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northeast.mla@gmail.com

www.nemla.org

President's Letter: Welcome to New Brunswick!

NeMLA will hold its 42nd Annual Convention April 7th-10th in New Brunswick, New Jersey at the conveniently located and state-of-the-art Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. This year's convention is very large; our program is comprised of 320 panels



that address diverse literary, cultural, historical, pedagogical, and theoretical areas of study. Many scholars will join us across the American continent as well as from different parts of the world. We are grateful to our local host institution, Rutgers University, and their representatives for collaborating with us in organizing and sponsoring exciting cultural tours, events, and activities that will make this convention a stimulating intellectual experience.

The convention will begin on Thursday, April 7th, and continue until Sunday, when the last session will end at 12:15 pm. Following the last session, NeMLA will host its traditional Sunday Brunch. NeMLA has organized tours and events for Sunday afternoon for those members who wish to continue to explore the local area attractions.

NeMLA will host a series of pre-conference workshops in the areas of pedagogy, publishing, and professional development. This is a new addition to the conference and we hope that it will gather interest and momentum this year and will continue to be an important space for the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

We will formally open the convention on Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 pm, with a Welcoming Reading and Reception sponsored by Rutgers University and NeMLA. Both events will be held at the Jane Vorhees Zimmerli Art Museum. Acclaimed Rutgers University faculty members and poets, Rachel Hadas and Mark Doty, will be our special Guest Readers. The poet Grace Schulman writes that Hadas' poems "are urgent, contemplative, and finely wrought. In them, antiquity illuminates the present as Hadas finds in ordinary human acts 'what never was and what

is eternal.” In the poet’s words, “the ineffable longing and despair [are] twin feelings that motivate and permeate” much of her poetry, resulting part from temperament and part from the premature sense of the yoking of love and loss. Hadas’ numerous poetry collections and essays have received much praise and were recognized with the Guggenheim Fellowship in Poetry, the Ingram Merrill Foundation Grant, and an Award in literature from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

In “Ararat,” Mark Doty writes: “Any small thing can save you,” a miniature manifesto of his poetic genius, which pays close attention to the fragile and contingent reality of our world, where glimpses of transcendence emerge to shed “radiance around the ordinary.”

Mark Doty’s last work, *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems*, received the National Book Award for Poetry in 2008. His poetic collections, which include *School of the Arts*, *Source*, and *My Alexandria*, were honored with the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the Whiting Writers Award, and two Lambda Literary Awards.

There will be two special events on Friday afternoon. A tour of the Zimmerli Museum’s unique collection of Soviet Nonformist art will be led by curator Julia Tulovsky. At the Hyatt Regency, Rosemary Feal, Executive Director of the Modern Language Association, will participate in a roundtable on “Programs in Peril,” an initiative that aims at protecting modern language departments at risk.

The Keynote Address and Reception, held at the Hyatt Regency on Friday evening and opened to the Latino Literary Imagination Conference participants, will feature Ana Celia Zentella, Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego. Her talk, “Language Minorities in the USA in an English-Only Era,” is based on her prominent research in “anthro-political linguistics,” and is co-sponsored by Rutgers University in conjunction with the Latino Literary Imagination Conference. A central figure in the study of U.S. Language varieties of Spanish and language socialization, Professor Zentella’s most acclaimed book, *Growing up Bilingual: Puerto Rican children in New York* (Blackwell, 1997), won the Book Prize of the British Association of Applied Linguistics and the Book Award of the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists of the American Anthropology Association. Most recently, Professor Zentella has edited *Building on Strength: Language and Literacy in Latino Families and Communities* (Columbia TC Press, 2005).

The Latino Literary Imagination Conference, held at Rutgers University at the same time as the NeMLA Convention, offers us a wonderful synchronicity that complements well our panels in the Spanish area, as well as intersect with our American/Transnational areas.

In addition to the local events, museum tours, and shows, on Thursday at 4:30 pm, NeMLA will sponsor Professor Thomas Fulton’s lecture, “Milton and the Cultures of Print.” The lecture will accompany the Milton Exhibition featured at Alexander Library and will complement the panels dedicated to the British writer organized by Cecilia Feilla, British Area Director. The Zimmerli Art Museum will host the Joan Snyder Exhibit and free tours will be offered to NeMLA Convention participants on Friday and Saturday between 1:00 and 2:00 pm.

Saturday features a wide selection of special sessions, distinguished speakers sponsored by several language sections, tours, and performances. On Saturday evening, special events, business meetings, and receptions will be sponsored by the different Language Areas and the Caucuses (look for details in this newsletter).

I would like to express my gratitude to all members for their commitment to make NeMLA the largest regional MLA and a truly energetic community of intellectuals, scholars, and professionals. I am especially grateful to the Executive Board, Bill Waddell, Barbara Mabee, and Natalie Edwards, for their vision and leadership, to the Area Directors and Members-at-Large, for their enthusiasm and dedication to making their areas vibrant and motivated. Last but not least, special thanks go to Elizabeth Abele, our Executive Director extraordinaire, whose professionalism and hard work have made NeMLA the convention to attend and a stimulating space for scholarly and interpersonal exchange.

The location of the 2012 NeMLA Convention is Rochester, New York, with Saint John Fisher College as NeMLA’s host institution. I will pass the baton to incoming President, Bill Waddell, at the Sunday brunch on April 10th, with all my best wishes for continuous success.

I look forward to seeing you in New Brunswick.

Simona Wright
NeMLA President, 2010-2011
Professor of Italian, The College of New Jersey

Convention Highlights

Keynote Speaker: Ana Celia Zentella



Ana Celia Zentella is the keynote speaker for the 42nd NeMLA Convention and is Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego. She is one of the foremost researchers in what she has termed “anthro-political linguistics” and is a central figure

in the study of U.S. Latino/a varieties of Spanish and English, Spanglish, and language socialization in Latino/a families. She is also a respected critic of the linguistic profiling facilitated by English-only laws and anti-bilingual education legislation. Her book, *Growing up Bilingual: Puerto Rican children in New York* (Blackwell, 1997), won the Book Prize of the British Association of Applied Linguistics and the Book Award of the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists of the American Anthropology Association. Most recently, she has edited *Building on Strength: Language and Literacy in Latino Families and Communities* (Columbia TC Press, 2005).

Her current research projects include a study of Puerto Rican assimilation to Mexican Spanish in California and a study, in conjunction with researchers from COLEF [El Colegio de la Frontera], on the remapping of language, identity, and the border by transfronterizo students who live in Tijuana and study in San Diego.

Manhattan's Borough President Ruth Messinger declared October 30, 1997 "Doctor Ana Celia Zentella Day" for "her leading role in building appreciation for language diversity and respect for language rights."

Opening Reading

On Thursday evening, acclaimed poets and Rutgers faculty members **Rachel Hadas** and **Mark Doty** will be NeMLA's special guests at our opening reading, which will be followed by a welcome reception.



Rachel Hadas is the author of numerous books of poetry, essays, and translations and the co-editor the anthology *The Greek Poets: Homer to the Present* (Norton 2009); her latest book of poems is *The Ache of Appetite* (2010). Forthcoming in 2011 is a book of prose about her husband's illness entitled *Strange Relation: A Memoir of Marriage, Dementia, and Poetry*. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in Poetry, an Ingram Merrill Foundation grant in poetry, and an award in literature from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. She teaches in the English Department of the Newark campus of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.



Mark Doty's *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems* won the National Book Award for Poetry in 2008. His eight books of poems include *School of the Arts*, *Source*, and *My Alexandria*. *Dog Years*, a book of nonfiction prose, was a *New York Times* bestseller in 2007.

Doty's work has been honored by the National Book Critics Circle Award, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, a Whiting Writers Award, two Lambda Literary Awards and the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for First Nonfiction. He is the only American poet to have received the T.S. Eliot Prize in the U.K., and has received fellowships from the Guggenheim, Ingram Merrill and Lila Wallace/Readers Digest Foundations, and from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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British Language and Literature Event: Thomas Fulton

"Milton and the Cultures of Print"
Thursday, April 7th at 4:30 pm



Thomas Fulton, a professor of English at Rutgers University, has written on early modern literature and cultural history, and on the history of the book. His current book, *Historical Milton: Manuscript, Print, and Political Culture in Revolutionary England* focuses on the relationship between the manuscript evidence of John Milton's thinking and the public performance of his printed works. He is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and a Goheen Prize in Classical Studies. Please RSVP at nemlatour2011@gmail.com with "Milton" in the subject line.

Russian and Eastern European Language and Literatures Event:

"A Tour of Non-Conformist Art from the Soviet Union (1956-1986)," led by Julia Tulovsky
Friday, April 8th at 3:30 pm

The tour will highlight the Norton & Nancy Dodge Collection, one of the largest and most comprehensive collection of Soviet dissident art from the historical Cold War period (1956-1986)-from Khrushchev's cultural "thaw" to Gorbachev's glasnost and perestroika. Please RSVP at nemlatour2011@gmail.com with "Soviet" in the subject line.

Italian Language and Literature Event: Antonella Sica and Cristiano Palozzi

"Il cortometraggio italiano nel terzo millennio. Stili, tendenze, prospettive"
Friday, April 8th at 1:15 pm

Antonella Sica and Cristiano Palozzi

are both filmmakers and film critics and the founders and artistic directors of the Genova Film Festival, one of the most important cultural events for Italian



filmmakers. Antonella Sica is a director and manager in the field of audiovisual culture and is the Vice President of the Foundation-Liguria Genova Film Commission. Cristiano Palozzi established his artistic and co-production partnership with Antonella Sica in 1991. He has worked as an editor and film critic internationally and is one of the members of the Promotion Committee of the National Center of Short Film.

"Italicita' e identita' local"
Saturday, April 9th 6:30 pm

A roundtable discussion with **Piero Bassetti, Niccolo' d'Aquino and Maddalena Tirabassi Globus and Locus-Centro Altretalie**

French Language and Literatures Event: Souleymane Bachir Diagne

Saturday, April 9th at 6:30 pm
Co-sponsored by Francophone and Comparative Languages

To complement the range of Middle Eastern sessions on NeMLA's 2011 program, Professor **Souleymane Bachir Diagne** will talk about the contemporary Islamic world. He is Professor of French and Director of Graduate Studies at Columbia University, and the author of *Islam et société ouverte, la fidélité et le mouvement dans la pensée de Muhammad*, and *Léopold Sédar Senghor: l'art africain comme philosophie*. His latest publication is entitled *Comment philosopher en Islam*.



Cultural Studies and Film Event: Deborah Willis

Saturday, April 9th at 1:15 pm

Professor **Deborah Willis** is Chair and Professor of Photography and Imaging at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, where she also has a joint appointment with the College of Arts and Sciences, African Studies. Some of her notable projects include *A Small Nation of People: W.E.B. DuBois and African American Portraits of Progress*, *The Black Female Body in Photography*, and most recently, *Michelle Obama, The First Lady in Photographs*, which garnered Dr. Willis the 2010 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work.



American Literatures Event:

Mayra Santos-Febres

Saturday, April 9th at 6:30 pm

Co-sponsored by LGBTQ Caucus



Mayra Santos-Febres is a novelist, poet, essayist, radio and television personality, and a professor in the humanities division of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Her first two collections of poems were both critically acclaimed: *Anamú y maniqua* was

selected as one of the best books published in Puerto Rico in that year, and the Trípico Review awarded *El orden escapada* its first prize in poetry. Her short story collection *Pez de vidrio*, won the Premio Letras de Oro; and her short story, "Oso Blanco," garnered the Radio Internationale Juan Rulfo Award in 1996. Her novel, *Sirena Selena vestida de pena* won the PEN Club of Puerto Rico's prize for best novel and her third novel, *Nuestra Señora de las noche*, captured Puerto Rico's 2007 Premio Nacional de Literatura. Recently, she was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and long-listed for the prestigious IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.

Women's and Gender Studies Event:

Sharon Jimenez

"Stand, Fight and Persevere:

One Woman's Journey Beyond Barriers"

Saturday, April 9th at 6:30 pm

Sharon Jimenez has spent her life fighting for women's rights through her work in journalism, public relations, and political leadership. In her career as broadcast journalist, she was a political correspondent in Atlanta. As owner of her own public



relations firm, she has worked to bring media attention to some of the most urgent issues of our times, often collaborating with women religious leaders from the Middle East. She co-produced *Gerrymandering the Movie*, which was featured in the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival and received the Defender of Democracy Award from Stanford University in September 2010.

NEMLA 2011 CAUCUS EVENTS

NeMLA has several organizations, each caucus is organized according to and serves the interests of its members. Currently NeMLA has four active caucuses: **CAITY** (Contingent; Adjunct; Independent ; Two-Year Faculty); the **LGBTQ** Caucus; the **Graduate** Caucus; and the **Women's and Gender Studies**. In addition, the **Diversity Group** is exploring the possibility of a caucus or caucuses.

During the 2011 Convention, the Caucuses will host several professional events and social activities.

Highlights include:

Thursday, April 7th at 11:30 am: "Adapting your Syllabus for Different Campuses," a workshop hosted by CAITY.

Thursday, April 7th at 8:30 pm: Welcome Reception at the Doll's House, hosted by the Graduate Student Caucus.

Saturday, April 9th at 10:00 am: "Best Practices in Women's, Gender and Feminist Studies," a Roundtable Discussion hosted by Women's and Gender Studies Caucus.

Saturday, April 9th at 1:15 pm: "Traditional, Alternative and Successful Approaches to Graduate School," a roundtable discussion hosted by the Graduate Student Caucus.

Saturday, April 9th at 4:45 pm: "Diversity, Identity and Graduate School," a roundtable discussion hosted by the Graduate Student Caucus.

Saturday, April 9th at 8:30 pm: Graduate Student Caucus dinner at the Makeda Ethiopian Restaurant.

Dawn Dreams

Dreams draw near at dawn and then
recede
even if you beckon them.
They loom like demons
you tug by the tail to examine from up
close
and then let fly away.
Their colors are once brighter and less
bright
than you remembered, they
hover and insinuate all day
at the corner of your eye.

Rachel Hadas, 2010



Signal

LOST COCKATIEL, cried the sign, hand-lettered,
taped to the side of a building: last seen on 16th between
Fifth and Sixth, gray body, orange cheek patches
yellow head. Name: Omar. Somebody's dear, I guess,
though how do you lose a cockatiel on 16th Street?

Flown from a ledge, into the sky he's eyed for
months or years, into the high limbs of the ginkgos,
suddenly free? I'm looking everywhere in the rustling
globes and spires shot through with yellow, streaking at the
edges, for any tropic flash of him. Why should I think I'd
see him, in the vast flap this city is?

Why wander Chelsea when that boy could be up and gone,
winging his way to Babylon or Oyster Bay,
drawn to some magnet of green. Sense to go south?
Not likely; Omar's known the apartment and the cage,
picked his seeds from a cup, his fruits and nuts from the
hand that anchored him —

and now he's launched, unfindable,

no one's baby anymore but one bit...

Think of the great banks of wires and switches
in the telephone exchange, every voice and signal
a little flicker lighting up — that's Omar now,
impulse in the propulsive flow. Who'll ever know?
Then this morning we're all in the private commuter blur
when a guy walks into the subway car whistling,
doing birdcalls: he's decked in orange and lime,
a flag pluming his baseball cap; he's holding out a paper cup
while he shifts from trills to caws. Not much of a talent,
I think, though I like his shameless attempt at charm, and
everybody's smiling covertly, not particularly tempted
to give him money. Though one man reaches into his pocket
and starts to drop some change into the cup,
and our Papageno says, "That's my coffee, man,
but thanks, God bless you anyway,"
and lurches whistling out the door.

Mark Doty, from *School of the Arts* (2005)

SPONSORED EVENTS AND LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

NeMLA is happy to sponsor a series of events for its members attending the 42nd Annual Convention in New Brunswick, a lively city in New Jersey also known as the home of Rutgers University. Its proximity to New York City and the vibrant atmosphere of its downtown make New Brunswick an enjoyable setting for the conference. The various ethnic restaurants and lounge bars, with live performances and music, within the city center are perfect places for an afternoon outing. For those who are city-oriented, New York City is just around the corner; New Brunswick is connected to New York by numerous trains and buses departing from the local train station. Based on interest, vans may be organized to take groups to attractions; please contact nemlatour2011@gmail.com for more information. We hope you will have the opportunity to enjoy both what Rutgers University and New Brunswick have to offer.

Thursday, April 7th

State Theatre in New Brunswick presents the Parsons Dance and East Village Opera Company's *Remember Me*

Parsons Dance Company perform in *Remember ME*

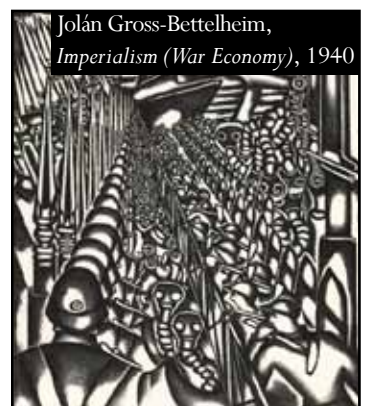


Choreographed and directed for the stage by David Parsons, *Remember Me* is a high-energy mix of contemporary American dance, opera, and rock music. It combines the athleticism of Parsons Dance with the exhilarating live vocal performances of the East Village Opera Company (EVOC). David Parsons, and EVOC vocalist's Tyley Ross and AnnMarie Milazzo created a storyline that connects EVOC's signature operatic "rock" arias with David Parsons' original choreography. With contemporary dance, live and recorded music, video projections, complex digital lighting and visual effects, *Remember Me* is the most ambitious production created by Parsons Dance in its 22-year history. For more information, please visit: http://www.statetheatrenj.org/remember_me. Tickets: \$32-52

Friday, April 8th and Saturday April 9th

The Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum

The Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum is within walking distance to the Hyatt Regency Hotel and houses a variety of collections boasting over 60,000 works of art. Among their exhibitions, visitors can see the Jolán Gross-Bettelheim Exhibition, "**An American Printmaker in an Age of Progress,**" as well as the Joan Snyder Exhibition, "**Dancing with the Dark: Prints, 1963-2010,**" located near the Café of the Museum. For more information please, visit: <http://www.zimmerli-museum.rutgers.edu>. Opening Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 am-4:30 pm, Weekends: Noon-5:00 pm. Admission: \$3 for members and \$6 for adults who are not members.



Saturday, April 9th

Broadway Show

The Broadway theatre district is a unique attraction in New York City and a must for all those who love shows and live performances. Those who are interested may purchase tickets through Acteva. Since there is a limited number of tickets, they will be available on a first come first serve basis. Please contact nemlatour2011@gmail.com to reserve a space for a Saturday evening or Sunday matinee show.

New Jersey Symphony Orchestra



Master melodists: Barber's First Symphony is filled with lines that linger, while Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto soars on passionate themes. Haitian-American composer Daniel Bernard Roumain is a bright light on the current scene; his symphony was co-commissioned by the NJSO and the Sphinx Organization. For more information on the program, please visit: <http://www.statetheatrenj.org/njsotchaikovskyviolinconcerto>

Time: 8:00 pm. Admission: Tickets range from \$20 to \$80.

Rutgers Gardens

Rutgers Gardens feature a diverse variety of landscape plants with origins that span the globe. The collections include the Donald B. Lacey Display Garden, the largest collection of American Hollies in the world, a Shrub Collection, a Shade Tree Collection, a Rhododendron and Azalea Garden, The Roy H. De Boer Evergreen Garden, The Ella Quimby Water Conservation Terrace Gardens, The Gardens for Sun & Shade, The Ornamental Tree Collection, and a Bamboo Forest. Admission is free.



Grounds for Sculpture

The Grounds For Sculpture houses works by well-known and emerging contemporary sculptors in the museum buildings and landscaped



sculpture park. Centrally located in Hamilton, New Jersey, and mid-way between New York City and Philadelphia, it is easily accessible via major highways and public rail systems. Open year-round, special exhibitions, programs, and events are scheduled for the visitor's education and enjoyment. Grounds also offers exceptional cuisine for lunch and dinner at the Rat's Restaurant which boasts a Zagat's rated ambience. Open: Tuesday - Sunday 10:00 am-6:00 pm. Admission: Adults: \$12. Seniors: (over 65) \$10.

Olde Towne Village

The Village is a collection of original, replica and reconstructed 18th and 19th century architectural structures. They represent the vernacular architecture typical of farm and merchant communities once found in central New Jersey. The Village, 2.3 miles from the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, functions as an educational model, dedicated to teaching the history, traditions, folk arts and craftsmanship of the people who lived and worked throughout the region. For more information, please visit: <http://www.co.middlesex.nj.us/culturalheritage/village.asp>

Newark Museum, Planetarium, and Branch Brook Park

Take an inspirational journey through 80 galleries of world-class collections including American, Asian, African and Classical art. Experience another era in the Victorian Balantine House, a National Historic Landmark. Enjoy exciting science collections, from live animals in the Mini Zoo to space travel in the popular planetarium. Open: Wednesday - Friday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm and Saturday - Sunday 10am - 5:00 pm. Admission: \$10 suggested admission. Planetarium admission: \$5.

2011 Newberry Library Research Fellowships

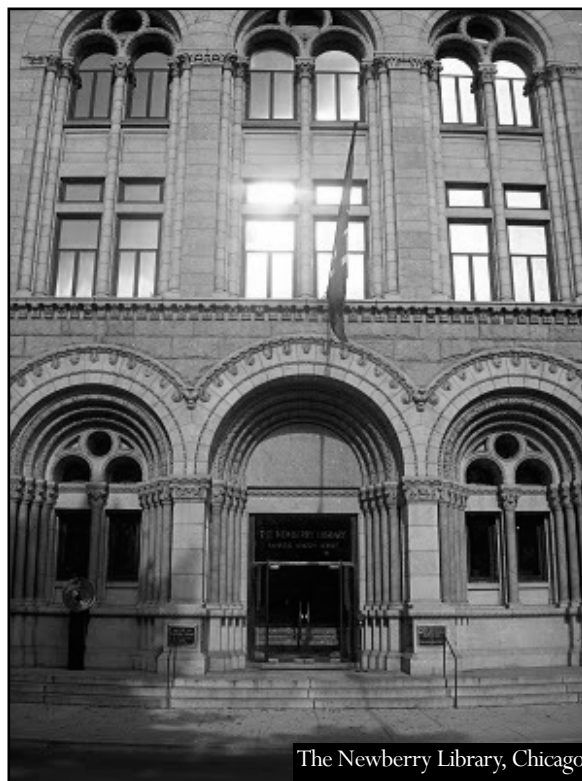
To better serve our members working in languages other than English, NeMLA has just established a partnership with the Newberry Library. This short-term fellowship for Ph.D. candidates or post-doctoral scholars offers up to one month's support (\$1,200) for work in residence at the Newberry. NeMLA membership must be current at the time of application and through the period of the fellowship. Preference will be given to projects focusing on materials written in French, German, Italian, or Spanish. The deadline for applications is **February 10th, 2011**. To apply for this and the NeMLA summer fellowships, please visit: <http://www.nemla.org/awards/index.html>. Nicholas Nace received the 2010 NeMLA fellowship in support of his research project, *Authorship and Suppression in the Richardson Circle*. Below, he writes of his experiences at the Newberry Library and the breadth of its collection.

At 60 West Walton Street, overlooking Bughouse Square on the Near North Side of Chicago, stands a neo-Romanesque building that houses an astonishing collection of books, periodicals, manuscripts and maps that, while privately funded, has for 123 years been open to anyone over 16 years of age. Provided for in its inception by the philanthropist and bibliomane Walter Loomis Newberry, the Newberry Library has been principally dedicated to making rare research materials available to "scholars and people desiring to make careful researches." And the NeMLA, as a group of scholars undertaking just such researches, has unique access to this hidden gem of a world-class research facility through a competitive fellowship expressly for research at the Newberry.

As I discovered during my Summer 2010 residence there as a NeMLA fellow, the Newberry and its expert staff facilitates research in a great many topics, but also offers a vibrant schol-

arly community, not just through its prominent Center for Renaissance Studies and its Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography, but also through invited lectures by distinguished speakers, colloquia of staff and fellows, and public displays of select holdings in its two elegant exhibition galleries. A scholar at the Newberry confronts a sublime store of treasures on a vast (and ever widening) array of topics. As you learn early on, the richness of the holdings is distorted by any attempt to itemize them, and new discoveries are commonplace topics of conversation between fellows.

Some particularly strong holdings include those on European languages and literatures, exploration and settlement of the Americas, maps and the history of cartography, ecclesiastical history, ballet and dance, music and its printing, and the history of social movements. In particular, there are four separate special collections privately endowed for continuing acquisitions: the Edward E. Ayer Collection devoted to chron-



The Newberry Library, Chicago

*icling European contact with North American Indian populations; the William B. Greenlee Collection of materials related to Brazilian and Portuguese literature, art and social history; the Everett D. Graff Collection of materials dealing with the American West. The holdings that were of most use to me as a scholar of eighteenth-century English literature and book history, the John M. Wing Foundation Collection on printing, typography and graphic design. My own month of research at the Newberry just scratched the surface of what was potentially of use to me. I went to the library to investigate the work of Urania Johnson, whose second anonymous novel, **Amintor and Teresa**, I was able to read in a hard-to-find translation by the Parisian chemist,*

anatmist, feminist philosopher Marie-Geneviève-Charlotte Darlus Thiroux d'Arconville. But in addition to what I expected to find, what I discovered in the reading room was the start of several new projects--on the use of blackletter font in satirical pamphlets, on eighteenth-century spy fiction, and on John Cleland's etymological works--that could not have been begun anywhere else in the world.

OPENINGS FOR BOARD MEMBERS, 2011

NeMLA is run by a volunteer Board. Positions on the Board are staggered, and each year vacancies need to be filled. The vacant positions and a brief description of their responsibilities are listed below. The committee would greatly appreciate a response to this call which reflects the vibrant nature of our organization. Nominations can be sent to First Vice President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Natalie Edwards by email natalie.edwards@wagner.edu as soon as possible, but no later **June 15th**. Brief descriptions of the available positions are posted below. If you have any questions, please email Natalie Edwards.

Second Vice President: This is a one year term but a four year commitment since the Second Vice President progresses to First Vice President, President, and then Past President. The Second Vice President chairs the Fellowship Committee; the First Vice President chairs the Nominating Committee. Both the First and Second Vice Presidents assist the President by performing duties assigned by the President and, when necessary, assume the duties and responsibilities of the President. They share with the President and the Executive Director responsibility for the annual convention.

The **President** is responsible, with the advice and consent of the Executive and the Board, for the administration of the Association. The President calls and presides over meetings of the Board twice a year and assigns members of the Board, with their consent, to positions on standing or ad hoc committees. The President is responsible for securing the keynote speaker for the convention over which s/he presides. The **Past President** serves in an advisory capacity for the current year's President. In addition, the Past President serves as Chair of the Book Award Committee.

American and British Literatures Director Comparative Languages and Literatures Director

The Directors assume their positions for two year terms. They represent the interests of the membership as a whole as well as of their particular constituency. They oversee the convention program in their particular area, and assist the executive in finding speakers and other opportunities. In addition to the convention program committee, they may also be requested to serve on the Board's various other committees (eg: Summer Fellowship etc.).

Member at Large, Diversity: The Member at Large will oversee the Board's efforts to promote diversity in membership and scholarship. Duties will include reviewing the Convention program for diversity, organizing events around diversity issues, as well as working with the LGBTQ Caucus, the Diversity Committee, and any new member groups. Preference will be given to a nominee whose identity as well as scholarship represents an under-represented position.

Member at Large, Professional Development: The Member at Large will oversee the Board's efforts to assure opportuni-

ties for professional development for NeMLA members, with particular interest in supporting the needs of contingent, adjunct and two-year faculty, and independent scholars. Duties will include reviewing the Pedagogy and Professional Areas of the Convention program, as well as working with the CAITY Caucus. Nominees must be contingent, adjunct, or two-year faculty members.

The positions of Second Vice President, American and British Literatures Director, and Comparative Languages and Literatures Director come into effect in **March 2012**. The Members at Large will join the Board in **October 2011**. The responsibilities for all board members include attending two meetings a year; one in the fall (in New York or at the site of the upcoming convention) and one on the Thursday of the convention before the convention's official start. For these meetings, each Board member is required to write a report on the activities related to their particular positions.

The nominees will be asked to provide a brief professional biography in narrative form, and a statement of purpose about why they would like to assume the position, what they see themselves bringing to the organization, how they envision the direction of the NeMLA, etc. (max. 500 words combined). The statements of the approved nominees will be sent out with the ballot to NeMLA members electronically for voting in late summer 2011.

NeMLA is delighted to welcome five new members to the 2011 Board of Directors. New board members will begin their service April 10th, 2011.

Second Vice President: Ellen Dolgin,
Associate Professor Dominican College, Orangeburg, NY

British and Anglophone Literatures Director: Suha Kudsieh,
Assistant Professor, College of Staten Island, Staten Island, NY

German Languages and Literatures Director: Astrid Weigert,
Visiting Assistant Professor, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

Italian Language and Literature Director: Giovanni Spani,
Assistant Professor, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

Cultural Studies and Film Director: Margarita Vargas,
Associate Professor State University of New York At Buffalo, Buffalo, NY

NeMLA Workshops:

Thursday, April 7th 11:30 am-2:00 pm

NeMLA is offering pre-Convention workshops. Each interactive workshop will feature a panel of presenters, followed by work with participants. A light lunch will be included; there will be a reservation fee (\$5 for convention registrants, \$20 for outside attendees). To reserve, please visit: www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaID=214484. If you have questions, please contact Karen Graves, Workshop Assistant at thekarengaves@gmail.com.

Adapting Your Syllabus for Different Campuses

Organizer: Georgia Krieger, Allegany College of Maryland
The **CAITY Caucus** will host a workshop for faculty who teach at multiple institutions. The session will provide suggestions for adapting syllabi to various student populations, programs, and courses and will offer time for small group discussions. The workshop will also be an opportunity to meet and network with non-tenured and two-year college faculty.

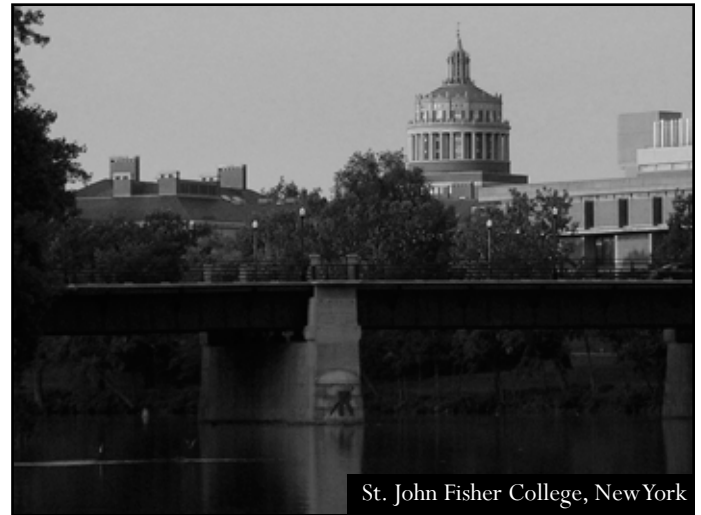
Academic Publishing in the Next Decade: Navigating Change, Seizing Opportunity

Organizer: Karen Alexander, Senior Editor,
Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society
Scholarly publishing is rapidly evolving, and within the next ten years we can expect to see far-reaching changes that will affect editors and publishers, libraries, faculty, and students. How can we negotiate the inevitable changes in a cost-effective manner without lowering scholarly standards? This workshop, which brings together scholarly journal editors, academic publishers, librarians, faculty, and graduate students, explores the challenges ahead with a view to seizing the opportunities they present.

Oltre la pizza, il Colosseo e il tiramisù: alla scoperta della cultura italiana dal primo livello

Organizer: Daniela Bartalesi-Graf, Tufts University
This workshop will address different ways to introduce the teaching of Italian culture starting at the beginner level. How can we make students linguistically and culturally competent at the same time? How can we help students

sharpen their cross-cultural awareness and critical thinking skills, as well as their language skills? We will examine the language pedagogy for lexicon, cinematography and oral narratives, offering concrete models and hand-on activities that the participating instructors will be able to use in their courses.



NeMLA 2012: Rochester, New York

Mark your calendars for NeMLA 2012! The 43rd Annual Convention will be held March 15th-18th in Rochester, New York at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Downtown, located minutes away from convenient air, bus, and train transportation options for attendees. The University of Rochester will serve as the host university, and the diverse array of area institutions are coordinating with conference organizers to sponsor various activities, such as celebrated keynote speakers, local events, and fiction readings. NeMLA 2012 will build upon the excellence of past conferences as the association continues to grow as a vibrant community of scholars, thanks to the wide array of intellectual and cultural opportunities at every venue. The site of the 2012 convention borders the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York, known for its local wineries. Compact yet diverse, Rochester also boasts important historical attractions, such as the houses of abolitionist, suffragette, and reformer Susan B. Anthony, and George Eastman, the inventor of devices popularizing photography, as well as shopping and eateries.

COME WITH US TO ROCHESTER! PROPOSE A SESSION FOR NEMLA 2012

The deadline for session proposals is **April 22nd, 2011**; potential chairs can find guidelines for proposals on the NeMLA website. The list of accepted panels will be published in the summer newsletter, as well as online, so make sure to keep updated on the many dynamic topics that will be forming for next year's conference.

Northeast Modern Language Association
Elizabeth Abele, Executive Director
Nassau Community College
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KEY DATES FOR 2010 - 2011:

February 10: Deadline for Newberry
Library Fellowship

February 10: Deadline for NeMLA
Summer Fellowship

April 22: Deadline for NeMLA 2012
Session Proposals

June 15: Deadline for Board Member
Nominations

UPCOMING NEMLA CONVENTIONS:

March 15-18, 2012; Rochester, NY
March 21-24, 2013; Boston, MA