

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY
FRANCE



Newsletter

February 2016

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number 1014382

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Honorary Secretary: Chris Tinker (C.G.Tinker@hw.ac.uk)

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2015/16

President: Jan Windebank (Sheffield)

Hon Vice Presidents: David Hanley; Siân Reynolds, Máire Cross

Hon Vice Secretary: Steve Wharton

Officers

Secretary: Chris Tinker (Heriot-Watt)

Treasurer: Aude Campmas (Southampton)

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Publicity Officer: Wendy Michallat (Sheffield)

M&CF Editorial Board Representatives: Gill Allwood / Martin O'Shaughnessy
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Conference Officer: Nicole Fayard (Leicester)

Web Officer: David Lees (Warwick)

PG Representative: Clare Siviter (Warwick)

Schools' Outreach Officer: Geoff Medland

Ordinary members

Abigail Taylor (Sheffield)

Co-opted members

Conference organiser 2015: Imogen Long (Hull)

Conference Organiser 2016: Brian Sudlow (Aston)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope that members will enjoy a few moments reading about the exciting ASMCF news and activities that have taken place since the publication of our last newsletter and those that are due to take place in the coming months.



We enjoyed a fantastic annual conference at the University of Hull on 8-10th September 2015 on the theme of 'Myth Making' organised by Helena Chadderton, Rachel Haworth and Imogen Long (the conference report is included in the newsletter). The conference was of the highest quality in all respects from the intellectual vigour of the papers to the warm welcome of the conference organisers and the city of Hull. Highlights were the keynote addresses from Gisèle Sapiro (CNRS), Tony Chafer (Portsmouth University) and Michael Kelly (University of Southampton), not to mention our excellent after-dinner speaker Rosie Millard and the fact that the conference was reported on Radio Humberside. Many thanks to all those involved.

We are now looking forward to our next annual conference at Aston University from 6-7th September 2016 on the theme of 'Transitions' – the call for papers is included in this bulletin with an extended deadline to February 29th.

We have continued to building on outreach work begun at the Stirling and Southampton conferences with a further sixth-form day organised for Hull and Geoff Medland taking up his post as Outreach Officer. A sixth-form students' study afternoon was organised at the Hull conference by the conference team featuring some excellent sessions with the pupils and teachers by Daniel Gorden, David Lees and Martin O'Shaughnessy. Many thanks go to them for their time and effort. Geoff has made some excellent contacts on our behalf with exam boards which have been invaluable in gaining insight into the changing A-level curriculum which is being introduced from September 2015 and which we need to digest as we take this initiative forward.

At the AGM a new scheme to complement our existing provision for funding member-led research initiatives was launched: the Visiting Scholars' Seminar Series scheme. In the light of its commitment to fostering collaboration between francophone and UK academics in its fields of interest, the Association will make funding available on a competitive and annual basis to networks of members to support a seminar series of three or more thematically-related events with invited scholars from francophone countries. Full details of the scheme have been circulated to members and are included again in this newsletter.

We have welcomed a number of new members to the executive committee this year: Abigail Taylor, after a successful year as PG rep in 2013-14 returns as a member of the executive committee. We also welcome our new PG representative, Clare Siviter and our Aston conference organisers Graeme Hayes, Jim Shields and Brian Sudlow to the committee. Many thanks go to Aurelien Mondon who stepped down after a very successful period and much hard work as our Treasurer. He is replaced by Aude Campmas who was last year an executive committee member. We would also like to thank our 2014-15 postgraduate representatives Stacie Allan and Mason Norton who did an outstanding job last year.

****Extended deadline for CFP: 29 February 2016****

ASMCF Annual Conference

**Aston University
6-7 September 2016**

Transitions

The Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France (ASMCF) will be held at Aston University 6-7 September 2016. The theme of the conference is 'Transitions'.

Keynote speakers: Sudhir Hazareesingh (Oxford), Andrew Hussey (London) and Nonna Mayer (Sciences Po Paris).

Call for Papers:

Proposals for papers are invited on the theme of 'Transitions'. Papers may discuss any aspect of France as a country in transition or of related issues across the wider French-speaking world. Historical and contemporary perspectives are both welcome.

France has long been a country defined by dynamic transitions between continuity and change. What forms have these transitions taken or do they take today? How are they generated, interpreted, resolved or opposed, and how are such transitions represented? In an age characterised by ever more rapid change and new uncertainties, how does France negotiate the challenges of transition on a domestic, European or global scale?

Proposals are invited from the wide range of disciplines to be found within the ASMCF. The suggestions for topics listed below are far from comprehensive and contributions addressing other topics under the conference theme are welcomed. Proposals for papers might relate to a broad range of areas – political, social, intellectual, cultural, literary, artistic, linguistic, economic, environmental, technological or other – where it can be argued that France is, or the French are, in transition:

- The Republic
- Political institutions
- Parties and elections
- Economic policies and problems
- Ideology and extremisms
- National and regional identities
- France in the world
- The *exception française*
- Migrations
- Ethnicity
- Post-colonial debates

- Citizenship
- Social identities and movements
- The *banlieues*
- Visual cultures
- Media and social media
- Language(s)
- Literature
- *Francophonie*
- Youth
- Gender
- Education
- Intellectuals
- *Laïcité*
- Religions
- Crime and policing
- French tech
- Environmental policies, problems, protests
- Ecocriticism

The conference organisers welcome proposals for individual papers or for panels of up to three speakers from any disciplinary or interdisciplinary perspective. Postgraduate students are encouraged to present papers. Papers may be delivered in English or in French.

Proposals of c. 250 words in English or French for 20-minute papers should be sent in Word format to lss_asmcf2016conference@aston.ac.uk by 29 February 2016.

Organising Committee ASMCF 2016
School of Languages and Social Sciences
Aston University
Birmingham B4 7ET UK
Email: lss_asmcf2016conference@aston.ac.uk

Report on ASMCF Annual Conference 2015 University of Hull September 8-10 2015

On 8 September 2015 The University of Hull welcomed UK-based and international delegates to enjoy 3 days of intellectual stimulation and Hull hospitality. Highlights included our 3 key-note speakers: Mike Kelly, who gave the Peter Morris Memorial Lecture and aptly problematised 'la marche républicaine', Gisèle Sapiro, who kindly joined us from Paris to interrogate the influence of myth on political writing, and a particularly special mention must go to Tony Chafer, who gave a brilliant critique of 'françafrique' at very short notice. We thank them all. We were delighted to be able to include the work of so many postgraduate students at the event – both papers and posters – and we congratulate James Illingworth from QUB for his winning poster. In addition to the many excellent papers, we were joined by Madeleine Markey, from Taylor & Francis, who explained the mechanisms of publishing our work, and Laura Hood from The Conversation, who inspired us to consider a new and exciting destination for our work.

Delegates enjoyed the delights of Hull, including a stay at the Mercure Royal Hotel, a tour of the Old Town with guide Paul Schofield, a meal at the Humber-front Minerva, a lively after-dinner talk from the Chair of Hull City of Culture 2017, Rosie Millard, and the music of the University Jazz Quartet

The organisers would also formally like to thank Liz Neal of Visit Hull & East Yorkshire, Beki Bloomfield at WISE, and Jan Barker, Riccardo Orlandi and Adam Spencer in the School of Languages, Linguistics & Cultures.

See you in Birmingham in 2016!

Helena Chadderton, Imogen Long, Rachel Haworth, University of Hull.

Modern & Contemporary France

The Modern and Contemporary France Editorial Board and the Executive of the Association would like to express their warm thanks to Gabrielle Parker who has just stepped down from the Editorial Board.

Gabrielle has been an exemplary Board member over the years, playing a very active part in meetings and being an ever willing and careful reviewer of articles as well as an active book reviewer. Although she has stepped down from the Board, she has expressed her willingness to carry on helping the journal. We are very grateful to her for all her efforts.

New appointments to the Editorial Board

2015/16 Dr Oliver Davis (Warwick)

Dr Cathal Kilcline (NUI Galway)

Current Editorial Board as of

January 2015

Executive Editor: Gill Allwood

Co-Editors: Martin O'Shaughnessy and Patrick Young

Editorial Board

Manu Braganca - Queen's University

Belfast Tony Chafer - University of

Portsmouth, UK Oliver Davis (Warwick)

Hugh Dauncey - Newcastle University,

UK Daniel Gordon - Edge Hill

University

Elise Huguény- Léger - University of St. Andrews, UK

Cathal Kilcline (NUI Galway)

Gabrielle Parker - Middlesex University, UK

Denis Provencher - University of Maryland, Baltimore

County, USA Frédéric Royall - University of Limerick,

Ireland

Chris Tinker - Heriot Watt University, UK

Karine Varley – University of Strathclyde,

UK Natalya Vince - University of

Portsmouth, UK

Anyone who wishes to submit a special issue proposal should contact Gill Allwood

(gill.allwood@ntu.ac.uk) and Martin O'Shaughnessy directly

(martin.oshaughnessy@ntu.ac.uk)

Ideas for book reviews & review articles can be discussed with Chris Reynolds:

(chris.reynolds@ntu.ac.uk)

POSTGRADUATE NEWS

Forthcoming ASMCF-SSFH PG Study Day, Saturday 5 March 2016

'Patrimoine'

How do we view the past and how do we order the world around us? The term 'patrimoine', in the Francophone world, encompasses a range of historic and cultural places, objects and practices. From grand archives and collections down to the preservation of social and cultural heritage, the notion of patrimoine is fundamental to the ways in which actors from the collective down to the individual level bring order to memory and shape a conception of belonging.

The French Revolution marked the start of a new age of archives, making them the property of the people and a cornerstone of nationhood in the centuries to come, on paper if not in practice. The Revolutionary period also founded the Louvre, one of the world's greatest collections and the world's most visited museum, gathering collections of centuries past and building its own. Indeed, it is no coincidence that UNESCO has its headquarters in Paris, whose remit covers a wide list of cultural and natural phenomena, ranging from places and buildings to food and drink and to music and dance.

The practices of preserving patrimoine exist beyond the level of grand institutions; they are also private, individual activities. No matter the scale, to choose what qualifies as worthy of collection and preservation is extremely subjective to the person or institution organising. Academic fieldwork that examines texts, images, places, practices and other areas adds another level of subjectivity as we actively decide what elements of patrimoine are worthy for study.

In addition to analysing the subjectivity of what is highlighted by the processes of collection and heritage, the role of scholars is also to acknowledge gaps, erasure, and alterations. When we come to examine both public and private archives and collections, what is not preserved and remembered is as important as what is. Evaluating our assumptions around patrimoine seems ever more urgent at a time when we are faced with the increasing State patronage of 'heritage' whilst other millennia-old heritages disappear, the economic struggles of cultural institutions, and issues such as the digitisation of archives and the growth of 'big data'.

It is our intention that the conference theme will be widely interpreted, and bring together doctoral students and early career researchers from a broad spectrum of disciplines.

The conference is generously funded by the Society for the Study of French History and the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France.

ASMCF PG Poster Competition 2015 - REPORT

The ASMCF held its annual Postgraduate Poster Competition at the association's conference at the University of Hull, 8-10 September 2015. Unlike the papers of the main conference proceedings, the posters were not restricted to the theme of 'Myth-Making', which allowed presenters to explore their doctoral research in an innovative way. The posters were displayed in the main lobby for the duration of the conference, and the presenters were available to discuss their research with delegates on a one-to-one basis during the coffee and lunch breaks.

On the Wednesday morning of the conference, the judging panel inspected the posters and spoke

with the presenters, ahead of the session in the afternoon, chaired by Postgraduate Representative Mason Norton. During the session, each presenter displayed their posters digitally and spoke for around five minutes about their research and the process of displaying it in poster form. Fabienne Chamelot (University of Portsmouth) spoke about 'Archives and political rule in the French Empire. The Cases of French West Africa and Indochinese Union in the 20th Century', which forms part of her thesis on the French Overseas Archives in Aix-en-Provence. Adam Spencer (University of Hull) presented his poster, entitled 'Monumental Memories: *lieux de mémoire* in the Charente', which discussed the commemoration of *résistants* through war memorials. James Illingworth (Queen's University, Belfast) discussed how the images used on his poster, 'The Mythopoetics of Representation in George Sand', related to his overall thesis. The final poster, 'Gendered Narratives and Memories of Colonialism' by Beatrice Ivey (University of Leeds), brought together gender theory and cultural memory. After the presentations, which had all kept to time, the audience were invited to ask questions.

The judging panel consisted of Postgraduate Representative Stacie Allan, and Executive Committee members Nicole Fayard and Wendy Michallat. At the AGM later that afternoon, James Illingworth was declared the winner. James was awarded two books of his choice from the competition sponsors, Peter Lang, and a cheque for £50. Adam Spencer, the runner-up, received £25 worth of book vouchers for The European Bookshop. The judges commented that the standard of competition was high, with all participants creating engaging posters and delivering intelligent presentations. The presenters said that they received useful feedback from both the main session and from individual conversations with delegates.

We would like to thank Peter Lang for sponsoring the competition, The European Bookshop for providing the runner-up prize, the conference organisers Helena Chadderton, Rachel Haworth and Imogen Long for their assistance, the judging panel for their comments, and all of the presenters for sharing their research with us.

Stacie Allan & Mason Norton
ASMCF Postgraduate Representatives 2014-15

PRIZES AWARDED BY THE ASSOCIATION

2015 Brian Darling Prize

Prize-winners 2015: Julia Dobson, University of Warwick, 'Analyse and evaluate the success of the GIP's resistance to techniques of coercive governance both at home and abroad' and Danielle Hayter, University of Portsmouth, 'How and why has the contribution of African soldiers to the French war effort during the Second World War been remembered in France and Senegal since the mid-1990s?'

2015 Douglas Johnson Prize

Prize-winner 2015: Liam Jones, University of Portsmouth, 'Mitterrand, Kohl and the quest for EMU: an awkward inheritance or a visionary endeavour? An analysis of the motives behind increased Franco-German economic integration in Europe from 1982-1995 and its consequences.'

PRIZE CRITERIA

All three prizes are now set at £250

The Brian Darling Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of Brian Darling, the first Honorary Secretary of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250** is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world.

The work may be written in either French or English and should not normally exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a member of the Association at a UK or other university.

The Douglas Johnson Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of the late Douglas Johnson, the first Honorary President of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250**, is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world. The work may be written in either French or English, should be over five thousand words, but not exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a member of the Association at a UK or other university.

The Peter Morris Postgraduate Travel Prize was established in memory of the late Peter Morris, a founding member of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250**, is awarded to a postgraduate students whose project is deemed worthy of support. Applications should include an outline of the intended travel, its relevance to the underlying research project, and a statement of support from a supervisor, who should normally be a member of the Association.

A three-person sub-committee of the Executive will be invited by the Secretary to consider the submissions and determine the award of the prize. Prize winners will be notified directly and their names announced both on the website and at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

Submissions for any or all of the above prizes should be made by 17th July of the year in question to the Honorary Secretary of the Association: Chris Tinker, Department of Languages & Intercultural Studies, School of Management & Languages, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh EH14 4AS UK

Colleagues nominating students should include contact details for the student for September so that we can let students know directly of the outcome of the competition.

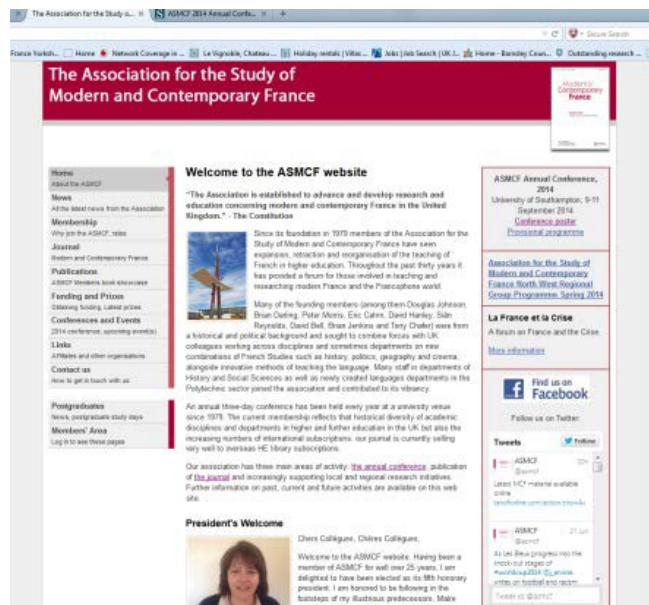
Further enquiries may be made of the Secretary at: C.G.Tinker@HW.AC.UK

Web Site and Social Media

All new members will be sent login details to the members' area of the website by Taylor and Francis by letter.

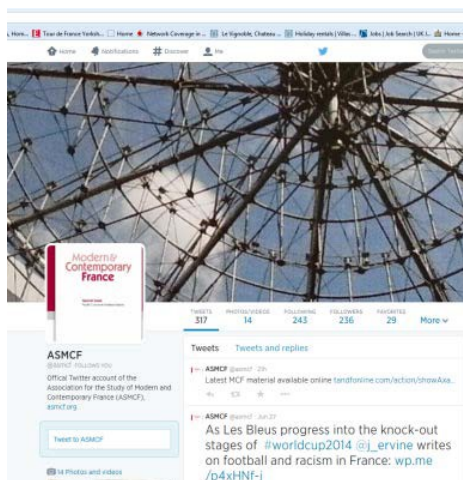
Existing members will also be reminded of their login details along with their annual renewal letter.

In the meantime members can also request their login details via an email to societies@informa.com with their name and email address



Twitter and Facebook

Members are encouraged to follow/join the Association's Twitter and Facebook accounts which have now been running for two years.



Twitter: @asmcf



Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/asmcf1979?ref=nf>

Please keep sending items for the news and publications sections of the website to our Web Officer – David Lees (d.lees@warwick.ac.uk)

FORTHCOMING ASMCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next two meetings of the Executive Committee will be held Saturday 5 March 2016 and Tuesday 14 May 2016. Items for the next Executive Committee agenda, and any Initiative fund bids, should be submitted by 26 February 2016 to the Honorary Secretary, Chris Tinker at: C.G.Tinker@HW.AC.UK
