



RMMLA Update

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

RMMLA Executive Board Elections

Please vote for your new Executive Board members by January 15, 2004!

Each year the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association holds elections for its Executive Board. This year, three elections will be held: one for vice president for 2004 (who will serve as president in 2005 and past president in 2006); one for a delegate-at-large (three-year term); and one for a graduate student delegate (three-year term).

In alternating years, the vice president and the delegate-at-large are chosen from English or a field other than English. The

Boulder, Colorado site for 2004 Convention

The 58th annual convention will be held at the Millenium Harvest House Hotel in Boulder, Colorado from September 30-October 2, 2004.

The local host will be the University of Colorado, Boulder, chaired by Jeffrey Cox, Professor of Comparative Literature and Humanities/English and the Director of the Center for Humanities and the Arts. The local arrangements committee also includes Beth Robertson (English), Rima Salys (German and Slavic), Valerio Ferme (French and Italian), and Artemi Romanov (German and Slavic).

We are preparing an exciting program and hope you will propose a paper to a session listed in our Call for Papers or put together your own Special Topic Session (deadline March 1, 2004 for both). The Call for Papers is on the RMMLA Web site (<http://rmmla.wsu.edu>) and is enclosed in this mailing. The complete convention program (with dates and times of all sessions) will be available on the Web site by mid-June 2004.

graduate student delegate may be from any field. This year the vice presidential candidate will be from English, while the delegate-at-large position will be filled by someone in a field other than English.

Each candidate has provided a description of his or her educational and professional background, research interests, and a statement on his or her reasons for running for office within the association. Members may vote online until January 15, 2004. All those who vote will be entered into a contest to win a one-year RMMLA membership. Ballots will be tallied on January 16 and the elected officers announced on the RMMLA Web site immediately after. The winner of the contest will be announced at the same time.

To vote online:

1. Go to RMMLA Web site <http://rmmla.wsu.edu>
2. Click on "Member Login" button.
3. Type in your User ID and Password. If you have forgotten them, scroll down to the "Get My Login Info" box, enter your email, then submit — your ID & password will be emailed back to you within minutes.
4. Once in the Member Pages, click on "Elections" to read candidate bios and cast your votes.

Candidates for Vice President:

(In alphabetical order)

Alan Blackstock

Utah State University, Uintah Basin Branch

Alan Blackstock grew up in New Mexico and graduated from Northern Arizona University with a B.A. in English, followed

by an M.A. in English literature and a Ph.D. in 19th-century British literature and Language and Rhetoric from the University of New Mexico. He has taught English in Asia, first as a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand, then as a lecturer at Northwest Teachers' College in Lanzhou, China, and finally as an ESL supervisor and teacher trainer in Indonesia and the Philippines. Since his return to the US, he has taught at a community college in southeast Texas and at InterAmerican University in Puerto Rico. He is currently Assistant Professor of English at Utah State University. His teaching and research interests include rhetorical analysis of literary criticism, ethical criticism, British colonial and post-colonial literature,

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IN YOUR HONOR

Member Teaching/Research Awards and Publications

RMMLA would like to highlight the teaching and research awards received by our members, as well as books published by our members. These are posted on our Web site and we will published every fall in the Update newsletter.

We will use a 'moving wall' for these, announcements. For example, in 2004, we will announce awards and publications from 2001 forward.

Remember these awards and publications must be noted by you to RMMLA, as we have no method of determining your activities (other than RMMLA awards and publications). If you have recently received an award or published a book, send the details to rmmla@rmmla.wsu.edu.

If your contact information has changed—especially your email—please email the updated information to the Secretariat at rmmla@rmmla.wsu.edu.

RMMLA Executive Board

(through December 31, 2003)

President

Sura Rath
Honor's College
Central Washington University

Vice President

Elizabeth Ametsbichler
Department of Languages and Literatures
University of Montana

Past President

Albrecht Classen
Department of German
University of Arizona

Delegates-at-large:

Robert Hogge (term ends 2003)
Department of English
Weber State University

Walter Tschacher (term ends 2004)

Department of German
University of North Dakota

Susan McKay (term ends 2005)

Department of English
Weber State University

Graduate Student Delegate:

Carolyn Kelly (term ends 2003)
Department of English
Iowa State University

RMMLA Executive Staff

RMMLA Secretariat

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Executive Director:

Joan Grenier-Winther
Associate Professor of French

Administrative Assistant:

Laurie Heustis

Editors, *Rocky Mountain Review of Languages and Literature* and *E-Review*

Michael Delahoyde, Senior Editor
Sabine Davis, Editor

Managing Editor:

Gena Diltz

Check the online calendar for a listing of all dates and deadlines.

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multicultural American literature, and literature of the American West.

Candidate Statement: "To date I have presented papers and chaired sessions at the Vancouver, Scottsdale and Missoula RMMLA conferences, and will again be presenting and chairing in Boulder in 2004. What I value most in RMMLA is the opportunity it provides to hear presentations and meet scholars from a great variety of perspectives and backgrounds. As a generalist, I believe I would bring to the RMMLA Executive Board a diversity of educational experience and research interests that coincides nicely with the breadth of inquiry characterizing both the RMMLA conferences and the journal. I do not anticipate recommending any significant alterations in RMMLA practices or policies; the board has done an outstanding job in all areas of which I am aware. My primary purpose in serving would be to contribute what I can and perhaps to act as a liaison for our Utah contingent, since several Utah institutions of higher learning have consistently maintained a strong presence at conferences. I would also like to explore the possibility of Utah State hosting a conference in the near future."

Catherine Kunce

University of Colorado, Boulder

Catherine Kunce teaches in the Program for Writing and Rhetoric at UCB. She received a Ph.D. in English from the University of Denver. Her dissertation, "Writer to Writer, Woman to Woman: The Correspondence of Sarah Helen Whitman and Julia Deane Freeman" (currently under revision for Bucknell UP), involves transcription and annotation of the unpublished letters of two poets, one of whom was engaged to Edgar Allan Poe. A member of the Association for Documentary Editing (an organization that reviews and recommends methods of publishing historical and literary documents), Kunce assesses expanding notions of primary documents and explores the interstices of history, literature, art, and culture. While focusing on 19th-century American literature, she has written, published, taught, and presented papers about diverse topics such as Cervantes and Nabokov; music;

Wodehouse, Marcus Aurelius, and golf; Willa Cather; Korean-American artist Theresa Hak Kyung Cha; Native American women writers, including Chickasaw Linda Hogan; John McPhee; Sojourner Truth; Australian film; vaudeville and F. Scott Fitzgerald (about which she has co-authored an essay with Paul M. Levitt); gender in Renaissance witchcraft; and S.H. Whitman and Poe. Beyond editing the Sarah Helen Whitman Papers, Kunce is also a novelist, whose as-yet-unpublished first novel, *Stations of the Crossed Heart*, was awarded two literary prizes and secured an internship from the Rocky Mountain Women's Institute.

An active participant in RMMLA conferences, Kunce has chaired several conference sessions and presented papers on Poe and slave narratives, on Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's *Dictée*, and on Ecofeminism in early Native American literature. Two of the Special Sessions she spearheaded, Australian Film and Literature and a Topics on Poe, are on their way to becoming Regular Sessions. She has also contributed book reviews for RMMLA's *Rocky Mountain Review*.

Candidate Statement: "I would be honored to serve an organization from which I have derived so much, both professionally and personally. Although numerous literary organizations share RMMLA's commitments to diversified academic inquiry and to intellectual excellence, RMMLA's capacity to uphold these values within an atmosphere of cooperative congeniality appears exceptional.

I appreciate RMMLA's willingness to consider the new as much as I respect its safeguarding the collective interests of members. It recently impressed me, for example, that RMMLA considered Hawaii as a convention site, for this speaks of the Board's flexibility and daring. But it impressed me even more that the Board removed Hawaii from consideration because many members indicated that attending a convention there would prove difficult. Since I believe the Board functions as a conduit for its constituents' will, I would seek to discover and to address, as previous Boards have, the concerns and recommendations of all members."

Candidate for Delegate At-Large:

José Suarez

University of Northern Colorado

José I. Suarez received his doctorate in Romance Languages from the University of New Mexico and is currently Chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies at the University of Northern Colorado. In addition to over thirty scholarly articles on Iberian and Latin American literatures, he is the author of *The Carnival Stage: Vicentine Comedy within the Serio-Comic Mode* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1993) and co-authored, *Mário de Andrade: The Creative Works* (Bucknell University Press, 2000).

Candidate Statement: "Given the status of American post secondary education, its diminishing emphasis on literary studies, and rampant anti-intellectualism nationwide, I feel that the mission of the RMMLA is now more important than ever. As an elected member of this organization, I will continue to uphold its mission and to strengthen ties between the teaching of English and that of the modern languages. Many Americans are aware that Spanish is becoming the nation's second language. Within a few years--if current drop-out rates are reversed, and they must--a large percentage of college students will be Latinos. What we do in this organization, besides enriching our professional lives, will have a significant impact on meeting their needs and in raising the educational level for all students."

Candidates for Graduate Student:

In alphabetical order

Mary Anderson

Washington State University

Mary Anderson was raised in the small town of Casa Grande, which is situated in the Arizona desert midway between Phoenix and Tucson, and because she misses the look of unmanaged land and the smell of sagebrush mingled with pine trees, she plans to return to the Southwest when her studies are completed. Coming to academia late, she is now 37 years old and in her third year of a Ph.D. in Literature

program at Washington State University. Her emphasis during this course of study has moved from an exclusively literary focus to the literature of minorities and the influence/presence of racism in that literature. While sowing her wild oats, she worked as a secretary, house appraiser, waitress, and veterinary technician. This sowing took some time and her fondest hope now is to graduate before she reaches menopause. After completing her degree, she plans to look for employment at a small 2- or 4-year college, but if offered no suitable position, she will return to veterinary medicine.

Candidate Statement: "Working on the RMMLA Executive Board appeals to me because I admire the 'feel' of the organization; it is both professional and supportive. I believe this feel is unusual in academia and I would like to contribute to its preservation. The opportunity to hone my administrative skills is also appealing because if I do secure a position in a small college, I will likely be called upon to work with the institution's deans and president. Lessons learned while on the RMMLA Executive Board will help me to perform my service duties more effectively."

Arianne Burford

University of Arizona

After receiving a B.A. in Literature at UCSD, Arianne Burford went to Washington State University and completed her M.A. in British and American Literature.

Candidate Statement: "It was at WSU that I first became interested and involved in RMMLA. I presented a paper on Francis Burney at the 1999 conference in Santa Fe. What I liked about the conference was the professional but also supportive environment that encourages graduate students to enter into the academic dialogue. In 2000 I presented a paper for the Science Fiction panel titled "Manifest Force: Rebels, Empires, and

Star Wars," and at Scottsdale last year I presented another paper titled "Miscegenation in María Amparo Ruiz de Burton's *Who Would Have Thought It?: Captivated by Racialization, Nationalism, and Christianity*." My interests include any examination of the intersections between gender, race, and class in the contexts of colonialism and nationalism in both British and American literature. I am

currently a graduate student at the University of Arizona in my third year of my Ph.D. program, and my specific areas of specialization include American Indian literature, Mexican American literature, and literature by white Americans representing the West and the people living here. I have continued my participation in the RMMLA conferences because I have found the experience rewarding, and since my move to Tucson I have been encouraging my colleagues to participate in RMMLA as well. As graduate student representative, I would look forward to talking with people about ways we can continue to get more people from different parts of the West to become involved in the conference."

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Over 450 Present at Missoula Convention

The 57th annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association was held on October 9-11, 2003 at the Holiday Inn Parkside in Missoula, Montana. Over 450 members presented their research and/or heard papers at a wide variety of regular and special topic sessions, and enjoyed the picturesque beauty of Missoula during the 'off hours.' The excursion to the Bison Range, the Mission at St. Ignatius and the Amish restaurant was well received. Thanks to Liz Ametsbichler and everyone from the University of Montana for all their help in making this convention a success. Thanks also goes to all of the chairs and presenters for making it such a rich and stimulating program. We hope to see many of you in Boulder in 2004!

Grants and Awards Raffle in Missoula

We want to thank all those who purchased raffle tickets at the Missoula convention. We raised over \$250 for the Grants and Awards Fund. These funds will enable us to continue to offer several convention and research travel grants, as well as presentation awards, and to develop more in the future. Details on all grants and awards may be found on the RMMLA Web site.

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Tara Powell

University of North Carolina

Tara Powell is completing a doctoral dissertation on representations of intellectual life in contemporary Southern literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she is the Hugh McColl Fellow in Southern Studies from the Center for Study of the American South and teaches courses in American literature, creative writing, composition, film, and debate. Her essays have appeared in *The Southern Quarterly* and *The Mississippi Quarterly*, as well as various reference books. She has made conference presentations on the work of Doris Betts, Etheridge Knight, Laurie Lee, and Flannery O'Connor, and chaired both creative and academic panels. Some of the publications in which her poetry has appeared include *Asheville Poetry Review*, *Blue Unicorn*, *Cold Mountain Review*, *South Carolina Review*, and *Southern Poetry Review*. She has been invited to read her

Create a Link to your Personal Home Page

List your CV from your RMMLA Directory Listing

The RMMLA Directory on our Web page allows you to:

- Add a link to your personal/university home pages from your Directory listing
- Update your contact information (it is especially important to keep your email current)
- Change your password from the one we give you to one that you will remember.

To access your Directory listing:

1. Go to RMMLA Web site.
<http://rmmla.wsu.edu>
2. Click on "Member Login" button
3. Type in your User ID and Password. If you have forgotten them, scroll down to the "Get My Login Info" box, enter your email, and within minutes your ID and password will be emailed to you.
4. Once in the Member Pages, click on "Directory." From there, choose the option "Update your Own Directory Listing and/or Change your Password."
5. Make your changes and submit.

poems at a variety of conferences and festivals and she edited *The Carolina Quarterly* from May 2002 through August 2003. She is a member of Alpha

Epsilon Lambda, Phi Beta Kappa, the North Carolina Writers Conference, and the UNC Royster Society of Fellows.

Candidate Statement: "Evolving from student into professional is daunting, and the ways professional organizations ease the process is not only appreciated by individuals but valuable to the continued vitality of the profession. Attending my first RMMLA convention, I was delighted by the diversity of interests represented and by how the conference's structure encourages students, professors, writers, and independent scholars to interact as colleagues. I was not disappointed post-conference; that openness has been reflected in all my interactions with RMMLA. This is the kind of organization in which I want to play an active part. As graduate student delegate to the executive board, I would be interested in maintaining the organization's overall health, but particularly in how continuing outreach to the newest members of our community contributes to that goal. Some of the projects that interest me include finding creative ways to get graduate students and new faculty to the convention and involved in organizational life; increasing diversity in membership; and encouraging dialogue about professionalization at the convention and during the intervening year."

Caroline E. Wiebe Kimberly

Tulane University

Caroline Kimberly is an ABD student at Tulane, completing her dissertation long distance from Las Vegas. Her current project focuses on the roles of gender and homosociality in the production of Keats as a Victorian icon of middle-class masculinity. In recent years, she has presented at various conferences, including Midwest MLA, American Culture Association, North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, International Conference on Romanticism (which awarded her the Lore Metzger Award for Best Graduate Student Paper at the 2001 meeting), and Rocky Mountain MLA (which awarded her the Charles Davis Award for the 2002 meeting). She has an invited entry on Keats in the forthcoming

encyclopedia *Men and Masculinities*.

Extended versions of her papers from two recent conferences have been requested for consideration in selected conference proceedings to be published in *The Wordsworth Circle* and *Romanticism on the Net*. She currently serves as an adjunct instructor at the Community College of Southern Nevada, where she teaches introductory courses in poetry, literature, and composition, and continues to serve as a graduate instructor at Tulane through their distance education program. Next fall she will be chairing the "English Nineteenth Century Literature" panel in Boulder.

Candidate Statement: "I first attended the RMMLA annual meeting in Scottsdale, where I was struck by the unique environment this organization creates for its members. Somehow RMMLA manages to transcend the compartmentalized nature of other large academic organizations by offering high quality panels and special interest presentations at the convention that appeal to scholars from a variety of fields, and a wide range of opportunities to further individual members' research, whether it be through grants, publications, or conference participation. Even more important was the general sense of support and welcome I felt as a new graduate student member, a feeling I discovered was shared by other graduate students I met in Scottsdale. When I was offered the opportunity to chair and present at the Missoula meeting, I jumped at the chance. I was particularly delighted to serve on Carolyn Kelly's Graduate Forum, and to have the opportunity to talk to her at length about her rewarding experience as Graduate Student Delegate for RMMLA. It was Carolyn's engaging description of her Board position and President Rath's call for more member participation at this year's banquet that inspired me

to run for Graduate Student Delegate. Being a member of an organization that not only appreciates its graduate student membership but that takes the time to address these members' specific needs is a point of pride for me, and it would be an honor to serve them more directly as their advocate on the Board."

Please vote for your new Executive Board members by January 15, 2004!