

# Join us in Nashville for SCMLA's 72nd Annual Conference



Inside this issue:	
2014 Prize and Award Winners	2
Message from SCMLA Executive Director	3
Professional Development in Nashville	4
2015 Prizes and Grants Available	5
2015 Deadlines	9
2015 Regular/Allied Session Calls	10
Poems from Poet's Corner	15
Nashville Conference Hotel Information	18

## Summary of the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention in Austin: Forces of Nature

The 71st annual South Central MLA convention was held in Austin, Texas, from October 18-22 2014 at the Radisson Hotel & Suites Austin-Downtown. Sessions explored a broad range topics, including "Reading Environment(s) in the Works of Eudora Welty," "Animals as Forces of Nature in Medieval Iberian Literature," "New Voices, Old Problems: Defining Native Americanness from a Mixed Heritage Perspective," and "Unveiling the Self: Contested Desires."

Altogether the conference featured 151 sessions. A total of 522 individual participants were listed in the program. These strong participation figures reflect SCMLA's vitality as an organization.

Highlights of the conference included the NEH workshop led by Jane Aikin, Director of the NEH's Research Division, a Harry Ransom Center Information Session, and a tour of the Benson Latin American Collection on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. SCMLA also continued its tradition of offering a Workshop for Job-Seekers and mock interviews at the conference. Thanks go out to all the members who helped with these professional development opportunities.

At the SCMLA Business Luncheon on October 19, President **Melissa Bailar** (Rice University) delivered an address challenging current trends in top-down management of humanities research. Bailar convincingly argued that efforts to steer humanists toward broad research themes (water, energy) identified as priorities by universities are often unproductive and lead to few successful publications and programs. Bailar's provocative talk will be reprinted in full in the May issue of SCMLA's newsletter.

The plenary speaker in Austin was Tex-

as novelist Sarah Bird, whose appearance was made possible by the generosity of *The South Central Review*. Bird gave a talk titled "Flipping off the Irony Switch: Coming out of the Comedy Closet" that charted her development as a writer. She noted how early life experience, travel, and her love of photography all helped shape her as an artist. Bird's presentation was followed by a book-signing and reception.

The Third Annual Poet's Corner was organized by SCMLA English representative **Julie Chappell** (Tarleton State U). The poets **Dorothy Alexander** (Oklahoma), **Alan Berecka** (Texas), and **Ken Hada** (Oklahoma) read selections of their award-winning poetry. A work by each of these poets is included later in this newsletter.

This year's SCCEA breakfast was chaired by **Julie Chappell** and featured **Mallory Young** (Tarleton University) who spoke on "Bad Girls: Recalcitrant Women in Literature, Legend, and Popular Culture." **Sylvia Morin** (University of Tennessee- Martin) chaired the Women's Caucus breakfast, at which **Robin Schneider** (Executive Director of the Texas Campaign for the Environment) delivered the address "Lending a Feminist Perspective on Eco-Organizing."

## **2015 Convention: "Sound and Story: The Rhythms of Language," October 31– November 3 Nashville, Tennessee**

SCMLA returns to Nashville for the first time in recent memory in 2015. Members will enjoy the vibrant music scene, fine restaurants, and museums that this city offers. Our hotel is located right on the edge of Vanderbilt's campus and within an easy walk of Centennial Park and the famed Parthenon.

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:

### **"Sound and Story: The Rhythms of Language,"**

The rhythms of the languages we speak shape literary texts; rhyme, meter, assonance, and other sound patterns underpin our poetry, and musicality and sound figure as significant elements in many narratives. Tolstoy's characters visit the opera; a musical passage haunts Proust's narrator across time and space; Faulkner, like so many others, captures regional dialects in informal prose. Sound matters as much for scholars of literature as it does for linguists and language pedagogues. Just as linguists transcribe and analyze the sounds of our languages and language pedagogues help learners mirror native speaker pronunciation and intonation, writers work to capture regional inflections. Similarly, film-makers try to create compelling soundscapes, extradiegetic music shaping spectator expectations and emotional responses. Song lyrics more and more attract attention as a distinctive literary form, worthy of serious scholarly analysis. For its 2015 convention in Nashville, Tennessee SCMLA invites papers that focus on issues connected to music, musicality and sound from the perspective of all of our constituent fields, including linguistics, language pedagogy, film-studies, gender studies, and cultural studies. As always, papers on other topics are also wel-

come.

Please join us in exploring these themes and more in Nashville, Tennessee for the 2015 South Central MLA conference. See the pages of this Newsletter or visit "Submissions for 2015 Conference" on the home page of <http://www.southcentralmla.org> for calls and guidelines.

## **Recognition of 2014 Prize and Award Winners**

In 2014, SCMLA made the following awards:

### **Graduate Student Grant (\$500):**

Rafal Stepień  
(Columbia University)

### **SCMLA Research Grant (\$1500):**

Richard Russell  
(Baylor University)

### **SCMLA Research Grant for Temporary Faculty and Independent Scholars (\$1500):**

Kristopher Mecholsky  
(Louisiana State University)

### **Awarded by South Central Review: 2014 Kirby Prize for the Best Article Published in The South Central Review (\$200):**

Nancy LaGreca (University of Oklahoma) for her article "Decadence as Healthy and Progressive Force in Select Prose of Julián del Casal and Amado Nervo," vol. 30.2, Summer 2013.

### **2014 SCMLA Book Award (\$500):**

Melanie Anderson (University of Mississippi) for *Spectrality in the Novels of Toni Morrison*

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

Kris McAbee (University of Arkansas-Little Rock) for "*Supernatural Forces and Female Power in the Sonnets of Barnabe Barnes*"

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

"Driver's Ed" by W. Scott Thomason,  
Swarthmore College

## **SCMLA offers \$15,000 in grants and prizes in 2015!**

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.)

This year, SCMLA will offer **new awards for Career Achievement in Research** (\$750) and **Service to the Profession** (\$750) for the first time. Nominations for these NEW awards should be sent to [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu) by March 31, 2015 and should include: a cover letter detailing the nominee's achievements, a current CV for the nominee, and up to three letters of support. Self-nominations for these awards are not allowed. These awards will be presented at the Business meeting at the Nashville convention.

Our full list of grants, awards, and paper prizes can be found in the pages of this newsletter and at <http://www.southcentralmla.org>

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

Dear Colleagues:

I hope you are all enjoying a restful holiday season! 2015 promises to be an exciting year for SCMLA. We are scheduled to hold our annual conference this year in Nashville, Tennessee from October 31 to November 3. Our hotel, the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt, is located at the edge of the Vanderbilt campus on West End Avenue. The hotel is close to downtown Nashville, Centennial Park, and the famed Parthenon. Conference participants will find many fine restaurants, recreational opportunities, and cultural events within easy walking distance of the hotel. Please join us for a scholarly gathering that will be rich in opportunities for both networking and professional development. Our conference theme is "Sound and Story: The Rhythms of Language," but we also welcome paper and panel proposals on other subjects. The priority deadline for special sessions is February 28 (late submissions will be considered if space allows) and the deadline to submit abstracts to regular and allied session chairs is March 31. Visit "Submissions for 2015 Conference" on the home page of [www.southcentralmla.org](http://www.southcentralmla.org) for details.

It was wonderful to have the opportunity to visit with so many of you in Austin in October. I enjoyed hearing about your interests and priorities and also about the directions in which you would like to see SCMLA move in coming years. I will be keeping in mind the feedback that you provided as I make conference planning decisions in the coming months. With the support of the Executive Committee, I will be implementing one important change to our traditional conference schedule this year: beginning in 2015, SCMLA will no longer hold its Business Meeting in conjunction with a luncheon. Hotel catering prices have gone up astronomically in recent years, making our Luncheon uneconomical. As a result, fewer and fewer members have attended. By holding the Business Meeting as a stand-alone event, we hope to attract a larger audience to hear the annual presidential address, the recognition of our award winners, and also discussions of key items of Association business. We plan to hold a reception after the Business Meeting so that members have the opportunity to socialize with friends and colleagues, which has always been one of the Luncheon's most important functions.

As many of you already know, SCMLA's front office is in a period of transition. After many years of dedicated service, SCMLA's long-time Assistant Program Director Diana Hodges stepped down to pursue other opportunities this past October. She will be sorely missed. I am grateful to Diana for staying to see us through our 2014 conference. We wish her the very best as she moves on to new challenges.

One last reminder: if you have not renewed your SCMLA membership for 2015, 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>. I look forward seeing you in Nashville and welcome your questions and feedback at [emilydjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:emilydjohnson@ou.edu).

Best regards,



Emily D. Johnson  
Executive Director



## **Professional Development Opportunities: Workshops, Mock Interviews, and More!**

The 2015 Conference in Nashville 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 also hold workshops on negotiating more effectively with administrators and on academic publishing. Be sure to look for these exciting new events in the 2015 Convention Program.

## **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 the association may write directly to [scmla@ou.edu](mailto: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. Friends of the SCMLA receive an invitation to a special reception at the an-

nual 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 propose a paper or otherwise participate in 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.

Please note: At the fall 2014 meeting, SCMLA's Executive Committee approved a change to conference submission procedures: double submissions of abstracts are no longer allowed. Members may send a proposal to only one academic session and one creative writing session. If a good proposal cannot be accommodated in the session to which it is submitted, the chair will forward it to the Program Committee, which will try to find an alternative placement for the abstract. Alternately, the Chair may, with the consent of the submitter, contact other sessions that might be able to accommodate the abstract and ask if they have space.

If a session chair receives five or more abstracts of high academic merit, s/he may petition to split the session into 2 panels. Please email [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu) to ask about this option. We ask that chairs wait to confirm the acceptance of additional presenters until we verify that there will be adequate space to split the session. We expect a large turnout in Nashville and requests to split sessions will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis.

SCMLA members who present work on a creative writing session may also deliver an academic paper at the conference as in the past.

## **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 [LAW-RENNM@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:LAW-RENNM@mailbox.sc.edu).

## **New and Retiring Executive Committee Members**

Executive Committee members who will begin service in 2015 are:

Julie Chappell (Vice-president)

Lynn Alexander (English)

Michael Ward (Russian and Less-Commonly-Taught-Languages)

Jeffrey Oxford (Spanish)

## **Congratulations to all of you!**

The Executive Office warmly thanks retiring EC members Elizabeth Coscio of the University of St. Thomas-Houston (Past President), Paul Larson of Baylor (Spanish), and Eva Bueno (Russian and Less-Commonly-Taught Languages) for their contributions to governance and their service to the profession. It has been a pleasure working with all of you!

The Executive Office also thanks Julie Chappell for her years of dedicated service as English representative. Julie, we are delighted that you will be continuing on the Executive Committee in your new role as vice-president.

# 2015 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 2015. For more information, see our website: <http://www.southcentralmla.org>

## SCMLA Research Grants:

SCMLA RESEARCH AWARD-\$1500 (Open to all eligible members who have completed the PhD)  
APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2015

SCMLA 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 MARCH 31, 2015

SCMLA GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT-\$500 (at the dissertation stage)  
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2015

SCMLA FELLOWSHIP AT THE HARRY RANSOM CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-AUSTIN FOR THE 2015- 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR-\$3000  
APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2015  
INFORMATION ON ELIGIBILITY AND HOW TO APPLY: [www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fellowships/application](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fellowships/application)

BENSON LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION-SCMLA FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT-\$1500  
APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2015

## New Career Achievement Awards:

Career Achievement in Research (\$750)  
Service to the Profession (\$750).

Nominations for each of these awards should be sent to [scmla@ou.edu](mailto:scmla@ou.edu) by March 31, 2015 and should include: a cover letter detailing the nominee's achievements, a current cv for the nominee, and up to three letters of support. Self-nominations for these awards are not allowed.

## SCMLA Conference Travel Grants

\$200 for Graduate Students at the doctoral level  
\$500 for Faculty and Independent Scholars  
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2015

**2015 Paper/Presentation Prizes:** Members scheduled to present appropriate work at the Fall 2015 conference are encouraged to compete for our conference paper prizes. Submissions must have been accepted in a session for the current year; may be nominated by a session chair or by the author; must represent new, previously unrepresented and unpublished work, must be typed and double-spaced, using 12-pt. type size; must observe a 3,500 word limit (winners agree to shorten papers for 15-20 minute delivery); and be **received by August 31, 2015 via email**. **Entries must be submitted in English except in the case of the Andrist prize**, for which entries in Spanish and Portuguese are also acceptable. Submissions must include a cover sheet with the paper title and the name of the prize being sought (papers may compete for one prize only); the cover sheet must OMIT the writer's name and address. Winners will be notified by mid-September and will be expected to attend the SCMLA Business Meeting at the Annual Conference where their names will be announced.

**Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Paper Prize in Hispanic Gender Studies-\$1000**

**Vuong Short Story Prize-\$500**

**SCMLA Prize for the Best Paper in Historical, Literary, and/or Cultural Studies-\$250**

## SCMLA BOOK AWARD-\$500

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 30, 2015  
Scholarly and critical books and editions published in English in 2014 by SCMLA members are eligible for the 2015 prize. Books published in a language other than English will be considered if a translation of the book into English is provided.

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, 2015** to SCMLA President for 2015, Jeanne Gillespie, at the following address:

Jeanne Gillespie  
University of Southern Mississippi,  
118 College Dr. #5004  
College of Arts & Letters  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406

Nominees must be current SCMLA members and must have been members for the previous two years. The successful candidate for the SCMLA Book Award will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.



# 2015–2016 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE HUMANITIES HARRY RANSOM CENTER



**THE HARRY RANSOM CENTER**, an internationally renowned humanities research library and museum at The University of Texas at Austin, will award approximately 70 fellowships for 2015–2016 for projects that require substantial on-site use of its collections. The fellowships support research in all areas of the humanities, including literature, photography, film, art, the performing arts, music, and cultural history.

## ONE TO THREE MONTH FELLOWSHIPS

\$3,000 PER MONTH

One- to three-month fellowships are available for post-doctoral or independent scholars whose projects require extensive work with the Ransom Center's collections.

## TRAVEL STIPENDS

\$1,200 (DOMESTIC) or \$1,700 (INTERNATIONAL)

Travel stipends are available for post-doctoral or independent scholars whose projects require less than one month's work with the Center's collections. Travel stipends may not be combined with other Ransom Center fellowships.

## DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

\$1,500

Twenty dissertation fellowships, generously supported by the Creekmore and Adele Fath Charitable Foundation and The University of Texas at Austin Office of Graduate Studies, are designated for graduate students who are working on doctoral dissertations that require use of the Center's collections.

The Center gratefully acknowledges the principals of the supporting endowments and annual sponsors:

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), British Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, Flour Cowles Endowment, Robert DeNiro Endowed Fund, Dorot Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Jewish Studies, David Douglas Duncan Endowment for Photojournalism, Creekmore and Adele Fath Charitable Foundation, Erle Stanley Gardner Endowment for Mystery Studies, Alfred A. and Blanche W. Knopf Fellowship, The Limited Editions Club Endowment, Norman Mailer Endowed Fund, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Research Fellowship Endowment, Marlene Nathan Meyerson Photography Fellowship Endowment, The Carl H. Pforzheimer Endowment, Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, Warren Skaaren Film Research Endowment, C. P. Snow Memorial Fund, South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA), The University of Texas at Austin Office of Graduate Studies, Frederic D. Weinstein Memorial Fellowship in Twentieth-Century American Literature, and Woodward and Bernstein Endowment.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2015, 5 P.M. CST

[www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships)

# 2015–2016 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE HUMANITIES HARRY RANSOM CENTER



## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants for one- to three-month fellowships and travel stipends must have a Ph.D. or be an independent scholar with a substantial record of achievement; if the Ph.D. is in-progress, the proposal and letters of recommendation must clearly indicate completion by June 1, 2015. Applicants for dissertation fellowships must be doctoral candidates engaged in dissertation research by the time of application. United States citizens and foreign nationals are eligible to apply. Previous recipients of Ransom Center fellowships are eligible to reapply after two full fellowship cycles have passed. All things being equal, however, preference is given to applicants who have not previously held a Ransom Center fellowship.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

A complete application consists of a three-page proposal and one or two letters of recommendation, depending on the application category. These materials must be uploaded to the Ransom Center's online application system as PDF files by the application deadline. To begin your application for a 2015–2016 fellowship, create a fellowship account at [www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships). Upon successful creation of your account, you will receive your fellowship account number, which you must use to submit your proposal, and which your referee(s) must use to submit the required letter(s) of recommendation. Please note that information cannot be revised once submitted. **Previous applicants for Ransom Center fellowships must create a new account for 2015–2016, as accounts from previous applications cannot be reused.**

## PROPOSAL

Create your three-page proposal as outlined below. The proposal must be submitted as a single PDF file through the Ransom Center's online application system using your fellowship account number. Files longer than three pages will not be accepted. Each page should include your name in the top-right corner.

Page one of your proposal should provide your name and project title, followed by a summary of the proposed research project. Keep in mind that you are writing for an interdisciplinary review committee, so research topics and their significance should be thoroughly explained. Place the project in the context of its larger field of study and describe the anticipated result of the project (journal article, book, edited volume, or other format).

Page two of your proposal should provide a detailed account of your anticipated use of the Ransom Center's collections. Describe the materials that you will consult, their relevance to the project, and why these materials must be consulted on-site during the length of fellowship requested.

Page three of your proposal should consist of an abbreviated curriculum vitae emphasizing relevant publications.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Applications for one- to three-month fellowships and travel stipends must include two confidential letters of recommendation from individuals who are qualified to judge the proposal. Applications for dissertation fellowships must include only one letter of recommendation from the dissertation director or an appropriate member of the dissertation committee. Letters of recommendation must be submitted through the Center's online application system **by the referee** using the applicant's fellowship account number. Letters must be submitted as a PDF file and bear the referee's signature and institutional letterhead.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

The proposal and required letter(s) of recommendation for 2015–2016 fellowship applications must be submitted through the Center's online application system **by January 15, 2015, 5 p.m. CST**. An automated email will be sent to the applicant upon the successful submission of each item. Applicants are responsible for making sure that their referees meet the deadline. Materials cannot be accepted after the deadline has passed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Decisions will be announced by email on March 31, 2015. Fellowship recipients will receive additional materials related to their award by mail. Queries about applications in process cannot be acknowledged. Fellowship recipients and their research projects will be acknowledged in Ransom Center publicity.

## RESIDENCY

Recipients of 2015–2016 fellowships must complete their residencies between **June 1, 2015, and August 31, 2016**. During their residency period, fellows are expected to maintain a significant, consistent presence at the Center. Complete information about the fellowship policies and expectations may be found in the fellowship guidelines at [www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships).

## ABOUT THE COLLECTIONS

Applicants must identify the Ransom Center collections they propose to consult. Information about the Center's collections and use of the collections may be found online at [www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/info](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/info). Applicants may contact the appropriate curator or librarian at the Ransom Center with specific inquiries about the collections and to confirm that the materials they wish to consult will be available during their proposed visit. **Information about the collections should be requested by December 1.** After that date, the Center cannot guarantee a response before the application deadline. **Please contact only one curator or librarian at the Center to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. If more than one collection is involved, Center staff will ensure that your message is properly forwarded.**



The Ransom Center is currently celebrating the 25th anniversary of its fellowship program. Since the program's inauguration in 1990, the Center has awarded fellowships to more than 900 scholars from around the world. Learn more at [www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships25](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships25).

Credits for image details:  
Attributed to Tsukikida Yoshitoshu, [Geisha having her photograph taken], not dated, color woodblock; Alfred Jungs, scene conception for *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, 1956; Fred Fehl, still featuring Sara Yarrowborough from a production of *Cry*, 1974; Clement Smith & Co., *Henri's New and Startling Illusion*, 1888; Julia Margaret Cameron, [May Prinsep], 1870; albumen print.



HARRY RANSOM  
CENTER

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN





Study Abroad Scholarship Closes January 16, 2015  
Call for Application Reviewers

The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) is a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to U.S. undergraduates to participate in study abroad opportunities. FEA study abroad scholarships are generous and game-changing, offering awards of \$10,000 for an academic year, \$5,000 for a semester, and a minimum of \$1,250 for a summer program of four weeks. FEA aims to increase and diversify the population of U.S. undergraduates studying abroad, and demonstrates a preference for underrepresented students, including STEM majors, community-college students and first-generation college students.

We are currently receiving application for students who plan to study abroad during Summer 2015, Fall 2015 and/or Spring 2016, or between May 2015 and May 2016. The application deadline is January 16, 2015, 11:59PM EST. If you have students who may be strong candidates for an FEA scholarship, please encourage them to submit an application through our website: [www.fundforeducationabroad.org](http://www.fundforeducationabroad.org).

In addition, we invite you to participate in reading for the scholarship by volunteering to become an application reviewer. Given the importance placed on strong academic planning and language study in our selection process, we encourage more university language professors participate in evaluating applications. With your insight, we ensure that we select the strongest applicants possible. If you are interested in becoming an application reviewer, please contact our Assistant Director, Olivia Moore, at [omoore@fundforeducationabroad.org](mailto:omoore@fundforeducationabroad.org) or (202) 349-7356.

We look forward to becoming a key resource for you and your students. We offer our sincere thanks to Dr. Emily D. Johnson for encouraging us to share information about the Fund for Education Abroad with members of South Central MLA.



## **South Central MLA Deadlines for 2015**

### **February 2015**

- 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 Nashville 2015

### **March 2015**

- 31 Proposers of Special Sessions for Nashville 2015 will be notified
- 31 Deadline for Book Prize Nominations to Jeanne Gillespie, SCMLA President
- 31 Deadline for submission of Papers/Abstracts for Nashville 2015 to Regular/Allied Session Chairs

### **April 2015**

- 30 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of Final Program Copy for all 2015 sessions
- 30 Deadline for requesting audio-visual equipment for Nashville 2015
- 30 Deadline for receipt of SCMLA Conference Travel Grants applications to SCMLA office
- 30 Deadline for 2015 conference participants to become members of SCMLA

### **May 2015**

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

### **August 2015**

- 31 Deadline for registration for Nashville Conference
- 31 Deadline for 2015 Conference Paper Prize submissions
- 31 Deadline for voting for SCMLA Executive Committee

### **September 2015**

- 30 Deadline for 2015 conference hotel reservation at the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt

# Nashville 2015 Regular/Allied Sessions

Below are the calls for Regular/Allied sessions. In some cases, we are missing important information. If you have knowledge of this missing information, or if something is incorrect, please contact [SCMLA@ou.edu](mailto:SCMLA@ou.edu). We appreciate everyone's help!

If you are interested in presenting a paper in a session, email an abstract and a brief CV to its chair. **New procedures for 2015:** double submissions are not allowed. Each member may submit a proposal to one academic session and one creative writing session. If a good proposal cannot be accommodated in the session to which it is submitted, the chair will forward it to the Program Committee, which will try to find a different placement for the abstract. Alternately, the Chair may, with the consent of the submitter, contact other sessions that might be able to accommodate the abstract and ask if they have space.

Session Chairs who receive more than four good abstracts are encouraged to consider splitting their session into two panels. In most years, SCMLA can accommodate such requests.

## ALLIED SESSIONS

### ASOCIACIÓN DE LITERATURA FEMENINA HISPÁNICA: Open Topic

**Chair:** Dorota K. Heneghan, Louisiana State U, [dheng1@lsu.edu](mailto:dheng1@lsu.edu)  
**Secretary:** Silvia Morin, U of Tennessee-Martin, [smorin@utm.edu](mailto:smorin@utm.edu)

### CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIANITY AND LITERATURE:

This panel explores the reciprocal relationship between literature and a variety of religious rhetorics, including faith and doubt, liturgy, devotion, and theology  
**Chair:** Garnet Branch, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, [garnet-branch1@louisiana.edu](mailto:garnet-branch1@louisiana.edu)  
**Secretary:** Sarah Honeycutt, Wiley College, [shoneycutt@wileyc.edu](mailto:shoneycutt@wileyc.edu)

### THE EUDORA WELTY SOCIETY:

SOUTH CENTRAL NEWSLETTER

### Open Topic

**Chair:** Joshua Lundy, U of South Carolina, [jlundy@email.sc.edu](mailto:jlundy@email.sc.edu)  
**Secretary:** Jada Ach, U of South Carolina, [jach@email.sc.edu](mailto:jach@email.sc.edu)

### FLANNERY O'CONNOR SOCIETY: Open Topic

**Chair:** Julianna Leachman, U of Texas-Austin, [juliannaleachman@gmail.com](mailto:juliannaleachman@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Kathleen Lipovski-Helal, St. Edwards U, [kathleenh@stedwards.edu](mailto:kathleenh@stedwards.edu)

### INTERNATIONAL COURTLY LITERATURE SOCIETY: Open Topic

**Chair:** Monica L. Wright, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, [mlwright@louisiana.edu](mailto:mlwright@louisiana.edu)  
**Secretary:** Tamara Bentley Caudill, Tulane U, [tcaudill@tulane.edu](mailto:tcaudill@tulane.edu)

### SOCIETY FOR CRITICAL EXCHANGE: Jewish Literature and Film in the Americas

We invite papers on topics related to Jewish literature and/or film from North America, Central America, the Caribbean, and/or South America

**Chair:** Michelle Johnson Vela, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, [kfmjr00@tamuk.edu](mailto:kfmjr00@tamuk.edu)  
**Secretary:** Marco Íñiguez-Alba, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, [kfmoi00@tamuk.edu](mailto:kfmoi00@tamuk.edu)

**SOUTH CENTRAL AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY: Dialect, Sound and Story: The Way Dialect Enhances Understanding**  
The American Dialect Society invites submissions that enhance research into linguistics, dialect studies and how they come together.

**Chair:** Geoffrey Clegg, Arkansas State U, [gclegg@astate.edu](mailto:gclegg@astate.edu)  
**Secretary:** Michael Dressman, U of Houston Downtown, [dressman-mi@uhd.edu](mailto:dressman-mi@uhd.edu)

### SOUTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND DEPARTMENTS OF ENGLISH

**Chair:** Jeanne Gillespie, U of

Southern Mississippi, [jeanne.gillespie@usm.edu](mailto:jeanne.gillespie@usm.edu)  
**Secretary:**

### SOUTH CENTRAL COLLEGE ENGLISH ASSOCIATION: AMERICAN LITERATURE AND POPULAR CULTURE: Representations of the Hero in Modern Storytelling

This session will examine the complex and diverse representations of heroes and heroism in today's literature, film, and television – the superhero, the feminist icon, the anti-hero, the traditionally marginalized other.

**Chair:** Kalene Westmoreland, College of Southern Nevada, [kalene.westmoreland@csn.edu](mailto:kalene.westmoreland@csn.edu)  
**Secretary:** Brett Riley, College of Southern Nevada, [brett.riley@csn.edu](mailto:brett.riley@csn.edu)

### WOMEN IN FRENCH: Open Topic

**Chair:** Rachel Williams, Eastern Kentucky U, [ra-chel.williams@eku.edu](mailto:ra-chel.williams@eku.edu)  
**Secretary:** Theresa Varney Kennedy, Baylor U, [theresa\\_kennedy@baylor.edu](mailto:theresa_kennedy@baylor.edu)

**Chair:** Linda McManness, Baylor U, [linda\\_mcmanness@baylor.edu](mailto:linda_mcmanness@baylor.edu)  
**Secretary:** Lucia Llorente, Berry College, [lllorente@berry.edu](mailto:lllorente@berry.edu)

## REGULAR SESSIONS

### AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic

This panel welcomes papers on any period or aspect of African American literature  
**Chair:** Khristeena Lute, Middle Tennessee State U, [kml4z@mtmail.mtsu.edu](mailto:kml4z@mtmail.mtsu.edu)  
**Secretary:** Carol Bunch Davis, Texas A&M U-Galveston, [da-visc@tamug.edu](mailto:da-visc@tamug.edu)

### AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Open Topic

**Chair:** Emily Johnson, U of Oklahoma, [emilyjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:emilyjohnson@ou.edu)  
**Secretary:**

**AMERICAN LITERATURE I: LITERATURE BEFORE 1900: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Dan Walden, Baylor U, [dan\\_walden@baylor.edu](mailto:dan_walden@baylor.edu)  
**Secretary:** Jamie Korsmo-Ergle, Georgia State U, [jkorsmo1@gsu.edu](mailto:jkorsmo1@gsu.edu)

**AMERICAN LITERATURE II: LITERATURE AFTER 1900: Open Topic**

We solicit papers on any aspect of American Literature after 1900

**Chair:** Carol Bunch Davis, Texas A&M U-Galveston, [da-visc@tamug.edu](mailto:da-visc@tamug.edu)  
**Secretary:** M. Lance Lusk, U of Texas-Dallas, [marc.lusk@utdallas.edu](mailto:marc.lusk@utdallas.edu)

**APPLIED LINGUISTICS: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Lucia Llorente, Berry College, [lllorente@berry.edu](mailto:lllorente@berry.edu)  
**Secretary:** Debbie Arteaga, U of Nevada-Las Vegas, [debo-rah.arteaga@unlv.edu](mailto:debo-rah.arteaga@unlv.edu)

**ARABIC LITERATURE AND CULTURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Diana Obeid, Christopher Newport U, [diana.obeid@cnu.edu](mailto:diana.obeid@cnu.edu)  
**Secretary:** Samar Zahrawi, Sam Houston State U, [szah-rawi@shsu.edu](mailto:szah-rawi@shsu.edu)

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY & BIOGRAPHY: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Dana McMichael, Abilene Christian U, [da-na.mcmichael@acu.edu](mailto:da-na.mcmichael@acu.edu)  
**Secretary:** Jennifer Alandy, McNeese State U, [jfarber@student.mcneese.edu](mailto:jfarber@student.mcneese.edu)

**BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEXTUAL CRITICISM: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Elizabeth Willingham, Baylor University, [beth\\_willingham@baylor.edu](mailto:beth_willingham@baylor.edu)  
**Secretary:** Thomas Bonner, Xavier U of Louisiana, [tbonner@xula.edu](mailto:tbonner@xula.edu)

**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: Children's and Young Adult Literature Open Topic**

All topics in children's and young

adult literature are welcome. Submit proposals and short CV to the session chair and secretary.

**Chair:** Leigh Hickman, Dallas Baptist, [profleigh7@gmail.com](mailto:profleigh7@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Sara Day, Southern Arkansas U, [skday@saumag.edu](mailto:skday@saumag.edu)

**COMPARATIVE LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Amy Smith, Lamar U, [amy.smith@lamar.edu](mailto:amy.smith@lamar.edu)  
**Secretary:** Moira DiMauro-Jackson, Texas State U, [md11@txstate.edu](mailto:md11@txstate.edu)

**CREATIVE WRITING NON-FICTION: Sound and Story: The Rhythms of Language**

Our conference theme is focused on sounds, therefore, we seek submissions that incorporate the sounds and rhythms of narrative. Personal story and auto-ethnography, in particular, can infuse sense experience. We are looking for submissions that invite the ears to listen.

**Chair:** Miriam Rowntree, U of Texas-Arlington, [miri-am.rowntree@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:miri-am.rowntree@mavs.uta.edu)  
**Secretary:** David J. Eshelman, Arkansas Tech U, [deshelman@atu.edu](mailto:deshelman@atu.edu)

**CREATIVE WRITING - POETRY: Open Topic**

**Chair:** John Graves Morris, Cameron U, [johnmor@cameron.edu](mailto:johnmor@cameron.edu)  
**Secretary:** William (Hank) Jones, Tarleton State U, [wjones@tarleton.edu](mailto:wjones@tarleton.edu)

**CREATIVE WRITING - THE SHORT STORY: Open Topic**

A panel in which SCMLA members can read their works of short fiction  
**Chair:** Jennifer Alandy, McNeese State U, [jennifer.alandy@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.alandy@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Mark Maynard, Sierra Nevada College, [maynard02@charter.net](mailto:maynard02@charter.net)

**DIGITAL HUMANITIES: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Bradford Hincer, Trident Technical College, [b@hincer.us](mailto:b@hincer.us)  
**Secretary:** Charley Silvio, Louisiana State U, [\[ley.silvio@gmail.com\]\(mailto:ley.silvio@gmail.com\)](mailto:char-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

**EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

**Chair:** Emily Johnson, U of Oklahoma, [emilydjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:emilydjohnson@ou.edu)  
**Secretary:**

**ENGLISH I: OLD AND MIDDLE ENGLISH: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Geoffrey B. Elliott, Oklahoma State U, [geoffrey.b.elliott@gmail.com](mailto:geoffrey.b.elliott@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Brian Brooks, Oklahoma State U, [brian.brooks@okstate.edu](mailto:brian.brooks@okstate.edu)

**ENGLISH II: RENAISSANCE LITERATURE EXCLUDING DRAMA: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Kris McAbee, U of Arkansas-Little Rock, [kxm-cabee@ualr.edu](mailto:kxm-cabee@ualr.edu)  
**Secretary:** Melissa Bagaglio, U of Memphis, [mhbagglio@memphis.edu](mailto:mhbagglio@memphis.edu)

**ENGLISH III: RESTORATION & EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE**

**Chair:** Joel T. Terranova, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, [jo-el.terranova@gmail.com](mailto:jo-el.terranova@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Jena Al-Fuhaid, Kuwait University, [jalfuhaid@gmail.com](mailto:jalfuhaid@gmail.com)

**ENGLISH IV: NINETEENTH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE**

**Chair:** Emily Monteiro, Blinn College, [emily.monteiro@blinn.edu](mailto:emily.monteiro@blinn.edu)  
**Secretary:** Lexey Bartlett, Fort Hays State U, [labartlett@fhsu.edu](mailto:labartlett@fhsu.edu)

**ENGLISH V: TWENTIETH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE**

**Chair:** Courtney Patrick-Weber, Texas Woman's U, [cpatrick@twu.edu](mailto:cpatrick@twu.edu)  
**Secretary:** Irina I. Simonova Strout, U of Tulsa, [strout@xtremeinet.net](mailto:strout@xtremeinet.net)

**ENGLISH VI: GENERAL LINGUISTICS**

**Chair:** Mary Lynne Hill, St. Mary's U, [mhill@stmarytx.edu](mailto:mhill@stmarytx.edu)  
**Secretary:** Geoffrey Clegg, Arkansas State U, [gclegg@astate.edu](mailto:gclegg@astate.edu)



## FILM I: ENGLISH LANGUAGE FILM

Papers on any topic of film in English will be considered.

**Chair:** Michelle Johnson Vela, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, [kfmri00@tamuk.edu](mailto:kfmri00@tamuk.edu)

**Secretary:** Scott L. Baugh, Texas Tech U, [scott.baugh@ttu.edu](mailto:scott.baugh@ttu.edu)

## FILM 2: FRENCH AND FRANCO-PHONE FILM: Open Topic

**Chair:** Rokitou Soumaré, U of Oklahoma, [rokiatou.soumare-1@ou.edu](mailto:rokiatou.soumare-1@ou.edu)

**Secretary:** Parfait Bonkougou, Auburn U-Montgomery, [pbonkoun@aum.edu](mailto:pbonkoun@aum.edu)

## FILM 3: HISPANIC FILM: Open Topic

**Chair:** Elizabeth Willingham, Baylor U, [beth\\_willingham@baylor.edu](mailto:beth_willingham@baylor.edu)

**Secretary:** Nancy J. Membrez, U of Texas-San Antonio, [nancy.membrez@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.membrez@gmail.com)

## FILM 4: GLOBAL FILM: Open Topic

**Chair:** Jacob-Ivan Eidt, U of Dallas, [jieidt@udallas.edu](mailto:jieidt@udallas.edu)

**Secretary:** Heidi Denzel de Tirado, Georgia State U, [hdenzel@gsu.edu](mailto:hdenzel@gsu.edu)

## FOLKLORE: Open Topic

**Chair:** Joy Smith, Kansas State U, [joymosssmith@ksu.edu](mailto:joymosssmith@ksu.edu)

**Secretary:** Helen McCourt, Collin College, [hmccourt@collin.edu](mailto:hmccourt@collin.edu)

## FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE: Open Topic

**Chair:** Latifa Zoulagh, U of Oklahoma, [latifa.zoulagh-1@ou.edu](mailto:latifa.zoulagh-1@ou.edu)

**Secretary:** Laura Loth, Rhodes College, [lothl@rhodes.edu](mailto:lothl@rhodes.edu)

## FRENCH I: LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE TO 1600: Open Topic

**Chair:** Cristian Bratu, Baylor U, [cristian\\_bratu@baylor.edu](mailto:cristian_bratu@baylor.edu)

**Secretary:** Susan Hopkirk, Ryerson U, [shopkirk@ryerson.ca](mailto:shopkirk@ryerson.ca)

## FRENCH II: LITERATURE 1600-1800

**Chair:** Sara Wellman, U of Missis-

sippi, [slwellma@olemiss.edu](mailto:slwellma@olemiss.edu)

**Secretary:** Gilles Viennot, U of Arkansas, [g\\_viennot@yahoo.com](mailto:g_viennot@yahoo.com)

## FRENCH III: LITERATURE AFTER 1800: Open Topic

**Chair:** Nisrine Slitine, U of Oklahoma, [nslitine@ou.edu](mailto:nslitine@ou.edu)

**Secretary:** Gilles Viennot, U of Arkansas, [g\\_viennot@yahoo.com](mailto:g_viennot@yahoo.com)

## FRESHMAN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH COMPOSITION: Open Topic

**Chair:** Thomas W. Reynolds, Jr., Northwestern State U, [reyn-oldst@nsula.edu](mailto:reyn-oldst@nsula.edu)

**Secretary:** Anna Hall, Blinn College, [anna.hall@blinn.edu](mailto:anna.hall@blinn.edu)

## GAY AND LESBIAN STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic

Open topic call for papers on LGBTQ literature, theory or pedagogy. We are particularly interested in works that challenge expectations, but will choose the best abstracts regardless.

**Chair:** Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, [rcostello@mcneese.edu](mailto:rcostello@mcneese.edu)

**Secretary:** Erin Clair, Arkansas Tech U, [eclair@atu.edu](mailto:eclair@atu.edu)

## GENDER & RACE IN TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE

This panel explores the themes of race and gender in literature of any genre, from any time, from any country

**Chair:** Emily Clark, U of the Incarnate Word, [ejclark@uiwtx.edu](mailto:ejclark@uiwtx.edu)

**Secretary:** Tanja Stampfl, U of the Incarnate Word, [stampfl@uiwtx.edu](mailto:stampfl@uiwtx.edu)

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

**Chair:** Emily Johnson, U of Oklahoma, [emilydjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:emilydjohnson@ou.edu)

**Secretary:**

## GERMAN II: LITERATURE AND CULTURE FROM 1700-1890: 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:** Caroline Huey, U of Louisiana-Lafayette,

[chuey@louisiana.edu](mailto:chuey@louisiana.edu)

**Secretary:** John White, U of North Carolina-Chapel Hill/Duke U,

[jww25@duke.edu](mailto:jww25@duke.edu)

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

**Chair:** Katherine Arens, U of Texas-Austin, [arens@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:arens@austin.utexas.edu)

**Secretary:** Amanda Randall, U of Texas-Austin, [azrandall@utexas.edu](mailto:azrandall@utexas.edu)

## GERMAN WOMEN WRITERS:

### Sound and Story: The Rhythms of Language in the Works of German Women Writers

This panel welcomes submissions on the conference theme, investigating the importance of sound and story to German women's writing and its contribution to better understand the significance of these literary elements.

**Chair:** Cindy Walter-Gensler, U of Texas-Austin, [waltergensler@utexas.edu](mailto:waltergensler@utexas.edu)

**Secretary:** Erika Berroth, Southwestern U,

[berrothe@southwestern.edu](mailto:berrothe@southwestern.edu)

## GOTHIC: Open Topic

**Chair:** Joel T. Terranova, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, [joel.terranova@gmail.com](mailto:joel.terranova@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Melanie R. Anderson, U of Mississippi, [mranders@olemiss.edu](mailto:mranders@olemiss.edu)

## HISPANIC LITERATURE WRITTEN IN THE UNITED STATES:

### Open Topic

**Chair:** Elizabeth Coscio, U of St. Thomas-Houston, [coscioe@stthom.edu](mailto:coscioe@stthom.edu)

**Secretary:**

## INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES: Open Topic

**Chair:** Christelle LeFaucheur, U of Texas-Austin, [cheurc@utexas.edu](mailto:lefau-<br/>cheurc@utexas.edu)

**Secretary:** Marcy Tanter, Tarleton State U, [tanter@tarleton.edu](mailto:tanter@tarleton.edu)

**IRISH LITERATURE: Sounds and Stories of Easter, 1916**

**Chair:** Jeffrey Longacre, U of Tennessee-Martin, [jlon-gac1@utm.edu](mailto:jlon-gac1@utm.edu)

**Secretary:** Bill Lancaster, Texas A&M U-Commerce, [blancaster99@gmail.com](mailto:blancaster99@gmail.com)

**ITALIAN STUDIES I: MEDIEVAL-RENAISSANCE**

**Chair:** Annachiara Mariani, U of Tennessee, [amariani@utk.edu](mailto:amariani@utk.edu)

**Secretary:** Silvia Tiboni-Craft, Wake Forest U, [tibonis@wfu.edu](mailto:tibonis@wfu.edu)

**ITALIAN STUDIES II: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Annachiara Mariani, U of Tennessee, [amariani@utk.edu](mailto:amariani@utk.edu)

**Secretary:** Silvia Tiboni-Craft, Wake Forest U, [tibonis@wfu.edu](mailto:tibonis@wfu.edu)

**LITERATURE AND POLITICS**

**Chair:** Ashley Bender, Texas Woman's U, [abender@twu.edu](mailto:abender@twu.edu)

**Secretary:** Marina Trninic, Prairie View A&M, [matrnnic@pramu.edu](mailto:matrnnic@pramu.edu)

**LITERATURE AND PSYCHOLOGY: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Ori Kritz, U of Oklahoma, [okritz@ou.edu](mailto:okritz@ou.edu)

**Secretary:**

**LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORY: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Sylvia Morin, U of Tennessee-Martin, [smorin@utm.edu](mailto:smorin@utm.edu)

**Secretary:**

**LUSO-AFRO-BRAZILIAN LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: Open Topic**

This panel is open for any topics on Luso Brazilian literature and language

**Chair:** Martha C. Galvan, U of Oklahoma, [marthagalvan@ou.edu](mailto:marthagalvan@ou.edu)

**Secretary:** Celia Carmen Cordeiro, U of Texas-Austin, [celiacarmencordeiro@utexas.edu](mailto:celiacarmencordeiro@utexas.edu)

**MODERN DRAMA: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Elizabeth Brown-Guillory, Texas Southern U, [brown-quillorye@tsu.edu](mailto:brown-quillorye@tsu.edu)

**Secretary:** Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, [rcostello@mcneese.edu](mailto:rcostello@mcneese.edu)

**NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Jeannie Stone, Arkansas Tech U, [dstone3@atu.edu](mailto:dstone3@atu.edu)

**Secretary:** Eric Blackburn, Interlochen Center for the Arts, [eric.blackburn@interlochen.org](mailto:eric.blackburn@interlochen.org)

**PERSIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Emily Johnson, U of Oklahoma, [emilydjohanson@ou.edu](mailto:emilydjohanson@ou.edu)

**Secretary:**

**REGIONAL FICTION WRITERS: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Lynn Alexander, U of Tennessee-Martin, [laalexand@utm.edu](mailto:laalexand@utm.edu)

**Secretary:**

**RENAISSANCE DRAMA: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Dan Pigg, U of Tennessee-Martin, [danielp@utm.edu](mailto:danielp@utm.edu)

**Secretary:**

**RHETORIC: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Jessie Casteel, U of Houston, [jrcasteel@uh.edu](mailto:jrcasteel@uh.edu)

**Secretary:** Debbie Williams, Abilene Christian U, [debbie.williams@acu.edu](mailto:debbie.williams@acu.edu)

**RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND METHODOLOGY: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Lonny Harrison, U of Texas-Arlington, [lonnyharrison@uta.edu](mailto:lonnyharrison@uta.edu)

**Secretary:** Marina Potoplyak, U of Texas- Austin, [marina.potoplyak@gmail.com](mailto:marina.potoplyak@gmail.com)

**RUSSIAN LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Alexandra Kostina, Rhodes College, [kostina@rhodes.edu](mailto:kostina@rhodes.edu)

**Secretary:** Lonny Harrison, U of Texas-Arlington, [lonnyharrison@uta.edu](mailto:lonnyharrison@uta.edu)

**SCIENCE AND LITERATURE**

**Chair:** Jeffery Sartain, U of Houston-Victoria, [sartainj@uhv.edu](mailto:sartainj@uhv.edu)

**Secretary:** Debra Andrist, Sam Houston State U, [andrist@shsu.edu](mailto:andrist@shsu.edu)

**SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY**

**Chair:** Jessie Casteel, U of Houston, [jrcasteel@uh.edu](mailto:jrcasteel@uh.edu)

**Secretary:** Joe R. Christopher, Tarleton State, [jchristopher@tarleton.edu](mailto:jchristopher@tarleton.edu)

**SHORT FICTION: THEORY & CRITICISM: Sound and Language in Short Stories and Novellas**

Seeking papers that explore the interrelation of sound and language, poetry and prose, and oral and written traditions within the short narrative format

**Chair:** Robert C. Hamilton, Wiley College, [r\\_hamilton@wileyc.edu](mailto:r_hamilton@wileyc.edu)

**Secretary:**

**SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

**Chair:** Maria Makowiecka, Bergen Community College, [marynka@aol.com](mailto:marynka@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Danuta Hinc, U of Maryland, [dhinc@umd.edu](mailto:dhinc@umd.edu)

**SOUTHERN LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Cheryl Wiltse, Collin College, [cwiltse@collin.edu](mailto:cwiltse@collin.edu)

**Secretary:** Mark Sursavage, U of Houston, [mark.sursavage@gmail.com](mailto:mark.sursavage@gmail.com)

**SOUTHWESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Annette Cole, Texas Woman's U/Tarrant County College, [colea7543@gmail.com](mailto:colea7543@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Kellie Matherly, Texas Woman's U/Grayson College, [matherlyk@grayson.edu](mailto:matherlyk@grayson.edu)

**SPANISH I: PENINSULAR LITERATURE BEFORE 1700: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Mitch McCoy, Belmont U, [mitch.mccoy@belmont.edu](mailto:mitch.mccoy@belmont.edu)

**Secretary:** Paul Larson, Baylor U, [paul\\_larson@baylor.edu](mailto:paul_larson@baylor.edu)

## **SPANISH II: PENINSULAR LITERATURE 1700-1898**

**Chair:** Dana Ward, Arkansas Tech U, [dward@atu.edu](mailto:dward@atu.edu)

**Secretary:** Bruce A. Boggs, U of Oklahoma, [baboggs@ou.edu](mailto:baboggs@ou.edu)

## **SPANISH III: 20<sup>TH</sup> AND 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PENINSULAR LITERATURE**

**Chair:** Natalia Pelaz-Escribano, Belmont U, [pelaz@belmont.edu](mailto:pelaz@belmont.edu)

**Secretary:** Frieda Blackwell, Baylor U, [frieda.blackwell@baylor.edu](mailto:frieda.blackwell@baylor.edu)

## **SPANISH IV: COLONIAL LITERATURE THROUGH MODERNISMO**

**Chair:** Lucy Harney, Texas State U, [harney@txstate.edu](mailto:harney@txstate.edu)

**Secretary:** Edma I. Delgado-Solórzano, U of Arkansas-Little Rock, [eidelgadoso@ualr.edu](mailto:eidelgadoso@ualr.edu)

## **SPANISH V: 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Rítmicos y Sonidos en el siglo XX**

We will explore the rhythms and sounds of Latin American Literature in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

**Chair:** Jeanne Gillespie, U of Southern Mississippi, [jeanne.gillespie@usm.com](mailto:jeanne.gillespie@usm.com)

**Secretary:** Susana Perea-Fox, Oklahoma State U, [susana.perea-fox@okstate.edu](mailto:susana.perea-fox@okstate.edu)

## **SPANISH VI: 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Paul Larson, Baylor U, [paul\\_larson@baylor.edu](mailto:paul_larson@baylor.edu)

**Secretary:**

## **SPANISH VII: LINGUISTICS: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Carmen Parron, U of Houston-Downtown, [parronc@uhd.edu](mailto:parronc@uhd.edu)

**Secretary:** Deborah Arteaga, U of Nevada-Las Vegas, [deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu](mailto:deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu)

## **TECHNICAL WRITING**

**Chair:** Leticia Slabaugh, U of Houston-Clear Lake, [slabaugh@uhcl.edu](mailto:slabaugh@uhcl.edu)

**Secretary:** Anna-Marie Womack, Tulane U, [awomack1@tulane.edu](mailto:awomack1@tulane.edu)

## **TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Laura Osborne, Stephen F. Austin State U, [osbornel@sfasu.edu](mailto:osbornel@sfasu.edu)

**Secretary:** Rachelle Bradley, Blinn College, [rachelle.bradley@blinn.edu](mailto:rachelle.bradley@blinn.edu)

## **WAR, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS: Sound & Story: Women in War at Home and Away**

Any aspect of women and war, multimedia format especially sought

**Chair:** Marcy Tanter, Tarleton State U, [tanter@tarleton.edu](mailto:tanter@tarleton.edu)

**Secretary:** Matthew David Perry, Del Mar College, [mattper-ry@delmar.edu](mailto:mattper-ry@delmar.edu)

## **WOMEN OF COLOR**

**Chair:** Elizabeth Brown-Guillory, Texas Southern U, [brown-guillorye@tsu.edu](mailto:brown-guillorye@tsu.edu)

**Secretary:** Christina Boyles, Baylor U, [christina\\_boyles@baylor.edu](mailto:christina_boyles@baylor.edu)

## **WOMEN'S CAUCUS OF THE SCMLA: Open Topic**

**Chair:** Merry Lynn Byrd, Virginia State U, [mbyrd@vsu.edu](mailto:mbyrd@vsu.edu)

**Secretary:** Erin García-Fernández, U of Tennessee-Martin, [eringarciafdez@gmail.com](mailto:eringarciafdez@gmail.com)

## **SPECIAL SESSIONS**

### **THE SOUND OF FURY, THE STORY OF PROTEST**

All social change begins with the cry for justice of those too angry to maintain the status quo. Their resulting movements, social, political, economic, engender the literatures of protest

**Proposer:** Debra D. Andrist, Sam Houston State U, [andrist@shsu.edu](mailto:andrist@shsu.edu)

### **FAULKNER AND ERDRICH: CONVERGENCES**

This panel seeks papers on shared aspects of story and language in works by William Faulkner and Louise Erdrich. Possible topics include questions of influence, regionalism, history, and cultural differentiation.

**Proposer:** Melanie R. Anderson, U of Mississippi, [mranders@olemiss.edu](mailto:mranders@olemiss.edu)

### **SPECIAL SESSION FINAL PROPOSAL FORM DEADLINE**

The priority deadline for the SCMLA office receipt of Special Session proposals is February 28, 2015. Download the form from our website [here](#).



## Poems from the 2014 South Central Poets' Corner Poets

### Like Hawks above Sage

Something about a prairie  
makes you want to follow  
flying low like hawks above sage  
scattered stalks of bluestem  
renegade in late October  
too stubborn to die easy  
too tough to be anything else.

The wind has ended. Calm  
covers like glass, the world  
a museum. I would pay  
twice to soar once again;  
I would pay double to see  
from a hawk's eye cruising,  
regal, sovereign, fearless.

Ken Hada

Ken Hada is a professor and poet with four current collections of poetry in print: *The Way of the Wind* (Village Books Press, 2008), *Spare Parts* and *The River White: A Confluence of Brush & Quill* (Mongrel Empire Press, 2010 and 2011), and *Margaritas and Redfish* (Lamar UP, 2013).

# Poems from the 2014 South Central Poets' Corner Poets

## Traveling the Milky Way

for Kim Alexander, 1953-1989

On nights like this when he drifts through  
her dreams like smoke from burning wood,  
it helps to rise, to step out into darkness,  
hear coyotes howling on the western ridge,  
the moon skulking behind the gnarled elms,  
stars hovering so close they can hear her breathe.

She imagines his bitter sweet presence.  
Not on this planet where she is stranded  
but out there among the receding points  
in the realm of Orion and his heavy belt  
a million million light years away.

She whispers his name and waits, like the nights  
of his boyhood, when aflame with need to share  
the wonders of the night sky, he whispered her awake,  
showed her distant worlds through his telescope.

She imagines him now as one of those ancient  
lights, in a heaven of his own choosing.

Dorothy Alexander

Dorothy Alexander is a poet, storyteller, and editor/publisher of a small independent press and author of four books of poetry, *The Dust Bowl Revisited* (Village Books Press, 2002), *Rough Drafts* (Village Books Press, 2004), *Borrowed Dust* (Village Books Press, 2006), and *Lessons From an Oklahoma Girlhood* (Village Books Press, 2008).

## Poems from the 2014 South Central Poets' Corner Poets

### God's Radio

In Religious Ed a nun once told us that we  
should always make the sign of the cross  
before and after we prayed. The first gesture  
opened God's wavelength, the second closed it off.

I wonder if the sister knew how many nights  
I would lie in bed, panicked, wide awake  
unable to remember if I had signaled  
*Roger and out*. Odds or evens—heaven  
or hell. I crossed myself without stopping,  
hoping to land on evens or at least to interrupt  
the feed before my memories of Linda Ursoni's  
blouse and her fully developed fifth grade breasts  
bubbled forth from the back of my pubescent mind.

Even as an adult, I find myself playing  
the same game, while hoping that someday  
I might cross myself one last time and be done  
with it, but the deep need to hide always follows—  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son. . . .

Alan Berecka

Alan Berecka is the author of three books of poetry: *The Comic Flaw* (NeoNuma Arts, 2009), *Remembering the Body* (Mongrel Empire Press, 2011), and *With Our Baggage* (Lamar University Press, 2013)



## CONVENTION HOTEL INFORMATION

Our 72nd annual conference will be held at the  
**Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt**  
**2555 West End Avenue**  
**Nashville, TN 37203**  
**Saturday, October 31 to Tuesday November 3**



**South Central MLA  
rate:  
\$139 single/double  
plus tax**

**Reservations:  
1-800-285-0190**

Complimentary shuttle service between the hotel and  
down-town in the evening

Fitness Center

Full –service Business Center

Nashville’s Centennial Park and Parthenon are directly  
across the street

Near a variety of shops, restaurants and entertainment

Overnight Self-Parking \$24 plus tax

Please state you want the “South Central Modern Language Association rate” when making your reservations. **All conference participants must reserve their rooms with The Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt by September 30, 2015 in order to receive the conference rate.**

**SOUTH CENTRAL MODERN  
LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION**

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Executive Director**

Published twice a year.  
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Submit material for the Summer Newsletter by  
May 31, 2015

<http://www.southcentralmla.org>