**Alan Palmer: short biography**

Alan Palmer is an independent scholar living in London. His book *Fictional Minds* (University of Nebraska Press, 2004) was a co-winner of the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars and also a co-winner of the Perkins Prize (awarded by the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature). His book, *Social Minds in the Novel*, will be published by the Ohio State University Press in December 2010. His articles have been published in the journals *Narrative*, *Semiotica* and *Style*, and he has contributed chapters to a number of edited volumes including *Narrative Theory and the Cognitive Sciences* (CSLI, 2003, ed. David Herman) and *The Cambridge History of the English Novel* (forthcoming, ed. Robert Caserio). A special double issue of the journal *Style* to be published in 2011 will be devoted to his work. Alan’s chief areas of interest are narratology, cognitive poetics and cognitive approaches to literature, the cognitive sciences and the study of consciousness, the nineteenth century novel, and the history of country and western music. He is an honorary research fellow in the Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University.