

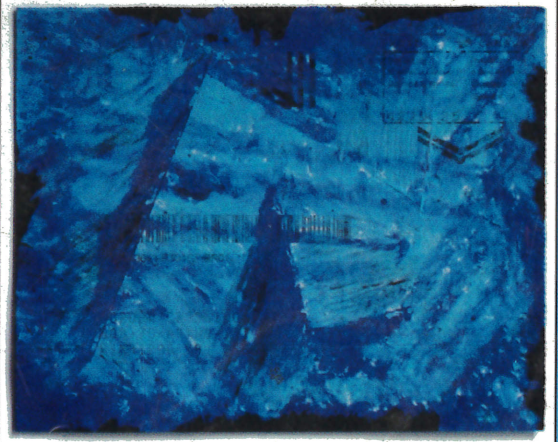
# NUML Journal of Critical Inquiry

(Formerly NUML Research Magazine)

Vol 9 (1), June 2011



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
ISLAMABAD PAKISTAN





## Editor's Note

Text editors are the behind-the-scene sculptors of the writer's work. The editor sees every single text as a place for solitude and much reflexive thought. He or she stops here to wonder at and wander around and within Words in the world of the text, admiring how from tiny coral ideas grows a marvel and yet, at the same time, standing back to know what lies ahead. The editor, along with his/her photographic lens, has a third eye with which s/he picks upon every missed opportunity and uses everything at hand to correct, coach, and inspire researchers and new writers to take the text back and do better, supporting their obsession to get it right, and all the time, reminding himself or herself, 'To edit a text I need to know the subject thoroughly. I always must do my homework. I need to have a PhD in every subject I work on.'

Such an editor and his/her editorial team sit in distinctive and unique company with researchers and writers who work endlessly for their unshakable belief in excellence. These are lessons they have taken to heart, and their resolve to challenge and critique pedagogies and practices, attitudes and views that want to play safe 'inside the box' and thereby, resist indeterminacy and play that may ask them to cross borders and disciplines, approaches and orthodoxies; rethink the audience and reader relationship; reconfigure the systems and structures; meet and transgress standards but not without reflection on reflection. Such powerful bases for scepticism is a given in research, and that presupposes a criticalist attitude with which researchers raise awareness of available signifying systems and

2

subsequently, point to a hinterland of meaning that can bring about “change through critical understanding” (van Dijk, 1993).

It is with this critical-centric approach of research and scholarship that the Journal of Critical Inquiry has been envisioned and prepared. The intent is to encourage a critical consciousness and critical intelligence in our researchers, scholars and writers, and thus prepare them for a critical inquisitioning of their subjects, and the monologic and monolithic state of mind that refuses to see, hear and respond to the other. This insistent moment will arrest them in a continual bout of work that has to be done in the best way.

Individually, the papers in this issue vary in style and intent. Collectively, the papers discuss challenges in (a) the conceptualization, (b) the ‘doing’, (c) the writing up and (d) the author’s lived personal experiences within and against the academic and non-academic institutions and their practices, provoking us to know their effects and implications for society and the world at large; relocating the researcher as writer, and writer as researcher in the center of interpretation that involves the experience of ‘standing in the midst of something’, that can be text, and context within (con)text and outside context as well. This kind of relocationing furbishes new thinkings, doings, beings and becomings that are “full of truth-seeking and vulnerability and heartfelt engagement” as Carl Leggo (2009, p. Xi) would like us to reimagine. And like Freire (1993), we will understand that “the role of a consciously progressive education is ... to stimulate doubt, criticism, curiosity, questioning, a taste for risk taking, the adventure of creating” (p. 50). Only then texts and narratives invite us to engage in researching with an open mind and

heart in order to “pursue vibrant possibilities of transformation”, and focus on “opening up possibilities for wide-ranging connections, questions, and insights.”

Such a courageous and creative questing would be both prophetic and provocative, asking for the evocation of alternative realities that can take us beyond “the language of the empire (that is) surely the language of manageability, of production and schedule and market. But that language will never permit or cause freedom because there is no newness in it” (2001, p. 18). To cultivate that freedom, our researchers, scholars, educators and writers need to re-search for diverse and divergent paths, critical pedagogy, contemporary and innovative scholarship and practice, and more than ever, make an enthusiastic commitment to collective truth-seeking, even transcendence of truth with its invocation to a form of being that has assigned for itself a deeply radical task of human solidarity through insightful change.

The editorial team takes advantage of this space to thank Barbra Bickel, the celebrated Canadian artist for graciously contributing to this journal with her art piece. It significantly crosses borders and continents to initiate exchanges and conversations that are transformational.

Time awaits to see our rebirthing that is infinitely leavening for self-surrender.

Come on!

There is great adventure beyond

The gift of seeing at all levels, and ideas lying unambiguously

in moments we know not,  
open acorns for minds not familiar to the caprices of habit,  
weary of playing on both sides,  
now all the more ready to resist the playfulness of an  
'eye' that has already seen or was able to see,  
but to see some nuances in the act of seeing, subtly  
harmonized by the indulgent heart and nerves,  
wrapping up the indulgence, and  
give meaning to that great adventure beyond

Good word!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shaila Jones". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shaila" written in a larger, more prominent hand than the last name "Jones".

#### **Final word from the Editor**

For details on access to complete papers, send an email to  
[numl.editor@gmail.com](mailto:numl.editor@gmail.com)

# NUML Journal of Critical Inquiry

Vol 9 (1), June 2011

---

## CONTENTS

---

<b>Editor's Note</b>	I
<b>Contents</b>	V
<b>Editorial Board</b>	VII
<b>Contributors</b>	IX

### Research Papers

Hartej Gill Gloria Lin Kadi Purru	1
<i>Politics, Pedagogies and Poetics of Belonging: negotiating differences between home and school communities/culture</i>	
Sohaila Javed	34
<i>Next Insights: Critical Inquiry into Narratives of Lived Experiences and Literature</i>	
Muhammad Munawar Khan	90
<i>Language as a Discursive Practice: A Study of Scarlett Thomas' Novel</i>	
Mian Khurram Shahzad Azam	129
<i>Speech Generation by Artificial Intelligent Systems: Issues and Challenges</i>	

## **Book Review**

	Mudassar Ahmed	159
	<i>Individual Preferences in E-Learning by Howard Hills (2003)</i>	
	Wajiha Shah	161
	<i>Telling Stories: a theoretical analysis of narrative fiction by Steven Cohan and Linda M. Shires (2001)</i>	
167	<b>Cover Image: Artist Statement and Biography</b>	164
170	<b>Academic Achievements and Performance</b>	167
	Theses Completed in Session Jan-June, 2011	
	Seminar	
	Teacher Training Program	
171	<b>Copyright Statement</b>	168
172	<b>Disclaimer</b>	169
173	<b>Call for Papers</b>	170

## **Editorial Board**

### **Patron**

Maj. Gen. (R) Masood Hasan HI (M)

### **Editor**

Dr. Sohaila Javed                      National University of Modern Languages

### **Associate Editor**

Ms. Wajiha Shah                      National University of Modern Languages

### **Editorial Board**

Dr. Carl Leggo	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Dr. Dawn Langley	Piedmont Community College, Roxboro, NC, USA
Dr. Ibis Gomez-Vega	Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, USA
Dr. Bernhard Kelle	University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
Dr. Steven Talmy	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Dr. James Giles	Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, USA
Dr. Han Yuguo	Beijing Language & Culture University, China
Dr Saeeda Assadullah Khan	Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
Dr. Rubina Kamran	National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan
Dr. Riaz Hassan	AIR University, Islamabad, Pakistan
Dr. Samina Qadir	Fatima Jinnah Women.University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
Dr. Shahid Siddiqui	Lahore School of Economics, Lahore, Pakistan



**Editorial Office**

Faculty of Quality Enhancement,

Research & Publication

Ghazali Block,

National University of Modern Languages,

Islamabad, Pakistan

Tel: +92-51-925158, 9257646 Ext 341 & 214

Email: [numl.editor@gmail.com](mailto:numl.editor@gmail.com)