

Opponent's Report on B.A. Thesis by

Veronika Stankovianska

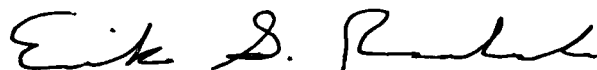
LITERARY SEMIOTICS IN THE EARLY WORKS OF HARRY MATHEWS

This thesis rigorously argues a case for the critical place of literary semiotics in selected early texts by Harry Mathews, with special reference to Matthews's *The Sinking of the Odradek Stadium*. Ms. Stankovianska also formalizes the cutting edge grouping of "Potential Literature" and the relation of Mathews to it, with particular emphasis on structure and on relationality in the texts under consideration with the help of the disciplinary matrix of mathematics, which the candidate also studies, and so can bring to bear in special ways for her inter-disciplinary thesis subject area.

What is particularly impressive about the thesis is the in depth detailing involved in the various lines of argumentation by the candidate, and the sorts of mathematical textual support offered up to outfit the basic contentions in the thesis.

The coda to the work "Chapter 5: Conclusion" completes the text in a tantalizing way that left this reader not only wanting to read more, but also to learn what more precisely would be some basic theses that the thesis work opened up or evoked, even if the candidate had neither the space nor the time to fully furnish and outfit such possible future avenues of research.

All in all, the thesis is very well argued, researched and written and deserves the mark of '1' (výborně).



Erik S. Roraback, D.Phil. (Oxon.)

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