1001-16-287 **Thomas Kerler\*** (`kerler.2@osu.edu`), Department of Mathematics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210. *Canonical central elements in quasi-triangular Hopf algebras.* Preliminary report.

We will discuss two canonincal central elements in a quasi-triangular Hopf algebra A. The first is a central element Q in A which is nilpotent of order two. It can be thought of as the "link decoration" that reduces a non-semisimple Hennings-type TQFT in 3-dim to the respective Reshetikhin-Turaev theory. The second is a topologically constucted canonical element L, whose value in an irreducible representation V or A is non-zero if and only if V is self-conjuagte. (Received August 29, 2004)