

## 29. Suzanne Nalbantian 2019 Report on the ICLA Research Committee on Literature and Neuroscience

A current, tangible outcome of the ICLA Research Committee on Literature and Neuroscience is the publication of the new interdisciplinary volume on creativity, entitled *Secrets of Creativity: What Neuroscience, the Arts and Our Minds Reveal*, which will come out in September 2019, published by Oxford University Press. Members of the ICLA Research Committee have contributed chapters, and other comparatists have been solicited for this book. This volume includes perspectives from studies of comparative literature, the visual arts, music, and cutting-edge research from psychology and neuroscience. This volume of twenty chapters is edited by Suzanne Nalbantian and Paul M. Matthews (one of the neuroscientists on the committee). With an Introduction by Suzanne Nalbantian, it will be the first of its kind to present an interdisciplinary view of this intricate subject matter. In fact, in a blurb on the jacket cover, Dean Keith Simonton has stated that this book in 2019 has bridged the intellectual divide that C. P. Snow in 1959 had famously proclaimed between the sciences and the humanities. This research committee has contributed to that achievement.

The research presented in special sessions of the committee at the Vienna 2016 ICLA Congress on cultural memory could be the seed of another edited volume. Nalbantian has even created a Table of Contents for this prospective volume and a list of contributors who could be included in it. ICLA members who might want to coedit a publishable volume on this topic are invited to contact us. Looking forward, another topic that can be considered at a subsequent meeting is that of the specific methodology of research that is required for such interdisciplinary work. We would welcome an institution in the US to host a conference for this venue with some of the Research Committee members present.