



UGC-Area Study Centre for  
Canadian Studies  
University of Kerala



# International Conference on Humour: Texts, Contexts

6-8 December 2013

**H**umour is a ubiquitous aspect of culture that has been largely neglected in the academic domain, but recently salvaged by Cultural Studies. The conference will highlight the interdisciplinary relevance of humour research, from the perspectives of literary studies, education, psychology, anthropology, sociology, politics, religion, philosophy, business, healthcare, and others. Invited lectures on the various facets of humour, its functions and relationships, on humour theories, and how humour varies according to culture, age, gender, purpose and context by scholars and students from various universities and departments across the country are the highlight of the conference. The venue for the first day's (6<sup>th</sup> December 2013) programme will be Senate Chamber, University Senate House Campus, Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram.

Organising Committee

## PROGRAMME

- Inaugural Session : 10.30 am to 11.15 am
- Venue : University Senate Chamber
- Welcome : **Dr. P.P. Ajayakumar**
- Chair : **Dr. G. Balamohan Thampi**  
Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala
- Inaugural Lecture & Release of the 75th issue of *Littcrit* : **Dr. N. Veeramanikantan**  
Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala
- Felicitation : **Prof. P.N. Prakash**  
**Prof. S. Sreenivasan**
- Vote of Thanks : **Dr. Lal C.A.**
- Tea Break : 11.15 am to 11.30 am
- Session I : 11.30 am to 1.00 pm
- Chair : **Dr. Jameela Begum A.**  
Former Professor and Head, Institute of English,  
University of Kerala
- Keynote Address : **Drew Hayden Taylor**  
Canadian Dramatist and Humourist
- Lunch Break : 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm
- Session II : 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
- Chair : **Dr. B. Hariharan**
- Speakers : **Dr. Chaya Ostrower**  
*“What is humor? What is the purpose of humor?  
Why do we laugh?”*
- Dr. Chithra Panicker**  
*“To be funny, they say, is ‘A Very Serious Thing’”*
- M.G. Hegde**  
*“Towards an Alternative Aesthetics:  
A Study of the Prahasana”*