

## **Swiss Association of University Teachers of English (SAUTE)**

### **Scholarly and Research Activities**

Under the auspices of the Swiss Association of University Teachers of English (SAUTE) Annette Kern-Stähler organised an international conference entitled “Secrecy and Surveillance in Medieval and Early Modern England”. It took place from 13-14 September 2018 at the University of Bern and provided a forum for established as well as junior scholars to share their ideas on the concepts and functions of secrecy and surveillance in medieval and early modern literature, language and culture. Keynote speakers were Karma Lochrie (Ruth N. Halls Professor of English, Indiana University), Paul Strohm (Anna S. Garbedian Professor Emeritus of the Humanities, Columbia University), Sylvia Tomasch (Hunter College, City University of New York), and Richard Wilson (Sir Peter Hall Professor of Shakespeare Studies, Kingston University). One new issue of Swiss Papers in English Language and Literature (SPELL) has been published this year, i.e. SPELL 36, entitled “The Challenge of Change”. It is based on papers that were originally delivered at the 2017 SAUTE conference in Neuchâtel and was edited by Martin Hilpert and Margaret Tudeau-Clayton.

### **International contacts**

SAUTE is a member association of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE). The fourteenth ESSE Conference, organized by the Czech Association for the Study of English (CZASE), took place from August 27 to September 2, 2018 at Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. SAUTE member Virginia Richter delivered one of the 19 invited parallel lectures. Her talk was entitled “Sandcastles and Beach Chairs: Banal Geopolitics in Modernist Literature”. Andreas H. Jucker, SAUTE President and SAUTE’s representative on the ESSE board attended the board meeting preceding the conference. At the meeting he was elected as new ESSE president to replace Liliane Louvel (France), who will step down from that position after two terms of office at the end of 2018. He also followed an invitation from the German Anglistenverband to attend their annual meeting, which this year took place in Bonn.

### **Public relations/outreach**

SAUTE has further improved the information on its website, which now also includes details of its members' research output and projects (see <http://www.sagw.ch/saute/>).

## **Administration**

The Annual General Assembly was held on May 4, 2018 in Neuchâtel in connection with a farewell workshop in honour of Margaret Tudeau-Clayton. At the meeting, SAUTE was happy to welcome a total of eight new members, and it elected Anita Auer (Lausanne) as an additional member of the board. For the preparation of the yearly SAUTE bulletin, the association has now installed an online-database, where members can enter their most recent publications to be included in the bulletin.

## **Outlook**

In 2019, SAUTE will have its biennial conference on May 3 and 4 at the University of Basel. The conference topic will be "Brexit and Beyond: Nation and Identity", and its keynote speakers will be Shelley Fisher (Fishkin, Professor of English, Stanford University, USA); Jo Angouri (Reader in Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick, GB); Christine Berberich (Senior Lecturer in English Literature, University of Portsmouth, GB); and Maurice Fitzpatrick (Lecturer, Journalist and Filmmaker, University of Cologne/freelance, Germany). At the AGM, which will take place in the context of the conference, three members of the board will step down: Andreas H. Jucker (Zurich), President; Lukas Erne (Geneva), General Editor SPELL; and Margaret Tudeau-Clayton (Neuchâtel), Curricular Matters. Anita Auer (Lausanne), elected to the board this year, is designed to take over as new president, and one new member will be elected at the meeting in Basel. Ina Habermann (Basel) has already agreed to be the candidate for the position as new General Editor of SPELL.