

Foreword

Dear reader:

Once more the *The Grove. Working Papers on English Studies* has finally come out in December. This is the time when in Jaén croppers customarily pick their olive harvest in the olive groves. Furtively, our journal bears the title of *The Grove* as an implicit homage to this crop. The olive, an ancestral Mediterranean tree, whose presence goes far beyond the Mediterranean realm well into the literary domains of Shakespeare, Chaucer or Spenser (who mention it in their works more than once), renders generous, medium amount, and scarce crops in a succession of three year periods if not under a permanent irrigation system. Fortunately, our little *Grove*, has had a permanent and generous supply of water and sunshine in the form of articles received from our contributors. To them our most heartfelt thanks for they have provided our sustenance. But also to our referees, our labourers, who with their generous and unpaid effort screen and improve the fruit, so that we, the editors, may harvest and grind it in December.

Although *The Grove* was already scheduled to be issued only online, the directions of the University of Jaén Publishing Service has given us a further extension of the paper printing option and thus we will be able to offer our readers a modest print run, mainly for the purpose of exchange with other journals. Henceforth the online edition will not consist of the uploading of the pdf versions of the printed ones, but of the individual

digitalization of each article, which will be identified and singled out by its corresponding DOI (Digital Object Identification).

As for the articles and reviews constituting the present issue, it seems that the balance is not so overwhelmingly tipped either to the literary side or to the side of Modern American literature as in the previous issue. Indeed, we have articles dealing with American authors, but there are two on British and one on Irish literatures as well, and (should we consider this British literature?) one on the adaptation of a Shakespearean hypertext to the Spanish stage. What is perhaps more noticeable is the presence of two articles on linguistics and one on didactics. All these twelve articles have something interesting to transmit in their fields and we hope that someone, somehow, some day will find in them the clue, the data or the inspiration for some aspect of their research or curiosity. The two book reviews, as is expected of them, give both inspired and well-documented account of recent books which are worth the attention of the reader.

Finally, we have had the good luck of counting on the kind permission of the awarded poet Don Bogen, an excellent man and even more excellent poet, translator and scholar, to publish one of his poems on the verso of the back cover. This will give the reader a taste of his poetry, and perhaps the encouragement to go on reading more of his poetical output.

The Editors