**ESSE (European Society for the Study of English)**

**22–26 August 2016 – Galway, Ireland**

[**http://www.esse2016.org/**](http://www.esse2016.org/)

**selected calls for papers for themed seminars (i.e. those combining Scottish Studies
with aspects of Postcolonial, Transnational & Transcultural Studies)**

**Deadline of submission: February 28, 2016**

*(for more detailed information see the conference website at the end of September or contact individual convenors):*

**“Regional and World Literatures: National Roots and Transnational Routes in Scottish Literature and Culture from the 18th Century to Our Age”**

*Co-convenors: Gioia Angeletti, University of Parma, Italy, gioia.angeletti@unipr.it*

*Bashabi Fraser, Edinburgh Napier University, UK, b.fraser@napier.ac.uk*

The panel intends to explore the multifaceted ways in which Scottish literature and culture from the eighteenth century onwards have become vehicles and interpreters of an increasingly plural, transcultural, diasporic and liquid world. While preserving regional specificities, through the centuries Scottish literature and culture have looked beyond national boundaries, both impacting on and absorbing elements of English, European or world literatures through migration processes and mutual exchanges. We welcome papers on a broad range of topics.

**“The Politics of Language in Contemporary Scottish and Irish Drama”**

*Co-convenors: Ian Brown, University of Kingston, UK, ijmbrown@hotmail.com*

*Daniele Berton-Charrière, Université Blaise Pascal, France, Daniele.Berton@univ-bpclermont.fr*

In 1980, Brian Friel's *Translations* had its first production, its themes highlighting the importance of language politics in an imperialist setting. In both Scottish and Irish contemporary drama since then, language forms and usage have been a prime issue, either in forms of theatrical dialogue as in Enda Walsh’s *Disco Pigs* (1996) or in the varieties of language used in recent Scottish theatre. Papers are invited which explore aspects of the politics of language in contemporary Irish or Scottish drama.

**“The Inner Seas connecting and dividing Scotland and Ireland”**

*Co-convenors: Jean Berton, Université de Toulouse-Jean Jaurès, France, jean.berton@univ-tlse2.fr*

*Donna Heddle, University of the Highlands and Islands, UK, Donna.Heddle@uhi.ac.uk*

From the Minch to the North Channel the marine area has been a most active zone for adventurers, traders, marine scientists, pilgrims and hermits, fishermen, painters, migrants, pirates, missionaries, sailors, bird watchers, spies, etc. whether Irish, Roman, Scottish, Viking, English, American, Russian, German, French and Spanish. This seminar invites papers on fiction in all its aspects from historical to crime fiction dealing with all sorts of activities in this area from fighting to romance and extending to hinterlands on both sides.

**“‘I hear it in the deep heart’s core’: political emotions in Irish and Scottish poetry”**

*Co-convenors: Stephen Regan, Durham University, UK, stephen.regan@durham.ac.uk*

*Carla Sassi, Università di Verona, Italy, carla.sassi@univr.it*

Nations can be the object of intense emotions, and while some are notoriously blinding and destructive, others van be for the common good. Poetry can play a powerful and positive role in articulating the thoughts and feelings of a nation. It can direct hearts and minds towards principles of equality, justice and democracy, so that the nation becomes the catalyst for global change. We invite contributions that consider poetry as vehicle and shaper of political emotions.