

EASLCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 1.1 Summer 2006

A Biannual Publication of the European Association for the Study of Literature, Culture and Environment

This first issue of the EASLCE Newsletter is published in weather that may once again remind many of us who attended the second biennial conference in Klagenfurt, Austria, three months ago of the significance of the conference's topic: water. The heat wave that has by now held large parts of Europe in its grip for a few weeks may have made us aware of the essential role water plays in human, animal and plant life as well as of the preciousness of this resource. All over Europe, shortage of water is making rivers unnavigable, the lack of water – in the forms of both dehydration and drought – threatens the health of human beings and the quality of agricultural production, and the heating of rivers and seas (e.g. the Mediterranean) is causing ecological imbalance. The concreteness and intensity of such experience explains very well, I think, why water has played such a crucial role not only in terms of biology and economy, but also in terms of the literary and cultural imagination in different regions of the world. The lectures and papers presented by the more than 70 participants in Klagenfurt gave ample evidence of this.

Klagenfurt showed that EASLCE is thriving. Participants from several European and non-European countries (the truly impressive list runs as follows: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey and the US) demonstrated how strong the interest in an international co-operation is and how productive it can be made. Our thanks go again to Maureen Devine and her team for hosting this stimulating conference.

At the conference a new executive committee was elected whose immediate tasks were defined as creating a newsletter and a membership directory, 'Europeanizing' the EASLCE website in terms of providing access in all the languages our members

speak, and deciding on the venue, date and topic of the next biennial conference. In addition to this first issue of the EASLCE Newsletter you will thus soon receive the first membership directory, which Serenella Iovino, our Vice-President, has been compiling over the last weeks. Those who access our website will see that – thanks to translations by several members and to Axel Goodbody's coordinating work – first steps have been taken. And while the discussion about the exact date and topic of our next conference is still going on, the decision about the conference venue has been taken. The 2008 conference will be hosted by Carmen Flys-Junquera and a team of Spanish colleagues at the University of Alcalá, Spain. Detailed information about this conference will be distributed in the next issue of the Newsletter early in 2007. Many thanks to Carmen and her colleagues – the committee is looking forward to working with you!

(continued on page 3)

On the Inside...

Ecocriticism in Europe: Research Projects / Reports	4
International Conferences	6
Publications by EASLCE Members /Ecocritical Monograph Series	9

EASLCE Newsletter

Vol.1.1 (Summer 2006)

A Biannual Publication of the
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
LITERATURE, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

EASLCE HOMEPAGE
<http://www.bath.ac.uk/esml/easlce>

Officers

Executive Committee

PRESIDENT

HD Dr. Sylvia Mayer
Englisches Seminar, Amerikanistik
Universität Münster
GERMANY

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. Serenella Iovino
Assistant Professor of Ethics
Dipartimento di Filosofia
Università di Torino
ITALY

TREASURER

PD Dr. Christa Grewe-Volpp
American Literature Studies
Universität Mannheim
GERMANY

Advisory Committee

DR. HANNES BERGTHALLER
Department of English and Applied Linguistics
National Taipei University of Technology
TAIWAN, R.O.C.

WERNER BIGELL
American Studies
Nesna University College
NORWAY

DR. MAUREEN DEVINE
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt
Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
AUSTRIA

DR. CARMEN FLYS-JUNQUERA
Associate Professor of American Literature
Dept. Filología Moderna
Universidad de Alcalá c/Trinidad 3
Madrid, SPAIN

PD DR. CATRIN GERSDORF
John F. Kennedy Institut für
Nordamerikastudien
Abt. Literatur
Freie Universität Berlin
GERMANY

DR AXEL GOODBODY
Department of European Studies and
Modern Languages
University of Bath
UNITED KINGDOM

PROF. URSULA K. HEISE
Department of English
Stanford University
USA

DR. IRENA RAGAIŠIENE
Department of English Philology
Vytautas Magnus University
Kaunas, LITHUANIA

WENDY SKINNER
Seminar für deutsche Philologie
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
GERMANY

PROF. JOHANN TEMPELHOFF
School of Basic Sciences
North-West University
SOUTH AFRICA

KADRI TÜÜR
Director of MuHu Museum
ESTONIA

PROF. DR. BERBELI WANNING
Pädagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg
Fakultät II: Kultur- und Naturwissenschaften
Abteilung Deutsch
GERMANY

Please note the editorial deadline for
the next issue: December 15th, 2006.
Contact: Sylvia Mayer at
[mayersy\(a\)uni-muenster.de](mailto:mayersy(a)uni-muenster.de)

(continued from page 1)

This issue of the Newsletter consists of three major sections: the first section provides information on research projects in different European countries and a report on the development of ecocriticism in Spain; the second section informs about inter-national conferences; and the third section lists recent ecocritical book publications by EASLCE members and introduces two ecocritical monograph series. The section I myself would like to see expanded considerably is the first one. Since a major goal of EASLCE is to address the specifics of European work in ecologically oriented literary and cultural studies, further reports on current activities and on issues of particular interest to our members in the various countries may help us to clarify the association's goals and develop projects that support national efforts and at the same time help to transcend national and disciplinary boundaries.

The Newsletter could become a forum in which information, ideas and suggestions are exchanged and further developed. Please note that the editorial deadline for contributions to the second issue is December 15, 2006.

I would like to thank all the people who contributed to this first Newsletter. Special thanks go to my research assistant Zeynep Kartal, without whose expertise and improvisational talent concerning the creation of a layout it would not have been possible to finish the project in such a short time.

I wish all of us a good and productive summer.

Sylvia Mayer
EASLCE President

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF EASLCE

Please, visit our web site at: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/esml/easlce/membership.htm>

For further information contact:

Christa Grewe-Volpp
chgrewe(a)rumms.uni-mannheim.de

International Affiliates

ASLE (USA)

ASLE-ANZ (AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND)

ASLE-CANADA

ASLE-INDIA

ASLE-JAPAN

ASLE-KOREA

ASLE-UK

OSLE-INDIA

Ecocriticism in Europe: Research Projects / Reports

Ecocritical Perspectives within a Comparative Framework

The intention of the project is to expand the boundaries of Lithuanian literary studies by introducing to Lithuanian readership ecosensitive interpretation of canonical and contemporary Lithuanian texts. The texts are chosen to represent a tripartite temporal/spatial perspective: the period of the Independent Lithuania (1918-1940), the period of the Soviet occupation (1940-1989), and the period of the regained Independence (1990-present). Interspaced is émigré literature which in different ways reflects traditional and changed attitude to the relationship between humans and the environment. The scope

of the analysis encompasses the discussion of socio-cultural context and gender-related implications. The project is sponsored by the Lithuanian State Science and Studies Foundation.

Irena Ragaišienė
Indrė Žakevičienė
Vijolė Višomirskytė

Vytautas Magnus University
Kaunas, Lithuania

Literature, Culture, Environment and Teaching!

The ecocritical study of culture or literature researches what kind of contribution art, literature, film and the new media make in order to create an environmental consciousness. Sustainability is very much in the focus here, but where is this sustainability when it comes to the development of theories about its practicability?

It has been twenty years since Niklas Luhmann shaped the attitude that school is the place where society can prepare for an encounter with its environment. Today this has become even more urgent. A change of consciousness and of the attitude towards the environment throughout society can be reached through alterations in the educational system. This might be a slower way than public discourse to achieve the aim, but it is very likely that it will be a longer lasting one.

In order to show the importance of ecological issues for humanity, these topics must not be dealt with only from the perspective of the natural and social sciences. It is essential also to address questions in the field of humanities, e.g. how to teach literature and media discourses, either in the first or second languages of learners.

But up to now there have been hardly any concepts for teaching these matters from the point of view of cultural ecology. Therefore a research programme on 'EcoDidactics' will be installed at

the University of Education Ludwigsburg in Germany.

We would like to welcome anyone to join us in this endeavour and participate in:

- establishing a network of those interested in teaching 'cultural ecology' and ecocriticism
- researching approaches to teaching within an ecocritical framework
- developing teaching methodologies for schools and in higher education
- creating teaching materials for an interdisciplinary teaching of ecocriticism
- presenting the results of such research to the 'scientific community'

Please contact us:

Prof. Dr. Berbeli Wanning
Department of German
+49-7141-140-359
wanning(a)ph-ludwigsburg.de

Prof. Dr. Jan Hollm
Department of English
+49-7141-140-379
hollm(a)ph-ludwigsburg.de

Institut für Sprachen
Pädagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg
University of Education Ludwigsburg
Reuteallee 46
71634 Ludwigsburg
Germany

Ecocriticism in Spain

Ecocriticism as a specific field of research is very new in Spain. However, there have been a number of activities in the recent past which have managed to put it on the map, so to speak, and now the majority of literary scholars in English are familiar with its existence. For example, Spanish scholars have presented round table discussions and papers on aspects of ecocriticism every year since 2002, both in the US Studies and Critical Theory Panels during the annual conference of the Spanish Association of Anglo-American Studies (AEDEAN). Likewise, there have been a number of papers presented at the biennial International Conferences of Chicano Literature since 2002 and at the American West Conference (Vitoria) of 2005. Writer Alison Hawthorne Deming and critic Louise Westling have given special seminars at the Research Institute for North American Studies (University of Alcalá) and plenary lectures on ecocriticism have been presented at AEDEAN (2003) and at the Ethnicity and Ethics Conference (A Coruña) in 2003. The Spanish Association for Canadian Studies will have a special panel devoted to ecocriticism this fall. Currently there are at least five doctoral theses being written in English Departments from ecocritical perspectives. A graduate course in ecocriticism has been offered for the last two years at the University of Alcalá and it has been cross-listed both in the English and Ecology Departments.

Spanish scholars in Spanish and French philology are also moving in this field. For many, as was the case in the US, research in topics related to ecocriticism has been carried out but not under this specific name, nor have scholars got together to do joint research. There are at least two to three doctoral theses being written in these fields. There are also an increasing number of Spanish writers

dealing with environmental issues in their creative writing.

The University of Alcalá awarded a small research grant for a project in ecocriticism in 2005 and the group is expanding to include scholars from all over Spain and in the different philologies in the hopes of applying for a major grant from the Spanish Ministry of Education. This group, currently in formation, will add to EASLCE membership and will allow us to further identify ecologically oriented work in Spanish cultural and literary production and scholarship.

While Spain lags behind in complying with the Kyoto Protocol and in other environmental issues, some progress in awareness raising is taking place. Most of it is in the scientific and political spheres, but also in the area of education, culture and the arts. Increasingly there are new projects in schools, seminars and so forth. In the arts, currently there is the photo exhibit, "PRESA" by Galician photographer Xacobe Melendez Fassbender (May-July 2006) or the exhibit of model ships created with waste materials, emulating the conquest of space by humans (CENEAM, Segovia: May-July 2006). A major project in the making is the Expo Zaragoza 2008 which revolves around the subject of water and sustainability.

DR. CARMEN FLYS-JUNQUERA
Associate Professor of American Literature
Dept. Filología Moderna
Universidad de Alcalá c/Trinidad 3
Madrid, SPAIN

International Conferences

Sustainability and the Literary Imagination:
Transdisciplinary and Intercultural Perspectives

Department of English
National Taipei University of Technology, Taipei, Taiwan
November 18th, 2006

CALL FOR PAPERS

Since being put into circulation in the famous Brundtland report of 1987, the term "sustainability" has come to play an indispensable part in the global debate on environmental issues. Its ascendancy has closely paralleled the emergence of ecological modernization as a dominant paradigm at the beginning of the 21st century. There is now hardly an international organization that does not at least pay lip-service to the imperatives of sustainability, and an extensive and diverse literature on the topic has emerged in the fields of economics, social and political science, environmental studies, and engineering.

Yet until now, the growing number of literary scholars concerned with environmental issues has failed to engage in a rigorous interrogation of the concept of sustainability. It is not only ecocriticism that stands to benefit from such an enterprise: after almost two decades of debate, it has become clear that even if it were possible to define sustainability in a universalist and strictly scientific manner, its implementation immediately opens up ethical and aesthetic questions which traditionally belong in the domain of the humanities (e.g. the definition of human needs, the relationship of the individual to the community of which it forms a part, the place of human history within the wider world) - questions that in turn can no longer be answered without taking into account technological innovation and developments in the natural sciences. Situated at the crossroads of a wide range of discourses, seeking to square off the technically possible with the ethically desirable and the economically expedient, and staking a claim to permanence in a terrain that in all its dimensions (natural, cultural, and technological) seems to be marked by inexorable change, the language of sustainability presents a conundrum that needs to be addressed from a variety of perspectives in order to work towards a genuinely transdisciplinary and intercultural understanding.

Keynote Speakers:

Greg Garrard (Bath Spa University, UK)
Ursula Heise (Stanford University, USA)

For this conference, we welcome contributions from all disciplines that address questions such as the following:

How may literature help us to imagine sustainability?
What kinds of narratives and tropes form the rhetorical underpinnings of the concept?

Where can we locate the historical roots of the concept, how have the terms of the debate shifted, and what is to be learned from these shifts?

In what ways is the concept of sustainability rooted in occidental traditions, and how would it need to be (re-) formulated in order to resonate in other cultural environments?

How can ecocritical theory contribute to a viable concept of sustainability, and vice versa?

How do notions such as risk, probability, and uncertainty bear on the concept of sustainability? How can literary texts help us understand how communities recognize or repress environmental risks?

Do the imperative for intergenerational justice and the privileging of permanence implied in the concept of sustainability entail or reflect a reconfiguration of our idea of history?

How can notions such as "bio-power" (Foucault) and "bare life" (Agamben) be used to elucidate and/or critique the concept of sustainability?

How is the concept of sustainability linked to traditions of utopian thought?

What is the relation between the different types of knowledge offered by literature and the arts on the one, and the natural sciences on the other hand, and what is their respective role in defining and implementing sustainability?

How do cultural factors enter into the administrative implementation of sustainability, e.g. into indices and procedures for deliberation and local participation?

Please send 250-300 word abstracts by email to:

Hannes Bergthaller
hbergtlr(a)ntut.edu.tw
Thomas Wall
twall(a)ntut.edu.tw

Deadline: August 31st, 2006

Please include in your abstract: Name and affiliation, email address, postal address, telephone number.

Rubbish, Waste, and Litter; Culture and Its Refuse/als

Warsaw School of Social Psychology
Warsaw, Poland
17 - 18 November 2006

CALL FOR PAPERS

Wasted time, wasted space, wasted life. Almost everything seems to be endowed with the possibility of being turned into rubbish. We take for granted the idea that there always has been waste, rubbish, and litter. Waste is what is both refused and dumped, repudiated and thrown away. The conference intends to explore the mechanisms and rhetoric of "wasting" from interdisciplinary perspectives, also trying to think about the ways in which waste is "managed", how and where refused things and ideas are placed away. The location of this "away" seems to be equally worth thinking about as the location of culture "itself". Scholars and students from such disciplines as literature, political science, economics, cultural and media studies, art and architecture, anthropology, history, comparative

literature, philosophy, critical theory and area studies ... are encouraged to send abstracts (200 words) of papers and presentations addressing the theme of the conference to:

Prof. Tadeusz Rachwał
Trachwal(a)swps.edu.pl
Warsaw School of Social Psychology
Department of English
Ul. Chodakowska 19/31
03-815, Warsaw, Poland

Deadline for the submission of abstracts is
September 30th, 2006

Beyond Postmodernism: Literature, Theory, Culture

Department of Literary History and Theory
Vilnius University
Lithuania
16-17 November 2006

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Department of Literary History and Theory at Vilnius University, Lithuania, in cooperation with the Lithuanian Association for the Study of English (LAUTE), invites scholars to submit proposals for the international conference on new directions and developments in contemporary literary culture, to be held in Vilnius on 16-17 November, 2006.

The conference invites papers discussing new openings and recent developments in literature, literary theory and culture which seem to suggest a new episteme in the making which points beyond postmodernism and raises a question whether what appears as newness is not rather a return to traditional concepts, theoretical premises and authorial practices.

A selection of papers will be published in the scholarly peer-reviewed journal "Literature". Interested participants are invited to submit one page abstracts of their proposed papers (with the name and affiliation of the presenter) before October 1st 2006 by e-mail or airmail to:

Assoc.Prof. Regina Rudaityte
Dept. of Literary History and Theory,
Faculty of Philology,
Vilnius University,
Universiteto Str. 5
Vilnius, Lithuania
e-mail: reginarudaityte(a)hotmail.com

Nature and Human Nature: Land, Landscape and Cultural Constructions of the Environment

Department of English
Venue: Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, India
21st-23rd September 2006

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Conference intends to foreground and closely examine the intimate relations and biological ties existing between Literature and the Environment. Indeed environment as a concept, for obvious reasons, cannot be seen as separate or segregated from the cultural and natural spheres. And literature by virtue of being what it is—creative, imaginative, emotive and expressive—could be seen as engaging with the human mind and the natural world. Of course the natural world cannot be disrespectfully dismissed as being part of the simulated reality! It is there, and we form an intimate and integral part of it. This would form the major concern of the Conference—the living connection between nature and the human being.

Ecological and environmental concerns appear to be self evident in the present. We hear a lot about eco-crisis, eco-logic, eco-tourism and so on. In view of the amazing amount of sophisticated theoretical debates that are going on in academic and scholarly circles these days one could safely venture to state that ecological thinking has come to stay with us. This is definitely the Age of Ecology. This might be certainly not very well equally applicable in all situations, climes and cultures. Nature is no longer looked upon as a dauntless adversary to be overcome and controlled. The human being's dominant role as conqueror and overlord of the land and other nonhuman life has been conveniently laid aside.

However, in spite of the Earth Summits, the innumerable conventions and gatherings, the Kyoto protocol and so soon, there yet remains a certain amount of cloud of unknowing when it comes to a self realization of ecological wisdom and its implications in the living situation. Human beings are certainly an integral part of nature and yet they have evolved to a level of superiority that enables them to manipulate their environment, and that too drastically. The hole in the ozone layer and the unprecedented crisis in mineral, forest produce and oil management and climatic conditions are all indicative of this deterministic position. Science and its handmaiden technology have contributed to an oversimplified view of this hierarchical status of the human being. On the other hand cultural studies have unearthed the manifold and pluralistic universe within, which has complicated matters even further.

What is nature? Is it what is out there or what is within? What is land, and where does region begin and

end? What is landscape? How is it constituted? What are its philosophical, ethical and aesthetic implications? These are some among the critical questions which this Conference intends to problematise. Some of the broad areas under which these could be discussed are:

1. Nature and the natural—interface between the hard sciences and the humanities
2. landscape studies
3. environmental issues and positions
4. social and ethical issues related to land and land use/abuse
5. art and literature—the aesthetics of nature and the natural
6. eco feminist studies—women and nature
7. culture and nature
8. ecology, biodiversity, bio ethics
9. pollution and contamination—over exploitation of nature
10. philosophical positions

This Conference hopes to bring together a diverse group of concerned intellectuals from different disciplines, scholars, academics, environmental activists equally committed to these issues and equally open to each other's individual, methodological and disciplinary differences and points of view.

Papers are invited from interested participants. For all enquiries kindly contact the coordinator.

Conference Coordinator: Dr. S. Murali, Reader, Dept. of English, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry-605014, phones: 0413-2655991-351 (office) 0413-2656101 (home) email: smurali1234(a)yahoo.com

Abstracts to reach the coordinator by July 20th, 2006. Kindly send a hard copy + CD version to

E-16, Professor's Quarters,
Pondicherry University
Pondicherry 605 014 India

Suggestions for panels are also welcome.

Publications by EASLCE Members / Ecocritical Monograph Series

Catrin Gersdorf and Sylvia Mayer, eds.
Natur - Kultur - Text. Beiträge zu Ökologie und Literaturwissenschaft.
Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2005.
ISBN: 3-82535-011-8

Terry Gifford.
Reconnecting With John Muir: Essays in Post-Pastoral Practice.
Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2006.
ISBN 0-8203-2796-4

Axel Goodbody and Wendy Everett, eds.
Revisiting Space. Space and Place in European Cinema.
Oxford and New York: Peter Lang, 2005.
ISBN: 3-03910-246-8

Sylvia Mayer and Graham Wilson, eds.
Ecodidactic Perspectives on English Language, Literatures and Cultures.
Trier: WVT, 2006.
ISBN: 3-88476-829-8

This section provides information about recent book publications by EASLCE members. If you would like to have your publication included, please send bibliographical information (including ISBN) to Sylvia Mayer at [mayersy\(a\)uni-muenster.de](mailto:mayersy(a)uni-muenster.de)

“Nature, Culture and Literature”
Rodopi, Amsterdam / www.rodopi.nl

The series Nature, Culture and Literature is dedicated to publications approaching literature and other aspects of culture from an ecological perspective. While representations of nature and conceptions of naturalness have traditionally been subjects of specialist interest in literary and cultural studies, over the past fifteen years an ecological perspective has gained growing relevance and recognition as an important starting point and orientation in the study of literature and culture. Nature, Culture and Literature is envisaged as an international platform for ecologically oriented research into literature, philosophy, culture and cultural theory, offering a representative record of work in this interdisciplinary area of research through monographs and collections of essays of a comparative nature or on national literatures and single authors. Nature, Culture and Literature embraces a range of

different approaches and explores phenomena observable across Europe and beyond in their international extension as well as in their national and regional peculiarities. While the main focus of the series is on literature (literary history, textual analysis, literary theory and comparative studies), it also includes contributions on related areas of enquiry such as art, film and other cultural media, cultural theory and philosophy, cultural history and geography as related areas of enquiry. Individual volumes will focus on a specific area of research, for instance mapping one of the themes central to the creative imagining of nature (e.g. nature and national/regional identity or representations of the urban/rural divide), or developing and illustrating a particular theoretical approach (e.g. versions of ecocriticism or ecofeminism).

Editorial Address:

Dr. Hubert F. van den Berg
Afdeling Nederlands, Fries en Nedersaksisch
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Postbus 716
9700 AS Groningen
The Netherlands
[h.f.van.den.berg\(a\)let.rug.nl](mailto:h.f.van.den.berg(a)let.rug.nl)

NATUR * LITERATUR * ÖKOLOGIE
NATURE * LITERATURE * ECOLOGY

Weidler Verlag, Berlin / www.weidler-verlag.de

Im letzten Drittel des 20. Jahrhunderts hat aufgrund vielfältiger Ereignisse und beeinflusst durch wissenschaftliche Forschungen weltweit eine öffentliche Debatte über die Abhängigkeit des Menschen von der Natur eingesetzt, die in ihrem Umfang und in ihrer Tragweite über alle früheren Diskussionen weit hinausgeht. Das primär gegenwartsorientierte ökologische Bewußtsein ist jedoch im Zusammenhang historisch bedingter Natur- und Ökologiebegriffe zu verstehen und hat darüber hinaus direkten Einfluß auf den zukünftigen Umgang der Menschen mit der Natur. Die Reihe NATUR * LITERATUR * ÖKOLOGIE richtet sich an alle Geistes- und KulturwissenschaftlerInnen, die an der interdisziplinären Erforschung und Wissens-erweiterung dieses Themenkomplexes interessiert sind. Erwünscht sind sowohl Beiträge über den historischen

Zusammenhang von naturphilosophischen, ideologie-kritischen, kulturgeschichtlichen, ethischen oder ästhe-tischen Gesichtspunkten in der deutschen Literatur und in ihrer Beziehung zu anderen Nationalliteraturen als auch die kritische Neuausgabe von bislang übersehenen oder vergessenen Werken, anhand derer sich Konzepte ökologischer Nachhaltigkeit, regionaler Wirtschaftsfor-men, biozentrisch-ästhetischer Gebrauchskunst, utopi-scher Gegenentwürfe u.ä. nachweisen lassen. Die Reihe versteht sich im Aufzeigen von ganzheitlichen, ökologi-schen und sozialen Alternativen zum dominanten wissenschaftlich-technologischen Fortschrittsdiskurs grundsätzlich als konkreter Beitrag zur inhaltlichen Umorientierung in den Geistes- und Kulturwissen-schaften.



During the last third of the 20th century a public and increasingly international debate began about human-kind's interdependence with nature. The scope and consequence of this dialogue influenced by many differ-ent events as well as by scientific and economic research has proven to be more far reaching than all previous such discussions. Today's ecological consciousness is primarily oriented towards present problems and concerns. However, this consciousness must be under-stood in its historical context and as a reflection of the dialectical relationship between human beings, nature, and society. The series, NATURE * LITERATURE * ECOLOGY, has been established for academics and non-academics in the humanities and social sciences who are first and foremost interested in an inter-

disciplinary exploration and analysis of these complex concepts. We are seeking manuscripts that address this complex in German literature with a philosophical, ideological, economic, cultural, political, ethical, and/or aesthetic focus or in comparison to other national litera-tures. Moreover, we are interested in publishing critical editions of overlooked or forgotten works that support concepts of ecological sustainability within a regional economy, provide examples of a bio-centric aesthetic, detail utopian aspects in works of fiction, etc. As a whole, the series is dedicated to publicizing existing ecological, social, and holistic alternatives to the dominant discourse of scientific and technological progress.

Anfragen, Manuskripte (in deutscher oder englischer Sprache) an die Herausgeber:
Inquiries or manuscripts in English or German should be sent to the editors:

Dr. Peter Morris-Keitel
Department of Foreign Languages
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837
USA
pmorris@bucknell.edu

Dr. Michael Niedermeier
Leiter der Arbeitsstelle Goethe- Wörterbuch
Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften
Jägerstrasse 22/23
10117 Berlin Germany
niedermeier@bbaw.de