# Contents

Bernie Higgins  
**REMEMBERING ANNA GRMELOVÁ** .......................................................... 5

**Literary and Cultural Studies**

Jakub Ženíšek  
**DISANGAGED OR DISINGENEOUS? ASCETIC AND BOURGEOIS SELF-SURVEILLANCE IN AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE, EXEMPLIFIED ON CHARLES JOHNSON’S “ALETHIA”** .......................................................... 11

Richard Stock  
**BEYOND NARRATOLOGY: DAVID FOSTER WALLACE’S *INFINITE JEST*** ............................................................................................................. 31

Hana Pavelková  
**REPRESENTATION OF VIOLENCE AND TRAUMA IN CONTEMPORARY MONOLOGUES** ................................................................. 53

Tereza Topolovská  
**THE GLASS ROOM: ARCHITECTURE AS A POETIC EMOTION** ............................................................................................................. 65

Jan Suk  
**BECOMING ART LIFE WORKS OF TEHCHING HSIEH IN DELEUZIAN PERSPECTIVE** ............................................................................. 79

**Linguistics**

Klára Matuchová  
**THE ROLE OF DIALOGIC ORGANISATION OF REFLEXIVE CONSTRUALS OF IDENTITY IN SELECTED FICTION TEXTS** ............................................................................. 101
Remembering Anna Grmelová

Bernie Higgins

Anna’s death last summer has been a great loss to her friends and colleagues in the Department of English Language and Literature of Charles University’s Faculty of Education, whose head she was from 1993–2009. Though her illness was long and serious, her drive and indefatigability had made her seem indestructible and her death came as a shock to us all.

Anna was born in Bolatice, a village in the Moravia-Silesian region. Her phenomenal capacity for hard work was perhaps born in the harshness of her early life there, where, from early childhood, she worked long, gruelling days on the family farm, which had resisted the forced collectivisation of the time and suffered the punishing consequences such a resistance entailed. She began her teaching career in 1970, in Slovakia, at the Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Prešov, where she eventually became the first, post-1989 head of the English Department. The conditions for those working in English literary studies during the “normalisation” years of the 70s and 80s were extremely difficult; deprived of links to the wider academic community outside of Czechoslovakia, study materials (though, together with her husband, doc. PhDr. Josef Grmela, CSc., she produced a number of university text books during this period) and the many other conditions which sustain the academic life that we now take for granted. Despite this extreme marginalisation she managed, through the support of the British Council, to build up book resources for
the department and, through her teaching, inspired the development of a generation of young Slovak Anglicists.

After the split of Czechoslovakia in 1993 her whole family – husband Josef and her two daughters, Anita and Nicole – moved to Prague, where she began her work at Charles University’s Faculty of Education. She initially pioneered an innovative, British Council-supported teacher training project, “Fast Track”, and subsequently took over the headship of the English Department, which she was to run until her illness caused her partial retirement in 2009. The many needs of the department in the early 1990s were material as well as academic and much of Anna’s energy went into acquiring books and in achieving the construction of a resource centre and library for students. Her immense capacity for hard work was very evident in these early, challenging years and she inspired the colleagues who worked with her then not only with her vigour and determination but also with her great sense of humour and appreciation of the absurd, a particularly useful quality at this time.

As well as improving the material conditions of the department she also devoted her energies to strengthening the department’s academic stature, guiding the department through a number of accreditations and attracting a new generation of young scholars, determinedly encouraging them to fulfil their academic potential. She was also keen to reach out and establish international links for the department through the Erasmus programme, which not only offered students the opportunity to study abroad, but also built up links with scholars throughout Europe, who will remember her for her great gifts of kindness and hospitality. She also initiated international conferences in the department and, in 2011, established this Prague Journal of English Studies.

Outside of the Czech Republic, Anna will probably be best remembered for her academic specialisation in British Modernism, in particular the work of D.H. Lawrence. Her PhD study on Lawrence, conducted under the mentorship of Professor László Kéry at Loránd Eötvös University, Budapest, was the beginning of a lifelong academic devotion to the author, which established her as an expert in the field; she wrote a large number of articles for both Czech and international journals, as well as her 2001 monograph, *The Worlds of D.H. Lawrence’s Short Fiction 1907–1923* and her contribution to *The Reception of D.H. Lawrence in Europe* of 2007.

Above all, despite the huge time pressures involved in creating and administering the department, Anna was a great teacher, remembered for her erudition and passion for her subject as well as her warm and genuine interest in her students. As a friend and colleague of almost twenty years, what I miss most is Anna’s warmth and sense of fun, her quick wit and spirit, her great life energy and inventiveness, and her capacity for what Lawrence termed “kindling the life-quality where it was not”. Despite her extreme personal modesty, she was a truly remarkable woman in her achievements, not least of which is the thriving department she created, which is a lasting testament to her qualities.