

**The 29<sup>th</sup> PASE conference**

**Intersections: Linguistic, Literary and Cultural  
Encounters in English Studies**

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With the constantly growing tendencies towards multidimensional approaches to social and cultural phenomena, the 29<sup>th</sup> PASE Conference focused on multiple intersections observable in English studies. Set against the current institutional policy to ‘discipline’ studies and research, the theme of conference attracted over 60 participants, who analysed in their papers interactions and crossovers between diverse cultural phenomena, trends, theories, methodologies and disciplines of study.

The 29<sup>th</sup> PASE conference was organised by the Anglicists from the Institute of Literary Studies and the Institute of Linguistics at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the initial date of the conference (planned for the year 2020) had to be postponed and eventually, for the first time in the history of PASE, the conference was held online in June 2021. This format allowed the organisers to cancel the conference fee, as all the keynote lectures and panels took place in MS Teams. Even though the virtual environment precluded face-to-face communication, it proved highly conducive to a fruitful exchange of ideas and enabled participation from all over the world. The plenary speakers included Professor John Harris from the University College London, Professor Ewa Kujawska-Lis from the University of Warmia and Mazury, Professor Fátima Vieira from the University of Porto and Professor Steve Tomasula from the University of Notre Dame. Their intersecting keynote lectures provided insights into recent developments in such diverse fields as phonology, translation studies, contemporary utopianism and the posthuman novel. The 29<sup>th</sup> conference followed the format introduced during the previous conference in Poznań and consisted of general as well as thematic panels, proposed by PASE members. It gathered scholars from a wide range of Polish as well as foreign universities and thus seems to have reversed the trend towards “localisation” of PASE conferences.

On the second day of the conference PASE General Meeting was held, during which Professor Jacek Fabiszak from the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań was unanimously re-elected as the President of the Polish Association for the Study of English. The Board and the Auditing Committee were elected as well. The meeting concluded with a discussion of the most urgent issues and forthcoming events, including the next PASE conference to be organized by the Jagiellonian University in 2022.

A venture into the new online format, the 29<sup>th</sup> PASE conference demonstrated that even in the times of unprecedented challenges posed by the global pandemic, which had upended familiar forms of academic communication and interaction, Polish Anglicists and their colleagues from abroad could successfully meet to explore intersections in their interdisciplinary field of study.