

# Preface

This special issue contains 7 papers which were delivered (or were intended for delivery) at the Nigerian conference entitled *The First Conference on Women in Africa and the African Diaspora: Bridges Across Activism and the Academy*.

These 7 papers have been selected, from the range of papers delivered by South Africans, on the grounds that their principal concern is either literary-critical or literary-theoretical. It is beyond the scope of *JLS* to publish all the South African Papers irrespective of their topics. The editors of *JLS* and the 7 contributors felt that an introductory article should be commissioned, in order to set the papers in the context of the conference and the debates generated during the conference. The three authors of the *Introduction* kindly agreed to write a contextual Introduction. The papers are arranged alphabetically, according to the surnames of the contributors.

The occasion of the conference has generated substantial discussion thus far and, we believe, raised crucial issues concerning intersections of race and gender in South Africa, as well as issues concerning the place of the academy within South African life.

*Ina Gräbe & Rory Ryan*  
Editors

## In Memoriam

We regret to announce that

Ons vermeld met leedwese dat

*Editorial Associate*

**H.C.T. Müller (RAU)**

*Redaksionele medewerker*

and/en

*Editorial Assistant*

**Odile Burm (UNISA)**

*Redaksionele Assistent*

passed away during 1993

oorlede is gedurende 1993

Their contribution to the  
Journal of Literary Studies  
will not be forgotten.

Hulle bydrae tot die Tydskrif vir  
Literatuurwetenskap sal nie  
vergeet word nie.