

19. Report of the Committee on Literary Theory

Report on the meeting of the AILC/ICLA Research Committee on Literary Theory

May 9-10, 2018

At the invitation of the President of the group, Prof. Robert JC Young, the AILC/ICLA Research Committee on Literary Theory met this year at NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE. The university offered its guests flights, accommodation and subsistence. Eight members were able to attend, with, in addition, a guest speaker, Jean Khalfa from Cambridge University, and a potential candidate, Woosung Kang, from Seoul National University.

The topic of the meeting was “May ’68 at 50: Politics and Literature”. An agenda with details of the papers given is attached. The papers will be published in *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*.

The report of the business meeting is also attached.



**ICLA Research Committee on
Literary Theory XXth Annual
Workshop
“May ’68 at 50: Politics and
Literature”**

AGENDA
**NYU ABU DHABI SAADIYAT
CAMPUS**
**Institute Conference Center (A6),
Room # tbc 9-10 May 2018**

9 May 2018 | DAY 1

9:15-9:30 AM

Registration

Institute
Conference
Center
Meeting
Room Foyer

9:30 AM

Welcoming Remarks

Robert J.C. Young, Dean of Arts and Humanities, NYU Abu Dhabi

9:35 – 11:00 AM

PANEL I:

Chair, Robert Young, President

9:35 - 10:00 AM

The Ethical Appeal of the Indifferent

Vladimir Biti, Zhejiang University in Hangzhou (University of Vienna)

10:00 - 10:30 AM

The Memories of Imagination

Divya Diwedi, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

30 min.	Q&A
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Break & Refreshments Atrium
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	PANEL II: Chair, Stefan Willer, Secretary
<i>11:30 - 12:00</i>	<i>Events, Epochs and Turning- Points: Time vs Period in critical history</i> Anne Duprat , University of Picardie
<i>12:00 - 12:30 PM</i>	<i>"I would prefer not not-to": Critical Theory after Bartleby</i> Woosung Kang , Seoul National University
30 min.	Q&A
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 PM	PANEL III: Chair, Vladimir Biti, Honorary President
<i>2:00 - 2:30 PM</i>	<i>Friendship in "Dark Times": Moscow Unofficial Art after 1968</i> Kyohei Norimatsu , University of Tokyo
<i>2:30 - 3:00 PM</i>	<i>"We shall therefore never write about what took place or did not take place in May." Politics of Literature, '67/'68</i> Robert Stockhammer , Ludwig Maximilians University Munich
30 min.	Q&A
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Break & Refreshments Atrium

10 May 2018 | DAY 2

8.30 – 9:00 AM	Coffee Institute Conference Center Meeting Room Foyer
9:00 – 11:00 AM	PANEL V: Chair, Robert Stockhammer, Honorary President

9:00 - 9:30 AM	<i>1968: Romanticism's Longue Durée</i> Galin Tihanov , Queen Mary University of London
9:30 - 10:00 AM	<i>The Future of 1968</i> Stefan Willer , Center for Literary and Cultural Research Berlin; Humboldt University of Berlin
10:00 - 10:30 AM	<i>May 1968 as a theoretical event</i> Robert J.C. Young , NYU
30 min.	Q&A
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Break & Refreshments Atrium
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	<i>A theory of subversion that could not serve the cause of oppression?</i> <i>Revolution as institutional psychotherapy: From Fanon and Sartre to Deleuze and Guattari</i> Guest Lecture: Jean Khalfa , Cambridge University
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Business Meeting
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Refreshments Atrium foyer

ICLA Research Committee on Literary Theory
Annual Workshop, May 9–10, 2018, at NYU Abu
Dhabi Business Meeting

In attendance:

Divya Dwivedi, Anne Duprat, Kyohei Norimatsu, Stefan Willer (secretary), Robert Young (president).

Raphaël Baroni, Michel Chaouli, and Jernej Habjan designated Stefan Willer as a proxy (notifications via e-mail before the meeting).

1. Minutes:

The Minutes of the Berlin meeting 2017 were circulated. With one amendment (Kyohei Norimatsu was not among the attendees), they were approved unanimously.

2. President's report:

Change of presidency from Sowon Park to Robert Young took place in August. Sowon Park attended the meeting of the Executive Board in Utrecht (July 2017).

3. Secretary's report:

None.

4. Web manager's report:

None.

5. Review of membership:

Membership follows the academic year. It lasts for three academic years after election. Elected 2013: Michel Chaouli

Elected 2014: Kyohei Norimatsu, Matthew

Reynolds Elected 2015: Jernej Habjan, Robert Young

Elected 2017: Raphaël Baroni, Anne Duprat, Divya Dwivedi, Phillip Rothwell, Stefan Willer (as secretary), Robert Young (as president)

Re-elected for 2nd term 2017: Michel Chaouli (after one year of absence in 2016/17), Kyohei Norimatsu

Re-elections in 2018: Both first term expiring members, Jernej Habjan and Matthew Reynolds, are re-elected unanimously (retroactively in the case of Matthew, whose first term already ended in 2017).

Outgoing or up for re-election in 2019: None.

6. Discussion of new membership:

Woosung Kang was suggested by Sangjin Park, but not officially nominated for

candidature. To decide about his membership, the committee will review his publications.

7. New nominations for 2019:

Committee members can send nominations (with CVs and some explanations) by June 30, 2018. There will be an e-vote about candidacy in mid July. Members are encouraged to think broadly (in terms of gender, internationality, and specialization). Currently the committee consists of ten members; there may be up to twenty.

8. Next meetings:

Still no dates for the 2019 ICLA conference (in Shenzhen or Macao); nonetheless a topic for the committee workshop was discussed. Robert Young will come up with a draft for "Theory Outside the Norton Anthology."

Divya Dwivedi is willing to host the 2020 meeting at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.

9. Publications

Stefan Willer sent the abstracts of last year's meeting to Arcadia.

This year's papers should be published in a journal issue (e.g. Interventions, co-edited by Robert Young).