The 69th annual South Central MLA convention was held in San Antonio, Texas from November 8-10, 2012 at the historic Sheraton Gunter Hotel on the River Walk. Sessions explored a variety of topics, including those related to the conference theme, “Death, Eros, and the Literary Enterprise.” SCMLA hosted 131 sessions and there were approximately 460 people listed in the program. This participation represents an approximate 24% increase in sessions and a 27% increase in the number of presenters compared to the 2011 conference in Hot Springs.

On Thursday, November 8 SCMLA’s special guest Rosemary Feal, Executive Director of the MLA, spoke about her work with the Language Consultancy Project in an address titled “Language Studies Today: What Matters, and What’s the Matter?” The address was followed by the SCMLA Executive Director’s Reception. Friends of the SCMLA who donate at the gold ($300) and platinum ($500) levels attended an intimate nightcaps reception on Thursday night with plenary speaker Denise Chávez, special guest Rosemary Feal, and the Executive Officers of the SCMLA. Friends’ donations are tax deductible and support research and travel grants, including funding for graduate students and contingent faculty in the profession.

On Friday, November 9 Anne Quinney (U of Mississippi) delivered her presidential address “Reciting, Recycling, Repurposing?: Remarks on Plagiarism” at the business luncheon. Later that afternoon the SCMLA hosted its first annual Poets’ Corner, organized by SCMLA English Representative Julie Chappell (Tarleton State U). The event, which was accompanied by a networking reception, featured readings by Nathan Brown (Oklahoma Book Award winner), Karla K. Morton (2010 Texas Poet Laureate), and Juan Manuel Perez (2011-2012 Poet Laureate for the San Antonio Poets’ Association). On the evening of November 9, the novelist, playwright, teacher, and performance artist Denise Chávez delivered the plenary address “Dancing with La Huesuda,” followed by the President’s Reception. This year’s SCCEA breakfast was chaired by Jessica J. Jones (U of Louisiana-Lafayette), and featured Joycelyn Moody Sue E. Denman Distinguished Chair in American Literature (UT San Antonio), who spoke on “Teaching Love and Death in The Curse of Caste.” Jeanne Gillespie (U Southern Mississippi) chaired the Women’s Caucus breakfast, which featured a roundtable discussion titled “Straddling Death and Eros: Frieda Kahlo, André Breton, and the Quest for Convulsive Beauty.”

2013 Banner Year: “Masking and Unmasking the Subject”
October 3-5, New Orleans, LA

SCMLA will celebrate seven decades of intellectual exchange in the heart of the French Quarter at the historic Ho-
tel Monteleone in New Orleans. Calls welcome papers on a variety of topics; we accept special sessions on topics beyond the conference theme. This year we will explore one of New Orleans’s many symbols: the mask and its functions. The search for the authentic self or transcendental ego holds a privileged place in the history of literary theory, philosophy, and psychoanalytic theory. Literature, language, film, and art all provide tools for constructing vivid imagery of the subject and her façades. In New Orleans, the city of performance and masquerades, we will contemplate the following questions, among others: What are the social factors that participate in forming the subject’s masks? When are these masks in place and when do they fall away? Behind the mask, is there such a thing as an authentic self? How do race, religion, gender, sexuality, nationality, class, and education influence maskings and unmaskings? What particular use of the mask do we find in times of war, economic recession, political repression, and other modes of crisis vis-à-vis peaceful and prosperous contexts?

Please see the pages of this newsletter for calls and guidelines or visit http://www.southcentralmla.org/submissions-for-2013-conference/.

Join us in a Toast to Celebrate our 70th Conference Year!

SCMLA will hold a fundraiser at the Hotel Monteleone for which tickets will be available. Proceeds from the event will fund an endowment for the future financial stability of the association. Please look for emails from scmla@ou.edu for further information.

SCMLA Welcomes US Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey and Offers $14,000 in Awards, Grants, and Prizes in 2013

We are thrilled to announce Natasha Trethewey, the 2013 US Poet Laureate, as this year’s plenary speaker. Please see the write-up in this issue for more information. Special thanks go to the South Central Review for funding Trethewey’s address and to English Representative Julie Chappell and President Elizabeth Coscio for their role in identifying and securing this illustrious speaker.

In light of budget cuts to research funding nationwide, 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, new in 2013 SCMLA will also offer the Research Award for Temporary Faculty and Independent Scholars in the amount of $1500 (open to eligible members who have complete 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 at http://www.southcentralmla.org/grants-and-awards/. Deadlines are listed in the pages of this newsletter, and at http://www.southcentralmla.org/deadlines/.

A note regarding professional development: in addition to mock interviews and the Job Seekers’ Workshop, SCMLA will offer personalized CV and cover letter consultations to faculty and students on the job market. Please note that in order to benefit from these personalized consultations, the member’s department must be a sustaining member of the association. Contact Diana Hodges at scmla@ou.edu or visit our website for details regarding sustaining departmental and center memberships.

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 Assistant Program Director Diana Hodges (scmla@ou.edu) for details.

Friends Membership and Administration

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 will allow the association to reinstate and 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 nightcaps reception with conference plenary and keynote speakers. Friends are recognized in our conference program and on a banner prominently displayed in the reception area. We thank you for your support!

Please note that, as announced in early 2012, this year SCMLA will transition to all online transactions in order to keep better records of member information and to streamline our office procedures, given our limited staffing. The Executive Office is consulting with vendors regarding ways to reduce transaction costs for our members.

Note the following important dates for conference participants: the deadline to become a member is May 31 and the deadline to register is August 9. Members may consult the complete list of deadlines on our website at http://www.southcentralmla.org/deadlines/.
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 confirms that there will be adequate space; we expect a large turnout in New Orleans, 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 U. SCRev, published by Johns Hopkins UP and archived by Project Muse, is the official publication of the South Central MLA. Managing Editor Nick Lawrence 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 LAWRENNM@mailbox.sc.edu.

New and Retiring Executive Committee Members

Executive Committee members who will begin service in 2013 are: Vice President Melissa Bailar (Rice U); German Representative Jacob Ivan Eidt (U of Dallas); and At-Large Representative Genaro Pérez (Texas Tech U). Congratulations to all of you!

The Executive Office warmly thanks retiring EC members Past President Gwendolyn Diaz (St. Mary’s U), and German Representative Caroline Huey (U of Louisiana-Lafayette) for their contributions to governance and their service to the profession. It has been a pleasure working with both of you.

Best wishes for a productive 2013,

Nancy LaGreca, Executive Director

Elizabeth Brown-Guillory, Texas Southern U and Violet Harrington-Bryan, Xavier U.

Claudia Yaghoobi, U of California-Santa Barbara, was the winner of the Jafar and Shokoh Farzaneh Paper Prize in Persian Literature and Culture.
Natasha Trethewey, United States Poet Laureate 2012-2013 will be our Plenary Speaker for the 70th Annual SCMLA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, October 3-5, 2013 at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter

"Trethewey has a genuine gift for verse forms, and the depth of her engagement in language marks her as a true poet." — Washington Post

"Trethewey’s writing mines the cavernous isolation, brutality, and resilience of African American history, tracing its subterranean echoes to today." — New Yorker

Natasha Trethewey is the 19th United States Poet Laureate (2012-2013). In his citation, Librarian of Congress James Billington wrote "Her poems dig beneath the surface of history—personal or communal, from childhood or from a century ago—to explore the human struggles that we all face." She is the author of Thrall (2012), Native Guard (Houghton Mifflin), for which she won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize, Bellocq’s Ophelia (Graywolf, 2002), which was named a Notable Book for 2003 by the American Library Association, and Domestic Work (Graywolf, 2000). She is also the author of Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast (University of Georgia Press).

Her first collection of poetry, Domestic Work (2000), was selected by Rita Dove as the winner of the inaugural Cave Canem Poetry Prize for the best first book by an African American poet and won both the 2001 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Book Prize and the 2001 Lillian Smith Award for Poetry. In her introduction to the book, Dove said, "Trethewey eschews the Polaroid instant, choosing to render the unsuspecting yearnings and tremulous hopes that accompany our most private thoughts—reclaiming for us that interior life where the true self flourishes and to which we return, in solitary reverie, for strength."

Trethewey is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study Center, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Bunting Fellowship Program of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. Her poems have appeared in such journals and anthologies as American Poetry Review, Callaloo, Kenyon Review, The Southern Review, New England Review, Gettysburg Review, and several volumes of The Best American Poetry. At Emory University she is Robert W. Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing. In addition to being United States Poet Laureate, she is the State Poet Laureate of Mississippi, from 2012-2016.

Trethewey’s Plenary address will be Friday, October 4 beginning at 6:00pm.
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 2013. 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, 2013

SCMLA RESEARCH AWARD-$1500
(Open to all eligible members who have completed the PhD)
APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2013

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, 2013

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANT-$500
(at the dissertation stage)
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2013

SCMLA CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS
$200 for Graduate Students at the doctoral level
$500 for Faculty and Independent Scholars
APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2013

2013 SCMLA CONFERENCE PAPER PRIZES
Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Prize in Hispanic Gender Studies-$1000
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 9, 2013

SCMLA BOOK AWARD-$500
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 30, 2013
Scholarly and critical books and editions published in 2012 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 30, 2013 to SCMLA President for 2013, Elizabeth Coscio at the following address:

Dr. Elizabeth Coscio
Department of Modern and Classical Languages
University of St. Thomas
3800 Montrose
Houston, TX 77006

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 2013 will be announced at Business Meeting/Luncheon in New Orleans.
South Central MLA Deadlines for 2013

February 2013
01 Application deadline for SCMLA/Harry Ransom Center Fellowship
   www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fellowships
28 Deadline for receipt of Graduate Student Grant applications to the SCMLA office
28 Deadline for receipt of Benson-SCMLA Faculty Research Grant applications to SCMLA office
28 Deadline for receipt of SCMLA Conference Travel Grants applications to SCMLA office
28 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of Final Proposals for Special Sessions for New Orleans 2013

March 2013
31 Proposers of Special Sessions for New Orleans 2013 will be notified
31 Deadline for Book Prize Nominations to Elizabeth Coscio, SCMLA President
31 Deadline for submission of Papers/Abstracts for New Orleans 2013 to Regular/Allied Session Chairs
31 Deadline for receipt of SCMLA Research Award applications to SCMLA office
31 Deadline for receipt of Research Award for Temporary Faculty and Independent Scholars applications to SCMLA office

April 2013
30 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of Final Program Copy for all 2013 sessions
30 Deadline for requesting audio-visual equipment for New Orleans 2013

May 2013
31 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of items to be included in the Summer Newsletter
31 Deadline for 2013 conference participants to become members of SCMLA

August 2013-NOTE EARLIER DEADLINE FOR NEW ORLEANS 2013
09 Deadline for registration for New Orleans Conference
09 Deadline for 2013 Conference Paper Prize submissions
09 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of ballots for Executive Committee elections

September 2013
09 Deadline for 2013 conference hotel reservation at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans

REMINDER: NEW ORLEANS CONFERENCE DATES OCTOBER 3-5, 2013

SCMLA 70th Annual Convention Calls for Papers or Abstracts
October 3-5, 2013
Hotel Monteleone
New Orleans, Louisiana

Regular Session chairs may not deliver a paper in the session for which they serve. Session secretaries may deliver a paper in the session for which they serve.

Session chairs are responsible for notifying the SCMLA office in writing of any changes to their panels.

DEADLINES FOR REGULAR & ALLIED SESSIONS

MARCH 31, 2013
Unless otherwise stated, papers or 500 word abstracts must be submitted to SESSION CHAIRS. Session Chairs, please note: Abstracts as well as papers are acceptable.

APRIL 30, 2013
Session programs submitted to Diana Hodges, Assistant Program Director via email at SCMLA@ou.edu. Paper titles must be included for publication in the convention program.

MAY 31, 2013
All participants must be SCMLA members for program listing and to ensure receipt of convention materials.

* SPECIAL NOTE:
Please notify the SCMLA if you have any information regarding pending secretaries or chairs.

ALLIED SESSIONS

ASOCIACIÓN DE LITERATURA FEMENINA HISPÁNICA: Open Topic
Chair: Martha C. Galvan-Mandujano, U of Oklahoma, mar-thagalvan@ou.edu
Secretary: Maria E. Pérez, U of Houston, meperez2@uh.edu
CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIANITY AND LITERATURE: Mark Twain said, “There are Lies, Damn Lies and Statistics;” and, Aristotle gave us three appeals: Logos, Pathos and Ethos. Are these three appeals obvious in the development of fictional characters in Western Culture? Can Aristotle’s appeals take the place of religion? Is the telling of lies ever an ethical act? Will Daisy ever pay for her crime of killing her husband’s mistress in the Great Gatsby? Will the true last words of the dying man in Heart of Darkness ever be told?

Chair: Garnet Branch, U of Louisiana
glb1176@Louisiana.edu
Secretary: Robert Hamilton, Baylor U, r_hamilton@baylor.edu

THE EUDORA WELTY SOCIETY: Open Topic
Chair: Travis Rozier, U of Mississippi
itrrozier@olemiss.edu
Secretary: Joshua Lundy, U of Mississippi, jslundy@olemiss.edu

FLANNERY O’CONNOR SOCIETY: Open Topic
Chair: Kathleen Lipovski-Helal, St. Edward’s U, kathleen@stedwards.edu
Secretary: Allison Chestnut, William Carey U, achestnut@wmcarey.edu

INTERNATIONAL COURTLY LITERATURE SOCIETY: Open Topic
Chair: Valerie Wilhite, U of Oregon, vvwilhite@uoregon.edu
Secretary: Susan Hopkirk, Ryerson U, shopkirk@ryerson.edu

PI DELTA PHI: “FRENCH IN NORTH AMERICA”-Given the proximity of Quebec, Canada to the United States and the increased economic ties among the United States, Canada, and Mexico due to NAFTA, it is only natural that secondary and post-secondary curricula include the study of Quebec and its connections to Canada’s other French-speaking regions into their curriculum. However, traditional French textbooks, particularly ones geared for the introductory level, rarely dedicate more than one chapter to Quebec and even less to Canada’s other French-speaking regions and to the Franco-American communities in the United States. Yet, with the reemergence of language reacquisition among the multiple Franco-American communities in the United States, educators can now find more easily ways for making the study of French relevant to today’s U.S. students.

Chair: Eileen M. Angelini, Canisius College, Eileen.angelini@canisius.edu
Secretary: Scott Fish, Augustana College, scott.fish@augie.edu

SOUTH CENTRAL AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY: Open Topic
Chair: Geoffrey Clegg, Texas A&M U-Commerce, geoffrey.clegg@gmail.com
Secretary: Michael Dressman, U of Houston-Downtown, dressmanm@uhd.edu

SOUTH CENTRAL COLLEGE ENGLISH ASSOCIATION: ‘Bad Girls’: Recalcitrant Women in Western Literature and Culture. From the primal ‘bad girl,’ the biblical Eve, to her classical and contemporary sisters in crime, recalcitrant women have evolved and devolved throughout western literature and culture. We invite proposals for papers exploring this literary and cultural phenomenon. Please submit abstracts to either the organizer or chair of this session.

Organizer: Julie Chappell, Tarleton State U, chapell@tarleton.edu
Chair: Mallory Young, Tarleton State U, myoung@tarleton.edu
Secretary: Session will need to elect 2014 chair and secretary.

WOMEN IN FRENCH: Open Topic
Chair: Theresa Varney Kennedy, Baylor U, thereesa_kennedy@baylor.edu
Secretary: Pending

REGULAR SESSIONS

AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Amy K. King, U of Mississippi, amykatherineking@gmail.com
Secretary: M. Clay Hooper, Prairie View A&M U, mchooper@pvamu.edu

AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Open Topic
Chair: Violet Harrington-Bryan, Xavier U, vbryan@xula.edu
Secretary: Biljana Obradovic, Xavier U, bobradovic@xula.edu

AMERICAN LITERATURE I: LITERATURE BEFORE 1900: Open Topic
Chair: Benjamin Fisher, U of Mississippi, bfisher@ms.metrocast.net
Secretary: Travis Montgomery, U of Mississippi, tdmontg1@olemiss.edu

AMERICAN LITERATURE II: LITERATURE AFTER 1900: Open Topic
Chair: Scott T. Chancellor, United States Military Academy, scott.chancellor@us.army.mil
Secretary: Ann V. Bliss, Texas A&M U-San Antonio, abliss@tamusa.tamus.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: Marco Íñiguez-Alba, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, kfmoi00@tamuk.edu
Secretary: Maria E. Pérez, U of Houston, meperez@uh.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: Marco Íñiguez-Alba, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, kfmoi00@tamuk.edu
Secretary: Maria E. Pérez, U of Houston, meperez@uh.edu

WOMEN IN FRENCH: Open Topic
Chair: Theresa Varney Kennedy, Baylor U, thereesa_kennedy@baylor.edu
Secretary: Pending
APPLIED LINGUISTICS: Open Topic
Chair: Nora Vivas, Stephen F. Austin State U/U of Houston, nora-vivas@hotmail.com
Secretary: Pending

ARABIC LITERATURE AND CULTURE: Open Topic
Chair: Mark Wagner, Louisiana State U, mwagner@lsu.edu
Secretary: Pending

AUSTRALASIAN LITERATURE AND FILM: Open Topic
Chair: Nathanael O’Reilly, Texas Christian U, n.oreilly@tcu.edu
Secretary: Pending

AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND BIOGRAPHY: Open Topic
Chair: Mary Grace Elliot, Georgia State U, mge1108@gmail.com
Secretary: Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, rcostello@mcneese.edu

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEXTUAL CRITICISM: Welcomes 15 minute papers related to: textual studies; bibliography; history of the book; authorship; rare books; pedagogy; paratextuality; publishing history; circulation and reader reception; and books and texts as material objects.
Chair: Carrie Johnston, Southern Methodist U, cjjohnston@mail.smu.edu
Secretary: Elizabeth Willingham, Baylor U, bwillingham1@hot.rr.com

CREATIVE WRITING-CREATIVE NONFICTION: Open Topic Personal essays, memoir, or other nonfiction essays.
Chair: Tiffany Hauck, Pacific U, thauck@mac.com
Secretary: Shannon Abbot, Pacific U, shanninsky17@gmail.com

CREATIVE WRITING-POETRY: Open Topic
Chair: Jerry Bradley, Lamar U, jerry.bradley@lamar.edu
Secretary: Richard Boada, Misericordia U, rboada@misericordia.edu

DIGITAL HUMANITIES: Digital Humanities, not yet its own cohesive field, is rapidly gaining momentum in the classroom, in faculty research agendas, on the job market, and in funding agencies. It encompasses the use of computational tools and multimedia platforms to facilitate the investigation of new sorts of research questions, collaborative research and publishing, hands-on research experience for students, and new visualization of humanistic data. This area of investigation is ever-shifting, as humanists discover new ways to use existing technologies and advise computational scientists on the development of new tools geared explicitly towards the humanities.
Organizer: Melissa Bailar, Rice U, melba@rice.edu

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Any paper exploring the linguistic, literary, cinematic, aesthetic, or cultural topics in China, Japan, Korea, or East Asia in general is welcome.
Chair: Guo-ou Zhuang, U of Central Arkansas, gzhuang@uca.edu
Secretary: Kalpana M. Iyengar, U of Texas-San Antonio, ki-iyengar@stmarytx.edu

ENGLISH I: OLD AND MIDDLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Geoffrey B. Elliott, Technical Career Institutes, geoffrey.b.elliott@gmail.com
Secretary: Leigh Hickman, Dallas Baptist U, prof-leigh7@gmail.com

ENGLISH II: RENAISSANCE LITERATURE EXCLUDING DRAMA: Chair: Secretary:

ENGLISH III: RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Zak Watson, Texas A&M U-Kingsville, zak.watson@gmail.com
Secretary: Ashley Bender, Texas Woman’s U, abbender@gmail.com
ENGLISH IV: NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Peggy J. Curet, St. Mary’s U, pcuret@stmarytx.edu
Secretary: Lynn Alexander, U of Tennessee-Martin, lalexand@utm.edu

ENGLISH V: TWENTIETH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Jenna Wright, U of Tennessee-Martin, jwright@utm.edu
Secretary: Joe R. Christopher, Tarleton State U, jchristopher@tarleton.edu

ENGLISH VI: GENERAL LINGUISTICS: All projects in any area of linguistics are welcome.
Chair: Mary Lynne Hill, St. Mary’s U, mhill@stmarytx.edu
Secretary: Calvin Hoovestol, U of Texas-San Antonio, poet44rym@yahoo.com

FILM: Open Topic
Chair: Kristopher Mecholsky, Louisiana State U, kmecho1@lsu.edu
Secretary: Pritty Bhallah, U of Houston, pbhalla@hbu.edu

FOLKLORE: Open Topic
Chair: Delores Zumwalt, Collin College, dzumwalt@collin.edu
Secretary: Elaine Cho, Texas Woman’s U, elainecho@dcccd.edu

FRENCH I: LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE TO 1600: Open Topic
Chair: Monica L. Wright, U of Louisiana-Lafayette, mlwright@louisiana.edu
Secretary: William W. Kibler, U of Texas-Austin, wklbler@utexas.edu

FRENCH II: LITERATURE, 1600–1850: Open Topic
Chair: Cristian Bratu, Baylor U, cristian_bratu@baylor.edu
Secretary: Clare Perry, U of Texas-Austin,clare.perry@gmail.com

FRENCH III: LITERATURE AFTER 1850: This panel will explore French and Francophone literature, broadly construed, from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.
Chair: Melissa Bailar, Rice U, melba@rice.edu
Secretary: Kelsey Madsen, U of Oklahoma, kelsey.seale@ou.edu

FRESHMAN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH COMPOSITION: The Subject in/of First-Year Composition
Organizer: Thomas W. Reynolds, Jr., Northwester State U of Louisiana, reynolds@nsula.edu
Secretary: Geoffrey Clegg, Texas A&M U-Commerce, geoffrey.clegg@gmail.com

GAY AND LESBIAN STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Papers are presented on topics related to transgender, bisexual, questioning, lesbian, and gay studies
Chair: Erin Clair, Arkansas Tech U, eclair@atu.edu
Secretary: Lowry Martin, U of Texas-El Paso, lmartin@utep.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
Chair: Pamela Saur, Lamar U, pssaur@my.lamar.edu
Secretary: Edward T. Potter, Mississippi State U, epotter@fl.msstate.edu

GERMAN III: LITERATURE AND CULTURE FROM 1890 TO PRESENT: Open Topic
Chair: Karin Maxey, U of Texas-Austin, kmaxey@utexas.edu
Secretary: Michael Stone, El Centro College, mstone@dcccd.edu

GERMAN WOMEN WRITERS: RECONFIGURING FEMININITIES: This panel will explore various configurations of female identity including sexuality, age, race, ethnicity, class, (dis)ability, and their intersectional manifestations. Papers examining women’s identity across centuries in German-speaking lands are welcome. How do women writers denaturalize and recreate femininities? What linguistic, symbolic, and intertextual resources do they use and how do they transform language?
Chairs: Natalia Dudnik, George Mason U, ndudnik@gmu.edu
Secretary: Julia Wu, Washington U in St. Louis, wuju@go.wustl.edu

GOTHIC: Open Topic
Chair: Melanie Anderson, U of Mississippi, mranders@olemiss.edu
Secretary: Benjamin Fisher, U of Mississippi, bfisher@ms.metrocast.net
HISPANIC LITERATURE WRITTEN IN THE UNITED STATES: Open Topic
Chair: Kristen McAlear, San Jacinto College, kris-ten.mcalear@sjcd.edu
Secretary: Dustin Morrow, Baylor U, dustin_morrow@baylor.edu

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES: Open Topic
Chair: Carol Bunch Davis, Texas A&M U-Galveston, da-visc@tamug.edu
Secretary: Dustin D. Morrow, Baylor U, dustin_morrow@baylor.edu

IRISH LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Richard Russell, Baylor U, richard_russell@baylor.edu
Secretary: Jane Galliher, Blue Mountain College, mgalli-her@bmc.edu

ITALIAN LITERATURE, LANGUAGE, AND LINGUISTICS: Open Topic
Chair: Ryan Calabretta Sajder, Rice U, rcalabretta@gmail.com
Secretary: Sandy Waters, Texas Christian U, sandywaters8@gmail.com

LITERATURE AND POLITICAL THEORY: Open Topic
Chair: Alejandra K. Carballo, Arkansas Tech U, acarbal- lo@atu.edu
Secretary: John Glass, U of Tennessee-Martin, jglass@utm.edu

LITERATURE AND PSYCHOLOGY: LITERATURE, PSYCHOANALYSIS, AND QUESTIONING THE SUBJECT. Following the 2013 SCMLA conference theme, we encourage 500 word abstracts that take up the questions of the subject in literature, psychoanalysis, or their conjunction, especially in relation to Lacan, race, gender, and the possibility of psychoanalytic politics.
Chair: Bob Hodges, U of Washington, bhodge4@gmail.com
Secretary: Richmond Adams, Eastern Oklahoma State U, richmondadams2004@gmail.com

LITERO CRITICISM AND THEORY: Open Topic
Chair: Robert Azzarello, Southern U, robert.azzarello@gmail.com
Secretary: Sobia Khan, U of Texas-Dallas and Richland College, sobia.khan@utdallas.edu

LUSO-AFRO-BRAZILIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: Papers related to cultures and literatures of the Portuguese-speaking world. Papers may be given in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.
Chair: Luciana Namorato, Indiana U, lnamorat@indiana.edu
Secretary: Rebecca Marquis, Gonzaga U, mar-quis@gonzaga.edu

MODERN DRAMA: Open Topic
Chair: David J. Eshelman, Arkansas Tech U, deshelman@atu.edu
Secretary: Robert Stanton, South U, rob-_stanton77@hotmail.com

NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Jamie Korsmo, Georgia State U, jkorsmo1@gsu.edu
Secretary: Brenda Brown, U of Science and Arts Oklahoma, bbrown@usao.edu

PERSIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE: Open Topic
Chair: Claudia Yaghoobi, U of California-Santa Barbara, cmassihi@yahoo.com
Secretary: Pending

REGIONAL FICTION WRITERS: Creative Short Stories that are set in the South or written by authors from the South or living in the South are desired. Please send a bio and a short story of 10 pages or less.
Chair: Stacy Austin, Howard College, saustin@howardcollege.edu
Secretary: Alica Mariano, McNeese State U, al- lie.mariano@gmail.com

RENAISSANCE LITERATURE (EXCLUDING DRAMA): Open Topic. Papers that engage the topic of “Masking and Unmasking the Subject” are encouraged.
Chair: Sara Keeth, U of Texas-Dallas, silkeeth@gmail.com
Secretary: Courtney Dombroski, U of Texas-Dallas, court-ney.dombroski@gmail.com

RENAISSANCE DRAMA: Open Topic. Papers that discuss how Renaissance drama engages the conference theme of “Masking and Unmasking the Subject” are especially encouraged.
Chair: Kris McAbee, U of Arkansas-Little Rock, kmca-bee@ualr.edu
Secretary: Oliver Hennessey, Xavier U, ohennessy@xula.edu

RHETORIC: Open Topic. This is an open panel, and any proposal related to rhetoric within any discourse (political, cultural, literary, etc.) is welcome.
Chair: Donna Dunbar Odom, Texas A&M U-Commerce don-naco.dunbar@tamuc.edu
Secretary: Stephen Whitley, Tex- as A&M-Commerce, swit-ley3@leo.tamu-commerce.edu
RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND METHODOLOGY: Open Topic.
We invite papers in the areas of Russian methodology and linguistics, innovation in language programs, etc.
Chair: Charles Wukasch, Austin Community College, accprof@att.net
Secretary: Karen Chilstrom, U of Texas-Austin, chilstrom@utexas.edu

RUSSIAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Karen Chilstrom, U of Texas-Austin, chilstrom@utexas.edu
Secretary: Jennifer Hudson, U of Texas-Dallas, jennifer.hudson@utdallas.edu

SCIENCE AND LITERATURE: Open Topic
Organizer: Patricia González, Smith College, pgonzalez@smith.edu
Secretary: Gwendolyn Díaz, St. Mary’s U, gwendiaz@sbcglobal.net

SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Mark R. Hall, Oral Roberts U, mhall@oru.edu
Secretary: Alexios Moore, Xavier U, alexiosm@gmail.com

SHORT FICTION: THEORY AND CRITICISM: Seeking papers of 15-20 minutes that treat narratives (metaphors, tropes) of masking and unmasking or revelation in genres of short fiction including detective stories and mystery and science-fiction. Please send titles and abstracts (+/-200 words) with your academic affiliation information to elizwillingham@utexas.edu by March 31.

SLAVIC AND EASTERN EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES: Open Topic.
Chair: Biljana Obradovic, Xavier U, obradovoxula.edu
Secretary: Charles Wukasch, Austin Community College, accprof@att.net

SOUTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND DEPARTMENTS OF ENGLISH: This session is accepting proposals for topics concerning the cultural significance of English and foreign language literary studies.
Chair: Tonja Mackey, Texarkana College, tonja.mackey@texarkanacollege.edu
Secretary: Elizabeth Coscio, U of St. Thomas, coscioe@stthom.edu

SOUTHERN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Melinda McBe, Grayson County College, mcbee58@verizon.net
Secretary: Kelly Clasen, East Central University, kclasen@ecok.edu

SOUTHWESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE: Open Topic
Chair: Phyllis Bridges, Texas Woman’s U, pbridges@twu.edu
Secretary: Cassie Polasek, Texas State U-San Marcos, cassiepolasek@hotmail.com

SPANISH I: LITERATURE BEFORE 1700: Open Topic
Chair: Paul Larson, Baylor U, paul.larson@baylor.edu
Secretary:

SPANISH II: LITERATURE AFTER 1700: Open Topic
Chair: Frieda Blackwell, Baylor U, friedablackwell@baylor.edu
Secretary:

SPANISH III: SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE BEFORE 1945: Celebrating 500 Years of Hispanic Presence in the Gulf Coast: La Florida. This panel will examine Hispanic influence in the Gulf South since the arrival of Ponce de Leon in Florida in 1513. New Orleans was a Spanish city, as well as a French city. The Cabildo and the iron work of the “French” Quarter are influences from that time. Where can we find examples of this in Spanish-American literature?
Chair: Jeanne Gillespie, U of Southern Mississippi, jeanne.gillespie@usm.edu
Secretary: Garrett Oleen, Austin Community College, gaoleen1@hotmail.com

SPANISH IV: SPANISH AMERICAN LITERATURE AFTER 1945: Open Topic
Chair: Susana Perea-Fox, Oklahoma State U, susana.perea-fox@okstate.edu
Secretary: Rebecca L. Thompson, Susquehanna U, thompsonr@susqu.edu

SPANISH V: LINGUISTICS: Open Topic
Chair: Tracy Van Bishop, U of Arkansas-Little Rock, tvbishop@ualr.edu
Secretary: Deborah Arteaga, U of Nevada-Las Vegas, deborah.arteaga@unlv.edu

TECHNICAL WRITING: Open Topic
Chair: Debbie Williams, Abilene Christian U, debbie.williams@acu.edu
Secretary: David Major, Austin Peay State U, majord@apsu.edu
WAR, LITERATURE & THE ARTS: A discussion of literature that has war as a major subject. The texts can be any genre of literature, including film. 
Chair: Brenda Brown, U of Science and Arts Oklahoma, 
bbrown@usao.edu 
Secretary: Sylvia Morin, U of Houston, sylvie.morin@yahoo.com

WOMEN OF COLOR: The panel welcomes papers covering several genres by women of color. Our topics are varied in nature. 
Chair: Elizabeth Brown-Guillory, Texas Southern U, brown-guillory@tsu.edu 
Secretary: Christina Boyles, Baylor U, christina.boyles@baylor.edu

WOMEN’S CAUCUS OF THE SCMLA: Open Topic 
Chair: Ori Kritz, U of Oklahoma, okritz@ou.edu 
Secretary: Sylvia Morin, U of Houston-Downtown, sylvie.morin@yahoo.com

SPECIAL SESSIONS 
The following Special Sessions have been proposed, but not yet approved, for the 2013 SCMLA Convention to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana October 3-5, 2013. Send papers or abstracts to the addresses below by the deadline dates listed. Direct questions about these proposed sessions to the session organizers. Complete panels, whether or not they are listed here, must be submitted on an SCMLA Special Session form by February 28, 2013. Forms are available from the SCMLA office, scmla@ou.edu or www.southcentralmla.org. All proposed sessions will be refereed by the Program Committee, and accepted proposals will be notified in March 2013. Please note: Detailed proposals with full descriptions of each paper are strongly encouraged. Special Session proposals need not be listed in the Call for Papers in the Newsletter to be eligible for consideration, and you can still post a Call on our website by contacting scmla@ou.edu for details.

METAFOCTION/METATHEATRE: MASKING AND UNMASKING REALITY-Metafiction and theatre contain, create, and become masks; however, these masks also often reveal reality or veracity rather than undermine them. How do narratives intersect, usurp, and/or reveal truth? 
Abstracts due 10 January, 2013. 
Organizers: Rita D. Costello, McNeese State U, r.costello@mcneese.edu and Allie Mariano, McNeese State U, allie.mariano@gmail.com

THE COLONIAL DISGUISE: STRATEGIES OF SUBJUGATION AND/OR SURVIVAL IN LATIN AMERICAN SOCIETIES-The session welcomes proposals that expose European strategies to control the “barbarian” societies they conquered and/or the strategies of survival employed by the conquered to overcome adversity and a new reality. Please email 250-word abstracts (English or Spanish) to organizer by 3 February. Organizer: Eduardo Santa Cruz, Hanover College, santacr@hanover.edu

WOMEN IN FRENCH: EARLY MODERN FRENCH WOMEN AND THEIR TRANSNATIONAL WORLD-This session invites papers on early modern women’s interconnections in various sites of literary activity in different countries. We are interested in papers that consider both national and cross-border forms of communication.
Abstracts due 22 February. 
Organizers: Anne Larsen, Hope College, alarsen@hope.edu and Julie Campbell, Eastern Illinois U, jdc121@hotmail.com

WOMEN IN FRENCH: EARLY MODERN FRENCH WOMEN AND THEIR TRANSNATIONAL WORLD-This session invites papers on early modern women’s interconnections in various sites of literary activity in different countries. We are interested in papers that consider both national and cross-border forms of communication.
Abstracts due 22 February. 
Organizers: Anne Larsen, Hope College, alarsen@hope.edu and Julie Campbell, Eastern Illinois U, jdc121@hotmail.com

WOMEN IN FRENCH: FEMININE POSTURES: WHEN THE WOMAN SAYS NO-This session explores the ways in which women in the 19th and 20th century literature negate or transgress traditional female gender roles and how they “say no” by creating new social identities. 
Abstracts due 22 February. 
Organizer: Marie-Gersande Raoult, Université de Limoges, mgaoult@aol.com

WOMEN IN FRENCH: NEW APPROACHES TO INTERPRETING JULIA KRISTEVA: THEORICIAN OF LITERATURE, LINGUIST, PSYCHOANALYST, AND NOVEL-IST-This session is dedicated to the prominent Bulgarian-born French intellectual and writer Julia Kristeva (Holberg Prize for the Humanities). 
Abstracts due 22 February. 
Organizer: Irene Ivantcheva-Merjanska, U of Cincinnati, ivantciil@mail.uc.edu

WOMEN IN FRENCH: WOMEN AND THE REINVENTION OF THE SELF-This session explores the circumstances in which women think about reinventing themselves (perhaps due to illness, boredom, or children leaving the home) and how they record their personal transformation (in photographs, pictures, or an autobiographical account, etc.) 
Abstracts due 22 February. 
Organizer: Jane Evans, U of Texas-El Paso, jeevans@utep.edu
WOMEN IN FRENCH: DREAMS IN CONTEMPORARY WOMEN’S NARRATIVES-This session explores how dream narratives in women’s novels and autobiographies engage differences, challenge established structures of power, forge new languages, and transform reality while letting fear and desire find their expression. Abstracts due 22 February. Organizer: Anna Rocca, Salem State U, arocca@salemstate.edu

MASKING AND UNMASKING THE SUBJECT-Identity being inextricably tied to the masks that we wear and the roles that we play, what happens when disease causes the masks to fall? We encourage interdisciplinary proposals (literature/psychoanalysis, literature/anthropology, literature/history, etc.) that bring together fictional literary texts and their social, historical, anthropological or cultural reality. Organizer: Carole Trévisé, Tulane U, ctrevise@tulane.edu

MASKING/UNMASKING OR ROLE-PLAYING IN SPANISH LITERATURE-Spanish Literature is filled with pseudo-masked characters that live through trickery and deception-Lazarillo, Pablitos, Guzmán de Alfarache or Rosaura are all great examples. Papers in this session will deal with identity, social class, appearances, and cross-dressing. This session will deal with all literary periods from medieval to contemporary. Abstracts due 15 February. Organizer: Paul Larson, Baylor U, paul.larson@baylor.edu

MÁS/CARAS UNMASKED-“Mask” in Spanish literally means “more faces,” thus this session is dedicated to the “unmasking” of multiple identities, personalities, hypocrisies, intentions, and/or plot(s) in Hispanic literature, all periods/genres. Abstracts due 31 January. Organizer: Debra D. Andrist, Sam Houston State U, an-dríst@shsu.edu

CARNIVAL AND RACE IN LITERATURE AND/OR FILM-Abstracts are invited for papers which address the intersection of race and carnival (or the carnivalesque) in literature and/or film from any historical period. Abstracts due 12 February. Organizer: Debra D. Andrist, Sam Houston State U, an-dríst@shsu.edu

CONSTRUCTING “FRENCHNESS” IN LOUISIANA-This session aims to examine the construction of French and Franco PHONE identities in all periods of Louisiana history, from both within and without, and either the creation or negation of notions of “Frenchness.” Abstracts due 1 February. Organizer: Rachel Williams, McNeese U, rwilliams2@mcneese.edu

WHICH MASK TO WEAR?: THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN WRITERS IN WWI-As we approach the Centenary of the start of World War 1, it is time to start to assess the many roles played by women, to try to understand how they were affected by the war and how they took part in it. Many women writers wrote poetry and fiction about the war, some also traveled abroad and wrote essays for magazines and newspapers while others wrote letters home, telling their loved ones about their experiences as nurses or ambulance drivers. This panel seeks to highlight women whose writings about the war are surprising, unexpected and perhaps even contrary to what they were writing before the war. Abstracts or full papers due 15 February. Organizer: Marcy Tanter, Tarleton State U, tan-ter@tarleton.edu

UNMASKING TERRITORIAL DIVIDES: COLLABORATION ACROSS DEPARTMENTS AND DISCIPLINES-How might English and composition faculty members engage in collaboration with other academic divisions and/or departments to integrate instruction? Papers discussing strategies, successes, and challenges are encouraged. Abstracts due 10 February. Organizer: Tonja Mackey, Texarkana College, ton-ja.mackey@texarkanacollege.edu
UNMASKING THE TEACHING OF CULTURE IN THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSROOM—According to Heath (1986), “all language learning is cultural learning” (pp. 145-146). Even in classroom settings where the emphasis might be solely on the teaching and learning of language structures, culture is ever present. As Witte (2011) points out, “it would be a fallacy to simply ignore the cultural elements in explicit foreign language teaching” (p. 103). If we agree with Heath’s and Witte’s statements, then we could affirm that all language teaching is cultural teaching, and that despite the lack of focus on culture, cultural learning is an integral part of the language classroom. The purpose of this session is to unmask the teaching of culture in our language classrooms and to bring to the forefront the different ways in which language teachers convert culture learning into a conscious process in the foreign language classroom. Abstracts due 22 February. Organizer: Sandra Waters, Texas Christian University, s.a.waters@tcu.edu

MASKING AND UNMASKING THE SUBJECT IN ITALIAN CINEMA—This session invites papers in English or Italian that explore the problematic image/formation/decomposition of the subject in Italian film. Topics may include but are not limited to: identity crisis, multiple or hidden identities, the split subject, the search for the authentic self or transcendental ego. Abstracts due 22 February. Organizer: Carmen Carracelas-Juncal, U of Southern Mississippi, carmen.carracelasjuncal@usm.edu

THE MASK OF TECHNOLOGY IN RECENT SPANISH THEATRE—Contemporary Spanish dramatists have used technology on stage and behind the scenes for decades, but several recent plays have criticized how this same technology in our society has become a mask behind which we can hide. By concentrating on the receptors of their plays as part of an anonymous public hiding behind a mask of technology in society, current Spanish dramatists analyze the effects of this relatively new social construct. The technology mask may allow for uninhibited actions, but it also may cause unintended consequences that need to be addressed. Abstracts due 15 February 2013. Organizer: Eileen J. Doll, Loyola U New Orleans, edoll@loyno.edu

THE STATE OF THE PROFESSION: This session seeks papers that discuss the current situation of the teaching profession, taking in consideration especially the fate of adjuncts, non-tenure track, and part time teachers. Reflections on possible solutions for the present time, and contributions to the future of the profession as a whole are especially welcome. Abstracts due 28 February. Organizer: Eva Bueno, St. Mary's U, ebueno@stmarytx.edu

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From Mississippi, Alabama, etc. Head I-10 West toward Baton Rouge. Exit Orleans Ave./Vieux Carre (235A). Proceed down ramp and turn left at the light onto Orleans Ave. Continue on Orleans Ave under Interstate. Orleans Ave. becomes Basin Street. Continue on Orleans/Basin for .6 miles. Turn left on Conti Street. Continue six blocks (.5 miles), turn right on Decatur Street, then right on Bienville St. You will see the garage for Hotel Monteleone on your left side approximately 2 blocks down.

From Airport, Baton Rouge, Texas Head I-10 East toward New Orleans Business District and Slidell. Exit Superdome/Poydras Street (Exit 234B). Proceed down ramp and continue straight for 8 blocks, staying in left hand lane.~Turn left onto Camp Street and continue 4 blocks to Canal Street which turns into Chartres Street (a big 2-way Boulevard).~Cross over Canal Street which turns into Chartres Street (in the French Quarter).~Go 2 blocks on Chartres St and turn left on Bienville Street.~Halfway down the street, you will see the garage entrance for Hotel Monteleone on the left.
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  - Pascal Bruckner, French writer, philosopher, public intellectual
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Please state you want the “South Central Modern Language Association rate” when making your reservations. All conference participants must reserve their rooms with The Hotel Monteleone by September 9, 2013 in order to receive the conference rate.
69th Annual Convention in San Antonio: Death, Eros, and the Literary Enterprise

Presenters at the Special Session “The Contemporary Spanish Literary Essay” were (left to right) Lucero Tenorio, Oklahoma State U; César Ferreira, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; and Jose Juan Colin, U of Oklahoma.

Charles Wukasch, Austin Community College, presenting in the Slavic and Eastern European Languages and Literatures session.

SCMLA Executive Director Nancy LaGreca, Plenary Speaker Denise Chávez, and 2012 Past President Gwendolyn Díaz.