

Join us in Austin for SCMLA's 71st Annual Conference



University of Texas at Austin

Growth and Announcements for 2014

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Summary of the 70th Annual Convention in New Orleans: Masking and Unmasking the Subject

The 70th annual South Central MLA convention was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, from October 3-5, 2013 at the historic Monteleone Hotel in the heart of the French Quarter. Sessions explored a broad range topics, including "(Más)caras Literally, Unmasked," "Landscape and the Voices of Algeria," "Current Trends and Approaches in Mester de Clerica Studies," and "Immigration and Emigration: Spanish

Literature after 1700." Altogether the conference featured 168 sessions. A total of 607 of individual participants were listed in the program. This represents a 28% increase in the number of sessions and a 29% increase in the number of participants over our 2012 conference in San Antonio.

At the SCMLA Business Luncheon on October 4, President **Elizabeth Coscio** (University of St. Thomas-Houston) delivered a series of remarks on the city of New Orleans and outgoing Executive Director **Nancy LaGreca** (University of Oklahoma) reported on the strong growth that SCMLA has experienced in recent years.

Later in the evening on the 4th, in an appearance made possible by the generosity of the South Central Review, **U.S. Poet Laureate, Natasha Trethewey**, held a capacity crowd rapt as she delivered the 70th Anniversary Keynote Address. As she read poems from her Pulitzer Prize winning collection *Native Guard* (2007) and the more recent *Thrall* (2012), Natasha Trethewey illustrated the intimate and complex nature of a poet's inspiration and the ways in which poetry transcends the

personal to connect with its readers or audience.

The Second Annual Poets' Corner, organized by SCMLA English representative **Julie Chappell** (Tarleton State University), took place that same evening and, despite some initial technical difficulties, attracted a strong and enthusiastic audience. The poets **Emmy Pérez** (University of Texas-Pan American), **Mona Lisa Saloy** (Dillard University), and **Reggie Scott Young** (University of Louisiana-Lafayette) read selections of their award-winning poetry.

This year's SCCEA breakfast was chaired by **Amy K. King** (University of Mississippi) and featured **Rebecca Mark** (Tulane University) who spoke on "The P.C. Maskmaster: Teaching Masking, Stand Up Comedy, and Graphic Novels in the College Classroom." **Ori Kritz** (University of Oklahoma) chaired the Women's Caucus breakfast, at which **Galen Marquis** (Tulane University) delivered the address "Translating the Hebrew Bible: The Literary Dimension."

**2014 Convention:
“The Forces of Nature: The
Elements and Aesthetic
Production”
October 18-22 in
Austin, Texas**

SCMLA returns to Austin Texas for the first time in twelve years in 2014. Members will enjoy the vibrant music scene, fine restaurants, and museums that this city offers. Our hotel is located within walking distance of the Sixth Street Entertainment District, the Warehouse Entertainment District, and the Second Street District, so we will be close to all the excitement.

The calls for papers listed later in this edition of the Newsletter are varied and can accommodate research on a broad range of subjects. We accept special sessions on topics beyond the conference theme, which, this year, delves into an aspect of life that affects us all: “The Forces of Nature.”

Humankind's reverent, impassioned and, at times, embattled relationship with nature has informed artistic production from its birth until today. The natural elements affect whether we merely survive or thrive, but the natural world also serves as one of our most important sources of aesthetic inspiration and critical inquiry. In the oral traditions and texts of early civilizations, the elements were worshipped as deities; Homer's *Odyssey* and other classical works investigate the effect of hedonism on the environment; and Medieval tomes such as Dante's *Commedia* use landscape models to map cultural terrain. Moving forward, Enlightenment and, later, Romanticist thinkers begin to engage in a secular study of nature, while Modernism responds to the vastly changed environmental – and cultural - landscapes brought about by industrialism, innovation and alienation. In our current era beyond the post-modern, we benefit from many new veins of theoretical inquiry and criticism related to the complex relationship between nature

and culture, from Ecosemiotics to Animal Studies and beyond.

Please join us in exploring these themes and more in Austin, Texas for the 2014 South Central MLA conference. See the pages of this Newsletter or visit “Submissions for 2014 Conference” on the home page of <http://www.southcentralmla.org> for calls and guidelines.

Recognition of 2013 Prize and Award Winners

In 2013, SCMLA made the following awards:

Graduate Student Grant (\$500):

Carrie Johnston

(Southern Methodist U)

Women's work in the American Southwest in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries

SCMLA Research Grant (\$1500):

Susana Perea-Fox

(Oklahoma State U)

Women Telling Tales: Oral Memories and Myths of a South American Group

**Benson Latin American Collection—
SCMLA Faculty Research Grant
(\$1500):**

Amy Cummins

(U of Texas-Pan American)

An exploration of the *Relaciones Geográficas* documents from the Garcia Izcabalceta Collection

**2013 Kirby Prize for the Best Article
Published in The South Central Review
(\$200):**

Lena Khor (Lawrence U) for her article “Can the Subaltern Right Wrongs?: Human Rights and Development in Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*,” vol. 29, no. 1-2
(Spring and Summer 2012).

2013 SCMLA Book Award (\$500):

Joseph Campana (Rice U) for *The Pain of Reformation: Spenser, Vulnerability, and the Ethics of Masculinity* (Fordham University Press)

**Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Prize in
Hispanic Gender Studies
(\$1000 in 2013)**

Elizabeth Willingham (Baylor U) for her paper “‘Monstrous mothers’ in three Mexican *telenovelas*”

**Jafar and Shokoh Farzaneh Paper
Prize in Persian Literature
and Culture**

First Place (\$1500): Austin O'Malley (U of Chicago) for his paper “‘See Yourself without Yourself’: Reading Self and Subject in Mosibat-nama”

SCMLA Prize for Best Paper in Historical, Literary, and/or Cultural Studies (\$250):

M. Clay Hooper (Prairie View A&M U) for his paper “‘Othello's Occupation was Gone’: The Anachronistic Self in Frederick Douglass's *Life and Times*”

**Vuong Prize for Best Short Story
(\$500)**

“Loma Prieta Blues” by Nicolas Poynter, Oklahoma City U

**SCMLA offers \$14,000 in
grants and prizes in 2014!**

The association is pleased to support the original research of our members with the SCMLA Research Award in the amount of \$1500, open to scholars who have completed the PhD. In addition, the SCMLA also offers a Research Award for Temporary Faculty and Independent Scholars in the amount of \$1500 (open to eligible members who have completed the terminal degree in their area and do not hold a regular faculty position.) Our full list of grants, awards, and paper prizes can be found in the pages of this newsletter and [here](#).

**SPECIAL SESSION FINAL
PROPOSAL FORM DEADLINE**

The priority deadline for the SCMLA office receipt of Special Session proposals is February 28, 2014. Download the form from our website [here](#).

A Message from SCMLA's New Executive Director, Emily Johnson

Dear Colleague:

I would like to open by introducing myself. I am an Associate Professor of Russian at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. I replaced Nancy LaGreca as Executive Director of SCMLA after she stepped down to focus on other professional opportunities at the end of 2013. I am delighted to be working with SCMLA and look forward to collaborating with the organization's Executive Committee this year on a number of initiatives that will help build on recent successes.

Nancy LaGreca set a very high standard as an Executive Director and will be a hard act to follow. I know that SCMLA's Executive Committee and membership join me in expressing gratitude for her service. Nancy's leadership played a pivotal role in guiding SCMLA through the global financial crisis and in helping the organization to regain financial stability. During her tenure (2010-2013), membership rolls and conference attendance grew by 98% and 108% respectively. As a result SCMLA was able to increase funding for research grants, paper prizes, and travel assistance to \$14,000 a year and to offer a better range of benefits to members. In many ways, SCMLA's 70th Anniversary Conference in New Orleans served as a celebration of the organization's turn-around: 607 scholars on 168 regular and special sessions delivered papers on everything from borderlands film to the digital humanities. The conference featured a memorable keynote address by U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey and new forums for the presentation of creative writing.

The 2014 SCMLA conference, which will take place in Austin, Texas from October 18 to October 22, promises to be just as exciting. Our hotel, the Austin Downtown Radisson, is located on Town Lake at Congress Avenue Bridge and Cesar Chavez and is within walking distance of the Sixth Street Entertainment District, the Warehouse Entertainment District, and the Second Street District, which will give attendees easy access to Austin's vibrant live music and restaurant scene. The Mexic-Arte Museum, the Blanton Museum of Art, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, and the University of Texas at Austin's Harry Ransom Center are all easily accessible from this location. Please join us for what promises to be an exceptionally lively, engaging conference with many opportunities for both networking and professional development. Some of our special and regular sessions will focus on the conference theme, "Forces of Nature: The Elements and Aesthetic Production," but we also welcome paper and panel proposals on other subjects. The calls for papers and details about the submission process appear later in this Newsletter.

We are particularly excited to report that a representative of the National Endowment for the Humanities will join us in Austin to lead a grant-writing workshop that will be available to registered conference participants at no cost. The NEH staff person will also provide private consultations on drafts of grant applications during the conference. More information on these opportunities and instructions for pre-registering for the workshop and for private consultations with the NEH representative will be available later this year.

One last reminder: if you have not renewed your SCMLA membership for 2014, now would be the time. Please note that you must be a current member in order to submit a proposal for a paper or a special session. You can renew your membership online at <http://www.southcentralmla.org/membership/>. I look forward to getting to know many of you over the course of this year and welcome your questions and feedback at emilydjohnson@ou.edu.

Best regards,



Emily D. Johnson
Executive Director

Professional Development Opportunities: NEH Grant-writing Workshop, Mock Interviews, and More!

The 2014 Conference in Austin will feature professional development opportunities designed to be helpful to members at all career stages. In addition to a **workshop for job-seekers** and **mock interviews**, we will offer a **roundtable on academic publishing** and will provide **opportunities to network with editors and publishers**.

One more exciting professional development opportunity is also planned for the fall convention: a representative of the **National Endowment for the Humanities** will join us in Austin to lead a three-hour **grant writing workshop** on the first day of the convention (October 18) and will also be available to provide **individual consultations on grant proposals** to conference attendees on October 19. Conference attendees will need to pre-register for the NEH workshop and for individual consultations, but there will be no cost for these opportunities beyond conference registration. More information about the NEH workshop and instructions for how to preregister will be available in coming months. Plan to join us in Austin so that you can take advantage of all the opportunities for networking and professional development available at the conference!

We Invite Regional and National Associations to Hold Allied Sessions at the SCMLA Conference

The South Central MLA invites regional or national associations for scholars in fields of cultural studies, literature, linguistics, philosophy, theory, visual arts, and other areas of the humanities to form an allied session at our annual convention. Forming an allied session is an excellent opportunity for associations that would like to meet more frequently or for small associations that do not have the resources to plan a regularly scheduled conference. Association presidents, executive directors,

or officers of the association may write directly to Assistant Program Director Diana Hodges (scmla@ou.edu) for details.

Friends Membership

We are pleased to offer special benefits to those who renew or join as Friends of the South Central MLA, a membership category that allows members to make a tax-deductible donation to the organization by contributing at a higher optional annual membership rate. This support allows the association to offer new research and conference travel grants, and to subsidize low graduate student rates. Please consider purchasing a membership at the Silver (\$150), Gold (\$300), or Platinum (\$500) level when you renew your membership this year. Gold and Platinum members receive a hard-copy subscription of the literary magazine *World Literature Today*, an indispensable source on the world's most important writers, and an invitation to attend a special reception at the annual convention. Friends are recognized in our conference program and on a banner prominently displayed in the reception area. We thank you for your support!

Reminders for Conference Participants:

You must be a current member to submit a proposal for a regular or special session. Please renew your membership before sending a paper proposal to a session chair or a session proposal to our office.

All conference participants must register for the convention by August 31.

Session chairs and secretaries: If a session chair receives six or more abstracts of high academic merit, he or she may petition to split the session into multiple sections. Please email Diana Hodges at scmla@ou.edu. We ask that chairs wait to confirm participation of additional presenters until Diana Hodges verifies that there will be adequate space. We expect a large turnout in Austin, so these

requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. As always, please remember to time panelists' papers to leave at least 15 minutes for discussion.

The South Central Review Invites Ideas and Submissions

The South Central Review is edited by **Richard J. Golsan**, University Distinguished Professor of French and Director of the Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research at Texas A&M University. It is published by Johns Hopkins UP and archived by Project Muse and is the official publication of the South Central MLA. Managing Editor **Nick Lawrence** (University of South Carolina, Lancaster) welcomes submissions and ideas for special projects and issues on a wide range of topics concerning literature, culture, and the arts. Members may contact him at LAWRENMM@mailbox.sc.edu.

New and Retiring Executive Committee Members

Executive Committee members who will begin service in 2014 are:

Vice President: Jeanne Gillespie, U of Southern Mississippi

American Literature Representative: Daniel Traber, Texas A&M U-Galveston

At-Large Representative: Sylvia Morin, U of Tennessee-Martin

French Representative: Stuart McClintock, Midwestern State U

Congratulations to all of you!

The Executive Office warmly thanks retiring EC members Past President Anne Quinney, Christina Vick (American Literature), and Michelle Johnson Vela (At-Large) for their contributions to governance and their service to the profession. It has been a pleasure working with all of you.

2014 Prizes & Grants

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants for all awards must be current SCMLA members and must have been members for the previous two years. Graduate Student Grant applicants must have been members for one year. SCMLA Executive Committee members are ineligible. Deadlines are all in 2014. For more information, see our website: www.southcentralmla.org/grants-and-awards

BENSON LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION-SCMLA FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT-\$1500 APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2014

SCMLA RESEARCH AWARD-\$1500 (Open to all eligible members who have completed the PhD)
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2014

RESEARCH AWARD FOR TEMPORARY FACULTY AND INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS-\$1500

(Only eligible members who have completed the terminal degree for their area and do not hold regular faculty positions may apply)
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2014

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANT-\$500

(at the dissertation stage)
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2014

SCMLA CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS

\$200 for Graduate Students at the doctoral level
\$500 for Faculty and Independent Scholars
APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 30, 2014

2013 SCMLA CONFERENCE PAPER PRIZES

Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Prize in Hispanic Gender Studies-\$250
Jafar and Shokoh Farzaneh Paper Prize in Persian Literature and Culture-\$1500 to the winner, \$500 for honorable mention
Vuong Short Story Prize-\$500
SCMLA Prize for the Best Paper in Historical, Literary, and/or Cultural Studies-\$250

PAPER PRIZES SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 31, 2014

SCMLA BOOK AWARD-\$500

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2014

Scholarly and critical books and editions published in 2013 by SCMLA members are eligible for the 2013 prize. Nominations, including self-nominations, will be accepted from members or from the publisher of an eligible book. Send two copies of the nominated book by March 31, 2014 to SCMLA President for 2014, Melissa Bailar at the following address:

Dr. Melissa Bailar
Rice University
MS-620, 6100 Main Street
Houston, TX 77005.

Nominees must be members by March 1; nominees must be current SCMLA members and must have been members for the previous two years. The successful candidate for the SCMLA Book Award presented in 2014 will be announced at Business Meeting/Luncheon in Austin, Texas.

Austin 2014 Regular/Allied Sessions

Below are the calls for Regular/ Allied sessions. In some cases, I am missing important information. If you have knowledge of this missing information, or if something is incorrect, please contact me at SCMLA@ou.edu. I appreciate everyone's help!

ALLIED SESSIONS

ASOCIACIÓN DE LITERATURA FEMENINA HISPÁNICA: Open Topic

Chair: Maria E. Pérez, U of Houston, meperez2@central.uh.edu

Secretary: Dorota K. Heneghan, Louisiana State U, dheneg1@lsu.edu

CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIANITY AND LITERATURE: Session invites papers on the intersection of literary work and Christian creeds, practices, texts, culture norms, or persisting influences.

Chair: Robert Hamilton, Wiley College, rhamilton@wiley.edu

Secretary: Garnet Branch, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, garnet-branch1@louisiana.edu

THE EUDORA WELTY SOCIETY: Reading Environment(s) in the Works of Eudora Welty

Invites paper proposals that explore the significance of "nature" in Welty's work and/or life. Possible topics might include, but are by no means limited to, the significance of agrarian production and its changing character in the 20th century south, the environmental dimension of regional mythologies and folkways, or the impact of the Natchez Trace and similar spaces on Welty's literary imagination. Papers that trouble the boundaries separating nature and culture are particularly welcome.

Chair: Joshua Lundy, U of South Carolina, jlundy@email.sc.edu

Secretary: Jay Hood, U of Mississippi, jhoodjr@go.olemiss.edu

SOUTH CENTRAL NEWSLETTER

FLANNERY O'CONNOR SOCIETY: Open Topic

Chair: Allison Chestnut, William Carey U, achestnut@wmcarey.edu

Secretary: Julianna Leachman, U of Texas-Austin, juliannaleachman@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL COURTLY LITERATURE SOCIETY: Open Topic

Chair: Susan Hopkirk, Ryerson U, shopkirk@ryerson.ca

Secretary: Monica L. Wright, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, mlwright@louisiana.edu

SOCIETY FOR CRITICAL EXCHANGE: Session accepts papers related to critical subjects and topics associated with masking and unmasking pressing social, political, and cultural issues.

Chair:

Secretary:

SOUTH CENTRAL AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY: Language and Music

Chair: Geoffrey Clegg, Texas A&M U-Commerce, gclegg@gmail.com

Secretary: Michael Dressman, U of Houston-Downtown, dressman-mi@uhd.edu

SOUTH CENTRAL COLLEGE ENGLISH ASSOCIATION: DYSTOPIAN CONFORT ZONES: Panel will explore the concept of dystopia in Western literature and culture. Application of the concept is open to interpretation.

Chair: Terri Pantuso, Prairie View A&M U, tpantuso@pvamu.edu

Secretary: Kalene Westmoreland, College of Southern Nevada, kalene.westmoreland@csn.edu

WOMEN IN FRENCH: Open Topic

Chair: Theresa Varney Kennedy, Baylor U, theresa_kennedy@baylor.edu

Secretary: Rachel Williams, Eastern Kentucky U, rachel.williams@eku.edu

REGULAR SESSIONS

AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Black Nationalisms-This panel welcomes papers that examine racial solidarity as it is envisioned, advocated, challenged, or otherwise reflected upon within African American literature from any period.

Chair: M. Clay Hooper, Prairie View A&M U, mchooper@pvamu.edu

Secretary: Khristeena Lute, Middle Tennessee State U, km147z@mtmail.mtsu.edu

AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Open Topic

Chair: Biljana Obradovic, Xavier U, bobradovic@xula.edu

Secretary: Ann Marie Alfonso-Forero, Saint Mary's College, aal-fonso@saintmarys.edu

AMERICAN LITERATURE I: LITERATURE BEFORE 1900: Open Topic

Chair: Travis Montgomery, U of Mississippi, tdmontg1@olemiss.edu

Secretary: Philip Castile, U of Houston-Victoria, castileP@uhv.edu

AMERICAN LITERATURE II: LITERATURE AFTER 1900: Open Topic

Chair: Jessica Stock, United States Military Academy, jessica.stock@usma.edu

Secretary: Carol Bunch Davis, Texas A&M U-Galveston, davis@tamug.edu

APPLIED LINGUISTICS: Open Topic

Chair: Linda McManness, Baylor U, linda_mcmanness@baylor.edu

Secretary: Lucia Llorente, Berry College, lllorente@berry.edu

ARABIC LITERATURE AND CULTURE:

Chair:
Secretary:

AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND BIOGRAPHY: Open Topic-We are looking for papers of literary analysis concerning autobiographies, biographies, and memoirs.

Chair: Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, rcostello@mcneese.edu
Secretary: Dana McMichael, Abilene Christian U, danna.mcmichael@acu.edu

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEXTUAL CRITICISM:

In sessions emphasizing the production and lives of manuscripts, codices, typescripts, texts, and books as material and cultural objects, we welcome proposals related to the effects of "nature" in the contexts of bibliography and textual criticism. For the purposes of the session, "nature" may be considered as a force answering variously to the laws of physics, chemistry, or biology or as an element of construction, preservation, or destruction (at least partly) deployed by man using, variously, elements and processes of geology, chemistry, physics, biology, and industry. Presentations may focus on particular manuscripts and codices or on the broader effects of "nature" on the history of the book or on particular texts or groups of texts. In the same vein, papers may treat pedagogical presentations of the material or theorize its interactions with or effects on production, circulation, and/or reader reception. Please forward a title and 200-word abstract to the Chair (elizwillingham@utexas.edu) **no later than March 21**. Presentations will be 15 minutes in length (no more than seven double-spaced, TNR 12 pages) with asides and visual presentation time taken into account. Multiple sessions may be organized.

Chair: Elizabeth Willingham, Baylor U, bwillingham1@hotmail.com
Secretary: Chelsea McKelvey, Southern Methodist U, clrice@smu.edu

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: The Environment in Literature for Children and Young Adults-How does ecocriticism-or an Environmental Studies approach, or green theory-enhance pedagogy or scholarship in children's or young adult literature? How are nature, the environment, and activism important in texts targeted to children or young adults? Other topics also gladly welcomed. Submit abstracts and a brief CV to session chair and secretary.

Chair: Amy Cummins, U of Texas-Pan American, cumminsae@utpa.edu
Secretary: Elizabeth Kay Harris, U of Southern Mississippi, elizabeth.harris@usm.edu

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE: Open Topic

Chair: Lucy Harney, Texas State U, harney@txstate.edu
Secretary: Amy C. Smith, Lamar U, amy.smith@lamar.edu

CREATIVE WRITING-CREATIVE NONFICTION: Open Topic Personal essays, memoir, or other nonfiction essays.

Chair: Shannon Abbott-James, Pacific U/Tarrant County College, shanninsky17@gmail.com
Secretary: Miriam Rowntree, U of Texas-Arlington, miriam.rowntree@mavs.uta.edu

CREATIVE WRITING-POETRY: Open Topic

Chair: Richard Boada, Millsaps College, boadar@millsaps.edu
Secretary: John Graves Morris, Cameron U, johnmor@cameron.edu

CREATIVE WRITING-THE SHORT STORY: The Story as a Force of Nature-A short story has the power to move its audience like a beautiful, destructive force of nature. This panel is a venue for SCMLA members to showcase their original stories.

Chair: Allie Mariano, McNeese State U, allie.mariano@gmail.com
Secretary: Jenn Alandy, McNeese State U, jennifer.alandy@gmail.com

DIGITAL HUMANITIES: Open Topic-As an open topic session, we invite proposals relating to any aspect of Digital Humanities, including those from theoretical and pedagogical perspectives

Chair: Elizabeth Coscio, U of St. Thomas-Houston, coscio@stthom.edu
Secretary: Bradford Hincer, Trident Technical College, b@hincer.us

ENGLISH I: OLD AND MIDDLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic

Chair: Leigh Hickman, Dallas Baptist U, profleigh7@gmail.com
Secretary: Laura Godfrey, U of Mississippi, lsgodfre@go.olemiss.edu

ENGLISH II: RENAISSANCE LITERATURE EXCLUDING DRAMA: Open Topic

Chair: Jessica C. Murphy, U of Texas-Dallas, jessica.c.murphy@gmail.com
Secretary: Kris McAbee, U of Arkansas-Little Rock, kxm-cabee@ualr.edu

ENGLISH III: RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic

Chair: Ashley Brookner Bender, Texas Woman's U, ab-bender@gmail.com
Secretary: Joel Terranova, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, jtt9554@louisiana.edu

ENGLISH IV: NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic

Chair: Lynn Alexander, U of Tennessee-Martin, lalexand@utm.edu
Secretary: Emily Monteiro, Blinn College, emily.monteiro@blinn.edu

ENGLISH V: TWENTIETH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic

Chair: Joe R. Christopher, Tarleton State U, jchristopher@tarleton.edu
Secretary: Courtney Patrick, Texas Woman's U, cpatrick@twu.edu

ENGLISH VI: GENERAL LINGUISTICS: In this session, we will explore a variety of linguistic phenomena. Attention to the topic of Forces of Nature is welcome

Chair: Mary Lynne Hill, St. Mary's U, mhill@stmarytx.edu
Secretary: Geoffrey Clegg, Texas A&M U-Commerce, geof-frey.clegg@gmail.com

FILM 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE FILM: Open Topic

Chair: Marco Íñiguez Alba, Texas A&M U-Kingston, kfmoi00@tamuk.edu
Secretary:

FILM 2 FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE FILM: Open Topic

Organizer: Melissa Bailar, Rice U, melba@rice.edu

FILM 3 HISPANIC FILM: Open Topic

Organizer: Genaro Pérez, Texas Tech U, genaro.perez@ttu.edu

FILM 4 GLOBAL FILM: Open Topic (papers must be presented in English)

Organizer: Cristian Bratu, Baylor U, cristian_bratu@baylor.edu

FOLKLORE: Open Topic

Chair: Elaine Cho, Eastfield College, elainecho@dcccd.edu
Secretary: Joy Smith, Middle Tennessee State U, js4e@mtmail.mtsu.edu

FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE:

Open Topic
Chair: Anne Cirella Urrutia, Houston-Tillotson U, avcurrutia@htu.edu
Secretary: Latifa Zoulagh, U of Oklahoma, latifa.zoulagh-1@ou.edu

FRENCH I: LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE TO 1600: Open Topic

Chair: William W. Kibler, U of Texas-Austin, wkibler@utexas.edu
Secretary: Cristian Bratu, Baylor U, cristian_bratu@baylor.edu

FRENCH II: LITERATURE, 1600–1800: Open Topic

Chair: Gilles Viennot, U of Kansas, g_viennot@yahoo.com
Secretary:

FRENCH III: LITERATURE AFTER 1800: Open Topic

Chair: Kelsey Madsen, U of Oklahoma, kelsey.seale@ou.edu
Secretary: Nisrine Slitine El Mghari, U of Oklahoma, nslitine@ou.edu

FRESHMAN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH COMPOSITION: Open Topic

Chair: Geoffrey Clegg, Texas A&M U-Commerce, geof-frey.clegg@gmail.com
Secretary: Thomas Reynolds, Northwestern State U, reyn-oldst@nsula.edu

GAY AND LESBIAN STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE:

Papers are presented on topics related to transgender, bisexual, questioning, lesbian, and gay studies

Chair: David J. Eshelman, Arkansas Tech U, deshelman@atu.edu
Secretary: Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, rcostello@mcneese.edu

GENDER AND RACE IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY LITERATURE:

Open Topic
Chair: Helen Maxson, Southwestern Oklahoma State U, helen.maxson@swosu.edu
Secretary: Ben Child, U of Mississippi, bschild@go.olemiss.edu

GERMAN I: LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE AND CULTURE BEFORE 1700: Open Topic

Chair: Susanne Hafner, Fordham U, hafner@fordham.edu
Secretary: Joseph M. Sullivan, U of Oklahoma, jsullivan@ou.edu

GERMAN II: LITERATURE AND CULTURE FROM 1700 TO 1890:

Open Topic-Abstracts are invited that discuss any aspect of Germanophone literature from 1700-1890. Topics reflecting the conference theme are encouraged, but not required.

Chair: Edward T. Potter, Mississippi State U, epotter@fl.msstate.edu
Secretary: Caroline Huey, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, chuey@louisiana.edu

GERMAN III: LITERATURE AND CULTURE FROM 1890 TO PRESENT: Open Topic

Chair: Michael Stone, El Centro College, mstone@dcccd.edu
Secretary:

GERMAN WOMEN WRITERS: Open Topic

Chairs: Julia Wu, Washington U in St. Louis, wuju@go.wustl.edu
Secretary:

GOTHIC: Open Topic

Chair: Benjamin Fisher, U of Mississippi, bfisher@ms.metrocast.net
Secretary: Joel T. Terranova, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, jtt9554@louisiana.edu

HISPANIC LITERATURE WRITTEN IN THE UNITED STATES:

Open Topic
Chair: Dustin Morrow, Baylor U, dustin_morrow@baylor.edu
Secretary:

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES: Open Topic

Chair: Dustin D. Morrow, Baylor U, dustin_morrow@baylor.edu
Secretary:

IRISH LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Jane Galliher, Blue Mountain College, mgalliher@bmc.edu
Secretary: Jeffrey Longacre, U of Tennessee-Martin, jlon-gac1@utm.edu

ITALIAN LITERATURE, LANGUAGE, AND LINGUISTICS: Open Topic
Chair: Sandy Waters, Texas Christian U, s.a.waters@tcu.edu
Secretary: Anachiara Mariani, U of Tennessee, amariani@utk.edu

LITERATURE AND POLITICS: Open Topic
Chair: John Glass, U of Tennessee-Martin, jglass@utm.edu
Secretary: Ashley Bender, Texas Woman's U, abbender@gmail.com

LITERATURE AND PSYCHOLOGY: Open Topic
Chair: Richmond Adams, Eastern Oklahoma State U, richmondadams2004@gmail.com
Secretary: Travis Hubbs, Louisiana State U, thubbs2@lsu.edu

LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORY: Open Topic
Chair: Sobia Khan, U of Texas-Dallas and Richland College, sobia.khan@utdallas.edu
Secretary:

LUSO-AFRO-BRAZILIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic-Papers related to cultures and literatures of the Portuguese-speaking world. Papers may be given in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.
Chair: Rebecca Marquis, Gonzaga U, marquis@gonzaga.edu
Secretary: Martha C. Galvan-Mandujano, U of Oklahoma, marthagalvan@ou.edu

MODERN DRAMA: Open Topic
Chair: Erin Clair, Arkansas Tech U, eclair@atu.edu
Secretary: Elizabeth Brown-Guillory, Texas Southern U, brown-guillory@tsu.edu

NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Brenda Gabioud Brown, U of Science and Arts Oklahoma, bbrown@usao.edu
Secretary: Brad Gambill, John Brown U, bgambill@jbu.edu

PERSIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE: Open Topic
Chair: Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani, U of Arizona, mkamaliis@email.arizona.edu
Secretary:

RENAISSANCE DRAMA: REGIONAL SHAKESPEARES- Papers are invited that discuss the performance, reception, history, or appropriation of Shakespeare's plays across geographical regions
Chair: Oliver Hennessey, Xavier U, ohennes@xula.edu
Secretary: Jane Wanninger, Vanderbilt U, jane.wanninger@vanderbilt.edu

RHETORIC: Open Topic.
Chair: Cortney "Anne" Phifer, U of Texas-Austin, c.anne.phifer@gmail.com
Secretary: Jessie Casteel, U of Houston, jrcasteel@uh.edu

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND METHODOLOGY: Open Topic-Topics will include Russian teaching methodology, approaches to Russian linguistics (structural, generative/transformational, etc.), language programs abroad, etc.
Chair: Karen Chilstrom, U of Texas-Austin, chilstrom@utexas.edu
Secretary: Lonny Harrison, U of Texas-Arlington, lonnyharrison@uta.edu

RUSSIAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Jennifer Hudson, U of Texas-Dallas, jennifer.hudson@utdallas.edu
Secretary: Maggie Harrison, Brown U, maggie_harrison@brown.edu

SCIENCE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic
Organizer: Gwendolyn Díaz, St. Mary's U, gwendiaz@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Jeffrey A. Sartain, U of Houston-Victoria, sartainj@uhv.edu

SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Alexios Moore, Xavier U, alexiosm@gmail.com
Secretary: Bonnie Noonan, Xavier U, bnoonan@xula.edu

SHORT FICTION: THEORY AND CRITICISM: NATURE IN/OF SHORT FICTION-Papers particularly related to nature, the forces of nature, eco-criticism, and naturalism is readings of short fiction
Organizer: Steven Marsden, Stephen F. Austin State U, marsdensj@sfasu.edu
Secretary: Nathan Roberts, Baylor U, nathan_roberts@baylor.edu

SLAVIC AND EASTERN EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Open Topic.
Chair: Charles Wukasch, Austin Community College, ac-cprof@att.net
Secretary: Maria Makowiecka, Bergen Community College, mma-kowiecka@bergen.edu

SOUTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND DEPARTMENTS OF ENGLISH: NATURE VS. NURTURE: THE FORMATION, FORMATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF COLLEGIALITY IN DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, OF ENGLISH, AND COMBINATIONS OF BOTH-One of the greatest challenges in academia is collegiality. Does individual nature of each faculty member pre-determine the result or what are nurturing techniques which maximize/mitigate same?
Chair: Debra D. Andrist, Sam Houston State U, andrist@shsu.edu
Secretary:

SOUTHERN LITERATURE: Open Topic-This panel welcomes papers that consider Southern American literature from any genre or era
Chair: Kelly Clasen, Newman U, clsenk@newmanu.edu
Secretary: Cheryl Wiltse, Collin College, cwiltse@collin.edu

SOUTHWESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic-Interested parties are welcome to submit proposals for papers on a range of topics or authors concerning the American Southwest
Chair: Cassie Polasek, Texas State U-San Marcos, cassiepolasek@hotmail.com
Secretary: Annette Cole, Texas Woman's U/Tarrant County College, annettecole12@gmail.com

SPANISH I PENINSULAR LITERATURE BEFORE 1700: Open Topic
Chair: Patricia Timmons, Texas A&M U, ptimm@tamu.edu
Secretary: Mitch McCoy, Belmont U, mitchmccoy@belmont.edu

SPANISH II PENINSULAR LITERATURE 1700-1898: Open Topic
Chair: Isabel Alvarez-Sancho, Oklahoma State U, isabel.alvarez-sancho@okstate.edu
Secretary: Dana Ward, Arkansas Tech U, dward@atu.edu

SPANISH III 20TH AND 21ST CENTURY PENINSULAR LITERATURE: Open Topic
Organizer:

SPANISH IV COLONIAL LITERATURE THROUGH MODERNISMO: Open Topic
Organizer:

SPANISH V 20TH CENTURY LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Garrett Oleen, Austin Community College, gaoleen1@hotmail.com
Secretary: Jeanne Gillespie, U of Southern Mississippi, jeanne.gillespie@usm.edu

SPANISH VI 21ST CENTURY LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Rebecca L. Thompson, Susquehanna U, thompsonr@susqu.edu
Secretary: Rodrigo Figueroa, U of Oklahoma, rfigueroa@ou.edu

SPANISH VII LINGUISTICS: Open Topic
Chair: Deborah Arteaga, U of Nevada-Las Vegas, deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu
Secretary: Carmen Parron, U of Houston-Downtown, parronronc@uhd.edu

TECHNICAL WRITING: Open Topic-Papers should focus on the theory and/or best practices for teaching about technical writing
Chair: David Major, Austin Peay State U, majord@apsu.edu
Secretary: Leticia French-Slabaugh, Texas A&M U-Galveston, slabaugl@tamug.edu

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM: Open Topic
Chair: Suanna H. Davis, Abilene Christian U, shd11a@acu.edu
Secretary:

WAR, LITERATURE & THE ARTS: Open Topic
Chair: Jessie Casteel, U of Houston, jrcasteel@uh.edu
Secretary: Marcy Tanter, Tarleton State U, tanter@tarleton.edu

WOMEN OF COLOR: Open Topic
Chair: Christina Boyles, Baylor U, christina_boyles@baylor.edu
Secretary:

WOMEN'S CAUCUS OF THE SCMLA: Open Topic
Chair: Sylvia Morin, U of Tennessee-Martin, smorin@utm.edu
Secretary: Merry Lynn Byrd, Virginia State U, mbyrd@vsu.edu

2014 SCMLA Executive Committee Elections

The SCMLA Executive Office is accepting nominations for the 2014 Executive Committee elections. Members elected will begin service in 2015.

To be elected:

Vice President

English Representative

Russian and Less Commonly Taught Languages Representative

Spanish Representative

If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else, please contact Diana Hodges, SCMLA Assistant Program Director at SCMLA@ou.edu or 405/325-6011. Deadline for nominations is February 28, 2014.

**Don't Forget:
NEH will be at Austin 2014!**

the **National Endowment for the Humanities** will join us in Austin to lead a three-hour **grant writing workshop** on the first day of the convention (October 18) and will also be available to provide **individual consultations on grant proposals** to conference attendees on October 19. Conference attendees will need to pre-register for the NEH workshop and for individual consultations. Keep watching our website and your email inbox for more information

South Central MLA Deadlines for 2014

February 2014

- 28 Deadline for receipt of Graduate Student Grant applications to the SCMLA office
- 28 Deadline for receipt of SCMLA Faculty Research Travel Grant applications to SCMLA office
- 28 Deadline for receipt of Benson-SCMLA Faculty Research Grant applications to SCMLA office
- 28 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of Final Proposals for Special Sessions for Austin 2014

March 2014

- 31 Proposers of Special Sessions for Austin 2014 will be notified
- 31 Deadline for Book Prize Nominations to Melissa Bailar, SCMLA President
- 31 Deadline for submission of Papers/ Abstracts for Austin 2014 to Regular/Allied Session Chairs

April 2014

- 30 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of Final Program Copy for all 2014 sessions
- 30 Deadline for requesting audio-visual equipment for New Orleans 2014
- 30 Deadline for receipt of SCMLA Conference Travel Grants applications to SCMLA office
- 30 Deadline for 2014 conference participants to become members of SCMLA

May 2014

- 31 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of items to be included in the Summer Newsletter

August 2014

- 31 Deadline for registration for Austin Conference
- 31 Deadline for 2014 Conference Paper Prize submissions
- 31 Deadline for voting for SCMLA Executive Committee

September 2014

- 23 Deadline for 2014 conference hotel reservation at the Radisson Hotel and Suites Austin Downtown

**SEE LAST PAGE FOR CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSION-
Women in/and/as Forces of
Nature in Hispanic Art and
Literature**

SCMLA BOOK AWARD- \$500

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
MARCH 31, 2014**

Scholarly and critical books and editions published in 2013 by SCMLA members are eligible for the 2013 prize. Nominations, including self-nominations, will be accepted from members or from the publisher of an eligible book. Send two copies of the nominated book by March 31, 2014 to SCMLA President for 2014, Melissa Bailar at the following address:

Dr. Melissa Bailar
Rice University
MS-620, 6100 Main Street
Houston, TX 77005.

Nominees must be members by March 1; nominees must be current SCMLA members and must have been members for the previous two years. The successful candidate for the SCMLA Book Award presented in 2014 will be announced at Business Meeting/Luncheon in Austin, Texas.

CONVENTION HOTEL INFORMATION

Our 71st annual conference will be held at the
**Radisson Hotel and Suites
Austin-Downtown
111 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78701**
Saturday, October 18 to Wednesday, October 22



**South Central MLA rate:
\$125 single/double
plus tax**

**Reservations:
1-800-333-3333**

**Overnight Self-Parking \$10
(with in and out privileges)**

**Walk to Sixth Street and Warehouse Entertainment
Districts**

Minutes from Austin Bergstrom International Airport

Exercise Room on first floor

Business Center on 2nd floor

**Austin's ten-mile Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail located
right behind hotel**

Please state you want the "South Central Modern Language Association rate" when making your reservations. **All conference participants must reserve their rooms with The Radisson Austin by September 23, 2014 in order to receive the conference rate.**

A Message from 2014 SCMLA President, Melissa Bailar

Dear Colleagues,

The 2014 SCMLA annual conference promises to be its most exciting to date in Austin, Texas, featuring the city's novelist Sarah Bird as keynote speaker. In addition to writing eight award-winning novels (with a ninth coming out this spring) and several screenplays for Paramount, Warner Brothers, National Geographic and other producers, Bird has also received the National Magazine Silver Award for her columns in *Texas Monthly*. A screen adaptation of her novel *The Flamenco Academy* is under development, and in 2012, readers voted her Best Austin Author for the fourth

time in a row. She is an engaging speaker who reflects the creative spirit of our conference city.

If you attend the conference yearly, you will have surely noticed how dramatically the SCMLA has expanded and diversified. We now host regular sessions on topics such as "Science and Literature" and "Digital Humanities," as well as a new slate of creative sessions in poetry and short fiction. Sessions on literature and film have increased significantly, often splitting into multiple panels. We also now offer mock interviews and roundtables on the job market for graduate students.

What I have always found especially distinctive about the SCMLA, however, is its attentiveness to input from its members, whether senior professors, non-tenure-track fac-

ulty, independent scholars, or graduate students. Last year we held over 40 special sessions proposed by members. To allow creative writing faculty to showcase their work, we host an annual poetry corner, featuring local and member writers. And we have also grown our grants and awards in response to member concerns about travel and research budget cuts at their home institutions. You might consider submitting your paper for one of our many prizes.

If you have any suggestions on how further to improve the SCMLA, talk to one of our executive committee members during one of the conference receptions. I hope to see you there!

Melissa Bailar

SOUTH CENTRAL MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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E-mail: scmla@ou.edu

Submit material for the Summer Newsletter by
May 31, 2014

Call for Special Session:

Women in/and/as Forces of Nature in Hispanic Art and Literature

In life and art, the physical and intellectual powers of women, real figures and fictional characters, function as powers to be reckoned with in both family and society. **Deadline: February 27, 2014.** Abstracts to: **Debra D. Andrist**, Sam Houston State U, andrist@shsu.edu

<http://www.southcentralmla.org>