

Universität Kassel

Bachelorarbeit

Simon.D@whybrew.de
English and American Studies
6. Fachsemester

Simon Daniel Whybrew

**Crisis or failure of hegemonic masculinities in
David Lodge's *Campus Trilogy***

Erstprüferin:

Prof. Dr. Susanne Bach

Zweitprüfer:

Dr. Lars Heiler

Sommersemester 2012

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. WORKING DEFINITIONS OF THEORETICAL CONCEPTS	4
2.1 GENDER, MASCULINITIES AND HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY.....	4
2.2 SUMMARY	8
3. HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES IN <i>CHANGING PLACES</i>	9
3.1 AMERICAN AND BRITISH ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES.....	9
3.2 REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY	14
3.2.1 Morris Zapp and the crisis of the intellectual killer instinct.....	14
3.2.2 Howard Ringbaum: Self-destructive academic competitiveness.....	23
3.3 REPRESENTATIVE OF BRITISH ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY	24
3.3.1 Philip Swallow and the attempt to recapture his youth.....	24
3.4 CRISIS OR FAILURE OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES	32
4. HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES IN <i>SMALL WORLD</i>	35
4.1 HEGEMONIC GLOBETROTTING ACADEMIC MASCULINITY	35
4.2 REPRESENTATIVES OF HEGEMONIC GLOBETROTTING ACADEMIC MASCULINITY	39
4.2.1 Morris Zapp: Theory as a means to power.....	39
4.2.2 Philip Swallow: The striving for intensity of experience.....	44
4.2.3 Howard Ringbaum: The fate of the overly competitive.....	49
4.3 CRISIS OR FAILURE OF HEGEMONIC GLOBETROTTING ACADEMIC MASCULINITIES.....	50
5. HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES IN <i>NICE WORK</i>	52
5.1 AMERICAN AND BRITISH ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES IN CRISIS	52
5.2 REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY	54
5.2.1 Morris Zapp: Grasping for power without theory.....	54
5.3 REPRESENTATIVE OF BRITISH ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY	56
5.3.1 Philip Swallow: Stuck in administration.....	56
5.4 CRISIS OR FAILURE OF ACADEMIC HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES	58
6. CONCLUSION	59
7. WORKS CITED	63

1. Introduction

In this bachelor's thesis I will concern myself with a close reading of select passages of David Lodge's *The Campus Trilogy* consisting of three novels; the "campus novel"¹ *Changing Places: A Tale of Two Campuses* (Galster 34), the "global campus novel"² *Small World: An Academic Romance* (Mews 726; Arizti 15), and *Nice Work*, which is often referred to as a combination of campus novel and a contemporary version of industrial or condition of England novel (Acheson 89; Ahrens, Satirical 278; Burton 237; Böhm 222). Based on this close reading, I will first determine the predominant types of hegemonic masculinities in each novel, and then I will determine whether certain characters aspire to these hegemonic ideals. If they do, I will analyze whether they are successful or not. Next I will analyze whether these hegemonic ideals of masculinity are in crisis or might even be about to fail and be superseded by a new hegemonic form.

The term hegemonic masculinity refers to the theoretical assumption that there are culturally dominant forms of masculinities that "[...] embod[y] the currently accepted answer to the problem of the legitimacy of patriarchy, which guarantees [...] the dominant position of men and the subordination of women" (Connell 77). From this quotation, it should be evident that there are not only multiple forms of masculinities, but also that they exist in a hierarchical relation to each other (Connell 37). In this sense four forms of masculinities are differentiated: the first is the *hegemonic*; the second *complicit*; the third *subordinate* and the fourth *marginalized* (Collinson and Hearn 295; Plummer 187). This will be discussed in more detail later on in this paper. For now it is important to note that hegemonic masculinity is an ideal that many men aspire to, but only very few can practice (Connell 79). It should also not be forgotten that masculinity only exists in contrast to femininity (Connell 68); thus it is important "[...] not to repeat the patriarchal flaws of prefeminist research and write women out of the picture" (Brod 28). Instead, the presence or even the absence of women should be integrated into the analysis of masculinities since this can be an indicator of the fact that masculine identities are constructed

¹ Sometimes referred to as an "academic novel" (Ingersoll 128).

² Also referred to as a "multi-campus novel" (Mews 715), or a "global-village novel" (Coelsch-Foisner 334).

both in relation to the ‘other’ (women) as well as “[...] among their own in homosocial settings [...]” (Brod 28).

In the course of this thesis, my focus will lie on an analysis of the most dominant types of hegemonic masculinities in the novels, but I will consider representatives of subordinate and marginalized masculinities briefly for each novel. Complicit men will be largely omitted from the analysis due to their similarity to the hegemonic type, which would require a detailed analysis of each character to determine whether they are complicit or hegemonic. Thus, it will only be determined whether the men analyzed, who aspire to hegemony, are successful or remain complicit.

In my consideration of the male protagonists in the novels, I will show that they aspire to hegemonic ideals of masculinity, but that ultimately most of them fail in their aspirations. However, as I will show, this does not lead to the abandonment of this pursuit, but merely to its reformulation and a continued attempt on the male characters’ part to aspire to this reformulated ideal. In order to show this, I will first establish my working definitions of the most relevant theoretical terms for my analysis, namely the terms hegemonic masculinity and its underlying terminology, and its interrelation with the concept of homosocial spaces.

Following this, I will begin my analysis of *Changing Places*. In it I will differentiate between two types of hegemonic masculinity, namely: *American academic hegemonic masculinity* and *British academic hegemonic masculinity*. For the former I will show that, in accordance with the American university system, it is based on continuous fierce competition among the ruthlessly professional scholars in which only the most prolific survive and are, therefore, able to remain in the hegemonic position. For the British university system I will show that although competition is not unheard of, it occurs early on in the academic career and that by the time an academic has become a lecturer his position is relatively secure³. However, this does not mean that the British system, and with it its permutation of hegemonic masculinity is less hierarchical or competitive; on the contrary, these factors take on a different form. Similarly, I will argue that both hegemonic ideals and with them the

³ It is imperative at this point to point out that these definitions only apply to the fictional university systems depicted in the novel and are not transferable to their real world counterparts.

aspirations of the aspiring representative are under threat by the student revolutions, and in the case of the British system, by professional scholars, such as Dempsey and Zapp. The American system is, additionally, challenged by professors, like Kroop, who threaten the academic standards. To examine these developments, I will first consider characters of both nationalities who aspire to the hegemonic ideals of masculinity of the respective systems. On the American side, I will consider Morris Zapp and Howard Ringbaum. I will show that both have trouble living up to or maintaining the ideal. On the British side, I will take a look at Philip Swallow. I will demonstrate that, like his American counterparts, he is in a state of crisis that is also in part caused by the student revolution. With reference to these and other representatives, I will then show that the respective forms of hegemonic masculinity are in a state of crisis, but that they—similar to their representatives—will experience a reformulation rather than a complete failure.

With regard to *Small World*, I will argue that both academia and its forms of hegemonic masculinities have experienced internationalization⁴. Thus, I will argue that these international scholars aspire to a *hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinity* for the formulation of which they compete with each other during numerous academic conferences. I will show that they not only compete on an academic level for the ultimate theory that supersedes all others, but that they also compete for the attention of the few women that cross their paths. However, once again the hegemonic ideal and with it the aspiration to it is under threat. This time the threat comes from poststructuralism, which threatens the possibility of achieving a definite interpretation of a literary text and with it the profession itself. When it comes to the representatives of this new hegemonic form, I will show that Morris Zapp has seemingly recovered from his crisis and is now attempting to outsmart his colleagues with the help of poststructuralist theory. Philip Swallow is also aspiring to this new form of hegemonic masculinity albeit with a more modest claim on the theoretical side and a focus on sexual competition that Morris, in contrast, has given up. On the other hand, as I will show, Howard Ringbaum has, totally shifted his focus from the theoretical to the sexual arena. I will argue that all of the characters are unsuccessful in their pursuit of the hegemonic ideal. As for the ideal itself,

⁴ However, national differences will still be considered where they are relevant.

I will demonstrate that it is reformulated at the end of the novel and recovers from its crisis.

In *Nice Work* I will show that internationalization has come to an end, at least on the British side with Philip Swallow being stuck in England due to the financial cuts of the Thatcher administration. On the American side Morris Zapp is still traveling the globe, but, as I will argue, his concern lies in the US where he is determined to stop his ex-wife's appointment to an academic post at his university. Therefore, I will return to the national level and analyze how the respective representatives handle the crisis at hand. This time the crisis is caused by the above-mentioned financial cuts on the British side and by the incursion of Morris' ex-wife into the homosocial space, which is his university, on the American side. Although I will show that they are both dealing with different crises, they are competing for the same woman—Robyn Penrose. Not sexually this time, since they both seem to have had to give up on that, but rather as employee of their respective universities. Regarding the respective crisis tendencies of the hegemonic ideals, I will argue that at least in most cases they can be resolved partly, albeit temporarily.

2. Working definitions of theoretical concepts

2.1 Gender, masculinities and hegemonic masculinity

At the basis of the concept of hegemonic masculinity lies the theoretical assumption that: “[...] gender is not fixed in advance of social interaction, but is constructed in interaction [...]” (Connell 35). Accordingly, masculinity and femininity are seen as “[...] loosely defined, historically variable, and interrelated social ascriptions to persons with certain kinds of bodies [...]” (Gardiner 35). With reference to masculinities ‘historically variable’ means that they are constantly changing with and adapting to the changes of “[...] and changes in the social structures with which the gender order is linked” (Connell and Wood 348). From this variability Horlacher deduced that masculinity:

[...] as a notion, is in transition, if not inherently unstable, that it is not a simple fact but has to be acquired through struggles, painful initiations, rites of passage, or long and often humiliating apprenticeships. [...] Being a man has thus become—and has always been—a serious matter that has to be taught and learned. But this, of course, always implies the risk of failure, of not being man enough [...]. (Horlacher, Charting 5)

This is an observation that Haschemi Yekani would concur with as she observes that “[w]ithin narrative accounts, masculinity is not so much something one can claim; rather, it is a position that needs to be achieved often in terms of heroic struggle” (36). Thus, masculinity can be seen as a normative characteristic that exposes its subjects to the constant fear of not being able to live up to its requirements (Horlacher, *Masculinities* 59). These fears are also expressed in male sexuality and as such are often linked to the penis (Plummer 179).

Regarding the gendered nature of masculinity, it is further argued that institutions are gendered and that “[...] gender is present in the processes, practices, images and ideologies, and distributions of power in the various sectors of social life” (Acker 567). Consequently, it is maintained that:

The law, politics, religion, the academy, the state, and the economy, [...] are institutions historically developed by men, currently dominated by men, and symbolically interpreted from the standpoint of men in leading positions, [...]. These institutions have been defined by the absence of women. [...] In spite of many changes bringing women into all institutions, [...] males still dominate the central institutions. (Acker 567)

Consequently, Acker argues that, as a result of this, “[...] [i]mages of [...] hegemonic masculinity pervade many institutional areas, including the military, business, academia, and politics” (568).

Furthermore, it should be noted that:

Gender does not exist in a set of relations that are distinct from other relations, such as those of class or race, but as part of the processes that also constitute class and race, as well as other lines of demarcation and domination. (Acker 567)

Among these other lines of demarcation, according to Connell, we should also consider nationality (75), and ethnicity (Connell, Hearn, and Kimmel 3). However, as Connell points out, it is not enough to recognize the diverse forms of masculinities, one must also consider the hierarchical relationships between them (37). Consequently, as mentioned in the introduction, there are four types of masculinities that are partly differentiated by these lines of demarcation. At the center of these is the concept of hegemonic masculinity, which is derived from Antonio Gramsci’s analysis of class relations and explores “[...] the cultural dynamic by which a group claims and sustains a leading position in social life” at a given time (Connell 77). According to this concept:

[...] the ruling class maintained its rule not by direct repression or brute force alone but through cultural domination, leading the society as a whole to imbibe the basic outlook and values of the ruling class. This

process was that of hegemony. Analogously, [...] Connell stressed the role of cultural domination in the patriarchal social order, namely the ways in which specific modes of masculinity were inculcated in the general population [...]. (Brod 27-28)

In part, this works through the production of heroes who function as “exemplars of masculinity” and as such are “[...] symbols that have authority despite the fact that most men [...] do not fully live up to them” (Connell and Messerschmidt 846). However, similar to the conception of gender, hegemonic masculinities can be challenged by groups of men and women and are as such “historically mobile relation[s]” (Connell 77). Hegemonic masculinity is an ideal that many men aspire to, but only very few can practice (Connell 79). Yet as Connell points out the “[...] majority of men gain from its hegemony, since they benefit from [...] the advantage men in general gain from the overall subordination of women” (Connell 79). These masculinities are referred to as complicit because they profit from this “patriarchal dividend” (Connell 79) without “[...] enacting a strong version of masculine dominance [...]” (Connell and Messerschmidt 832). Torres adds “[t]hese men neither explicitly support nor condemn the forms of masculinity that provide them with advantages” (78). The advantages gained by occupying the complicit position may include “[...] higher salaries, more prestigious careers and positions of public office [...]” (Torres 78), and the avoidance of being subordinated (Levy 254). Regarding subordinate masculinities, Levy remarks that “[m]en run the risk of subordination when they do not practice gender consistent with the hegemonic system and ideology” (254). These masculinities typically include working class and homosexual men (Collinson and Hearn 295), Connell argues that the latter occupy a position “[...] at the bottom of a gender hierarchy among men” (Connell 78). Regarding marginalized men, Levy states that they “[...] are those who cannot even aspire to hegemony, most often men of colour and men with disabilities” (254). Consequently, Spannbaauer names the following prerequisites for embodying a hegemonic form of masculinity: first, being white; second, membership of the bourgeoisie or upper class; and third, having a heterosexual orientation (92). A list to which able-bodiedness (Levy 254; Collinson and Hearn 295), and being middle-aged should be added (Collinson and Hearn 295).

Furthermore, it must be recognized that “[m]en can adopt hegemonic masculinity when it is desirable; but the same men can distance themselves

strategically from hegemonic masculinity at other moments” (Connell and Messerschmidt 841). Additionally, there may be “different constructions of masculinity” that may serve as “tactical alternatives” at the local level (Connell and Messerschmidt 847). However, this does not mean that different forms of hegemonic masculinity cannot influence or even replace each other; in actuality “[...] hegemonic masculine patterns may change by incorporating elements from the others” (Connell and Messerschmidt 847).

However, as already mentioned in the introduction, masculinity only exists in opposition to femininity (Connell 68). Therefore, as should be evident by now, masculinity is constructed both in relation to women as well as in the context of homosocial spaces in relation to men (Brod 28). Homosocial spaces are defined as “[...] spaces which men set aside, such as in the men’s-only clubs or situations such as the relationship of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, in which women play a limited role, if [any; SDW] at all” (Towell). On the one hand, in relation to men, masculinity is generally constructed via competition (Frank 161). On the other hand, regarding the relationship with women Donaldson remarks:

A fundamental element of hegemonic masculinity, then, is that women exist as potential sexual objects for men while men are negated as sexual objects for men. Women provide heterosexual men with sexual validation, and men compete with each other for this. This does not necessarily involve men being particularly nasty to individual women. (645)

With reference to Bourdieu, Meuser argues that women are relegated to the role of onlooker “[...] oder, wie *Virginia Woolf* sagt, von *schmeichelnden Spiegeln* verwiesen, die dem Mann das vergrößerte Bild seiner selbst zurückwerfen [...]” (Bourdieu qtd. in Meuser, *Geschlecht* 124). This constitutes an irreplaceable kind of endorsement that reassures its subject of his masculinity (Meuser, *Männer*. 7-8). Similarly, Lipman-Blumen argues:

Women [...] become resources which men can use to further their own eminence in the homosocial world of men. The acquisition of a beautiful woman is a resource that heightens the status claims of a man vis-à-vis other men and provides him with a sexual resource as well. (Lipman-Blumen 16-17)

However, Meuser argues that, as a result of the transformations of the gender relations, there is a growing tendency that women tend to no longer fulfill this mirror function (Meuser, *Männer*. 7). Nevertheless, this does not lead to the failure of the hegemonic ideal, but rather to its reformulation in homosocial

spaces (Meuser, *Männer*. 12-13). Additionally, it is important to note that violations of specific hegemonic norms can lead to repercussions and that the violator may even be ostracized from his homosocial group (Bird 126).

2.2 Summary

In summary, it can be said that gender is seen as a result of processes of interaction in the context of the concept of hegemonic masculinity (Connell 35). Consequently, masculinities are seen as being in a constant process of change in relation to generational difference and environmental changes (Connell and Wood 348). Masculinities are also seen as something that has to be acquired through struggle and competition with other men (Haschemi Yekani 36). Furthermore, masculinities are considered to be inherently unstable and as such can be challenged (Horlacher, *Charting* 5). Additionally, they cause their subjects to have fears of inadequacy, which often manifest themselves in connection with the penis (Horlacher, *Masculinities* 59; Plummer 179). It is further assumed that gender pervades institutions. Consequently, these institutions are dominated by masculinities and thus women are marginalized (Acker 567). Such institutions are referred to as homosocial spaces (Towell). As I have shown, it is also important to differentiate between different masculinities along the lines of race, ethnicity, class, nationality, able-bodiedness, sexual orientation, religion, age, et cetera (Acker 567; Connell, Hearn, and Kimmel 3). Additionally, the concept of hegemonic masculinity also considers the power relations between different masculinities (Connell 37). As such, it differentiates between hegemonic, complicit, subordinate and marginalized masculinities. The hegemonic forms of masculinity represent an ideal that many men aspire to, but that remains unreachable for most of them. Nevertheless, many men profit from the subordinated status of women. These men who do not live up to the hegemonic ideal, but nevertheless profit from its effects are referred to as complicit (Connell 79). These men neither support nor oppose the hegemonic form, and as a result are not just protected from subordination, but also gain advantages such as higher salaries or more prestigious career opportunities (Levy 254; Torres 78). Men in the subordinate positions occupy these positions because they do not perform masculinity in accordance with the hegemonic system (Levy 254). Subordinate masculinities generally include working class and homosexual men (Collinson and Hearn

295). The marginalized position is occupied by men who cannot even aspire to the hegemonic ideal, such as men of color and men with disabilities (Levy 254). This results from the fact that these men do not possess the prerequisite attributes for hegemony, which are: (1) being white, (2) membership of the bourgeoisie or upper class, (3) having a heterosexual orientation, (4) being able-bodied, and (5) being middle-aged (Spannbauer 92; Levy 254; Collinson and Hearn 295). It is also important to note that several different forms of masculinity can exist at the local level; where they can serve as alternatives, which men can adopt or from which they can distance themselves if required. Moreover, different forms of hegemonic masculinity can influence or even replace each other (Connell and Messerschmidt 847).

Hegemonic masculinities are constituted both in relation to other men (in homosocial spaces) and to women (Brod 28). Among men, they are constructed through competition (Frank 161). Consequently, they help to reaffirm the hegemonic ideal and insure that men who deviate from this norm or avoid such competition are reprimanded, or in extreme cases even ostracized (Bird 126). On the other hand, women may provide men with sexual validation for which men compete and which serve to justify men in their existences (Meuser, *Männer*. 7-8). Thus, women are often the objects of men's competition and form resources that men use to further their status (Lipman-Blumen 16-17). However, due to transformations in gender relations, women are often no longer willing to play this role (Meuser, *Männer*. 7). Nonetheless, this does not lead to a failure of the hegemonic ideal, but rather, with the help of homosocial spaces in which men can compensate for these effects, results in a reformulation of the ideal (Meuser, *Männer*. 12-13).

3. Hegemonic masculinities in *Changing Places*

3.1 American and British academic hegemonic masculinities

The difference between the two universities already becomes apparent in the description when, on the one hand, Euphoric State is described as: “[...] a name to conjure with in the senior common rooms of the world [...]”, while Rummidge, on the other hand, is said to have “[...] never [...] been an institution of more than middling size and reputation [...]” (Lodge, CP 10). As a consequence it is said that at Rummidge: “[...] the most highly-qualified and

senior members of the staff competed eagerly for the honour of representing Rummidge at Euphoric State [...]” (Lodge, CP 11). While Euphoric State “[...] had sometimes encountered difficulty in persuading any of its faculty to go to Rummidge” (Lodge, CP 11). This is due to the fact that:

The members of that élite body, who picked up grants and fellowships as other men pick up hats, did not aim to teach when they came to Europe, and certainly not at Rummidge [...]. (Lodge, CP 11)

However, the differences go beyond the universities themselves and extend to their predominantly male employees who—during their education in the respective university systems—have developed a distinguishable characteristic that leads to the formation of different ideals of hegemonic masculinity respectively. For the American system, it is said that while it is:

[...] not too difficult to obtain a bachelor’s degree. [...] at the postgraduate level [...] the pressure really begins, when the student is burnished and tempered in a series of grueling courses and rigorous assessments until he is deemed worthy to receive the accolade of PhD. By now he has invested so much time and money in the process that any career other than an academic one has become unthinkable, and anything less than success in it unbearable. He is well primed, in short, to enter a profession as steeped in the spirit of free enterprise as Wall Street, in which each scholar makes an individual contract with his employer, and is free to sell his service to the highest bidder. (Lodge, CP 11-12)

The effects of this competitive system become evident when Morris remarks that: “[w]alking along the corridors of Dealer Hall was like passing through some Modern Language Association Hall of Fame, [...]” (Lodge, CP 46-47). The importance of publishing is shown by the fact that the Assistant Professor Kroop is initially denied tenure due to his lack of publications even though he has received good reviews as a teacher (Lodge, CP 53). This importance of being a distinguished academic with a well established reputation in one’s special field is further evidenced by the fact that Philip, much to his annoyance, is constantly asked what he is working on (Lodge, CP 61). The competitive nature of the American system is most drastically shown by a conversation between Philip Swallow and Howard Ringbaum in which the latter remarks: “[y]ou can screw as many students as you like here, [...]. But if your publications are unsatisfactory...’ He drew a finger expressively across his throat” (Lodge, CP 61). Philip even goes as far as to say: “[...] it’s a jungle in which the weakest go to the wall” (Lodge, CP 108). According to Ditze:

The prevalence of economic thinking within American academia has repercussions on the scholars’ interpersonality. Like their colleagues in the private sector, American university staff have [*sic*] firmly internalized

a sense of competition that enables them to survive in a highly competitive environment. Like any other employee, the academic staff at Euphoric State are submitted to a system of fierce competitions. The principle of 'publish or perish' is indiscriminately enforced to secure the standards of professionalism among the members of staff. (231)

This competitiveness of the American scholars is most effectively revealed by a game of Philip's invention called "Humiliation" to which he introduces his American colleagues (Lodge, CP 107). In the game the players have to humiliate themselves by naming a well known book that he or she has not read to score points for every person who has read it (Lodge, CP 107). However, Philip has to discover how difficult it is for the American to submit to the basic premise of the game and relates to Hilary: "[o]n the first round they kept naming books they had read and thought everyone else hadn't. But when they finally got the hang of it, they began to play with almost frightening intensity [...]" (Lodge, CP 107). On the one hand, this episode reveals that it is extremely hard for the American academics to admit to weaknesses, but it also reveals that their fear of showing weakness is trumped by their incessant desire to outperform each other.

In the British system the positions of the academics are a good deal more secure and the atmosphere is less competitive. This is evidenced when Howard Ringbaum asks Philip Swallow if they have tenure in England and he replies:

Oh no. Probation is more or less a formality. In practice, once you're appointed they can never get rid of you—unless you seduce one of your students, or something equally scandalous. (Lodge, CP 60)

At another point Philip goes on to call it "[...] the English system of clandestine patronage" (Lodge, CP 108). However, this does not mean that competition does not exist, it just "begins and ends much earlier" (Lodge, CP 12). This competition is spread over several episodes:

Four times, [...] the human pack is shuffled and cut—at eleven plus, sixteen-plus and twenty-plus—and happy is he who comes top of the deck on each occasion, but especially the last. This is called Finals, the very name of which implies that nothing of importance can happen after it. The British postgraduate student is a lonely, forlorn soul, uncertain of what he is doing or whom he is trying to please [...]. As long as he manages to land his first job, this is no great handicap in the short run, since tenure is virtually automatic in British universities, and everyone is paid on the same scale. (Lodge, CP 12)

As a result of this lack of competitiveness in the British system the scholars are comparatively undistinguished, which becomes evident when Morris is

walking through the corridor to his office at Rummidge and does not recognize a single name on the nameplates (Lodge, CP 47).

The fact that the English system is far less competitive and lucrative than its US counterpart is further evidenced by Morris observation that “[t]he domestic standard of living of the Rummidge faculty was far below that of the Euphoric faculty, but even the most junior teacher here had a large office to himself, [...]” (Lodge, CP 47). Thus, it can be argued that while the Rummidge faculty is not paid very well, they are treated equally on a professional level indiscriminate of their professional qualification. What matters in Rummidge is not the number of publications, but rather the seniority of the scholar. This is exemplified in the figure of the Head of the Rummidge English Department Professor Gordon Master, who according to Bob Busby has published “[n]othing anybody’s been able to discover”, but whom he still defends in front of Morris and calls “a great man” (Lodge, CP 71). He further states that Masters was “[a] brilliant young scholar before the war”; but that he was “[c]aptured at Dunkirk” and that, thus “[o]ne has to make allowances...” (Lodge, CP 71). Even more revealing is Busby’s story about how Masters became Head of the Department in the first place, according to which Masters was promoted based on his skills as a hunter rather than as an academic (Lodge, CP 71-72). The highly hierarchical structure of the department is revealed when Morris describes Masters to Désirée and says:

He runs the Department very much in the spirit of Dunkirk, as a strategic withdrawal against overwhelming odds, the odds being students, administration, the Government, long hair on boys, short skirts on girls, promiscuity, Casebooks, ball-point pens—just about the whole modern world, in short. (Lodge, CP 101-102)

Regarding the crisis tendencies of the two systems it can be said that in the description of Euphoric State its crisis and the causes that bring it about are already explicitly mentioned:

By this year of 1969, Euphoric State had perhaps reached its peak as a centre of learning, and was already in the process of decline—due partly to the accelerating tempo of disruption by student militants, and partly to the counter-pressures exerted by the right-wing Governor of the State, Ronald Duck, a former movie-actor [...]. (Lodge, CP 10)

In the British system the state of crisis is probably most visible in the figure of the Head of the English Department Gordon Masters, who compares the student protests with Hitler’s attack on Europe and proposes a battle plan against them (Lodge, CP 131). According to Semmelroth, this reveals what the

struggle is really about, namely, power (537). However, it is also under threat by more competitive scholars such as Dempsey (Lodge, CP 179) and Morris, who dreams of Americanizing Rummidge (Lodge, CP 191).

Euphoric State's status as a homosocial space is evidenced early on in the book when it is said that it retains the loyalty of its scholars with the help of "[...] long-legged secretaries" (Lodge, CP 10). This is further underscored by the fact that they are the only female employees mentioned in the descriptions of its English department (Lodge, CP 50). Subordinated and marginalized masculinities suffer a similar fate. For instance, men of color only appear as minor characters and even then rarely. Significantly, the only black character with a name is Wily Smith, a student of Philip's, whom he later remarks about in a letter to Hilary: "[...] [he; SDW] claims he's black, though in fact he looks scarcely darker than me" (Lodge, CP 100). Another representative is a "black wrestler" whom Philip encounters at an orgy (Lodge, CP 76). Also there are the "two powerfully built Negroes" whom Philip encounters in prison (Lodge, CP 153), and who he is convinced would have raped him if Désirée had not bailed him out (Lodge, CP 154). On the other hand, homosexual men play an even smaller role in the lives of the academic community of Euphoric State and are solely represented by "a homosexual clergy man" whom Charles Boon has supposedly "[...] argued [...] out of suicide [...]" (Lodge, CP 59).

The status of the English Department of Rummidge University as homosocial space can be deduced from the fact that—with the exception of the secretaries—the only woman who is mentioned by name is a Miss Mackintosh from Egyptology who is mentioned but once in the novel, and her position in the Department is not revealed (Lodge, CP 46; Arizti 142). This impression is further underscored by Sutcliffe's shocked reaction to Hilary Swallow's application to become a postgraduate student at Rummidge and his fear on hearing that he is supposed to supervise her (Lodge; CP 178). It is made blatantly obvious by the description of Sutcliffe as:

[...] a genuine old-fashioned bachelor, as distinct from being gay or hip—and women scared him to death. The two on the Department staff he treated as honorary men. If his colleagues had to have wives, he intimated, the least they could do was to keep them at home in decent obscurity. (Lodge, CP 178)

Members of other ethnic groups are even scarcer in the description of Rummidge than in that of Euphoric State, their most prominent representative being an Indian owner of a strip-joint in Soho which is not even in Rummidge (Lodge, CP 90). Similarly, there is no mention of homosexual men in the descriptions of Rummidge (Lodge, CP et passim)⁵.

3.2 Representatives of American academic hegemonic masculinity

3.2.1 Morris Zapp and the crisis of the intellectual killer instinct

Although it might be presumed from what has been said about the exchange partners from Euphoric that Morris Zapp is an undistinguished scholar, this expectation would be a mistake: he is, on the contrary, a rather prominent member of the faculty. As such he is described as:

[...] the man who had published articles in *PMLA* while still in graduate school; who, enviably offered his first job by Euphoric State, had stuck out for twice the going salary, and got it; who had published five fiendishly clever books (four of them on Jane Austen) by the time he was thirty and achieved the rank of full professor at the same precocious age. (Lodge, CP 11)

This identifies Morris Zapp as a thoroughly professional academic, and he is even referred to as possessing a “professional killer instinct” (Lodge, CP 11). According to Ahrens this is already connoted by his “telling name” which stands for ““liveliness, energy, drive”” (OED qtd. in Ahrens, *Satirical* 283). Morris also transfers this professionalism to his teaching for which he mostly receives good reviews by students in the Course Bulletin (Lodge, CP 54). The Course Bulletin—which is in Philip Swallows perception “[...] a kind of consumers’ guide to teachers and courses based on questionnaires handed out to students in previous quarters” (Lodge, CP 3)—further evaluates Morris as “[...] vain, sarcastic and a mean grader, but brilliant and stimulating” (Lodge, CP 54). Furthermore, it significantly remarks that he only accepts “‘A’ students” into his courses (Lodge, CP 54). The impression of Morris as a professional academic is further underscored by his description as:

[a] seasoned veteran of the domestic airways, having flown over most of the states in the Union in his time, bound for conferences, lecture dates and assignations, [...] (Lodge, CP 7).

⁵ This does not mean that these groups do not exist in Rummidge, they in fact are mentioned in connection with places—gay clubs and West Indian dives—but do not appear as characters (Lodge, CP 164).

Nevertheless, Morris Zapp has never left North America; a fact that he regards as “[...] a proud record unique among the faculty of his university [...]” (Lodge, CP 8). In fact Morris never had any desire to come to England in the first place let alone Rummidge (Lodge, CP 30-31). However, Morris’ marriage is in crisis, and he is afraid that, if his wife Désirée goes through with the divorce plans, he will no longer see their two children on a regular basis, and that—similar to the situation with his daughter from his first marriage—this will lead to an estrangement between them (Lodge, CP 31). Thus, he has convinced Désirée to “[...] delay starting divorce proceedings for six months on condition he moved out of the house [*sic*]” (Lodge, CP 32). Consequently, to avoid appearing like “a man turned out of his own home” at the University, he spontaneously decides to travel to Europe, even though it goes against his conviction that “[t]ravel narrows [...]” (Lodge, CP 32, 33). He is in fact so desperate to keep his face that he not only wants to take part in the Rummidge exchange against the recommendation of his Dean of Faculty, but that he even insists that the scholar who was intended to take part in the exchange should be asked to step down (Lodge, CP 33-34). He explains his eagerness by saying, “I think I need a change. A new perspective. That challenge of a different culture” (Lodge, CP 34). Although Morris would never admit to it, this is actually the truth, for he is experiencing a kind of midlife crisis of the overly successful and thus is “[...] brooding about the meaning of life [...]” (Lodge, CP 34). As he remarks, this is “[...] partly the consequence of his own success [...]” as a result of which he “[a]t the age of forty [...] [can; SDW] think of nothing he wanted to achieve that he hadn’t achieved already, and this depresso[s] him” (Lodge, CP 34). This also affects his research from which “[...] some of the zest had gone out of [...] since it ceased to be a means to an end” (Lodge, CP 34). According to Ditze, this shows that “Morris does not pursue literary studies in the sense of a self-sufficient mental activity in pursuit of ‘truth’ but simply as a convenient means of pushing his academic career” (241). In addition, to this problem he is afraid that further publication might only damage his legacy, a realization that slows him down and hinders his most ambitious project (Lodge, CP 34-35). This project is described as:

[...] a series of commentaries on Jane Austen which would work through the whole canon, one novel at a time, saying absolutely everything that could possibly be said about them. [...] so that when each commentary was written there would be simply *nothing further to say* about the novel

in question. The object of the exercise, [...] was not to enhance others' enjoyment and understanding of Jane Austen, still less to honour the novelist herself, but to put a definitive stop to the production of any further garbage on the subject. The commentaries would not be designed for the general reader but for the specialist, who, looking up Zapp, would find that the book, article or thesis he had been planning had already been anticipated and, more likely than not, invalidated. After Zapp, the rest would be silence. (Lodge, CP 35)

Based on this project Ditze argues that Morris' "[...] professionalism has overtly selfish and destructive implications" (244). Similarly, Ahrens sees it as evidence for Morris' "[...] embodiment of the power-obsessed, egotistical professor" (Satirical 283). Likewise, Semmelroth argues that this project reveals that Morris' academic strife is solely concerned with power (537). In the context of this paper, Morris' project is the ultimate hegemonic project in the sense that it is an attempt not only to live up to the hegemonic ideal, but also to make it impossible for anyone else to aspire to it. Especially considering Morris' dream of:

[...] going on [...] to do the same job on the other major novelists, then the poets and dramatists, [...] inexorably reducing the area of English literature available for free comment, spreading dismay through the whole industry, rendering scores of his colleagues redundant: periodicals would fall silent, famous English Departments be left deserted like ghost towns (Lodge, CP 35)

This project also plainly reveals that Morris considers "[...] his fellow-labourers in the vineyards of literature" to be inferior (Lodge, CP 35). This is in part due to their tendency to "[...] tolerate [...] the existence of opinions contrary to their own [...]" and their willingness to "even [...] sometimes change[] their minds" (Lodge, CP 35). Something that Morris would never dream of doing, he is in fact even said to "[...] never apologize[] [...]" (Lodge, CP 9). Furthermore, he despises them for raising questions without answering them; thus he maintains that "[a]ny damn fool [...] could think of questions; it was *answers* that separated the men from the boys" (Lodge, CP 35). However, his project is progressing slowly; and, as a consequence of this, he has not published "anything for several years [...]" (Lodge, CP 36). This is, however, not Morris' only problem, he has also begun "[...] to feel ill-at-ease in his own body" and is having problems achieving orgasm (Lodge, CP 36). In addition to this, the student revolution is causing him problems because:

[...] as the climate on campus became increasingly hostile to traditional academic values. His style of teaching was designed to shock conventionally educated students out of a sloppily reverent attitude to literature and into an ice-cool, intellectually rigorous one. It could do

little with students openly contemptuous of both the subject and his own qualifications. (Lodge, CP 36)

In summary, it can be said that Morris is suffering from both an academic crisis and a crisis as an educator. Additionally, Morris is also suffering from a marital crisis and is having problems with his sexual performance (Lodge, CP 32, 36). In short, as Galster points out, he is experiencing a kind of “[...] akademischer und privater *mid-life crisis*” (Galster 51). The significance of the last two is made apparent by Désirée's comparison between her sex life with Morris and with Philip in which she says to Philip:

Your not demanding applause for your potency all the time. Like with Morris it had to be a four-star fuck every time. If I didn't groan and roll my eyes and foam at the mouth at climax he would accuse me of going frigid on him (Lodge, CP 136).

Based on this Ditzel remarks that Morris' “[...] overdeveloped sense of competition, is not confined to [...] [his; SDW] professional career, but has entered his marital life too” (241). However, from this we can also deduce that for Morris sex—similar to his job—functions as a form of validation and women as a mirror to give him the required validation. A validation that is in danger both because of his impending impotence and the fact that Désirée has been unwilling to have sex with him for months, thus withholding sexual validation from him (Lodge, CP 42).

However, all this does not effect Morris' conviction of his own superiority, which is once again shown in his certainty upon arriving in Rummidge:

In all modesty Morris imagined he must be the biggest fish ever to swim into this academic backwater, and he was prepared for a reception of almost exaggerated (if that were possible) interest and excitement. (Lodge, CP 55)

However, this expectation is gravely disappointed when he comes to Rummidge and finds himself ostracized, a situation that is made seemingly inescapable by the fact that Morris, being used to people taking initiative in greeting him themselves, has himself lost the ability to “mak[e] his existence known to people” (Lodge, CP 55). This is only changed when the Head of the English Department Professor Masters returns and “[...] receive[s] him into the tribe” (Lodge, CP 71). In fact the only person Morris encounters during his isolation is Philip Swallow's wife Hilary, who comes to his office in search of a book that her husband has asked her to send him, which neither of them is able to locate at that time (Lodge, CP 68-69). When Morris later discovers it, he forms a plan to use it as an excuse to visit Hilary at home: not because he

desires her company, but rather because he has convinced himself that she is a good cook, and he is hankering after a home cooked meal (Lodge, CP 69-70). However, as Morris feared, “[o]nce he sank into the bottomless morass of English manners, [...]” it does not leave him unaffected, and while Jane Austen does not “[...] turn *realist* on him [...]”⁶, he does in fact change. Morris himself notices this after having driven his landlord Dr. O’Shea to a patient. Thus, the narrator remarks:

But it *was* good of him, uncharacteristically good of Morris Zapp. [...] He cast his mind back over the day—helping Mrs. Swallow look for her husband’s book, letting the Irish kid watch his TV, driving O’Shea around to his patients—and wondered what had come over him. Some creeping English disease of being nice, was it? He would have to watch himself. (Lodge, CP 74)

However, the change does not end there, Morris is also experiencing guilt⁷ because Bernadette—the Irish kid—is being punished by Dr. O’Shea for masturbating to the Playboy that Morris had lent her (Lodge, CP 83). He also rejects Bernadette’s offer to have sex with him (Lodge, CP 85). As the narrator informs us, this is surprising because:

There was a time when Morris would have snapped up a chance like this, [...] but he didn’t feel up to it, he couldn’t make the effort, or face possible complications. He could picture all too easily the consequences of being found by the O’Sheas in bed with Bernadette [...]. Nothing was worth the price of looking for new accommodation in Rummidge in mid-winter. (Lodge, CP 85)

But it is unlikely that this change is a permanent one since he, as Ditze points out, rejects her “[...] mainly for fear of the sanctions such an infraction of the code of conduct would entail [...]” (245). Nonetheless, Morris decides to go on an overnight trip to London to “[...] avoid any accidents [...]” (Lodge, CP 85). In London Morris visits Soho where he decides to enter a strip-joint, which is something he has always wanted to do, but refrained from at home because his:

[...] reputation as a sophisticate would have been destroyed the moment he was seen by a colleague or student patronizing one of the South Strand strip-bars. ‘What, Morris Zapp? going [*sic*] to *topless* shows? Morris *paying* to see bare tits? What is this, Morris, not getting enough of it these days?’ And so on and thus would have been the badinage. (Lodge, CP 89)

From this description we can deduce that Morris would have experienced a loss of status if he had been spotted entering a strip-joint at home because it

⁶At least there is no indication that she does turn realist on him.

⁷An unusual emotion for him because it implies the acceptance of having done something wrong, which as we have seen is something that Morris normally does not admit to.

would have been interpreted as his being unable to get sexual satisfaction without paying for it. However, his experience is far from gratifying: it is cold in the club; the stripper is late; and eventually turns out to be Mary Makepeace, the girl who sat next to Morris on his flight to England, and whom he tried to talk out of having an abortion; who consequently refuses to strip for him and is fired (Lodge, CP 25, 90-92). Morris invites her to have a drink with him at his hotel hoping to “[...] get[] better acquainted [...]” with her, but she is quick to reject him and informs him that she is still pregnant (Lodge CP 92). As a consequence, Morris loses interest in her because, as he writes to Désirée later, he is “[...] squeamish about laying girls who are already pregnant by other guys. Something not quite kosher about it [...]” (Lodge, CP 121). This notwithstanding, Morris still helps her to find accommodation at the Swallows house and is even willing to help her out financially—both reactions are rather uncharacteristic for Morris and constitute a change in his personality (Lodge, CP 112-114). However, Morris Zapp is not just unsuccessful on that account; he also fails in persuading Désirée to call off the divorce proceedings. This becomes evident in her reply to his letter: “Of course, I could see you were trying like hell to be witty and charming, but that’s all right, as long as I’m not taken in. And I’m not. Are you receiving me, Morris? I AM NOT TAKEN IN” (Lodge, 96).

However, Morris has not lost his competitive streak as can be seen by his reaction to finding a bad review of one of his publications, whose writer according to Morris, “[...] wanted to beat [...] [his; SDW] ego to a pulp” (Lodge, CP 102). Although, Morris of course does not accept the validity of the critique, he is aggravated by the fact that he cannot identify the source of this assault because it is four years old (Lodge, CP 102). When he discovers what he considers to be evidence that Philip Swallow wrote the review, he is convinced that Philip wrote it “[...] out of pure impersonal spite [...]” (Lodge, CP 109). His conviction that Philip is out to get him is intensified to an obsessive level when he is informed by an anonymous letter that Philip had sex with Melanie, at which he asks Désirée to confirm this information, and writes her:

There is a kind of outrageous logic in the notion that makes me think it may just be true. It would fit my idea of Swallow and the role he seems destined to play in my life. Having assassinated my academic character in the *TLS*, he proceeds to screw my daughter. (Lodge, CP 116)

This attitude does not even change when Désirée informs him of Philip's shocked reaction upon hearing that Melanie is Morris' daughter (Lodge, CP 119). Morris instead, having been informed in the same letter about Boon's cohabitation with Philip, concludes:

[...] Boon was once a student of Swallow's. Yes, they're old buddies, so it's all too probable they've got some very corrupt scene going there with Melanie. Poor little Melanie. I feel bad about her. [...] that is no life for a young girl, being passed from one guy to another. Maybe if you and I could make a fresh start, Désirée, she would come and live with us. (Lodge, CP 119)

Nevertheless, Désirée is not convinced and reminds him that he should have thought about giving Melanie a stable home before he “[...] walked out on her and her mother. [...] leaving her a five-dollar bill to buy candy [...]” (Lodge, CP 120).

Nonetheless, things soon begin to improve for Morris. One significant event that brings this about is the destruction of his room at O'Shea's house, which results in his living at the Swallow's house; which, in turn, leads to his affair with Hilary (Lodge, CP 135). However, Morris' first attempt to seduce Hilary after taking her out on her birthday fails (Lodge, CP 164, 167).

Professionally, his fate improves when he is asked to mediate between the university and the Student Union in their dispute (Lodge, CP 134). A task he handles with ease (Lodge, CP 150), and in which he describes his own role as, “[...] a grandmaster of chess overlooking a match between two novices—able to predict the entire pattern of the game while they sweated over every move” (Lodge, CP 176). As a result of this success, he becomes “[...] a well-known and respected man-about-campus [...]” (Lodge, CP 172). He is also allocated Masters' office after the former has left the university (Lodge, CP 174). However, this move is having some unexpected side effects, namely that:

[...] in the meantime the Departmental Secretary, conditioned to refer all problems, inquiries and decisions to Master, had begun to bring them, as though compelled by a deep-seated homing instinct, to him, Morris Zapp, although Rupert Sutcliffe himself was supposed to be the Acting Head of the Department. In fact Sutcliffe himself was inclined to come to Morris with oblique appeals for advice and approval, and other members of staff too. (Lodge, CP 174)

Morris' prominent role in the department is further highlighted by the fact that the Vice-Chancellor asks him for advice on whom he should promote to senior lecturer, Swallow or Dempsey (Lodge, CP 180-181). Furthermore, Morris is offered the Chair of English (Lodge, CP 190).

His integration into the Department at Rummidge is evidenced by the fact that even though Morris regards his British colleagues as “[...] in many respects a bunch of freaks, [...]”, he also finds them “[...] easy to get along with” because “[n]ever in his academic career had he felt less threatened than in the last few months” (Lodge, CP 179). From this and the fact that he chooses to endorse Philip rather than Dempsey even though the latter is more qualified, we might conclude that Morris has converted to the British version of the academic, hegemonic ideal of masculinity (Lodge, CP 181). However, this would be an incorrect assumption because Morris only decides in favor of Philip because he wants to improve the financial situation of Philip’s family (Lodge, CP 181). While Acheson sees this as a result of “[...] the influence of English kindness [...]” (88), it is in fact the result of Morris’ rather self-centered hope that informing Hilary of the role he played in her husband’s promotion will improve his chances of having sex with her (Lodge, CP 181). However, Hilary is not impressed and is still upset because Philip informed her that he is having an affair and thus is not inclined to have sex with Morris (Lodge, CP 187). Nonetheless, he manages to persuade her; hence their affair ensues (Lodge, CP 187-188). Consequently, Morris finds a woman to give him the validation he desires. That this is his main objective is evidenced by the fact that—during the crisis meeting between the two couples—he does not care who he has sex with, Désirée or Hilary⁸ (Lodge, CP 198-199). The competitive character of the relationship is further revealed by the competitive conversation between him and Philip in which they compare their ‘achievements’ with their respective wives, i.e. whether they managed to convince their counterparts wife to perform oral sex on them (Lodge, CP 198).

On the whole, Morris has no problem being successful in the British system and living up to its hegemonic ideal. This is not only exemplified by his successful mediation between the faculty and the students, and his elevated position that results from this, but also by the fact that he is offered the chair of English after just six months. But while, as Moseley points out, Morris has changed:

The midlife crisis, which had accompanied his estrangement from Desirée—a suspicion of his own irrelevance, doubts about his abilities in

⁸ Similarly Arizti remarks: “[...] Morris is not thinking of giving vent to any romantic feelings, but of indulging his sexual desire” (149).

the class-room, loss of sexual appeal—has been assuaged by the months in Rummidge. His almost effortless dominance of the academic life of the university has restored his confidence, and along with it he has become accustomed to the more old-fashioned rhythms of life in England [...]. (64)

This does not mean that Morris has been converted to the British system, as becomes apparent by his vision of the University of Rummidge under his control:

[...] sweeping away the English Department's ramshackle Gothic syllabus and substituting an immaculately logical course system that took some account of developments since the subject since 1900; setting up a postgraduate Centre for Jane Austen Studies; making the use of typewriters by students obligatory; hiring bright American academic refugees from student revolutions at home; staging conferences, starting a new journal (Lodge, CP 191)

In short, Morris dreams of turning Rummidge into a carbon copy of an American University including American scholars, whether they are intended to replace their English counterparts or just augment them is not revealed, but it is unlikely that the latter would survive the competition that is likely to ensue. Whatever the case this plan reveals “[...] the character traits that constitute his representative function as a typical American undergo a gradual change without being inverted completely” (Ditze 244). These changes are in fact as Arizti points out “[...] of a psychological rather than an ideological nature” and as such “[...] his values, beliefs and usual practices are not altered” (124). Similarly, his consideration to stay in Rummidge (Lodge, CP 191) seems unconvincing if we consider the description of his needs earlier in the novel:

[...] a temperate climate, good library, plenty of inviting ass around the place and enough money to keep him in cigars and liquor and to run a comfortable modern house and two cars. (Lodge, CP 33)

Even if the University is willing to pay him enough to finance his lifestyle and is able to offer a good library⁹, Rummidge still cannot offer him a temperate climate, which is graphically illustrated by the fact that he spends his first few days at Rummidge desperately trying to keep warm (Lodge, CP 45). Neither can it offer him any parties—at least there is no mention of him being invited to any in the novel, which—given his popularity—suggests that there are none (Lodge, CP et passim). Even if he wanted to stay in Rummidge to be with

⁹ There is no indication about the quality of the library at Rummidge, but since Morris visits it and does not complain it can be assumed that it is adequately equipped (Lodge, CP 102).

Hilary this is an unlikely scenario given her response: “[d]on’t be silly, Morris [...]. You know this is just an episode” and her desire and conviction that Philip will come back to her (Lodge, CP 191). Whatever the case, it seems unlikely that Morris would settle in Rummidge and even more unlikely that he would convert fully to the British system. Even though the novel has an open ending, the most likely outcome is that Morris will return to Euphoria¹⁰ since Hilary is opposed to any other solution to their situation than a return to their respective marriages (Lodge, CP 201). Nonetheless, it can be concluded that Morris’ visit to Rummidge has had a stabilizing effect on his gender identity and has helped him overcome his midlife crisis; thus he is once again ready to live up to the ideal of the American academic hegemonic masculinity. Nevertheless, it should not be forgotten that Morris has not gotten any further with his project—or at least this is not mentioned—but has instead distracted himself with and garnered confirmation from his successful handling of the crisis at Rummidge and his affair with Hilary.

3.2.2 Howard Ringbaum: Self-destructive academic competitiveness

In the Course Bulletin, Howard Ringbaum is said to “[...] know his material very well [...]”, but also that he is “[...] do[ing] little to make his subject interesting to students” (Lodge, CP 53). In fact, he is said to “[...] resent [...] questions and discussion as they interrupt his train of thought” (Lodge, CP 53-54). Similar to Morris, he is described as a “strict grader”, but goes even further and supposedly “[...] likes to set up insidious little quizzes” (Lodge, CP 54). As his reaction to Philip’s mentioning this review shows, Ringbaum takes it personally (Lodge, CP 60). This is further underscored by his reaction to Philip’s question about what he thinks of Kroop, to which he remarks: “[a]s little as possible. I’m coming up for tenure myself this quarter, and if I don’t make it nobody here is going to be wearing RETAIN RINGBAUM buttons” (Lodge, CP 60). However, Ringbaum’s chances of getting tenure are ruined by his own over competitiveness during a round of Philip’s game Humiliation (Lodge, CP 110). According to Désirée, this game set his “[...] pathological urge to succeed and [...] [his; SDW] pathological fear of being thought

¹⁰ However, a reconciliation with Désirée seems unlikely even if they end up having sex in New York, her contempt for him seems to be too great (Lodge, CP 119).

uncultured [...] at war with each other, because he could succeed in the game only by exposing a gap in his culture” (Lodge, CP 110). As a consequence, in his determination to win, he claims not to have read *Hamlet*, and when Sy Gootblatt says that he thinks Ringbaum is lying to win the game, he gets angry, swears a solemn oath in order to win the game and leaves the party (Lodge, CP 111). According to Désirée as a result:

[...] Howard Ringbaum unexpectedly flunked his review three days later and it’s generally supposed that this was because the English Department dared not give tenure to a man who publicly admitted to not having read *Hamlet*. The story had been buzzed all round the campus, of course, and there was even a paragraph alluding to it in the *Euphoric State Daily*. Furthermore, as this created an unexpected vacancy in the Department, they’ve reconsidered the case of Kroop and offered him tenure after all. [...] The students are wild with joy. (Lodge, CP 111)

In this context, Ditze remarks: “[...] Ringbaum’s downfall illustrates the fate of those who unconditionally surrender to the golden rules of professionalism and competitiveness and fully internalize their requirements” (233).

As a consequence of these events, Howard Ringbaum is convinced, that “[...] Swallow conspired to discredit him in front of Hogan (Lodge, CP 111). In retaliation Howard Ringbaum, having been informed by Swallow about the disastrous consequences an affair with a student can have for a scholar’s career in England (Lodge, CP 60), sent a letter to Swallow’s wife and Morris Zapp informing them of Philip’s affair with Zapp’s daughter (Lodge, CP 115, 116). Désirée suspects him to be the author of the letter because he “[...] has a motive and is cheap enough to use university mail facilities for the purpose [...]” (Lodge, CP 119). As a result of the whole affair, Howard Ringbaum is forced to leave Euphoria, and even the country to take up a post in Canada (Lodge, CP 150). Evidently, in Ringbaum’s case, it is his over-ambitious aspiration to the hegemonic ideal, which causes him to reveal his lack of culture and leads to his failure, his ostracism and thus the premature end of his career not just at Euphoric State, but also in the United States.

3.3 Representative of British academic hegemonic masculinity

3.3.1 Philip Swallow and the attempt to recapture his youth

Although, from what has been said about the exchange partners from Rummidge above, it might be presumed that Philip Swallow is a distinguished scholar, this assumption would be incorrect. The truth is that he is:

[...] a man scarcely known outside his own Department, who had published nothing except a handful of essays and reviews, who had risen slowly up the salary scale of Lecturer by standard annual increments and was now halted at the top with slender prospects of promotion. Not that Philip Swallow was lacking in intelligence or ability; but he lacked will and ambition, the professional killer instinct which Zapp abundantly possessed. (Lodge, CP 11)

Compared with Morris Zapp, Philip Swallow is an amateur, both when it comes to travel and in academic terms, as becomes evident from his first description, which states:

Flying for Philip Swallow is essentially a dramatic performance, and he approaches it like a game amateur actor determined to hold his own in the company of word-perfect professionals. To speak the truth, he approaches most of life's challenges in the same spirit. He is a mimetic man: unconfident, eager to please, infinitely suggestible. (Lodge, CP 7)

Ahrens argues that these attributes are already connoted in his name saying that: “[...] Swallow, whose verbal meanings include ‘to put up with, submit to, take patiently or submissively’ [...]” (OED qtd. in Ahrens, *Satirical* 282-283). These characteristics also seem to be present in the description of him that Désirée gives to her husband saying that he:

[...] is about six feet tall and weighs I should say about 140 pounds—that is, he’s tall and skinny and stooped. He holds his head forward as if he’s hit it too often on low doorways. (Lodge, CP 109-110)

His attitude as a mimetic man is exemplified at several points throughout the novel. As a matter-of-fact, it can already be seen in the way that Philip got involved in the exchange in the first place. Unlike the usual participants, he:

[...] had never actually applied for the Rummidge-Euphoria exchange scheme, partly out of a well-founded modesty as to his claims, and partly because he had long come to think of himself as too trammelled and shackled by domestic responsibilities to contemplate such adventures. (Lodge, CP 18)

Indeed, Gordon Masters had asked him if he wanted to participate in the exchange because “[...] the year’s nominee [...] had withdrawn at the last moment because he had been offered a Chair in Australia” (Lodge, CP 18). While Philip is happy about the opportunity and convinced that Masters finally appreciates him, the truth is that:

Gordon Masters had decided to back Philip for the Euphoria Exchange because he wanted to give a Senior Lectureship to a considerably younger member of the Department, a very prolific linguist who was being tempted by offers from the new universities, and it would be less embarrassing to do so while Philip was absent. (Lodge, CP 19)

Thus, what Philip—in his innocence—perceives as an opportunity, a sign that he is appreciated by his superior, is in fact only a scheme, that if successful,

would result in further stagnation of his career and as Ditze points out is “[...] in violation of Rummidge’s seniority principle” (240). Philip’s lack of academic achievements is mainly the result of his being “[...] a man with a genuine love of literature in all its diverse forms”, which not only keeps him “[...] from settling on a ‘field’ to cultivate as his own”, but also results in his inability to commit to any project long enough to actually start the writing process (Lodge, CP 13). Consequently, the last project he finished was his MA thesis (Lodge, CP 15). As a result of these commitment issues, the only skill that Philip is known for in his own Department is his status as “[...] a superlative examiner of undergraduates [...]” (Lodge, CP 13). It is also his only way to compete with the other scholars, thus he is:

[...] much feared by his colleagues because of his keen eye for the ambiguous rubric, the repetition of questions from previous years' papers, the careless oversight that would allow candidates to duplicate material in two answers. (Lodge, CP 13)

He even fantasized about transferring this skill into a publication to alleviate his “professional barrenness” (Lodge, CP 14). However, in a manner similar to his other projects, he never got beyond the planning stage (Lodge, CP 14). Furthermore, “[...] meanwhile Rummidge students had begun agitating for the abolition of conventional examinations, and hence his one special skill was in danger of becoming redundant” (Lodge, CP 14). As a consequence, Philip is experiencing a midlife crisis wondering:

[...] whether he was entirely suited to the career on which he had been launched some fifteen years earlier, not so much by personal choice as by the mere impetus of his remarkable First. (Lodge, CP 14)

This midlife crisis is furthered by the fact that:

[...] in recent years [sex; SDW] [...] had played a steadily diminishing role in the Swallow marriage. It had never been the same [...] after their extended American honeymoon. In America, for instance, Hilary had tended to emit a high-pitched cry at the moment of climax which Philip found deeply exciting; but on their first night in Rummidge, [...] some unknown person had coughed [...] in the adjoining room, and from that time onwards, [...] Hilary’s orgasms (if such they were) were marked by nothing more dramatic than a hissing sigh, rather like the sound of air escaping from a Lilo. (Lodge, CP 20)

As a consequence of this and the fact that Hilary, although she “[...] never refused his advances, [...] she had never positively invited them either”, as a result of which, “over the years” his own interest “[...] in the physical side of marriage declined, but he persuaded himself that this was only normal” (Lodge, CP 20). Thus, we can say that Hilary has lost the ‘mirror function’ that

she used to have for Philip. However, Philip's conviction that "[...] this was only normal [...]" has been disrupted by the "[...] sudden eruption of the Sexual Revolution in the mid-sixties [...]" (Lodge, CP 20). Through films and television, it gave him the impression that he cannot compete sexually by sending the message that "[...] other people were having sex more often and more variously than he was" (Lodge, CP 20). Although he is able to reassure himself slightly by reminding himself that "[t]here had always been, more adulteries in fiction than in fact, [...]" and by looking at the faces of his colleagues where he detects "[...] not a Lineament of Gratified Desire [...]", he is convinced that the students are having "lots of sex" and envies them for their "[...] world of thrilling possibility [...]" (Lodge, CP 20-21). Summarizing, we can say that Philip is experiencing both an academic and a personal midlife crisis. This notwithstanding, as the narrator informs the reader, it has "[...] never occurred to him to be unfaithful to Hilary [...]. Such ideas, that is, never occurred to his conscious, English self" (Lodge, CP 21). However, as the narrator is quick to add "[h]is unconscious may have been otherwise occupied [...]" (Lodge, CP 21). His memories of his previous visit to the US are among the reasons why he is looking forward to his return. Although he is ashamed of it, the fact that Hilary and his children are not accompanying him is another cause for his elation (Lodge, CP 17,19). However, most importantly he is looking forward to:

[...] the sunshine, ice in his drinks, *drinks*, parties, cheap tobacco and infinite varieties of ice-cream; to being called 'Professor,' to being complimented on his accent by anonymous telephonists, to being an object of interest simply by virtue of being British; [...]. (Lodge, CP 16)

However, just like his hope of impressing Charles Boon¹¹ with his knowledge of America and also with his transformation from "Rummidge lecturer into Visiting Professor, [...] [and; SDW] member of the academic jet-set [...]" (Lodge, CP 29-30), his hopes of being an object of interest are disappointed when he "[t]o his considerable mortification [...]" discovers that his "[...] chief social asset at Euphoric State turn[s] out to be his association with Charles Boon" (Lodge, CP 58). Eventually, Philip having "[...] counted on being himself the evening's chief focus of attention, found himself standing neglected on the fringes [...]" after Charles Boon's arrival (Lodge, CP 61).

¹¹ Charles Boon is a former student of Philip's who now lives and studies in Euphoria and has become a successful host of his own radio show (Lodge, CP 29, 39).

Worst of all at the conclusion of the party Philip, who had stepped out onto the terrace, has to discover that everyone has entirely forgotten about his presence at the party and that they have all gone home leaving him behind (Lodge, CP 65-66).

His status as a mimetic man does not change drastically at first, as is obvious from his attitude towards the competition between him and Dempsey: first, he informs Hilary that he does not think that he is any competition for Dempsey because Dempsey “[...] has published quite a lot of articles” (Lodge, CP 100); and then his attitude is further revealed when he writes her:

I’ve no idea whether I’ve been nominated for a Senior Lectureship and I’d rather keep it that way, since I shan’t then have the mortification of knowing that I was definitely turned down. If Dempsey wants to poke his nose into such matters, let him. I think myself that there’s a lot to be said for the English system of clandestine patronage. (Lodge, CP 108)

However, at that point Philip has already begun to change significantly, while he is unable to even remotely live up to the American hegemonic ideal on a professional level, on the private level he seems determined to catch up. In the context of an encounter group—in the neighboring apartment—he not only smokes a joint (Lodge, CP 77), but also dances the “[...] the free, improvised, Dionysian dancing he’d hankered after” (Lodge, CP 79). Although, to his own annoyance he remains too timid to participate in the orgy that ensues he ends up having sex with one of the girls—Melanie—who also decides to avoid the orgy and sleep in his apartment instead (Lodge, CP 81-83). However, this first affair is far from satisfactory and is rather similar to his love life with Hilary in that Melanie submits to his desire instead of actively inviting it; she is in fact said to be “half-asleep” and Philip is said to “[...] c[o]me too soon and g[i]ve her little pleasure” (Lodge, CP 83). Worst of all, she afterwards murmurs ““Daddy”” in her sleep, which causes Philip to take his leave to his room where he is stricken with guilt for his adultery (Lodge, CP 83). The next morning Philip has partly recovered from his guilt, and Melanie has left his apartment (Lodge, CP 86). Consequently, he forms the plan to find her, and “[...] have a heart-to-heart talk with her [...]” in this he hopes that if “[...] he explaine[s] his feelings, perhaps she could sort them out for him [...]” and he hopes that as a result of this talk, they can have “[...] a mature, relaxed, friendly relationship which wouldn’t entail their sleeping together again, but wouldn’t entirely rule out such possibility either” (Lodge, CP 86). However, Melanie is nowhere to

be found (Lodge, CP 87). Therefore, Philip decides to visit downtown Esseph on his next free day where he spontaneously enters a strip-joint (Lodge, CP 88, 90). To Philip's surprise, the women there perform the mirror function that he desires as becomes evident by his impression that:

[...] not only were they beautiful, but also unexpectedly wholesome and intelligent-looking, not at all the blowsy, blasé hoydens he had anticipated, so that one might almost suppose that they did it for love rather than money—as though liking, in any case, to shuffle their feet and wiggle their hips to the sound of pop music they thought they might as well take off their clothes while they were about it and give a little harmless pleasure to others at the same time. (Lodge, CP 91)

As a result of this, Philip is convinced that he has gained “[...] a profound insight into the nature of the generation gap; it was a difference of age. The young were younger. Hence more beautiful” (Lodge, CP 93). He is also convinced that he knows how to bridge this gap, namely, by love, more specifically, “[b]y girls like Melanie generously giving their firm young flesh to withered old sticks like himself, restoring the circulation of the sap” (Lodge, CP 93). Conveniently enough, he meets Melanie when he leaves the strip club (Lodge, CP 93). Mad with love, Philip tries to convince Melanie to come back home with him and continue their bridging of the generation gap, but this time Melanie rejects him (Lodge, CP 94-95). Desperately, Philip offers to accommodate her date who is looking for a place to stay; this date turns out to be none other than Charles Boon (Lodge, CP 95). Thus, Philip is forced to listen to Melanie and Charles having sex (Lodge, CP 117).

However, things soon begin to change to the positive for Philip, for one thing at the next party, according to Désirée, he becomes the center of attention and his game, Humiliation, causes quite a stir even resulting in the end of Ringbaum's career and the rehiring of Karl Kroop—even though Philip is unaware of this (Lodge, CP 110-111). Nonetheless, not everything goes smoothly for Philip; for one thing he has to deal with the fact that Hilary has been informed of his adultery with Zapp's daughter by a poison-pen letter and wants him to confirm the fallaciousness of these accusations (Lodge, CP 115). At first Philip, unaware of the fact that Melanie is Morris' daughter from his first marriage, denies these accusations, but is later forced to come clean when he is confronted with the facts (Lodge, CP 116-117). He still cannot seem to show any real regret for the episode and merely states that he is “[...] quite sure it meant absolutely nothing to her [...]”, but still asks Hilary to forgive

him (Lodge, CP 117). After Hilary has not replied to his letter for two weeks, Philip—afraid that she might be considering a divorce—asks her to come to the US arguing that they “[...] need to see each other, talk, kiss and make up” as a sort of “second honeymoon” (Lodge, CP 120). Although Hilary does not want a divorce and calls his reaction “[...] remarkably panicky [...]”; nor does she have any interest in coming to visit him telling him flat out that:

[...] quite apart from the expense and the problem of the children, Philip, I don't think I would want to fly out anyway. I've read through your letter very carefully and I'm afraid I can't avoid the conclusion that you desire my presence mainly for the purpose of lawful sexual intercourse. I suppose you've been frightened off attempting any more extra-marital adventures, but the Euphoric spring has heated your blood to the extent that you're prepared to fly me six thousand miles to obtain relief. I'm afraid I'd find it a strain coming over in that kind of context, Philip. (Lodge, CP 123)

With this Hilary once again declines to serve as a mirror for Philip, but this time it is a deliberate choice that is connected to her exposure to the ideas connected with the women's liberation movement as becomes evident when she writes:

Does this sound cutting? It's not meant to be. Mary says that men always try to end a dispute with a women by raping her, either literally or symbolically, so you're only conforming to type. Mary is full of fascinating theories about men and women. She says there is a movement for the liberation of women starting in America. (Lodge, CP 123)

However, even without her Philip finds a woman to confirm him in his manhood, namely Désirée. This is the result of two rather unlikely events. The first is “[a] small landslip [...]” that renders his house inhabitable, ends his infatuation with Melanie and results in his moving in with Désirée (Lodge, CP 126, 147). The second is his arrest for—accidentally—stealing bricks which results in the transformation of their initially platonic relationship into a sexual one (Lodge, CP 127, 156). Philip perceives this relationship as “[...] almost like being married” and as “[...] a more comfortable, loose-fitting version of his life in England” in which he serves as a kind of baby-sitter making breakfast for the Zapp's twins and showing them off to school (Lodge, CP 146). This relationship is already having a positive effect on Philip before he and Désirée begin to have sex. For one thing he begins to “[...] eat better, sleep better” and they both give up smoking, even if he starts to drink more (Lodge, CP 147).

Although, Désirée according to Philip due to “[...] *her conversion to their*

Women's Liberation business [...]” is “[...] *extremely hostile to men in general* [...]”, she turns out to be the perfect mirror for him (Lodge, CP 151). She not only helps him to overcome his newly developed¹² insecurity about the size of his penis telling him that “[a] recent survey showed that ninety per cent of American men think their penises are less than average size” and that “[...] it looks, smaller to you, because you're always looking down on it. It gets foreshortened” (Lodge, CP 136). But she also reassures him of his potency by saying “[i]f I didn't know the vaginal orgasm was a myth, [...] you could have fooled me. It was never so good with Morris” (Lodge, CP 151).

As a result of being with her and quitting smoking, Philip's body perception and confidence also improve as can be seen from his perception of himself:

[...] he had begun to put on weight, and he thought it rather suited him. His rib-cage was now covered by a smooth sheath of flesh, and his collar-bone no longer stood out with a frightening starkness that suggested he had swallowed a coat-hanger. (Lodge, CP 137)

His relationship with Désirée also gives Philip a way of competing with his otherwise superior American colleagues as can be seen by his reply to Sy Gootblatt's question of how he quit smoking, “I compensate with more drink and sex [...]” (Lodge, CP 152). Nonetheless, Désirée is not willing to marry him, not even to help him stay in the country. Instead, she offers him a job as her housekeeper (Lodge, CP 142-143). However, Désirée is insistent that he should inform Hilary of their relationship (Lodge, CP 144). Nonetheless, Philip never gets around to sending or even writing the letter, but is instead surprised by her while he is doing a radio interview with Charles Boon (Lodge, CP 162). In this conversation, Hilary tries to convince Philip to come home immediately to save their marriage (Lodge, CP 162). However, Philip is more concerned with protecting his privacy from being exposed on a radio show, and in a desperate attempt to end the conversation tells her that he is already having an affair (Lodge, CP 163). This notwithstanding, Philip's newfound confidence and success with women do not transfer to the professional arena in which he stays the mimetic man he has always been. This becomes apparent when he asks Luke Hogan for a permanent job. Although Hogan seriously considers his request saying, “[w]ell that was a mighty fine review you had in the *course*

¹² He develops it as a result of being confronted with the size of other men's penises, both in real life (Charles Boon) and images of pop culture (John Lennon on the sleeve of an album) etc. (Lodge, CP 136).

Bulletin... And these days, teaching counts, really counts” Philip keeps reminding him of his lack of publications and PhD, which leads Hogan to conclude “[t]o make you an offer appropriate to your age and experience we should expect a book or two” (Lodge, CP 148). Therefore, Philip fails to live up to the hegemonic standards of the American system and instead remains a complicit man in the system. In the British system, on the other hand, he is actually promoted with help from Morris and thus elevated from the complicit to the hegemonic position for the time being (Lodge, CP 181-182).

Even though Philip, in a manner similar to Morris, has managed to overcome his midlife crisis with the help of Désirée (Arizti 129) and is convinced that he has changed too much to return to England (Lodge, CP 159), this still seems to be the most likely outcome. As has been pointed out, Philip is unable to live up to the American hegemonic ideal and is thus unable to get a job at Euphoric State (Lodge, CP 200). In fact Philip being the mimetic man that he is, has never even tried to live up to the American hegemonic ideal or compete professionally with his American colleagues because “[...] the security of his position at Euphoric State [...] [was; SDW] not under threat, he [...] [was; SDW] able to relax and enjoy the pleasures of a more hedonistic society” (Acheson 87). In Rummidge, on the other hand, Philip has the chance of returning to a career that thanks to Morris has finally advanced. Under these circumstances, it seems unlikely that Philip will stay in Euphoria and become Désirée’s housekeeper and lover, especially considering that he and Hilary ended up in bed together at their summit conference (Lodge, CP 199). However, it should be noted that Philip has not overcome his professional bareness as evidenced by his failure to live up to the American ideal, but has rather found confirmation in his affairs.

3.4 Crisis or failure of American and British academic hegemonic masculinities

On the American side, the crisis of the academic system and its hegemonic ideal is caused by academics like Karl Kroop and the student revolution that threaten the academic standards. The danger posed by Karl Kroop was originally averted by denying him tenure. However, Philip unintentionally causes his rehiring when his game, Humiliation, results in Ringbaum

disqualifying himself (Lodge, CP 111). Thus, it could be argued that Kroop's liberal tendencies threaten the academic standards once again (Lodge, CP 53, 111). Kroop's incompatibility with the system is evidenced both by his lack of publications and his "[...] flexible assessment system" (Lodge, CP 53, 54). However, as it turns out his tendency to "[...] let[] his students grade themselves" is less dangerous to the academic standards of the American system than one might expect (Lodge, CP 76). This is evidenced by the fact that one student failed herself and that Kroop was unable to talk her out of it (Lodge, CP 76). This reveals that the students have internalized the competitive system so much that they enforce it themselves if need be instead of "giv[ing] themselves 'A's [...]" (Lodge, CP 76). As a result Kroop seems to pose little of danger to the American system and its hegemonic ideal, and as such can rather be seen as an anomaly in the system than as a danger to it. The fact that Ringbaum loses tenure is not evidence of the failure of the hegemonic ideal, because he violated its professional dogma in his relentless pursuit of this ideal and thus was subordinated in the American academic sphere.¹³

Similarly, the student revolution does not cause the failure of the American academic system and its hegemonic form of masculinity, but rather leads to the latter's modification, as can be seen from Luke Hogan's remark to Philip's request for a job: "[...] [n]ow if you were *black*, of course, it would be different. Or better still, Indian. What I wouldn't give for an indigenous Indian with a PhD, [...]" (Lodge, CP 148). This change to "[...] employ more Third World faculty [...]" is the result of a "[...] settlement of the previous quarter's strike [...]" and has resulted in a competition among the universities for such employees that even supersedes the academic standards of the American system—they are not required to have any publications (Lodge, CP 148).

On the British side, the hegemonic system was threatened by professional academics like Robin Dempsey, the student revolution and by its American counterpart represented by Morris Zapp. The threat of Dempsey as the "[...] nearest thing the Department ha[s] to a recognizable professional academic" (Lodge, CP 179) shows itself in his tendency to "browbeat[]" the rest of the department with his knowledge of "[...] these fashionable people like Chomsky and Saussure and Lévi-Strauss [...]" (Lodge, CP 112). It is further

¹³ This does not mean that he is subordinated in society at large.

evidenced by the fact that despite Swallow's seniority, Dempsey initially seems to be the nominee for the senior lectureship (Lodge, CP 105). However, this changes when Morris enters the scene: first, according to Hilary, Morris, with his superior knowledge of theory, makes Dempsey "[...] look fairly silly" (Lodge, CP 112); next, he successfully uses his influence in the department to support Philip's claim for the position, thus neutralizing the threat posed by Dempsey (Lodge, CP 181).

The threat of the student revolution is best exemplified by the fact that Gordon Masters loses his position as Head of the English Department at Rummidge due to it (Lodge, CP 132), for it reveals his insanity when he compares the student protests to Hitler's attack on Europe and proposes a battle plan in an newspaper article (Lodge, CP 131). However, thanks to Morris, this threat is averted before it can do any more harm (Lodge, CP 176). Additionally, this does not end the tendency of the staff members to follow or at least desire a strong leader. This is made blatantly obvious by the description of their behavior:

Suddenly freed from Masters' despotic rule after thirty years, the Rummidge English Department was stunned and frightened by its own liberty, it was going round and round in circles like a rudderless ship, no, more like a ship whose tyrannical captain had unexpectedly fallen overboard one dark night, taking with him sealed instructions about the ship's ultimate destination. The crew kept coming out of habit to the bridge for orders, and were only to glad to take them from anyone who happened to be occupying the captain's seat. (Lodge, CP 174)

At that moment in time, this happens to be Morris, who even ends up being offered the Chair of English (Lodge, CP 189). Thus, Morris forms the plan of reforming the department to the American system (Lodge, CP 191). However, this threat, as I have argued, is unlikely to really materialize because Morris will in all likelihood return to America. As I have shown, at the end of the novel both Morris and Philip, similar to the ideals that they aspire to, have recovered from their respective crisis. However, this recovery is only the result of a reformulation, namely Philip has sought verification from affairs rather than from his career or his wife, and Morris has done the same, but has also distracted himself with his success at Rummidge and has at least temporarily suspended his project of dominating the profession.

4. Hegemonic masculinities in *Small World*

4.1 Hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinity

Between *Changing Places* and *Small World* an internationalization of academia has occurred. This becomes evident when Morris remarks to Hilary, “[t]he day of the single, static campus is over”, and goes on to say, “[e]ven two campuses wouldn’t be enough. Scholars these days are like the errant knights of old, wandering the ways of the world in search for adventure and glory” (Lodge, SW 273). The novel’s protagonist Persse McGarrigle further states, “[...] everyone is looking for his own Grail. For Eliot it was religious faith, but for another it might be fame, or the love of a good women” (Lodge, SW 224). Accordingly, Galster identifies three quests in *Small World*, two of which are relevant in the context of this thesis¹⁴ (Galster 62-63). The first is the quest of the top academics for the UNESCO chair. The second is Philip Swallow’s “quest for intensity of experience” (Lodge, SW 411; Galster 62-63). Although Galster argues that all these quests are for knowledge¹⁵ (Galster 62-63), it stands to reason that they are also quests for a hegemonic ideal of masculinity and that in their course the predominately male participants are actively—even if subconsciously—doing masculinity.¹⁶ As such, Widdowson points out that “[...] professional academics like Zapp and Swallow [...] travel round the small world of the global campus seeking the ultimate job and the ultimate love affair” (27). Similarly, Moseley remarks that their “[...] small world, is driven primarily by the drive for power, only secondarily on the drive for sex [...]” (Moseley 85). Indeed, they are in search for the “utmost critical truth” that supersedes all others (Ahrens, *The Revival* 252). Naturally, however, the pursuit of this ideal is not without challenges, as becomes evident when the narrator remarks, “[t]o be sure, there are certain penitential exercises to be performed—the presentation of a paper, perhaps, and certainly listening to the papers of others” (Lodge, SW 213). According to Sava these exercises “[...] constitut[e] [...] the tests, the hardships which the hero of a quest has to face on his way to the Holy Grail” (40). This grail “[...] that the international academic

¹⁴ The third according to Galster is Persse’s combined quest for academic knowledge and Angelica, but similar to Persse this will not be covered in this thesis (Galster 63).

¹⁵ In Philip’s case for self-awareness (Galster 63).

¹⁶ In the sense that gender—in this case masculinity—is the result of social interaction, a theoretical assumption generally referred to as “Doing Gender” (Gildemeister 137).

stars [...] covet is the UNESCO Chair of Literary Criticism” (Mews 720). It represents a prize, as it would elevate them and their respective theoretical approach above all others. However, the world of literary criticism is in crisis. This is best exemplified by Arthur Kingfisher, who according to Morris, “[w]as a great man [...]. A king among literary theorists. I think that to many people he kind of personifies the whole profession of academic literary studies” (Lodge, SW 323-324). This man is said to “[...] no longer be[] able to achieve an erection or an original thought” (Lodge, SW 300). Both of these problems are relevant because as the reader is informed “[...] Kingfisher has always led a very active sex life and regarded it as vitally connected, in some deep mysterious way, with his intellectual creativity” (Lodge, SW 300). As Kingfisher according to Morris personifies, the profession it is in Fulvia Morgana’s words, “[...] in a very un’althy condition [...]” (Lodge, SW 324). Preuschen similarly states, “[d]as Reich der Literaturwissenschaft erscheint steril und ausgetrocknet wie sein oberster Guru [...]” (129). The theoretical dilemma that is causing these issues is best formulated in Rodney Wainwright’s unanswered question:

[...] how can literary criticism maintain its Arnoldian function of identifying the best which has been thought and said, when literary discourse itself has been decentred by deconstructing the traditional concept of the author, of authority? (Lodge, SW 290)

A question to which not even Arthur Kingfisher is willing to position himself, but rather as Fulvia Morgana relates, “’E said, on the one hand this, on the other hand that. ’E talked all around the subject” (Lodge, SW 323). Thus, the seemingly insurmountable problem that the literary critics are facing is that of coming to a definite interpretation of a text when as Morris puts it, “*every decoding is another encoding*” and “[t]he text unveils itself before us, but never allows itself to be possessed [...]” (Lodge, SW 237, 238). This is further underscored by the indignation of Philip Swallow, who has always read “[...] books for their meaning [...]” when Morris tells him “[t]here is no point [...] [i]f by point you mean the hope of arriving at some certain truth” (Lodge, SW 239). Consequently, the scholars globally compete to show that their theories offer the solution to this problem and supersede all other. This competition takes place in the homosocial realm of the academic conferences they attend and is performed with the help of the papers they present and the conferences they arrange. Similarly, they compete for the women who cross their paths; the

conquest of whom will help to elevate their status. In this context, the ideal to which they all aspire will in this context be referred to as *hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinity* and is represented by the UNESCO Chair, which would validate their claims.

Although, Morris remarks, “[...] a lot of knights are women, these days” there is not much evidence of this in *Small World* (Lodge, SW 273). In fact, the international academic world, although more heterogeneous, is still a largely homosocial space.¹⁷ Among other things, this is made blatantly obvious by Angelica’s use of initials to which she remarks, “[i]f you use initials in the academic world, people think you’re a man and take you more seriously” (Lodge, SW 222). It is further underscored by the fact that of the eight named female characters who make an appearance at conferences only three are literary critics, namely: Angelica L. Pabst, Miss Sybil Maiden, and Fulvia Morgana. Furthermore, two of these women occupy rather precarious or marginalized positions. Indeed, Angelica, even though she is a “conference freak” (Lodge, SW 472), is not employed at any university and is desperately looking for a job (Lodge, SW 223). Miss Maiden similarly is a frequent attendant at conferences, but due to her retirement is an observer rather than an active participant (Lodge, SW 223). Fulvia is the only active female academic, and the only woman—among the otherwise all male panel discussion at the MLA conference—as such she can be seen as an anomaly and a threat to the hegemonic order. Interestingly, due to her dominating nature, the heterosexual men she encounters always perceive her as a threat. For instance, after his sexual encounter with her, Morris “[...] couldn’t help thinking of her as a kind of sorceress within whose sphere of influence it would be dangerous to linger” (Lodge, SW 353). This according to Arizti shows that “[t]hose women in *Small World* who do not serve men’s sexual needs but act moved by their own desire are stigmatized as nymphomaniacs or what Catherine Belsey terms ‘demon lovers’” (179). The other five characters are either merely bystanders or accompany their men to conferences. The first group consists out of Morris ex-wife, Désirée and Angelica’s twin, Lily. Although Désirée is present both at

¹⁷ Arizti similarly states: “To a greater extent than in *Changing Places* female characters have joined [...] the world of higher education. Although the university is still a predominantly male world” (176). And Coelsch-Foisner remarks that women “[...] still occupy a marginal role (341).

the conference in Heidelberg and the MLA (Lodge, SW 434, 524), as a "creative writer[]" she remains on the sidelines and does not actively influence the proceedings at the conferences (Lodge, SW 434). On the other hand, Lily who is only present at the MLA to accompany her sister; is a stripper and porn actress who gives up her career to go back to school (Lodge, SW 390, 517). The other group consists of Joy Simpson, Thelma Ringbaum and Song-Mi Lee. Miss Simpson works as a British Council librarian in Istanbul (Lodge, SW 412) and later becomes as Rodney Wainwright remarks Philip's "[...] unaccountably dishy mistress" and accompanies him to conferences (Lodge, SW 492). Thelma Ringbaum starts out as Howard Ringbaum's wife (Lodge, SW 295), but leaves him and intends to become Morris' wife (Lodge, SW 519). Song-Mi Lee is said to have come:

[...] from Korea on a Ford Foundation fellowship to sit at Arthur Kingfisher's feet as a research student, and stayed to become his secretary, companion, amenuensis [*sic*], masseuse and bedfellow, her life wholly dedicated to protecting the great man [...]. (Lodge, SW 299-300)

From this we can see that she used to be an aspiring scholar, but has given up her career to devote her life to Kingfisher. Apart from these women, there are also other women at the conferences, but they are not mentioned by name. Among them are, for instance, the women¹⁸ who storm out during the presentation of Morris' paper at the Rummidge conference (Lodge, SW 238), and the group of feminists who disrupt Morris lecture in Amsterdam (Lodge, SW 431). Regarding gender roles in general, Coelsch-Foisner correctly points out that: "While [...] [the male characters; SDW] joust and contend for the UNESCO Chair, the acumen of male ambition, women have maintained their archetypal role as objects of male desire [...]" (341-342).

Similar to the representation of women, the number of subordinated men in academia has also increased since *Changing Places* (Arizti 190). Among them, there are three academics who could be characterized as subordinate. The first is homosexual narratologist Michel Tradieu (Lodge, SW 338, 348). The second is Fulvia's husband Ernesto, who—while not homosexual—is clearly bisexual as becomes evident when the narrator remarks that Morris "[...] was expected to fool around with Ernesto as well as Fulvia [...]" (Lodge, SW 352). The third bisexual representative is Tradieu's research assistant Albert (Arizti 190).

¹⁸ These women are certainly scholars, but they seem to be so insignificant that they are never mentioned again.

The only named representatives of marginalized masculinities are the Turkish scholar Akbil Borak (Lodge, SW 305), and the Japanese scholar Akira Sakazaki (Lodge, SW 308), and their colleagues¹⁹ (Lodge, SW 408, 486). Otherwise, marginalized men only appear as amorphous groups, e.g. a group of Muslims who pray at the airport and the cleaners who observe them (Lodge, SW 326).

4.2 Representatives of hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinity

4.2.1 Morris Zapp: Theory as a means to power

As becomes evident early on, Morris Zapp's attitude towards his colleagues has not changed much since *Changing Places*. He, for instance, tells Perse McGarrigle to “[n]ever go to lectures. Unless you’re giving one yourself [...]” a rule from which he naturally excludes his own lectures (Lodge, SW 230). However, Morris theoretical approach has changed, he has given up his project of writing a commentary on Jane Austen after which there would “[...] be *nothing further to say* [...]” (Lodge, SW 236). Having been unable to finish it he is now convinced that it:

[...] was not so much Utopian as self-defeating. [...] I mean that it couldn't succeed because it isn't possible because of the nature of language itself, in which meaning is constantly being transferred from one signifier to another and can never be absolutely possessed. (Lodge, SW 236)

According to Ahrens, this “[...] causes him to look for yet more theoretical approaches, which he finds in post-structuralism and deconstructionism [...]” (Satirical 291). Thus, Morris has been cured of his belief in “[...] the possibility of interpretation” and has jumped on the bandwagon of poststructuralism (Lodge, SW 236; Wolf 23). His new conviction is expressed in his catchphrase “[...] *every decoding is another encoding* [...]” (Lodge, SW 237). With this new insight, the newly self-identified “post-structuralist” once again tries to outsmart his colleagues. His attempts are not altogether unsuccessfully, as Philip Swallow's shocked reaction when Morris tells him that he should not read books for their meaning illustrates. Morris' rather cynical view of what literary criticism should instead be is revealed when the

¹⁹ Although they are academics, they do not fulfill some of the other requirements for hegemony, e.g. being white.

exasperated Philip asks him “[t]hen what in God’s name *is* the point of it all [...]” to which Morris replies:

The point, of course, is to uphold the institution of academic literary studies. We maintain our position in society by publicly performing a certain ritual, [...]. (Lodge, SW 239)

This reveals that for the “[...] theoretically born-again Morris Zapp [...]” (Ommundsen 134), just as in *Changing Places*, literature and literary theory are a means to an end: namely power, prestige and money (Sava 40). However, as Wolf points out, his conversion to poststructuralism is far from convincing and also serves another function:

Bereits die Genese seiner Begeisterung für den Dekonstruktivismus ist verdächtig. Sie entspringt der Hybris des Anspruchs, zum erschöpfenden und daher letzten Interpreten Jane Austens werden zu können.[...] Der Dekonstruktivismus Zapps ist damit aber nicht viel mehr als die Flucht in ein Rechtfertigungssystem, mit dem das eigene Versagen begründbar wird [...]. (31)

The fact that Morris is having a hard time living up to his new convictions becomes apparent early on in the novel when Philip Swallow relates the story of his affair in Italy to him, and its supposed tragic ending, at the end of which he to his annoyance has to admit to his, “[...] gänzlich undekonstruktivistische Rezeption [...] und damit letztlich die Macht eines nach dem ‘reality principle’ gebauten Textes bestätigt [...]” (Lodge, SW qtd. in Wolf 31). Consequently, despite himself Morris feels “[...] slightly piqued at the extent to which he had been affected, first by the eroticism of Philip's tale, then by its sad epilogue” (Lodge, SW 286). Therefore, Morris’ theoretical reorientation can be seen as an easy way out of his impossible project without abandoning its goal of dominating the profession, but with a considerably smaller workload attached to it. This is due to the convenient fact that poststructuralism, as Morris informs Angelica Pabst, “[...] applies to everything” (Lodge, SW 241), and thus he is able to present the same “[...] wonderfully adaptable paper [...]” at all the conferences in Europe and the MLA in New York (Lodge, SW 400, 508). As a thoroughly professional academic, he has also put his new theoretical conviction in writing in a book called *“Beyond Criticism”*, about which he brags to Philip Swallow (Lodge, SW 297). The fact Morris is not really able to keep up with young ambitious scholars like Angelica is revealed by a conversation between the two in which Morris is overwhelmed by her knowledge of literature, as shown by Persse’s comment to Angelica that, “[h]e

didn't give you any help at all, [...] you provided the ideas *and* the examples” (Lodge, SW 241). However, this does not mean that Morris is willing to concede and exit the competition. On the contrary, Morris has taken up jogging, even though he hates it, to keep himself healthy (Lodge, SW 253), and, as he informs Persse, because:

[...] it's very fashionable these days in American academic circles. Success is not just a matter of how many articles you published last year, but how many miles you covered this morning. (Lodge, SW 253)

He further informs Persse that it is an attempt on his part to protect himself from the advances of the “[...] young men in a hurry” (Lodge, SW 253). This fear of the young man is based on Morris perception of the academic world, which he relates to Persse saying:

You know Freud's idea of primitive society as a tribe in which the sons kill the father when he gets old and impotent, and take away his women? In modern academic society they take away your research grants. And your women, too, of course. (Lodge, SW 254)

However, it is not only his sense of self-preservation that keeps Morris on his toes. As he informs Persse, he has also found a new ambition: namely, “[...] to be the highest paid Professor of English in the world” (Lodge, SW 254). Based on this Sava remarks that it reveals the nature of Morris quest, which is “[...] for money as well as fame [...]” (40).

As Hilary points out, Morris has also changed in another respect, while he used to be opposed to foreign travel and convinced that “[...] travel narrows the mind” he is now a frequent visitor at international conferences (Lodge, SW 274). He explains this change to Hilary by saying, “[t]here comes a moment when the individual has to yield to the *Zeitgeist* or drop out of the ball game, [...]” (Lodge, SW 274). Thus, as Acheson points out, Morris has realized that “[...] to achieve this ambition, he must not only publish extensively but make contact at conferences with influential members of the international academic community” (88). In fact, Morris has become so accustomed to his life of travel that remaining in one place has become unimaginable for him and the thought of people living such a life “[...] makes him feel enviable, a man for whom the curvature of the earth beckons invitingly to ever new experiences just over the horizon” (Lodge, SW 300).

However, while Morris has not given up on the professional stage, he seems to have given up in the private sphere telling Philip:

[...] after Désirée and I split up I tried to get married again. I had various women living in, graduate students mostly, but none of them would marry me [...] and I gradually lost interest in the idea. (Lodge, SW 287)

Instead, Morris frequents “[...] a massage parlour in Esseph” where as he informs Philip:

They have a very nice class of girl in those places, you know. They’re not hookers. College-educated. [...] When I was a teenager I spent many exhausting hours trying to persuade girls like that to jerk me off [...]. Now it’s as easy as going to the supermarket. It saves a lot of time and nervous energy. (Lodge, SW 287)

Thus, Morris is now channeling his competitiveness to the advancement of his career, or as he informs Hilary: “[...] I gave up screwing around a long time ago. I came to the conclusion that sex is a sublimation of the work instinct”; he further tells her that “[t]he nineteenth century had its priorities right. What we really lust for is power, which we achieve by work” (Lodge, SW 269). Professionally, Morris is instantly attracted to the UNESCO Chair of Literary Criticism; which, he is convinced, offers “[...] the highest salary in the profession” (Lodge, SW 325). A speculation that Fulvia Morgana is quick to confirm telling him that the salary will likely be “\$100,000 a year” and that the chair will be “purely conceptual” and as such will not be connected with any institution or obligation (Lodge, SW 325). Upon hearing about this dream job, Morris “[...] felt dizzy at the thought, not merely of the wealth and privilege the chair would confer on the man who occupied it, but also of the envy it would arouse in the breasts of those who did not” (Lodge, SW 325). However, Morris is soon distracted from this grand prize by Fulvia’s aggressive attempts to seduce him (Lodge, SW 338-339). Although Morris initially tries to fend her off and tells her that he “[...] retired from this sort of thing years ago”, he eventually gives up and is willing to have sex with her (Lodge, SW 340). However, Morris changes his mind when Fulvia’s husband returns and “[...] it bec[o]mes evident that he [...] [is; SDW] expected to fool around with Ernesto as well as Fulvia [...]” (Lodge, SW 352). This, notwithstanding, Morris focus returns to the professional arena as soon as he has arrived at the Villa Serbelloni. Thus, Morris, having been informed by Fulvia that Arthur Kingfisher is said to be “[...] chief assessor” for the chair (Lodge, SW 325), writes a letter to Kingfisher in an attempt to further his claim for the chair by ingratiating himself with the former by asking for a copy of his last lecture (Lodge, SW 354). To further reassure himself of his chances, Morris attends

the lecture of his competitor Siegfried von Turpitz at an Amsterdam conference (Lodge, SW 395-396), and even gets a chance to accuse von Turpitz of plagiarizing Persse's manuscript (Lodge, SW 398-399). However, not everything goes as smoothly for Morris at the Amsterdam conference, he also has to discover that Rudyard Parkinson has written a bad review of his book, in which he rather unfavorably compares it to Philip Swallow's book (Lodge, SW 399-400). Furthermore, the presentation of his paper at the conference is disrupted by "[a] claque of feminists [...]" who "[...] heckled him as he developed his analogy between interpretation and striptease, shouting 'Cunts are beautiful!' [...]" (Lodge, SW 431). Additionally, he has to deal with the fact that Philip Swallow is rumored to be a candidate for the UNESCO chair (Lodge, SW 431). On his return to the Villa, to his annoyance Morris is also confronted with a letter from Désirée and her lawyers that forces him to pay the "[...] college tuition fees for the twins [...]", and a letter from Philip Swallow, which to Morris' irritation, informs him that Philip has rekindled his love affair with Joy Simpson and is madly in love (Lodge, SW 443-444). Nevertheless, there is also a letter from Arthur Kingfisher with a copy of his lecture, which gives Morris the chance to reply and invite Kingfisher to his conference in Jerusalem where he is convinced that "[...] he will be able to cajole, wheedle and flatter the old guy into seeing his own irresistible eligibility for the UNESCO chair" (Lodge, SW 444). However, shortly after posting the letter Morris is abducted, and as a consequence, his letter is confiscated by the police and never reaches Kingfisher (Lodge, SW 445, 466, 467). Morris is only released after Fulvia Morgana's intervention—she is affiliated with the kidnapers (Lodge, SW 482). Even though he is not injured, the kidnapping has a profound impact on Morris, as he informs Persse at the MLA: "[...] I think I finally kicked the ambition habit. Ever since I was kidnapped, just being alive has seemed enough" (Lodge, SW 517). It further caused him to "[...] los[e] faith in deconstruction" because he has realized that while every decoding is another encoding "[...] the deferral of meaning isn't infinite as far as the individual is concerned" (Lodge, SW 518). When Persse thus confronts him with the fact that "[...] deconstructionists d[on't] believe in the individual" Morris replies that:

[...] death is the one concept you can't deconstruct. Work back from there and you end up with the old ideal of an autonomous self. I can die,

therefore I am. I realized that when those wop radicals threatened to deconstruct *me*. (Lodge, SW 518)

Consequently, Morris shifts his focus back to the private arena and seeks validation by entering into a relationship with Howard Ringbaum's wife Thelma (Lodge, SW 519). That, for Morris, the relationship is more about validation than love is made evident by the fact that he does not display any sort of affection for Thelma and that he has readopted his tendency to pay more attention to the TV than to his partner (Lodge, SW 518-519), a habit all too familiar from his relationship with Désirée in *Changing Places* (Lodge, CP 32). In this light, his statement to Persse that he and Thelma are thinking of getting married seems more like bragging than an expression of true affection (Lodge, SW 519). Therefore, even though Morris has certainly changed, as evidenced by his acceptance of his likely failure of getting the UNESCO chair (Lodge, SW 517), Pfandl-Buchegger's assessment that Morris has found "[...] ein neues Lebensgefühl, [und; SDW] [...] ist [somit; SDW] [...] am Ende einer der wenigen zufriedengestellten Bewerber" seems too optimistic (363). Similarly, Widdowson's claim that, at the end of the novel, "[...] Zapp in his middle age grows wiser and remarries [...]" appears to be too simplistic (28). It is certainly true that Morris has changed and that he has even accepted his failure to live up to the ideal of the hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinity and has contented himself with embodying the American ideal. However, he has not become wiser in respect to his personal life and thus it is unlikely that his marriage with Thelma will succeed—given his past relationships and his unaltered behavior.

4.2.2 Philip Swallow: The striving for intensity of experience

In the time between *Changing Places* and *Small World* Philip Swallow "[...] has done quite well [...]", as is evident from the fact that he has become the Head of the Department at Rummidge (Lodge, SW 217; Widdowson 28). A reality that both his colleague Dr. Sutcliffe (Lodge, SW 217), and his former coworker Dempsey are having trouble coming to terms with due to the fact that Swallow, according to the latter, has "[...] still published practically nothing" with the exception of a book on Hazlitt that Dempsey has never "[...] seen a single review of [...]" (Lodge, SW 218). However, Philip did not get the chair upon his return from the US, but rather after Masters retired, Sutcliffe tells

Persse, “[...] we had Dalton, he came from Oxford, until three years ago. He was killed in a car accident. Then they appointed Swallow” (Lodge, SW 233). Consequently, Moseley remarks that he moved up “[t]hrough chance and inadvertence, rather than solid merit [...]” (Moseley 81).

Additionally, Philip’s outward appearance has further improved since *Changing Places* as evidenced by his description as:

[...] a tall, slim, distinguished-looking man of middle age, with a rather dashing silver-grey beard, and a good deal of wavy hair of the same hue around the back and sides of his head, but not much on top [...]. (Lodge, SW 220)

This is also acknowledged by Morris who upon seeing Philip for the first time after ten years remarks, “[...] you’re looking good. The beard is terrific” (Lodge, SW 231), and Hilary who tells Morris “[h]e’s even started to look more handsome than he ever did before in his life” (Lodge, SW 272). However, she also remarks that the beard only “[...] conceals his weak chin” and that “[h]e has it touched up at the barber’s, [...]”, which reveals the artificial nature of his new found handsomeness (Lodge, SW 272). Due to his new found beauty, and according to Morris, “power”, Philip has also become more attractive to women, as Hilary relates, “[...] he has a weakness for pretty students. For some reason, they seem to have a weakness for him” (Lodge, SW 270). However, Philip has been blackmailed by one of the female students with whom he had an affair, and thus has been forced to relinquish his sexual interest in the students at Rummidge and has “[...] to rely on his trips abroad for amorous adventure” (Lodge, SW 270, 360).

However, not everything is going well for Philip, for one thing his conference fails miserably (Lodge, SW 274). But this is not the only professional problem Philip is having, he is also convinced that, “[...] the subject is in a state of crisis [...]” (Lodge, SW 241). For Philip this crisis is the result of the influence of poststructuralism: because it threatens the possibility of coming to a definite understanding of a text and turns reading into “[...] some arcane mystery, into which only a small élite have been initiated” (Lodge, SW 239). However, as Ommundsen points out, “[...] as the prevailing climate around him has turned theoretical and poststructuralist, he has become more defensive and has been forced to somehow theorise his antitheoretical position” (127). Thus, he has written a book called “*Hazlitt and the Amateur Reader*” (Lodge, SW 288), but it is not selling very well and has not received any reviews (Lodge, SW 262),

which according to Hilary is “[...] a rather sore point with Philip” (Lodge, SW 272). Additionally, Philip is unhappy in his marriage and seeks distraction in his affairs—on his travels—from “[...] the ugly facts: that there is death, there is disease, there is impotence and senility ahead” (Lodge, SW 276). Thus, unlike Morris Zapp, he does not travel to advance his career (Acheson 88), but rather simply “[...] to alleviate his ennui” (Moseley 81-82). Consequently, as Berger remarks, “Swallow represents the man in a midlife crisis, dissatisfied and bored in his marriage, always on the lookout for affairs, and secretly seeking a divorce” (239). As Björk fittingly remarks it is an “[...] extended mid-life crisis, lasting well over ten years [...]” (96). Thus, Philip is looking for “[i]ntensity of experience [...]”, which as he informs Morris “[w]e know we won’t find it at home any more, but there’s always the hope that we’ll find it abroad” (Lodge, SW 276). He further informs Morris that he has experienced it with Désirée and one other time on lecture trip to Italy (Lodge, SW 276-277). During that trip he had an affair with Joy, the wife of the British Council employee who accommodated him (Lodge, SW 278, 284-286). However, Philip is convinced that she and her family died in a plane crash and thus has no hope of seeing her again (Lodge, SW 286). Nevertheless, Philip has not given up his quest for intensity, thus he is heading out for another conference to Turkey where he intends to lecture on Hazlitt (Lodge, SW 287). That Philip’s trip is more concerned with his quest for intensity than academic interest can be discerned from his thoughts regarding the voyage: “He didn’t know quite what to expect of Turkey [...]. Would the women be liberated and available, or locked up in purdah” (Lodge, SW 360)? However, despite these concerns Philip is anxious to go to Turkey, so much so in fact that when the British Council calls him and informs him that “[...] the Turks don’t want [...]” his lecture on Jane Austen, but have asked if he could prepare a lecture on: “[...] *Literature and History and Society and Philosophy and Psychology instead*” he is willing to comply with their demands even though “[...] there isn’t much time for preparation” and it is “[...] a tall order [...]” (Lodge, SW 360). This is due to the fact that Philip is “[...] always cravenly eager to please his hosts on these trips abroad; eager to please the British Council, too, in case they stopped inviting him to go on them” (Lodge, SW 360). However, at least initially things do not improve for Philip on his trip, first he hurts his foot when

he leaves the airport (Lodge, SW 380), then he has to learn that he was only supposed to give a lecture on one of the topics mentioned above and not all of them (Lodge, SW 381-382), and then, while suffering from acute diarrhea during a blackout, he uses parts of his lecture on Hazlitt as toilet paper by mistake (Lodge, SW 390-391). Thus, Philip does not enjoy his trip very much and even though it improves slightly during its course he is looking forward to leaving (Lodge, SW 408). This is in part due to his realization that:

Here in Turkey there wasn't a hope of erotic adventure. The friendly women he met were all married, with husbands in genial but watchful attendance. The [...] students never seemed to be allowed closer than lecturing distance to him, unless they appeared in the rôle [*sic*] of daughters to one of the academic couples, and Philip had the feeling that to make a pass at one of *them* might provoke a diplomatic incident. (Lodge, SW 411)

Consequently, Philip is having a crisis, and is even considering:

[...] to call a halt to his travels, abandon the quest for intensity of experience [...], hang up his lecture notes and cash in his traveller's cheques, settle for routine and domesticity, for safe sex with Hilary and the familiar round of the Rummidge academic year, [...] until it was time to retire, retire from both sex and work? Followed in due course by retirement from life. (Lodge, SW 411)

However, before Philip can settle on this conclusion, he encounters Joy whom he had believed dead at a party, confesses his love for her and attempts to convince her to come with him to Istanbul (Lodge, SW 412-414). During this Philip “[...] ate her with his eyes, wolfing the features he had thought he would never see again, [...]” (Lodge, SW 415). From this Sava concludes that Philip “[...] display[s] a feeling of power over the woman who could offer him pleasure, and this is an evident sign of conquest” (41). This is further evidenced by Philip’s reminiscence of the event while he is waiting for Joy at the train station:

He heard himself saying to her [...] ‘*Because I love you,*’ simply, sincerely, without hesitation, without embarrassment, like a hero in a film. He was not, after all, finished, washed up, ready for retirement. He was still capable of a great romance. Intensity had returned to experience. (Lodge, SW 416)

Thus, Joy serves the function of validating Philip in his manhood, a function she performs remarkably well, first by canceling her appointments and coming to the train station and then by alleviating his fear that he was, but one among many lovers (Lodge, SW 417-418). Furthermore, she—to Philip’s delight— informs him that they have a daughter together, upon which Philip decides to divorce Hilary (Lodge, SW 423-424). Indeed, when Philip is worried about the

age difference between them she reassures him by saying “[y]ou make me feel desirable, that’s what matters” (Lodge, SW 425); to which Björk fittingly remarks: “[t]he colonization is total; Joy’s role in this relationship is swiftly and simply reduced to her willing acceptance of being a passive object of male desire” (69). However, Philip has to delay his plan of telling Hilary that he wants a divorce when she informs him that she is going to start training in “Marriage Guidance” (Lodge, SW 426). But Philip is compensated for this by the information that Rudyard Parkinson has reviewed his book “[...] in the most glowing terms [...]” in the *TLS* and that he “[...] was frightfully rude about Morris’s book in the same review” (Lodge, SW 425). Unknown to Philip, Parkinson only gave the book such a positive review because he wanted to use it as “[...] ammunition [...] against Morris Zapp” (Lodge, SW 363). But Philip’s luck does not end there, he is soon also mentioned as a potential candidate for the UNESCO chair even if—unknown to everyone except Textel—it is only the result of Jacques Textel’s annoyance with Parkinson who, thus decided to misinterpret the review as Parkinson’s endorsement of Philip (Lodge, SW 432). Although Philip does not believe in his chances, and only hopes that the publicity might allow him to get a job in the US, Joy is quick to reassure him thereby once again performing her mirror function par excellence (Lodge, SW 438, 441). Thus, Philip is determined to live life to its fullest, as becomes evident from Rodney Wainwright’s description of his conduct at the Jerusalem conference:

After screwing his blonde bird into the small hours, he is up bright and early for a swim in the hotel pool, never misses the morning lecture, is always first on his feet with a question when the speaker sits down, and signs up unfailingly for every sightseeing excursion on offer. It is as if the man has been given ten days to live and is determined to pack every instant with sensation, sublime or gross. (Lodge, SW 493)

However, Philip’s euphoria cannot last forever and reaches a sudden end when he is surprised by his son at Masada and thus, “[...] springs apart from Joy as if he had been burned” (Lodge, SW 495). He further distances himself from her by calling her “Mrs. Simpson” and even asks her to return to the cable car with Rodney Wainwright to which Joy reacts with shock “[...] as if she had received an unexpected slap in the face” (Lodge, SW 496). This episode leaves Philip in shock. He develops a temperature and is later suspected of having developed Legionnaire’s Disease (Lodge, SW 496-498). In panic Philip asks

Joy to call Hilary to look after him, which ends his relationship with Joy (Lodge, SW 499). However, as it turns out Philip never had Legionnaire's Disease, but only read an article about it and thus "[...] frightened himself into reproducing the symptoms" (Lodge, SW 506). Thus, as Morris relates to Perse:

Hilary flew out to Israel to look after him quite unnecessarily. However, it had the effect of bringing them together again. Philip decided he was getting to the age when he needed a mother more than a mistress. Or maybe Joy did. (Lodge, SW 506)

In addition to losing Joy, Philip is also deprived of his good looks. As Perse relates, Philip "[...] had shaved off his beard, and seemed to regret it, fingering his weak chin with nervous fingers like an amputee groping for a missing limb [...]" (Lodge, SW 507). However, not everything is going badly for Philip, for one thing he is asked to join the panel discussion on "[t]he Function of Criticism", even if it is only because Rudyard Parkinson "[...] missed his plane [...]" (Lodge, SW 506). Consequently, even if—as he puts it—he "[...] failed in the role of the romantic hero" (Lodge, SW 525), it is not all bad for Philip Swallow after all he has received considerable—even if undeserved—publicity through Rudyard Parkinson's review and his participation in the panel discussion at the MLA, which is likely to have a positive effect on his career. Thus, while Philip fails in his aspirations for the hegemonic globetrotting academic ideal of masculinity and has to give up his role of romantic hero, the events of *Small World* are likely to help his career and thus further his claim to the hegemonic ideal of the male, i.e. British academia.

4.2.3 Howard Ringbaum: The fate of the overly competitive

Since *Changing Places*, in which his over competitive streak "[...] led to his exile to Canada [...]" (Lodge, SW 296), Howard Ringbaum has finally managed to return to the US "[...] by dint of writing a long succession of boring articles on English pastoral poetry [...]" (Lodge, SW 297). Consequently, Ringbaum is now teaching English pastoral poetry at Southern Illinois University, and has even managed to get "[...] a grant from the National Endowment for Humanities to work at the British Museum for six months" (Lodge, SW 296). However, as the reader quickly learns, he has not given up his overly ambitious tendencies (Lodge, SW 297). Instead he has transferred them from the professional to the sexual sphere (Moseley 86).

Therefore, he is bent on becoming a member of “[...] the Mile High Club, an exclusive confraternity of men who have achieved sexual congress while airborne” (Lodge, SW 296). As such, his “[...] quest is similar to Philip Swallow's, with the difference that [...] [Ringbaum; SDW] understands intensity of experience as ‘sexual congress while airborne’” (Lodge, SW qtd. in Sava 41). Sava further points out, that “Ringbaum’s strong desire to compete with and beat other people in any possible way reveal [*sic*] his fierce aspiration to affirm his power over others” (42). Thus, he is determined to convince his wife Thelma to have sex with him on a plane (Lodge, SW 295). However, despite his persistence, she is unwilling to comply and eventually hits him “[...] in the crotch with her book [...]” (Lodge, SW 297). The fact that Ringbaum is only pressuring his wife to have sex with him to become a member of this club is further underscored when he rejects Thelma’s sexual advances after they have arrived in their apartment, resulting in her decision to be unfaithful to him (Lodge, SW 343). Ringbaum’s uncompromising competitive tendency is further evidenced by the fact that he uses Morris’ disappearance to get himself admitted to the Jerusalem conference even though Morris specifically excluded him (Lodge, SW 489). Similarly, Ringbaum is not discouraged by Thelma’s unwillingness to have sex on a plane, but—instead—according to Thelma, planned “[...] to have sex with me in one of those cable cars at Masada” (Lodge, SW 519). This plotting distracts him so much that he does not notice that Thelma and Morris have entered into an affair, as a consequence of which Thelma leaves him (Lodge, SW 518-519). But not even this can distract Howard Ringbaum from his goal, for as Thelma relates he is “[...] stuck in Illinois because he’s been barred for life by the airlines for soliciting sex in flight from a hostess” (Lodge, SW 518). Thus, once again Ringbaum’s own competitiveness has led to his downfall; he has not only lost his wife, but also lost the opportunity to compete with the other scholars at the MLA, or at any other international conference in the future.

4.3 Crisis or failure of hegemonic globetrotting academic masculinities

As evidenced by Arthur Kingfisher’s increasing depression (Lodge, SW 508), none of the competitors for the UNESCO chair can offer a solution for the crisis of the profession and its hegemonic ideal, and thus claim it for

themselves. However this does not mean that the ideal is doomed to fail, rather with the help of Persse's question, "[w]hat follows if everybody agrees with you" and Kingfisher's interpretation of it, "[y]ou imply, of course, that what matters in the field of critical practice is not truth but difference" (Lodge, SW 509). This insight results in "[...] the renewal of [Kingfisher's; SDW] life force [...]" (Mews 721), and with it the hegemonic globetrotting academic ideal of masculinity. As such, Kingfisher not only regains his sexual potency (Lodge, SW 511), but also his academic one, which is evidenced by his willingness to "[...] come out of retirement and allow his own name to go forward for the chair" (Lodge, SW 523). Thus, in the end the hegemonic globetrotting academic ideal of masculinity experiences a reformulation and rejuvenation in the homosocial space that is the MLA.

As for its aspirants, most of them also reformulate their quests in the course of the novel. Although Morris Zapp certainly fails in his desire to outperform his colleagues, and eventually has to give up his theoretical approach altogether, he is successful in finding a woman and thus refocuses his ambitions to the private sphere. On the other hand, Philip Swallow fails in his private ambition to be a romantic hero, he is inadvertently rather successful professionally, and while he is also unsuccessful in procuring the UNESCO chair, his other successes will probably help his career at home. Although it is true that there are also two characters who completely fail in all their ambitions, namely Howard Ringbaum and Siegfried von Turpitz, this does not signify the failure of the hegemonic ideal; but rather their failure to live up to it and their violation of its principles. This results in their subordination and marginalization within the sphere of international academia.²⁰

In Howard Ringbaum's case, his marginalization is once again the result of his overambitious efforts to achieve his goal, which cause him to violate the rules of international aviation. As a consequence, he is banned by the airlines for life. This results in his automatic marginalization because he is no longer able to compete at international conferences.

Siegfried von Turpitz undeniably fails not just in his pursuit of the hegemonic ideal, but also in his career as a result of his violation of the rules of academic conduct and its hegemonic ideal. These violations are marked by him being

²⁰ Not within society as a whole.

caught plagiarizing twice. The first time, Turpitz is caught plagiarizing parts of Persse's unpublished manuscript (Lodge, SW 398-399). The second time, Persse inadvertently reveals that von Turpitz' mysterious and dangerous aura, that he constructs with the help of his black glove, is merely a charade and thus the danger that is associated with it is revealed to be a travesty as well (Lodge, SW 524). In a sense, Turpitz has plagiarized the identity of the evil German, and having this revealed is said to: "go[] pale, hiss[], [...] shrivel in stature, plunge[] his hand into his jacket pocket, and slink[] from the room, never to be seen at an international conference again" (Lodge, SW 524). However, unlike Ringbaum, Turpitz is not marginalized, but rather subordinated because of his violations of the rules of academia.²¹ In the end the hegemonic globetrotting ideal of academic masculinity does not fail, but rather experiences a reformulation that allows it to further exist in a climate dominated by poststructuralism.

5. Hegemonic masculinities in *Nice Work*

5.1 American and British academic hegemonic masculinities in crisis

In *Nice Work* the English university system is in crisis as a result of the Thatcher administration's plans "[...] to cut public spending [...]" in the course of which they "[...] set about decimating the national system of higher education" (Lodge, NW 565). As a result of these policies universities are "[r]equired to reduce their academic staff by up to 20 per cent, [...]" to which they respond "[...] by persuading as many people as possible to take early retirement and freezing all vacancies" (Lodge, NW 563). This crisis is further evidenced by the fact that the university reuses envelopes and asks its employees to use acronyms "[...] whenever possible in University correspondence" in order to "[...] save paper and typing time [...]" (Lodge, NW 588). Robyn's partner Charles fittingly describes the situation as "[...] death by a thousand cuts" (Lodge, NW 659). This also results in the end of internationalization as evidenced by the fact that while Philip Swallow was invited to a conference in Florida, he was unable to "[...] get a travel grant" and is thus forced to stay in Britain (Lodge, NW 572).

²¹ Again only within academia not society as a whole.

Unlike its British counterpart, the American system does not seem to be in any financial trouble at least if Morris Zapp's travel routine is any indication—he still travels from one conference to another (Lodge, NW 765). However, there is also a transformation looming in America as evidenced by the fact that Euphoric State plans to employ a lecturer of Women's Studies (Lodge, NW 791). Although, it is unclear—due to its lack of representation in the novel—whether this leads to a crisis of the American hegemonic ideal, it certainly causes a crisis for Morris because the lecturer his university plans on employing is no other than his ex-wife Désirée (Lodge, NW 792). Thus, Morris frantically travels around the globe to look for a candidate of his own which reveals that while he is still visiting conferences, his focus is not on some prestigious chair or the domination of his international colleagues, but rather at home (Lodge, NW 793).

The fact that the English Department of the University of Rummidge still remains a homosocial space is evidenced by that fact—except for the secretaries—the only professionally employed woman in the department is Robyn Penrose, whose job description “Temporary Lecturer in English Literature” reveals that she is in a rather precarious situation (Lodge, NW 554). As a matter of fact, due to the condition of the British university system, Robyn is lucky to have gotten the job she has, even if it is only a three-year appointment “[...] at the lower end of the salary scale [...]” (Lodge, NW 564). However, even though she is convinced that, “[...] she [...] [is; SDW] better than most of her colleagues [...]” (Lodge, NW 564), this does not help her secure a job, simply because there are none (Lodge, NW 573). This does not change throughout the novel even if at the end of the novel Philip Swallow tells her that there might be a chance that she could become a permanent member of staff, this as he stresses is “[...] only a chance [...]” (Lodge, NW 811). Apart from Robyn, one other academic woman is mentioned to be working at Rummidge University, and that is Penny Black, a friend of Robyn's from the Sociology Department (Lodge, NW 594). The English department's status as a homosocial institution is further underscored by the fact that the decision about Robyn's involvement in the Shadow Scheme is made in the “[...] Male Staff toilet [...]” which automatically excludes her (Lodge, NW 589). Although Philip still asks her if she is willing to participate, she does not

really have a choice, because as she tells Penny Black “[...] one day I’m going to need a reference from Swallow” (Lodge, NW 594).

Subordinate masculinities only appear as amorphous groups of either white workers at the factory (Lodge, NW 624), or as homosexuals who are mentioned, but never appear as characters (Lodge, NW et passim). On the other hand, similar to women, marginalized masculinities remain largely absent in the surroundings of the university—the exception being a black gardener at the end of the novel (Lodge, NW 811). Outside the university, they are mostly present as residents of “Angleside [...] the black ghetto of Rummidge, where youth unemployment is 80 per cent, and rioting endemic” (Lodge, NW 581). Consequently, they are primarily a cause for concern and fear for the privileged characters of the novel (Lodge, NW 581, 598). Additionally, they appear as workers at the factory which Robyn visits during the Shadow Scheme (Lodge, NW 619, 623-624). As such, they serve as representatives of the repressed masses that Robyn can fantasize about saving and brag about knowing to her brother (Lodge, NW 660, 811).

5.2 Representative of American academic hegemonic masculinity

5.2.1 Morris Zapp: Grasping for power without theory

In *Nice Work* Morris Zapp only appears briefly as at guest of a party thrown for him at the Swallow’s house where he stops by on his way to the next international conference (Lodge, NW 764). Unlike Philip, Morris is still traveling from one international conference to another as evidenced by him telling Robyn: “[t]here’s more than one. After Dubrovnik I go to Vienna, Geneva, Nice and Milan. Milan is a private visit, [...]” (Lodge, NW 765). However, this does not mean that he has found a new theory and resumed the quest he abandoned at the conclusion of *Small World*. In fact if Robyn’s perception that Morris was “[...] originally a Jane Austen specialist in the Neo-Critical close-reading tradition, [...] [who; SDW] had converted himself [...] into a kind of deconstructionist in the nineteen-seventies [...]” is taken into account we can conclude that Morris has not found a new theory since then (Lodge, NW 764). Similarly, Morris does not seem to have published anything of importance since then because, in stark contrast to *Changing Places* and *Small World*, there is no mention of any new publications, and rather

uncharacteristically, he does not brag about any when Robyn tells him about her book (Lodge, NW 766). Instead he offers to help Robyn publish her book in the US (Lodge, NW 767). Nevertheless, Robyn perceives Morris as a sign:

[...] that there were still places in the world where scholars and critics pursued their professional goals with zestful confidence, where conferences multiplied and where grants were to be had to attend them, where conversation at academic parties was more likely to be about the latest controversial book or article than about the latest scaling-down of departmental maintenance grants. (Lodge, NW 768)

However, Morris hardly seems able to live up to these expectations. Even if he claims that he has no interest in retiring, he also does not seem to have any professional goals either; he has given up his goal of becoming the highest paid professor of English in the world and is now content being the highest paid professor in the humanities at his university—which his contract guarantees him (Lodge, NW 769). Similarly his interest in Robyn’s book seems suspicious, for as Philip remarks, “[h]e can’t stand feminists, usually. They’ve given him such a rough time in the past, at conferences and in reviews” (Lodge, NW 770). Even though as Robyn remarks, “[h]e seemed well up in the literature”, Philip still suspects that Morris has ulterior motives (Lodge, NW 770). However, Morris motives initially seem to be genuine, he not only recommends Robyn’s book to the Euphoric State University Press, but also offers to back her application for a tenured job in “Women’s Studies” at his university (Lodge, NW 791). However, he also informs her that “[...] there’s another candidate some of my dumber colleagues are backing”, but remarks that “[s]he is not a serious scholar. Just a writer” (Lodge, NW 791). From this Philip deduces that the other candidate is Morris’ ex-wife Désirée who—as he informs Robyn—wrote him that “[...] she was looking for an academic post preferably on the West Coast” (Lodge, NW 793). He concludes, “Morris would do anything to stop her” (Lodge, NW 793), and further tells Robyn:

He wouldn’t run you as a candidate if he didn’t think you could win. He must have been really impressed by your book. Of course, that was why he wanted to read it in the first place. He must have been over in Europe scouting for talent. I expect Fulvia Morgana turned him down.... (Lodge, NW 793)

However, Morris fails in this ambition because Robyn decides to stay in Rummidge when Philip tells her that there might be a chance that she could get a permanent job there (Lodge, NW 811). There is no mentioning of Morris’ love life in *Nice Work*, but the fact that he is both alone on his travels (Lodge,

NW et passim), and when he calls Robyn from his terrace at home can be seen as an indicator that his relationship with Thelma did not work out (Lodge, NW 791), and that he is currently not pursuing another one. Instead, he seems to concentrate his energies on preventing the intrusion of his failed marital life into his professional life, an objective that fails as we have seen. Nevertheless, it seems likely that Morris, given his track record in the previous novels, will adapt to the changed conditions rather than give up.

5.3 Representative of British academic hegemonic masculinity

5.3.1 Philip Swallow: Stuck in administration

At the beginning of *Nice Work* Philip Swallow still has not managed to recover from the crisis that afflicted him in the previous novel. As Moseley accurately observes Philip “[m]ore than any other character [...] registers the toll of advancing years and bad times” (92-93), and indeed the increasingly attractive womanizer from *Small World* is now described as “[...] a tall, thin, stopped man, with silvery grey hair, deeply receding at the temples, [...]” (Lodge, NW 571; Moseley 92-93). This is further underscored by the fact that: “[...] Robyn has difficulty in recognizing the jet-set philanderer [...]” that Sutcliffe told her about (Lodge, NW 573). In addition to his lost good looks, he has also as Moseley points out: “[...] developed an odd sort of deafness in the throes of which he hears vowels just fine but cannot discriminate consonants; [...]. [...] [Thus, ; SDW] it is hard to take him seriously any more” (Moseley 92-93). In addition to these problems he is also hindered from resuming his quest for intensity of experience by the fact that as a result of the financial cuts made by the Thatcher administration he is unable to get a travel grant (Lodge, NW 572). Additionally, Sutcliffe suspects that Hilary has also played a role in grounding Philip when he remarks, “I have a hunch that Hilary read him the riot act” (Lodge, NW 572). A theory that seems to be confirmed when Robyn, while talking to Swallow at a party at his house, notices, “[...] Mrs. Swallow regarding them suspiciously” (Lodge, NW 767). Whatever the case, Philip is stuck in Rummidge. However, this does not mean that Philip has not been successful since the MLA, on the contrary as Moseley remarks he has:

[...] continu[ed] the irresistible and almost totally undeserved rise which he began by being promoted to Senior Lecturer in *Changing Places*, and

mentioned for the UNESCO chair in *Small World*, he is now Dean of the Faculty of Arts. (Moseley 93)

However, as Moseley further points out:

By the time he achieves this rank, however, it has become not worth having—Swallow’s rueful way of calling his domain sweet FA, a slang term for something worthless, is his only attempt at humor—because his main role is to preside over the retrenchment and decline of the university. (Moseley 93)

This also becomes evident when Philip tells Robyn: “[i]t’s no fun being Dean, these days, [...]. All you do is give people bad news” (Lodge, NW 574). He later remarks that his job is “[...] responsibility without power” (Lodge, NW 590), which is amply demonstrated when Robyn tells Penny Black about how Philip tried to convince her to take part in the Shadow Scheme saying “[h]e was practically begging me to agree” (Lodge, NW 594). The hopelessness of his position is characterized most drastically when he tells Morris: “I spend all my time on committees arguing about how to respond to the cuts. I haven’t read a book in months, let alone tried to write one” (Lodge, NW 766).

However, near the end of the novel Swallow at least partly recovers from this crisis, with the help of a hearing aid, and as Robyn observes “[...] seem[s] to be in rather good form [...].” at the department meeting (Lodge, NW 787). He even manages to mediate between the different factions in the Syllabus Review Committee and manages to convince them to at least rethink their positions in the hope that this will result in a compromise (Lodge, NW 786-787). Nevertheless, this is only a temporary victory as Philip is moments later informed that their “[...] grant is going to be cut by ten per cent in real terms”, which will likely result in the “[...] lo[ss] of another hundred academic posts” (Lodge, NW 789). Interestingly, this certainty of further financial trouble does not stop Swallow from trying to talk Robyn out of going to America (Lodge, NW 793). This represents a dramatic change from his position at the beginning of the novel where he tells her “[...] we, shouldn’t at all blame you if you were to start applying for jobs elsewhere [...].” (Lodge, NW 573). His sudden desire to keep or at least stop Robyn from going to America does not seem to correlate with her excellent academic performance, as that has remained consistent throughout the novel (Lodge, NW et passim), but rather with Morris’ interest in her and is connected with a sense of competition with him. Consequently, Swallow not only reveals Morris’ hidden agenda behind the job offering, but also warns her about the ruthless competitiveness of the American

university system (Lodge, NW 793). A behavior that must strike readers of *Changing Places* and *Small World* at the very least as odd, if not outright hypocritical, as in those novels Philip desperately tried to get an appointment in America. Nevertheless, he has to concede that he cannot offer Robyn a job himself, and thus agrees to write her a “[...] glowing reference [...]” (Lodge, NW 793). However, when he discovers that the word “Virement” implies that: “[...] if we decide to curtail certain operations in the Faculty, we could redirect the resources”, he informs Robyn that there might be a chance that she will get a job after all, and thus manages to persuade her to remain at his university (Lodge, NW 811). Consequently, Philip manages to beat Morris and solve at least some of the problems in his department, even if it is only a temporary solution, as it is unlikely that he will be able to compensate for further cuts by shifting resources and continuing the departments policy of sending scholars into early retirement (Lodge, NW 563).

5.4 Crisis or failure of academic hegemonic masculinities

Although the American system does not seem to be suffering from the same financial problems as its British counterpart, it has been shown that at least on the personal level of its representative Morris Zapp, it is also experiencing a crisis. A crisis that is ultimately not resolved even if it seems probable that Morris will adapt to his ex-wife’s employment at his university rather than give up his academic career and with it the pursuit of the American hegemonic ideal. Similarly, it is unlikely that the introduction of women’s studies into the curriculum will seriously endanger the hegemonic form of academic masculinity in America, and thus it is likely to further exist in a reformulated form.

Unlike that of its US counterpart, the crisis of the British system is due to the outside decision to drastically cut its funding, which not only means that its representative Philip Swallow is no longer able to travel to conferences, but also is not able to employ any new scholars. The desperate situation of British academia is further underscored by the fact that Robyn’s partner Charles abandons his university carrier in order to become a merchant banker (Lodge, NW 756). However, in the end Philip discovers a solution to the problem—even if it is only a temporary one. Thus, thanks to his ability to transfer funds

from one department to another, he is able to at least stabilize the department, and even beat his American counterpart in their professional competition for Robyn Penrose. In accordance with these observations Horlacher remarks that:

[...] the ruling order is not only reaffirmed but also modified since Lodge's trilogy of campus novels—and especially *Nice Work*—cannot repress its knowledge that the ruling norm, [...] has at least to a certain degree become as inadequate [...]. (Horlacher, *Slightly* 481)

Consequently, both systems—and their hegemonic ideals of academic masculinity—even though they do not fail are likely to experience extensive reformulations in order to survive in the changed climate of their respective societies.

6. Conclusion

In this bachelor's thesis it has been shown that the male representatives of the academic world in *The Campus Trilogy* aspire to the hegemonic ideal of academic masculinity of the respective system in which they happen to reside—be it the British or American university system or that of international conferences. Furthermore, it has been argued that these aspirations and the ideals themselves are always prone to crises that are brought on by societal changes of the respective host environment. However, it has also been demonstrated that in most cases these crises do not lead to the collapse of the ideal or the failure of its pursuit, but rather to the reformulation and continuation of both.

Regarding *Changing Places*, it has been shown that the danger to the American hegemonic ideal of academic masculinity came from the student revolution and scholars like Karl Kroop both of whom threatened its professional doctrine. However, while the student revolution causes a modification of the system, Kroop turns out to be of little danger to it since his students have so thoroughly embodied the ideology of professionalism that his attempts to subvert it fail. Nevertheless, the student revolution causes a transformation that results in the increased hiring of Third World faculty members and the relaxation of the professional standards when hiring them.

For the British hegemonic ideal I have shown, that while it was originally threatened not only by the student revolution, but also by professional scholars like Dempsey and Zapp, it has been able to survive the crisis relatively unaffected. Morris neutralized the first two threats and it is, as I have argued,

rather unlikely that he himself will remain in Britain, and thus he does not represent a serious threat either. As for the representatives themselves, I have shown that, for the time being, both have managed to recover from their respective midlife crises, but they were only able to do this by reformulating their pursuit. Consequently, Philip has sought confirmation in affairs and Morris, while doing the same, has also been reassured in his masculinity by his successful handling of the crisis at Rummidge. However, as I have argued, there is also a character, namely Howard Ringbaum, who fails completely in his pursuit because he violates the norms of the American hegemonic form and is thus subordinated in and ostracized from American academia.

With regards to *Small World*, it has been argued that the academic world has experienced internationalization, thus the scholars now compete internationally for the embodiment of the hegemonic ideal of globetrotting academic masculinity and its prize, the UNESCO chair. However, the profession and its ideal are, as has been shown, in a crisis caused by poststructuralism that jeopardizes the possibility of coming to a definite interpretation. Thus, the scholars compete over whose theory can offer a solution to the problem, and supersede all others and thus be verified by the appointment to the UNESCO chair, which—as has been argued—represents the hegemonic ideal of the globetrotting academic masculinity. However, in the end, none of the academics can offer a suitable solution for the problem and thus Arthur Kingfisher, who with the help of Persse McGarrigle has reached the epiphany that difference is more important in literary studies than coming to a definite interpretation, appoints himself to the chair. Thus, the hegemonic ideal, through its embodiment Kingfisher, experiences a reformulation that allows its continued existence. Similarly, both Morris and Philip fail in their aspirations for the chair, and in Philip's case, also in his desire to be a romantic hero. Thus, Morris reformulates his quest to the private arena, where he intends to marry the newly separated Thelma Ringbaum—a relationship, as I have argued, without much prospect for success. On the other hand, even though he did not reformulate his quest completely, Philip is likely to enjoy increasing success professionally due to the publicity he has gotten from the events surrounding the MLA. Although the scholars Howard Ringbaum and Siegfried von Turpitz have permanently failed in their pursuit, this is the result of their

violation of the rules of academia and society respectively and does not indicate a failure of the hegemonic ideal.

In *Nice Work* the process of internationalization has come to a halt, at least on the British side, which—due to the cuts imposed by the Thatcher administration—is struggling to make ends meet and can no longer send its scholars out to compete internationally. Although American universities are not suffering from financial problems, its masculine members have to adapt to the introduction of feminist scholars into their previously homosocial space. Consequently, the characters who represent these systems and who aspire to their respective hegemonic ideals of academia are also affected by these changes. Thus, as I have shown, Philip Swallow lost his good looks and health, and is also no longer able to travel. Even though he is now Dean of the Faculty of Arts, it is a position without power, and his only job lies in rationalizing its resources. However, as has been shown, Philip discovers a way to at least temporarily mitigate the crisis and is even able to beat Morris in their competition for the promising academic Robyn Penrose. On the other hand, this means that Morris has to deal with the fact that his ex-wife will probably be working at his university. Nevertheless, as I have argued, it is likely that he and the American, academic hegemonic masculinity, which he represents, will recover from this crisis as they have from the previous crises.

However, due to the limited scope of this thesis there are several aspects that have not been considered, but that would form an interesting addition to it. First, a closer look at additional characters who aspire to the ideals of hegemonic masculinity would further substantiate the claims made in the course of this thesis. Such characters may include: Robin Dempsey in *Changing Places*, a closer look at Arthur Kingfisher and Siegfried von Turpitz in *Small World*, and a closer look at Robyn's boyfriend Charles in *Nice Work*. Additionally, a consideration of other forms of hegemonic masculinity such as managerial hegemonic masculinity represented by the character Vic Wilcox in *Nice Work* might prove advantageous, as it might show that, similar to its academic counterpart, it too is in a crisis due to the same political decisions. Furthermore, an in-depth analysis of complicit masculinities might prove beneficial. In addition, a closer look at subordinated—especially Michel Tradieu—and marginalized characters and their role in the novels would

definitely improve the understanding of their function in the construction of hegemonic masculinities. Moreover, an analysis of the women in the novel—especially Fulvia Morgana—would help to further the understanding of the role that women play in the formation of the hegemonic masculinities and their role in the novels in general. Finally, the question as to whether the novels implicitly or explicitly support the hegemonic position of some masculinities, and the subordination and marginalization of others, and of femininities would form an interesting basis for further research.

7. Works Cited

Literature

Lodge, David. *Changing Places: A Tale of Two Campuses*. 1975. *The Campus Trilogy*. New York: Penguin, 2011. 1–207. Print.

---. *Nice Work*. 1988. *The Campus Trilogy*. New York: Penguin, 2011. 529–811. Print.

---. *Small World: An Academic Romance*. 1984. *The Campus Trilogy*. New York: Penguin, 2011. 207–529. Print.

Criticism

Acheson, James. "The Small Worlds of Malcolm Bradbury and David Lodge." *The British and Irish novel since 1960*. Ed. James Acheson. 1st ed. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1991. 78–93. Print.

Acker, Joan. "From Sex Roles to Gendered Institutions." *Contemporary Sociology* 21.5 (1992): 565–69. Web. 16 June 2012. <<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2075528>>.

Ahrens, Rüdiger. "Satirical Norm and Narrative Technique in the Modern University Novel: David Lodge's *Changing Places* and *Small World*." *Literatur im Kontext: Festschrift für Horst W. Drescher*. Ed. Joachim Schwend and Horst W. Drescher. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang, 1992. 277–95. Print. Scottish Studies Publications of the Scottish Studies Centre of the Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz in Gernersheim 14.

---. "The Revival of the Quest in David Lodge's Novel *Small World*." *Of remembrance the key: Medieval literature and its impact through the ages: festschrift for Karl Heinz Göller on the occasion of his 80th birthday*. Ed. Uwe Böker, Dieter A. Berger, and Noel K. Kaylor, Jr. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang, 2004. 251–67. Print. Britannia Texts in English 11.

- Arizti, Bárbara. *Textuality as Striptease: The Discourses of Intimacy in David Lodge's Changing Places and Small World*. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang, 2002. Print. Anglo-Amerikanische Studien 20.
- Berger, Dieter A. "Resurgent Romance and the Comic in Contemporary British Fiction." *Of Remembraunce the Key: Medieval Literature and Its Impact Through the Ages: Festschrift for Karl Heinz Göller on the Occasion of his 80th Birthday*. Ed. Uwe Böker, Dieter A. Berger, and Noel K. Kaylor, Jr. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang, 2004. 233–50. Print. Britannia Texts in English 11.
- Bird, Sharon R. "Welcome to the Men's Club: Homosociality and the Maintenance of Hegemonic Masculinity." *Gender & Society* 10.2 (1996): 120–32. Web. 20 June 2012. <<http://www.scientificjournals.org/journals2007/articles/1139.pdf>>.
- Björk, Eva L. *Campus Clowns and the Canon: David Lodge's Campus Fiction*. Diss. Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell International, 1993. Print. Acta Universitatis Umensis Umeå Studies in the Humanities 115.
- Böhm, Rudolf. "Universität und Industrie: 'Zwei Nationen' in David Lodges *Nice Work*." *Das Natur/Kultur-Paradigma in der Englischsprachigen Erzählliteratur des 19. und 20. Jahrhunderts: Festschrift zum 60. Geburtstag von Paul Goetsch*. Ed. Paul Goetsch, et al. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 1994. 222–36. Print.
- Brod, Harry. "The Construction of the Construction of Masculinities." *Constructions of Masculinity in British Literature from the Middle Ages to the Present*. Ed. Stefan Horlacher. 1st ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011. 19–33. Print. Global Masculinities 3.
- Burton, Robert S. "Standoff at the Crossroads: When Town Meets Gown in David Lodge's *Nice Work*." *Critique* 35.4 (1994): 237–43. Web. 17 June 2012. <http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:pao:&rft_dat=xri:pao:article:7631-1994-035-04-000005>.

- Coelsch-Foisner, Sabine. "Sex-Maniacs, Errant Knights and Lady Professors: Romance and Satire in Lodge's University Novels." *Trends in English and American Studies: Literature and the Imagination : Essays in Honour of James Lester Hogg*. Ed. Sabine Coelsch-Foisner, Wolfgang Görtschacher, and Holger M. Klein. Lewiston, N.Y: Edwin Mellen Press, 1996. 333–51. Print.
- Collinson, David L., and Jeff Hearn. "Men and Masculinities in Work, Organizations, and Management." *Handbook of Studies on Men & Masculinities*. Ed. Michael S. Kimmel, Jeff Hearn, and R. W. Connell. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005. 289–311. Print.
- Connell, R. W. *Masculinities*. 2nd ed. Berkeley, Calif: University of California Press, 2005. Print.
- Connell, R. W., Jeff Hearn, and Michael S. Kimmel. "Introduction." *Handbook of Studies on Men & Masculinities*. Ed. Michael S. Kimmel, Jeff Hearn, and R. W. Connell. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005. 1–13. Print.
- Connell, R. W., and James W. Messerschmidt. "Hegemonic Masculinity: Rethinking the Concept." *Gender & Society* 19.6 (2005): 829–59. Web. 20 June 2012. <<http://gas.sagepub.com/content/19/6/829>>.
- Connell, R. W., and Julian Wood. "Globalization and Business Masculinities." *Men and Masculinities* 7.4 (2005): 347–64. Web. 20 June 2012. <<http://jmm.sagepub.com/content/7/4/347>>.
- Ditze, Stephan-Alexander. *America and the Americans in Postwar British Fiction: An Imagological Study of Selected Novels*. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2006. Print.
- Donaldson, Mike. "What is Hegemonic Masculinity?" *Theory and Society* 22.5 (1993): 643–57. Web. 20 June 2012. <<http://www.springerlink.com/content/tk7205q0138578p1/?MUD=MP>>.

- Frank, Blye. "Hegemonic Heterosexual Masculinity." *Studies in Political Economy* 24 (1987): 159–70. Web. 20 June 2012.
<<http://spe.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/spe/article/view/13217/10101>>.
- Galster, Christin. *Literaturtheorie und Wissenschaftsbetrieb im Britischen Universitätsroman: Campus Novels von David Lodge, Malcolm Bradbury und A.S. Byatt*. MA thesis U Regensburg, 1996. *Regensburger Skripten zur Literaturwissenschaft* 6. Web. 18 June 2012.
<<http://epub.uni-regensburg.de/9865/>>.
- Gardiner, Judith G. "Men, Masculinities, and Feminist Theory." *Handbook of Studies on Men & Masculinities*. Ed. Michael S. Kimmel, Jeff Hearn, and R. W. Connell. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005. 35–51. Print.
- Gildemeister, Regine. "Doing Gender: Soziale Praktiken der Geschlechterunterscheidung." *Handbuch Frauen- und Geschlechterforschung: Theorie, Methoden, Empirie*. Ed. Ruth Becker and Beate Kortendiek. 2nd ed. Wiesbaden: VS, Verl. für Sozialwiss., 2008. 137–45. Print. *Geschlecht & Gesellschaft* 35.
- Haschemi Yekani, Elahe. *The Privilege of Crisis: Narratives of Masculinities in Colonial and Postcolonial Literature, Photography and Film*. Frankfurt a. M: Campus, 2011. Print.
- Horlacher, Stefan. *Masculinities: Konzeptionen von Männlichkeit im Werk von Thomas Hardy und D.H. Lawrence*. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 2006. Print.
- . "'Slightly quixotic': Comic Strategies, Sexual Role Stereotyping and the Functionalization of Femininity in David Lodge's Trilogy of Campus Novels under Special Consideration of *Nice Work* (1988)." *Anglia: Zeitschrift für Englische Philologie* 125.3 (2009): 465–83. Web. 19 June 2012. <<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/angl.2007.125.issue-3/angl.2007.465/angl.2007.465.xml?format=INT>>.

- . "Charting the Field of Masculinity Studies; or, Toward a Literary History of Masculinities." *Constructions of Masculinity in British Literature from the Middle Ages to the Present*. Ed. Stefan Horlacher. 1st ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011. 3–19. Print. Global Masculinities 3.
- Ingersoll, Earl G. *Waiting for the End: Gender and Ending in the Contemporary Novel*. Madison [N.J.]: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2007. Print.
- Levy, Donald P. "Hegemonic Masculinity." *International Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities*. Ed. Michael Flood, et al. 1st ed. New York: Routledge, 2007. 253–55. Print.
- Lipman-Blumen, Jean. "Toward a Homosocial Theory of Sex Roles: An Explanation of the Sex Segregation of Social Institutions." *Signs* 1.3 (1976): 15–31. Web. 18 June 2012. <<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3172990>>.
- Meuser, Michael. "Männerwelten: Zur kollektiven Konstruktion Hegemonialer Männlichkeit." *Schriften des Essener Kollegs für Geschlechterforschung* 2 (2001): 5–32. Web. 19 June 2012. <http://www.uni-due.de/imperia/md/content/ekfg/michael_meuser_maennerwelten.pdf>.
- . *Geschlecht und Männlichkeit: Soziologische Theorie und Kulturelle Deutungsmuster*. 2nd ed. Wiesbaden: VS, Verl. für Sozialwiss., 2006. Print.
- Mews, Siegfried. "The Small Worlds of Malcolm Bradbury and David Lodge." *MLN* 104.3 (1989): 713–26. Web. 19 June 2012. <<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2905052>>.
- Moseley, Merritt. *David Lodge: How far can you go?* Ed. Dale Salwak. 1st ed. San Bernardino, Calif: Borgo Press, 1991. Print.
- Ommundsen, Wenche. "Sin, Sex, and Semiology: Metafictional Bliss and Anxiety in the Novels of David Lodge." *AUMLA Journal of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association* 73 (1990): 123–40. Print.
- Widdowson, Peter. "The Anti-history Men: Malcolm Bradbury and David Lodge." *Critical Quarterly* 26.4 (1984): 5–32. Print.

Pfandl-Buchegger, Ingrid. *David Lodge als Literaturkritiker, Theoretiker und Romanautor*.

Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag C. Winter, 1993. Print. Anglistische Forschungen 222.

Plummer, Ken. "Male Sexualities." *Handbook of Studies on Men & Masculinities*. Ed. Michael

S. Kimmel, Jeff Hearn, and R. W. Connell. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005.

178–96. Print.

Preuschen, Karl A. "Wirklichkeitserfahrung und Erzählstruktur in den Romanen von David

Lodge." *Text und Kontext in der Modernen Englischsprachigen Literatur*. Ed. Armin

Geraths and Peter Zenzinger. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang, 1991. 115–37. Print. Aspekte der englischen Geistes- und Kulturgeschichte 24.

Sava, Ramona-Mihaela. "Quest and Conquest in the Fiction of David Lodge." Diss. *Julius-*

Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, 2006. Web. 10 July 2012. <<http://opus.bibliothek.uni-wuerzburg.de/volltexte/2007/2331/>>.

Semmelroth, Felix. "Mimesis ans Lächerliche: David Lodges campus novels »Changing Places«

und »Small World«." *Englische Amerikanische Studien Zeitschrift für Unterricht,*

Wissenschaft & Politik 3 (1985): 536–44. Print.

Spannbauer, Christa. *Das verqueere Begehren: Sind zwei Geschlechter genug?* Würzburg:

Diametric, 1999. Print.

Torres, Manuel. "Complicit Masculinity." *International Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities*.

Ed. Michael Flood, et al. 1st ed. New York: Routledge, 2007. 78. Print.

Towell, Lavaughn. "Homosocial Spaces and Canonicity in the Victorian and Edwardian Eras."

Journal of Literature, Language and Linguistics 1.1 (2007). n. pag. Web. 10 July 2012.

<http://www.scientificjournals.org/journals2007/j_of_language_and_literature.htm>

Wolf, Werner. "Literaturtheorie in der Literatur David Lodges *Small World* als kritische Auseinandersetzung mit dem Dekonstruktivismus." *Arbeiten aus Anglistik und Amerikanistik* 14.1 (1989): 19–37. Web. 19 June 2012.
<http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:pao:&rft_dat=xri:pao:article:h370-1989-014-01-000002>.