

## 2009 RMMLA Dues

In the past, RMMLA dues have been based on the calendar year. Beginning in 2008, RMMLA dues will be more closely tied to our convention, that is, from November 1 through October 31, as we ask sessions chairs to be current in their dues the fall prior to the convention in order to generate our CFP, preliminary program, etc. . If you haven't done so already, please renew your membership in RMMLA for 2009. You may pay by check or VISA/MC, online, by phone or by mail. Go to [www.rmmla.org](http://www.rmmla.org) for more information.

If your contact information has changed recently—**especially your email address**—please log into our site and update your info in the “Member Directory” OR simply email us the updated information and we will change it for you—[rmmla@wsu.edu](mailto:rmmla@wsu.edu).

## Snowbird, Utah, site for 2009 Convention

The 63<sup>rd</sup> annual RMMLA convention will be held at the Cliff Lodge in Snowbird, Utah, from October 8-10, 2009. You can call 1-800-232-9542 for more information about the resort and to reserve rooms. We know that you will enjoy the 2009 RMMLA convention!

Our Call for Papers for this convention is posted on our web site at [www.rmmla.org](http://www.rmmla.org), with complete contact information for each session chair. Important dates for the Snowbird convention:

**MARCH 1**—Deadline for proposing a paper to a session chair

**MARCH 15**—Suggested deadline for chairs to notify session applicants

**MAY 1**—Deadline for audio-visual and computer projection requests

**MAY 1**—Deadline for session scheduling requests

## Audio-Visual/Computer Projection at the RMMLA Convention

**MAY 1** is the deadline to reserve all types of audio-visual / computer projection equipment for the Snowbird convention. This deadline is firm, as it is integral to our scheduling of the meeting rooms. We do NOT equip every meeting room. Typically, we equip half of the meeting rooms and this accommodates the requests that we receive prior to the deadline. We do not charge for AV/computer use, and prefer to keep it that way, so please only request equipment if you really need it to enhance your presentation. The equipment we have available includes:

- Computer (LCD) projector with PC laptop

- DVD player (not all with VCR player, so please specify)
- Slide projector
- Overhead projector
- CD-ROM player

If you have reserved AV/computer equipment, please have your materials ready (VHS tape cued up, DVD scene identified, PowerPoint slides readily accessible, etc.) as each presenter gets equal time and chairs have the right to stop you if you go over your allotted time. One final note: at the present time, we do not offer live Internet connections; we ask that you save Web pages to a USB flash drive and show them statically. Please contact us if you have any questions ([rmmla@wsu.edu](mailto:rmmla@wsu.edu)).



The Cliff Lodge in Snowbird, Utah.

Many of our former chairs have told us that they have had great luck attracting good submissions by posting their individual session call to the UPENN listserv. That URL is <http://www.english.upenn.edu/CFP/>. The complete convention program will be on our Web site by mid-June 2009 so that you can make your travel plans early.

We hope to see you in Snowbird!

## 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](http://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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## 2009 RMMLA EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Each year the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association holds elections for positions on the RMMLA Executive Board. In 2008 we will vote for a new:

- Vice President in 2009 (who will serve as President in 2010 and Past President in 2011)—from a field other than English
- Delegate-at-Large (three-year term, 2009-2011)—from an English-related field
- Graduate Student Delegate (two-year term, 2009-2010)—from a field other than English

Voting for RMMLA board members is done online at [www.rmmla.org](http://www.rmmla.org) under “RMMLA—Elections.” The online ballot box is open now until December 31. Please log in and vote! This year, the following candidates have come forward to run for office on the RMMLA Executive Board:

### CANDIDATES FOR VICE PRESIDENT (Two candidates; please vote for one):

(1) **Jerry Root** [French, Comparative Literature], University of Utah

Jerry Root is Associate Professor of French and Comparative Literature at the University of Utah. He got his M.A. and PhD in Comparative Literature (1985 and 1990) from the University of Michigan and his B.A. in English Literature (1979) from Kalamazoo College, Michigan. He has been a professor at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, since 1990. His teaching and research are mainly in medieval studies, focusing on medieval strategies of representation, in particular, allegory. He has written on French medieval literature of the twelfth-, thirteenth-, and fourteenth-centuries, including authors such as Marie de France, Guillaume de Lorris and Rutebeuf, Guillaume de Machaut. He is also interested in visual representation from the Middle Ages and has worked on manuscript illuminations and sculpture.

*Candidate statement by Jerry Root:* “I am interested in joining the RMMLA Executive

Board because I think regional organizations like RMMLA have a better chance than large, national organizations to promote scholarship, scholarly dialogue, and professional communication. I have been very impressed with the quality of the presentations and the congeniality of the past couple annual conferences I have attended. I would work to build on these strengths. I have six years of administrative experience as director of International Studies at the University of Utah. In this position I wrote and administered two Title VI grants and two NEH grants. I think this experience in management and interdisciplinary cooperation will help me serve the board well.” ■

(2) **José Suárez** [Hispanic Studies], University of Northern Colorado

José I. Suárez is Professor of Hispanic Studies at the University of Northern Colorado. His doctorate degree in Romance Languages is from the University of New Mexico. He has published over forty scholarly articles in refereed journals and has published four books. His book publications feature *The Carnival Stage: Vicentine Comedy within the Serio-Comic Mode* (1993) and *Mário de Andrade: The Creative Works* (2000). From 2004-2006, Dr. Suárez served on the RMMLA Executive Board.

*Candidate statement by José Suárez:* “My perception throughout the years, as an RMMLA member and a member of other regional modern language organizations, had been that the RMMLA is the most professional and best-managed organization. Having served on its Executive Board from 2004-2006, I learned how accurate that perception was. The Executive Director and its elected officials were dedicated, collegial, and very hard working. That is what has made RMMLA superior. I would like to have the opportunity to serve again, and I know that I will make an even stronger contribution.” ■

### CANDIDATES FOR DELEGATE-AT-LARGE (Four candidates; please vote for one):

(1) **Christa Albrecht-Crane** [English], Utah Valley University

Christa Albrecht-Crane is Associate Professor of English and Assistant Department Chair at Utah Valley University, where she has taught for seven years. She earned her Ph.D. in the Rhetoric and Technical Communica-

We encourage members to nominate themselves or others in the future for positions on the Board. The RMMLA is a wonderful organization that is very receptive to its members' needs. Those who have served on the Board have found it a very rewarding experience, getting to know colleagues in other fields and from other areas and having input into shaping the future direction of our regional professional organization.

### RMMLA Executive Staff

**RMMLA Secretariat**  
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**Executive Director:** Joan Grenier-Winther

**Administrative Assistants:** Jennifer Schiewe and Michaela Butler

**Editors, The Rocky Mountain Review of Language**  
Michael Delahoyde, Senior Editor  
Sabine Davis, Editor

**Managing Editor:** Nathanael Whitworth

**Sincere thanks go to outgoing Executive Board members Liahna Armstrong, Beverly Zimmerman and Javier Gonzalez for their valuable service to and support of RMMLA.**

tion program at Michigan Technological University, and her MA in American Studies from Washington State University. Her undergraduate education was completed at the University of Munich, Germany. Christa teaches courses in composition, advanced writing, critical theory, literary theory, and film. Her scholarly interests lie in cultural and critical theory, particularly in the work of Foucault, Derrida, Deleuze and Guattari. She has published various journal articles and book chapters and in 2005 she co-edited a special issue of the journal *Cultural Studies* on the theme of teaching in conservative environments. At the moment she is finishing an essay collection on film adaptation theory with a colleague at Brigham Young University.

*Candidate Statement by Christa Albrecht-Cranet:* "In 2002, a year after I started my current position with Utah Valley University (then Utah Valley State College) I joined the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association and have been a member ever since. I have presented papers at four of the past eight conferences and this year in Reno I had the opportunity to chair a regular session (French Literary and Cultural Theory). I have come to deeply appreciate the organization and its careful work to encourage and foster members' scholarly interests and their investments in their professions. In addition, I have always respected the organization's efforts to support regional and local concerns—both in terms of the particularity of the Rocky Mountain Region as well as the singular interests of individual members at their home institutions. I would like to contribute more directly to this good work. I bring to the position of Delegate-at-Large a varied experience of teaching at a large, open-access, public undergraduate institution as well as a passion for the geography and beauty of the Rocky Mountain West. In particular, I hope to strengthen the organization's influence by working to increase cross-disciplinary work between local, environmental concerns and scholarly activity as well as by encouraging members to find innovative ways to mentor undergraduate students—so that students experience positively the strength of academic culture as a genuine alternative (rather than a problem) in the current cultural and political landscape." ■

**(2) Jill Dahlman** [English], University of Hawai'i, Manoa

After working for several years as a food critic and feature writer for *Kauai Magazine*, Jill Dahlman attended the University of Hawai'i

at Hilo where she studied under Christian Weisser and received her BA in Writing in 2003. She received her M.A. in Composition and Rhetoric from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa in 2005. She is interested in comic books of the Golden and Silver Age, as well as the rhetoric of popular culture of the Cold War era. She is working on her dissertation, *Popular Culture as Pedagogy*, under the direction of Todd Sammons, Ph.D. Jill also studies Service Learning and conducts research in composition pedagogy, specifically in the area of assessment. Jill resides in Honolulu, Hawaii where she is currently

**PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO  
GO TO [www.rmmla.org](http://www.rmmla.org)  
AND VOTE BY  
DECEMBER 31.  
This is YOUR regional MLA.  
THANK YOU.**

an adjunct professor with the University of Hawai'i system and a Faculty Advocate with Bedford-St. Martins publishers.

*Candidate Statement by Jill Dahlman:* "I believe that my voice as both an adjunct 'working the circuit' and as a Ph.D. student working and studying in the culturally diverse location of Hawaii will provide a unique perspective to the RMMLA board. As I study and work in an area not a part of the continental US, I believe the contribution of my ideas and my voice for those many members of RMMLA who are from outside the region will be of benefit not only to these members, but also to all members and the Board as I work to help RMMLA further its goals and mission of diversity." ■

**(3) Tara Powell** [English], University of South Carolina

Tara Powell is Assistant Professor of English and Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina at Columbia, where she teaches courses in regional literature and culture. Her current research projects include work on contemporary verse memoirs, Waldensian-American life in Southern Appalachia, and representations of intellectual labor in post-1950 southern literature. She has published in *Southern Quarterly*, *Mississippi Quarterly*, and *Appalachian Heritage*. Her own poetry has appeared in *Blue Unicorn*, *South Dakota Review*, *storySouth*,

and *Weber Studies*. At the RMMLA convention, she has made presentations in the areas of southern literature, African American literature, creative writing, and pedagogy, has chaired nearly a dozen sessions on these topics and others, and was instrumental in the Society for the Study of Southern Literature becoming an affiliate member of RMMLA. She received her Ph.D. in Twentieth-Century American and Southern Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2004, and served as the graduate student delegate to the RMMLA Executive Board in 2004-2005.

*Candidate statement by Tara Powell:* I involved myself in the Rocky Mountain MLA not because it was a natural choice in terms of regional location, but rather because as I neared the end of my graduate career, I was traveling to various conferences, trying to learn more about the profession I was entering and some of the different shapes it takes across the country. At the RMMLA 2002 meeting, I was overwhelmed by how warmly I was welcomed and embraced by a community of professional mentors who would, in the coming years, become also personal friends, and to whom I would turn again and again over time for advice and support. This has been my experience of the RMMLA community: open, welcoming, well-organized, interested, flexible, and energetic. It is those qualities that have kept me traveling across the country every year since then to participate in and serve the organization, especially by organizing panels that would bring in new members. I believe coming from another region to participate in the life of this organization gives me something different to offer, and I would appreciate the opportunity to serve the organization once again on its Executive Board—this time at another stage of my career, but still appreciating the special things that make RMMLA such a tremendous and vital community, that keep bringing me back across the great divide, and which deserve the widest possible audience. I hope we will continue the good traditions that have kept the organization vital for so long, and, by so doing, serve our loyal membership, the profession, and the region—and one of those things is actively reaching out to junior members of our profession by offering relevant panels and mentoring at all stages of their development, as well as running an exciting and inclusive convention, offering as many awards and grants as we are able, and supporting the publication of the *Rocky Mountain Review* in both of its formats. I would like to see us not only preserve, but continue to grow these

traditions, thereby attracting and retaining new members and affiliates from the Rocky Mountain region and worlds afar. ■

**(4) Shelley Lynn Thomas** [English, Technical and Professional Writing], Weber State University

Shelley Thomas received her Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, and upon graduation she worked as a technical writer for a multi-national corporation. She came to Weber State University in 2003 as an assistant professor, where she teaches a wide variety of Professional and Technical Writing courses, lately placing special emphasis on encouraging students to produce documents that serve university needs.

*Candidate Statement by Shelley Thomas:* "I am the current area chair for the Technical Communication sessions at RMMLA, and I would like to continue my service to RMMLA as a member of the executive committee and to support our conference as a venue for scholars to share their work and forge significant and productive relationships across multiple institutions in the region." ■

## 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. As they are submitted to us, we post them on our Web site and publish them in the fall newsletter. We will use a 'moving wall' for 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 [rmmla@wsu.edu](mailto:rmmla@wsu.edu).

## The Rocky Mountain Review in JSTOR

*The Rocky Mountain Review* is one of the 360+ academic journals digitally preserved by JSTOR, the archive of scholarly journals worldwide. This means significant accessibility of articles from the entire run of the journal through libraries and throughout the academic community. JSTOR is also currently involved in outreach to public libraries and secondary schools, so still further accessibility is promised. Articles from the *Review* are available additionally through eleven scholarly indexes.

## CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE STUDENT DELEGATE (Two candidates; please vote for one):

**(1) Daniel Gustav Anderson** [Cultural Studies], George Mason University

Daniel Gustav Anderson has recent and forthcoming publications on Deleuze and Guattari, post-Marxism, and integral theory in *The Quarterly Journal of Ideology* and in *The Integral Review*, as well as articles under submission to *Western American Literature*, *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment*, and *Green Letters*. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies at George Mason University, emphasizing critical theory and early modern textual culture. He has taught composition and diverse literature courses at institutions including Washington State University, the University of Idaho, the University of Nevada, Reno, and Portland State University. He has also published a smattering of original poetry and produced an online edition of Phineas Fletcher's 1623 allegory *The Purple Island*, which reflects his ongoing interest in the history of holism and "theories of everything."

*Candidate Statement by Daniel Anderson:* "I am committed to RMMLA's democratic practice and spirit of collegiality, to the organization's breadth of scope, and to advancing interdisciplinarity where appropriate and useful. I bring to the Executive Committee a desire to be of service to an organization that has benefited me professionally and

personally for many years. The panels I have organized on British culture and critical theory for the Coeur d'Alene, Tucson, and Calgary conferences, and the papers I have presented, demonstrate my organizational and intellectual capability as well as my willingness to learn from experience and from those with greater experience. Finally, I am materially prepared for the travel requirements that come with this position and eager for a reason to visit the Palouse again." ■

**2) Jennifer Brady** [Spanish], University of Colorado, Boulder

Jennifer Brady is a Ph.D. candidate in Spanish Literature at the University of Colorado at Boulder where she studies the contemporary peninsular novel, specifically parallelisms, repetition and desire in the works of Juan José Millás. As a Graduate Part Time Instructor at CU, she teaches a variety of classes from First Semester Spanish Language to Advanced Grammar and Composition. She also serves as the Lead Graduate Teacher for her department and enjoys working as the Assistant to the Book Review Editor for *Hispania*.

*Candidate Statement by Jennifer Brady:* "I would be delighted to serve on RMMLA's Executive Board for several reasons: I have participated in the conferences for the past three years and I would like to become more involved. I enjoy being in the action and working with others towards continued progress. I am self-motivated, organized and committed to helping the RMMLA continue to be successful." ■

## Over 550 Present at Reno Convention

Our 2008 convention in Reno was a great success—we heard over and over that members were pleased by the variety and the quality of the sessions. Our sincere thanks go to our local host, the University of Nevada, Reno, especially Dean Heather Hardy; English Dept. Chair, Stacy Burton; Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures Chair Miriella Melara; our keynote speaker Thomas Kavanagh; Nelly Furman of MLA; Sunil Iyengar of NEA; our UNR faculty and student volunteers at the registration desk and review book table; Laurie Heustis and Jennifer Schiewe; and our session chairs and presenters for making it such a rich and stimulating program. The winners of our contests were Wei YANG of Sewanee, The University of the South (Chair Report Contest) and Sara CASLER of Sierra College (Evaluation Form Contest).

