



# South Central Newsletter

Issue No. 54

Summer 2010



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ums, and theatre (www.sundancesquare.com). SCMLA's 67<sup>th</sup> convention invites us, then, to expand our notions of language and literature into new territories. Much of the original research to be presented in Fort Worth explores the ways in which interdisciplinary studies in politics, gender, sexuality, race, nationalism, science, and beyond have brought the hinterlands of culture to the center, thus leading us as readers and as writers into new intellectual frontiers.

The 67<sup>th</sup> annual SCMLA convention will be held at the **Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa** in **Fort Worth, Texas**. The convention will be made possible in part thanks to the support of the SCMLA's local sponsors, the **Department of English**, the **Department of Spanish**, and the **Department of Modern Language Studies at Texas Christian University** and the **College of Arts and Sciences at the University of North Texas (UNT)**. SCMLA also thanks **Samuel Manickam**, Assistant Professor of Spanish at UNT for serving as local arrangements chair.

The conference theme "New Frontiers" is apropos of our meeting in Fort Worth, an urban center that has successfully broadened its pioneer image to provide space for the arts. The United States' 17th largest city is a symbol of the American West (the historic Stockyards District comes to mind), and it is also home to important cultural centers, including the Kimbell Museum, the Modern Art Museum, and the Bass Performance Hall. Our meeting will take place in Sundance Square, where a short walk brings you live jazz, eclectic dining, muse-

Convention highlights include the plenary address "Fences and Fatalism: Teaching Critical Languages and Cultures in a Connected Age" by **Pete Smith** Friday, October 29 at 4:00 p.m. (for more information on Professor Smith see page 2). **Barbara Bullock** and **Jacqueline Toribio** will give Thursday evening's keynote "Language Variation and the Foreign Language Curriculum" at 6:00 p.m., followed by the SCMLA Social at 7:00 p.m. Bullock and Toribio have coauthored numerous publications on bilingualism and codeswitching; they are coeditors of *The Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Codeswitching*. Bullock is Professor of Linguistics in the Department of French and Italian at UT Austin and Toribio is Professor of Spanish Linguistics at UT Austin.

This year's Friday night program includes two new events. SCMLA and the **South Central Review** are pleased to announce a special guest speaker, one of France's most distinguished writers and intellectuals, **Pascal Bruckner** who will speak on Friday, October 29 at 6 p.m. (for more in-

formation see page 2). Please see page 8 for information about an opportunity to purchase discount tickets for the Fort Worth Symphony.

The Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa will provide space for 75 regular and allied sessions and 14 special sessions. Registration packets will arrive by early September and will include an Executive Committee voting ballot; conference registration form that will allow members to pay for breakfasts, luncheons, and 2011 membership dues; and a letter about the book exhibit company Scholar's Choice. Please note that the deadline for the \$50 (faculty) early registration rate is September 28 and the deadline for the \$75 (faculty) late registration rate is October 27. **On-site registration will increase to \$90 (faculty) on October 28.** Members may register, pay 2011 dues, vote on Executive Committee candidates (see page 5), and make hotel reservations on-line. Find more information on page 7 and on-line at <http://www.southcentralmla.org/>. (Note: 2010 dues must be paid by check to SCMLA and mailed to 332 Cate Center Dr., Rm. 455, Norman, OK 73019.) Members may reserve a room at the Sheraton Fort Worth by calling 817-335-7000 and requesting the South Central Modern Language Association rate of \$139. In order to receive the discounted conference rate, members must reserve rooms by September 28, 2010.

We look forward to seeing you in Fort Worth!

## 2010 Fort Worth Conference Plenary Speaker Pete Smith

Pete Smith is Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he oversees UTA's Center for Distance Education, as well as Classroom Technology Support Services.



Smith came to UTA in 1992 as Director of the Language Acquisition Center in the Department of Modern Languages, where he continues to serve as an active teacher of German and Russian language and culture and is a participating faculty member in the Center for Post-Soviet and East European Studies. He earned his BA and BS degrees from the Pennsylvania State University, and his Master's in Slavic Languages and Doctorate in Second Language Acquisition at the University of Texas at Austin.

During his career, Smith has served in numerous professional and scholarly posts, including five years as the Editor-in-Chief of *The IALL Journal of Language Learning and Technology*, a national journal devoted to the use of technology in language teaching and learning.

Smith served as a coordinator and telementor in the Drake University Language Acquisition Program, an evaluator and coordinator in Drake's Virtual Language Studies (federal grant initiative for teaching Russian and Chinese online), and a program officer in the Network for Effective Language Learning (a national network of Liberal Arts colleges exploring critical languages and technologies). He also advises initiatives statewide which include the Teacher Quality Federal Grants Program in Texas.

Smith's recent presentations and publications have centered on the role of the Internet and network-based tools in teaching of language culture, and the potential of online communities of practice to foster teachers' professional development and growth.

Smith will deliver the 2010 plenary address, "Fences and Fatalism: Teaching Critical Languages and Cultures in a Connected Age" on Friday, October 29, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m..

## South Central Review Presents Pascal Bruckner

On Friday, October 29, at 5:30 p.m., the *South Central Review*, the official journal of the SCMLA, will present Pascal Bruckner, one of France's most distinguished public intellectuals. Bruckner has authored more than twenty books including theoretical essays, novels, and incisive analyses of current cultural and political problems and crises, including *Tears of the White Man: Compassion As Contempt* (Free Press, 1986) and *The Temptation of Innocence: Living in the Age of Entitlement* (Algora, 2000).

His essays most recently translated, *The Tyranny of Guilt: An Essay on Western Masochism* (2010) *Perpetual Euphoria: On the Duty to Be Happy* (forthcoming 2011) are published by Princeton University Press. For summaries and reviews of Bruckner's critically acclaimed essays please go to <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/9121.html> and <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/9269.html>.

He is the winner of France's prestigious Medici and Bordeaux Prizes. Bruckner also holds a doctorate in philosophy from the École normale supérieure, and has taught for many years at Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). He has also been a visiting professor at UC San Diego and NYU. The title of Bruckner's talk is forthcoming.



## Convention Opportunities

### Breakfasts

**The South Central College English Association (SCCEA)** and the **Women's Caucus** will hold professional breakfasts on Friday and Saturday mornings. The SCCE will meet **Friday morning**, and the **Women's Caucus will meet Saturday morning**. **Please pre-register on-line or on your convention registration form to participate.**

### Mock Job Interviews

The workshop for academic job seekers that provides informal advising and mock interviews will be **Saturday morning, October 30, 2010**. The workshop is sponsored by the **South Central Association of Departments of Foreign Languages and Departments of English**. If you are interested in scheduling a mock interview, contact Nancy LaGreca, SCMLA Executive Director, at [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu). Volunteers may also be needed to conduct the interviews. Volunteer by contacting [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu).

# Message from the Executive Director of the SCMLA: Announcing Five New Regular Sessions for SCMLA 2011 and an Important Message Regarding Fiscal Planning



Bizzell Library, University of Oklahoma

Greetings SCMLA members! The six short months that I have served as Executive Director (ED) have been busy and enjoyable. In February of this year, the Executive Committee (EC) voted in favor of an important initiative. We are pleased to announce that SCMLA's 2011 program will usher in five new regular sessions: **African Languages and Literatures, Arabic Literature and Culture, Luso-Brazilian Language and Literature, East Asian Languages and Literatures, and Gay and Lesbian Studies in Languages and Literatures** (GLSLL). We request your help in advertising these panels to your colleagues. If you know a specialist who would like to chair or serve as secretary in one of these areas (with the exception of GLSLL, whose organizers will be chosen in Fort Worth), please have her or him contact me with a copy of her/his CV at [lagreca@ou.edu](mailto:lagreca@ou.edu). The regular session GLSLL will replace the allied session of the Gay and Lesbian Caucus and the regular session African/African-American Literature will become African-American Literature in 2011 and beyond. The addition of these new sessions will productively diversify our convention and bring our regular sessions in line with those of the MLA.

Several exciting changes have taken place at SCMLA. After our website failed four times in the icy month of January, we had a new website constructed ([southcentralmla.org](http://southcentralmla.org)), which I

hope you will find easy to navigate. In consultation with my colleague past ED Professor Grady Wray, Program Assistant Diana Hodges and I replaced much of SCMLA's outdated technology and software, implemented the secure and more dependable Regonline payment system, and updated our logo to current formatting standards. These improvements as well as our move to freshly renovated offices were possible thanks to the generous support of the **College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, and the School of International and Area Studies** at the **University of Oklahoma**. During the move to our new location on the OU campus, we discovered copies of our old newsletter, *The South Central Bulletin*, dating back to 1940. Diana worked with the Digitizing Center at OU's Bizzell Library, and these historical documents will be available for viewing and downloading on our website.

Alas, not all of my news is positive, but it is hopeful. Like many non-profits today, the SCMLA has been struggling with a decline in income while our expenses remain the same. We are currently carrying a projected budget deficit of approximately \$9,000 for the upcoming fiscal year. In response to this reality, I called for an ad hoc Committee on Fundraising made up of members of the EC, and we will be working to acquire funding. Until the situation improves, I am continuing budget man-

agement strategies begun by Professor Wray. I have cut inessential spending, such as research grants of \$1000 or more. We will do everything possible to conserve the graduate student grants, the book prize, and our subsidized paper prizes. I ask for your understanding as SCMLA can no longer afford to absorb the registration fees for on-line transactions. Members will now pay \$3.95 plus 5% of the total for on-line transactions. Overall this change will save the organization several thousand dollars per year. I plan to continue to conserve SCMLA's reputation as one of the most affordable, as well as one of the oldest and most established, regional professional organizations in our field. Please look for opportunities to support the organization with your donation and new membership options. I am interested, too, in your feedback in regard to funding opportunities from businesses or individuals in our region or beyond. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your input ([lagreca@ou.edu](mailto:lagreca@ou.edu)). I wish you a productive and last few weeks of summer.



Nancy LaGreca  
Executive Director

## 2010 Sustaining Departmental Members

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SCMLA is proud to announce its Sustaining Departmental Members for 2010. If your university is not listed here, please contact SCMLA@ou.edu or www.ou.edu/scmla to become a member.

Abilene Christian U (English)  
Angelo State U (English)  
Baylor U (English)  
Hardin-Simmons U (Literature and Languages)  
Louisiana State U (English)  
Louisiana State U (Foreign Languages and Literatures)  
McNeese State U (English and Foreign Languages)  
Midwestern State U (Foreign Languages)  
Sam Houston State U (Foreign Languages)  
Southwestern Oklahoma State U (Language Arts)  
St. Mary's U (English)  
Stephen F. Austin U (English)  
Texas A&M U (English)  
Texas A&M U (European and Classical Languages and Cultures)  
Texas Tech U (Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures)  
U of North Texas (English)  
U of Oklahoma (English)  
U of Oklahoma (Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics)  
U of Texas - Austin (Germanic Studies)  
U of Tulsa (English)  
Wayland Baptist U (Languages and Literature)  
Xavier U of Louisiana (English)

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## SCMLA Deadlines 2010-2011

### SEPTEMBER 2010

01 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **2010 Conference Paper Prize** submissions.

**28** Deadline for **2010 convention hotel reservations** at the Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa

**28** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **2010 convention pre-registration and ballots**.

### OCTOBER 2010

**28** On-Site Registration \$90

### NOVEMBER 2010

**20** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **items to be included in the Winter Newsletter**, including Regular/Allied and Special Session Calls for Papers for 2011.

**20** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **Fort Worth post-convention reports**

### JANUARY 2011

**21** Nominations/Self nominations for SCMLA officers and representatives to J. Morris.

### FEBRUARY 2011

**18** Deadline for receipt of **Graduate Student Grant** applications to the SCMLA office.

**18** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **Final Proposals for Special Sessions**, Hot Springs.

### MARCH 2011

**25** Proposers of approved Special Sessions will be notified.

**25** Deadline for receipt of **Book Prize** nominations.

**25** Deadline for submission of **Papers/Abstracts for Fort Worth** to Regular/Allied Session Chairs.

### APRIL 2011

**08** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **Final Program copy** for all 2011 sessions.

**08** Deadline for requesting **audio-visual equipment** for Hot Springs 2011

### MAY 2011

**20** Deadline for **2012 Special Session** Calls for Papers for inclusion in the **Summer Newsletter**.

**20** Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of items to be included in the **Summer Newsletter**.

**20** Deadline for 2011 convention participants to **become members of SCMLA**.

## Executive Committee Elections 2010 & 2011 Nominations

The Fall Convention Packet will include a ballot and information on the candidates for Executive Committee Officers. Ballots must be received by September 28, 2010 in order to be counted. You may cast your vote on-line at [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org). The candidates are as follows:

### Vice President:

- Anne Quinney, Department of Modern Languages, University of Mississippi
- César Ferreira, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

### At Large representative:

- Michelle Johnson Vela, Languages and Literatures Department, University of Texas A&M-Kingsville
- Stuart McClintock, Department of Foreign Languages, Midwestern State University

### French representative

- Francoise Ghibbeaert, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Puerto Rico–Rio Piedras
- Monica Wright, Department of Modern Languages, University of Louisiana-Lafayette

### American Literature representative

- Christina Vick, Liberal Arts Division, Louisiana State University-Eunice
- John G. Morris, Department of English and Foreign Languages, Cameron University

Members are invited to submit nominations and self-nominations for the 2011 election of the Spanish Representative, the Russian and Less Commonly Taught Languages Representative, an At-Large Representative, and the Vice President. Candidates for these positions should be ready to serve three-year terms and to convene twice a year, via electronic meeting in the spring (in February or March) and on the first day of the fall convention. Executive Committee members are required to serve on various subcommittees. Expenses for the fall meeting must be paid for by the member or the member's institution. Nominations/self-nominations should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (max. 4 pages). Send by January 21, 2011 to Deborah Arteaga, U of Nevada-Las Vegas, [deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu](mailto:deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu).

## Future Conventions

### 2011

**Hot Springs Arkansas  
October 27 - 29  
The Arlington Resort  
Hotel and Spa**

### 2012

**San Antonio Texas  
November 08 - 10  
Sheraton Gunter Hotel**

### 2013

**New Orleans, Louisiana  
October 3-5, 2013  
Hotel Monteleone**

**Congratulations to the  
newest SCMLA Life  
Member!**

**Benjamin F. Fisher  
English Department  
University of Mississippi**

## Awards

### 2010 Prize Winners

**Albert Samuel Whisman  
University of Oklahoma  
Graduate Student Grant**

**Susanne Hafner  
Fordham University  
Harry Ransom Center/SCMLA  
Award**

### Available Prizes for 2011

- Graduate Student Award
- SCMLA Book Award
- Kirby Award

Please check the website at [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org) for more information on these awards.

### Reminder:

All SCMLA Conference Paper Prize submissions are due on **September 1, 2010**. For more information please visit [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org)

### Paper Prizes:

- *Historical Literary and/or Cultural Studies*
- *Hispanic Gender Studies*

Please email a copy to Diana Hodges, Assistant Program Director at [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu)

### Nominations for Life & Honorary Members

If you would like to nominate someone for an SCMLA Life or Honorary Membership, please contact:

*John Morris, Department of English and Foreign Languages,  
Cameron University,  
[johnmor@cameron.edu](mailto:johnmor@cameron.edu)*

# On-line Registration for Baton Rouge and 2011 Membership

## SAVE TIME, REGISTER FOR FORT WORTH 2010 AND PAY 2011 DUES ON-LINE

Beginning in July, you will be able to register for the Fort Worth convention and pay your 2011 membership dues on-line.

You can pay for the following on-line via [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org).

### Fort Worth 2010

Conference registration

Conference meals including the Friday business luncheon, the Women's Caucus breakfast and the SCCEA breakfast

Calendar Year 2011

2011 Membership Dues

You will not have to wait for the pre-convention mailing to send a check to the SCMLA for **2010 conference registration** and **2011 membership**. On-line you may register for Fort Worth 2010, pay 2011 dues, and vote for new executive committee members. Also, there will be a link to the convention hotel for you to make your on-line hotel room reservation.

If you would like to continue to pay by check, you will still have the option of pre-registering for Fort Worth 2010 and paying 2011 dues by sending a check to the SCMLA offices at the U of Oklahoma. Hard copies of the conference registration form will be sent to paid members in August, and pre-convention registration will be accepted until September 28, 2010. Members will also receive a reminder e-mail message in September from the SCMLA office with instructions on how to register for Fort Worth 2010 on-line.

To pay by credit card go to: [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org)

To pay by check send registration forms after August to:

Diana L. Hodges  
South Central Modern Language Association  
University of Oklahoma  
332 Cate Center Drive, Room 455  
Norman, OK 73019-6410

## Fort Worth Information

Molly the Trolley

<http://www.mollythetrolley.com/>

Shuttle Service in Fort Worth

Downtown Get Around – **FREE!**

Monday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Stockyards Shuttle – \$1.50 One Way

**Saturday Only** 9 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.



Sundance Square <http://www.sundancesquare.com/>



In Sundance Square, you'll find something for everyone. The many restaurants range from casual to elegant, from intimate dining to a family-style atmosphere. Lining the blocks, you'll find notable stores near other small specialty boutiques. Sundance Square is also home to one of the world's finest concert/performance halls.

## Convention Hotel Information

# Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa 1701 Commerce Street Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Room Reservations  
1-817-335-3535

Please state you want the “South Central Modern Language Association Rate” when making your reservations.



SCMLA Conference Hotel Reservation Deadline Date:  
**September 28, 2010**

All conference participants must reserve their rooms with the Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa by **September 28, 2010** in order to receive the conference rate of \$139 per night.

Pre-convention packets with conference registration materials will be mailed to members in August.

Make your hotel reservation online, go to [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org) and click on “Annual Conference” on the right hand menu.

# DISCOUNT TICKETS TO FORT WORTH SYMPHONY FEATURING SPANISH COMPOSER JOAQUIN RODRIGO'S CONCIERTO de ARANJUEZ

After attending Pascal Bruckner's presentation on Friday, SCMLA conference attendees may attend Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra's (FWSO) presentation of Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*. The SCMLA is offering tickets to the concert at a reduced group price. Members will save approximately 10% on the purchase price, and will also save on the handling fee. Tickets can be purchased with a check (using the registration form, arriving in early September) or on-line at [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org). Please note that on-line purchases will be charged additional processing fees.

The concert will be at the Bass Performance Hall, 330 East 4th Street, 8 blocks from the Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel and Spa. Fort Worth's free Molly the Trolley stops at the Sheraton and at Main and E. 3rd Street (Sundance Square stop) within one block of Bass. Trolleys run every 15 minutes until 10pm.

Ticket price is \$32.00 (Mezzanine level).

If you have any questions, contact Diana Hodges via e-mail at [SCMLA@ou.edu](mailto:SCMLA@ou.edu).

## CONCIERTO DE ARANJUEZ

Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* established his reputation as one of the most significant Spanish composers of the 20th century. Inspired by nature, "the fragrance of magnolias, the singing of birds and the gushing of fountains" are contained within the music. The FWSO also honors Peruvian composer Celso Garrido-Lecca, as he turns 85, with a performance of *Retablos sinfónicos*.



### THE SOUTH CENTRAL MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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**ASSISTANT Program Director:**  
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