

ENN Newsletter – Issue II – March/April 2010

Index:

0: Editorial

I: ENN Associates and Members

II: Call for Papers: ENN Conference

III: Conference Reports

III.1: Workshop Report: “Narratology and the New Social Dimensions of Narrative” (France, February 2010)

III.2: Conference Report: “Northern Self-Fashionings. Narrating the Self in the Nordic Region” (Denmark, November 2009)

IV: New Publications

0: Editorial

Dear Fellow Narratologists,

With this, the second issue of the ENN Newsletter, we wish to welcome all new members of the ENN. The increasing numbers of members is a clear sign that the ENN fills a needed role by providing information of interest to researchers in narrative theory across a broad spectrum of disciplines. This need is felt on a transnational basis in that researchers wish to be better informed of work being carried on in other countries, but also on a transdisciplinary basis, since the narrative turn that has impelled the renewal of narratology focuses on the narrative aspects of cultural phenomena in all their forms.

This issue of the ENN Newsletter includes two matters of particular importance for the life and development of the ENN: the launching of an inventory of narratologically relevant research centers and programs throughout Europe, and a call for papers for the 2nd Conference of the ENN, which is to take place on the 10th and 11th of March 2011 at the University of Southern Denmark.

The ENN Steering Committee

I: ENN Associates and Members

As many of you already know, a list of ENN members (now numbering 260) together with their contact information and a brief summary of each member's research profile is available on the ENN website ("Associates and members").

Since, to our knowledge, there exists no systematic or comprehensive list of research centers, institutes, programs and projects in Europe working in the field of narrative theory, the Steering Committee has decided to compile an inventory. In order to do so, we ask that ENN members provide us with any information they might have regarding such research centers, programs, etc. We are hoping for a broad participation in this effort, for the availability of such information will be the source of many opportunities to further exchanges on narratologically relevant topics. A brief questionnaire is attached at the end of this Newsletter. Please fill it in and send it to Stephanie.Neu@uni-hamburg.de (Stephanie Neu is the assistant of Wolf Schmid, currently Chairman of the ENN Steering Committee).

Also, it is important that the ENN staff be kept informed of any member's change of address and/or institutional affiliation. For this, we ask that you forward the information also to Stephanie Neu (Stephanie.Neu@uni-hamburg.de).

II: Call for Papers: ENN Conference

The 2nd Conference of the ENN – the European Narratology Network
**Working with Stories:
Narrative as a Meeting Place for Theory, Analysis and Practice**
10th and 11th of March 2011
The University of Southern Denmark, Kolding

"The narratives of the world are numberless," Roland Barthes stated in his famous introduction to the structural analysis of narrative in 1966. "Narrative is first and foremost a prodigious variety of genres, themselves distributed amongst different substances – as though any material were fit to receive man's stories. ... Caring nothing for the division between good and bad literature, narrative is international, transhistorical, transcultural: it is simply there, like life itself."

In the years that have passed since Barthes' seminal essay, scholars in the humanities and the social sciences have devoted considerable effort to exploring the roles and functions of narrative in human history and behavior. They have done so not only with regard to literature and other epic modes of expression, but also in the areas of psychology, cultural studies, communication studies, cognitive sciences and sociology.

In recent times, trans- and interdisciplinary perspectives on narrative studies have drawn increasing interest. The purpose of this conference is to contribute to this ongoing development by welcoming papers which explore and reflect the transdisciplinary aspects of narrative theory and conceptualization.

Papers focusing on the following subjects will be of special interest to the conference:

- Comparative surveys of narratological concepts across disciplines.
- The use/misuse of narratological concepts in uncommon narrative environments.
- The conceptualization and analysis of multimodal narratives.
- Conceptual development with interest in unnatural narratives and antinarrative strategies.

Keynote speakers:

- Matti Hyvärinen, Tampere University: “Traveling Concepts of Narrative”
- Wolf Schmid, Hamburg University: “The Legacy of Russian Formalism in a Transdisciplinary Perspective”
- Cynthia M. Grund, University of Southern Denmark: “Narrative and Music”
- Lars-Christer Hydén, Linköping University, Sweden: “Narrative and Medicine”
- Jan Alber, Freiburg University: “The Unnatural Across the Fiction/Non-Fiction Divide”
- Susan Lanser, Brandeis University: “Feminist Narratology in a Transdisciplinary Perspective”

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **October 1st, 2010**. Send 200-word abstracts to Associate Professor Per Krogh Hansen (University of Southern Denmark, Center for Narratological Studies): pkh@litcul.sdu.dk. Please write “ENN Conference: Working with stories” in the subject line.

Pre-Conference Doctoral Course, March 9th, 2011:

We are pleased to announce a pre-conference doctoral course on transdisciplinary narrative theory. The course will be directed by John Pier, Université François-Rabelais de Tours and CRAL (CNRS/EHESS), and Per Krogh Hansen, University of Southern Denmark.

Ph.D. students working on any text type with narrative relevance are eligible to participate. Prospective participants are asked to send a 2- to 3-page description of their Ph.D. project to pkh@litcul.sdu.dk. Please write “ENN Conference: Working with stories: Doctoral” in the subject line. The deadline for submissions is **October 1st, 2010**. The doctoral course is arranged in cooperation with The Hans Christian Andersen Graduate School, University of Southern Denmark.

Information regarding registration fees, hotel bookings, etc. will be posted at a later date.

III: Conference Reports

The ENN website welcomes short reports on narratology research centers and projects based in Europe. The purpose of these reports is to enable research centers and projects to present their research and activities to an interested public that might otherwise overlook this information.

ENN members are also urged to send in reports on conferences that narratologists may find of interest and that have taken place. These reports will be included in the Newsletters and will remain in the archives of the ENN website.

Reports should be forwarded to Wolf Schmid (wschmid@uni-hamburg.de) with a copy to Stephanie Neu (Stephanie.Neu@uni-hamburg.de).

III.1: Workshop Report: “Narratology and the New Social Dimensions of Narrative” (France, February 2010)

On February 1st and 2nd, 2010, the Centre de Recherches sur les Arts et le Langage (CNRS/EHESS) in Paris organized a workshop devoted to narratology and the study of its social dimensions. Much as the cognitive aspects of narrative, these questions remained largely ignored by classical narratology. Various developments in narrative theory now suggest that narrative can be regarded as a form of socially shared cognition. In this regard, the workshop is an outgrowth of the seminar “Narratologies contemporaines,” whose program for the current academic year bears on the social uses of narrative.

The workshop, which drew an audience that extended well beyond the public that generally attends the seminar, brought together a combination of lecturers from France, Belgium, Spain, Romania and Switzerland, both faculty members and students preparing their doctoral theses.

The transdisciplinary nature of the event was a highlight in that the lecturers included specialists from the fields of linguistics, communication sciences, cinema, performance studies, literary theory and cognitive psychology. The topics debated, mostly in conjunction with case studies and specific corpuses, included the impact of the new media on narrative, various forms of visual narratives and the role of “storytelling” and related phenomena in the areas of politics, the media and the business world.

The program is available at <http://narratologie.ehess.fr/document.php?id=213>

Articles based on the lectures will be put online in the autumn of 2010 at <http://narratologie.ehess.fr>

III.2: Conference Report: “Northern Self-Fashionings. Narrating the Self in the Nordic Region” (Denmark, November 2009)

The Center for Narratological Studies at the Institute of Literature, Media and Cultural Studies, University of Southern Denmark, hosted the NNNS conference *Northern Self-Fashionings. Narrating the Self in the Nordic Region* on November 20-21, 2009.

The conference topic was chosen by a meeting of the steering committee on May 15-16, 2009, and detailed planning of the conference was entrusted to Associate Professor Henrik Skov Nielsen, Aarhus University, and to Associate Professor Per Krogh Hansen, University of Southern Denmark. The peer review process of submitted abstracts was conducted by the planners together with Associate Professor Marina Grishakova.

The conference focus was set on the idea of Nordic identity (identity of the Nordic region) as it is expressed in art, literature, media and culture in general. What sources form the idea of a Nordic identity – if such an identity exists? What are the specific differences in the region, and how do we define ourselves compared to the surrounding culture? What stories do we tell about ourselves and about others, and how do we tell them?

In order to understand the Grand Narrative of Nordic identity and community – its versions and techniques – the conference sought to combine theoretically informed readings of autonomous works with analysis of the narratives that form the basis for a regional identity on larger scale.

The conference featured 21 speakers and drew some 40 delegates from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Russia, Poland, England and Denmark. Sociologist Richard Jenkins (Sheffield) was the invited keynote speaker, and a special session was arranged for Ph.D. students (four of the speakers) who were given the opportunity to present their ongoing work and discuss it in plenum. The students earned 1.75 ECTS for their effort.

For further detail, please refer to

<http://www.nordicnarratologynet.ut.ee/news/conference-northern-selffashionings>.

IV. New Publications

Newsletters will also include announcements of publications of narratological interest that have recently appeared or that are soon to appear in European countries. Here again, we ask that ENN members forward relevant information including complete

bibliographical data to Wolf Schmid (wschmid@uni-hamburg.de) with a copy to Stephanie Neu (Stephanie.Neu@uni-hamburg.de).

The proceedings of the 1st ENN Conference, “Mind – Narrative – Ethics,” held on the 23rd and 24th of January 2009 and hosted by the ICN at Hamburg University, are available online on the Amsterdam International Electronic Journal for Cultural Narratology: <http://cf.hum.uva.nl/narratology>

1) England/US

Eaton, Trevor. *Literary Semantics*. Cambs: Melrose Books, 2010.

Fludernik, Monika. *An Introduction to Narratology*. Trans. Patricia Häusler-Greenfield and Monika Fludernik. London and New York: Routledge, 2009.

2) Finland/US

Hyvärinen, Matti / Hydén, Lars-Christer / Saarenheimo, Marja / Tamboukou, Maria (eds.). *Beyond Narrative Coherence*. (Studies in Narrative, Vol. 11). Philadelphia, Pa: John Benjamins, 2010.

3) France

Grabócz, Márta. *Musique, narrativité, signification*. Paris: L’Harmattan, 2009.

Pier, John, and Francis Berthelot (eds.). *Narratologies contemporaines. Nouvelles approches pour la théorie et l’analyse du récit*. Paris: Editions des Archives Contemporaines, 2010.

4) Germany

Schmid, Wolf (ed.). *Slavische Erzähltheorie. Russische und tschechische Ansätze* (Narratologia, Vol. 21). Berlin / New York: de Gruyter, 2009.

Schmid, Wolf. *Narratology. An Introduction*. Trans. Alexander Starritt. Berlin / New York: de Gruyter, 2010.

5) Russia

Татару, Людмила. Точка зрения и композиционный ритм нарратива (на материале англоязычных модернистских текстов) / Москва: Издательство Московского государственного областного университета, 2009. - 304 с.