Contents

Staff 3
Conspectus 4
Staff News 5
Donors 6
Publications 6
Conferences 10
Research 15
Shakespeare Text Development Programme 16
Secondary Schools’ Language Project (SSLP) 16
Campus Creative Writing Programme 17
Wordfest 18
WordBeacons 21
Heartlands Multimedia Productions 22
Horn of Plenty Multimedia Presentations 22
Distinguished Visitors 22
University Teaching 23
Degrees in Progress (Staff) 23
Director’s Activities 23
Conclusion 24
ISEA STAFF

**Director**
Professor. L. S. Wright BA (Hons), MA, D Phil

**Alan Macintosh Research Fellow**
M. Probyn MSc, BA, BEd

**Research Officer**
C. Rasana BA (Hons)

**Research Associates**
R. S. Berold BSc (Eng), MA
C. M. Mann BA, MA, MA, Hon D Litt

**Visitor**
H. Slinger, HDE, TLSD, LCTL, Dipl. Television, President, Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa

**Co-ordinator, Creative Writing Programme**
C. Warren, NDipLIS, BA

**Editor: English in Africa**
Professor. C. H. MacKenzie BA (Hons), MA, PhD

**Editor: New Coin Poetry**
J. Metelerkamp BA (Hons), MA

**Editor: Shakespeare in Southern Africa**
Professor. B. Pearce BA (Hons), MA, PhD

**Editor: SSOSA Newsletter and Occasional Papers & Reviews**
Professor. H. Van Der Mescht, BA (Hons), UED, MA, PhD

**Visiting Researcher**
D. Kilpert BA (Hons)

**Administrative Officer**
J. King

**Publications Officer**
M. Baxter BA (Hons), MA
B. Cummings

**Secretary**
N. Kelemi
ANNUAL REPORT 2002

Conspectus

This report covers the period from January to December 2002.

Important events at the ISEA in 2002 included:

- the **Secondary Schools Language Project** has developed an Advanced Certificate in Education for English Language Teachers. The programme, subject to Ministerial approval, starts in January 2003 and aims to improve the quality of English teaching, particularly in the Eastern Cape.

- The Director was made Honorary Life-President of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa. He delivered keynote addresses at the 7th Biennial Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Shakespeare Association; at the 14th Annual Conference of the English Academy of Southern Africa and at ‘Valuing and Re-Valuing the Humanities’, an interdisciplinary conference at Potchefstroom University for CHE. He also lectured at the Winter School during the National Arts Festival, and gave this year’s Shakespeare Memorial Lecture in Grahamstown on ‘How Shakespeare Came to South Africa.’

- Janet Suzman and Gcina Mhlophe were among the highlights during a packed **Wordfest** programme of 108 events at this year’s National Arts Festival.

- Alan Macintosh Research Fellow Margie Probyn has been working on the Ministerial Committee appointed to write curriculum statements for the Further Education and Training (FET) band i.e. Grades 10-12.

- With Prof Attie de Lange, the Director convened an interdisciplinary conference on ‘The Future of the Humanities in South Africa’ at Potchefstroom University for CHE. Several initiatives to re-position the Humanities in the national education framework have resulted.

- Two very successful seminars on Systemic Functional Linguistics, supported by the NRF and organised by Di Kilpert and Margie Probyn,
were presented by the distinguished linguists Ruqaiya Hasan (July) and Jim Martin (November). These events were well-attended by researchers from the region and further afield.

- Congratulations to Chris Mann on winning the Eastern Cape Premier’s Arts and Culture Award for Literature and the Philip Stein Award for poems published in *New Contrast*. His publications for 2002 are listed below. Congratulations, too, to Robert Berold for winning one of the DALRO prizes for poetry published in *New Coin*.

**STAFF NEWS**

We record with sadness the passing of Marion Baxter, ISEA Publications Officer, who had been with the Institute since 1995. We lost a valued colleague, and the country has lost a poet and writer of considerable talent and achievement.

Cossie Rasana has been appointed to a three-year contract post in the Institute as a Research Officer. She has submitted her M.Ed dissertation and started with us full-time in November.

We are happy to welcome Hildé Slinger, National President of the Shakespeare Society, who is working in the ISEA in preparation for next year’s Triennial Congress. Plans include two productions, including the African premiere of *Pericles*, an Indian dance-drama and a mini-safari. Plenary speakers to date include Professor Jacques Berthoud (York), Professor Chris Wortham (UWA) and Manfred Schroenn. Delegates from as far afield as China, Russia, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Cyprus, India and Australia have so far indicated their intention of participating.

Jean Bleach moved to Cape Town at the end of her stint as a Research Associate. We are most appreciative of the stirling work she did on behalf of Education in the Province.

Crystal Warren has taken over as coordinator of the Campus Creative Writing programme in 2002 from Arona Dison, and Paulette Coetzee joined the team as an additional facilitator.

We welcome Beverley Cummings to the post of ISEA Publications Officer, and wish her a pleasant and rewarding tenure.
Donors

Financial support from the following sources is acknowledged with gratitude:

ABSA Bank
Anglo American Chairman's Fund Educational Trust
Anglo Gold Fund Educational Trust
Arts and Culture Trust of the President
Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association (ASFLA)
BASA
DALRO
Department of Recreation, Sport, Arts and Culture of the Eastern Cape
ECPACC
Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust
Exclusive Books
Grahamstown Training College Fund
Incredible Books
National Arts Council
National Research Foundation (NRF)
PanSALB
Rhodes University Joint Research Committee
Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa
Standard Bank

ISEA Publications

Periodicals


*English in Africa* 29.1 contains an interview with the Ivoirean writer Véronique Tadjo by Stephen Gray, detailing her complex response to, among other things, western feminism. Ileana Dimitriu re-looks at Nadine Gordimer’s early novels, and Valerie Letcher draws interesting comparisons between the visual art of Frederick I’Ons and Harriet Ward’s way of seeing in her writings.
**New Coin** 36.2 ran poems by Vonani Bila, Ismail Garba, Chris Mann, Mlokisi Mayana, Marion Baxter, Joop Bersee and others. Don Maclennan was interviewed by Joan Metelerkamp.

**Shakespeare in Southern Africa** Vol. 13 (2001) carried substantial pieces by Jonathan Bate (King Alfred Professor of English in the University of Liverpool); Thomas Docherty (Director of Research in the University of Kent) and Malvern Van Wyk Smith (Professor of English at Rhodes), as well as a range of work on international and South African Shakespeare by a wide range of scholars.

**The DALRO Poetry Prizes**

The DALRO prizes, awarded annually for poetry appearing in *New Coin*, were this year awarded to Ingrid de Kok (‘A few questions’); Robert Berold (‘Beloved’) and Seithlhamo Motsapi (‘Take me with you’). The judges were Craig Mackenzie and Carrol Clarkson, and the awards were made immediately prior to the DALRO Lecture at this year’s *Wordfest*.

**Other publications**

**Book**


**Journal articles**


perspectives in education. 20.1 (March): 29-46.

——. 2002. ‘How can formal Language Planning link to grassroots cultural initiative? An investigative report.’ Submitted to Per Linguam.
Reviews


Poems


Conferences and Public Lectures


Conference proceedings

ISEA Seminars on Systemic Functional Linguistics and Education

1. ‘Understanding Teaching and Learning in Relation to Language and Society’, 13 July 2002

Convenor: Di Kilpert, visiting researcher in the ISEA
Presenter: Professor Ruqaiya Hasan, Macquarie University, Sydney

Professor Hasan’s visit was funded by a grant from the National Research Foundation.

2. ‘Introducing a genre-based curriculum and pedagogy’, 11 November 2002

Convenor: Margie Probyn, Alan Macintosh Research Fellow
Presenter: Professor Jim Martin, Department of Linguistics, Sydney University

The seminars were very well received by a wide range of delegates. Congratulations to Di Kilpert and Margie Probyn for their excellent organisation.

Research

The following research projects are underway:

- Language and science teaching: Margie Probyn is working with a group of grade 8 science teachers in ex-DET schools, to develop a structured, coherent approach for teaching science through the medium of English as an additional language. Computer software for video analysis is being purchased in collaboration with the Environmental Education Unit and this technology opens up exciting possibilities for more rigorous and broad-based classroom research. This will inform the development of training for science teachers doing the Advanced Certificate in Education, and the Masters degree in science teaching in 2002/03. Further research will track teachers’ developing classroom practice.

- As part of her M.Ed. programme, Cossie Rasana has been conducting research in Grahamstown secondary schools to establish the reading preferences of English second language learners. Her dissertation has been submitted for examination.

- The Director is completing research into aspects of South African Language Policy. A series of articles is being published that will form part of a book entitled English and the Future of South Africa for Natal University Press.
• The Director is also embarking on research into the history of Shakespeare in South Africa. The first phase of the research will pay attention to the influence of Shakespeare on writers such as Sol Plaatje, H.I.E. Dhlomo, A.C. Jordan and R.L. Peteni. A second stream of enquiry concerns the first appearance of Shakespeare in South Africa, documenting the 1801 performance of *Henry IV Part 1* in the African Theatre, Cape Town, and the search for evidence of the elusive 1799 performance of *Hamlet* at Fort Frederick, Algoa Bay.

• *WordBeacons*. Research is being conducted by Chris Mann assisted by Kamlesh Narshai into the public response to the prototype Word Beacon. The project is funded by PanSALB and administered by the NRF.

• School Language Policy team research project: Margie Probyn has contributed to a team research project involving 11 women researchers from Rhodes University and Fort Hare, in investigating the development of school language policy in the Eastern Cape. A broadly-based survey is balanced by four in-depth case studies. Materials to support schools in developing their school language policy are being developed.

**Shakespeare Text Development Programme**
(The Director)

It has been agreed with the publisher, Macmillan, that no further texts will be published until a new prescription within the publishing area warrants the effort. Royalties from the project for 2001-02 were the highest received to date. Teachers continue to praise the texts as, in the words of one, ‘the best there are.’

**Secondary Schools’ Language Project (SSLP)**
(Project Leader: Margie Probyn, Project Officer: Cossie Rasana)

1) **Language Teachers’ certificated short courses:**
These were put on hold as the Department of Sport Arts and Culture decided to withdraw from working in schools and was therefore no longer able to continue funding the language teacher training for Curriculum 2005. The National Development Agency has still not taken a decision on funding for the salary of the Project Officer and so Ms Rasana returned to classroom teaching for 2002. She will be joining the ISEA again in November on funding from the Molteno Trust. The
Department of Education has restructured its regions into 24 districts, which now have budgets for short courses for teachers and so that is the likely route for funding for this part of the project in 2003.

2) ELT ACE:
The ISEA will be offering an Advanced Certificate in Education, English Language Teaching, (Senior and FET Phase). The programme has been approved by Senate and is awaiting approval by the Minister. This is a two-year part-time upgrade course for practising English Second Language teachers and will commence in January 2003. Formal involvement with teacher-upgrade and enrichment work will have a positive effect on the research and education initiatives undertaken by SSLP.

3) Science teachers' ACE
Margie Probyn has been teaching a module on language across the curriculum for science teachers doing an Advanced Certificate in Education at Rhodes University.

4) Creative Writing Workshops
These will in future be run as separate short courses, possibly in tandem with school-based monitoring and support offered as part of the ACE package (see 2 above). The broadsheet *Writing is Fun* will continue to function as part of this programme, subject to funding being available.

**CAMPUS CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAMME**

Crystal Warren (Co-ordinator) with Arona Dison, Paulette Coetzee and Robert Berold

The Creative Writing Programme ran for the sixth successive year. Over sixteen weeks a group of students and townspeople gathered to write together, to learn to overcome writing blocks, to learn to give and receive non-judgmental feedback and to edit their work.

Although the course was smaller this year, the eleven participants were extremely enthusiastic. An advantage of a smaller, more intimate group was the ability to give detailed feedback to each participant, and to encourage them to edit their own work. The participants have continued to meet as a group after the course finished, writing together and continuing to give and receive feedback. At least two participants have expressed the desire to do the course again next year as they found it so helpful and so much fun.

Members of the creative writing programme read their work at poetry readings during the year, as well as at the *Wordfest* open mike programmes. One
writer this year has had a poem published in the literary journal *Kotaz*. We have also seen a number of participants from previous years getting into print, an indication that many people who do the course continue as writers.

In February, *Aerial 2001* containing work from the previous year’s course was launched. This year’s participants are currently editing and producing *Aerial 2002*. For many of the participants this will be their first experience of seeing their work in print.

**WORDFEST 2002**

Chris Mann (Convenor), The Director (Chair), with Lusindiso Bambelo (Eastern Cape component); Anthea Garman, Priscilla Boschoff and staffs (WordStock), Anna-Karien Otto (Publicity); Erica Gornall and team (Readers’ and Writers’ Café; Jenny King and Nomangesi Kelemi (Financial Administration).

**Wordfest 2002** comprised over a hundred activities ranging from book-launches to lectures, workshops, exhibitions, open mike readings and oral performances. The events were conducted in Xhosa, Sotho, English and Afrikaans.

Funders included the National Arts Festival, Eastern Cape Government Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Incredible Books, Exclusive Books, ABSA Bank and Rhodes University.

Lead guests were Gcina Mhlophe and Janet Suzman and the festival was opened by the Eastern Cape MEC for Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture, Mrs Nosimo Balindlela.

A three-year contract with the Eastern Cape Government was signed giving funding security for the Eastern Cape projects for the first time. The sponsorship of the Eastern Cape events was doubled. The grant was received only one week before **Wordfest** which led to enormous pressure on staff.

A media contract with SAfm improved coverage of the event. *WordStock*, the Wordfest newspaper, covered the main events and added to the festival as a whole. Improvements to the Readers and Writers Café led to increased patronage.

**Overview**

1. **Whatever happened to Mzwakhe Mbuli?**
   Detailed lecture by investigative journalist on a national issue with performances of Mbuli’s poems.

2. **Janet Suzman Reading Shakespeare’s Women**
   International star presented aspects of Shakespeare to a full house with excellent reviews.

3. **Gcina Mhlophe in Performance.**
Two performances, one mostly in Xhosa, the other predominantly in English, both to full houses.

4. **SAfm@Wordfest.**
Start of media partnership. Different writers interviewed. *Wordfest* covered on SAfm three times.

5. **WordStock**
Daily four-page insert in main festival newspaper covered main events, published book reviews and gave training and work to young word-practitioners. Seven issues. Total circulation: 16 000.

6. **WordBeacon**
Professor Henry Thipa of PanSALB gave a lecture on SA language development and unveiled the prototype WordBeacon, an innovative and uniquely South African structure. This national project is funded by PanSALB and the Arts and Culture Trust.

7. **Opening Ceremony**
Nosimo Balindlela, the Eastern Cape’s MEC for Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture, presented an inspiring address about unity and diversity in South Africa to a packed and vociferous auditorium, setting the tone for the events that followed. Her theme was the value of cultural diversity.

8. **School-reading Project**
Five reading events with the READ project supporting primary school children from poor communities.

9. **Creative Writing Course**
Doyen of South African creative writing, Dorian Haarhof, conducted an imaginative three-day course for adults.

10. **South African Soul Graffiti**
Two showings of a dynamic presentation of South African poetry by a young cast with good reviews.

11. **Book launches**
There were 15 book-launches in all.


12. **Dark Outsider**
Lecture on Roy Campbell by prominent SA playwright, Anthony Akerman.

13. **In Search of Bosman**
Lecture and book-launch by prominent Bosman scholar, Professor Craig Mackenzie.

14. **Incredible Books! Warra-warra**
Premiere of unique multi-lingual performance poetry. Two events.

15. **Xhosa Literature down the Years**
Overview lecture by prominent Xhosa scholar and academic, Professor Ncidesi Saule.

16. **Kook!**
Alternative Afrikaans literature event featuring contemporary writers.

17. **Open Mike**
Five evening events providing access to the festival for published and unpublished writers.

18. **Afrikaans Schools Development**
Activities for Afrikaans speakers for pre-primary, primary and secondary school pupils. Three events.

19. **Where to Wordfest?**
Open forum to allow people to give feedback and plan future events.

20. **EyeTales**
Unique exhibition featuring graphics and Xhosa tales.

21. **Tribute to Athol Fugard**
Exhibition by NELM to celebrate Fugard at Seventy

22. **AC Jordan**
Exhibition by Fort Hare archive on a founding figure in SA literature

23. **BlindLib**
First exhibit by SA Library for the Blind.

24. Colloquium
Dennis Brutus on the social quietism of SA Writers.

25. DALRO Prizes
Presentation of poetry prizes.

26. Short Story Competition
55-word competition run by WordStock.

27. Readers’ and Writers’ Café
Restaurant with literary theme venue to serve festival-goers.

28. Incredible Books
Bookshop set up in venue with emphasis on African books: enjoyed good attendance and sales.

29. Eastern Cape Projects
Over 30 performances and readings by Eastern Cape word-artists from different parts of the province - mostly rural areas and small towns.

30. Official Lunch
Simple buffet lunch for guests and writers and oral literature performers totalling 150 people.

31. Radio Interviews
Total of 8 interviews with writers on radio stations other than SAfm.

32. Story teller
Three performances by a story-teller from the UK.

33. Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa
AGM and planning meeting.

Total number of activities - 108

WordBeacons
Chris Mann with Kamlesh Narshai and Grahamstown Engineering

After many alterations to the original design concept, the prototype beacon was unveiled at Wordfest 2002. Mr Kamlesh Narshia was appointed research officer to the project. A research questionnaire was drawn up and tested.

The beacon was displayed at various sites round Grahamstown and public responses were investigated. The research officer completed his report and pre-
sented it to representatives of various sectors at a seminar in September. The public response to the beacon was overwhelmingly positive.

The next step will be the construction of a second beacon that incorporates a number of small improvements and modifications, including the requirement that it be easily dismantled for transport by air and sea freight. **WordBeacons** is a national project funded by the Pan South African Language Board and administered by the National Research Foundation.

**Heartlands Multimedia Productions**

The production, featuring Janet Suzman, was presented during the National Arts Festival at the Grahamstown Cathedral. 2 performances, 30 June and 2 July. Audiences 115 and 130.

The production premiered at the English Academy Conference in Pretoria.

Other performances took place at the KwaSuka Theatre, Durban (Durban 6 and 7 July, Audiences 110 and 105) and André Hugenet Theatre, Bloemfontein (12 October, Audience 15).

**Horn of Plenty Multi-media Presentations**
Text and poems by Chris Mann. Graphics by Julia Skeen.

Rand Afrikaans University, 18 March, 80 English Literature students
University of the Witwatersrand, 18 March, 120 English Literature students
Pretoria University, 19 March, 120 English Literature students
Charterhouse, 23 March
Eden Grove, 30 students

**Distinguished Visitors**

Ms Nosimo Balindlela, MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture of the Eastern Cape
Dr Ann Childs, Department of Educational Studies, University of Oxford
Professor Ruqaiya Hasan, Macquarie University, Sydney
Professor Jim Martin, Department of Linguistics, University of Sydney
Ms Gcina Mhlophe, oral story-teller
Mr Godfrey Mona, Director, Department of Recreation, Sport, Arts and Culture
of the Eastern Cape
Mr Lesibana Rafapa, Director of Literature Development, PanSALB
Professor Ncedile Saule, author
Professor Henry Thipa, Dean of Arts, University of Port Elizabeth
Ms Janet Suzman, Honorary Fellow of the Royal Shakespeare Company
Mr Edwin Thumboo, distinguished poet and academic from Singapore University
Mr Ray Tywakadi, Director of Curriculum, Eastern Cape Department of Education

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

The Director co-taught the English III ‘Literature and Teaching’ course with Professor Walters.

He also delivered a 2-day interactive seminar on research supervision for staff at Vista, Port Elizabeth.

Ms Probyn has given seminars to M.Ed ESL and Environmental Education students, as well as a language-across-the-curriculum module for the Education Department’s Science ACE.

DEGREES IN PROGRESS (STAFF)

- Probyn, M: PhD (Rhodes) ‘Developing an effective approach for teaching science through the medium of English as an additional language in ex-DET schools.’ Proposal approved by Higher Degrees Committee. The pilot study is complete.
- Rasana, Cossie: MEd in ESL by coursework and dissertation (Rhodes) – submitted.

DIRECTOR’S ACTIVITIES

The Director is Vice-Chairman of the Grahamstown Foundation and of the National English Literary Museum; he also serves on the Council of the English Academy of Southern Africa, the General Executive of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa and the Grahamstown Branch of the Society. He is on the
Editorial Boards of *Shakespeare in Southern Africa*, *The English Academy Review* and *English Studies in Africa* and Chairs the Rhodes School of English Studies. He currently serves on the Humanities, Culture and Religion panel of the NRF.

**CONCLUSION**

2002 has been a very successful year for the ISEA. The staffing situation, particularly the unexpected passing of Marion Baxter, has caused over-loading at times, and the staff has responded willingly. A creditable research and publication output has been maintained.

I would like to record thanks to Margie Probyn for looking after the Institute in my absence on research leave last year, and to thank all staff members, full-time and ancillary, for a solid year’s work.

**Professor L.S. Wright**  
(Director)

December 2002