

THE INTERFACE OF LITERATURE AND ECONOMY

The English Language and Literature Association of Korea

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The world has entered into the age of universal economic crisis. In this second decade of the twenty-first century, the long shadow of economic downturn and instability looms over not only traditionally underdeveloped countries and regions, but the superpowers of global economy, such as the US, the EU, and China. At the time when economy is at once a global priority and the source of worldwide anxiety, fear, and uncertainty, and when economic crisis seems to accelerate the crisis of humanities and higher education, the ELLAK will organize an international forum to reconfigure the interface of literature and economy and redefine the social parameters of literary studies.

The nexus between literature and economy has never been so dynamic and convoluted as it is today. In classical Marxist theory, the base determined the superstructure, not vice versa. Postmodern and poststructuralist reorientations of humanities in the last half century or so, however, have led us to recognize that literary texts and material conditions, or the literary and the economic, are not only interdependent and mutually constructed, but also inseparable from each other. The interface of literature and economy is now observable on both structural and symbolic levels. This interface, in turn, overlaps with other interfaces of diverse social and theoretical directions, locating the economy of literature on historical, political, and sociological horizons and beyond, on the one hand, and negotiating a new discursive model of humanities and social sciences, on the other. Papers that address any conceivable intersection of literature/culture and economy, or of literary/cultural studies and economics, are welcome.

Topics for consideration may include but are not limited to:

- Literary representation of economic ideas or issues
- Literature and economic thoughts
- Correlation between literary and economic histories
- Literature and material culture
- Literature and capital(ism)
- Language and money; economy of language
- Symbolic economies
- Economies of literary production and consumption
- Gender/sexual economy
- Racial economy
- Economy and literary profession
- Economy and political change
- Economics and human subjectivity
- Post/colonialism

To apply for participation, submit your abstract and CV to ellakconference@gmail.com by 15 May 2016.