

2008 RMMLA DUES

If you haven't done so already, please renew your membership in RMMLA for 2008.

Anyone who is chairing a session at Reno next year must be current in 2008 dues NOW. Thank you.

You may pay by check or VISA/MC, online, by fax (509-335-3708), by mail or by telephone (509-335-4198 - MWF 9am-1pm PST). The schedule of dues is posted at www.rmmla.org.

To renew online, go to www.rmmla.org, log in and check the contact information that we have in our database for you. Then either (1) choose to pay by VISA/MC using our secure online payment system, or (2) print your form and mail/fax it to us with payment.

If your contact information has changed recently—especially your email address—please log into the MEMBER DIRECTORY or email the updated information to us at rmmla@wsu.edu.

NEW ~ Supplement for Print Mailings

Significant increases in the publication costs for our print journal, the *Rocky Mountain Review*, together with increases in postage rates instituted by US Postal Service in May 2007, have altered the operating budget for RMMLA. Rather than increase RMMLA membership dues to cover these expenses, in an effort to make best use of the journal's digital format and to allow for an eco-conscious decrease in paper use, the RMMLA will implement a new policy relating to the printing and the mailing of its scholarly journal, as well as its newsletter and Call for Papers beginning January 1, 2008:

(1) 2008 RMMLA dues, in all categories, will remain unchanged from 2007.

(2) New and renewing members will now be given two options:

a. As part of their basic membership dues, new and renewing members have access to all recent and archived issues of the *Rocky Mountain Review* and the *Rocky Mountain E-Review* (containing all articles from both the print version and the electronic version), newsletters, and the Call for Papers at www.rmmla.org.

b. For those willing to support increased production costs, RMMLA is happy to print and send the *Rocky Mountain Review*, the newsletter, and the Call for Papers (spring and fall mailings). Access to the online versions of these publications is also included. Therefore, new and renewing members will pay applicable basic dues plus a print/shipping supplemental fee based on their mailing address:

- U.S. addresses = 2 issues @ \$10/year or \$30 for 3-year or \$100 for lifetime
- Canadian and Mexican addresses @ \$15 or \$45 for 3-year or \$150 for lifetime
- Non-North American addresses = 2 issues @ \$20 or \$60 for 3-year or \$200 for lifetime

(3) Members wishing to receive the print mailings must be current in membership dues by April 1 to receive the spring mailing and by November 1 to receive the fall mailing.

Audio-Visual Equipment at the RMMLA Convention

MAY 1 is the deadline to reserve all audio-visual equipment for the Reno convention.

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT available:

- Computer (LCD) projector with PC laptop, with USB port(s)
- DVD (Region 1-NTSC) – VHS player
- Slide projector
- Overhead projector
- CD boombox

Make your AV request through your session chair and email rmmla@wsu.edu.

We may not be able to accommodate requests received after May 1 or they may incur fees. Not every meeting room at Harrah's will be AV-equipped.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

RMMLA is happy to provide the equipment necessary for a presentation, but we do ask the following:

- Please do not request equipment "just in case you need it."
- If the use of AV equipment does not enhance your presentation, please reconsider.
- Your session chair will be advised to stop you if you go over your time limit, so make sure that your media is cued up and ready to go.
- RMMLA does not offer live Internet connections. Save Web pages to a USB flash drive and show them statically with our computer projector/laptop.

Evaluation Form Contest Winner

Aliza Atik (Stony Brook University, SUNY) won a one-year renewal of dues in the drawing of names of convention participants who returned evaluation forms. Thanks to all who took the time to provide input on the convention.

Grants and Awards Deadlines

December 15:

- Farr Award for best presentation at the RMMLA convention using feminist criticism (\$100)
- Charles Davis Award for the Outstanding Graduate Student Presentation at the RMMLA Convention (\$100 – applicants nominated by session chair)

February 1:

- Faculty Research Travel Grant (\$250)
- Graduate Student (ABD-preferred) Research Travel Grant (\$250)
- RMMLA-Huntington Library Grant for one-month research/residency (\$2000)

Visit the RMMLA site for all application guidelines—www.rmmla.org.

"SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP" OFFERED TO DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association is the leading regional professional organization for faculty and graduate students in a variety of fields, from literature and language to film, writing, gender studies, rhetoric, and popular culture. RMMLA exists through the support of its membership (currently at 900 plus 80 libraries) and through the annual convention, attended by 550-600 members from our geographical region and beyond.

At the present time, RMMLA has a *single* departmental member. This is unlike the other regional MLAs (NEMLA, SAMLA, SCMLA, M/MLA and PAMLA), who count 50-100 departmental/institutional "sustaining" members who pay a nominal fee to show their support of their regional professional association.

As printing, Internet and basic operating costs increase, not to mention our desire to support our members with grants and awards, we need to turn to the departments and institutions in our region for their support. To this end, we have created a new "Sustaining Membership" category, and ask that departments and/or institutions consider a \$50 per year contribution. In exchange, RMMLA will place a list on our Web site, our journal and our convention program highlighting those departments and institutions which support our work.

Please help us keep RMMLA strong, vibrant, and responsive to our member's professional needs.



RMMLA Update

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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2008 RMMLA EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Each year the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association holds elections for positions on the RMMLA Executive Board. In 2007 we will vote for a new:

- Vice President (who will serve as President in 2009 and Past President in 2010)—from English
- Delegate-at-Large (three-year term, 2008-2010)—from a field other than English
- Graduate Student Delegate (two-year term, 2008-2009)—from English

All current RMMLA members (2007 and later) are eligible to vote in these elections. All voting is done ONLINE. Go to www.rmmla.org and log in. If you don't know your ID and password, you can have these emailed to you. If your email has changed, please contact us at rmmla@wsu.edu and we will update your record. The voting box closes on **December 31, 2007**; all candidates are contacted with the results just after the first of the year.

This year, the following members (listed in alphabetical order) have come forward to run for office:

CANDIDATES FOR VICE PRESIDENT (One Candidate):

Sura Rath [English], Central Washington University

Professional Biography: During my ten years of RMMLA membership, I have presented papers almost each year, started special sessions that are going strong and drawing presenters from across the country, and supported junior faculty and graduate student mentorship sessions. My graduate degrees are from Tulane University and Texas A&M University, and prior to my service at Central Washington University I was at LSU-Shreveport for almost two decades. My research and teaching interests include: literary theory (postcolonial theory and Edward Saïd), V. S. Naipaul, American Southern literature (Flannery O'Connor), and modern Indian poetry

(Sitakant Mahapatra). I have served the Flannery O'Connor International Society as its founder president (1992-2003), presented papers at the regional MLAs (SCMLA, SAMLA, NEMLA, and RMMLA) as well as at conferences in Canada, Sweden, and India. In 2000, I was invited to lead a graduate seminar on Edward Saïd at the Stockholm University; in 2004, I was a senior Fulbright lecturer in American Literature in India; and in 2007 I was invited as one of three core faculty to teach a post-doctoral seminar on ludic theory to college and university faculty organized by the Center for Theory Studies in India with grant support from the Ford Foundation. I serve as co-editor for the *Journal of Contemporary Thought* (1994-present), as Editorial Board member for the *Flannery O'Connor Review* (1997-present), as co-director of the Forum on Contemporary Theory annual international conference (1998-present), have edited/co-edited six books, and my articles have appeared in diverse professional journals in United States, UK, Sweden, France, China, and India. With Mark Halperin, I have just completed translating a volume of forty-two selected poems by Sitakant Mahapatra, and a book-length study of Naipaul's travel writing is in progress.

Candidate Statement by Sura Rath: I would like to serve on the RMMLA Board simply because I have done so for a three-year term once before and felt personally enriched by the experience. I joined the RMMLA ten years back from the South Central region, proposing a special session on Flannery O'Connor. The collegial and friendly academic atmosphere of that year's convention turned that first trial membership permanent, so much so that I moved to the Northwest to be in the Rocky Mountain region. I am now a life member. Many RMMLA members from outside the region have similar experiences, and our convention continues to draw participants from

all over the nation as well as Canada and sometimes even Europe and Asia. I would like the RMMLA to continue building on that collegiality and the academic range of our conference program topics. ■

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE (Four Candidates):

Joy Landeira [Spanish], University of Northern Colorado

Professional Biography: Joy Landeira is an assistant professor of Spanish and the Coordinator and Graduate Coordinator of the Hispanic Studies Program at the University of Northern Colorado. She has recently published two books on one of Spain's most important women poets of the Generation of 1927: *Ernestina de Champourcin: Vida y literatura* (2005) and *Una Rosa para Ernestina: ensayos en conmemoracion del centenario*

Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association

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Sincere thanks go to outgoing Executive Board members Jennifer Michaels, Alan Blackstock and Marie Drews for their valuable service to and support of RMMLA.

de Ernestina de Champourcin. Landeira studies transatlantic and US Hispanic exile poetry and genre innovation in the twentieth century, and is currently working on a volume about Cuban-American Gustavo Perez Firmat.

Candidate Statement by Joy Landeira: I wish to serve on the RMMLA Executive Board because the Rocky Mountain MLA sponsors consistently well-organized, high quality conventions, with panels, papers, and guest speakers that are inspiring and thought-provoking. There are not many opportunities in this region for scholars to dialogue and interact, and I want to do my part to keep this organization vital and running smoothly. ■

Christopher Lupke [Chinese], Washington State University

Professional Biography: Christopher Lupke is an associate professor of Chinese in the Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures at Washington State University where he coordinates the Asian language programs. His recent publications include an edited volume, *New Perspectives on Contemporary Chinese Poetry* (Palgrave Macmillan), a translation of Ye Shitao's *A History of Taiwan Literature* (UC Santa Barbara Center for Taiwan Studies), and a monograph on the auteur director Hou Hsiao-hsien (forthcoming from the University of Illinois Press).

Candidate Statement by Christopher Lupke: I am enthusiastic about running for the Executive Board of RMMLA primarily because it is such an excellent scholarly association whose meetings are highly rewarding to attend. Since my main research is in East Asian literatures and cultures, I have focused my energies on building their presence at RMMLA over the past six years. We now have a thriving contingent of Asianists attending each year. But the true pleasure of participating in RMMLA rests not in one specific group merely talking among themselves but in the interaction across regions and disciplinary boundaries. If elected to the Board, I would continue to work to bring Asian sessions into RMMLA and make efforts to have more interaction between the various languages from Europe, North America and Asia and disciplines such as language-based literary studies, comparative literature, film studies, language pedagogy, and various approaches to the study of culture. ■

Maria Mikolchak [German/French/Russian/English], St. Cloud State University

Professional Biography: Currently I hold position of an Associate Professor that is split between the English Department and the Department of Foreign Languages at St. Cloud State University, the largest undergraduate university in the MN System of Public Schools and Universities. I have a PhD in Comparative Literature and a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies from University of SC, Columbia. I am tenured. I teach Literature, German, French, and Russian as well as courses for our Honors program and Women's Studies Program when needed.

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO
GO TO www.rmmla.org
AND VOTE BY
DECEMBER 31.
This is YOUR regional MLA.
THANK YOU.

Candidate Statement by Maria Mikolchak: For the past four years I've been actively participating in RMMLA conventions, first just as a presenter, then as a chair. I also submitted my work for publication in RMMLA journal. That is to say, I've been continuously more involved with RMMLA in various capacities that corresponded to my personal professional goals. I find RMMLA the most vibrant and quickly developing of the regional MLAs. Also I think it is better organized than many other regional MLAs. What I could bring to it is excellent organizational skills and broad expertise in several subjects, including various national literatures, women's studies, and several foreign languages. I am a very energetic person full of fresh ideas and I am hoping that might be qualities RMMLA might find important. ■

Cornelius Partsch [German], Western Washington University

Professional Biography: Cornelius Partsch is an associate professor of German in the Department of Modern & Classical Languages at Western Washington University. He has published a book on the cultural history of jazz in the Weimar Republic (Metzler Verlag) and a number of articles on various aspects of German popular culture ranging from the 1910s to the present. He is currently working on a larger research

project about recent German spy fiction and film. He is also engaged in teaching-related service activities such as the Goethe Institute's teacher-trainer network.

Candidate Statement by Cornelius Partsch: I have decided to run for the Executive Board of RMMLA because I strongly wish to be involved in the future of an organization I have come to respect for its excellence and its vibrancy. I have been a member and an active participant ever since I moved from the NEMLA region to my current position in the state of Washington in 2003. In addition to presenting my research, I have made an effort to build and diversify the range of German sessions at RMMLA by proposing Special Topic Sessions and working to ensure their continuation during the last 4 years. I would bring to my service an enthusiasm for the work of the RMMLA and a commitment to implementing measures to augment the membership and to enhancing the quality of our convention as a place where collegial and productive scholarly dialogue across nations, regions, cultures, and disciplines may occur. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Executive Board and to aid in organizing and shaping future conventions, activities, and policies. ■

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE STUDENT DELEGATE (Two Candidates):

Katie Arosteguy [English], Washington State University

Professional Biography: I am a doctoral candidate (ABD) in the English Department at Washington State University. After obtaining my Masters as well as a secondary teaching credential in English from California State University, Sacramento, and teaching for a few years in public junior highs, high schools, and community colleges, I came to WSU to pursue a Ph.D. My teaching focus here at WSU has employed feminist pedagogy in the composition classroom. I have also taught courses on Research and Writing as well as Professional and Technical Writing. In general, my area of literary focus since I've been at WSU has been 20th century American literature and contemporary feminist theories, especially feminist masculinity studies. My dissertation will focus on contemporary women writers of the American West and how they represent (critique and construct) masculinity as a reaction to national narratives of privilege and power.

Candidate Statement by Katie Arosteguy: I am interested in serving as a Graduate Student Delegate for RMMLA because I have been

impressed with my experience of the organization and annual convention as an attendee or presenter the past three years. The diversity of participation and encouraging climate for graduate students in particular geared toward fostering scholarship and professional development in teaching and the study of literature has impressed me with past conferences. As I still have at least two years left at Washington State University to complete my degree, I can easily put in the time and effort required of the two-year appointment. Additionally, I would like to expand my professional service record and am interested in serving on workshop panels focused on graduate student professionalization, as I feel these panels can often be very productive and helpful for graduate students nearing the job market stage. I would also like to participate in votes dealing with Special Topic Sessions, as over the years I have thought of several underrepresented fields of literature/ theory that deserve more attention. I am equally interested in both increas-

ing awareness of the various RMMLA monetary awards available to graduate students and also participating in such professional activities as selecting recipients for these RMMLA awards. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Executive Board and help organize and shape future conventions, activities, and policies. ■

Paul Papin [Comparative Literature], The University of British Columbia

Professional Biography: Paul Papin is working towards his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at The University of British Columbia. His dissertation, "The Ethics of Mediocrity," focuses on unjust characterizations of the mediocre artist in modern English, French and German literature. At the recent RMMLA conference in Calgary, Paul chaired a panel and gave a paper on Denis Diderot that has been nominated for the 2007 Charles Davis Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Presentation. He has received several awards at both the

undergraduate and graduate levels, including an Ontario Graduate Scholarship while attending the University of Toronto, and the French Government Book Prize while an undergraduate at U.B.C. In addition, he has held three teaching assistantships, taught ESL, marked papers for introductory novel and composition courses at Douglas College in Vancouver, and worked as a part-time copy editor at *The Calgary Herald*.

Candidate Statement by Paul Papin: For me, the most valuable thing RMMLA Conferences have to offer student participants is the opportunity to meet students and faculty members from other universities. As Graduate Student Delegate, I would suggest, encourage and promote conference activities that facilitate this kind of community and connection building. I also feel that my background in comparative literature and languages will help me to better represent the interests of students in diverse fields. ■

IN YOUR HONOR

Member Teaching/Research Awards and Publications

RMMLA would like to highlight both member teaching/research awards and book publications on its Web site. We use a 'moving wall' for posting these, highlighting awards and publications from the past three years. If you have recently received an award or published a book, send the details to us at rmmla@wsu.edu.

Over 575 Present at Calgary Convention

Based on member feedback, in person and on the evaluation forms, this year's convention in Calgary was a great success! Sessions were generally well attended and discussion lively. Many members took advantage of the bright autumn days to get to know the downtown shopping/dining areas and Eau Claire Park. We had two full buses that went up to Banff on Saturday and members reported that high tea at the Banff Springs Hotel was lovely. Our thanks to our Local Host, University of Calgary, namely Susan

Rudy, Mary Polito, Luis Torres, Anne McWhir and Sarah Eaton; our keynote speaker Elizabeth George; guest speakers Evelyn White, Maureen Smith and Douglas Stewart; RMMLA assistants Jennifer Schiewe and Laurie Heustis; our University of Calgary volunteers at the registration desk; and especially to our session chairs and presenters for making it such a rich and stimulating program.

The Rocky Mountain Review in JSTOR

The Rocky Mountain Review is among the 360+ academic journals being incorporated and digitally preserved by JSTOR, the archive of scholarly journals worldwide. This means significant increase in accessibility of articles from the entire run of the journal through libraries and throughout the academic community. The *Review* appears in JSTOR's Language and Literature Collection and in Arts and Sciences III. JSTOR is also currently involved in outreach to public libraries and secondary schools, so still further accessibility is promised.

Articles from the *Review* are additionally available through the EBSCO archive. These expansions in visibility of the *Rocky Mountain Review* join the increase accomplished in recent years in the list of our indexers. Please consider submitting articles to the *Review*.

Reno, Nevada site for 2008 Convention with University of Nevada, Reno as Local Host

The 62nd annual RMMLA convention will be held at Harrah's in downtown Reno, Nevada from October 9-11, 2008. This is a beautiful hotel, with great meeting and dining facilities. Harrah's is also within easy walking distance to a variety of restaurants, parks and shops along the Truckee River. Our local host for our 2008 convention is the University of Nevada, Reno and our local arrangements chair is Stacy Burton, former RMMLA President and chair of the university's Department of English. We thank UNR for its support and look forward to a great convention at Harrah's. We are tentatively planning an excursion to Virginia City (Mark Twain scholars take note!) and to Lake Tahoe. More info later!

Enclosed in this mailing is the Call for Papers for RENO '08, although the online version of the CFP will always contain the most up-to-date information. The deadline for proposing a paper to a session chair is March 1, 2008. The deadline for audio-visual equipment requests is May 1, 2008. Many of our former chairs have told us that they have had great luck attracting good submissions by posting their individual call to the UPENN list-serv. That URL is <http://www.english.upenn.edu/CFP/>.

The complete convention program will be on our Web site by mid-June 2008. We hope to see you in Reno!