

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.

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.

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.

CAROL M. HIGHSMITH



MLA PubCentral

PCC, Grand Hall, level 2

Visit MLA PubCentral for everything related to MLA publications, including free giveaways, special discounts on orders placed at the booth, the *MLA International Bibliography*, *MLA Commons*, *Commons Open Repository Exchange (CORE)*, *Humanities Commons*, and a display of the 2016 MLA-prize-winning books. Limited-edition MLA T-shirts are available for a minimum donation of \$20; all proceeds will go to the Paving the Way campaign to support workforce equity and the humanities.

MLA Style Help

Curious about the changes in the new, eighth edition of the *MLA Handbook*? Need advice for teaching the new style or guidance on how to document sources in your own work? On 6 January from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and on 7 January from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m., an experienced MLA editor will be available at MLA PubCentral to answer your questions.

MLA Books

Browse a wide variety of MLA books at PubCentral starting at 8:00 a.m. on 5 January. All MLA titles ordered at the booth will be discounted 30% throughout the convention. Stop by for a wine and cheese reception beginning at 4:00 p.m. on 6 January to celebrate new titles released by the MLA in 2016.

MLA International Bibliography

Staff members from the *MLA International Bibliography* will be on hand to show tutorial videos and discuss new teaching tools and instructor resources. Join staff members for thirty-minute classroom demonstrations (6 January, 8:45–9:15 a.m., PCC, 109B, and 7 January, 10:15–10:45 a.m., PCC, 105B).

2016 MLA Prize Winners

All of the 2016 MLA-prize-winning books will be on display, and a video will feature material from the winners. The awards will be presented at the MLA Awards Ceremony (session 677), 7 January, 8:15 p.m., Philadelphia Marriott, Liberty Ballroom ABC, level 2.

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. Two more issues will appear, on Friday, 6 January, and on Saturday, 7 January.

MLA Commons

Visit the *MLA Commons* area at PubCentral to update your *MLA Commons* profile; learn about the *Humanities Commons*, the new interdisciplinary network for anyone working in the humanities; and find out the advantages of making you work openly available with the *Commons Open Repository Exchange (CORE)*. Join staff members for introductory sessions (6 January, 9:00–9:45 a.m., PCC, 203A, and 7 January, 10:15–11:00 a.m., PCC, 102A).

Event Highlights: 5 January

116. Town Hall Meeting for MLA Members

5:15–7:00 p.m., Philadelphia Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon E, level 5

Members are encouraged to attend a meeting focused on the question “Should the MLA endorse a boycott of Israeli academic institutions?” All convention registrants may attend, but only MLA members may speak.

Meetup with Graduate Students and Recent PhDs

8:30 p.m., MilkBoy (1100 Chestnut Street)

Members of the Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession invite graduate students and recent PhDs to meet up for conversation and community.

Rosemary G. Feal’s Farewell Convention

10:00 p.m.–12:00 midnight, Petite Ballroom, Ritz-Carlton, 10 Avenue of the Arts

The 2017 convention marks Rosemary G. Feal’s last year as the executive director of the MLA. Join us at the opening night reception on 5 January to wish her well and share memories.

Cultural Excursions: 5 January

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

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Tour. (Trolley tour departs from 12th Street at Arch Street at 10:30 a.m.)

Twitter

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

Accessible Shuttle: 5 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.

Phone Chargers

MobileQube Rental Kiosk, PCC, level 2, Concourse near room 201

Exhibit Hall

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. And visit the refreshment stand in the hall for morning or afternoon snacks and meals.

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. 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): The Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen will be signing copies of *The Sympathizer* and *The Refugees*.

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.

4:45 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.

12:45 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!

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.

Thursday, 5 January

- 50. Reloading the Romantic Canon: New Texts and Contexts from Godwin, Shelley, and Hazlitt**
 1:45–3:00 p.m., 111B, PCC
Presiding: Stuart Curran, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- 64. Archive Thievery: The Archive, Memory, and Resistance in the Colonial Context**
 1:45–3:00 p.m., 105B, PCC
Additional speaker: Karim Mattar, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder
- 78. Using Your Language Proficiency and Cultural Expertise in a Federal Government Career**
 3:00–5:00 p.m., 203A, PCC
Additional speaker: Donald Gentile, NCTC
- 91. Reconsidering the *Christian Recorder***
 3:30–4:45 p.m., 112B, PCC
Presiding: Gregory Laski, United States Air Force Acad.
- 94. Celluloid Chains: The Cinema of Slavery from Multinational Perspectives**
 3:30–4:45 p.m., Franklin 3, Philadelphia Marriott
 “Inheriting Chains: Lighting Effects in Humberto Solás’s *Cecilia*,”
 Haley L. Osborn, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 117A. Beyond Measure**
 5:15–6:30 p.m., 409, Philadelphia Marriott
Program arranged by the Forum LLC Old English
Presiding: Elaine Treharne, Stanford Univ.
 1. “Translating the Untranslatable: Riddle 89,” Benjamin Garceau, Univ. of California, Irvine
 2. “Touching Sound,” Jordan Zweck, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison
 3. “The Inestimable Value of Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts,” Thomas A. Bredehoft, Chancery Hill Books and Antiques
 4. “Poetry beyond Speech: Problems of Paradise in Anglo-Saxon Verse,” Jennifer Lorden, Univ. of California, Berkeley
- 158. Representing Ethnic Conflict in Postcolonial Literature and the Politics of Form**
 7:00–8:15 p.m., 106A, PCC
 “Narrating Communal and Ecological Violence in Shaukat Hayat’s Short Story ‘Pigeons of the Dome,’” Sreyoshi Sarkar, George Washington Univ.
- 166. Boundaries: Humor Studies**
 7:00–8:15 p.m., 102B, PCC
Presiding: Tara Friedman, Widener Univ.

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.

Philadelphia

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, Le Moyne 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 Shamma’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