



ALS-MLA

American Literature Section of the
Modern Language Association

Annual Report, 1998

Compiled by
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Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Contents

Officers	2
Financial Statement & Membership Report	2
Minutes of the Advisory Council Meeting	3
Words from the Outgoing Executive Coordinator	3
Report of the Section Chair	3
1998 Hubbell Medal	4
The Forester Prize	7
Reports from Committees:	
Nominating	7
<i>American Literature</i>	7
<i>American Literary Scholarship</i>	8
Scholarly Editions	8
 MLA Convention Sessions	
General ALS Sessions	10
American Literature to 1800	10
Nineteenth-Century American Literature	11
Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American Literature	11
Twentieth-Century American Literature	11
Black-American Literature and Culture	12
American Indian Literatures	12
 Articles of Organization, ALS/MLA	12
Articles of Agreement, ALS/MLA and Duke University Press	14
Lists from the Hubbell Center	
Chairs of the American Literature Section	15
Executive Directors of the Section	16
Recipients of the Jay B. Hubbell Award	16
Recipients of the Norman Foerster Award	16

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American Literature Section Officers, 1998

Chair: Cecelia Tichi (Vanderbilt U)

Executive Coordinator: Susan Belasco (U of Tulsa)

Advisory Council:

- Sharon Harris (U of Nebraska), 1996-98
- Evan Carton (U of Texas), 1996-98
- Michael Bérubé (U of Illinois, Urbana), 1997-99
- Gay Wilentz (East Carolina U), 1997-99
- Robert Levine (U of Maryland, College Park), 1998-00
- John Carlos Rowe (U of California, Irvine), 1998-00

Nominating Committee:

- Margaret Anne O'Connor (U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) 1997-98 (1998 chair)
- Frank Shuffelton (U of Rochester) 1997-99 (1999 chair)
- Sharon Harris (U of Nebraska), 1998

Foerster Prize Committee:

- Wendy Martin (Claremont Graduate U), Chair
- Joanne Braxton (DuBois Center, Harvard U)
- Robert Levine (U of Maryland, College Park)

Hubbell Award Committee:

- Jackson Bryer (U of Maryland, College Park), 1998 Chair
- Jonathan Arac (U of Pittsburgh), 1999 Chair
- Eric Sundquist (U of California, Los Angeles) 2000 Chair
- Shari Benstock (U of Miami), 2001 Chair
- Judith Fetterley (State U of New York at Albany), 2002 Chair
- Thadious Davis (Vanderbilt U), 2003 Chair

Editorial Board, American Literature:

Cathy N. Davidson (Duke U), (Editor—on leave)

- Houston Baker (U of Penn.), Guest Editor
- Dana Nelson (U of Kentucky), Guest Editor
- Marianne DeKoven (Rutgers U), 1998
- Lee Edelman (Tufts U), 1998
- José Limón (U of Texas, Austin), 1998
- Timothy Sweet (West Virginia U), 1998
- Jay Clayton (Vanderbilt U), 1998
- Herman Beavers (U of Pennsylvania), 1999
- Lisa Lowe (U of California, San Diego), 1999
- Donald Pease (Dartmouth Coll.), 1999
- Marjorie Pryse (State U of New York at Albany), 1999
- Valerie Smith (UCLA), 1999
- Maria Damon (U of Minnesota, Twin Cities), 2000
- Walt Herbert (Southwestern U), 2000
- Frances Smith Foster (Emory U), 2000
- Sharon Harris (U of Nebraska), 2000
- Priscilla Wald (U of Washington), 2000

Division Chairs:

American Literature to 1800

Frank Shuffelton (U of Rochester)

19th-Century American Literature

position unfilled

Late-19th- and Early-20th-Century American Literature

Amy Kaplan (Mt. Holyoke Coll.)

Twentieth-Century American Literature

Cary Nelson (U of Illinois, Urbana)

Black American Literature and Culture

Wahneema Lubiano (Duke U)

American Indian Literatures

position unfilled

1998 Financial Report

DUKE UNIVERSITY PRESS ACCOUNT

Opening balance	\$7,482.00
Income: membership dues	\$27,623.00
Expenses: cost of ALS volumes	
sent to members	\$17,777.00
End-of-year balance	\$9,846.00

ALS/MLA ACCOUNT AT BANK OF OKLAHOMA

Opening balance	\$2,088.10
Expense for ALS reception and cash bar	\$433.23
End-of-year balance	\$1654.87
(Balance transferred to new ALS/MLA account at Commerce Bank, St. Louis, MO)	

EXPENDITURES AT UNIVERSITY OF TULSA

(paid for from ALS account in Department of English—\$2000.00 available for 1998)	
Hubbell Medal	\$313.00
Ballot printing (3000 copies)	\$190.00
Stationery (1000 letterhead envelopes and 1000 small envelopes for ballot return)	\$93.94
1997 Annual Report (1000 copies of 23-page document)	\$1,059.30

Bender Direct Mail Services

Annual Report (labor and postage)	\$321.22
Ballot (labor and postage)	\$240.60
Total:	\$2,218.06

Comparison of Annual Report Costs

1994 Report:	\$2200.13
1995 Report:	1444.46
1996 Report:	902.00
1997 Report:	1380.52

1998/1999 Membership Statement

Number of paid members	6/98	6/99
Individual rate		
US	661	646
Outside-US	<u>70</u>	<u>71</u>
	731	717
Student/retired rate		
US	190	142
Outside-US	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
	198	147
Totals	929	864

**Minutes of the Advisory Council Meeting,
27 December 1998**

The Advisory Council of the Modern Language Association's American Literature Section met on 27 December 1998, 7:00-8:15 p.m. in Union Square 14, San Francisco Hilton. Professors Cecelia Tichi (1998 Chair), Evan Carton, John Carlos Rowe, Gay Wilentz, Dana Nelson, Robert Levine, Paul Lauter (1999 Chair) Sharon Harris, Cathy Davidson, Jackson Bryer, Gary Scharnhorst, Susan K. Harris (1997 Chair), and Susan Belasco (Executive Coordinator). Council member Michael Bérubé was not in attendance.

Reports were given by Bryer (as Hubbell Medal committee chair), Tichi (as outgoing chair), Davidson and Nelson (for *American Literature*), Scharnhorst (for *American Literary Scholarship*) and Belasco (for the Nominating and Foerster Committees in the absence of Margaret O'Connor and Wendy Martin. In her report, Belasco announced the current membership totals; the outcome of the contested election for two seats on the Advisory Council, Betsy Erkkila and Thadious Davis, the election of Sheryl Meyering and Brian Abel Ragen as new Executive Coordinators, the interim financial report, and the ongoing transition to the new Articles of Agreement. The text of these and other reports appear in the *Annual Report*.

The central business of the meeting was to discuss a request from Section member Werner Sollars concerning the newly formed MLA discussion group, "Literature of the United States in Languages Other Than English." Lauter reported that in his conversations with Sollars, he suggested that the ALS might consider including the sessions of the Group in the Annual Report and encourage ongoing conversation and dialogue. After discussion, the Council voted to include the Group's program in the annual report and to encourage other appropriate discussion groups to submit their convention programs for inclusion as well. In other business, Belasco reported that although membership numbers in ALS remain steady, attendance at Section functions at MLA was down, and the Council then discussed the importance of distinguishing the Section from other organizations, such as the American Literature Association. Belasco then commented briefly on the election of the new Coordinators, noting that institutional support was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. As one way of cutting the operating costs of the Section, the Council might want to reconsider the form and method of publication for the Annual Report. Although printing costs have been reduced, postage costs are rising; the Council discussed putting the information on a web-site, perhaps in conjunction with Duke University Press.

Tichi thanked the Council members for their work and support during the year. Belasco noted that this was her final Council meeting as Executive Coordinator and

thanked the members of the Council and the Section Chairs with whom she had worked. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Words from the Outgoing Coordinator:

As the outgoing Executive Coordinator of the ALS, I have asked Sheryl Meyering and Brian Abel Ragen for some space to say a word of thanks to the friends and colleagues with whom I have had the privilege of working for the past four years.

I am especially grateful to Paul Sorrentino who helped me understand the workings of the Section when I first took this job in winter of 1995. As Coordinator, I have had the pleasure of working with four distinguished colleagues who have served as Chairs of the Section: Bill Andrews, Linda Wagner-Martin, Susan Harris, and Cecelia Tichi. I am also greatly indebted to Cathy Davidson, editor, *American Literature*, and to Matthew Bedell, Journals Manager, Duke University Press. My colleagues at the University of Tulsa have been enthusiastic supporters of the Section, especially James G. Watson, Chair, Department of English, and Thomas A. Horne, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences. I have also benefitted from the expert work of Sandy Vice, Administrative Secretary, Department of English, and two outstanding graduate student assistants, Sue Hosterman and Allen Culpepper. Finally, I want to thank my favorite member of the Section, my fellow Americanist and husband, Linck Johnson, who always provides good advice and wise counsel.

During my term as Coordinator, I have watched the Section make important changes. To honor our award winners and provide an informal meeting place for Section members at MLA, we have substituted an expensive luncheon with a cash bar and reception following our ALS forums. In order to continue to provide reduced rates for retired and student members, we have modestly increased the membership dues. Our membership numbers remain steady, and *American Literary Scholarship* and *American Literature* continue to be outstanding publications.

It has been my great pleasure to serve as Executive Coordinator; I look forward to continuing my involvement in the Section as an active member and to working with Sheryl and Brian, our new Coordinators.

Sincerely yours,
Susan Belasco
University of Tulsa

Report of the Section Chair

As chair of the 1998 American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association (ALS-MLA), I was advised by Executive Coordinator, Prof. Susan Belasco (Univer-

sity of Tulsa) of a primary duty to constitute the ALS-MLA program double-session for December 28, 1998. The topics selected were: 1) "From the Mainland" and ; 2) "From Sea to Shining Sea." Speakers for the first session were Prof. Marianna Torgovnick (Duke University) and Samuel Otter (University of California, Berkeley). (A third participant withdrew in mid-December.) Speakers for the second session were Prof. Priscilla Wald (University of Washington), Prof. Michael Eric Dyson (Columbia University), and Prof. Vicki Ruiz (University of Arizona).

The chair was called upon to write to the Dean at Duke University to request that a search begin for a new editor of *American Literature*, the current editor, Prof. Cathy Davidson (Duke University) having completed her term and requesting to step down.

The chair also formed the selection committee for the Norman Foerster Prize for the best essay to be published in *American Literature* in 1998, and appointed one member to the committee for the Jay B. Hubbell Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of American literature. These awards were presented to Prof. Amy Kaplan and Prof. J. Louis Budd respectively.

The award ceremony at the MLA also included tributes and statements of appreciation by the ALS-MLA to two outgoing figures who contributed very substantially to the Section over several years. Prof. Susan Belasco was commended for maintaining the structural continuity of the Section in her role as Executive Coordinator, and Prof. Cathy Davidson was thanked for her contributions as editor of *American Literature* (a 1998 issue of which won a national prize for excellence as a scholarly publication). Prof. Belasco announced that Prof. Sheryl L. Meyering and Prof. Brian Abel Ragen (both of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville) would henceforth jointly assume the duties of Executive Coordinator, while Prof. Davidson announced that Prof. Dana Nelson (Visiting Professor of English, Duke University) would serve as Acting Editor of *American Literature* until a new editor was chosen.

The annual ALS-MLA business meeting (Dec. 27, 1998) attended by officers of the Section and by incoming Chair, Prof. Paul Lauter (Trinity College) discussed the relationship between the Section and the special sessions in *American Literature* throughout the MLA Program. Prof. Lauter proposed that the Section consider how it might gain a greater degree of centrality among MLA members in the field(s) of American Literature. He took suggestions under advisement until 1999.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecelia Tichi
Department of English
Vanderbilt University

The 1998 Jay B. Hubbell Award Committee Report

This year's Hubbell Award Committee was composed of Jonathan Arac, Shari Benstock, Judith Fetterley, Eric Sundquist, and myself, Jackson Bryer, as Chair. After an intense series of very close ballots, which focused on a number of worthy recipients, this year's winner emerged. He is Louis J. Budd, James B. Duke Professor of English at Duke University.

Citation for Professor Louis J. Budd

I cannot begin to promise you the kind of personal and witty presentation speech that John Seelye gave last year in honor of his good friend James Cox, because I have not got John's literary skills, nor do I know Louis Budd as well as he knows Jim Cox. My acquaintanceship with Lou is entirely a professional one, based on occasional brief encounters at MLA and SAML. His publications are primarily in the field of 19th- and 20th-century American literature; mine are mostly in modern American literature. Hence, there are undoubtedly many in this room who could speak more knowledgeably about Lou's scholarship and probably several who could speak more familiarly of him as a friend, a colleague, or a mentor.

So I will have to confine myself to a rather objective reading of Lou's vita plus a little rooting around in volumes of *ALS* and other such compilations. But even such research yields an unmistakable pattern and picture which I would be willing to wager comes close to what others who know him and his work better than I might say about him. The words that come to my mind after my cursory survey of Lou's career are *modesty* and *service*. I hope in the brief paragraphs that follow to show you what I mean.

Lou was born in St. Louis in 1921. In 1941, he received his B.A. from the University of Missouri, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. The following year he received an M.A. at the same institution. One cannot help but interject at this point that Lou's state of birth and the site of his early education surely to some extent dictated his career-long interest in the life and work of that other Missourian, Mark Twain. After serving from 1942 to 1945 in the Air Force, Lou received his Ph.D. in 1949 from the University of Wisconsin and after three years of teaching at the University of Kentucky, came to Duke University in 1952, where he has taught continuously since, except for brief summer sojourns at Washington University (1954) and Northwestern University (1961). Chief among the grants and fellowships he has received are a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1965-66 and a NEH Senior Fellowship in 1979-80. At Duke, he has directed some thirty Ph.D. dissertations, was director of Undergraduate Studies for four years and Chair of the English Department for six years, from 1973-1979. He was also Chair of the committee that established Duke's program in Afro-American studies.

As we all know, and as I mentioned earlier, Lou's chief scholarly subject has been Mark Twain. He is the author of two seminal books on Twain, *Mark Twain: Social Philosopher* (1962) and *Our Mark Twain: The Making of His Public Personality* (1983). The first has been called "our best survey of Twain's political-social views" by Harry Hayden Clark in the Twain chapter of *Eight American Authors*; while the second is the definitive study of Twain as lecturer/performer, interview subject, and celebrity. His scholarly essays, book chapters, and review-essays on Twain, by my count, number well over seventy. His *A Listing of and Selection from Newspaper and Magazine Interviews with Samuel L. Clemens, 1974-1910*, originally published in 1977 by *ALR* and supplemented in 1996, is an invaluable annotated listing of over 300 Twain interviews with reprintings of several of the most interesting and inaccessible items. When the original edition of this book appeared in 1977, Lou was responsible for the Twain chapter in *ALS*, and he described his work so modestly that it prompted editor James Woodress to interject a rare editor's note as a footnote; Woodress's footnote read in part: "Professor Budd is much too modest in describing this extensive bibliography. . . . there is an abundance of material here for the study of Twain as a public figure."

Budd has also edited two volumes on Twain in the G.K. Hall *Critical Essays* series (1982, 1983); *New Essays on "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"* for the Cambridge series (1985); and the Library of America two-volume edition of Twain's *Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches, and Essays*. Reviewing the latter, Clive James in the *New Yorker* (June 14, 1993) called it "a model of scholarship in service to literature." For ten years, 1976-1985, Budd wrote the Twain chapter for *American Literary Scholarship*; that, it must be noted, is one of the longest tenures of service for any contributor in the 36-year history of that annual. It is all the more remarkable when one adds to it the four years (1963-1966) he spent contributing the chapter on "Nineteenth-Century Fiction."

This last indicates another facet of Budd's career. His scholarship is by no means confined to Mark Twain. His Twayne series volume, *Robert Herrick* (1971), was the first full-scale assessment of Herrick as a literary artist; and Budd has done important work on such disparate literary figures as William Dean Howells (aside from his Howells essays, he has been a member of the Editorial Board of the Howells Edition for over a quarter century), Joel Chandler Harris, E.E. Cummings, James Russell Lowell, Sherwood Anderson, Thomas Wolfe, black American poets, E.A. Robinson, Gertrude Atherton, and William Faulkner. And, of course, along with Edwin H. Cady, he has been the editor of a series of invaluable books of reprinted essays from *American Literature* on Twain, Whitman, Melville, Emerson, Faulkner, Dickinson, Hawthorne, James, Frost, Poe, Howells, and American Humor. These volumes have

made readily accessible articles which otherwise would only have been available in back issues of *American Literature*.

Mention of these compilations leads naturally to mention of Budd's service to *American Literature*, the pre-eminent journal in our field. He began almost immediately after he arrived at Duke by serving from 1953-1961 as a member of the committee that compiled the bibliography, "Articles on American Literature Appearing in American Periodicals," which appeared in each quarterly issue of *AL*. From 1979-1986, he served as the Managing Editor of *American Literature* and from 1986-1991, he was the Chairman of the Board of Editors. Among the other projects or journals on whose Editorial or Advisory Boards he has served are *Studies in American Humor* (1974-1993), *South Atlantic Review* (1978-1981), *Mississippi Studies in English* (1980-), *American Literary Realism* (1986-), *Mark Twain Encyclopedia* (1989-1993), and the *Oxford Reader's Companion to Mark Twain* (1996-).

Lou, of course, continues to work. The projects he has in progress include entries on Herrick and Twain for *American National Biography*, the successor to *DAB*; the Twain volume in Cambridge University Press's *Critical Archives* series, the essay on Twain's critical reputation for *The Oxford Reader's Companion to Mark Twain*; and five volumes of Twain's social and political writings (one to contain previously unpublished material) for the Iowa-California Twain edition.

Finally, mention also must be made of the previous honors Lou has received. His alma mater, the University of Missouri, conferred an honorary degree on him in 1988. He also has an honorary degree from Elmira College, awarded in 1995. He was one of two recipients of the First Annual Mark Twain Circle Award in 1991; and in 1997 he received the John Hurt Fisher Award for Career Achievement in Letters from the South Atlantic Departments of English. To these honors, his grateful colleagues in the field of American literary studies are pleased to add the 1998 Hubbell Award. We present it to this good man, this generous, modest man who has given us so much—in his scholarly work and in his service to our profession. Perhaps the most appropriate manner in which to summarize why we honor Louis J. Budd today is simply to quote the last three words of Alan Gribben's evaluation of Lou's 1996 update of his 1977 listing of Twain interviews. Writing in *ALS*, Alan said: "Gratitude should abound." Indeed it should; so thank you, Lou.

Jackson R. Bryer

Professor Budd's Reply

I am deeply moved by being awarded the Jay B. Hubbell Medallion. The members of the American Literature Section should be relieved that I couldn't come to re-

ceive it in person since I might embarrass them with my fervor. I am especially grateful to the members of the nominating committee—not for their soundness of judgment but for their charity of spirit. At least I spare everybody the pain of my trying to look modest.

Since this is not some media-awards event, I will not try to acknowledge the persons—the many persons, both dead and happily living—who helped me along by advice and mentoring and, more important, by example.

Nor will I reminisce. I will not regale myself anyway with memories from some choice luncheons of the American Literature Group—and no, Group is not a slip of the tongue or mind. But I must mention that for two years—for his last two years of teaching—I was a colleague of Jay B. Hubbell himself, who lived on into his mid-nineties and once signed a note to me as “the oldest living inhabitant.” He could outdo me in reminiscence as well as on any other count. He could remember talking with a man who had heard Edgar Allan Poe read “The Raven.” So who needs to cross as many as six degrees of separation to feel a sense of communing with our forebears or with our classic nineteenth-century writers?

My deepest regret at not being able to attend today—not because of losses in a leveraged fund or inability to find the nearest airport—is at not seeing my old friends. But I wish also that I could have met the youngest cohort of the American Literature Section, could look on their faces glowing with energy and could smile knowingly—because I could guess what they were thinking, especially after I bragged that starting with 1949, I can recall missing only one gathering of the American Literature Group—later Section—until the law for then mandatory retirement netted me. Looking at me the youngest members of the section would feel they were in some academic Jurassic Park. The basic feeling is fresh for me because I recently popped into the lobby of the American Museum of Natural History for another look at its dinosaur skeleton. Also, absorbing a warning to keep my balance today, I reread the elevated frieze of elevating thoughts from Theodore Roosevelt, engraved appropriately half an inch deep.

Nevertheless, I will proceed along my own line of less strenuous preaching to the younger members of the Section.

Most simply I advise them: Stick with the academic world if you possibly can. I know that jobs are painfully scarce, that part-time teaching has turned into exploitation. But I have always felt lucky that I decided to stay an academic, and my own cohort did have at least some lesser problems.

More specific to the American Literature Section, I remain—after all the neologisms that started with the New Criticism and roared on into so many “posts” and “ologies”—remain convinced that we do have a vital

field, centered in the humanistic uses of language, especially as written. We have a field that discusses ideas, values, and, yes, pleasures that the wide world needs more than ever before—I say not melodramatically, but as coolly as if I were proofreading an index.

I am not running scared personally. One of my favorite poems has been Robert Frost’s sonnet “On Looking Up by Chance at the Constellations,” which ends:

Still it wouldn’t reward the watcher to stay awake
In hopes of seeing the calm of heaven break
On his particular time and personal sight.
That calm seems certainly safe to last tonight.

However, any earthly calm is more local than most Americans care to notice. Ivy-covered relativism may be hard to refute, but many absolutely bad things are happening out there on a mass scale.

I hope it won’t sound like bragging for me to claim that I have predicted eight out of the last two recessions. But that does qualify me to predict that some harder times are coming on for *homo* not so *sapiens*. We already have an end to the “end of history” lullaby, whether as a high-culture aria or a glee-club encore. Harder times are ahead globally, if they’re not already here despite whatever record the Dow-Jones index may top in 1999. Given the place for this convention of the MLA, the close of another Frost sonnet, “Once by the Pacific,” is appropriate:

It looked as if a night of dark intent
Was coming, and not only a night, an age.
Someone had better be prepared for rage.
There would be more than ocean-water broken
Before God’s last *Put out the Light* was spoken

American humaneness and fortitude are going to be challenged. That humaneness will need all the help that we can give. By “we” I especially mean those of us who profess, who teach literature. As for what we can teach the body politic and economic, some of our prescient colleagues are laying out the particulars—easy to find if you start looking for, listening for them.

So I again thank fervently the American Literature Section for the honor bestowed on me and regret especially that I could not meet the younger members and also try to recruit them, where need be, for the goals of liberal humanism.

Louis J. Budd

Foerster Prize Committee Report

The Foerster Prize committee was composed of Robert Levine from the University of Maryland and Joanne Braxton who is currently at DuBois Center, Harvard University and chaired by Wendy Martin, Claremont Graduate University. We are pleased to announce that

the committee has chosen "Manifest Domesticity" by Amy Kaplan for first prize. This essay appeared in the special issue of *American Literature* edited by Cathy Davidson entitled "No More Separate Spheres" (September 1998, vol. 70 #3).

Foerster Prize Citation

In her beautifully written, lucid, and provocative essay, "Manifest Domesticity," Amy Kaplan provides new, complex ways of thinking about the cultural work and poetics of antebellum domestic fiction. Kaplan challenges traditional accounts of the domestic novel, which focus on its feminist thematics and relative lack of concern with public policy. Through a careful reading of the writings of Beecher, Hale, Stowe, and other domestic writers, Amy Kaplan argues for reconceiving domesticity in relation to the development of an emergent U.S. imperialism as well as to the imagination of imperialism. In a penetrating and cogent synthesis of the best of feminist analysis and cultural criticism, Amy Kaplan has given us an essay that will be at the center of debates about domesticity and the nation for quite some time. Amy Kaplan is to be praised for challenging traditional assumptions and for providing a new paradigm. We are pleased to present the Foerster prize to her for this groundbreaking work.

Report on the Nominating Committee:

The 1998 Nominating Committee consisted of Margaret Anne O'Connor, U. of North Carolina, 1997-98 (1998 chair), Frank Shuffelton, U. of Rochester, 1997-99 (1999 Chair), and Sharon Harris, U. of Nebraska, 1998. The committee submitted the following slate of nominees to serve three-year terms on the Advisory Council beginning on January 1, 2000 and ending December 31, 2002:

Julia Stern, Northwestern U.
Steven Mailloux, U. of California, Irvine,
Pattie Cowell, Colorado State U.
Gary Scharnhorst, U. of New Mexico

Ballots for the Advisory Council election will be sent to all section members during 1999. Two of the four nominees will be elected.

The Nominating Committee made the following appointments to the Editorial Board of *American Literature*. Each will serve a three-year term beginning on January 1, 1999 and ending December 31, 2001:

Robyn Wiegman, U. of California, Irvine
Chris Castiglia, Loyola U., Chicago
LaVonne Brown Ruoff, U. of Illinois, Chicago
Philip Gould, Brown U.
Bill Brown, U. of Chicago
Kenneth Warren, U. of Chicago

More information on the nominees for the Advisory Council and the appointees to the Editorial Board will be mailed with the 1999 ballot.

Two other appointments were also announced on the 1998 Section ballot. Paul Lauter, Trinity College, was appointed Chair of the Section and will serve from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999. Sheryl L. Meyering and Brian Abel Ragen (Southern Illinois U. Edwardsville) ran unopposed for Executive Coordinator and will serve jointly from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2002.

***American Literature* Annual Report**

We had a busy transitional year in the *American Literature* office. Acting Co-editor Thomas Ferraro had primary responsibility for the journal from January to July, with the assistance of Co-editors Michael Moon and Cathy Davidson. Michael Moon left Duke University in August for an appointment at The Johns Hopkins University, and Cathy Davidson assumed a new position at Duke beginning fall semester 1998 as Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies. Beginning in August, the Journal was edited by two guest editors, Houston A. Baker Jr. and Dana D. Nelson (both in residence at Duke for the 1998-1999 year). Executive Managing Editor Carol Rigsby temporarily relocated to Boston from whence she continued her editorial oversight of the journal. We were lucky to have Frances Kerr join us in the main office as Assistant Managing Editor. Kelly DeMarchis served as the Journal's work study student worker.

American Literature processed 264 essays in 1998. One editorial aim this year was to reduce a significant backlog so that a new permanent editor could move quickly and effectively into the position. *AL* accepted fourteen essays, rejected 223, and requested revisions and resubmissions for twenty-five. Two essays were withdrawn. These figures produced an acceptance rate of 5% for the year.

American Literature and its contributors were cited for several awards. Amy Kaplan's essay "Manifest Domesticity" (70.3, September) received the Norman Foerster Prize for the best essay published in *American Literature* in 1998. Barbara Will won an honorable mention from the Foerster Committee for her essay, "The Nervous Origins of the American Western" (70.2, June). Louis J. Budd, whose many years of service to *American Literature* culminated in his chairmanship of the Board of Editors from 1986-1991, was awarded the 1998 J. B. Hubbell Medal for his outstanding contribution to the study of American literature. Monika Kaup, author of "The Architecture of Ethnicity in Chicano Literature" (69.2, June 1997) this year was named one of five finalists for the 1997 Don D. Walker Award for the best article published on Western American literature and culture in that year. And Cathy Davidson's special issue "No More Separate Spheres!" (70.3, September) received the 1998 Best

Special Issue Award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals. Contributors to the issue included Lawrence Buell, Judith Fetterley, Marjorie Pryse, José F. Aranda Jr., Amy Kaplan, Lauren Berlant, and coauthors You-me Park and Gayle Wald.

Special thanks this year go to editorial assistants Paul Ryan Schneider and Jessamyn Hatcher for their Brief Mention reviews. We extend particular thanks to Tyler Curtain for his indefatigable generosity in donating computer programming time to the AL office. Thank you seems hardly enough for the heroic services of Editorial Board members who rotated off the Board at the end of 1998: Jay Clayton, Marianne DeKoven, Lee Edelman, José Limon, Donald Pease, and Timothy Sweet. They all maintained the high quality of editorial consultation the Journal has established, and each of them will be missed.

Finally, we welcome a new distinguished set of Board members whose terms extend through 2001: Bill Brown, A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, Christopher D. Castiglia, Philip B. Gould, Kenneth W. Warren, and Robyn Wiegman.

American Literary Scholarship

American Literary Scholarship 1997, the 35th annual volume in the series, is on schedule for publication in June 1999, with immediate distribution of copies to dues-paid members of the American Literature Section. The editor of the volume is Gary Scharnhorst, University of New Mexico, who alternates in the task with David J. Nordloh, Indiana University. Contributors new to ALS 1997 are Elsa Nettels of the College of William and Mary, who inaugurates a new chapter on "Wharton and Cather"; Brenda Wineapple, Union College, who takes over "Hawthorne" from Leland Person; Daneen Wardrop, Western Michigan University, who writes the "Dickinson" section of chapter 4; Kevin Hayes, University of Central Oklahoma, who takes over "Early-19th-Century Literature" from Robert E. Burkholder; Jeanne Campbell Reesman, University of Texas at San Antonio, who succeeds Jo Ann Middleton as the author of "Fiction: 1900 to the 1930s"; and Anita Helle, Oregon State University, who succeeds Lorenzo Thomas on "Poetry: The 1940s to the Present." Sarah Daugherty, Wichita State University, returns this year to "Henry James." John Clendenning, California State University-Northridge, returns to ALS after a 33-year hiatus for an encore on "Late-19th-Century Literature," replacing Lawrence J. Oliver. Among the new contributors to chapter 21 on "Scholarship in Languages Other Than English," Bo G. Ekelund, Henrik Lassen, and Axel Nissen (Uppsala, Odense, and Oslo Universities, respectively) replace Jan Norby Gretlund, Elisabeth Herion-Sarafidis, and Hans Skei as authors of the section on Scandinavian scholarship; Jose Antonio Gurpegui, Universidad de Alcala,

joins Antonio Marquez on Spanish-language contributions; and Elzbieta H. Olesky and Zoltan Abadi-Nagy (Lodz and Debrecen, respectively) survey American literary scholarship in eastern Europe. The routine changes in the roster of contributors continue next year as Kenneth M. Price retires from "Whitman," to be succeeded by M. Jimmie Killingsworth, Texas A & M University; and Priscilla Wald and Mark Patterson retire from "Themes, Topics, Criticism," to be succeeded by Joycelyn Moody and Caroline Chung Simpson, University of Washington. Terry Oggel, Virginia Commonwealth University, succeeds Clendenning; Benjamin Lockerd, Grand Valley State University, succeeds Lee Oser as the author of the "T. S. Eliot" part of chapter 8; Andrea Mariani, University of Pescara, takes over for Algerina Neri in reporting on Italian scholarship; and Keiko Beppu (Kobe College) returns to report on Japanese contributions. Professor Nordloh and I are, as always, grateful to publishers who supply review copies, to scholars who forward offprints for the convenience of ALS contributors, and of course to the many contributors for their labors. All materials for ALS, no matter the year of coverage, should be directed to David J. Nordloh, Department of English, Indiana University, Bloomington IN 47405. Notices of publication may also be sent to him.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Scharnhorst

Committee on Scholarly Editions

Annual Report to the Executive Council
18 September 1998

THE Committee on Scholarly Editions (CSE) has been a standing committee of the MLA for exactly twenty-two years—since September 1976, when it replaced the advisory board of the Center for Editions of American Authors (CEAA). As the change in name implied, the CSE was charged with fostering high standards for scholarly editing, not just for American authors, but for any author in any language or historical period recognized by the MLA. From the start, but especially under its last two chairs (Jo Ann Boydston, 1988–92, and Gary A. Stringer, 1992–96) the CSE has gradually enlarged the scope of its activities so that it has, for instance, provided professional assistance of various kinds to editors of works in English ranging from *The Play of Wisdom* and the *Showings* of Julian of Norwich, to works by Donne, Herbert, Thackeray, Wordsworth, Carlyle, Blake, Conrad, and Woolf, but also of works in French and Spanish by Charles of Orleans, Marie de France, and Luis Vélez de Guevara. It has continued to provide these services for editors of works by a wider range of American writers than those favored few of the old CEAA—writers including Frederick Douglass, Willa Cather, Anne Vaughan Lock, Robert Penn Warren, Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, Harriet A. Jacobs, and Robinson Jeffers—

even as it continued to inspect editions of William James, Mark Twain, Cooper, Melville, Emerson, Thoreau, and Whitman.

The committee normally has nine members (up from seven in 1992 when the council approved the expansion). Currently they are: Jackson R. Bryer, Morris E. Eaves, Roberta Frank, Isobel Grundy, Joseph Ricapito, Joan Hinde Stewart, John Unsworth, and Robert H. Hirst (chair since 1 July 1996). The ninth member, Fred H. Kameny, who represented the interests of university presses on the committee, has recently resigned. This is a group with diverse expertise in American, English, French, and Spanish literatures, in periods including medieval, Renaissance, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. It is also particularly experienced with electronic editions, as well as the present needs of university presses, which publish almost all scholarly editions. (One of the committee's major projects in the last two years has been to write, and publish for comment, specific guidelines for electronic editions.) Members are appointed for terms of four years and rotate off the committee in an orderly fashion, two, or at most three, each year.

Traditionally the CSE's primary function has been to carry out careful inspections of scholarly editions before they were published, thereby providing the kind of peer review and quality control that most if not all university presses are still unable to provide on their own. Since the committee's last report it has awarded its emblem ("An Approved Edition") to seven more volumes in ongoing scholarly editions of Willa Cather, Walt Whitman, William James, Robert Penn Warren, and William Wordsworth. Inspections of five additional volumes are under way or about to begin (Anne Vaughan Lock, Julian of Norwich, Thomas Carlyle, Sinclair Lewis, and Robinson Jeffers). For a checklist of the volumes inspected or now being reviewed, see the end of this report.

Under its most recent chair (Stringer) the committee has tried in several additional ways, and with some success, better to serve the scholarly community at large by: (1) making the professional services it offers more widely known; (2) fostering enlightened editorial procedures at the *start* of an edition by appointing experienced editors to advise the new edition in the planning stage—so-called consultations, of which there are now four ongoing; and (3) with the blessing of the Executive Council, by helping to ensure that the MLA gives professional recognition on a regular basis to overall editorial excellence in scholarly editing—specifically, through the recently established MLA Prize for a Distinguished Scholarly Edition, first awarded in December 1995.

The CSE sponsored one session at the annual MLA

convention in December 1997: "Historical Annotation: A Necessary Evil?" arranged by committee member Heather Jackson. This coming December the committee will sponsor two sessions, a panel called "Author, Editor, Publisher" and a second titled "The Creation and Use of Electronic Editions," both to be chaired by committee member John Unsworth.

FOR THE PERIOD, SEPTEMBER 1997–AUGUST 1998

Seven Editions Inspected, All Approved

Willa Cather

TITLE: *Obscure Destinies*. The Works of Willa Cather, Susan J. Rosowski, General Editor

EDITORS: Susan J. Rosowski, et al.

INSPECTED BY: James L. W. West, III, Pennsylvania State U

STATUS: **approved, 30 September 1997**

PUBLISHED: not yet, U of Nebraska Press

TITLE: *Death Comes for the Archbishop*. The Works of Willa Cather, Susan J. Rosowski, General Editor

EDITORS: Susan J. Rosowski, et al.

INSPECTED BY: Noel Polk, U of Southern Mississippi

STATUS: **approved, 12 January 1998**

TITLE: *The Professor's House*. The Works of Willa Cather, Susan J. Rosowski, General Editor

EDITORS: Frederick M. Link, et al.

INSPECTED BY: Don L. Cook, Indiana U

STATUS: **approved, 4 September 1998**

Walt Whitman

TITLE: *Walt Whitman: The Journalism, Volume 1: 1834–1846*. The Collected Writings of Walt Whitman, Gay Wilson Allen and the late Sculley Bradley, General Editors

EDITORS: Herbert Bergman, Douglas A. Noverr, and the late Edward J. Recchia

INSPECTED BY: David J. Nordloh, Indiana U

STATUS: **approved, 4 May 1998**

William James

TITLE: The Correspondence of William James, Volume 7. The Correspondence of William James, John J. McDermott, General Editor

EDITORS: Ignas K. Skrupskelis and Elizabeth M. Berkeley

INSPECTED BY: Harriet Furst Simon, Southern Illinois U

STATUS: **approved, 13 April 1998**

Robert Penn Warren

TITLE: *The Collected Poems of Robert Penn Warren*

EDITOR: John Burt

INSPECTED BY: Jonathan R. Eller, Indiana U/Purdue U, Indianapolis

STATUS: **approved, 4 September 1998**

William Wordsworth

TITLE: *The Last Poems, 1820–1850*
EDITOR: Jared Curtis
INSPECTED BY: Paul Magnuson
STATUS: **approved, 16 September 1998**

Five Editions Currently under Review

Anne Vaughan Lock

TITLE: *The Collected Works of Anne Vaughan Lock*
EDITOR: Susan M. Felch
INSPECTED BY: Mario A. Di Cesare, State U of New York at Binghamton
STATUS: inspection report received, balloting is about to begin

Julian of Norwich

TITLE: *The Showings of Julian of Norwich*
EDITORS: Anna Maria Reynolds and Julia Bolton Holloway
INSPECTED BY: Frances Beer, York U, Toronto
STATUS: inspection report received, awaiting response from the editors

Thomas Carlyle

TITLE: *Sartor Resartus*. The Norman and Charlotte Strouse Edition of the Works of Thomas Carlyle, Murray Baumgarten, Editor-in-Chief
EDITOR: Rodger Tarr
INSPECTED BY: Peter Shillingsburg
STATUS: balloting is under way

Sinclair Lewis

TITLE: *A Minnesota Diary*.
EDITOR: George Killough
CSE INSPECTOR: Keith Newlin, U of North Carolina at Wilmington
STATUS: review under way

Robinson Jeffers

TITLE: *The Poems of Robinson Jeffers*, 4 volumes
EDITOR: Tim Hunt
CSE INSPECTOR: Elizabeth H. Witherell, U of California at Santa Barbara
STATUS: review of the fourth and final volume is now under way

Formal Consultations

Robinson Jeffers and Una Jeffers

The Collected Letters of Robinson Jeffers with Selected Letters of Una Jeffers
EDITOR: James Karman
CONSULTANT: Robert H. Hirst
STATUS: continuing

American Literature Section Sessions 1998 MLA Convention

ALS General Sessions

Session 327. American Literature I: From the Mainland Program Arranged by the American Literature Section. Presiding: Cecelia Tichi, Vanderbilt U

Marianna Torgovnick, Duke U, "Fact or Fiction"
Gerald Early, Washington U, "Mohammed Ali and the American Essay"
Samuel Otter, U of California, Berkeley, "Aedes Aegypti and American Literature"

Session 372. American Literature II: From Sea to Shining Sea Program Arranged by the American Literature Section. Presiding: Cecelia Tichi, Vanderbilt U

Vicki Ruiz, Arizona State U, "Situating Narrative in Classroom Context: The Students Write Back"
Priscilla B. Wald, U of Washington, "Writing the Shtetl into the Ghetto"

American Literature to 1800

Session 166. The Scientific Imagination in Early America Program arranged by the Division on American Literature to 1800. Presiding: Frank C. Shuffelton, U of Rochester

Carla Mulford, Penn State U, University Park, "Pox and Hellfire: The Smallpox Controversy, the *Couranters*, and the Cultural Interventions of New Science in New England"
Susan Scott Parrish, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor, "'There Is in the Little Box': Natural Gifts and Specimens from the British American Colonies"
Sean Ward, Stanford U, "'It Is Worthy Notice': Physiography and Physiogony in Early America"

Session 254. The Environmental Imagination in Early America Program arranged by the Division on American Literature to 1800. Presiding: Pattie Cowell, Colorado State U

Jeffrey H. Richards, Old Dominion U, "Calvinist Poetic Ecology in the Colonial South"
Timothy Robert Sweet, West Virginia U, Morgantown, "'Waste People,' 'Waste Countries': Safety Valves, Utopias, and American Environments"
Stephanie G. Volmer, Rutgers U, New Brunswick, "Trading Nature, Tracing Nation: Commerce and Ideology in the Letters of Natural History"
J. Daniel Patterson, California State U, San Bernardino, "Crevecoeur's Subversive Astonishment and the Rise of American Nature Writing"

Session 456. Political Discourses in Early America Program arranged by the Division on American

Literature to 1800. Presiding: Jay William Fliegelman, Stanford U

Terry M. Mulcaire, Northwestern U, "Female Credit and Feminine Virtue in the Marketplace: From Cato's Letters to the Letters of Thomas Jefferson"

Paul B. Downes, U of Toronto, Saint George Campus, "Monarchophobia in Revolutionary Rhetoric"

Peter Andrew Dorsey, Mount Saint Mary's College, "The Slavery Metaphor in Revolutionary America: Responses by Jefferson, Wheatley, and Crevecoeur"

Jay Alan Grossman, Boston U, "The Rise of the Representational Arts in the United States"

Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Session 211. Raising a Nation: The Class Politics of Childhood in Nineteenth-Century America

Program arranged by the Division on Nineteenth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Karen Sánchez-Eppler, Amherst College

Carol J. Singley, Rutgers U, Camden, "Class, Calvinism, and Adoption in Nineteenth-Century Juvenile Fiction."

Lesley Ellen Ginsberg, U of Colorado, Colorado Springs, "Of Babies, Beasts, and Bondage: Class Mastery in Antebellum American Children's Literature

Karen Sánchez-Eppler, "Playing at Class"

Session 416. Imaginative Disjunctions on the Imperial Frontier

Program arranged by the Division on Nineteenth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Michelle Stephens, Mount Holyoke College

Ivy Schweitzer, Dartmouth College, "Catharine Sedgwick Reads Mungo Park"

J. Martin Favor, Dartmouth College, "'The Evidence of Industry': Slavery, Migration, and the Imagination of African Diaspora

Laura Wexler, Yale U, "Imperialism and the Mirror with the Memory: American Photography at the Turn of the Century"

Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American Literature

Session 41. Early American Cinema and Politics

Program arranged by the Division on Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Bill Brown, U of Chicago

Jonathan Auerbach, U of Maryland, College Park, "McKinley at Home"

Amy Kaplan, Mount Holyoke College, "Birth of an Empire"

Susan K. Gillman, U. of California, Santa Cruz, "Micheaux's Chesnut"

Session 504. Typewriters, Cars, and Hymns: Figurations of Technology in American Writings, 1870-1920

Program arranged by the Division on Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American. Presiding: Susan Kumin Harris, Penn State U, University Park

Jennifer L. Fleissner, U of California, Los Angeles, "The Female Typewriter, 1880s to 1920s"

Deborah L. Clarke, Penn State U, University Park, "'You Can't Go to Town in a Bath tub': Automotive Identity in American Culture"

N. Edward Madden, U of South Carolina, Columbia, "Singing the Spirit Electric: Hymns to Technology"

Session 753. Imperial Legacies of 1898

Program arranged by the Division on Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American. Presiding: Amy Kaplan, Mount Holyoke College

Brook Thomas, U of California, Irvine, "Does the Constitution Follow the Flag? A Reading of the Insular Cases"

Kristin Carter-Sanborn, Williams College, "Imperial Order, Antifeminism, and the 'Violence' of the New Woman"

Gretchen Murphy, U of Washington, "Crossing the Pacific: Japan and the Boundaries of Whiteness in US Imperialism"

Twentieth-Century American Literature

Session 301. Trauma, Memory, and Modern Literature

Program arranged by the Division on Twentieth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Vivian R. Pollak, Washington U

Gordon N. Hutner, U of Wisconsin, Madison, "Traumas of War and Peace: Fiction and the Returning GI, 1945-56"

Curtis Frank Marez, U of California, Santa Cruz, "A Tejano in Tokyo: World War II and the Genesis of Chicano Studies"

Stephanie A. Smith, U of Florida, "Bombshell: Sex, Memory, and Amnesia 'after the Fall'"

Session 587. Multiculturalism and the New Millennium

Program arranged by the Division on Twentieth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Rafael M. Perez-Torres, U of California, Los Angeles

Viet Thanh Nguyen, U of Southern California, "Multiculturalism and Asian Americans at the Turn of the Century"

Bonnie TuSmith, Northeastern U, "Ethnic American Literatures: Charting Troubled Waters"

Ché Sandoval, U of California, Santa Barbara,

“Promoting Multicultural Education through Creative Writing: Crossing Cultures and Genders”

Linda A. Bannister, Loyola Marymount U, “Coalitions and Collisions of Theoretical Domains”

Session 784. Disciplinarity beyond the Nation

Program arranged by the Division on Twentieth-Century American Literature. Presiding: Stephen Watt, Indiana U, Bloomington

Timothy R. Libretti, Northeastern Illinois U, “Toward a Genuine Internationalism: Rethinking ‘Nation,’ beyond the Nation-State”

Sivagami Subbaraman, Beltsville, MD, “Intellectual Apartheid, Disciplinary Anthropology”

Donna A. Bennett, U of Toronto, Scarborough College, “Period and Nation and the Problem of Coverage in the Contemporary Curriculum”

David M. Caplan, U of Virginia, “The Fealty Changing under Our Feet: Nationalism, Transnationalism, and the Question of ‘American’ Poetry”

Black American Literature and Culture

Session 542. Professing the Profession: Teaching and the Institution

Program arranged by the Division on Black American Literature and Culture. Presiding: Hortense Jeanette Spillers, Cornell U

Speakers: Keith Spencer Clark, U of North Carolina; Chapel Hill; Jacqueline D. Goldsby, Cornell U; R. Baxter Miller, U of Georgia; Kenneth W. Warren, U of Chicago

Session 588. Languages of African Diasporic Literature

Program arranged by the Division on Black American Literature and Culture. Presiding: Joseph T. Skerrett, U of Massachusetts, Amherst

Gillian H. Gane, U of Massachusetts, Amherst, “Atlantic Creoles, Vernacularity, Antilanguage: Pidgin English in Nigerian Literature”

Martha J. Cutter, Kent State U, Kent, “‘Learnin to Speak the King’s English’: Intralingual Translation in A.J. Verdelle’s *The Good Negress*”

Charles William Pollard, Calvin College, “Kamau Brathwaite’s Sycorax Video Style: Decolonizing Typography, Representing Nation Language”

Session 640. Redrawing the Boundaries of Black Literature and Culture

Program arranged by the Division on Black American Literature and Culture. Presiding: Mae G. Henderson, U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Speakers: Ann duCille, U of California, Sand Diego; Manthia Diawara, New York U; Aldon Lynn Nielsen, Loyola Marymount U

American Indian Literatures

Session 829. William Apess and the Foundations of a Native American Intellectual Tradition

Program arranged by the Division on American Indian Literatures. Presiding: David Lewis Moore, Cornell U

Stephen D. Osborne, Albertson College of Idaho, “Indian Nullification: William Apess and the Rhetoric of Native American Resistance”

David Lewis Moore, “Strategic Epistemologies in the Works of William Apess”

Session 785. Teaching American Indian Literatures in Multiethnic Contexts

Program arranged by the Division on American Indian Literatures. Presiding: Malea Powell, U of Nebraska, Lincoln

Malea Powell, “White Guilt: Teaching American Indian Texts in Women’s Studies; or, A Neocolonial Cautionary Tale”

Anneliese Truame, U of Washington, “Cultural Dialogue in Narrative Structure and Canonical Relationships: American Indian Texts in American Literature”

Session 672. West Coast Native Women’s Poetry: A Reading with Gloria Bird, Janice Gould, Deborah A. Miranda, and Nora Davenhauer.

Program arranged by the Division on American Indian Literatures. Presiding: Virginia I. Carney, U of Kentucky

Session 399A. Reception in Honor of Karl Kroeber.

Program arranged by the Division on American Indian Literatures.

Speakers: Ursula K. Le Guin, Portland, OR; A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, U of Illinois, Chicago

1997 Articles of Organization of the American Literature Section of the MLA

This document was originally adopted on December 31, 1947 and has been revised and amended several times over the years. This 1997 version becomes the current “Articles of Organization” for distribution to members of the Section and of the American Literature Divisions.

MEMBERSHIP

Any member of the Modern Language Association who pays the American Literature Section yearly dues to the Journals Department of Duke University Press will be a voting member in good standing in the Section.

OFFICERS AND OFFICES

The officers of the Section will be a Chair, a Chair-elect,

and the Executive Coordinator.

Offices of the organization will consist of an Advisory Council, an Executive Committee of three members, the Chairs of Standing Committees, the Secretaries of the five American Literature Divisions, and the Editor and the fifteen other members of the Board of Editors of *American Literature*.

TENURE OF OFFICE

The Chair of the Section will hold office for one year and will not be eligible for successive re-election. The Executive Coordinator will be eligible to continue in office for successive one-year terms, but the term of the Executive Coordinator will not exceed four consecutive years.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Chair. In consultation with the Advisory Council, the Chair will plan and preside over the program and the open meeting of the Section. He or she will appoint one member of the Hubbell Award Committee, three members of the Foerster Award Committee, and the members of other committees recommended by the Advisory Council. He or she will observe the regulations established by the Modern Language Association for guidance of its organization.

Chair-elect. The Chair-elect will attend the Council meeting immediately following his or her election to office as an ex-officio member. He or she may assume other duties as sitting Council and Chair determine.

Executive Coordinator. The Executive Coordinator will maintain the files of the Section, handle daily correspondence, monitor the collection of dues by Duke University Press, pay the bills of the Section, organize the annual Section functions at MLA, order Hubbell Medalion, conduct the annual election, work with the chair to plan and conduct the annual business meeting, work with the Chair and other members of the Advisory Council to run the Section, and compile, print, and distribute the annual report.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Advisory Council will consist of the Chair of the Section and the Executive Coordinator, six members to be elected two each per year for terms of three years each, and the Chairs of each of the five American Literature Divisions. The six elected members will not be eligible for successive re-election. If any member of the Council expects to be absent from its annual business meeting, that member can give a proxy to vote to a person from the following group: the Chairs of the Standing Committees, the Editor and the Members of the Board of Editors of *American Literature*, and the Secretaries of the Division. The Council will hold at least one session at each business meeting of the Section.

The Council will make nominations to the standing committees, to the Board of *American Literature*, and to the Council and certify all nominations submitted by members of the Section; after the balloting is completed, it will certify the election of candidates duly chosen according to the provisions of these articles; and it will consider such matters of policy as may be brought before it and make appropriate recommendations to the Section and the Divisions.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Members of these committees will be appointed by the Chair of the Section upon the recommendations of the Advisory Council or as specified herein.

1. *Executive Committee.* It will consist of the Chair of the Section, the Executive Coordinator, and one other member of the Section selected by the Chair. It will have power in all urgent matters that require action between meetings of the Section.

2. *Hubbell Award Committee.* It will consist of five members, oriented to four regions and serving five-year terms. The Chair of the Award Committee will be the member serving his or her fifth and last term. The Committee will be responsible for nominating candidates for the Hubbell Medal according to provisions adopted by the Advisory Council.

3. *Foerster Award Committee.* It will consist of three voting members of the Section appointed annually by the Chair of the Section. It will be responsible for selecting the best essay in *American Literature* during the calendar year.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The annual general election will include the officers of the Section and two members of the Advisory Council. The two members of the Advisory Council in the second of their three-year terms will constitute the annual slate for the election of the Chair of the Section. The winner of this election will serve as Chair in the following year. Nominations for the annual general election of the Section will come from the Advisory Council, who will serve as a nominating committee as a whole.

Upon receiving from the Advisory Council the names of approved nominees, the Executive Coordinator will announce the names at the business meeting of the Section and in his or her annual report to all members of the Section.

Each year, the Executive Coordinator will mail to each voting member of the Section a ballot containing the nominations. Thus circulated, these names constitute a ballot to be marked and returned to the Executive Coordinator not later than December 1. It will be the duty of the council to certify the election of candidates. The Executive Coordinator will announce the results of the

election at the annual business meeting.

Whenever vacancies occur in any elective offices, the Executive Committee will appoint for the unexpired terms in all cases except those of Chair and of Executive Coordinator. The Executive Coordinator will serve out the unexpired term of the Chair. The Advisory Council will appoint someone for the unexpired term of the Executive Coordinator.

AMERICAN LITERATURE DIVISIONS

In order to preserve the advantages of a unified American literature organization within the Modern Language Association, an organization that can effectively plan and sponsor projects research and publication, the divisions will be represented by voting members on the Advisory Council.

The Section and the Divisions will work intensively and conscientiously to preserve and strengthen the unity of the American literature establishment as a whole. If the officers and Executive Committee members are not already members in good standing of the Section, they should become members.

AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to these Articles of organization originate with the Advisory Council. Copies of the amendments approved by the Council will be mailed to all members of the Section with the final ballots or published in the Executive Coordinator's Report or in *American Literature*. Proposed amendments submitted to the Council too late to receive circulation before the annual meeting will not be voted on until the following year.

All ballots will be submitted in writing and signed. A proposed amendment will be adopted if approved by a majority of the total number of votes cast.

1997 Articles of Agreement Between the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association of America and Duke University

1. The American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association of America (hereinafter designated as "the Section") will continue to cooperate with the Duke University Press (hereinafter designated as "the Press") in the management and production of the journal entitled *American Literature* (hereinafter designated as "the Journal"). The cooperation between the Press and the Section will continue in force without specific terms of renewal, but either party may, of course, review the relationship from time to time. Duke University Press reserves the right to sever the association between the Section and *American Literature*, and the Section reserves the right to dissociate itself and remove its name from *American Literature*. One year's prior declaration of in-

tent by either party will constitute reasonable advance notice of dissociation.

2. Each issue of the journal will carry on its inside front cover the words "Published with the co-operation of the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association of America and will be called *American Literature*."

3. All fiscal matters and allied functions such as rates, the handling of subscriptions, advertisements, rights to reprint, copyright, etc., will be the responsibility of the Press, which will continue to hold legal ownership of the journal.

4. Responsibility for *American Literature* will reside with the American Literature Section, with Duke University Press, and with the Editor, who will be ex officio a member of the Council and will be appointed by the appropriate authorities of Duke University after consulting with the Advisory Council of the Section and securing its approval.

5. The Editor will be appointed for a five-year term, with the approval of the Advisory Council of the Section, renewable, with the further approval of the Council, for one more five-year term only. Duke University will release him or her from part of his or her regular university duties and provide secretarial assistance sufficient to allow proper performance of editorial duties in connection with editing the journal. The Chair of the Duke University Department of English, the Director of the Duke University Press, and the Editor will consult regularly with the chair of the Advisory Council on their mutual interest in the journal.

Upon accession to the position of Chair of the American Literature Section, the Chair of the Section will write to the Chair of the Duke University English Department to ascertain any probable changes in personnel pertinent to the Editorship of *American Literature*. In the third year of the tenure of the Editor, the Chair of the Section will ask the Chair of the Duke University English Department to propose a nominee or nominees for the next five-year term.

Should an emergency require the temporary appointment of an Acting Editor, the Chair of the Duke University Department of English will propose a nominee or nominees through the Section's Chair to the Section's Advisory Council for approval.

6. The Board of Editors will consist of fifteen members of the Section, who will be selected by the Advisory Council of the Section and the Editor working together and approved by the vote of the Section. Members of the board of Editors will serve for terms of three years each. The members of the Board elected by the Section will be drawn from the ranks of established scholars and

critics and will be distributed with a view to representing the various fields of American literature and, so far as possible, the various geographical sections of the United States. The contents of the journal will finally be the responsibility of the Editor, except that no article will be published that has not been approved by the Board of Editors, with the exception that the Editor may publish one article in each issue that has not been approved by the Board of Editors; the primary purpose of this provision is to allow the Editor to continue the present practice of including "Extra" essays that address issues of immediate importance to readers and the Section.

The Editor and the Board of Editors may appoint an Associate Editor. The Associate Editor is not automatically to be the successor to the Editor. The Associate Editor will be appointed by the Editor with the approval of a majority of the Board of Editors.

The Editor may appoint an acting Associate Editor should an emergency require such an appointment. The Editor's appointee must be approved by a majority of the Board of Editors.

The Advisory Council of the Section and the Press will approve any other editor whom the Editor may call upon to help carry on the editorial functions of the journal, should some need arise.

When the Associate Editor or any additional editors are appointed, the Editor will request that their academic institutions grant them release from a part of their regular university duties and secretarial assistance sufficient to allow them properly to perform their duties in connection with editing the journal. Such appointments will be for five years.

**Lists from the Jay B. Hubbell Center for American
Literary Historiography
Special Collections Library
Duke University
Durham, NC 127708-0185
Telephone: 919-660-5820
FAX: 919-684-2855**

American Literature Group/Section Chairs

- 1921: Killis Campbell
- 1922: Arthur H. Quinn
- 1923: Percy H. Boynton
- 1924: Fred L. Pattee
- 1925-27: Jay B. Hubbell
- 1928-29: Kenneth B. Murdock
- 1930-31: Robert E. Spiller
- 1932: Ralph L. Rusk
- 1933-34: Stanley T. Williams
- 1935-36: Howard Mumford Jones
- 1937-38: Sculley Bradley

- 1939: Jay B. Hubbell
- 1940-41: Napier Wilt
- 1942: Milton Ellis
- 1943: Tremaine McDowell
- 1944: Louise Pound
- 1945: Gregory Paine
- 1946: Willard Thorp
- 1947: Perry Miller
- 1948: Harry H. Clark
- 1949: Ernest E. Leisy
- 1950: Harry R. Warfel
- 1951: Randall Stewart
- 1952: Floyd Stovall
- 1953: Leon Howard
- 1954: William Charvat
- 1955: Gay Wilson Allen
- 1956: Theodore Hornberger
- 1957: Charles Anderson
- 1958: Walter Blair
- 1959: Clarence Gohdes
- 1960: Norman Holmes Pearson
- 1961: Herbert R. Brown
- 1962: Hyatt H. Waggoner
- 1963: Henry Nash Smith
- 1964: Lewis Leary
- 1965: Lyon N. Richardson
- 1966: Henry A. Pochmann
- 1967: Arlin Turner
- 1968: Roy Harvey Pearce
- 1969: John Gerber
- 1970: Hugh Holman
- 1971: Harrison Hayford
- 1972: Michael Millgate
- 1973: Norman Grabo
- 1974: Louis D. Rubin, Jr.
- 1975: Richard B. Davis
- 1976: Russel B. Nye
- 1977: Nathalia Wright
- 1978: William M. Gibson
- 1979: Edwin Cady
- 1980: Walter B. Rideout
- 1981: Joseph Blotner
- 1982: James M. Cox
- 1983: Lewis Simpson
- 1984: Nina Baym
- 1985: Martha Banta
- 1986: Roger Asselineau
- 1987: Leo Marx
- 1988: John Seelye
- 1989: J. A. Leo Lemay
- 1990: James Justus
- 1991: Emory Elliott
- 1992: Blanche Gelfant
- 1993: Elaine Hedges
- 1994: Eric Sundquist
- 1995: William Andrews

1996: Linda Wagner-Martin
1997: Susan K. Harris
1998: Paul Lauter

**American Literature Section Secretary/Treasurers/
Executive Coordinators**

1921-22: Francis A. Litz
1923: Robert Spiller
1924-26: Ernest Leisy
1928-36: Sculley Bradley
1937-41: Tremaine McDowell
1942-45: Alexander Cowie
1946-49: Allan Halline
1950-53: Arlin Turner
1954-57: Robert P. Falk
1957-61: Alexander Kern
1962-64: James Woodress
1966-69: Paul J. Carter, Jr.
1970-73: Robert Edson Lee
1974-77: William Mulder
1978-81: Charles Milon
1982-85: Donald Yannella
1986: Benjamin Franklin Fisher IV
1987-90: Jerome Loving
1991-94: Paul Sorrentino
1995-98 Susan Belasco
1999- Sheryl L. Meyering and Brian Abel Ragen

Jay B. Hubbell Medal Winners

1964: Jay B. Hubbell
1965: Norman Foerster
1967: Robert E. Spiller
1970: Howard Mumford Jones
1972: Willard Thorp
1973: Leon Howard
1974: Walter Blair
1975: Henry Nash Smith
1976: Lewis Leary
1977: Gay Wilson Allen
1978: Cleanth Brooks
1979: Malcolm Cowley
1980: Robert Penn Warren
1981: Lewis Mumford
1982: Alfred Kazin
1983: R.W.B. Lewis
1984: Roy Harvey Pearce
1985: James Woodress
1986: Leon Edel
1987: Daniel Aaron
1988: Richard Poirier
1989: Nathalia Wright
1990: Edwin Cady
1991: Lewis Simpson
1992: Merton M. Sealts, Jr.
1993: Leo Marx
1994: Leslie Fiedler

1995: Blanche H. Gelfant
1996: Blyden Jackson
1997: James M. Cox
1998: Louis J. Budd

**Norman Foerster Award for the Best Article in
*American Literature***

1964: Allen Guttman
1965: Daniel Fuchs
1966: Eugene Huddleston
1967: Robert Reilly
1968: Lawrence Buell
1969: Benjamin Spencer
1970: Margaret Blanchard
1971: Thomas Philbrick
1972: Alan Howard
1973: Patricia Tobin & Eddy Dow
(separate articles)
1974: Robert Marler
1975: James Barbour
1976: Robert Lee Stuart & William Andrews
(separate articles)
1977: Charles Scruggs & Philip Gura
(separate articles)
1978: Stephen J. Tapscott
1979: Bryan Short
1980: Robert A. Ferguson
1981: Thomas M. Walsh & Thomas D. Zlatic
1982: Christopher P. Wilson
1983: Michael North
1984: Karen Dandurand
1985: David Hesla
1986: Joan Burbick
1987: Cynthia Jordan
1988: Margaret Dickie
1989: Richard Lyon
1990: Catherine Rainwater
1991: Lora Romero
1992: Michael Warner
1993: Lauren Berlant
1994: Caleb Crain
1995: Carla Kaplan
1996: Chadwick Allen
1997: Lisa A. Long
1998: Amy Kaplan