Guild of Indian English Writers, Editors and Critics (GIEWEC), Kerala
And
Department of English
Maniben Nanavati Women's College, Mumbai.
Reaccredited with 'A' Grade- NAAC
(Affiliated to SNDT Women's University, Mumbai)

Jointly organize

International Conference

Re-imagining the Text: English Studies and Digital Humanities

24 &25 November 2017
Venue: Maniben Nanavati Women's College
Vallabhbhai Road, Vile Parle (West)
Mumbai- 400056.

Inviting Papers from Scholars, Researchers, Students, Faculty Members, Academicians, Professionals and Experts from the fields of Humanities, Social Sciences, Management, Media, Interdisciplinary Studies and others

Deadlines: For Abstracts - 10th August 2017
For Intimations About Selected Abstracts- 25th August, 2017
For Full Papers- 31st October , 2017
Email -Id for sending abstracts and Papers : angrezidept@gmail.com

Concept Note

This conference proposes to explore the multiple dimensions of the Digital Age and their impact in terms of English Studies in particular and humanities and social sciences in general. One of the probable outcomes is the expansion of the notion of the 'text'--- moving from traditional models into more diffused and multi-dimensional ones. Mathew Kirschenbaum in his Panizzi lectures defines 'texts' to "include verbal, visual, oral, and numeric data in the form of maps, prints, and music, of archives of recorded sound, of films, videos, and any computer-stored information." We would like to attend to this process of mediation between traditional English Studies and the Digital humanities.
Digital humanities brings digital tools and methods to the study of the humanities with the recognition that the printed word is no longer the main medium for knowledge production and distribution. By producing and using new applications and techniques, Digital humanities makes new kinds of teaching and research possible, while at the same time studying and critiquing how these impact cultural heritage and digital culture.

Digital humanities is associated with other fields, such as social computing, and media studies. It incorporates both digitized, born-digital materials and combines the methodologies from traditional humanities disciplines (such as history, philosophy, linguistics, literature, art, archaeology, music, and cultural studies) and social sciences (Psychology, Sociology, Economics) with tools provided by computing (such as

Hypertext, Hypermedia, data visualisation, information retrieval, data mining, statistics, text mining, digital mapping), and digital publishing.

Related subfields of digital humanities have emerged like software studies and cyberculture, new media studies as well as media theory of composition, game studies and cultural analysis, cultural analytics, culturomics, hashtag activism and more.

Studying English since its very inception has held multiple challenges. With the colonial knowledge networks, the distinction between language and literature teaching was not only often blurred but also laced with colonial discourses of knowledge. Since then, English studies in India have constantly grappled with the issues and concerns of both the means of knowledge production and its dissemination. Having battled concerns of colonial hangover, English studies in post-independence India have since consciously tried to de-centre English studies from its European roots to introduce multiple intersectional perspectives emerging out of the socio-political concerns of the Global South.

English studies in India were also influenced by larger critical theory movements across the globe and responded with what we could call a theoretical turn, postcolonial turn and a cultural turn. In its endeavour to embrace newer perspectives and concerns the discipline had to expand its horizons--- rewriting canons, challenging historiographies, pedagogical methods etc. We seem to be poised at another fundamental shift in the paradigm of humanities as we look towards a digital turn. Located well within the Digital Age we are faced with new modes and methods of knowledge creation and knowledge mobilization and hence well within the churning that seems to be the foundation for the creation of future cultures.

In particular, we would like to initiate a discussion on Postcolonial cultures and their interaction with Digital Literatures and Digital media. We are looking to suitably problematise the notion of the Digital space as post- gender, class, caste and race.

The conference thus aim to provide a platform for national and international scholars, researchers, practitioners, academicians of English Studies, Humanities, social sciences, media studies and other fields related to the themes of the conference to discuss and debate the possibilities and challenges thrown up the digital turn in the 21st century.

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<u>Sub-Themes for the conference</u>

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We invite paper presenters to attend to the following concerns, however they need not be restricted to these sub-themes only and may elaborate or discuss issues related to the main theme of the Conference:

- Digital Literatures, storytelling, fan fiction, Youtube mashes, crack videos etc.
- The figure of the author in the Digital Age
- Digital literature versus the canon
- Literature on the Digital Media
- Digital arts, architecture, music, film, theatre, new media, digital games, and electronic literature
- Humanistic approach to literature
- Digital media as a content or plot in contemporary literary endeavours
- Digital humanities in pedagogy and academic curricula
- Digital media as a site of theorisation and critique
- Multiculturalism and virtual communities
- Cyber crime & security
- Netizens and other virtual communities

- Pseudo culture & Pseudo Identities
- Social media and mental health
- Redefining relationships (virtual 'friends')
- Impact of addiction
- Social Networking & Workplace
- Online consumerism
- Digital archives
- Skype etc as tool for communication
- Applications as tool for learning
- Online MOOC websites (eg Coursera)
- Digital evaluation and assessment
- Geriatrics (Old age) and Digital Media
- Spiritual Reach of the digital movement
- Youth and the digital world

◆**Abstract in MS WORD not more than 250 words and 6 to 7 keywords.**

◆**Papers between 3000 to 5000 words in MS Word in APA Style sheet.**
First Page: Title of the paper, Name, Designation, Institution, CONTACT NUMBER and Undertaking about the paper being original and unpublished.
Second Page: Paper in 12 Font, Single spacing ; Paragraphs not be indented; Title of the paper (14 Font Bold , No Italics, centre) and Author affiliation without salutation (12 font on the right side); Abstract in caps lock, bold and 12 font in the centre; Keywords bold, 12 font, Main paper starts on the same page

Conference Proceedings will be published with an ISBN after the papers being reviewed by experts and scanned by the anti-plagiarism software.

Apart from paper presentations, there will be sessions on poetry presentations. A Poetry-Writing Contest for the UG and PG students will also be one of the important attractions of the Conference. Theme will be announced on the spot.

A detailed brochure will soon follow containing details of registration dates and fees, accommodation, conference kit, programme schedule, location of the conference and how to reach there. No TA/DA will be provided. Paid accommodation will be available upon request.

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