NeMLA News

Northeast Modern Language Association

Nov. 2005

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2005-06

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Report from the Executive Director

I am pleased to report that NEMLA has good news on many fronts. First and foremost, we have an incoming Executive Director, Elizabeth Abele (Nassau Community College), who will begin her term after our next convention. Professor Abele has been involved with NEMLA for quite some time in various roles: first as Graduate Caucus Director, then as Webmaster (along with Jason Haslam, Dalhousie University) and newsletter editor. Thus, Professor Abele both knows the intricacies of the organization, and has proven her enthusiasm for NEMLA.

The Board also approved the creation of a new caucus in NEMLA, the Adjunct/Part time Faculty Caucus, through the efforts of Kandace Lombart (Canisius College) and Lisa DeTora (University of Scranton). I view the formation of this caucus as very significant, as universities rely more and more on Adjunct and Part Time faculty to teach courses (see page 6 for more details).

In addition to these significant decisions, the NEMLA Board made several other decisions of note at its annual Oct. Board meeting in New York City planning for the 2006 convention in Philadelphia. While the Board was successful in encouraging larger audiences by restricting multiple panels, this year we decided to offer a special auditor's rate to further increase attendance. Those not presenting or chairing at the convention may pay an auditor's fee of \$20 at the convention (Temple University Graduate Students will be admitted free with a valid Student I.D.)

Because the Radisson Warwick in Philadelphia reduced the number of our breakout rooms, the Board voted to extend panel sessions into the evening if necessary, and to schedule sessions on Sunday morning this year, hopefully increasing our members' hotel bookings at the Radisson Warwick. Last year in Cambridge we went below our room guarantee, and therefore we were charged a huge fee for rental of breakout rooms. Therefore, we ask members to PLEASE stay in the convention hotel - the room rate of \$129 single, double or triple occupancy really cannot be beaten in downtown Philadelphia, and the organization will suffer if we

fail to meet our room quota again.

This year NEMLA has invested in a computer projector to make this equipment more affordable. We will charge a flat fee of \$35 this year to all who request media, which should allow NEMLA to break even on media rental. All media requests should have been made by



Harry Keyishian, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press and Gary Mitchem, McFarland Publishers present at the Cambridge "Getting Published" roundtable. c. Nicole Burkart

the chair when the final panel was submitted. Individuals and panel chairs will be notified if the requests are approved by Jan. 15, 2006; a check for the media fee should be sent to the Executive Director at the time approval is received.

Our host institution for this year's convention in Philadelphia is Temple University. Thanks are due to Nilgun Anadolu-Okur (Temple University) for help in obtaining this privilege. (We are looking for a host institution for 2007 in **Baltimore** for anyone who may be interested in spotlighting their university.)

Professor Anadolu-Okur has also helped us find a venue for an opening reception on Thursday night of the convention. This will be our third year with an opening reception, and this practice seems to work well as an inaugural event for the convention. We are hoping to have some kind of entertain-

NEMLA members enjoy the Thursday night reception at the 2005 Convention. c. Nicole Burkhart



ment at the opening reception Thursday night (March 2, 2006), but we are still in the planning phase.

As my last year of service as Executive Director of NEMLA nears its end, I am pleased to see the progress that NEMLA has made: with the initiative provided by past Executive Director Scott Stoddart, Modern Language Studies, NEMLA's journal, is now appearing regularly in a new format under the editorship of Laurence Roth of Susquehanna University; use of Acteva for NEMLA membership and registration is reducing the bureaucratic burden of the job of Executive Director and freeing time for more lucrative planning and visionary projects when it comes to the future of the organization; the American Antiquarian Society/NEMLA fellowship has been reinstituted; we have been able to offer support for graduate students to help them attend the convention; and we have been able to put more of our funds in an investment account for the organization, since NEMLA has been running in the black for several years. It is my belief that any surplus funds should be spent for the benefit of the membership as a whole and to offer development opportunities for NEMLA members, so hopefully this summer we may have several more summer fellowships available for researchers; we can begin planning for a special NEMLA 40th anniversary edition of Modern Language Studies for 2009; and we can plan special events for our 40th Anniversary Convention which will take place in Boston proper in 2009.



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Conference Hotel

The **Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel** in Philadelphia is rich in tradition, as it has been servicing elite Philadelphians and guests for many years. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel was originally constructed in 1926 and features fashionable English Renaissance architecture. Transformed to meet the uncompromising standards of today's travelers, the 545-room Philadelphia Hotel is located just off the world-renowned Rittenhouse Square, the city's most prestigious residential, commercial and business district.

NEMLA's special room rate is \$129 single, double or triple occupancy, a price that cannot be beaten in downtown Philadelphia; the rate is available from Wed. March 1-Sun., March 5. Reservations at the convention hotel may be done right from the NEMLA web site under Convention Information or directly at:

http://www.radisson.com/reservation/rresEntrance.do?pacLink=Y&promoCode=NEMLA&hotelCode=PAPHILY

The NEMLA conference rate is automatic (no code required). You may also call 1-800-333-3333 and mention the NEMLA convention. Join us at this elegant hotel and catch the full experience of the NEMLA Convention and downtown Philly.

37th Annual NEMLA Convention March 2-5, 2006 in Philadelphia HIGHLIGHTS:

THURSDAY

The Opening Reception will be held in the Diamond Club on the Temple University Campus. Program details to follow.

FRIDAY

Keynote Speaker

Nancy Bentley, professor of English at University of Pennsylvania, will be the keynote speaker at the 37th Annual NEMLA convention in Philadelphia, Friday evening, March 3, at the Radisson Warwick hotel. Professor Bentley received her Ph.D. from Harvard University. She specializes in nineteenth-century American literature and culture, and is currently working on a study of the role of the novel in nineteenth-century debates about marriage, divorce, polygamy, and interracial unions. She teaches courses on American literature and culture, literary theory, and on gender and national identity. A reception will follow the keynote address.

SATURDAY



Women's Studies Caucus Afternoon Speaker

Rachel Blau DuPlessis is known as a feminist scholar with a special interest in modern and contemporary poetry, and as a poet and essayist. The newest critical book by DuPlessis is *Genders, Races, and Religious Cultures in Modern American Poetry, 1908-1934. Blue Studios: Poetry and Its Cultural Work*, a book of essays, is forthcoming from University of Alabama Press, as is the reprint of DuPlessis's classic work *The Pink Guitar*. Her recent books of poetry are *Drafts 1-38, Toll* and *DRAFTS. Drafts 39-57, Pledge with Draft, Unnumbered: Précis*. Her NEMLA lecture will be "Blue Studios: Gender Arcades."

Spanish Language Reception

Since 1999, in order to foster more interest in Spanish culture in the United States, Spain's Ministry of Culture has been sponsoring special sessions at the NEMLA convention, bringing two authors directly from Spain. This year, Professor Ruiz-Fornells and Ministry officials agreed also to change the format to a homage session. This will include presenta-

tions from two U..S. professors and the response from **José Ramón Fernández**, one of Spain's most promising young dramatists.

Italian Language Reception

Pat Ciarrocchi will appear at the upcoming NEMLA convention, co-sponsored by NEMLA Italian Studies and the publisher of Italian texts, Edizioni Farinelli. She is a contributor to its recent anthology, Non soltanto un baule (Not only a trunk), the story of Italian imigration. Pat Ciarrocchi is a Philadelphia area celebrity and TV personality. Edizioni Farinelli will be an exhibitor at the convention.

NEMLA is thankful for the sponsorships that have made possible the range and quality of our speakers. Since 1999, Spain's Ministry of Culture has been sponsoring special sessions at the NEMLA convention by paying the travel expenses of Spanish authors. This arrangement was fostered at the personal request of Enrique Ruiz-Fornells, professor emeritus at the University of Alabama and a former president of SAMLA, who began the program to allow contemporary authors to speak about their works, the creative process, and the current literary climate in Spain. For the 2004 and 2005 Conventions, the Swiss consulate has likewise sponsored German authors.

NEMLA is encouraging other language groups to look into sponsorship from foreign governments in order to bring in foreign writers. Any NEMLA member willing to help with this or who has ideas about authors to invite or subjects to cover should contact the relevant NEMLA Language Director (see Board of Directors list).

Philly is More Fun When You Stay Over with NEMLA

Why not make the 37th Annual NEMLA Convention an excuse for culture? Leave your bags at the hotel and reserve Sunday for a tour with your NEMLA colleagues. (NEMLA's hotel rate will still be available.)

If you are interested in group tickets or activities, please contact the Executive Director as soon as possible by email (jmcquail@tntech.edu) or phone at(931) 372-6207. All group events require a minimum booking; check and form must be received before **January 15** to hold your spot!

Claes van Oldenberg designed this symbol for the City of Brotherly Love, placed across the street from the Beaux Art City Hall.



NEMLA GROUP EVENTS:

Firebird Sun. 2 p.m. \$58 (balcony)

The Pennsylvania Ballet at The Academy of Music

Set to the famous Stravinsky score, this captivating folklore-inspired story features beautiful choreography by James Kudelka and spectacular sets and costumes. A true feast for the senses!

Philadelphia Museum of Art

NEMLA Special Tour **Sun. 3 p.m.: \$14** http://www.philamuseum.org/events/tours/group_explore.shtml Tour Options (give your preferences):

- (a) Women in Art
- (b) Picasso to Pop
- (c) America Past and Present
- (d) Asian Odyssey

The Barnes Foundation Sun. 1 p.m. \$10

This eclectic collection of Impressionist and African Art is world class and a must for viewing. The buildings were designed by Architecht Paul Crêt, and Jacques Lipschitz was commissioned to provide cubist reliefs and sculpture. Dr. Barnes designed his collection to fit his 12-acre estate; however, neighborhood restrictions have forced the museum to consider relocating. It may be your last chance to see the Barnes Foundation intact.

You will have to arrange your own transportation to Merion, but it is an easy subway ride.

Group Event Reservation Form

To reserve the group events (pg.5), your check and reservation form must be received by **Jan. 15, 2006.**

Name	
address	
city, state and zip	
e-mail	ph.
Please reserve:	
<i>The Firebird:</i> x \$58 Sun. 3/5 2 p.m.	\$
<i>Phila. Museum</i> : x \$14 Tour choices: 1)2)3) Sun. 3/5 3 p.m.	\$
Barnes Fdn.: x \$10 Sun. 3/5 1 p.m.	\$
TOTAL	\$

Please make your check payable to **NEMLA**. (If we do not get enough for a group

rate, your check will be refunded).

NeMLA News

Philadelphia: Something for Everyone

From the internationally acclaimed Philadelphia Orchestra's series of Beethoven Symphonies (Nos. 7 & 8 performed March 2, 3), to the Pennsylvania Ballet's incredible production of Stravinsky's *Firebird*, to "pay what you can" Sunday admission to the world renowned Philadelphia Museum of Art, there is something for everyone in Philadelphia. If jazz is more to your liking, within an easy walk of the convention site are two jazz clubs, Zanzibar Blue and Chris's Jazz Café.

If there is a specific genre (performance art, chamber music, choral music, etc) you are interested in seeing while in Philadelphia, email me

brubaksm@drexel.edu> and I will explore what is being offered and get back to you with the details.

-Sharon M Brubaker, Local Liaison

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES Philadelphia Art Museum:

Hours Tues.-Thurs. 8-5; Fri. 8-8:45; Sat. and Sun. 8-5 General Admission: \$12 adult; \$9 senior (62+) Students (with valid ID) \$8; children 13-18) \$8 Fri evenings: *Art After 5*: 5-8:45. Sunday: pay what you wish all day.

Self-Guided Walking Tour of Philadelphia: Lipschitz Sculptures

http://www.philamuseum.org/events/lipchitztour.pdf

Symphony Hall, The Kimmel Center

(215) 893-1999

The Merriam Theater *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (215) 336-1234

The Arden Theater *Dancing at Lughnasa* (215) 922.1122

The Walnut Street Theater *Lost in Yonkers* (215) 574-3550

Wilma Theater *9Parts of Desire* (215) 546-STAGE

The Firebird, The Pennsylvania Ballet (215) 893-1999

Barnes Foundation. You may set up your own visit for Fri. Sat. or Sun 9:30-5, but you must book and pay in advance at http://www.barnesfoundation.org/email_request.html or at 610-667-0290 option 5.

Special Opportunity for New Webmaster

NEMLA is looking for one or two new webmasters, as our current webmasters are moving onto other NEMLA responsibilities. Those with web-design and web-management experience, as well as experience with web-based forms (such as ASP forms), are preferable. Knowledge of Adobe PageMaker also a plus. Benefits are those of a full board member, with compensation including convention expenses and stipend. This opportunity may be especially interesting to Ph.D. students or others with an interest in gaining administrative experience with a well-known and respected academic organization.



NEMLA Summer Fellowship Program

The NEMLA Summer Fellowship Program offers \$1,000 Fellowships to defray the cost of traveling incurred by researchers in pursuing their work-in-progress over the summer. The fellowship is designed to support primarily untenured junior faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars, although senior faculty may apply as well.

All applicants must be NEMLA members at the time of application, which is due **January 30**, **2006** to: Matt Lessig; English Dept.; SUNY Cortland; P.O. Box 2000; Cortland, NY 13045. Full application information is available at: http://www.nemla.org/fellowship.html

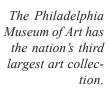


Photo by George Widman for GPTMC



Creation of the NEMLA Part-Time Faculty Caucus: First in the Country

As an adjunct activist for the past decade regionally, statewide, and nationally, I invite NEMLA'S part-time faculty members to join this new Caucus at next May's conference in Philadelphia. In addition to the Adjunct/Part-time Faculty Caucus Reception, the Caucus will sponsor a roundtable, "Adjuncts in the Profession" chaired by Lisa DeTora.

Assist us to define our mission statement in representing our colleagues in the Northeast. Part-time faculty members in the humanities are employed at over 50% in this nation's institutions of higher education. NEMLA recognizes that we represent an invisible voice in the academy that merits to be heard, integrated, and supported for our scholarly and academic interests.

The new caucus is interested in formulating policies that benefit all, as well as promote a more equitable social environment for our members. Our mutual focus will be inclusive and proactive, that will seek realistic goals.

Knowing my important work on behalf of the MLA Executive Committee Part-Time Members' Discussion Group, NEMLA's Executive Director, Josie McQuail encouraged me to continue this important evolution within NEMLA. I am immensely grateful to her in support of this timely caucus' formation and look forward to collaborating with the other caucuses. Finally, I believe that NEMLA may offer a national leadership role in these issues to continue a proactive and positive political focus within the profession-at-large.

-Kandace Lombart

President, Part-Time Faculty Caucus



NEMLA / American Antiquarian Society Fellowship

AAS-Northeast Modern Language Association Fellowships are for research in British and American literature and studies in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that can be supported by the collections of the American Antiquarian Society. The award is jointly funded by the Northeast Modern Language Association and AAS. Degree candidates are not eligible.

Please visit the <u>AAS website</u> for details (the application procedure is noted on the right side of the page that is linked here). Deadline: **January 15**.

http://www.americanantiquarian.org/nemla.htm

Opportunites for Graduate Students

A limited number of assistance packages will be available for graduate students whose institutions either do not have any assistance provided for graduate students to attend and present papers at conferences or who have exhausted that assistance for the year (the letter from the student's institution must affirm that this condition has been met). The assistance provided by NEMLA will include waiving the registration and membership fee for the convention, and will include one single night in the convention hotel (you must present a credit card at the hotel check in desk to cover any incidentals like phone calls). Applications must be received by Nov. 30. For full information, go to: http://www.nemla.org/graduate.html

The Graduate Caucus seeks to elect a new President of the caucus. Responsibilities include organizing the Graduate Caucus Panel for the NEMLA convention, overseeing the administration of graduate funding grants, the awarding of the Graduate Caucus Paper Prize, and the election of Graduate Caucus officials. The Graduate Caucus President reports to the NEMLA Executive Board. For those graduate students who are interested in this position, please contact Darcie Rives, at rivesdd@yahoo.com, for further information.



NEMLA Online Payment

Although members may still fill out the form with a check and mail it in to the Executive Director, we would like for several reasons to urge participants to use the Acteva online payment service to join NEMLA and register for the convention. Even though there is a processing fee, it is cheaper than the mail-in option. In addition, you will get a receipt, instantaneously), whereas if you mail your membership/registration in, you will only receive a blank form at the time of the convention as your receipt. Also, using Acteva allows your data to be accessible immediately by the Executive Director, instead of requiring laborious processing. Finally, by using Acteva you can use your credit card. To pay online, you may follow the link from the website or go to:

http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=73608

Thank you in advance for your interest in NEMLA and the 37th Annual Convention; and please send any feedback to the Executive Director, Dr. Josephine A. McQuail, at jmcquail@tntech.edu

NEMLA Combined Membership and Registration Form

2006 MEMBERSHIP YEAR (membership runs from Dec. 1, 2005-Nov. 30, 2006)

THE 37th ANNUAL CONVENTION (Philadelphia) March 2-5, 2006

American Antiquarian Society-NEMLA Fellowship

Membership entitles members to: the NEMLA newsletter and Modern Language Studies for the membership year Institutional memberships are not the same as those for individual members. Current NEMLA members have the privileges of proposing panels for upcoming conferences and applying for NEMLA grants, as well as voting in open elections. Please indicate 3 primary areas of interest using the numbers from the following list:: 01: American; 02: Bibliography; 03: Canadian; 04: Comparative Literature; 05: English/British; 06: Film; 07: French; 08: Gay-Lesbian; 09: German; 10: Italian; 11: Linguistics; 12: Pedagogy; 13: Popular Culture; 14: Russian; 15: Scandinavian; 16: Slavic; 17: Spanish/Portuguese; 18: Women's Studies; 19: Composition; 20: ESL; 21: Others(please list): _ NOTE: There will be a \$10 surcharge for those using the combined membership/registration form after Dec. 1, 2005; there will be no onsite registration Address ___ city _____ State or province ____ post code ____ country ____ Phone ______ e-mail _____ Fax _____ Academic Affiliation: ______ Dept.____ Address: ______ city _____ State or province ____ postcode_____ Address to which mailings should be sent (home address preferable, but if you have your mail on vacation hold the newsletter will be sent back and NEMLA will be charged extra postage) _____ HOME _____ ACADEMIC Please checkmembership/registration category*: **MEMBERSHIP ONLY:** Full-Time Faculty _____ \$90membership= \$90 Part-Time Faculty _____ \$50 membership = \$50 Student/Independent Scholar___ \$50 membership =\$50 Retired ____\$50 membership= \$50 Joint _____\$135 membership fee = \$135 Department _____\$80 membership fee = \$80 **MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION** Full-Time Faculty _____ Registration fee: \$100 + \$70 membership= \$170 Part-Time Faculty _____ Registration fee: \$75 + \$45 membership = \$120 Student/Independent Scholar___ Registration fee \$75 + \$45 membership =\$120 Retired Registration fee \$75 + \$45 membership= \$120 Joint _____Registration \$150 + \$105 membership fee = \$255 Women's Caucus Breakfast: \$15.50 Please add \$10 for mailings OUTSIDE the U.S. for postage: \$10 Surcharge AFTER Dec. 1, 2005 __ \$10 (applies only if attending convention; not for membership only) NEMLA also offers several fellowships and scholarships. We would like to encourage people to contribute to these so we can continue to offer them: NEMLA Summer Grants (open to grad students, independent scholars and full and part time faculty:

SEND TO: Prof. Josephine McQuail, Executive Director; Department of English/NEMLA Box 5053; Tennessee Technological University; Cookeville TN 38505

Total enclosed \$

November 2005

Key Dates

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UPCOMING NEMLA CONVENTIONS:

2007: March 1-4; Baltimore, Maryland

2008: April 3-6; Buffalo, New York

2009: Feb. 26-March 1; Boston, Massachusetts

2010: April 7-11; Montreal, Quebec

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

Nov. 30: All renewing members should rejoin by this date, as the membership year for 2006 runs from Dec. 1: 2005-Nov. 30, 2006

Dec. 1: Registrations for the 2005 convention after this date will be surcharged \$10

NeMLA News

Northeast Modern Language Association

This newsletter is produced twice annually for members of NeMLA. Updated news and information is available at the NeMLA website <www.nemla.org>. To post additional information, please contact the webmasters, Elizabeth Abele <eabele88@gmail.com> or Jason Haslam <Jason.Haslam@dal.ca>.

Northeast Modern Language Association

Josephine McQuail, Executive Director Box 5053 Tennessee Technological University Cookeville, TN 38505

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Dec. 15: Papers for the 2005 Gay and Lesbian Caucus Prize due to chair; Papers for the 2005 Graduate Student Caucus Prize due to chair

Dec. 18: Papers for the 2005 Women's Caucus Prize due to chair

2006

Jan. 15: American Antiquarian Society/NEMLA Fellowship applications due; see AAS website

Jan. 30: Summer Fellowship Proposals due to Second Vice President

Feb. 1: Cut-off date for special rate at Radisson Plaza Warwick

Convention registration after this date subject to \$25 late fee

March 2-5: Annual Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 15: Deadline for Proposals for 2007 Convention to Executive Director

June: Call for Papers newsletter mailed; Call also available on website

Sept. 15: Deadline for abstracts to panel chairs

Non-Profit org

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