



SEDERI

Spanish and Portuguese Society
for English Renaissance Studies

Sociedad Española y Portuguesa
de Estudios Renacentistas Ingleses

NEWSLETTER

Number 5, February 2007

The President's Address

I must start this newsletter with an apology and a wish.

I must apologise for the delay in sending this newsletter, and for its short list of contents. The person who has been in charge of the composition of the bulletin since its inception has been forced to commit all his time and energy to fighting a very serious illness; and other commitments have delayed my attempts to assume the task of assembling the items for the newsletter. My wish goes for him to fully recover (and I am sure I am representing the whole Association in expressing this wish), and to be able to resume his work as before.

I hope, all this notwithstanding, that this newsletter will serve as an encouragement for you to look forward to the next SEDERI Conference to be held next March in Cadiz.

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Publications: The SEDERI Yearbook

In the first half of 2006, volume number 15 of our yearbook was distributed to all the members of SEDERI and to several libraries in Spain, Portugal, the UK, the USA, and Canada. It was also indexed in important bibliographical repertoires, such as the MLAIB, ABELL, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, Dialnet, CINDOC-CSIC and Latindex. The aim was to make our journal known and accessible both in our country and abroad.

As regards volume 16, it has just come out and we expect you will have received by the time this issue of the newsletter is distributed. It contains six articles (by Sylvia Adamson, Laurie Maguire, Laura Monrós, Aimara Resende, Purificación Ribes, and Javier Sánchez Escribano), three notes (by Jorge Bueno, David Cranmer, and Paula de Pando), and five book/film reviews. We hope that you will like the final result in terms of both contents and design.

The submissions for number 17 are now being assessed by our referees. Unfortunately we have received no book reviews so far, and this can make us once again delay the publication of this issue until next Autumn. We earnestly encourage our members to review books

about the English Early Modern period published in the last two years. Reviews of plays or films are also welcome.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all the members of the Editorial Board and all the contributors to the aforementioned three volumes for their expertise, availability, and patience. Likewise, I personally wish to thank my fellow editors –Clara Calvo and Javier Pérez Guerra– for their wise counsel and efficient work. Without their collaboration the ongoing facelift of our journal would not be so successful.

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SEDERI in Cádiz, 2007

The English Studies Department at the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad de Cádiz, is very pleased to welcome you to the 18th SEDERI Conference, which will take place from 7 to 9 of March, 2007.

The venue of the Conference will be the Arts Faculty, a recently-restored nineteenth-century building facing one of the most attractive parks in Cadiz and with a most impressive view of the sea. We are sure that all of you who attend the Conference will therefore enjoy both the Conference and all that the City is willing to offer to its visitors. You may find interesting suggestions in the list of visitor-information pages we have assembled on the conference website, at

http://www2.uca.es/dept/filolo_francesa_inglesa/sederi18/cadiz.html

You will also find all the information you may need about, as well as the latest news on, the conference at

http://www2.uca.es/dept/filolo_francesa_inglesa/sederi18/

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SEDERI in Cáceres, 2006

The XVII SEDERI Conference was held from 5 to 7 of April, 2006, in the *Complejo Cultural "San Francisco"*, an impressive XV-century building the use of which was generously granted by the *Diputación Provincial* at Cáceres. Four plenary speakers were invited: Adriana Bebianio, from the University of Coimbra (Portugal); Pilar Cuder Domínguez, from the University of Huelva (Spain); Jonathan Culpeper, from Lancaster University (United Kingdom); and Mark Johnson, from the University of Nottingham (United Kingdom). Together with them, thirty-eight papers were delivered by thirty-nine different speakers coming from twenty-one British, Portuguese and Spanish universities and research centres. The Conference was attended by more than one hundred and twenty people, for it attracted both participants from cities around Cáceres and students of English literature at the University of Extremadura, as well as SEDERI members from Spain, Portugal and the United Kingdom. At the end of the first day, an official reception was offered at the Town Hall by a member of the local government; after that, a guided tour around the old quarters of town was scheduled, but the heavy rain turned it into a gastronomical tour in some of the best reputed bars of

the city centre (few complaints about the change were heard). The Conference gala dinner took place at the end of the second day of sessions at *Restaurante "El Corregidor"*; it was attended by around two thirds of the Conference participants (and enjoyed by all of these, judging from later comments). The Conference finished in the evening of Friday, April 7th, with the SEDERI annual general meeting and closing session in which all participants were invited and encouraged to gather again at the following Conference in Cádiz in March 2007.

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SEDERI General Meeting (Cáceres, 6 April 2006): A Summary

After a general agreement on the minutes of the previous General Meeting, the members of the Board informed about diverse issues. The President of the Board commented on the reasons for the unusual date of the Conference in Cáceres, something that should be exceptional.

Zenón Luis Martínez (member of the Board in charge of communications) suggested the possibility of publishing two newsletters a year (before and after each Conference).

Clara Calvo López (member of the Board in charge of Conferences) proposed for any future conference the existence of a scientific committee independent from the organising committee, which will

make the work more effective and will also help to get subsidies and funds from diverse institutions.

Jorge Figueroa Dorrego (member of the Board in charge of publications and editor of the SEDERI Journal) informed on the publication of the last number of the journal and the changes carried out: it is no longer a publication of proceedings, but a journal of articles and reviews, which has been sent not only to active members of the society, but also to diverse libraries in Spain and abroad; he added that CSIC has rated it as "C", and efforts are being made to get a "B".

Ana Sáez Hidalgo (Secretary-Treasurer) gave updated information about slight changes in number of members of the society and the charges due to returned fees from the banks. In connection with this, there was a debate on the fees for those who attend conferences, whether members should pay less than other participants or new membership should be encouraged with some price reduction or maybe speakers should be compelled to become members of the society.

Then, the Treasurer informed on the statement of accounts in the last year: with the incomes of member fees on the one hand and the expenses for the publication of the journal, bank charges and the Board's expenses on the other, the balance is quite similar to that of the previous year, without any major loss or gain of money. She commented on the fact that the bank charges due to the return of fees are high, so an attempt will be made to avoid this type of costs. The expectations of incomes and expenses for the following year are similar, unless it is necessary to make some important payment.

The next item on the agenda was the renewal of the members of the Board (except for the Secretary-Treasurer). By general agreement, all the members of the Board were renewed in their charges: Juan Antonio Prieto Pablos (President), Clara Calvo López, Jorge Figueroa Dorrego and Zenón Luis Martínez (members of the Board).

The next issue was that of the 2007 conference: it will take place in Cádiz, in March. Some debate arose on the days of the week in which the conferences take place: as there is a general agreement that Thursday-Saturday is preferable to Wednesday-Friday, the President recommended to suggest that option to future organising committees (except when infrastructures and other conditions do not make it possible).

Next on the agenda was the website of the Society, which at the moment is kindly maintained by Dr. González Fernández-Corugedo. The President of the Board expressed the need to renew the website and to facilitate access not only to the information on the society, but also to the journal: most of the numbers are now on the website —the aim being to have them all on the internet. Also, it would be convenient to have a professional designer that would modernize it; then, some member of the society could be in charge of maintaining it. After some debate, the President suggested studying all the details involved in the renewal of the website, including costs and other technical considerations.

In the final section of the meeting, the President thanked the Organising Committee of the Cáceres Conference for their work and efficiency.

Then, Manuel Gómez Lara commented the problem of the disappearance of English Studies in Spain and suggested writing a document against it, emphasizing the concern for the loss of specialized courses such as Renaissance literature. Several Portuguese members of the society expressed their solidarity with this situation and explained how differently is the Bologna project being carried out in Portugal.

After some compliments on the new journal and its design by several members of the society, and Dr Calvo's suggestion to send a message to the President of ESSE in favour of having Renaissance panels in the conference of that society, the meeting ended.

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