

About Convention Locations

Convention sessions take place in the Pennsylvania Convention Center (PCC) and the Philadelphia Marriott, which are connected by a covered walkway. The MLA registration and welcome center, MLA PubCentral, the exhibit hall, and the Job Information Center are located in the PCC.

Coffee and Refreshment Stand

For morning or afternoon meals and snacks, visit the refreshment stand in the exhibit hall (PCC, Ballroom AB, Ballroom level) to purchase coffee, tea, fruit, muffins, sandwiches, and other items.

6–7 January: 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

8 January: 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

A convention badge or appropriate pass is required to enter the exhibit hall, so please remember to wear your badge.

Delegate Assembly Agenda

At this year's meeting, the Delegate Assembly will consider regular staff and committee reports on association activities, a request for comment on the Program Committee's proposal for new and revised convention session formats, a recommendation from the Executive Council and the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee for restructuring the association's dues categories, proposed constitutional amendments, and three regular resolutions. Information on these agenda items can be accessed at the MLA Web site (www.mla.org/da-agenda).

Since the 1 October deadline for submitting motions and regular resolutions has passed, only emergency resolutions may be added to the assembly's agenda. Members may submit emergency resolutions to the chair of the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee up to twenty-four hours before the start of the assembly meeting. The last opportunity for submitting an emergency resolution comes at the Open Hearing on Resolutions at the convention (session 245). Please see the second section in "Checklists for Submitting Resolutions" (www.mla.org/Checklists-for-Submitting-Resolutions) for information on submission requirements.

The assembly meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, 7 January, in Grand Ballroom Salon GH in the Philadelphia Marriott (level 5). Members may address the assembly on any of the issues on the assembly's agenda. Because the assembly meeting is open-ended, latecomers will have a chance to join in important discussions of association policies.

The open hearings and the assembly meeting are open only to MLA members and accredited journalists. Please remember to wear your badge.



CAROL M. HIGHSMITH

2017 Election Results

Second Vice President. Simon E. Gikandi (Princeton Univ.) was elected second vice president of the association. He will serve in that office from 9 January 2017 through the close of the January 2018 convention and will automatically become first vice president in 2018, serving in that office through 6 January 2019, the last day of the January 2019 convention. His term as president will begin on 7 January 2019 and continue through the close of the January 2020 convention.

Executive Council. Eric Hayot (Penn State Univ., University Park), Evie Shockley (Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick), and Dana A. Williams (Howard Univ.) were elected to at-large seats on the Executive Council for four-year terms (9 Jan. 2017 through the close of the January 2021 convention).

Delegate Assembly. Sixteen professional-issues delegates and thirty-six regional delegates were elected to the assembly for three-year terms (9 Jan. 2017 through the close of the Jan. 2020 convention). Their names appear in the announcement of election results at www.mla.org/About-Us/Governance/Elections/Results-of-the-2016-MLA-Elections.

Forum Executive Committees. One hundred fifty-nine members were elected to serve on forum executive committees. Most terms are five years (9 Jan. 2017 through the close of the Jan. 2022 convention). The names of those elected appear in the announcement of election results at www.mla.org/About-Us/Governance/Elections/Results-of-the-2016-MLA-Elections.

Regional MLAs

Visit the regional MLAs table near the MLA registration and welcome center (PCC, Grand Hall, level 2) to learn about the opportunities for professional development and financial support provided by the regional MLAs.

Guest Passes to Sessions

MLA members and all others in the profession that the MLA serves are required to register in order to participate in or attend sessions. A convention speaker may obtain a pass for a guest who has no professional interest in language or literature to hear a presentation by that speaker. The speaker must request the pass at the MLA registration and welcome center on the day of the session, before the center closes. Passes may not be requested by guests of speakers or by MLA members who have not registered for the convention.

MLA 2017

Philadelphia

Convention App and Online Program. Download the app for the 2017 convention to create your own convention schedule, be alerted to session updates, and have easy access to session information, maps, and other convention details. A searchable program for the convention is also available online (www.mla.org/program).

The *Convention Daily* is published three times during the convention and is available free at the MLA registration and welcome center, the headquarters offices, and various other locations. One more issue will appear on Saturday, 7 January.

Guest Passes to the Exhibit Hall

MLA convention registrants may obtain free passes to the exhibit hall for guests they accompany in the hall. Persons who are not registered for the convention and who are not accompanied by registrants may purchase a one-day pass to the exhibit hall for \$10. These passes are available at the exhibitor information booth (PCC, Ballroom Prefunction, Ballroom level).

MLA PubCentral

PCC, Grand Hall, level 2

Visit MLA PubCentral starting at 8:00 a.m. each day for everything related to MLA publications, including free giveaways, the *MLA International Bibliography*, *MLA Commons*, *Commons Open Repository Exchange (CORE)*, *Humanities Commons*, and a display of the 2016 MLA-prize-winning books. Meet with an MLA acquisitions editor to discuss your ideas and learn about the MLA publications program.

For only \$20 you can own a stylish Paving the Way T-shirt and support the MLA's new advocacy campaign, Paving the Way: For the Future of the Humanities.

All MLA titles ordered at the booth will be discounted 30% throughout the convention. Buy \$30 worth of MLA merchandise and receive a \$10 Reading Terminal Market gift card.

Friday, 6 January

10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon and 3:00–6:00 p.m. Meet with an experienced MLA editor to discuss the changes in the new, eighth edition of the *MLA Handbook*. The editor will offer advice for teaching the new style and guidance on how to document sources in your own work.

4:00 p.m. Join us for a wine and cheese reception to celebrate new titles released by the MLA in 2016.

Event Highlights: 6 January

Job Counseling

Job Information Center, PCC, 204, level 2

Stop by the Job Information Center for twenty-five-minute one-on-one counseling sessions.

MLA International Bibliography Demonstrations

8:45–9:15 a.m., PCC, 109B, level 1

Humanities Commons and CORE Introductory Sessions

9:00–9:45 a.m., PCC, 203A, level 2

227. Presidential Plenary: Boundary Conditions

10:15 a.m.–12:00 noon, Philadelphia Marriott, Liberty Ballroom ABC, level 2

325. A Creative Conversation with Lorna Goodison

1:45–3:00 p.m., PCC, 109B, level 1

328. Connected Academics: Networking and *LinkedIn* for Language and Literature PhDs

1:45–3:00 p.m., PCC, 202A, level 2

400. Connected Academics: A Showcase of PhD Career Diversity

5:15–6:30 p.m., Philadelphia Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon B, level 5

Election 2016: Climates of Fear

5:15–6:30 p.m., Philadelphia Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon E

422. Presidential Address

6:45 p.m., Philadelphia Marriott, Liberty Ballroom ABC, level 2

Executive Director Rosemary G. Feal will report on the association's 2016 activities, and President Kwame Anthony Appiah will deliver the Presidential Address. The session is open to the public and will be followed by a reception.

Cultural Excursions: 6 January

For questions or cancellations, visit the MLA membership desk (PCC, Grand Hall, level 2).

10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Philadelphia Museum of Art Curator Tour. (No shuttle; close to most convention hotels)

10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Rosenbach Museum and Library Founding Fathers Tour. (No shuttle; close to most convention hotels)

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Private Tour. (No shuttle; close to most convention hotels)

Twitter

Follow @MLAconvention on *Twitter* and tweet sessions using the convention hashtag (#mla17) and session hashtags (e.g., #S422).

Accessible Shuttle: 6 January

Because of the proximity of the PCC and the Philadelphia Marriott to each other and to the other convention hotels, there will be transportation available only for attendees with disabilities. Preference is given to those who make reservations in advance (ADAdesk@mla.org; 310 562-0606).

Shuttle loading areas: PCC, 12th Street at Arch Street, near level 1 meeting rooms; Philadelphia Marriott, Filbert Street entrance

Accessible shuttle service hours: 7:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

2018 Presidential Theme: #States of Insecurity

Diana Taylor, the 2017–18 president of the MLA, has chosen #States of Insecurity as the presidential theme for the 2018 MLA Annual Convention in New York City. Human beings have long lived, told stories, danced, cried, written, made art, learned, taught, debated, and theorized in moments of insecurity caused by events as varied as war, plague, famine, conquest, and enslavement. States of insecurity, in fact, have animated some of our most enduring cultural productions and values. This theme invites reflection on how our intellectual, artistic, and pedagogical work helps us think

through the crises of our time. What strategies do the humanities offer for navigating our current crises: political volatility, fluctuating financial markets, fear-mongering media, and increasingly hateful acts and rhetoric that contribute to a general sense of malaise? #States of Insecurity asks those in the academy to draw from their experiences to identify and denaturalize the elements that contribute to states of insecurity. Visit the MLA Web site (www.mla.org/cfp_main) to post a call for papers for the 2018 convention.

Exhibit Hall

REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR BADGE!

PCC, Ballroom AB, Ballroom level

6–7 January: 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

8 January: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Pick up a copy of the exhibit hall floor plan or the *Convention Guide* for an updated listing of exhibitors. Admission to the exhibit hall is restricted to persons wearing badges or carrying appropriate passes.

Friday, 6 January

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. *Inside Higher Ed* (booth 515): Graduate students are invited to stop by the booth and enter their names in a gift card giveaway. The winner will be drawn at noon on Saturday.

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Routledge (booths 200 and 202): Visit the Routledge booth and try to top the word-search leaderboard! Return on Saturday to see how well you did. Top score gets a prize.

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Oxford University Press (booths 305 and 307): Stop by the Oxford booth for a chance to win a year's subscription to *Electronic Enlightenment*, an online resource that digitizes letters from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.

12:30 p.m. Grove/Atlantic–Publishers Group West (booth 410): Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen will be signing copies of *The Sympathizer* and *The Refugees*.

1:30 p.m. Harvard University Press (booth 115): Award-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen will be signing copies of *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War*.

4:00 p.m. Northwestern University Press (booth 308): Krupa Shandilya will be signing copies of *Intimate Relations: Social Reform and the Late Nineteenth-Century South Asian Novel*, which will be published in January.

4:30–5:30 p.m. Penguin Random House – Penguin (booths 517 and 519): Join us for a cocktail reception and meet the editors of Claude McKay's *Amiable with Big Teeth*, Jean-Christophe Cloutier and Brent Hayes Edwards.

4:45 p.m. Princeton University Press (booth 300): Join us for a wine and cheese reception to celebrate our new publications.

5:30 p.m. World of Reading (booth 404): Will you receive a free World of Reading reader in the language of your choice? Visit the booth during the day, and come back at 5:30 p.m. to find out!

Saturday, 7 January

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Oxford University Press (booths 305 and 307): Stop by the Oxford booth for a chance to win a year's subscription to *Electronic Enlightenment*, an online resource that digitizes letters from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.

12:00 noon. *Inside Higher Ed* (booth 515): Graduate students are invited to stop by the booth and enter their names in a gift card giveaway. The winner will be drawn at noon.

12:45 p.m. Routledge (booths 200 and 202): The winner of Routledge's word-search competition will be announced. Find out if you topped the leaderboard and won a prize!

2:00 p.m. Johns Hopkins University Press (booth 211): Christopher Newfield will be signing copies of *The Great Mistake: How We Wrecked Public Universities and How We Can Fix Them*.

4:00 p.m. Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group (booths 520 and 522): Actor, teacher, and playwright Anna Deavere Smith will be signing copies of her books, including *Talk to Me* and *Letters to a Young Artist*.

5:15 p.m. Cambria Press (booth 509): Meet Victor Mair, general editor of the Cambria Sinophone World Series, which features interdisciplinary works on the Sinophone world. He will be joined by the director of Cambria Press, Toni Tan, to discuss the series and answer questions.

5:30 p.m. World of Reading (booth 404): Will you receive a free World of Reading reader in the language of your choice? Visit the booth during the day, and come back at 5:30 p.m. to find out!

2017 Program Update

The following list includes changes in meeting times and locations, speakers (and their presentation titles and affiliations) who joined the MLA or who agreed to speak at a session after the 7 April deadline for inclusion in the Program, and other corrections. The list does not announce speaker cancellations. Program updates are subject to the approval of the MLA staff; please stop by the headquarters office in the Philadelphia Marriott (Conference Suite III, level 3) or write to updates2017@mla.org with any changes.

Friday, 6 January

212. Social Pedagogies in the L2 Classroom

8:30–9:45 a.m., 307, Philadelphia Marriott

Presiding: Sébastien Dubreil, Carnegie Mellon Univ.

215. Queer Encounters in the Mediterranean *Francosphère*: Subjectivity, Sovereignty, and Sexuality

8:30–9:45 a.m., 406, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Denis M. Provencher, Univ. of Arizona

233. In Our Time: M. H. Abrams (1912–2015)

10:15–11:30 a.m., 102A, PCC

"Analogue, Archetype, Argument: Notes on M. H. Abrams's Methodology," Adam Sneed, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor

248. Working Out Loud: Online Identity Building, Digital Networking, and Professional Development

10:15–11:30 a.m., Grand Ballroom Salon B, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Liana Silva, independent scholar

255. Puritanisms

10:15–11:30 a.m., 105A, PCC

Presiding: Rebecca Rosen, Princeton Univ.

257. Teaching Australian Literature

10:15–11:30 a.m., 106A, PCC

“Reading Melissa Lucashenko’s *Mullumbimby* in the Age of Trump,”
Nicholas Birns, New York Univ.

307A. Postcolonial Bodies in Italian Literature, Film, and Media

1:45–3:00 p.m., 307, Philadelphia Marriott

Program arranged by the Forum LLC 20th- and 21st-Century Italian
Presiding: Nicoletta Marini-Maio, Dickinson Coll.

1. “Wounded Bodies: Female Experiences of Colonial and Postcolonial Violence in Igiaba Scego’s Works,” Meriel Tulante, Philadelphia Univ.
2. “Milan’s Uncharted Territories: Cinematic Transnational Identities,” Gaetana Marrone-Puglia, Princeton Univ.
3. “The Political Body: Lampedusa Is Burning,” Simona Wright, Coll. of New Jersey
4. “Surveillance Practices in the Mediterranean,” Anna Botta, Smith Coll.

331. Forging Lives

1:45–3:00 p.m., Franklin 3, Philadelphia Marriott

Presiding: Malcolm Alan Compitello, Univ. of Arizona

341. Palestine and Academic Freedom

1:45–3:00 p.m., Grand Ballroom Salon D, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Sami Khatib, American Univ. of Beirut

358. Jane Austen at Two Hundred

3:30–4:45 p.m., 111B, PCC

Presiding: George L. Justice, Arizona State Univ.

375. Could This Get Me Fired? Rights and Risks of Just-in-Time Faculty Members

3:30–4:45 p.m., 104B, PCC

Additional speaker: Veronica Popp, Elmhurst Coll.

381. Dispossession: West Asia Contexts

3:30–4:45 p.m., 305-306, Philadelphia Marriott

“Toward a Palestinian Third Cinema,” Nadia G. Yaqub, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

388. Crippling Keywords: Methods, Questions, Connections

5:15–6:30 p.m., Grand Ballroom Salon I, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Paul Kelleher, Emory Univ.

404. Reading against Noise

5:15–6:30 p.m., 202B, PCC

“The Master’s Voice: Henry James, Up Close,” James Curley-Egan, Graduate Center, City Univ. of New York

405. Theories of Toleration/Tolérance after Voltaire

5:15–6:30 p.m., Franklin 13, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Masano Yamashita, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder

408. Economies of Care

5:15–6:30 p.m., 102A, PCC

“The New Day: Notes on (Mis)Education and the Dark Proletariat,” James Ford, Occidental Coll.

418. The Road to Publication Begins with Research

5:15–6:30 p.m., 406, Philadelphia Marriott

Additional speaker: Andrew Wadoski, Oklahoma State Univ., Stillwater

Election 2016: Climates of Fear

5:15–6:30 p.m., Grand Ballroom Salon E, Philadelphia Marriott

Presiding: Members of the MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities

The topic is our concern about the current campus climate and its possible chilling effects on academic freedom in teaching and research. Questions for the audience: Have you had to censor yourself in the past year or two? If so, is this more of a problem than it has been in the recent past? Have any of your campus activities, from helping victims of sexual harassment to graduate student labor organizing, subjected you to retaliation? CAFPRR invites you to a candid discussion about whether we are experiencing intensified climates of fear on today’s campus.

Organizational Meeting for CLCS Caribbean

7:00–8:15 p.m., Grand Ballroom Salon I, Philadelphia Marriott

Saturday, 7 January
438. Conrad’s Animals

8:30–9:45 a.m., 202B, PCC

Presiding: Andrew Ferguson, Univ. of Virginia

446. Low-Wage Work: The Boundary Condition of University Labor

8:30–9:45 a.m., 103A, PCC

Additional speaker: Becky Cave, 15 Now

483. The Politics of Mark Twain’s America

10:15–11:30 a.m., 104B, PCC

“Writing Wronged Bodies: Mark Twain and the American Gothic,” Ann M. Ryan, LeMoyne Coll.

528. Testimonies of War in Svetlana Alexievich’s Prose

12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., 405, Philadelphia Marriott

“*Tsinkovye Mal’chiki*: A Novel of Voices in Theaters and Courtrooms,” Holly Myers, Columbia Univ.

**552. Walter Benjamin in Palestine
[new time and location]**

8:30–9:45 a.m., Grand Ballroom Salon I, Philadelphia Marriott

594. Narratives of Childhood

3:30–4:45 p.m., Franklin 12, Philadelphia Marriott

“A infância fragmentada em *Dois Irmãos*, de Milton Hatoum: Searching for an Answer to the Question ‘Se Deus é brasileiro, todos somos brasileiros?’” Mónica Ayala-Martínez, Denison Univ.

617. Forms of Puerto Rican Debt: Critique and Conditions

3:30–4:45 p.m., 310, Philadelphia Marriott

“Aesthetic Response to Indebtedness in Pablo Delano and Guillermo Rebollo Gil,” Guillermo B. Irizarry, Univ. of Connecticut, West Hartford

625. George Sand and the Art of Blurring Boundaries

3:30–4:45 p.m., 305-306, Philadelphia Marriott

Presiding: Alexandra Wettlaufer, Univ. of Texas, Austin

632. Respect, Responsibility, Coalition, and Relation

5:15–6:30 p.m., 110B, PCC

“Narrative Care: Relating and Responsibility in Canadian Fiction,”
Pushpa Acharya, Univ. of Toronto

673. Cash Bar Arranged by the Forum LLC Jewish American

7:00–8:15 p.m., Franklin 12, Philadelphia Marriott

This event has been canceled.

Sunday, 8 January
690. Critique and Its Limits

8:30–9:45 a.m., 110B, PCC

“‘Mere Literature’: Between Deliberative and Agonistic Democracy,”
Peter Mallios, Univ. of Maryland, College Park

709. Thing Theory 2017

10:15–11:30 a.m., 203B, PCC

Respondent: Bill Brown, Univ. of Chicago

715. Scenes of Subjection at Twenty

10:15–11:30 a.m., 102A, PCC

“Theorizing in the Void,” Zakiyyah Jackson, George Mason Univ.

735. Writing Migrant Selves in Transnational Arab Contexts

10:15–11:30 a.m., Franklin 6, Philadelphia Marriott

“(Non)Citizenship and Narration: Anton Shammas’s *Arabesques*,”
Carolyn Ownbey, McGill Univ.

795. The Planet in Ruins: The Anthropocene from Below

1:45–3:00 p.m., 106B, PCC

Presiding: Alfred J. López, Purdue Univ., West Lafayette

