

## 2018 Report on the ICLA Research Committee on Literature and Neuroscience

Chair, Suzanne Nalbantian, June 2018

Committee Members (additional members are invited annually according to changing topics):

From Comparative Literature: Suzanne Nalbantian, Long Island University; New York; Donald Wehrs Auburn University, Alabama; John Burt Foster, George Mason University, Washington, D.C.; Peter Schneck, Osnabrück University, Germany

From Neuroscience: Jean-Pierre Changeux, Kavli Institute (USCD) and Pasteur Institute (Paris); Paul Matthews, Imperial College, London; Robert Stickgold, Harvard University, MA

The latest objective of the ICLA Research Committee has now been completed, which was to produce an interdisciplinary volume on creativity and submit it for publication. This Oxford University Press book, entitled *Secrets of Creativity: What Neuroscience, the Arts and Our Minds Reveal*, will appear in 2019. It contains twenty chapters from both neuroscience and the humanities, which I have compiled and co-edited (with committee member Paul Matthews) and for which I have provided a comprehensive Introduction. This work could not have been achieved without the agile work of the comparatists in the volume, who through this committee once again crossed disciplinary boundaries to commune with scientific counterparts on this intricate subject. This is the first book to tackle this topic with an interdisciplinary approach. It has yielded discoveries for the field of creativity research, which will be recognized in the field of neuroscience. The comparatists include John Burt Foster, Suzette Henke, Donald Wehrs, Peter Schneck and myself. The neuroscientists include committee members Jean-Pierre Changeux, Paul Matthews, and Robert Stickgold. A preparatory symposium in 2014 on creativity at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island, NY, including selected members of the Research Committee, laid the groundwork for this book.