



Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities  
Departments of English Literature and the English Language

would like to kindly invite all scholars representing different philological disciplines and theoretical models to

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Siedlce Forum for Contemporary Issues in Language and Literature**

to be held on **April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017** in Siedlce (Poland) to present their research findings (not previously published or presented) in **oral sessions** in English. The leitmotif of the conference is:

## **Humorousness/Seriousness Dichotomy in Language, Culture and Literature**

### **Keynote Speakers:**

Prof. Ewa Łuczak (University of Warsaw)

Prof. Francisco Yus (University of Alicante)

### **The Research Areas and Suggested Topics**

#### **Linguistics:**

- Humor and gender/race/ethnicity
- Persuasion, implicature and violations of the Gricean (cooperative) model of communication
- Functions of puns, wordplay, and proverbs in second language acquisition, teaching, communication
- Stylistic figures (metaphor, irony, hyperbole, etc.)
- Jokes, cartoons and other forms of humor
- Applications of humor and laughter
- Styles of humor/humor taste
- Humor and cognition
- Humor and emotion
- Humour in film discourse, TV programmes, advertising, press



### Culture Studies:

- American and/or/versus British sense of humor
- Humor in American/British sitcoms, late-night shows, physical comedies
- American utilitarian individualism: seriousness and sadness?
- The male gaze and the image of black and/or white women in film, gender, and feminist studies
- Jest, wordplay, pun, seriousness as rhetorical strategies
- The Blackface minstrelsy: fun or racism?
- The 30s and the 40s as the decades of moral seriousness in America
- The role of Shakespeare's court jesters

### Literature:

- The serious nature / uses of comedy in both Adult and Children's Fiction
- Humour in prose fiction as a means of extending and crossing boundaries
- Humour as a device for exploring serious issues in literature
- The exploratory space created between humour and seriousness in Adult and Children's Fiction
- Humour in prose fiction as a means to expose and explore taboo subjects
- Humour as a necessary counterbalance in dark fantasy fiction written for children and young adults

### Oral Sessions

Each presentation in the oral session will be scheduled for a 20-minute talk followed by a 10-minute discussion.

### Abstract Submission

An abstract of 200-300 words (including bibliography) should be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in .doc format via e-mail to [siedlceforum@gmail.com](mailto:siedlceforum@gmail.com). Your abstract must be accompanied by the following information: **name of the author, title of paper, affiliation, academic degree, research area, a biographical note of 60-80 words in length**. Notification of acceptance will be sent to authors by March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



### **Conference Proceedings**

After the conference, papers will be published in a peer-reviewed post-conference volume. The articles need to be submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Further information concerning publication as well as submission guidelines will be available on the conference website at [siedlceforum.weebly.com](http://siedlceforum.weebly.com).

### **Conference Fee**

All participants are requested to return the registration form and pay the conference fee by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. The fee, which covers organisation costs, conference materials, lunches and refreshments, is EUR 70 or PLN 300. Accommodation and transportation costs are covered by the participants. The organizers can assist in booking rooms in University halls of residence or town hotels. The fee should be transferred to one of the following bank accounts:

#### **Institution Name:**

Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities  
ul. Konarskiego 2  
08-110 Siedlce

#### **Bank account for payments in EUR:**

PL 84124026851978001014643201  
SWIFT BIC: PKOPPLPW  
Bank Pekao S.A. O/ Siedlce  
Wojskowa 24, 08-110 Siedlce, Poland

#### **Bank account for payments in PLN:**

19124026851111000036563195  
Bank Pekao S.A. O/ Siedlce  
Wojskowa 24, 08-110 Siedlce

#### **Conference organizing committee:**

Prof. Edward Colerick  
Oksana Blashkiv, PhD  
Joanna Kolbusz-Buda, PhD  
Katarzyna Kozak, PhD  
Iwona Świętczak-Wasilewska, PhD  
Vitaliy Baran, MA  
Katarzyna Mroczyńska, MA  
Magdalena Wieczorek, MA  
Agnieszka Wróbel, MA