



ALS-MLA

American Literature Section of the
Modern Language Association

Annual Report, 2004

Compiled by
Sheryl L. Meyering & Brian Abel Ragen
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

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American Literature Section, 2004

Chair: Mary Loeffelholz

Executive Coordinator: Sheryl Meyering &
Brian Abel Ragen (Southern Illinois U Edwardsville)

ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Elected Members:

Richard Kopley (Penn State U, DuBois), 2002-04
Gillian Brown (U of Utah), 2003-05
Lisa Lowe (U of California, San Diego), 2003-05
Philip J. Barrish (U of Texas, Austin), 2004-06
Jennifer DeVere Brody (Northwestern U), 2004-06

Division Chairs:

American Literature to 1800

Jeffrey H. Richards (Old Dominion U)

Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Christopher Castiglia (Loyola U, Chicago)

Late-Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century American Literature

Sarah Robbins (Kennesaw State U)

Twentieth-Century American Literature

Dorothy Wang (Northwestern U)

Black American Literature and Culture

William J. Maxwell (U of Illinois, Urbana)

American Indian Literatures

Virginia (Ginny) Carney (Leech Lake Tribal C)

Asian American Literature

Eleanor Ty (Wilfrid Laurier U)

Chicana and Chicano Literature

Jesse Alemán (U of New Mexico)

(The chair, executive coordinator, and editor of *American Literature* are also members of the Advisory Council.)

ALS-MLA STANDING COMMITTEES:

Nominating Committee:

Sarah Robbins, Chair
Richard Kopley
Carla Peterson (U of Maryland, College Park)

Foerster Prize Committee:

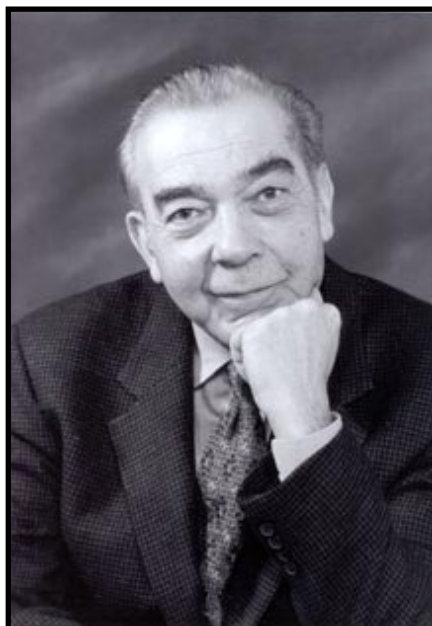
Timothy Morris, U of Texas-Arlington, Chair
Shirley Samuels, Cornell U
Cassandra Jackson, Northeastern U

Hubbell Award Committee:

Richard Millington (Smith C), 2004 Chair
Cheryl A. Wall (Rutgers U), 2005 Chair
Gordon Hutner (U of Kentucky), 2006 Chair
Viet Nguyen (U of Southern California), 2007 Chair
Wai Chee Dimock (Yale U), 2008 Chair

EDITORIAL BOARD, *AMERICAN LITERATURE*

Houston Baker (Duke U), Editor
Priscilla Wald (Duke U), Associate Editor
David Bruce Burgett (U of Washington, Bothell), 2004
Teresa Alice Goddu (Vanderbilt U), 2004
Philip Brian Harper (New York U), 2004
Katherine A. Kinney (U of California, Riverside), 2004
Aldon Lynn Nielsen (Penn State U, University Park), 2004
David L. Eng (Rutgers U, New Brunswick), 2005
Betsy Erkkila (Northwestern U), 2005
Susan K. Harris (U of Kansas), 2005
David Kazanjian (Queens C, CUNY), 2005
Leland Person (U of Cincinnati), 2005
Michael Elliot (Emory U), 2006
Carla Kaplan (U of Southern California), 2006
Robert Levine (U of Maryland, College Park), 2006
Maurice Wallace (Duke U), 2006



Actions of the Advisory Council

The Advisory Council of the American Literature Section met on January 27, 2004 at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel.

Together with its usual business, such as receiving reports from the standing committees, the council discussed the search for candidates to fill the office of Executive Coordinator of the Section, since Professors Meyering and Ragen, having served seven years in the post, have indicated that they plan to leave office at the end of 2005.

In light of that discussion, and to bring the section's operating papers in line with its recent practice, the council approved the following amendments to the Section's "Articles of Organization" dealing with "Tenure of Office," "Standing Committees," and "Nominations and Elections":

1. 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. [Replace with:]~~ The Executive Coordinator will serve a four-year term on initial appointment and may be appointed to a second term.

2. Duties of Officers

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 the Hubbell Medallion, 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~~ [Replace with:] maintain the Section's web site and post the annual report on the web site.

3. 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. [add] The immediate past Chair of the Section will serve as an ex officio advisory member of the Executive Committee. The Committee will have power in all urgent matters that require action between meetings of the

Section. The Executive Committee will appoint the Executive Coordinator of the Section with the advice and consent of the Advisory Council.

3. 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. [Replace with:]~~ Nominations for the annual general election of the Section will come from a Nominating Committee of three members of the Advisory Council chosen annually by the Chair of the Section.

The membership of the section will be asked to approve these changes in the fall 2005 ballot.

Hubbell Medal 2004

The Jay B. Hubbell Award is given each year to a scholar who has made an extraordinary contribution to the study of American literature over the course of his or her career. The members of this year's Hubbell Award Committee were Wai Chee Dimock, Gordon Hutner, Viet Nguyen, Cheryl Wall, and Richard Millington (chair). On behalf of that Committee and the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association, it is a pleasure and an honor to present the Jay B. Hubbell Award for 2004 to Professor Sacvan Bercovitch.

Professor Bercovitch, born in Montreal, Quebec, received his B.A. at Sir George Williams College and his Ph.D. at Claremont Graduate School. He taught at Brandeis, the University of California-San Diego, and, for many years, at Columbia; he finished his teaching career at Harvard, where he held the Powell M. Cabot Professorship in American Literature and is now Professor *emeritus*. In conferring this award, we follow the example of, among others, the Huntington Library, the John Carter Brown Library, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Guggenheim Foundation, who have recognized his work with fellowships.

Let me begin by recalling the names of the recent recipients of the Hubbell Award—Paula Gunn Allen, Nina Baym, Paul Lauter, Annette Kolodny, Houston Baker. To read these names is to recognize that it has been an exhilarating time to be a member of the Hubbell Committee, for it has been our privilege to recognize members of our profession who have not only written powerful scholarly works but who have transformed our sense of what we do and why we do it. It is, of course, such a scholar that we honor this evening.

Sacvan Bercovitch's writing has transformed not one scholarly field but two. His earlier books, *The Puritan Origins of the American Self* and *The American Jeremiad* changed definitively our understanding of the structures of expression and feeling that composed the writing of Puritan New England, and proposed an understanding of the origins of a distinctive American ideology that powerfully competed with Perry Miller's foundational synthesis. Even as he was identifying and exploring the expressive culture of Puritan New England, his work was reaching forward, toward a description of a distinctive American ideology. That ambition, brought to fruition—excuse me if I fall into the prophetic mode—yielded his great books of the nineties, *The Office of the Scarlet Letter* and *The Rites of Assent*, which in effect complete the writing of the history of American middle-class culture begun in the earlier work—a history that persuasively and provocatively specifies how, in America, acts of withering dissent are put to the service of a vision of American consensus. In *The Office of the Scarlet Letter*, in particular, we encounter that rare thing, a text that remains perhaps the most powerful instance of the intellectual approach it is engaged in inventing. (As someone who has worked to preserve a fairly traditional sense of Hawthorne's achievement, let me say that *The Office* is that work of Americanist literary criticism that I'm most afraid is true I believe this to be one of the higher forms of scholarly praise.)

What is utterly remarkable about Professor Bercovitch's work—what accounts for its originality and persuasiveness—is the perspective one hears in that scholarly voice: mordant, acute, deeply learned, oddly sympathetic. It is as if the Recording Angel had decided to do some slumming as a scholar of American literature. But the best description of the animating perspective that has given us this remarkable body of work is his own. This is from the "Introduction" to *The American Jeremiad*: "... What first attracted me to the study of the jeremiad was my astonishment, as a Canadian immigrant, at learning about the prophetic history of America. Not of North America, for the prophecies stopped short at the Canadian and Mexican borders, but of a country that, despite its arbitrary territorial limits, could read its destiny in its landscape, and a population that, despite its bewildering mixture of race and creed, could believe in something called an American mission, and could invest that patent fiction with all the emotional, spiritual, and intellectual appeal of a religious quest. I felt then like Sancho Panza in a land of Don Quixotes."

The scholarly achievement I have been describing would, in its influence and exemplary force, be enough to explain the Committee's choice. But like the other recent recipients of the Hubbell Award, Professor Bercovitch has achieved his transformative effect on the practice of American literary scholarship by concrete effort as well as scholarly example. His work as an editor has

been a particularly important and consistent feature of his career. *Ideology and Classic American Literature*, edited with Myra Jehlen, and *Reconstructing American Literary History* were key texts in the shaping of the historicist consensus that now governs American literary study, and, in his work as General Editor of the Cambridge History of American Literature, Professor Bercovitch has given us a magisterial collective form to the new perspectives and understandings that have made this a wonderful time to be an Americanist. Through his teaching at Columbia and Harvard, Professor Bercovitch has reshaped our field in still another way, directing the work of many students who have themselves gone on to do important work in our field. And he has done distinguished professional service as well, serving as President of the American Studies Association.

In acknowledgment of all of these achievements and in profound gratitude for the richness of his work and the example of his career, we present the Jay B. Hubbell Award for 2004 to Sacvan Bercovitch.

Richard Millington
Chair, Hubbell Award Committee

Acceptance Speech

It is surely a landmark of some kind when a Division of the Modern Languages Association honors someone named after Sacco and Vanzetti. The credit here goes to my mother, a Russian Jewish immigrant to Montreal, who had fought in the 1917 Revolution and did not give up her ideals after she became disillusioned with Stalin. She left me her left-wing legacy and an abiding sense of my Jewish identity but not much else, and so, with no other prospects in view, I left high-school for a socialist Israeli kibbutz. Six years later I returned to Montreal, with a wife and children to support, and got work where I could, which happened to be Steinberg's Supermarket. I take this occasion to express my gratitude to Steinberg's Personnel Department, which made me a junior executive and encouraged me to go to night-school. And Sir George Williams College, now Concordia University, then the adult extension of the YMCA, opened the vistas of academia. I owe special thanks to an exhilarating teacher, Neil Compton, through whom I recognized what a joy it is to read and discuss literature, and what a privilege to be able to earn a living by it. My thanks, next, to Claremont Graduate School, which gave me the freedom to develop – which is to say, the patience and faith—that most larger or elite universities (where type-casting is instantaneous) would not have allowed. And to complete this initiation story, my thanks to Quentin Anderson and Lewis Leary of Columbia University, who risked hiring the raw outsider I then was.

What struck me most about the Columbia English faculty was its receptive spirit. I refer to the fluid relations within hierarchical structures—junior and senior,

tenured and untenured—and to the sense within those structures of a certain class solidarity. Lionel Trilling lived above my means but not absolutely beyond them. He also taught as many courses as I did, and sometimes the same kind of courses. Salaries were notoriously low in comparison to those of “worldly” professionals — this was the era before the star-and-adjunct system—and it made for a kind of adversarial democratic pride. Everyone complained about income, and everyone felt superior to the capitalist market-place. I am aware of the delusions and exclusions (including anti-Semitism) embedded in that genteel sense of superiority. Nonetheless, it encouraged genuine intellectual exchange that could be seen as an alternative to the spheres of financial exchange. Things have changed since then, at Columbia and elsewhere; it’s now increasingly hard to distinguish the ivory tower from the market-place. And again, I’m aware of enormous benefits involved in this transformation: the opening of academia to women and minorities; the enrichment of the canon in response to those new constituencies; the expansion of the Old Boys Network to a pluralistic maze of competing centers of influence. No doubt Houston Baker and Annette Kolodny have a different story to tell about that genteel adversarial spirit. But this is my story – not a jeremiad, not a lament for some storied golden age, but a gesture of thanks for the welcome I received into the community of scholars and critics.

I taught at Columbia from 1964 to 1966; then for family reasons moved to Boston, where I taught for two years at Brandeis, and from there for a year to California and UCSD. Those were the years of student protest, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Feminist Revolution. What a fantastic time to be a college teacher! The study of literature took on a moral immediacy undreamt of by Matthew Arnold. Students debated the texts as though the future of society depended on their interpretations. They showed me the capacity of American literature to convey something of the excitement of what the Greek and Roman classics must have brought to the Italian Renaissance. My gratitude extends above all to the students at Columbia, where I returned in 1970, and to those at Harvard after 1983. It was with them that I put into practice what I’d learned about teaching. And from them I learned, sometimes grudgingly, new ways of literary understanding. They brought arcane theories to class, they insisted on including strange, marginal texts. I found that learning could be a difficult dialectic, requiring the capacity to sustain dissonance, rather than to reach a synthesis. But I found, too, that it could be a sustaining dissonance. The essays and books I wrote and edited during that period, using terms like *ritual* and *ideology*, *historicism* and *dissensus*, owe a great deal to a wonderful procession of students. I can honestly say that through them I came to understand what Plato meant by the connection between teaching and love.

What a privilege to feel part of such a community! A community of students become colleagues, and of col-

leagues become friends, extending globally from Boston to Beijing. I think of the many conferences I attended abroad – East and West and Middle-East – each in its way a source of personal and professional enrichment. Mainly, of course I think of my local affiliations. I feel particularly grateful in this regard because I have never been a proper institutional man. Temperamentally, and often against my will, I have remained an outsider—an uneasy, marginal participant in departments and on committees. I consider it one of the highest attributes of our profession that it has the generosity to accommodate marginals; and I recall with gratitude the faculty interchange that recurrently enhanced life and nourished the mind, as well as temporary communities that formed for new intellectual ventures, like the band of Puritan colonialists who gathered early in my career, in the belief that we were breaking fresh grounds of inquiry, or the diverse group of scholars, representing the diverse approaches current in the field, who contracted together twenty years ago to rewrite American literary history, and in effect to set the standards against which a new dissensus will emerge.

So I end with a tribute to our profession. I refer now not only to my sense of place in it, but to the work I did to earn my place. I stand here as an example of what I consider to be the most compelling and problematic aspect of the American myth: I have forged an immigrant success story through a concerted adversarial critique of America. This is not the time for a discourse on the paradox of resistance and containment. I’ve wrestled with it for many years, and have yet to find a resolution. But I can affirm that there’s an alternative to mere cooptation. I still believe, with Sacco and Vanzetti, that all institutional powers corrupt, including those in academia, and that our highest ethical imperative is to speak truth to power. And I believe further, with the Hasid Reb Nachman of Bratzlav, that the surest way to truth is to “flee from fame.” And yet, from this podium, I can testify that the institutions of American literary study have provided not just a forum, but an incentive towards that radical dream. With that extraordinary gift in mind, and deeply moved by the honor of this occasion, I thank the Hubbell Award Committee.

Foerster Committee 2004

The Foerster Prize Committee, which comprised Timothy Morris, (U of Texas-Arlington), Chair, Shirley Samuels (Cornell U), and Cassandra Jackson (Northeastern U), selected “‘A Plea for Color’: Nella Larsen’s Iconography of the Mulatta” by Cherene Sherrard-Johnson (U of Wisconsin-Madison) as the best essay published in *American Literature* during 2004.

Citation

The winner of the 2004 Foerster Prize for best essay in *American Literature* is Cherene Sherrard-Johnson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for “‘A Plea for Color’:

Nella Larsen's Iconography of the Mulatta." Incidentally, Prof. Sherrard-Johnson's essay is from the last issue of the year and was the last essay in that issue: an indication that even after the committee had read and admired many fine pieces from the year's issues, this one really stood out for us, making our short list right away and becoming a consensus winner.

Prof. Sherrard-Johnson's essay is, as she says, a "painterly" reading of Nella Larsen's novels *Quicksand* and *Passing*. She reads the novels in particular relation to the paintings of Archibald Motley. Like so many pieces in *American Literature* this year, this essay is interdisciplinary. Prof. Sherrard-Johnson ranges widely in art history, considering not only Motley's work but contemporary magazine illustrations and images of the mulatta back to the 19th-century work of Delacroix. "A Plea for Color" is also marked by a strong engagement with theory, bringing notions of Orientalism, scopophilia, and the cultural production and consumption of images of bodies and of bodies themselves to bear on Larsen's texts.

Yet for all its range, Prof. Sherrard-Johnson's essay is centrally about literature – about texts, books, novels. It's an attempt to use whatever means possible to understand those texts – and, as Louis Budd would encourage us to do, to understand what Nella Larsen was trying to do by means of those texts. In the process, Prof. Sherrard-Johnson demonstrates her texts' complicated relation to a field of discourse. In addition, she demonstrates the richness of texts that were non-canonical not too long ago. In this way, Prof. Sherrard-Johnson makes an exemplary contribution to the history of *American Literature*, a journal that grew, 75 years ago, out of attempts to demonstrate the richness of then non-canonical texts to a resistant discipline.

Timothy Morris
University of Texas at Arlington

Acceptance Speech

First, I want to express my thanks to the members of awards committee and Houston Baker, Jr. for such generous introductions and characterizations of my work. In doing rigorous interdisciplinary writing that links literary criticism with cultural studies, art history and primary archival materials, I rely on a variety of sources and colleagues. As such, my essay, "A Plea for Color": Nella Larsen's Iconography of the Mulatta," is truly a product of the community of American Literature, including those anonymous reviewers, the editors of *American Literature*, Priscilla Wald and Houston Baker, and the archivists at the Chicago historical society, the Archives of American Art at the Smithsonian and Yale University's Beinecke library. In these days when many collections are available on-line, we cannot discount or fail to appreciate the willingness of knowledgeable research librarians to verify the date of a letter in a collection noted only in your notes as box 47, folder A.

I am also especially thankful to Frances Kerr and the staff at *American Literature* for their editorial support and help in securing permissions for the visual art that accompanies the essay and working with me through the revisions that shaped the structure and substance of my writing. When I saw the e-mail with the subject heading "Foerster Prize," I presumed it was yet another award that I must apply for. I was delighted to discover that I had already won it. I am privileged and excited to have my essay included in the 75th anniversary edition of *American Literature* and winning the Foerster is the icing atop a very large cake. Thanks again for coming to the presentation tonight and for the award.

Nominating Committee 2004

The nominating committee for 2004 comprised Sarah Robbins (Kennesaw State U), Chair; Richard Kopley (Penn State U, DuBois); and Carla Peterson (U of Maryland, College Park). The committee proposed the following slate of candidates to the Section:

For membership on the Advisory Council for terms running from 2005-2007:

Frances Smith Foster (Emory U)
Kent Ljungquist (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)
Kenneth W. Warren (U of Chicago)
Sandra Zagarell (Oberlin C)

For Membership on the Board of Editors, *American Literature*, 2005-2007

Ralph Bauer (U of Maryland)
Claire F. Fox (U of Iowa)
Karen Sanchez-Eppler (Amherst C)
Michelle Stephens (Mount Holyoke C)
Cheryl Wall (Rutgers U)

Normally, the section's operating papers required that the two members of the Advisory Council who will be in the final years of their terms during the next year stand as candidates for chair of the section during that year. This year, however, both candidates withdrew from the race for personal reasons. The Section bylaws state that in cases like this one, the executive coordinator(s), may step in as chair(s). Professors Meyering and Ragen, however, felt that a better solution was to ask the current chair, Mary Loeffelholz, to stay on for one more year, since she had been elected to a leadership, not an administrative, position—and because she had done exemplary job during her term. The advisory council agreed to propose this solution to the membership of the section in the fall ballot. They unanimously approved a second term for Professor Loeffelholz.

The members also approved all the proposed members of the *American Literature* editorial board and elected Professors Foster and Zagarell to the advisory council of the section.

American Literature Annual Report 2004
Volume 76

Essays published: 29

24 regular essays

1 preface to the special issue "Aesthetics and the End(s) of Cultural Studies"

4 mini-essays at the beginning of "*American Literature at 75*"

Review essays published: 1

Reviews published: 80

Total number of pages: 924

Two special issues: "Aesthetics and the End(s) of Cultural Studies" and "*American Literature at 75*"

Number of new submissions in 2004 (as of 12/23): 164
(Does not include revised resubmissions)

Decisions made on essays during 2004 (as of 12/23): 177
(Note: This number is different from the number of submissions because it includes essays submitted before 1 January 2004, not just essays submitted in 2004.)

Acceptances:	19
Contingent Acceptances:	13
Rejections:	126
Revise/Resubmit:	<u>19</u>
	177

The acceptance rate for 2004 was 18% (Calculated on the number of essays accepted and accepted contingently, not the number of new submissions.)

Awards

Cherene Sherrard-Johnson won the Foerster Prize for "A Plea for Color": Nella Larsen's Iconography of the Mulatta" (December 2004).

Maurice S. Lee won the Poe Studies Association's James Gargano Award for "Absolute Poe: His System of Transcendental Racism" (December 2003; announced in 2004).

Members leaving the board in December 2004:

Bruce Burgett, Teresa Goddu, Phillip Brian Harper, Katherine Kinney, and Aldon Nielsen

New Board members, terms beginning in January 2004:

Ralph Bauer, U of Maryland; Claire Fox, U of Iowa; Karen Sanchez-Eppler, Amherst C; Michelle Stephens, Mt. Holyoke C; and Cheryl Wall, Rutgers U, New Brunswick

Staff

Our graduate-student employee for 2003-04 is Nihad Farooq. During the summer while Nihad was away, Lauren Coats was our graduate-student employee. Our work-study students this fall and spring are Andrew Galanopolous and Fiona Reeves.

75th Anniversary

The journal celebrated its 75th year in 2004. The first issue of *American Literature* appeared in March 1929.

Sue Hall of Duke Press designed the cover for the special issue, which has the olive-green background of the first 64 years combined with the present design that Cathy Davidson introduced in 1992—representing the continuity and change that define the journal's history.

At the MLA, the American Literature Section co-sponsored with *American Literature* the panel "*American Literature at 75.*" The present editors were joined on a panel by past editors (Cathy Davidson and Michael Moon) and guest editors (Tom Ferraro, Dana Nelson, and Christopher Newfield) to talk about the past and future of the journal. Lou Budd, who was unable to attend, sent along remarks he had prepared for the occasion. An audience discussion followed. A transcription of the session will be published in an issue of the journal in 2005.

In honor of *AL's* anniversary, Duke U Press hosted a party in its booths at the MLA. Wine and elegant hors d'oeuvres were served by the hotel. Free anniversary tote bags and copies of the anniversary issue were on hand for visitors.

New On-line Submission System

In 2005, *American Literature* will adopt an on-line manuscript submission system maintained by Aries Systems Corporation. Our manuscript submission, review, and decision process will be conducted on this system. We haven't set up a schedule yet for the conversion, but it will be some time in 2005. The new submission guidelines will appear in the inside back cover of each issue.

American Literary Scholarship Report 2003
for the 2002 volume

American Literary Scholarship 2003, the 41st annual edition of the research annual and perhaps the longest to be published in the series, is in production and scheduled for publication in June 2005. Despite the prognostications of doom and the demonstrable crisis in academic book publishing, American literary study is alive and well, though it may occasionally live incognito in a philosophy department or creative writing program. The sheer volume of scholarship on American literature, to judge from the *MLA Bibliography*, seems to have leveled off at about 7500 scholarly notes, articles, book chapters, books, and dissertations per year. By design and of necessity *AmLS* is a selective review of this scholarship.

As I have often indicated in the past, moreover, the quality of this annual is always a measure of the caliber of its contributors. The authors new to *AmLS 2003* are Carol Singley, Rutgers University-Camden, and Janis Stout, Texas A & M University, who succeed Elsa Nettels as the contributors of chapter 7, on Wharton and Cather, respec-

tively; Robert W. Trogon, Kent State University, who joins Hilary Justice as the contributor of the Hemingway half of chapter 10; Janet Gabler-Hover, Georgia State University, who joins Robert Sattelmeyer as the authors of chapter 12; Michael Kiskis, Elmira College, who returns to chapter 13 after a brief hiatus; and Gregg Camfield, University of the Pacific, who succeeds Ed Walkiewicz as the author of "Poetry: 1900 to the 1940s." Meanwhile, Frank Kearful, Bonn University, moves from the "German Contributions" section of chapter 21 to contribute "Poetry: The 1940s to the Present." Michael Porsche, Paderborn University, succeeds Kearful as the author of "German Contributions." Four other scholars depart from our roster of contributors with their chapters in this volume. After his one-year interregnum, Kiskis will be succeeded by Nicolas Witschi, Western Michigan University, as the author of chapter 13. Gary Lee Stonum, who has collaborated with Theodore O. Mason Jr. on the "Themes, Topics, Criticism" chapter the past several years, is retiring from the annual and Mason will assume sole authorship of the chapter. John Samson, who has contributed "Melville" since 1995 and Benjamin Lockerd, who has collaborated with Alec Marsh on "Pound and Eliot" since 1998, are also retiring. In addition, the next volume of *AmLS* will include sections on American scholarship in Japan contributed by Keiko Beppu, Matsuyama Shinonome College; and on American scholarship in central Europe and the Baltics contributed by Zoltán Abádi-Nagy, University of Debrecen, and Elzbieta Oleksy, University of Łódź. Profound thanks to all the scholars who have joined, are continuing, or have departed this project over the years. They have proven their professionalism year-in and year-out for a stipend less than most undergraduates spend on textbooks in a semester.

As ever, the editors are grateful for the moral and financial support they receive from administrators and colleagues at the University of New Mexico and Indiana University in the preparation of these volumes and the continuing administration of the series. I am also grateful to David Bagnall and the staff of the MLA Bibliographic Information Services for supplying a preprint of the 2003 *MLA Bibliography* for our use. And I am indebted to Melinda Conner and, as ever, to Pam Morrison of Duke University Press for their stewardship of the series and for saving me from a plenitude of mistakes.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Scharnhorst
University of New Mexico



American Literature Section and Division Sessions 2004 MLA Convention

ALS General Sessions

Session 70. Belief and the American Public Sphere

Presiding: Mary Loeffelholz, Northeastern U

1. "Church, Copyright, and the Birth of Black Narrative," Joanna M. Brooks, U of Texas, Austin
2. "When Seeing Is (Dis)Believing: Reading, Writing, and Rage in African American Contexts," Elizabeth McHenry, NYU
3. "Gibson's *Passion* in Historical Perspective," Susan Mizruchi, Boston U

Session 536. American Literature at Seventy-Five

Speakers: Houston A. Baker, Jr., Duke U; Priscilla B. Wald, Duke U; Cathy N. Davidson, Duke U; Michael D. Moon, Johns Hopkins U; Dana D. Nelson, Vanderbilt U; Christopher John Newfield, U of California, Santa Barbara; Thomas J Ferraro, Duke U; Louis J. Budd, Duke U

American Literature to 1800

Session 87. Reading "Lewis and Clark"

Presiding: Dana D. Nelson, Vanderbilt U

1. "The Mother of Them All: Sacagawea as an American Icon," Stephanie Ann Smith, U of Florida
2. "Making York Speak: Voice, Memory, and the Reimagined Slave," William A. Gleason, Princeton U
3. "Cultural Mediations; or, How We Listen to Lewis and Clark's Indian Artifacts," Scott Manning Stevens, State U of New York, Buffalo

Session 498. Federalism and Antifederalism

Presiding: Edward White, Louisiana State U, Baton Rouge

1. "Will the Real Sophia Courtland Please Come Out? Homosexuality as Antifederalism in Charles Brockden Brown's *Ormond*," William Conley Harris, Shippensburg U
2. "Displaced Affection: The Antifederalist Aesthetic of *Slaves of Algiers*," Michael Drexler, Bucknell U
3. "Constituting Early American Masculinity: Federalism's Double Bind," Jeffrey C. Osborne, U of Kentucky

Session 681. Philadelphia Circulations

Presiding: Carla Mulford, Penn State U, University Park

1. "Texts, Performances, and Transnational Identities in *The Widow(s) of Malabar*," Jeffrey Hamilton Richards, Old Dominion U
2. "Violence and Sentiment in Lenora Sansay's *Haiti*," Angela R. Vietto, Eastern Illinois U
3. "Richard Nisbet's Privacy and Yours," Max Cavitch, U of Pennsylvania

Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Session 12. American Antipathy

Presiding: Patricia Anne Crain, U of Minnesota, Twin Cities

1. "Jealousy: Wife Murder and Richard Henry Dana's *Paul Felton*," Dawn Elizabeth Keetley, Lehigh U
2. "Hatred: The Abolitionist Argument of Emerson's 'Self-Reliance,'" Martha E. Schoolman, U of Pennsylvania
3. "Injury: The Balle of *Soldier's Heart* and the American Civil War," Jennifer Travis, Saint John's U, New York

Respondent: Julia Ann Stern, Northwestern U

Session 230. The Critical Archive: What Nineteenth-Century Americanists Should Be Reading but Aren't

Speakers: Paul D. Gilmore, California State U, Long Beach; Bradley W. Evans, Rutgers U, New Brunswick; Valerie Rohy, U of Vermont; Brigitte G. Bailey, U of New Hampshire, Durham; Steven Mailloux, U of California, Irvine

Session 345. Revolution

Presiding: Christopher D. Castiglia, Loyola U, Chicago

1. "Displacing Revolution in/to the Tropics," Rick Rodriguez, Loyola U, Chicago
2. "William Wells Brown and Haiti in the Wake of Dred Scott," Robert S. Levine, U of Maryland, College Park
3. "'Scenes of Carnage and Horror': The Haitian Revolution and the American Civil War," Linda Anne Frost, U of Alabama, Birmingham
4. "Revenant of the Political Impossible: The Haitian Revolution as Ideological Rupture," Sara Clarke Kaplan, U of California, Berkeley

Late 19th & Early 20th-Century American Literature

Session 168. Performance and Politics

1. "Ratcheting Up the Real," Martha Banta, UCLA
2. "The Propaganda, Pageantry, and Poetry of the Patterson Silk Strike," Philip Zwerling, Ursinus C
3. "Dramatic Interventions: Rethinking Mob Violence, Mainstream Theater, and African American Drama, 1890-1930," Koritha Ann Mitchell, U of Maryland, College Park

Respondent: Sarah R. Robbins, Kennesaw State U

Session 395. Rethinking the Image

Speakers: Bill Brown, U of Chicago; Russ Castronovo, U of Wisconsin, Madison; Jane Marie Gaines, Duke U; Alan Trachtenberg, Yale U

Session 663. Technology and American Literature at the Turn of the Century

Presiding: Nancy Bentley, U of Pennsylvania

1. "Inscribing the Moment: (Old) New Media and the Instantaneity of American Naturalism," Paul D. Young, Vanderbilt U
2. "Marking Twain: Samuel Clemens, Duplicity, and Technologies of Composition in Late-Nineteenth-Century America," John Matson, Princeton U
3. "Scrapbooks, Self-Creation, and Activism: Intervening in the Technologies of Publishing," Ellen Gruber Garvey, New Jersey City U

Twentieth Century American Literature

Session 60. Writing the Oblique: Three Poets

Presiding: Dorothy J. Wang, Northwestern U

Speakers: Will Alexander, Los Angeles, CA; C.S. Giscombe, Penn State U, University Park

Session 331. Humor and Social Change

Presiding: John Wharton Lowe, Louisiana State U, Baton Rouge

1. "Standing Up to Identity: Margaret Cho and Post-identity Politics," Deborah Ann Thompson, Colorado State U
2. "Politics and 'The Pocketbook Game' in Alice Childress's *Like One of the Family*," Lovalerie King, Penn State U, University Park
3. "Bringing Down the House: Broadway Musical Comedy, Jews, and the Blacklist," Joseph David Litvak, Tufts U

Black American Literature and Culture

Session 81. Philadelphia Fire: Philadelphia in African American Thought and Expression

Presiding: Amritjit Singh, Rhode Island C

1. "Jessie Fauset's Philadelphia: Site of Desire and Dissatisfaction in *The Chinaberry Tree* and *Plum Bun*," Rita Bernice Dandridge, Norfolk State U
2. "Sonia Sanchez: The Critical Reception of a Philadelphia Poet," Joyce Ann Joyce, Temple U
3. "Dislocating Africa in Philadelphia: The Liminality of Afrocentrism and Cultural Hybridity," Margo Crawford, Indiana U, Bloomington
4. "Du Bois, the Talented Tenth, and *The Philadelphia Negro*," Pradyumna S. Chauhan, Arcadia U

Session 328. African Americanist Criticism and the State in the Age of Terror

Presiding: Judith Jackson Fossett, U of Southern California

Speakers: Hortense Jeanette Spillers, Cornell U; Kenneth W. Warren, U of Chicago; William J. Maxwell, U of Illinois, Urbana

Session 613. Alice Childress: Marking the Tenth Anniversary of the Passing of a Literary Mentor

Presiding: La Vinia Delois Jennings, U of Tennessee, Knoxville

1. “Why Talk about That?: Ironic Discourse in Alice Childress’s *Trouble in Mind*,” Elizabeth Brown-Guilory, U of Houston, University Park
2. “The Other Black List: Alice Childress and the Popular Front,” Mary-Helen Washington, U of Maryland, College Park
3. “Alice Childress: The Art of Capturing the Voices of ‘Little People,’” Trudier Harris, U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Respondent: R. Baxter Miller, U of Georgia

American Indian Literatures

Session 306. Lamenting Tribal-Language Loss

Presiding: Frederick H. White, Slippery Rock U

1. “(A)Cross the Linguistic Divide from Ojibwe to English: Loss, Language, and Community in David Treuer’s *Little*,” Padraig Kirwan, UCLA
2. “Alaskan Haida Language Restoration: Challenges and Opportunities,” Jeane Breinig, U of Alaska Southeast, Juneau
3. “Lamenting Dakota Language Loss,” John Hunt Peacock, Jr., Maryland Inst. C of Art
4. “Fire in Eden: Zitkala-Sa’s Bitter Apple,” Catherine Kunce, U of Colorado, Boulder

Session 401. Teaching through the Crossfire: Student Anger in the Native Literature Classroom

Presiding: Joanne R. DiNova, Port Lambton, ON

1. “Turning Student Anger into Dialogue in the Native American Literature Classroom,” Lori Lynn Burlingame, Eastern Michigan U
2. “Native American Literature and Its Tribal College Reception,” Matthew D. Herman, Stone Child C
3. “Classroom Anger: Prelude to Aggression or Pathway to Activism?” Virginia I. Carney, Leech Lake Tribal C, MN

Session 504. In Honor of James Welch: Shaping Native American Literature, Voicing Native American Experience

Presiding: Alanna Kathleen Brown, Montana State U, Bozeman

1. “Fostering Change and Recognition: The Literary Legacy of James Welch,” Christina A. Roberts, U of Arizona
2. “Concealed Memory: Considering Multigenerational Trauma and James Welch’s *The Death of Jim Loney*,” Jennifer Lemberg, Graduate Center, City U of New York
3. “James Welch and Native American Humor,” John Wharton Lowe, Louisiana State U, Baton Rouge

Asian American Literature

Session 261. Teaching Asian American Literature: Strategies and Innovations

Presiding: Eleanor R. Ty, Wilfrid Laurier U

1. “Across the Black Water: History, Culture, and Politics of South Asian Diaspora,” Gautam Premnath, U of California, Berkeley
2. “Visualizing and Locating Citizenship,” Gita Rajan, Hamilton C
3. “Reading and Writing Asian American Poetry,” Benjamin Huang, U of Southern California
4. “Literature of Muslim America,” T. Mera Moore Lafferty, U of Pennsylvania
5. “African American and Asian American Fictions,” Donald C. Goellnicht, McMaster U

Session 335. Asian Pacific American Travel Narratives

Presiding: Greta AiYu Niu, State U of New York, Brockport

1. “Negotiating the Technological Empire: Travel Writing and the Early Chinese American Cultural Imagination,” Yuan Shu, Texas Tech U
2. “Travelogue in Disguise: Yone Noguchi’s *American Diary of a Japanese Girl*,” Hsuan L. Hsu, U of California, Berkeley
3. “Epic Ventures: Korea and America in Myung Mi Kim’s *Dura*,” Josephine Park, U of Pennsylvania
4. “Le Thi Diem Thuy’s *The Gangster We Are All Looking For*: History, Literature, and the Emigration of a Photograph,” Jutta M. Gsoels-Lorensen, Penn State U, Altoona

Respondent: Melissa Gabot Fabros, U of California, Berkeley

Session 374. Class Critique and the Work of Asian American Literature

Presiding: Tina Yih-Ting Chen, Vanderbilt U

1. “Paid and Unpaid Domestic Workers in Asian American Literature,” Kasturi Ray, Sarah Lawrence C
2. “Carlos Bulosan’s Literary Radicalism Reconsidered: The Politics of Narrative Form in *America Is in the Heart*,” Martin J. Ponce, Rutgers U, New Brunswick
3. “Class Critique and Chinese American Literary Studies,” Wenying Xu, Florida Atlantic U

Respondent: Yoonmee Chang, Indiana U, Bloomington

Chicana and Chicano Literature

Session 144. Metacommentary

Presiding: Hector Avalos Torres, U of New Mexico, Albuquerque

1. “Chicana and Chicano Literature and Dialectical Criticism,” Marcial Gonzalez, U of California, Berkeley
2. “Necessary Fictions: The Politics and Poetics of Collaboration in González and Eimer’s *Caballero*,” María Cotera, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor
3. “Transnational Chicana Critical Feminism: From Colonial Legacy to Global Histories,” Juanita Isabel Heredia, Northern Arizona U

Session 525. *Meta-fronteras*

Presiding: Theresa Delgadillo, U of Notre Dame

1. "From New Mestizas to Neplantleras, and Beyond: Anzaldúa's Post-*Borderlands* Challenge to Chicana and Chicano Studies," AnaLouise Keating, Texas Woman's U
2. "Resistance in Writing: Gloria Anzaldúa's *Borderlands/La frontera*," Juan R. Buriel, U of California, Irvine
3. "Myth, History, and Mestiza Consciousness," Sheila Marie Contreras, Michigan State U

Session 678. *Metahistory*

Presiding: Jesse Alemán, U of New Mexico, Albuquerque

1. "Queer Encounters in Aztlán: Spanish Colonial Narratives of Indigenous Gay Men," María Herrera-Sobek, U of California, Santa Barbara
2. "Competing Colonial Modernities: The Transnational Space of Nineteenth-Century Chicana/o Literary History," Raúl Coronado, Jr., U of Chicago
3. "The Monsters Within: Gothic Criticism and Chicana/o Literary History," Tanya González, U of California, Riverside

**Lists from the Jay B. Hubbell Center for American Literary Historiography
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1995: Blanche H. Gelfant
1996: Blyden Jackson
1997: James M. Cox
1998: Louis J. Budd
1999: Paula Gunn Allen

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1973: Patricia Tobin and 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)
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1981: Thomas M. Walsh & Thomas D. Zlatic
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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
1999: Mary Pat Brady
2000: Daylanne English
2001: Michael Warner with Natasha Hurley, Luis
Iglesias, Sonia Di Loreto, Jeffrey Scraba, and
Sandra Young
2002: Gillian Silverman
2003: Ed White
2004: Cherene Sherrard-Johnson