

**The 9-th International Conference ‘Language, Literature
and Cultural Policies’ *Centres and (Ex-)Centricities*, Craiova,
November 12-14, 2010**

Between the 12th and the 14th November 2010 there took place the International Conference ‘Language, Literature and Cultural Policies’ organized by The Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova and The English Department of the Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany. The 2010 Conference theme was ‘Centres and (Ex-)Centricities’, a very generous pretext for modern, interdisciplinary and complementary approaches. Having a tradition of more than 15 years, the conference offers an excellent opportunity for academics to debate topics of great interest both in the domain of linguistics and literature and in the domain of cultural policies, an area which represents a major contemporary trend.

Keynote addresses reflected the comprehensive thematic range of the conference. Professor *Leonard Mott*, from The University of Barcelona lectured on *Recent changes in English Phonetics and Phonology*, and Professor *Christian Moraru*, from The University of North Carolina, Greensboro gave a presentation on translation viewed both as a product and as a process, the presentation title being *No Joking Matter – Translation, Transnation and the Production of the Human*.

Besides the members of the host-department, the other academics present at the conference were affiliated to various universities from Romania (București, Brașov, Constanța, Drobeta-Turnu-Severin, Iași, Pitești, Sibiu, Târgu-Jiu) or from abroad (Belgium, Iran, Serbia, Slovakia, UK, USA).

The sessions of presentations covered the domains of literature, cultural policies, linguistics, translation studies and ELT and were grouped into Literary & Cultural Studies, British and Commonwealth Studies, American Studies), theoretical linguistics, translation studies, ELT and ESP. Topics such as the adaptation and literary value of the opera libretto, the levels of narration and the exploring of the narrative centre(s), rewriting as a form of literary eccentricity, de-construction through body-language response, functional and pragmatic approaches to various linguistic

structures, the relevance of dimensions in nominal syntax, EU specific terms and phrases, alterity, self denial, Americanization of British English, forms of address in Indo-European languages, English loans in Romanian, stereotypical patterns in the translation of EU legislative documents between English and Romanian, coordinates and variables of discourse marker use, translator's visibility as enhancement of translator's marketability, translating 'culture-bound' lexical units, modal epicenters in Romanian postmodernist poetry, ethnocentrism vs. eurocentrism, etc. caused constructive debates and encouraged the exchange of ideas and points of view.

The new approaches of more or less traditional themes, the discovery of new facets of well-known literary works or linguistic processes benefited all those present at the conference.