Call for Papers:  
**Border Crossing**  
International conference  
Organized by the Research Laboratory on Culture and Communication  
Department of English Studies  
Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
Sultan Moulay Slimane University  
Beni Mellal, Morocco  
22 – 23 March, 2011

Borders and Border crossing of whatever type, either geographical, cultural, racial, linguistic, narrative or even virtual, are obviously issues of great import and principally at the present time, given the mutability of both the concept and the materiality of borderlines and crossings. It is true that the concept of the fixed, clear-cut borderline has grown inadequate given the considerable mutations humanity has undergone and is still exposed to. The lines drawn between centre and periphery and the crossing from one to the other have recently witnessed an unprecedented fluidity that restructures and reformulates notions of difference, otherness and identity. Yet new/old walls are re-erected and frontiers are still invented, obviously not always for the so called aim of protection. The process of coming or living together in a globalized space has undoubtedly never meant and would not necessarily lead to the collapse of lines of division, the crossing of which becomes most often subject to transgression or negotiation that at times culminate in conflictual situations or in the creation of interstitial spaces or Third Space.

The present conference which is organized by the Research Laboratory on Culture and Communication is an attempt to study the concept of Borders, to debate its current complexities and representations as well as to explore its diverse types and rites of crossings and passages.

The conference welcomes proposals for papers that may address, but are not necessarily limited to, any aspect of the topic of Borders and Border Crossing, such as:

- The concept and representation of border and border crossing  
- Significance of the various types of border crossing/transgression  
- Thresholds, barriers, walls and borders  
- Centre and periphery  
- Experiences of liminality at crossing borders  
- Typology of border crossing  
- Rites of passage and initiation  
- In-between space/Third Space/interstitial space
- Cultural/linguistic/racial borderlines.
- Contact zone / middle ground
- Translation as border crossing
- Migration, expatriation, exile
- Crossbreeding, Miscegenation
- Crossing the borders between literary genres
- Crossing the borders between different currents of thought
- Interdisciplinarity (crossing the borders between fields of knowledge)
- Borders between the local, the regional, the national and the global
- Regionalism
- The concept of border in globalization

Proposals, containing an abstract no longer than 300 words, with key words and a short CV, should be sent to

Khalid Chaouch at chaouch63@yahoo.com
Cherki Karkaba at cherzikarkaba@yahoo.fr

The deadline for sending proposals is 30 December, 2010. Acceptance of proposals will be sent on 15th January, 2011.

Conference Fees:
The conference fee is € 50/MAD 550. It includes:
Conference pack
Coffee break refreshment
Farewell dinner

Accommodation:
Hotel El Bassatine***A (within walking distance)
(€42/ MAD462 full board per single person/per night)

Telephone +212 (0) 523 482 247
For more information, please follow the links:
http://www.hotelsclick.com/auberges/Maroc/Beni_Mellal/48438/Hotel-Al_Bassatine_.html

Airports
Menara Marrakesh Airport (3hrs drive/taxi ride to the Hotel in Beni Mellal)
Mohamed V Casablanca Airport (3hrs drive/taxi ride to the Hotel in Beni Mellal)
Hotel reservations and rides from Marrakech airport to Beni Mellal can be made by the organizers upon request.

**The organising committee:**

Khalid Chaouch  
Mohamed-Sghir Syad  
Moulay Mustapha Mamaoui  
Mohamed Rakii  
Cherki Karkaba

*We look forward to your participation*