The Third Edition of the Academic Writing and Creative Writing Competitions  
Founder and Chair: Dr. Nadia Ahouari-Idri, University of Bejaia  
The day’s special topic: “The 400th Anniversary of William Shakespeare’s Death, a year later to not forget”  
May 8th, 2017  
Venue: Faculty of Arts and Languages, University of Bejaia

As a scientific committee chair, a designer of syllabi at the BA and Master levels, a workshop designer and presenter, and as a teacher, the founder of this initiative decided in concert for such contests in the Department of English to create opportunities for learners use the language in another way; in a creative way and in an academic style.

Creative writing has always been a stimulating field for amateur writers whose intellectual abilities are felt to add new and fresh artistic and aesthetic beauty in its various forms. Incited and stimulated by a knack to write artistically through different endeavours, students at the Department of English, University of Bejaia have shown a great ability in trying their hands in poetry, plays, short stories as well as essay writing. Students, as noticed by teachers and through research study achieved by Dr. Ahouari-Idri, have learnt a wide range of lexis and are seemingly influenced by their readings, music, art and plays to which they greatly wish to see implemented through a creative artistic contest.

As for research, students are encouraged to work in collaboration with their supervisors to transform their master research papers into scholarly papers or write their own papers for the competitions. This is an endeavour to engage both teachers and learners work jointly and transform the fruit of this collaborative work into a product. We aim at finding a space to publish all the works in a scholarly journal.

In this, let us quote:  
Publishing is the chief currency in this universe, the main source of validation of one’s research, and often the key indicator of academic success. Promotion and tenure committees value peer-reviewed publications above all; ... that is, regrettably, even above clinical performance or community service.’ “Open access anxiety in the publish or perish world blogged by Jacalyn Clark”

As for creativity, many writers have written about creativity—that genius word that has long been pouring ink. Writers of diverse veins have issued suggestions about creativity as artefact. Here are some selected quotes. We cordially invite contributors to read them for ample inspiration.

- “Creativity is mind teasing, a prime idea that revolves in mind and incites its author to give it a fresh consistent shape.” Tayeb Bouazid
- “Creativity comes from trust. Trust your instincts. And never hope more than you work” Rita Mae Brown
- “Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things” Theodore Levitt
• “Creativity comes from a conflict of ideas” Donatella Versace
• “There is a fountain of youth: It is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring in your life and the lives of people you love”. Sophia Loren

**Rules for the 2017 Creative Writing Competition**

- The author’s first language should not be English (i.e., from a non-English-speaking country).
- You must write in English.
- You can submit a short story, a play, an essay or a poem of not more than 50 lines (free topic)
- Offending topics SHALL NOT be accepted.
- You may submit as many stories or poems as you like, but you can only win one prize

**Rules for the 2017 Academic Writing Competition**

- You need to submit a research article in areas related to English.
- Papers can be written by a teacher and/or a student(s) of English (a collaborative work).

In addition:
Submissions should be sent to: nahouari@gmail.com.
Contributions should be written in Calibri 12pts, space 1.5 lines.
Submissions will be blind reviewed by 2 to 3 experts.

The Competitions starts on December 15, 2016 and ends on February 16, 2017.
During the day, a number of workshops and speeches will be organized related to creative writing and academic writing (Names of presenters and economic partners will be displayed later).

**The Competition starts on December 15, 2016 and ends on February 16, 2017.**

**The event day: May, 8th, 2017.** The winners of both competitions (Creative Writing and Academic Writing) will be announced the same day.

During the day, a number of workshops and speeches will be organized related to creative writing and academic writing.

Link to the events’ page:
https://www.facebook.com/ahouariidriwritingcompetetions/
A short description of the Creative Writing & Academic Writing Competitions in Algeria

Founded by Dr. Nadia Ahouari-Idri, Senior Lecturer of Applied Linguistics & Educational Psychology and ELT at Bejaia University, this academic event is a double-competition devoted to all Algerian learners in general and to EFL students in particular. It welcomes the submissions of creative writing pieces (i.e., poems, short stories, fables, etc.) and scientific papers based on the EFL graduate students’ research works (i.e., BA Memoires, MA Theses, and even PhD Dissertations). Moreover, its ultimate goal is to give the opportunity to the learners to show their talents in writing and encourage them to share their writings with a large audience. At the same time, and during the event, a series of parallel workshops are scheduled and presented by University lecturers. At the end of the competitions, the members of the jury will announce the best pieces of writing and their authors will be awarded the Certificate of the Best Creative / Academic Paper in addition to gifts and various trainings offered by partners of the event.

Comments from participants on the previous edition of the event:

“… Unsurprisingly, it was a real academic setting where many scholars and students shared their experiences in writing … In a word, that was a Great Success …”

Sofiane Mammeri, University of Bejaia

Dr. Ahouari, I do acknowledge, did her best to make the competition successful and worthwhile; she has invested her academic knowledge and time at the expense of anything else to carry out a work of high quality at the representational, organizational and academic levels… Taking part in the academic competitive contest was a wonderful experience for me.

Assia Mohdeb
University of Bejaia