



VOL. 3.3–4.1 WINTER 2008 / SPRING 2009

ISSN 1991–2773

EDITORS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Michael Boyden

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Paweł Jędrzejko and Cyraina Johnson-Roullier

RIAS IT AND DTP TEAM

IT ADVISORS: Tomasz Adamczewski and Wojciech Liber (SFH)

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND DTP ADVISOR: Michał Derda-Nowakowski (ExMachina)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Theo D'haen, Anders Olsson, Liam Kennedy, Sieglinde Lemke,
Giorgio Mariani, Ian Tyrrell, Helmbrecht Breinig, Rosario Faraudo,
Djelal Kadir

TYPESETTING

ExMachina Academic Press / Wydawnictwo Naukowe ExMachina (Poland)

www.exmachina.pl

Review of International American Studies (RIAS), is the electronic journal of the International American Studies Association, the only worldwide, independent, non-governmental association of American Studies. *RIAS* serves as agora for the global network of international scholars, teachers, and students of America as hemispheric and global phenomenon. *RIAS* is published three times a year: in the Fall, Winter and Spring by IASA with the institutional support of the University of Silesia in Katowice lending server space to some of IASA websites and the electronic support of the Soft For Humans CMS Designers. Subscription rates or *RIAS* are included along with the Association's annual dues as specified in the "Membership" section of the Association's website (www.iasaweb.org).

All topical manuscripts should be directed to the Editor via online submission forms available at *RIAS* website (www.iasa-rias.org). General correspondence and matters concerning the functioning of *RIAS* should be addressed to *RIAS* Editor-in-Chief:

University College Ghent
Department of Translation Studies
Groot-Brittanniëlaan 45
B-9000 Ghent
Belgium

e-mail: michael.boyden@iasa-rias.org

On the *RIAS* cover we used the fragment of "Security",
a work by CarbonNYC licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic.



CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

1

INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION FOURTH WORLD CONGRESS

Decoding American Cultures in the Global Context

SEPTEMBER 18/20, 2009

HOSTED BY

Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing, China

The International American Studies Association (IASA) and the American Studies Center (ASC) at Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) cordially invite scholars from all disciplines to participate in the 4th congress of the IASA, to be held from September 18th to 20th (Friday to Sunday), 2009 at BFSU, Beijing, China.

CONGRESS THEME AND SUB-THEMES

Recent changes in the flows of finances, people, and cultural products, often termed 'globalization', have provided a new context for understanding the Americas, hence the theme of the 4th World Congress, "Decoding American Cultures in the Global Context". We invite contributions addressing the following sub-themes with reference to the U.S. and the Americas more broadly.

- a) Critical understanding and reception of American cultures abroad
- b) Impact of North/South American cultures on world cultures
- c) Comparative studies of the Americas
- d) "Globalization" vs. "Americanization"
- e) American studies abroad
- f) "American exceptionalism": myth or reality?
- g) Myths that Americans live by: literature, history, and culture

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION AND PRESENTATION

Proposals may be submitted in English for an individual presentation, or for a pre-constituted panel, by January 31, 2009. Proposals for workshops to be developed into pre-constituted panels must be submitted by Dec. 1st to be posted on the website (see below).

- For an individual paper, the organizer should submit the following: contact information of the organizer including email address, 3 keywords, and an abstract of no more than 300 words. Note any audio/visual equipment required.
- For a pre-constituted panel, the organizer should submit contact information of the organizer, 3 keywords describing the panel, and an abstract of no more than 300 words for the panel as a whole articulating how the papers go together PLUS contact information for each participant, and a brief abstract of no more than 300 words for each of those papers, along with 3 keywords for each. Indicate any audio visual equipment needed please.
- If you desire to submit a preconstituted panel, but need to find colleagues from other institutions and countries to participate in your panel, we offer the following option of proposing a WORKSHOP TITLE AND ABSTRACT. Send this, along with your contact information to the conference organizers (Prof. LiQikeng, below) BY DEC. 1ST. to be posted on the conference website. Individual scholars should then send proposals and contact information directly to you for your consideration. Once you have selected your panel members, submit as described above for pre-constituted panels, AND, in addition, send all non-selected papers along with their contact information, keywords, etc. to the conference committee for further consideration by the cut off date of January 31st. Those papers will then be considered for inclusion on the program as part of other panels if appropriate.
- Each proposal should indicate any audio visual needs at the time of submission. No panel should have more than four paper presenters, or three presenters and a commentator. For pre-constituted panels, priority will be given to those which include presenters from a variety of institutions/ geographical locations. The academic committee of the congress will evaluate the proposal on the basis of the quality of the abstract, its scholarly cogency, as well as its relevance to the congress theme, and notify the submitter of its acceptance by February 28, 2009. If the submission is accepted, an extended summary (about 800/1,000 words) shall be sent to the conference coordinators by May 31, 2009.

Each participant will be given 15 minutes to present the paper, followed by 5 minutes for questions and answers. The conference will provide the necessary multimedia for presentations. When submitting the extended summary, please also indicate whether you will need to use multimedia, and if so, specify your exact requirements. We also welcome proposals for presentations that do not fit the standard spoken paper format, such as films/videos/performances, etc.



POST-CONGRESS PUBLICATION

If you would like the congress committee to consider your paper for publication, please submit your full paper within one month after the conclusion of the congress to the organizers. The academic committee of the congress will review all the papers submitted and have the selected papers published by a reputable publisher in China. All papers are preferably around 8,000 words in length, complete with footnotes and a bibliography. For paper format, CMS is recommended.

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 31, 2009: Proposal due (Dec. 1st workshop proposals due for posting)
- February 28, 2009: Notification of acceptance
- May 31, 2009: Extended summary due
- Fall, 2009: Conference Sept. 18/20. (registration opens Sept. 17 on site).

CONGRESS FEES

Participants are expected to pay a conference fee of USD 150, which covers the academic program, congress documentation (final program and book of abstracts), all meals on conference days, and coffee breaks. The student rate is \$75 U.S.

If not paid in advance, fees are higher, but may be paid on-site, in which case regular participants pay \$200 USD and students pay \$100 USD. Hotels, meals on non-conference days, optional tours, etc are the responsibility of the participants themselves. Presenters must be members of IASA.

HOTEL AND TOURS

Special hotel rates for congress participants are being negotiated, and some on-campus student housing in dormitories will also be available at very reduced fees. Details will be posted on the congress website. Optional night-time activities such as attendance at performances and post-congress tours will also be available.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All proposals, summaries and other correspondence should be directed to congress coordinator Li Qikeng.

Email: liqikeng@gmail.com, liqikeng@hotmail.com; Phone: 0086/10/8256/5621, 1352/184/7279; Fax: 0086/10/8881/6282

Postal address: School of English and International Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing 100089, China.

2

APPEL DE PROPOSITIONS DE COMMUNICATIONS

22e COLLOQUE CEFCO, 5/7 novembre 2009

Campus Saint-Jean, Edmonton, Alberta

Le Centre d'études franco-canadiennes de l'Ouest est un organisme multidisciplinaire qui cherche à promouvoir la recherche sur la vie francophone dans l'Ouest canadien. Le colloque 2009 vise toujours à atteindre ce but, mais en dialogue avec toutes les francophonies du Canada. Ainsi, le Comité scientifique du colloque CEFCO 2009 invite des soumissions de proposition de communications et de tables rondes en vue du colloque qui se tiendra à Edmonton, en Alberta, du 5 au 7 novembre 2009 autour du thème « *Impenser* la francophonie : recherches, réflexions, renouvellements ».

Le vocable *impenser* vient de l'usage qu'en fait Mourad Ali-Khodja dans un article où, au lieu de 'repenser' son objet en fonction des nouvelles réalités, il propose plutôt une « interrogation et une remise en question radicales des principes épistémologiques à partir desquels elle s'est constituée¹ ».

En se référant aux travaux sur les « petites littératures » de François Paré, Ali-Khodja remet en cause la pratique consistant à penser les savoirs minoritaires en les subordonnant aux Grandes Traditions qui ont émergé dans le cadre de l'État nation et de la société moderne. À force de présenter ces dernières comme des modèles exclusifs, on produit une représentation caricaturale et infériorisante de l'excentration sociétale dans laquelle se trouvent les communautés minoritaires et leurs savoirs. Non seulement cette pratique empêche d'expliquer les conditions d'émergence et d'existence de ces communautés, mais de plus, la reproduction des représentations propres aux institutions dominantes, bien que faite avec les meilleures intentions, prive les savoirs minoritaires de toute légitimité. Ali-Khodja propose la réappropriation des 'pratiques de soi'.

Nous vous invitons non seulement à penser la remise en question de la francophonie telle que nous la connaissons actuellement et les instruments qui nous permettent de l'appréhender, mais aussi, à réfléchir sur les recherches, perspectives, visions et problématiques dans votre discipline, que celle-ci touche à l'anthropologie, aux arts (visuels et de la scène), à l'éducation, à la géographie, à l'histoire, à la littérature, à la philosophie, aux sciences politiques, à la sociologie ou à la technologie.

Veillez faire parvenir vos propositions, avec un titre provisoire, un résumé de 150-200 mots, votre nom, votre affiliation et vos coordonnées par courrier électronique à pamela.sing@ualberta.ca avant le 15 juin 2009.

¹ Pour une *science sociale de l'exiguïté* : bilans et enjeux de la connaissance en milieu minoritaire », *Francophonies d'Amérique*. No. 15, 2003, p. 7-23.



3

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEDIA, CULTURE AND IDEOLOGY

29/31 January, 2009

Osmania University Centre for International Programs
Osmania University, Hyderabad—500 007

This conference proposes to deliberate on how media—print and electronic—mediates cultural configurations and influences ideological formations. We invite papers, from across disciplines, that examine in contemporary or historical context the uses made of visual, verbal & written language in sections of the mass media (television & print, primarily) with a particular focus on the relationship between these cultural forms, conventional understandings of the world & social power.

In the last century, from colonial through anti-colonial and post colonial to the contemporary global phase, media has played a significant role in shaping culture and ideology and this phenomenon warrants critical analyses. Besides, media functions in the public sphere, a realm which exists between the State machinery and its formal authority and the private domain which comprises of the civil society and family unit and constantly negotiates the intermediary space between the public and the private and influences both the domains. This crucial function of the Media as the creator and communicator of alternate Culture and Ideology in contemporary societies shall be the main focus of this Conference.

This conference will also focus in particular on how films, and later television in India and elsewhere, have had a massive impact in creating and circulating images of the nation and of a “national culture”. Both film and television have sought to define, forge and popularise images of a coherent, cohesive and organic national community. Conversely the media have also offered alternative, dissenting and even oppositional visions of the nation and of a national culture, questioning ‘Establishment’ values, or responding sympathetically to the socially disadvantaged and disenfranchised. A part of the task of this conference is to explore these issues of ideology and representation. Some of the issues that this conference wishes to address include:

1. Representations of nation and nationness in media including counter discourses of nation
2. Revisionist /Alternate Historio: Portrayal of historical incidents of the past from new and different perspectives.
3. Caste/ Class/ Gender issues in media representation
4. Media and Globalization
5. Representation of Violence and Terrorism
6. Media and ideology
7. Other Related Issues

Proposals for either (a) individual papers or (b) preconstituted panels should include the following: (1) a title, (2) an abstract NOT TO EXCEED 300 WORDS, and (3) a brief one-paragraph biographical statement about the presenter, including academic affiliation and email address. Proposals may be sent by email to vijaya_chaganti@yahoo.com before 20th November, 2008.

Conference Directors:

Prof. C.Vijayasree Director OUCIP, vijaya_chaganti@yahoo.com

Prof. Kousar J. Azam, Advisor, OUCIP; kousarjabeen@yahoo.com