

Foreword

## On the Occasion of Issue No. 3

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Established in April 2022, the Research Center for Textual Scholarship at Seijo University is now in its fourth full year. With the publication of this third issue of *The Journal for International Textual Scholarship* in March 2026, the Center has now published a total of four volumes, including the special issue released in September 2025.

The two special sections in this volume present the outcomes of the following academic events organized by the Center during the previous academic year (2024):

June 15, 2024 (Saturday)

Room 008, Building 8, Seijo University

The Practice of Editing Shakespeare's Plays — The Taishukan Shakespeare II/Phase 2  
Publication Commemorative Event

July 15, 2024 (Monday)

Global Lounge, Building 9, Seijo University

Philosophy from the Standpoint of Manuscripts and Archives

The article and interview published outside the special sections relate to the following lecture held in 2023. The lectures themselves were previously published in Issue No. 2.

October 15, 2023 (Sunday)

Room 321, Building 3, Seijo University

Professor Hans Walter Gabler's Lecture: "Resurrection of Love, Its Trajectory —  
Discussing the Significance of Gabler's Edition of 'Ulysses' Today"

In connection with the contents of this issue, I would like to mention some recent characteristics of the Center's activities.

Our research in textual scholarship has begun to overlap with the field known as genetic criticism. Genetic criticism has been actively developed since the 1970s, primarily by scholars of French literature, with its base at the Institute of Modern Texts and Manuscripts (ITEM) of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS).

Nathalie Ferrand, who contributes a research report to this issue, is the current director of ITEM. Benedetto Zaccarello, whose lecture text is included in this issue, is also a

researcher at the institute. Furthermore, Daniel Ferrer, author of the theoretical work on genetic criticism reviewed in this issue, served as director of ITEM from 1994 to 1998 and again from 2004 to 2006.

In recent years, genetic criticism has shown a rapid tendency toward globalization. The international GENESIS conference, which brings together researchers from around the world, held its sixth meeting in October last year (2025) at Vilnius University in Lithuania. The majority of participants in the GENESIS conference are also members of the European Society for Textual Scholarship (ESTS). Since the third GENESIS conference and the ESTS annual conference were jointly held at the University of Oxford in 2022, I myself have participated in both associations every year. The contents of the present issue strongly reflect this recent convergence between textual scholarship and genetic criticism.

The following event that we organized in the current academic year directly addressed this trend and sought to consider its future development. We invited one of the central figures in this movement to be the keynote speaker: Sakari Katajamäki (Finnish Literature Society), the current president of ESTS and the organizer of the first GENESIS conference held in Helsinki.

December 21, 2025 (Sunday)

Global Lounge, Building 9, Seijo University

Symposium: Exploring the Horizons of Textual Scholarship — Genetic Criticism in Dialogue with Scholarly Editing

Among this year's achievements, we may also note the strengthening of collaboration with overseas research centers. In October 2025, the Center concluded a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on research cooperation with the High Performance Computing Center of the University of Stuttgart in Germany, and in December with the Centre for Creativity Research of Jagiellonian University in Poland.

The Research Center for Textual Scholarship will continue to cooperate with a wide range of research institutions and scholars in Japan and abroad, and remains committed to contributing to the further development of research in the humanities.