested. Exploring the interaction between questions of identity and the influence of the local environment, including geographical location, on the lives of the protagonists, I will examine the way in which these writers posit marginal spaces as the locus for a subversive slippage of identity.

<sup>1</sup> Homi Bhabha, *The Location of Culture* (London: Routledge, 1994) p.4

Charlotte Baker has recently joined the Department of European Languages and Cultures at Lancaster University as Lecturer in French. She is currently writing up her PhD in French and Francophone Studies at Nottingham University. Charlotte's thesis addresses the literary representation of the black African albino in twentieth century French and African Francophone fictional writing. Her research interests include the representation of marginalised and stigmatised groups in sub-Saharan Africa, and theories and representations of disability and difference. Her work is informed by recent developments in Francophone postcolonial studies.

**Frederic Barberà** Department of European Languages and Culture, Lancaster University.  
[f.barbera@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:f.barbera@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **Barcelona since the Civil War**

Barberà assesses the written culture produced in Barcelona since the Civil War following a dual approach. On the one hand, a chronological backbone is established by focusing on the works and views of writers and cultural agents of different generations; on the other, this is complemented with the views offered by Catalan exiles and foreign specialists. This chronological and transversal assessment aims to establish the evolution of the Catalan written culture produced in Barcelona up to the present day. The wider context for this paper is the research project *Barcelona as Seen by its Writers and Cultural Agents*, sponsored by the Institut Ramon Llull (Barcelona).

70 years on, looking back to the Civil War also implies addressing the myth of cultural, linguistic and political "normality" in Catalonia's 1930s, a period taken by Catalan political parties as a model for national reconstruction after Franco's death. This model, aiming at re-introducing the 1930s status quo consistent of a full socio-cultural presence of Catalan, has gone a long way since the 1970s. However, some voices in

Catalonia neglect the recent history of repression of Catalan culture under Franco and consider the hybrid post-Franco Catalonia as a *fait accompli*, proposing a different cultural “normality” consistent of “two languages, one culture”. Indeed Catalan culture at present embodies many paradoxes: if Castilianisation continued after Franco, there had never before been as many readers in Catalan, at a time of a new Golden Age for literary creation.

**Bruce Bennett and Imogen Tyler** Lancaster University. [b.bennet@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:b.bennet@lancaster.ac.uk),  
[i.tyler@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:i.tyler@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **The Cinema of Borders: Screening Ethnic Abjection**

Border anxiety currently dominates the political rhetoric of Western governments and is dutifully amplified by the corporate news media. In the US, Australia and Europe ever-tighter national and international border controls have accompanied the implementation of harsh and punitive asylum, immigration and terror laws. A significant body of ‘border theory’ has emerged during the last decade in response to the new politics of the border, exposing the ways in which the geo-political landscape impacts unequally on the movement and flow of people, objects and images (see Ahmed 2000, 115). What is important about this scholarship is that it theorises the asymmetrical relations of power and knowledge that characterise international borders and constitute regions of relative (im)mobility, through a focus on the complex border zones of racial, sexual and economic exploitation.

The border has also become a central theme within a range of international films that might be categorised as ‘the cinema of borders’ due to their central preoccupation with border-crossing. Hamid Naficy suggests that ‘border films’ are characterized formally by fragmentation, multilingualism and liminal characters, and explore themes that ‘involve journeying, historicity, identity, and displacement’ (2001, 4). Far from depicting the world as a borderless global village, border films depict the underside of cosmopolitanism, a world of barriers, fences, checkpoints, exploitation and death. This is a cinema concerned with what Judith Butler describes as ‘those “unlivable” and “uninhabitable” zones of social life’ (1993, 3). This essay draws upon Butler’s account of the constitutive role of the abjected lives of sexual, ethnic and economic others in securing and valorising normative and privileged subject positions, as a means of exploring Western cinematic attempts to make the border politics of the present visible. Focusing on an analysis of the ways in which immigrants, refugees and detainees are made visible and knowable within two highly acclaimed ‘British’ border films, *In This World* (2002) and *The Road to Guantánamo* (2006), we probe the extent to which these films problematize the hegemonic politics of the border.

Bruce Bennett is a Lecturer in Film Studies at Lancaster University, recent publications include: **Cinema and Technology: Cultures, Theories, Practices** (co-edited with Marc Furstenau and Adrian Mackenzie, Palgrave, 2007), ‘Screening Unliveable Lives: The Cinema of Borders’ (with I. Tyler, 2007), ‘Very Un-British films: Michael Winterbottom and the Cinema of Incompatibility’ (2007).

Imogen Tyler is a Lecturer in the Sociology Department at Lancaster University, recent publications include: ‘From “the Me Decade” to “the Me Millennium”: The Cultural History of Narcissism’ *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, (2007), ‘The filthy politics of social class’ *Media/Culture* (2006), ‘Welcome to Britain”: The Cultural Politics of Asylum’ *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2006).

**Sebastian Büttner** University of Bremen [buettner@gsss.uni-bremen.de](mailto:buettner@gsss.uni-bremen.de)

### **World-cultural models and structural decoupling: an analysis of regional development strategies in Poland.**

The main credo of the “new regionalism” to prevent unfavourable dynamics of development by mobilising a region’s endogenous social and economic forces is nowadays widely accepted in academia, and it is also strongly promoted in the context of European regional development policies. In fact, the importance of local governance structures, local cultures, local institutions and social capital for economic development and innovation is hardly contested. Building on assumptions of the neo-institutional “world-polity” approach this paper seeks to view regional development from a different angle, however: “culture” is conceptualized in a much broader sense, here. It is conceived as structured on a global scale, than just shaped by local traditions or local actor constellations. Thus, regional development is strongly influenced by exogenous, highly rationalized models of development which are adapted by localities and local life-worlds, especially in the framework of European regional development policies. The adaptation of external models often brings about

“unintended consequences” – or in neo-institutional terms: a de-coupling of formal structures and social realities. Drawing on a comparison of regional development strategies in western and eastern parts of Poland I argue that the implementation of EU structural policies might contribute to a huge degree of de-coupling of proclaimed goals and social reality resulting in perceptions of development inconsistencies and new social problems. However, this should not lead to the conclusion that the world-cultural models at work are failing; in the contrary, they are about to change the local life-worlds tremendously and determine our standards of expectation.

1998-2004: Diploma Studies of Sociology, European Studies and Global Society at University of Bamberg (Germany) and University of Warsaw (Poland); 2004-2005: Project Researcher and Teaching Assistant at University of Bamberg; since 2005: Ph.D. fellow at the Graduate School of Social Sciences (GSSS), University of Bremen (Germany); April to June 2007: Visiting fellow at the Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University of Cracow (Poland)

**Dr S. A. Counce** University of Central Lancashire [Sacaunce@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:Sacaunce@uclan.ac.uk)

### **The Dog That Did Not Bark: Northern England, Nationalism, and Regional Devolution**

The United Kingdom has never merged its constituent parts into a unitary whole and as a new millennium began, a process of unravelling seemed to be gathering momentum. Scotland and Wales embraced devolution; Northern Ireland's tortuous move towards it continued; the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands exploited their anomalous constitutional status, and even London had regional government thrust upon it. Objectively, England north of the Mersey and Humber had suffered as much from the economic course adopted by governments over the past thirty years as Wales or Scotland.

However, there have been no spontaneous assertions of support for self-government, and central encouragement ended in farce even in the most disaffected corner, the north east. In trying to understand how identity turns into nationalism (arguably the most powerful force in the twentieth century), this apparent failure is a vital case study, helping to delineate the border between action and passivity. The danger of always looking at cases where nationalism flourishes is that a sort of inevitability will be created, yet history shows that it is anything but. Here I explore the historic roots that explain why, in the north, people's undoubted sense of neglect and grievance, of the throwing away of the legacy of past endeavour, has led to increased support for Labour, arguably the last truly national party, rather than to the emergence of any group speaking for the region, or any part of it.

**David Cooper** Department of English & Creative Writing, Lancaster University  
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### **'The Mapping of Region: Boundary and Boundedness in Lake District Literature'**

This paper will explore issues of boundary and boundedness in relation to both the spatial and literary histories of the Lake District. In what ways have writers represented the Lakes as a bounded space within the wider region of north-west England? How have these imaginative configurations of space informed the management of the landscape as a Lefebvrian 'social space'? By extension, how have later writers responded to this complex interweaving of conceptual and actual geographies?

The first half of the paper will trace the Picturesque development of the Lake District as a circumscribed territory: a concept of boundedness which is similarly articulated in Wordsworth's writing, underpinning both his poetry (*Home at Grasmere*) and prose (*Guide to the Lakes*). Wordsworth's canonical representations of landscape offer an unapologetic privileging of the area's geographical centre: a spatial model which, in turn, influenced the boundaries imposed by the Lake District National Park.

The second part will go on to suggest ways in which post-Romantic writers have responded to this 'socialization' of the landscape by articulating an enlarged conceptualization of the Lakes. It is an approach exemplified by the writings of the twentieth-century poet, Norman Nicholson, who promotes a model of the area which he variously calls 'the Lake System' and 'Greater Lakeland'. Nicholson's reconfiguration of space highlights the instability of the area's boundaries; at the same time, however, he continues to draw upon, and to reinforce, the Picturesque vision of the Lake District as a territory set apart from the rest of the region.

**Joan Costa Font** London School of Economics and Universitat de Barcelona [J.Costa-Font@lse.ac.uk](mailto:J.Costa-Font@lse.ac.uk)

#### **“Representation without Taxation’? Informal Cooperation and the Spanish Devolution**

The set up of devolution structures in some western countries is argued balance-out the so called “strategy of equality” with the “strategy of diversity”. Devolution is often questioned in the grounds of limited effects on the efficiency and equity of the public sector along the territory. This study examines the arguments behind devolution and undertakes an empirical assessment using Spain as an example. We examine three specific examples from the Spanish case: that of education, health and security policy. Our argument is that devolution although costly to set up, enhances efficiency effects and gives rise to a reduction of geographical inequalities in the long run. However, there the extent to which efficiency take place depends on the degree of fiscal as well as political responsibilities. Furthermore, we argue that central government coordination can crowd out informal cooperation. The Spanish example can speak to other experiences of decentralisation around the western world.

**Kathryn Crameri** University of Sydney, Australia [kathryn.crameri@usyd.edu.au](mailto:kathryn.crameri@usyd.edu.au)

#### **Real and virtual places and spaces: regions and the people who imagine them**

This paper seeks to address a question highlighted in the report of the ARP colloquium on ‘Urban-Rural: Flows and Boundaries’: when regional identities are caught up in planning and policy, ‘whose politicised spatial imaginations come to dominate?’. The focus of the paper will be on two specific regional initiatives.

My examples will be drawn from the Autonomous Community of Catalonia, which is both an administrative region and, to many of its inhabitants, a stateless nation. This problem of definition is further complicated by tendency for Catalonia to find itself conflated with the city region of Barcelona, and by the existence of a significant Catalan-speaking community outside its administrative borders. Two key sites of cultural policy and community action will be examined: an identifiable place that has been the subject of controversy precisely because of its significance as a place – the Born Market heritage site in Barcelona; and a fluid space – the Catalan linguistic and cultural community as it is represented on the Internet – that has now been ambiguously marked as a virtual place by the approval of a ‘.cat’ top level internet domain name.

According to Tim Cresswell (2004), places are ‘spaces which people have made meaningful’. This paper will argue that it is helpful to think of regional places and spaces as being shaped by the desire of cultural and political elites to achieve what Savage, Bagnall and Longhurst, following Bourdieu, have called ‘comfort in place’, and that rather than consolidating regional identities, their actions fragment regions into different ‘communities of interest’ that are now increasingly jostling for influence on the internet as well as over traditional sites of identity construction such as heritage.

Until June 2006 Kathryn held the position of Senior Lecturer in Spanish Studies at Lancaster University, where among other things she co-organised two conferences (with Frederic Barberà) as part of the *Peripheral Identities* research project and participated in the initial arrangements for the Annual Research Programme on Regions and Regionalism for the Institute for Advanced Studies. She is now Chair of the Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies at the University of Sydney, Australia.

Her current research focuses on cultural policy in Catalonia. She has just finished writing a book entitled *Catalonia: National Identity and Cultural Policy 1980-2003* (University of Wales Press, forthcoming in 2008) and has published articles on the role of translation in Catalan culture, attitudes to Catalans who write literature in Spanish, the Museum of the History of Catalonia, and the cultural and linguistic integration of immigrants. The proposed paper represents a further development of this line of research. Kathryn has also published articles on Catalan literature and is currently co-writing an introduction in English to the works of Jesús Moncada.

**Tove Dannestam** Department of Political Science, Lund University, Sweden

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### **The Entrepreneurial City in a Nordic Context – A Challenge to the Traditional Orientation and Framing of Local Politics?**

The territorial dimensions of the state are undergoing substantial changes. New political spaces – such as cities and regions – are gaining in importance. Cities and regions are using different strategies in order to strengthen their position in the inter-regional competition. At first sight, the Swedish experience seems to be an exception to this general development. The relatively small cities of Sweden usually function as the local arm of the welfare state and the regional policy aims at territorial cohesion through redistribution. However, through a study of the Swedish city Malmö, I show that the processes associated with entrepreneurial governance are manifested here as well. In the first part of the paper, I argue that this might pose a challenge to the traditional redistributive goals of Swedish politics.

In the second part of the paper, I focus on Malmö's engagement in the construction of a cross-border growth region – the Øresund region. To create a new region presupposes the transgression of traditional political borders. Urban governance, on the contrary, deals with strengthening the competitiveness of an *individual* city. The aim of this part of the paper is thus to analyze the relationship between strategies of *urban* governance and *regional* constructions. The potential tension between competition and cooperation is especially interesting in a transnational context. In fact, in the concluding remarks of the paper I argue that in spite of the rhetoric of a borderless region, we are witnessing the articulation of renewed territorial boundaries *within* the transnational region.

**Trine Fotel** Roskilde University, Denmark [trinen@ruc.dk](mailto:trinen@ruc.dk)

### **Scaling regional policies - Inclusions and border-drawings in governance networks**

The paper argues that in order to understand the contemporary 'explosion of regionalism' in multiple time-spatial scales, we need to grasp the complex networking strategies which are constructing the regional. Theories of scales and of regions 'unbound' are often based on too broad notions of connectivity's, flows and mobilities. I argue that by grounding the concept of connectivity's within theories of governance networks, we are able to identify more precisely what's good and bad in different re-scaling practices and connectivity's. With a large structural reform by January this year, five new regional scales were created in Denmark. In an interactive, in-depth case-study of one of the regions, the Zealand Region, I focus on processes of formulating and practicing regional growth policies and policies of (trans-) regional governance networks. Politicians and administrators are struggling to cope with the flows and (re)constructed scales of the Zealand Region; they are in the midst of strategically deciding which relations, networks and scalar constructions to strengthen and which to let go.

'The regional scale' is created and continuously (re)constructed by actors in governance networks.

Methodologically, I argue that we need to 'bring people back in' and study political practices 'bottom-up'. With such an approach we get the time-spatial ontological context of political practices and the social construction of scales unfolded. The analysis centers on questions such as: which networks strategies are deployed? Which potentially conflicting discourses of regionality and scales are produced? And how do these influence democratic and representational ideals for regional government?

**David Etherington**, Middlesex University Business School [d.etherington@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:d.etherington@mdx.ac.uk) & **Martin Jones** University of Wales Aberystwyth, [msj@aber.ac.uk](mailto:msj@aber.ac.uk)

### **City-Regions, Competitiveness, Labour Market Inequalities**

Recent years have witnessed a burgeoning literature on the 'new regionalism'. Protagonists, both at an academic and political level, have made persuasive arguments on the existence of regions and successful models of economic and social development. Developments within the new regionalism have been suggesting a need to problematise a number of issues: the role of the national state in underpinning regional economic development and constructing scales of regulation and governance; the economic connections between regions and cities in terms of innovation and competitiveness; and more recently conflicts between securing

competitiveness and managing the everyday politics of collective consumption and social reproduction in and across city-regions. We argue that the championing of city-regions across the English regions, set within the context of UK 'regional policy' and the rescaling of socioeconomic intervention, provides an opportunity for grounding these debates. We draw on research taking place on the Sheffield city-region and particularly discuss the interrelationships between competitiveness, work-welfare regimes—those policies and strategies dealing with labour market governance and welfare state restructuring—labour market inequalities and low pay. The paper suggests that city-regions reinforce, and have the potential to increase, rather than resolve socio-spatial inequalities and uneven development.

**Sjur Kasa** University of Oslo [sjur.kasa@cicero.uio.no](mailto:sjur.kasa@cicero.uio.no) & **Anders Underthun** Norwegian University of Science and Technology [anders.underthun@samfunn.ntnu.no](mailto:anders.underthun@samfunn.ntnu.no)

### **Socio-political foundations of national innovation strategies: The case of natural gas based strategies in Norway**

The literature on systems of innovation points to the importance of institutional frames that promote the creation and diffusion of knowledge. These institutional frames often contain entities such as universities, regional development agencies or public authorities. The knowledge transfers between these entities and innovating firms are well analysed by many scholars, but the embedded political processes and underlying power relations through which the institutional frames and knowledge paths are negotiated seem less attended to. This paper demonstrates the influence of enduring class- and regional compromises on the formation and evolution of the Norwegian national innovation policy for the domestic industrial utilisation of natural gas that emerged between 1998 and 2006. While central government and major petroleum companies Statoil and Hydro largely pursued global export strategies, public/private regional interest groups gave rise to scattered initiatives for domestic industrial exploitation of natural gas early in this period. From 2004, these initiatives were reorganized and strengthened by the inclusion of the traditional Norwegian national labour and business peak organizations in the promotion of a comprehensive and multi-faceted public research programme emphasizing the development of breakthrough technologies meant to facilitate new *domestic* natural-gas based industries in Norway. These peak organizations represent underlying political and regional compromises of the Norwegian social democratic regime as analyzed by Rokkan (1967). However, what is new in this case is the ability of these actors to recombine organizationally in "new" network-like arrangements and promote a specific innovation strategy to counter the pressures of globalization on the Norwegian economy in general and the regions in particular. Thus, our story both points out the need to understand Nordic corporatist arrangements as the aggregation of exceptional "institutional thickness" based in social and regional compromises, and the need for more thorough analysis of the socio-political underpinnings of strategies of innovation and path creation.

**Santiago Leyva-Botero** Lancaster University [sleyvab@mac.com](mailto:sleyvab@mac.com)

### **From discovering the regional marginal economy to the creation of accumulation at the margins of the region.**

In this paper I will sustain that Economic Imaginaries are a crucial aspect of governing a regional economy, and structuring its social relations, and economic outcomes. Economic imaginaries constitute those aspects of the whole sum of economic relations that get problematised and transformed into objects of governance, and that secure the sustainability between the proportional relations of the population. In particular in this paper, I would look at how the Economic Imaginary of a marginal, non formal economy was first 'imagined' and 'discovered' in Antioquia, the second most populous, Colombian region, in the early 1980s. But from those early days, I would revise how the cultural political economic evolution of these early imaginaries, evolved into a succession of governmentalisation, that aimed to develop technologies of power to govern such a marginal economic population. This development was initiated when the very discovery of a 'marginal' economy forced dominant actors to leave behind the familiar terrain of the 'industrialising' economic imaginary where hegemony was to be constructed in the factory, and started a difficult process to develop imaginaries, governmentalities, and practices, that could influence actors in such marginal worlds, that were not even connected to the main economy. This influence can be understood as the struggle to provide direction that is able to guide how these marginal actors conduct their own economic activity, even if marginal, i.e., provisioning, production, and consumption. Thus, I will show how this increasing colonization of the 'marginal' economy has aimed not only to deter 'counter-productive' economic behavior such as the formation of a gang

culture, drug groups, etc.; but also, and specially after 2000, to create the marginal itself, as an interesting space for accumulation of the dominant economic actors, through a series of new technologies of power and accumulation such as micro-credits, underwriting services, security in the marginal spaces, bank micro-branches, etc. All in all, the paper explores the initiation of a new type of accumulation in the marginal spaces, and overall in the developing regions, That suggests that mayor changes are occurring under this unlikely liaison of marginal and dominant economic actors.

**Chen, Guang Han** Director and Professor of the Centre for the studies of Hong Kong, Macao, and PRD, Sun Yat-Sun University [lncgh@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:lncgh@yahoo.com.cn) & **Li, Xi Yuan** Associate Professor of the Centre for the studies of Hong Kong, Macao, and PRD, Sun Yat-Sun University [lxy1996@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:lxy1996@yahoo.com.cn)

### **Globalization and Regionalization in the Economic Integration of Hong Kong, Macao and PRD in South China**

Since 1980, three regional neighbors in south China, Hong Kong, Macao, and Guangdong have developed their economic co-operation relationship, though they have different systems of Law, and relative autonomy governments. This regional economic integration is influenced deeply by economic globalization and the change of international relationship of China. Three regions have taken their own benefit from the cooperation. Hong Kong and Macao are able to maintain their low cost advantages when two have involved in the export competition among the countries of south-east Asia, and are able to recover from the depression that was caused by the financial crisis of Asia. Guangdong, at the same time, realized the first leap of industrialization and has linked to market of the world closer and closer. However, three regions now falls into the arguments of deepen integration that arises from the difference of the goal of development, different institutions and social systems. Now three regions deal with their arguments by two ways: to get more regions involve and to invite the central government to judge. These are not the right ways to resolve the problems, however. Full discussion and consultation among regions are necessary to enhance the deepen integration.

**Bob Jessop** Director, Institute for Advanced Studies, Lancaster University [b.jessop@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:b.jessop@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **Cultural Political Economy of Competitiveness – The case of the European Union**

This paper presents a cultural political economy of competitiveness, i.e., an account of how the concept of competitiveness and its translation into firm strategies and government policies is the joint product of distinctive economic imaginaries and a substantive logic that 'operates behind the backs of the producers'. In this context, it focuses on the development of the EU's Lisbon Agenda (2000-) to make the European Union the most competitive economy in the world, compatible with preserving the European social model, overcoming the democratic deficit, and, added later, ensuring sustainable development. It examines the economic imaginary of the 'knowledge-based economy' and its implications at different scales, including the city, the region, the nation, cross-border regions, the European Union, and the EU's neighbourhood policy; and it comments on the failure of the Lisbon Agenda due to material forces operating behind the backs of the policy-makers.

**Magnus Lindh, Hans Löden, Lee Miles and Curt Räftegård**, (Karlstad University, Sweden). c/o [L.S.Miles@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:L.S.Miles@liverpool.ac.uk).

### **'Regional Action and the European Union: A Fusion Approach**

This paper examines a largely under-developed area of the political science literature on fusion and draws upon innovative research undertaken as part of the *Fusing Region? Sustainable Regional Governance in the European Union* research project funded by Nordregio as part of the Nordic Council's research programme for 2007-09. The authors introduce a new theoretical model that draws upon fusion approaches to explain regional action in the European Union. The paper has three objectives. First, it reviews the existing literature on fusion, a political-science approach so far use to explain adaptation to the pressures of European integration, and reflects upon its relevance for the study of the action of regional policy-makers. Second, it

develops a specific concept of regions and regional action. Third, the authors develop a number of preliminary conceptual tools and a 'fusion model of regional action' that they argue may facilitate understandings of how regional policy-makers are adapting to the pressures of European integration. These theoretical reflections also draw upon preliminary research results from a field study of regional policy-makers in Värmland in Sweden. Finally, the paper offers some provisional conclusions as to how this fresh 'fusion model of regional action' can be applied more broadly to other regional actors and regions in Europe.

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**Catalan and English Catholic right-wing journalism during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: A review of G. K. Chesterton, Hilaire Belloc and Manuel Brunet.**

Manuel Brunet i Solà (1889-1956) was a Catalan, catholic and conservative journalist, who wrote in Catalonia during a politically complicated time. Firstly, Primo de Rivera's dictatorship (1923-1929); later, the Republic regime (1931-1936), the outbreak of the civil war (1936-1939) and, finally, Franco's dictatorship (1939-1975), were so many political changes to deal with by him. Moreover, although having written a novel, *El meravellós desembarc dels grecs a Empúries* (1925), well-considered among the Catalan cultural circles, Manuel Brunet never stood out as a novelist, but his journalism had a notable influence on the Catalan middle-class, spreading the values of Catalanism, Catholicism and conservatism.

In the meantime, in England, there were some journalists who had similar characteristics as Manuel Brunet. Although twenty years older than him, G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936) and Hilaire Belloc (1870-1953), both considered outsiders in their own country because of their Catholicism and their political ideology, had to fight against the odds without achieving the gratitude they were looking forward. However, there is a detail to consider: although Chesterton and Belloc were not so much influent in their own country, they were read with interest and reviewed in some Catalan journals and newspapers, and there are references to the opinions of Chesterton and Belloc in some articles of Manuel Brunet.

It might be interesting to explore the ideological relationships between the right-wing party of these two cultures, English and Catalan, examining the influences from Chesterton and Belloc to Manuel Brunet and other important Catalan journalists of the same period.

Francesc Montero is a Catalan and Spanish philologist. On 2004, he started a PhD on Catalan Contemporary Literature. On September 2006, he presented my MPhil, which topic was the study of the journalist Manuel Brunet, including his biography and his narrative and journalistic works. Currently, Francesc is working in his thesis, focused on the ideological and aesthetic relationships between Manuel Brunet and other Catalan and European writers of the same period.

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**The politics of speaking Europe and Europe's Other in the European Union**

'Europe' has been an idea evolving through history. In the course of its development, the idea of Europe relied on various dichotomies, such as East/West, civilisation/barbarianism or Christendom/Islam. Although today the European Union defines its ideal as 'united in diversity', it still preserves the 'mental divisions of Europe' and its collective stereotypes (Davies, 2006:45). The aim of this paper is to track various incarnations of these divisions in the European Union. It does this by focusing on Turkey's integration process in the Union. Turkey's membership process has been the most controversial one so far. It raised questions not only on the levels of membership requirements, but also on the levels of who European is. Through a critical analysis of the EU documents, this paper examines the idea of Europe and Europeannes according to the Union's visions and plans for Europe and questions the place of Turkey in this understanding. In doing so, the paper discusses the Union's understandings of the age old divisions.

Muzeyyen Pandir-Dispinar is a PhD student in the Sociology Department of Lancaster University. Muzeyyen's project is concerned with the construction of otherness. Muzeyyen is investigating this problem by focusing on the debates surrounding the inclusion of Turkey in the European Union. Muzeyyen studies the controversy of Turkey's candidacy to find out about the Union's understandings of the old dualities of Europe. Through a critical reading of the EU documents, her research aims to investigate the functioning of discourses of divisions in Turkey's inclusion process. By doing this, she intends to re-examine the role of these discourses in the construction of otherness and identify the layers of inclusion/exclusion and othering in the EU.

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**From World Lobbying to Domestic Policy Making: Re-scaling Spaces of Political Intervention.  
How country-based transnational capital tries to reframe the spatial fix of swiss domestic economy**

The objective of this contribution is to analyse the tendencial rescaling and complexification of political and economic relations in Switzerland, particularly by investigating the domestic deployment of a historically strongly transnationalised bourgeoisie. We will therefore analyse the strategies and forms of struggle used by this social force to foster spatial transformations by the contestations of the dominant spatial fixes. In order to that we will analyse the evolution of Swiss transnational capital (Bank, Insurance, Chemistry, Machine Industry) attitude towards Switzerland's domestic economic and political organisation. From a position of relative neglect of domestic issues, it moved, from the beginning of the 1990's on, towards a leading interventionist stance in the debates. This implies that this fraction of the bourgeoisie is profiling itself as a new socio-political force in domestic political struggles. The main objective of its intervention is the unification and liberalization of the domestic market, which is highly fragmented. In order to advance those priorities it provides an overall explanation (hegemonic vision) for the economic crises which arose at the beginning of the 1990's. This hegemonic vision implies struggles to establish a dominant spatial fix replacing the traditional "dual spatial fix" of swiss political economy. This leads to project(s) aiming at the restructuring of the Federal State through the overcoming of a "dual" treatment of economic actors, and also at the reconfiguration of the traditional federalist scalar organisation of politics and policies. As will be argued, this project entails further contradictions. First, at the "political" level the break with traditional political agreement between transnational and domestic bourgeoisie implies the search for a new configuration of power bloc. Second, at the "economic" level" the emerging contradiction between federal sub-entities (Cantons) and emergent regional organisations: The offensive for a unification of the domestic market implies that rigid political separations between cantons become sharply criticized, for they are accused to support "rent-seeking positions" that restrain competition and the "necessary adaptations" of the swiss economy. But this conflict entails further contradictions: In addition to threaten the federalist social bases of representation, this could be seen as the concrete expression of a contradiction between different fractions of capital. On the one hand, federalism as a mechanism of fiscal competition provides finance capital with a suitable Standort. On the other hand, federalism as a "purely" political scaling of the national space hinders reconfigurations of space around "functional" economic aeras, and restrains thereby the potential opening of new configurations of value production for industrial capital.

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**Locational Nonsubstitutability and Regional Film Policy in the United Kingdom**

The recent amendment to the statutory definition of a British film is the product of two complimentary trends in film policy in the United Kingdom: the selling of the UK as a 'film hub' of locations, skills, and services to the international film industry; and the emergence of a different kind of institutional intervention geared towards nurturing regional film industries and regional film cultures. The film industry that is emerging as a result of this process is a hybrid space of interactions between a transnational film industry that crosses national boundaries, and a highly territorialised national film industry that is increasingly organised at the regional level as policymakers act in such a way as to enhance the locational nonsubstitutability of the film industries in order to attract inward investment. Locational nonsubstitutability refers to the place-specific resources within a region, and is reinforced by the functions of the Regional Screen Agencies (RSAs) as the eligibility criteria for the programmes of the RSAs are all based on an awareness of territory at the regional level. As such, Regional Screen Agencies increase the significance of place in a highly transnational film industry by encouraging the development of spaces of dependence. South West Screen is discussed as a case study of the importance of territory and locational nonsubstitutability in film policy in the UK.

Nick Redfern is lecturer in film and media studies at the University of Central Lancashire. His research interests include perception and the cinema, the theory of national cinemas, and regional film cultures in contemporary British cinema. He completed a Ph.D. titled *Regionalism and the Cinema in the United Kingdom, 1992 to 2002*, at Manchester Metropolitan University in 2005.

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### **Creative Cities and Regional Uneven Development**

Urban policy is increasingly based on the one hand in constructing each city as a competitive agent and reconverting the economic base of cities towards the creative and knowledge-based industries on the other hand. This policy shift has been driven by supra-local governments (EU, nation-states and regions). Two critical aspects of the implementation of these strategies has been (1) a tendency of the supra-local agents to focus their political and financial support on regional/national core cities and (2) forcing the same strategies into smaller and peripheral towns. In a regional context, small and medium cities find themselves trapped in policy orthodoxies not originally designed for implementation in such towns and competing for the same resources and markets than regional/national core cities. This paper critically explores the consequences of the implementation of urban creative strategies in the trajectories of regional uneven development. This will be done by comparing the cases of Wigan and Manchester and Manresa and Barcelona in the frame of Greater Manchester and Barcelona province respectively.

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### **Constructing Competitiveness in Greater Rome: Identities, practices and the recontextualization of a hegemonic discourse.**

This paper aims to explore the construction of competitiveness as a “hegemonic discourse” and its “recontextualization” in the Greater Rome area. It will therefore examine the discursive and material mechanisms through which competitiveness is not only constituted as the guiding principle of economic and social governance, but is also rendered “transferable” to other sites and scales. Particular attention will thus be paid to the historic specificities of the Greater Roman social context, in order to understand the practices and mechanisms that promote the “creative” moment of competitiveness and the processes of “subjectivity” and “objectivity” formation that they entail.

Nana Rodaki is a PhD candidate at the Department of Politics and International Relations, Lancaster University. Her research focuses on the exploration of the concept of competitiveness, its emergence as a hegemonic discourse and its recontextualization in different social contexts, through the “Cultural Political Economy” approach. She is currently researching the re-structuring and re-branding of the economy of Rome according to a “creative competitiveness” model of development which integrates concerns for social cohesion and discourses of solidarity.

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### **Times of war and spaces of flows: The emergence of “Ba’ada Haifa” perceived region**

The paper focuses on the relationship between movement (flow), the built up environment (networks) and the perceived image of spaces in the “climate” of undeclared-war, assuming that accelerations are firstly and most clearly to be seen in the military field, affecting the configurations of movement, space, time and matter.

“*Ba’ada Haifa*”, meaning beyond-Haifa in Arabic, is a term coined by Hasan Nasrallah during the July-August 2006 war, when he threatened to launch rockets towards this ambiguous target in Israel. Soon people addressed themselves as part of *Ba’ada Haifa* or not.

The in-depth study searches for the existence, meaning and identity of this perceived region as a catchment area of networks and flows, facilitating currents of people (refugees), objects (e.g. rockets, vehicles) and information (from real and virtual environment). Thus, it looks qualitatively for positions and meanings that are defined by military and civic networks and flows and their interplay. Moreover, it assumes that there are invisible sensed flows as well— of mood, feeling, atmosphere — that spread through a certain space in specific time.

The paper analyzes and interprets visually and literally scenes experienced or viewed from the roads at first hand, and as described by interviewees and in the media (television, internet, radio and newspapers).

Indeed, with advanced technologies, the military field might physically reach our door – by the speed of a

missile; or virtually stretched into our living room via media - at the speed of light, thus rapidly transforming our perception of affected places.

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Public activities in Haifa Public committee of The Society for Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites (SPIHS) and is a director on the Board of the Architectural Heritage Research center in the Technion I.I.T., Haifa, also an activist in nature and landscape heritage preservation. Interested in the image of [urban](#) places, and how that image can be either influenced [media, politics...] or perceived [psychology, cognition]. Her current research focuses on the perception of region cities while moving through spaces of flows.

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### **Perception of spaces while on the move through the Carmel Beach strip**

In light of current perceptions of urbanism, “in-between areas” are also *spaces of flows*, as they facilitate currents of people, capital, and knowledge in various dimensions, directions and relations. Such travel spaces may be the archetype of a *non-place*. How, then, do human bodies flowing in such currents comprehend or even (re)define “place” and “space” while on the move?

The study sets out to explore the phenomenological presence of spatial wholes characterized by their users, as their meanings are perceived by the individual through experience, primarily through experiencing movement in a *flow*. For this matter, movement is the exclusive factor by which a human being can learn his own body, know himself in the world and grasps the world, identifies the surroundings and images it. Then, if we get the “sense of space” right, it might feel like something that is both caring and in need of care. Thus, the premise is that perceiving spaces while moving through networks, is not only about knowing one's way around (comprehending structure), but also about ways of knowing and feeling where one belongs culturally (exercising meanings) or practically implementing this knowledge by socially participating in activities in space (declaring or realizing identity).

The study focuses on the geographical strip between Mount Carmel and the Mediterranean, examines phenomenologically noticeable exposed “movement groups” and interviews devoted individual “movers” who can regularly be found there.

The paper will present some preliminary findings, telling the story of space as it is in the eyes/feet of the beholder/mover.

Osnat Rosen-Kremer, B. Arch., M.Sc., Technion, I.I.T., Israel. Urban Design, Town and Regional Planning studies at the Technion. Architectural practice in private and public firms, including the Division of Engineering and Town Planning at the Kfar-Saba Municipality. Currently teacher at the Faculty of Architecture and Town planning, Technion, I.I.T. Doctorate student Technion, I.I.T., Israel. 2006 Fellow at the BRM institute of Technology and Society, Faculty of Management, Tel-Aviv University. Received several prizes for her projects. Among them - the First Prize in the 2005 planning competition held by the Israel Planners Association.

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Published numerous articles in Hebrew and English. Visiting scholar in European, North American and Australian schools of architecture. Runs a small practice.

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### **W(h)ither the Regions on ITV1?**

The boundaries of the eleven English ITV1 regions are quite clearly defined on maps shown on the ITV websites. However, this apparent clarity obscures the arbitrary nature of the boundaries. The differences in editorial region and transmission area have implications on whether or not the programmes delivered match the cultural identity of the viewers in the various locales.

ITV1 regions produce a range of history output specifically relating the past to geographical place and regional identity. Using regional programmes such as, *Grundy's Northern Pride* (Working Wonders Productions, 2007) and *The Way We Were* it is the intention to demonstrate the fluctuating nature of the ITV1 regions from various perspectives.

Current technology and policy changes suggest the necessity for additional analysis of the ITV regions. The emergence of ITV Local and the roll out of digital switchover coupled with Ofcom's recommendations on regional programme delivery suggest a difficult period ahead for ITV1 regional programming. Some even suggest that digital switchover marks the end of regional programming on ITV1. *Grundy's Northern Pride* offers unique insights into how the regions may be developed in future.

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### **Regional identities in Southwest Finland archipelago - Perspectives of everyday life and local development work**

When considering local development work in terms of identity, it seems relevant to direct attention firstly to the process of planning and decision making at local level, secondly to the acknowledgement of local distinctiveness as a merit, and thirdly to the reciprocal competition between regions when resources for development work are being dispensed from the European Union and national funds. In this regard, every area strives to be special and formulate an authentic local culture and identity, which should also materialize as products and services. In Southwest Finland archipelago this issue is specially complicated, because several organizations are working there in local development, in partly overlapping areas.

Old Swedish speaking and Finnish speaking areas, the new administration in EU-Finland, the competition for the remarkable EU support, and the activity of regions exaggerated tensions between different archipelago areas. These tensions show firstly in the principles by which the representative areas of different organizations are defined, secondly in cases where different areas may promote their entrepreneurial activities with the same cultural phenomena, and thirdly different organizations may also form contradictory archipelago images. To ordinary people the own and intimate archipelago area means many kinds of things. It could be said that the central and unifying factor is the individual and intimate relationship to ones own surroundings, the people and the nature. Phenomena, which are essential for organizations, are not common and important for so-called ordinary people.

If administration and development work is not able to take into consideration the way of everyday life, and the way how organizations may initiate tensions in the culture, they will cause conflicts and their aim to improve living conditions is partly going to fail. With help of cultural understanding, it would be possible to alleviate these negative phenomena and really to reach sustainable cultural development.

Katriina Siivonen is an ethnologist who graduated from the [University of Turku](http://www.utu.fi). On February 1, 2002, she started to work for the Finland Futures Research Centre. The projects she has been involved in are called "[Scenarios of the future of Aboland](#)", "[Eco-information society: the criteria and operational possibilities \(E-Knowledge\)](#)" and "[Culture as resource of the countryside](#)". At the moment she is working on her doctoral thesis in ethnology on the theme "[Identity, locality, and ethnicity in Southwest Finland archipelago](#)". Her doctoral thesis is part of [The Graduate School on Cultural Interaction and Integration and the Baltic Sea Region](#), a multidisciplinary graduate school ran by the University of Turku.

Since 1999 Katriina has lead an Archipelago group for ethnologists at the University of Turku. The group consists of about ten students and researchers who are working with a graduate or doctoral thesis related to the Turku archipelago. The group organises its meetings to discuss one of the individual thesis or other subjects. The group is co-operating with local development projects in the archipelago area (Southwest Finland).

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### **Globalization And protection of cultural built heritage in developing countries – A case study of Hyderabad**

The Encyclopedia Britannica says that globalization is the "process by which the experience of everyday life ... is becoming standardized around the world."

Globalization is homogenization of culture. From the cultural preservation perspective, there is a need to recognize the uniqueness of different nations and regions and cultural diversity of the world. There is a need to take steps to protect nations and regions from losing their own individual identities and from being merged into face less anonymity.

Architecture and built heritage, the tangible parts of culture, are known to manifest the intangible societal and technological beliefs and realities. The new architecture ushered in by globalization has to be welcomed and accepted by societies, as they did with the traditional. But there is a danger that the new forces of change may erase the symbols of the past, if we do not tighten the preservation laws.

Hyderabad, capital of Andhra Pradesh, in the southern part of India, built over 800 years of history is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in India with 8 million population and is a classic case of a developing country situation – to read how and why the forces of globalization are taking a toll on the cultural built heritage of the city and to explore ways to overcome the negative impacts of globalization.

**Explanation:** Heritage preservation field in Hyderabad, in the State of Andhra Pradesh and in India too is at a nascent stage where poverty, literacy, health, development of infrastructure are given higher priority. The country has the National level and State level Archaeological legislation in place – in Hyderabad, there are 2 national monuments and 32 state monuments. The city has local heritage regulations with about 150 historic buildings listed and 10 precincts designated as heritage zones. The architectural control laws are still not made. There are policies, but no teeth for implementation. This society has not comprehended the significance of preservation of architectural character of a place and principles of urban design.

There are innumerable buildings, wells, gardens... which are not on any record in Hyderabad. At other places in Andhra Pradesh, the local level regulations and efforts are almost nil.

It can be said that globalization set foot in Hyderabad in 1998 with the construction of the HITEC city building in the north western outskirts of the city. The city is being prepared for demands of globalisation by establishment of an international airport in the south-western outskirts.

Globalization has already seeped into Hyderabad and the city is energised. There is an urgent need to consolidate heritage preservation laws and protect the cultural identity of the city, represented by its vast rich heritage.

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### **Padstein and Tebay: Economies of Consumption in the Construction of Identities**

On 14 June 2007 the national and international media reported that a group calling itself the Cornish National Liberation Army had issued threats against two chefs running businesses in Cornwall. In an email sent to the main daily newspaper, the Western Morning News, from a middle-east based website-hosting service, the group threatened to strike back at the business 'empires' of Rick Stein and Jamie Oliver in retaliation for the alienation of local people. While condemnation of threats of violent action was swift, from many organisations and individuals championing Cornish independence, increased autonomy or cultural specificity, the criticism of Stein's activities in particular struck a chord with many Cornish commentators. The transformation of the fishing village of Padstow into what Stein has called a 'destination attraction', pejoratively nicknamed Padstein, is viewed by many Cornish people as the unacceptable face of economic and cultural domination by incomers. In contrast, at an apparently unprepossessing location just north of Junction 38 of the M6, is a business that has turned a standard node in a national network into a local success. The Tebay motorway service station, operated by Westmorland Ltd., serves locally-produced food in its cafeteria and sells local produce in its Farm Shops and is widely reported as a successful intervention in the regional economy and national culture by a farming family.

This paper explores these contrasting case studies of the role played by economies (both literal, cultural and libidinal) of consumption in debates about the construction of regional identities.

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### **Icon as a Marker of Regional Identity: The Case of Jerzy Harasymowicz**

This paper discusses the construction of regional identity in the work of the Polish poet - Jerzy Harasymowicz (1933-1999). The author challenges the notion of an assigned and fixed homeland, and therefore an identity, by choosing the Sub-Carpathian region of Lemkivshchyna for "the land of his poetry". This area of modern-day Poland, inhabited by Lemkos, an ethnic group of Rusyn origin is predominantly Greek-Catholic and Orthodox. Harasymowicz's skilful use of the *foreign* Byzantine architecture and of icon painting as well as references to the Catholic tradition place his work in-between two cultures and on the crossroads of two identities: Polish and Rusyn. This paper demonstrates the formation of regional identity by investigating Harasymowicz's use of Rusyn icon. I argue that the poet's concept of icon, viewed as an inherent component of the region, nonexistent in the mainstream Polish culture, determines the perspective of poetic persona as well as the author's use of language. Furthermore it defines the dynamics between space and identity, which contribute to the regionalization of the poetic persona. In conclusion, I claim that such construction of identity re-examines the misconception of clear-cut Polishness, and emphasizes the religious and regional complexities of the twentieth century Poland, challenging its stereotypically monolithic image.

Ewa Stańczyk is a PhD candidate in the Russian and East European Department at the University of Manchester. Her dissertation examines the problem of colonialism, identity and domination in the poetry of Jerzy Harasymowicz. Her other research interests include post-war and contemporary Polish literature, interactions between literature and painting and postcolonial theory.

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### **The relevance of the North West textile legacy to the creative industries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.**

The North West region of England, and in particular Manchester, is known worldwide as a textile centre. An unrivalled legacy of historic building, collections and expertise associated with the industry survives as testimony to the industry which not only dominated the region but was also responsible for generating its wealth.

The provision of textile design education in the region dates back to the 1830s and Manchester remains a major centre for education, research and development in the field of textiles. Many fashion/textile graduates from the Manchester Higher Education institutions have gone on to influence the industry regionally, nationally and internationally.

In terms of special collections a huge resource survives which requires new and imaginative approaches to identify and exploit how it might be used to stimulate creativity, inspire entrepreneurship and encourage economic growth. This presentation sets out to demonstrate how the textile legacy of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries has the potential to support the development of the creative industries, thereby enabling them to contribute to future economic growth.

Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester City Galleries and the Creative Industries Development Service are currently collaborating on a project looking at how the City's fashion and textiles collections can be developed as a resource which will serve to attract and retain graduates in the field, encourage and foster creative enterprise and thereby stimulate the creative enterprise in the city. In addition to the collections resource engaged with teaching and research, the model will incorporate postgraduate programmes, incubator workshops and business support. The project partners have viewed existing models such as the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York and the Flanders Fashion Institute (MoMu) in Antwerp, both of which will inform the development of the Manchester project. In addition, the project partners are seeking to explore networking opportunities with existing and similar centres elsewhere in Europe and beyond. The project is embedded in the City's Knowledge Capital initiative which aims to foster the knowledge based economy and stimulate enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Moira Stevenson - Deputy Director of Manchester City Galleries, she is responsible for collections, including the Gallery of Costume, and the development of the capital programme and the International Centre of Excellence for Fashion/Textiles, working with Manchester Metropolitan University and Creative Industries Development Service. From 1998-2003 she was responsible for the internal project management for the £35m Art Gallery expansion project. Prior to joining Manchester City

Galleries in March 1998, she was Director of Macclesfield Museum and Heritage Centre, where she was responsible for the development of the silk museums.

Having graduated as a designer she did a postgraduate in Museum and Art Gallery Studies in Manchester and has spent her career working in national, local authority and independent museums.

Professor Maureen Wayman - A design graduate from London's Central School of Art and Design [now Central St Martins, University of the Arts] Maureen Wayman enjoyed a long career at Liverpool John Moore's University before joining MMU in 1993 as Head of Department of Textiles/Fashion. In 2002 she became Head of Undergraduate Programmes for the Faculty and was appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the Faculty of Art and Design at MMU in January 2003. Her active contribution to the development of the subject of art and design at a national level is evidenced through: her membership of Texprint (1988-99); Presidency of the Council for Subject Associations in Art and Design (1997-99); Chairmanship of the Association of Degree Courses in Fashion and Textile Design (1993-97) and her close involvement with the European Textile Network during the 1990s. She was a co-founder of the North West Textile Forum and was until recently a member of the Ann Sutton Research Foundation Board of Trustees. In recognition of her work she was invited to become a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in 1996. She is an active member of CHEAD [Council for Higher Education in Art and Design], is a member of the Council's Executive Group and is on the Board of Trustees at the HEAD Trust. An experienced external examiner, QAA Subject Reviewer and adviser to a number of universities she was also a member of the Higher Education Academy's Research and Development Project team concerned with Enhancing Support for External Examiners. More recently she worked on two externally funded projects concerned with Skills and Entrepreneurship in the Creative Industries, one managed by the HE Academy's Art, Design and Media Centre in Brighton and the other by the DCMS. Currently she is a member of the Design Council's Design Skills Advisory Panel and as such chairs the Colleges and HE Steering Group and is also a member of the Design Blueprint Group. Her strong commitment to academic enterprise and employability has resulted in her becoming involved in one of Manchester's leading 'Knowledge Capital' projects concerned with the creation of a Centre of Excellence for Fashion and Textiles to be based in the North West Region.

**Philippe Suinen** General Commissioner for International Relations Wallonia-Brussels  
[p.suinen@awex.be](mailto:p.suinen@awex.be)

### **Regions in international relations - The added value of Regions acting internationally**

#### 1. Framework

There are several reasons to explain that the Regions have been involved or have involved themselves in the international relations :

- the trend of the world to become the "globalistan" and the spirit of "glocalisation" shared by many operators (think and act global/local and local/global)
- the willingness to express cultural identities in developing relations with other groups
- the "border idea" weakening process, which means a greater focus on stronger crossborder interregional areas
- the implementation of a new kind of diplomacy, from Region to Region (peer-to-peer)
- the EU support through its structural funds to Regions development programs, including a.o. the international dimension
- more cynically, the Regions protection of their own domestic competencies against a potential take-over by the central governments through international relations

#### 2. Joint characteristics of the Regions international relations

- geographical and political concentration in the field of bilateral relations
- eagerness to develop a close and direct relationship with international financement institutions, particularly the EU Commission
- effort to create or be involved in interregional networks
- support of regional operators, a.o. companies, research centers, universities, NGO,...
- specific actions and/or budgets to concretize solidarity with developing countries
- building and carrying out of complementary links with the central government

#### 3. Other characteristics of some Regions (not shared by others)

- implementation abroad of representative offices (with or without diplomatic statute)
- equality of legal strength with the central level
- practice of country's representation by the Regions together (federalism without Washington)

- possibility of treaties signed by regions with foreign states (Belgium)
4. Added value of the regional involvement in international relations
- proximity with the operators and “customers”
  - absence of formalism (“straight to the point”)
  - guarantee of negotiation with actors having competencies and powers regarding precise topics.

Philippe Suinen is 57 years old. He obtained a degree in law at the University of Liège and a degree in European law at the University of Nancy. He became a civil servant in 1974 and dealt for three years with political matters on Zaïre (now Democratic Republic Congo), Rwanda and Burundi at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. In 1985 he was appointed head of the Directorate for Foreign Relations at the Ministry of the Walloon Region. This service will later become a directorate-general heading the Division of International Relations and the Walloon Export Agency. In 1992, Philippe Suinen was called for a second period of work at ministerial cabinets. In 1998, Philippe Suinen went back to the federated entity and managed international relations administrations in the Walloon region and French speaking community. Pursuant to the decree creating the Walloon Export and Foreign Investment Agency (AWEX), a body of public interest of the Walloon Region, the management of the latter is entrusted to the General Manager for Foreign Relations of the Walloon Region. Philippe Suinen is also Chief Executive Officer of the APEFE (an organisation for the Promotion of Education and Vocational Training Abroad), and taught at the “Université libre de Bruxelles” (ULB). He is chairman of the Committee on Industrial Compensations and member of the board of Directors of B.S.C.A. (Brussels South Charleroi Airport).  
Civic medal – First Class.  
Commander of the Order of Leopold.

**Ngai-Ling Sum** Department of Politics and International Relations, Lancaster University  
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#### **A Cultural Political Economy of the Socio-Spatial Changes in the Pearl River Delta Region: Knowledge Brands and the (Re-)Making of Developmentalities**

This case study of the Pearl River Delta adopts a ‘cultural political economy’ (CPE) approach to examine the production of hegemony and related hegemonic struggles during the socio-spatial changes occurring in the region. From a CPE viewpoint, process-oriented issues relating to the production of hegemony include that involves the who, what and how questions. More specifically, these questions include: a) who gets involved in the discursive networks that construct the objects of economic governance; b) what ideas or knowledge brands are drawn upon to recontextualize and reformulate the meanings of these objects; c) how do these objects enter into policy discourses and everyday practices; d) how do they remake the logics of power in and through the diverse social fields; e) what forms of identity does the production of hegemony construct for the governed; f) how do these modes of thought grip the subject; g) how do they integrate intellectuals and masses; h) how do they marginalize the development of meanings that might prove antagonistic; i) what are the nodal agencies and informal networks that are involved in hegemonic negotiations and/or building of power blocs; and j) what are the power reconfigurations and hegemonic struggles therein.

One way of enriching our processual analysis of hegemony production is by introducing concepts such as knowledge brands. With the rise of academic entrepreneurs, consultancy firms, and policy think tanks, academic knowledge is no longer so tightly confined to universities. Knowledge, especially when bundled with claims to problem-solving competencies and methodologies, is being packaged and marketed in branded form by consultancy firms. Such knowledge is then speedily brought to policy markets by idea entrepreneurs from think tanks, consultancy firms, top-ranking bureaucrats, etc. Drawing from the case of Hong Kong/Pearl River Delta, economic restructuring has given rise to the ‘hollowing out’ debate. In face of this debate, strategically placed entrepreneurs, think tanks and policy makers located in the production-trade-finance-knowledge circuits were searching for new visions and knowledge brands to shift meanings and to transform economic imaginaries. Strategic actors the service and manufacturing groups in Hong Kong commissioned their own consultancy reports that drew respectively on corresponding knowledge brands that were circulating in the transnational policy fields. These brands were: the Harvard-Porter’s ‘competitive advantage’ (1985) and MIT-Berger-Lester’s ‘industrial performance’ models. These two knowledge brands have been stabilized as competing modes of developmentality (development governmentality) and have operated as paper-based economic panopticons to order/manage, at a distance, the organization of Hong Kong’s/Pearl River Delta’s space, policy, and, ultimately, the conduct of its population. These modes of developmentalities have met resistance from other forces in other spaces and with other interests, including from below. Nonetheless the two main power blocs are engaging in inter-bloc negotiations in the light of such resistance and are creating a hybrid strategy under the dominance of the service bloc.

**James Summers** Law School, University of Lancaster [j.summers@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:j.summers@lancaster.ac.uk),

### **Georgia: Building a Sovereign State in the Caucasus and International Law**

Georgia's recent history has been marred by instability and fragmentation. On its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 the country fractured along fault-lines that were as much geopolitical as ethnic. Two breakaway regions, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, still remain outside government control. The United Nations Security Council, supported by Russia, has consistently upheld the unity of Georgia and sought ways of reconciling the breakaway republics, while respecting the state's territorial integrity. At the same time, Russia maintains troops within those regions, and has sought to exercise leverage against Georgia's pro-Western government. This paper will look at the legal implications of the conflict in Georgia. It will consider, in particular, the principles of self-determination and territorial integrity, and the role of the UN Security Council and the OSCE.

Dr James Summers is a lecturer in international law at Lancaster University and has previously lectured at the universities of Hull and Zambia. He has written extensively in the field of peoples' rights, and his book, *Peoples and International Law* has been recently published by Brill.

**Olivier Sykes** Department of Civic Design, University of Liverpool [ollys@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:ollys@liverpool.ac.uk)

### **Territorial Positioning in a Changing Context: investigating regional responses to an emerging European territorial agenda**

Since the 1990s, much attention has been devoted to exploring the ways that regions in Europe seek to promote their development by capitalising upon vertical and horizontal linkages with other territories, scales of governance and policy arenas. Within the EU, programmes such as the INTERREG initiative have provided support for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation, and the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) document adopted in 1999 urged sub-national authorities to overcome "insularity" and to take into account interdependencies and European links in the development of their territorial development strategies. In the 2000s, reform of EU cohesion policy and the effects of enlargement have created a new external context for regions and many regions, particularly in the former EU15, will have to adjust to greatly reduced European funding opportunities. In the light of such changes the ability to engage in strategic territorial positioning in relation to external opportunities and challenges has become increasingly important for European territories as they adjust to evolving national and European spatial and policy contexts. The new 'territorial cooperation' objective of EU cohesion policy for the 2007-2013 funding period presents a potential opportunity for regions seeking new sources of support for the furtherance of their territorial development. European territorial cooperation is identified by the current 'Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion' as having the potential to contribute to the achievement of territorial cohesion where all European territories have the opportunity to contribute to the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas of growth and jobs and the balanced and sustainable development of the EU territory. At Leipzig in May 2007, EU ministers for spatial planning and development agreed a new reference document for territorial policies in Europe entitled the 'Territorial Agenda of the European Union'. This aims to support the implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies through an integrated territorial development based on articles of the existing Treaty of the European Union. Within this agenda it is being noted that the 'transfrontier and transnational cooperation of cities and regions must be regarded as an essential European platform for this new policy of territorial cohesion'. Informed by the context outlined above, this paper considers how regions are positioning themselves in relation to the evolving European context for territorial development. More specifically, uses a case study of a region which will receive substantially less European structural funding in the 2007-2013 period than in the previous funding round, to consider whether there is any evidence of strategic positioning in relation to the territorial cooperation objective and the new territorial agenda of the EU; if and how the concept of territorial cohesion is being invoked in policy debates and/or developed through proposals for future territorial cooperation; and, finally, if and how any such developments are linked to regional spatial policies and planning.

Olivier Sykes is a Lecturer in the Department of Civic Design at University of Liverpool. After studies in History with French at Leeds, Tours and Chester he came to Liverpool in 1998 to study towards a Master of Civic Design (MCD) degree. Whilst completing this he worked on research projects for Liverpool City Council on city centre living and the Government Office for the North West on housing needs and demand. Between 2000 and 2004 he undertook ESRC funded PhD research into the influence of European spatial development policy on the process of strategic regional spatial planning in EU member states. He also worked on UK Government and Planning Officers Society research into the influence of European spatial development policy on strategic planning in the UK. Since 2004 he has worked on projects funded by the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON) programme and the North West Regional Assembly. He teaches mainly in the

areas of planning theory, power and ethics, European spatial planning and research methods and has been a visiting lecturer at the universities of Brest and Lyon 2. During 2006-2007 he has been invited as a guest speaker by the Agence de développement de Lille métropole and to participate as a conference panel member by the French Government's Délégation interministérielle et à la compétitivité des territoires.

**Bronislaw Szerszynski and Larry Reynolds** Centre for the Study of Environmental Change,  
Department of Sociology, Lancaster University [b.Szerszynski@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:b.Szerszynski@lancaster.ac.uk),  
[l.reynolds@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:l.reynolds@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **GMOs and the contested construction of European space**

In this paper we explore the contested mutual construction of the genetically modified organism (GMO) as an abstract regulatory object and the European Union as an abstract space. At the heart of this story is the creation, and subsequent transformation, of the 1990 Deliberate Release Directive (DRD). This common European regulatory framework for the environmental release of GMOs involved a standardisation of technical and legal procedures that attempted to purify the GMO of its ethical and cultural meanings and its potential socio-material entanglements, and in the same gesture to constitute the European Union as an abstract space of equivalence and exchange. However, the constitutive tension within the DRD between precaution and neo-liberalism was to play a crucial role in shaping the disruptive politics of GM in Europe over the following decade or more: on the one hand, GMOs were treated as a class of entities which warranted a special precautionary system controlling their admission into European space; on the other, once a GMO had been deemed to have been 'safe', it was intended to freely circulate without specific labelling within Europe. In the paper we trace the failure of this onto-political project to stabilise itself, tracking the complex dynamics through which European space became an unruly, ruptured space of borders, absences and resistances, resulting finally in the attempt to stabilise a co-existence regime predicated on a plurality of parallel agro-food systems, and through which GMOs become marked entities to be followed by the regulatory system through ecologies and food processing and retail systems.

Bronislaw Szerszynski is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, and Director of the Centre for the Study of Environmental Change, a social science research centre on environment and technology, both at Lancaster University. For the last 15 years his research has been concerned with developing new understandings of the changing relations between humans, environment and technology. Current research activity includes European-funded projects on the role of the public in the regulation of technological projects such as agricultural biotechnology and nuclear waste management. He is the author of *Nature, Technology and the Sacred* (Blackwell, 2005) and co-editor of *Risk, Environment and Modernity: Towards a New Ecology* (Sage, 1996) *Re-Ordering Nature: Theology, Society and the New Genetics* (T&T Clark, 2003) and *Nature Performed: Environment, Culture and Performance* (Blackwell, 2003).

**Amit Thakkar** Department of European Languages and Culture, Lancaster University  
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### **Irony and the Mexican Countryside: the Pitfalls of Cultural Representation in the Fiction of Juan Rulfo**

This paper concerns the fiction of one of the most celebrated writers of Latin America, the Mexican Juan Rulfo. His work has influenced a host of writers in the Hispanic world, most notably the Colombian Gabriel García Márquez and the Galician Manuel Rivas. The subject of his work is the countryside and peasantry of the conservative, north-western state of Jalisco following the Revolution (1910-1920). The region is marked in Rulfo's fiction through references to historical figures and events, the food, flora and fauna of the state as well as the language of the local peasantry. In much of his work, the depiction of the peasantry and region is based on a complex strategy of irony which I will cover in the first part of the paper. In the second part, I will address the key question of whether this strategy works and what dangers might present themselves in certain alternative readings of Rulfo's fiction.

**Andy Van Drom** Université Laval (Québec, Canada) [andy.van-drom.1@ulaval.ca](mailto:andy.van-drom.1@ulaval.ca)

**“This Is Perhaps Not a Fiction”: The Discursive Construction of National and Regional Identities in Belgium’s Public Television Broadcast Hoax on Flemish Independency.**

“It is a grave moment. Flanders is unilaterally proclaiming its independence.” This is how *La Une*, the first channel of Belgium’s francophone public broadcaster RTBF, interrupted regular programmes on December 13, 2006 to broadcast a hoax that announced “the end of Belgium as we know it”. This contribution sets out to reveal and evaluate the strength and scope of those linguistic units of public discourse that are connoted by identity. More specifically, we seek to demonstrate which discursive strategies the media adopt in this case to construct and stage the opposition between Walloon *region building* (“Us”) and Flemish *nation building* (“Them”).

Our challenge will be to present a pluridisciplinary approach on the borders of linguistics, sociology and communication studies, with the aim to explore in depth the interaction between socio-political and linguistic identities in Belgium. First, we will identify the relevant lexical units in the 2-hour televised hoax that constitutes our corpus, and elaborate a typology of them. To this end, we have constructed a tetrahedral framework that draws on the two-dimensional approach of Poirier (1995). Second, we will proceed with a critical discourse analysis, which will allow us to uncover the identity-connoted sense that these units convey (Wodak *et al.*, 1999). Extrapolation of these observations will allow us to demonstrate how public communication strategies exploit the symbiosis between language as a functional means of communication and language as the carrier of a shared set of values to discursively construct different national and regional identities.

Andy Van Drom is a PhD candidate in Linguistics at Université Laval, Quebec and will be a visiting scholar at Lancaster University (autumn 2007). His research project focuses on the linguistic expression of identity in the political discourse of Quebec and Flanders. His investigation uses an interdisciplinary approach that draws on differential lexicology (Poirier, 1995) and critical discourse analysis (Wodak *et al.*, 1999), and comprises analysis of public speeches and parliamentary debates held during the current term of office by six political actors representing the biggest political parties in Flanders and Quebec.

**Dr Jane Wilkinson** Department of European Languages, University of Wales Aberystwyth  
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**Creating Cultural Regions on the German-Polish Border**

The notorious ‘Oder-Neiße Line’ border has constituted the frontline in changing German–Polish and East–West European relations for 6 decades. With the relaxing of border controls across the European Union and the eastward expansion of that union, borders are losing significance, while borderlands – particularly those between old and new member-states – are becoming the territorial foci for official EU policies of integration and de-nationalisation. In these newly defined ‘Euroregions’, regional, national and transnational organisations are working to bring the inhabitants of the region together across political, economic, linguistic and cultural boundaries, in an attempt to create both new, transborder regional identities and a sense of European identity.

Regional, national and supranational policy-makers believe that cultural production (music, theatre, film, literature, art) plays a vital role in bringing this cross-border work closer ‘to the people’ and in encouraging identification with the newly defined cross-border regions. In this paper I will, therefore, use case studies selected from the numerous transborder cultural initiatives in the German–Polish Euroregion *Pro-Viadrina* and the German–Polish–Czech Euroregion *Neiße-Nysa-Nisa* to reflect on the following questions:

- Can cultural production create a region?
- How do transborder cultural events help to define the Euroregions *Pro-Viadrina* and *Neiße-Nysa-Nisa*?
- Can transborder culture create a shared sense of place and a shared cultural identity?

My first case study will be *Inseltheater Ziegenwerder*: a cross-border arts festival, staged on an island in the river Oder between Frankfurt an der Oder in Germany and the neighbouring town of Slubice in Poland. My second will be *Neisse-Nysa-Nisa, Eine Reise*: a collaborative project which aims to produce a multi-authored book and a documentary film of images and impressions of the river Neiße and the Euroregion on its banks. Both of these festivals have been sponsored and promoted by their respective Euroregions.

Clare Wydell PHD Student, Lancaster University [c.wydell@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:c.wydell@lancaster.ac.uk)

### **Regional Resonances in Contemporary Spanish Identity Rhetoric**

Contemporary political discourse and policy initiatives, both on the supranational and the national level, are both challenged and tempted by the prospects of identity (re)construction. These endeavours are particularly apparent in entities, be they states or supranational organisations, which have multiple, complex and sometimes conflicting, identity constructs within them. This is certainly the case for Spain, where the overlapping, interlinking local and regional/national identity constructs circulating within the borders of the state are multitudinous. To these internal complexities we must also add the connected factor of supranational pulls upon identity constructs. In the light of this plethora of identity possibilities for Spaniards, attempts at shaping a Spain-wide identity construct which is able to embrace and overarch them all is a continuous and controversial undertaking.

This paper will take two case-studies, the fourth centenary of *Don Quijote* and the 2012 Madrid Olympic Games bid, and use them to illustrate the way in which cultural policy indicatives in Spain attempt to reach across the complexities of the Spanish identity matrix. The undertakings of both cultural policies analysed will firstly highlight the dynamic and polemical issue of establishing Spain-wide identity constructs, and secondly assess the way in which the policy-makers address this. Analysis of these policies demonstrates both the contemporary State understanding of the regional dimension within and also emphasises the regional response to State policies operating on the field of identity constructs. In so doing, I will illustrate how the terminology opted for by the State in policies aimed at shaping a Spain-wide identity show the State policy-makers appreciation of the complexities of the regional/national question and also shed light upon the regional reaction to this.

Clare Wydell is currently in the third year of her PhD studies having previously studied a first degree in Spanish Studies followed by an MA in European Institutions and Policy-making at Lancaster. Throughout my studies she has had the opportunity to study, work and research in Spain and also in Brussels. Her time in Brussels was spent working as Asst European Liaison Officer for the Lancashire Brussels Office. This stage of her research and work led her to develop a strong interest in the regions in the EU, particularly the way in which structural funds affect engagement in the EU opportunity space and whether regional involvement in the EU necessarily depends upon strong 'regional' identity.

Clare's current research has taken these issues of regional / national identity and centred upon the situation on the Spanish mainland. Her work focuses upon Cultural Policy and Identity in Contemporary Spain and is built around three central case studies. The first analyses the 2005 fourth centenary of the publication of 'Don Quijote de la Mancha'; the second is a study of the (re)packaging of the memory of the Spanish Civil War through fascicle publications, which allow the purchase to 'own' their own enclosed, 'complete' version of history; and the third unpacks the unsuccessful 2012 Madrid Olympic Games bid. Her thesis aims to assess the ways in which cultural policies endeavour to foster a sense of Spain-wide Spanish identity and the lesson-learning that takes places within that process.

**Yuan Chi Ping**, Associate Professor of the Centre for the Studies of Hong Kong, Macao and Pearl River Delta, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China. [chiping6301@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:chiping6301@yahoo.com.cn)

### **The new developments of the Pan-Pearl River Delta (PPRD) cooperation**

**Abstract :** The PPRD regional economic cooperation is heterogeneous, internal dynamic, and full of strong complementarities. After three years of practice, as the full implementation of Pan-Pearl River Delta regional cooperation, the level of regional cooperation raise and the scope of cooperation has gone far beyond the "Pan-PRD regional cooperation framework agreement", expanding to the financial, production safety, the police, judiciary, anti-smuggling, academic and social institutions, etc. It has developed a wide-ranging, in-depth, and various regional cooperation.

## Events

### **'Making our Mark – Visual Imprints on the Prison Landscape'**

***An exhibition of photographs by Michael Jacobson-Hardy, facilitated and introduced by Anita Wilson, Centre for Literacy Research, Lancaster University, in collaboration with the Peter Scott Gallery. 13.00-14.00 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007***

Michael Jacobson-Hardy is an American photographer whose international reputation derives from two remarkable collections published in the 1990s: *The Changing Landscape of Labor* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1996) and *Behind the Razor Wire* (New York University Press, 1998). His disturbing images scrutinise aspects of post-industrial society normally withheld from public gaze. As Malcolm Warner, Professor of Social Policy at Harvard University, puts it <http://members.bellatlantic.net> : 'His photographs movingly capture the human side of "landscapes" too often ignored'. In the collection exhibited as part of this conference 'Making our Mark – Visual Imprints on the Prison Landscape', Jacobson-Hardy brings his vision to bear on prisons and their inmates in the UK. Like the play *Hotel Methuselah*, the exhibition is a stark reminder of the fact that landscapes are as much mental as physical constructs and that our sense of space, place and identity, as well as our human relations are framed by our subjective location. As such, it forms an integral, if underlying, facet of the study of how place is perceived by the large number of displaced or excluded persons in contemporary society, and, by implication, of the role played by regional identity in everyday life.

***Exhibition on display in the Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster University***

### **'Hotel Methuselah'**

***Performance in The Great Hall, 19.00-20.15 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007***

*Hotel Methuselah* is a contemporary ghost story that explores our fears around mortality, sexuality and the terrifying sense of responsibility that comes with having children. Harry works as a hotel night porter in a war torn city somewhere in Europe. Despite the distant sounds of gunfire and shelling, he likes the calm and loneliness of his work. All he has to do is book the guests in and show them to their rooms. But Harry has a problem which he's desperately trying to solve. He can't remember how he got to the hotel, or what he did before. He's not even sure that 'Harry' is his real name.

The action is viewed through a six metre letterbox-shaped gap, shaped like a cinema wide-screen, which only reveals the performers' bodies from knee to neck. A film is projected immediately behind the acting space, which the performers mirror with perfect timing. Working alongside Laura Hopkins' striking interiors and costumes, Rodrigo Velasquez's digital cinematography creates Harry's amnesiac existence in astonishing detail. The film shows beautifully lit and composed close-ups of the characters' faces as well as scenes of the hotel's interior. As the walls and floors begin to move and perspectives shift, when the worlds of the stage and the screen are seen to pull apart, the disorientating psychic and physical experience of Harry's collapse is memorably brought to life. *Hotel Methuselah*, an entirely original, internationally reputed production by a team from Lancaster University's *Institute for the Creative Arts* (LICA), has a highly charged, sparse tension reminiscent of Sartre and Pinter. It evokes a powerfully suggestive, mental image of space and place in a world seemingly devoid of secure points of reference. Identity is 'performed' in an indeterminate region of the mind whose reality is constantly called into question. The 'play', which admirably complements Michael Jacobson-Hardy's photographic exhibition of prison interiors showing in the Peter Scott Gallery, is immediately relevant to understanding the way in which individuals identify with place, an issue central to the conference's field of enquiry.

## Exhibition

Exhibitors will include:

### **Centre for Mobilities Research (CeMoRe)**

#### **Centre for Regional North West Studies**

Lancaster University's Centre for North West Regional Studies, founded in 1973, is widely respected regionally, nationally, and internationally, for its postgraduate programmes, courses, conferences, publications, and archives, all of which focus on one of the most fascinating regions in Britain, namely the North-West of England. This display offers a taster of its work, reinforcing the conference themes of local identity, definitions (and sense) of place, legacy, and highlighting the breadth of researching this region with its long entrepreneurial history.

#### **Centre for Transcultural Writing & Research**

The Centre for Transcultural Writing and Research was established to bring together and extend a number of research projects that were regionally focused, ranging from the North West of England to cities and regions within Africa. Our interest in the educational and research potential of virtual space cuts across all those projects to showcase them in interactive ways, and to challenge the notion of a regionally located academy in favour of participatory virtual learning communities. These in turn re-position often complex individual trajectories within virtual locations that are defined more by cultural diversity, flexible methodology and heterogeneous creative interaction than by any stable sense of longitude or latitude.

#### **EMEDIATE and DYLAN**

The exhibition shall highlight two projects recently carried out at the department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University: EMEDIATE (Media and Ethics of the European Public Sphere) and DYLAN (Language Dynamics and the Management of Diversity). Those two EU-funded projects (carried out by Ruth Wodak and Michal Krzyzanowski, LAEL) investigated regional, national and supranational constructions of Europe through (a) media practices and reporting (EMEDIATE) and (b) multilingual practices in European institutions, companies and education systems (DYLAN).

### **Lancaster Institute for Contemporary Arts (LICA)**

#### **Literacy Research Centre**

#### **Moving Manchester**

#### **The Making of Modern Gibraltar**

This is the working title for a book by Stephen Constantine and Martin Blinkhorn (History Dept, Lancaster University) which, with several journal articles and two doctoral theses already completed, will be the outcome of a major AHRC-funded project. Gibraltar was once only a part of a much more extensive region of southern Spain, intimately linked with that hinterland demographically, economically, politically and culturally. The research has been exploring the consequences of partition in 1704 and the creation by those who after the British military occupation came to live in Gibraltar and who, over the next three hundred years, coped with a land frontier with Spain which was usually but only partially open and who established under a colonial regime a civilian community and a distinctive identity, variously described as British or Gibraltarian.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Waterstones Bookshop**

There will be an opportunity to purchase publications at a **10% discount** from a range of relevant titles.

## List of Attending Participants

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