



The Institution of Literature: 250 Years of English Studies and Cultural Transfer (30 August - 1 September 2012)

2012 marks the 250th anniversary of the election of John Tompson as the first Professor of English at Goettingen University. His *English Miscellanies* was one of the first English publications ever in Germany, and was also the first anthology composed in an academic context for the purpose of the mediation of English literature and culture to German students of English. The *Miscellanies* was therefore an important watershed in the development of British-German literary and cultural transfer.

The department of British Literature and Culture and the department of English Didactics will celebrate this important anniversary with a jointly organised conference. Keynote speakers will be Susan Bassnett, Terry Eagleton, and Konrad Schröder.

We invite 300-word proposals for 20-minute papers on the origins, forms, methods, practices and multiple histories of cultural mediation as well as of the teaching of English literature and language in a European context from the 18th century to the present.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- the historical and political imperatives that have informed the mediation of British literature and culture;
- the role and the history of the anthology as a genre of its own;
- questions of canon formation in the context of the mediation of national literature and culture;
- literary translation and the translation industry as factors in cultural transfer processes;
- cultural exchange, reciprocal transfers, and networks of knowledge and ideas;
- the relationship between literature and culture in teaching contexts and questions of methodology;
- the role of literature in language teacher education;
- the problem of disciplinary origins of the teaching of English;
- the relationship between literature and language teaching;
- teaching English in the age of globalisation.

The conference will be hosted by Barbara Schaff and Carola Surkamp, English Department, Goettingen University. The conference fee will be € 50,-

Please send abstracts of approximately 300 words by February 10th 2012 to bschaff@uni-goettingen.de and carola.surkamp@phil.uni-goettingen.de. For specific questions and inquiries please feel free to contact Johannes Schlegel at johannes.schlegel@phil.uni-goettingen.de