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Satya Wacana Christian University Salatiga

*Engaging with Literature
Creatively*



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Proceedings

The 8th International Seminar

The Faculty of Language and Literature

Satya Wacana Christian University

Engaging with Literature Creatively

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PREFACE

The theme of this year's seminar: "Engaging with Literature Creatively" highlights the crucial role of literature in the language discipline and society because of the many benefits it offers.

The purpose of the seminar is to enhance literary awareness, as awareness of literature still obtains a small segment in English teaching, especially in Indonesia. We all know that Literature can be a powerful tool for teaching, building and transforming individuals and communities, yet little has been done to improve the experience for readers and maximize the impacts of texts by exploring innovative approaches and the way they are implemented.

We would like to offer our appreciation to all invited speakers (Prof. Alan Maley, Prof. Jayakaran Mukundan, and Prof. Kirk Branch), paper and workshop presenters, and participants who are taking part in this seminar. We are grateful to have financial supports from our generous sponsors which have made this seminar possible. Finally, the seminar would not have been running without the support of hard-working and dedicated committee members and students of the Faculty of Language and Literature. It is their commitment that made the preparation of this event a very rewarding and humbling learning experience for me.

This publication presents some of the unedited full papers of the 8th International Seminar's participants. We do hope that these papers will enrich our understanding and deepen our insights on issues surrounding literature awareness.

Salatiga,

Suzana Maria L.A. Fajarini, M.Hum
Chairperson

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ENGAGING CREATIVELY WITH LITERATURE IN AN INTEGRATED READING CLASS

Mega Wati

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims at sharing a decade continuously-assessed-and-improved experience of engaging with literature creatively in a non-credit-but-compulsory reading class for the first year students of Theology Department, in which they are prepared so as to take the later credited subject of English for Theology. Triggered by the rare general reading materials relevant to the field of theology, the teaching team decided to turn to Reader's Digest articles. This magazine has several article sections dealing with life values that are universal and considered in line with the objective of the Department's Student Development Program in the hostel.

Making use of Donald Freeman's Teacher Source Exploring Second Language Reading—Issues and Strategies by Neil J. Anderson (1999), the Integrated Reading Class is designed to empower the students to comprehend English articles by making use of reading techniques such as scanning, skimming, SQ3R, DRTA, and KWL while learning to enhance their paradigm, values and character through the specifically chosen reading materials, combination of intensive and extensive reading, teaching methodology, and assessment.

Continuous studies conducted by the teachers and the participating students reveal and reinforce that the five reading techniques taught are very useful and helpful to improve the students' reading efficiency and effectivity; the reading materials chosen are appropriate to enhance their life values; the use of various teaching methodology are appreciated by the students; the teacher's modelling, personality, and teaching style are effective strategies for motivating; journal writing and self assessment are appropriate alternative assessments.

BACKGROUND