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GEMELA

Grupo de Estudios sobre la Mujer en España y las Américas (pre-1900)

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SPRING 2012

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Members,
As you all know, this is a conference year. We are looking forward to our gathering in Portland in the month of September to learn about everyone's research, and to just have a good time with old and new friends. The GEMELA board, a hard working team that I am lucky to be working with, has met once (via Skype) since we were elected to talk about the conference and other issues, and we have exchanged many e-mails since the fall, in order to keep up with the pace of the former GEMELA board. We are interested in keeping our membership growing and

for our association to reflect the developments that the field is experiencing. We would like to ask professors in doctoral programs to reach out to their students and inform them about GEMELA. We also encourage you to invite colleagues in disciplines other than Hispanic studies, who are interested in the same issues that we are, to join our association and attend our conference. We would also like to ask those of you who are always attuned to developments in GEMELA to keep your dues up to date, and to help the association to stay financially healthy. The recession has

been difficult for everyone, including academia. We understand that these are hard times, and we truly appreciate your contribution. Because of your support, we will continue to offer mini grants (\$250) during non-conference years, and we anticipate a wonderful conference in the fall.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, please feel free to contact me or any of our board members. We are here to serve.

Best,
Mónica

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE: PORTLAND, OREGON "BUILDING BRIDGES"

Once again Kate Reagan, from the University of Portland, will host our biennial conference in the beautiful city of Portland in Oregon from September 13th to the 15th. This time, Isabel Jaén Portillo, from Portland State University, will collaborate with Kate to make this conference an unforgettable experience for all. Professor Nancy van Deusen, from Queens University, will be our

keynote speaker, and we will have the pleasure to attend an event where actors from Milagro Theatre will read the play *A Dialogue of Flower & Song* (more information on the play below), written by poet-dramatist Cindy Williams Gutiérrez and directed by Olga Sanchez. As Kate Reagan pointed out, the city of Portland is perfectly fitted for this year's theme for its many bridges; we will also have the op-



portunity to visit its amazing farmer's market on the closing day of the conference. GEMELA's board will receive abstracts and complete papers from graduate students until April 15 through Acteva (see our website www.gemela.org for more information). We hope to see you all there!

UPCOMING CONFERNCES



LASA, 23-26 May
2012, San Francisco
CA

PAMLA, 19-21 Octo-
ber 2012, Seattle WA

SAMLA, 9-11 Novem-
ber 2012, Durham NC

**Asociación
Internacional de
Literatura y Cultura
Femenina Hispánica**,
8-10 November 2012,
Grand Rapids, MI

LISBON IN 2014

Vanda Anastacio from the University of Lisbon has confirmed that our next conference will take place in Portugal. GEMELA has not gone international since 2000 (Mexico City), so this will be a great opportunity to strengthen our ties with European academics and truly build bridges across the Atlantic. It is not too early to start making plans! On another note, we welcome suggestions for our conference in 2016. If anyone is interested in hosting GEMELA in four years, visit our website and look for the Conference Host Form under Conferences. Thanks!



MLA 2012 UPDATE

The session organized by GEMELA for the 2012 MLA Convention in Seattle was very well attended. Stacey Schlau presided over the session 'Untold Sisters Today: New Approaches to Iberian and Latin American Women's Writing (pre-1800)' on January 6, at 1:45 pm. Sonia Velázquez from Princeton University, Encarnación Juárez-Almendros from the University of Notre Dame, Esther Villegas de la Torre from the University of Nottingham, and Rocío Quispe-Agnoli from Michigan State University spoke to a large crowd. Thank you all who participated and attended this session.

MLA 2013: Boston

Because of GEMELA's affiliate status, we will continue to participate at the MLA convention with one guaranteed session. For the Boston convention on January 3-6, 2013, our session's title will be "Global Connections & Women in the Humanities."

GEMELA will also compete for a collaborative session proposed in conjunction with the Division of Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Spanish Literature, entitled, "Gender and Empire." If you are planning on going to Boston next January, support your colleagues by attending GEMELA's session.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS AND ARTICLES



Baranda, Nieves, and Gabriella Zarri, eds., *Memoria e comunità femminili. Spagna e Italia, sec. XV-XVII. Memoria y comunidades femeninas. España e Italia, siglos XV-XVII*. Florence: Firenze University Press/ UNED, 2011.

Baranda, Nieves. "Cantos al sacro epitalamio o sea pliegos poéticos para las tomas de velo. Deslindes preliminares." *Bulletin Hispanique* 113.1 (2011): 269-296.

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----. *Ética y estética en la narrativa femenina hispanoamericana contemporánea*. Madrid: Pliegos, 2011.

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Castillo, David. *Spectacle and Topophilia: Reading Early Modern and PostModern Hispanic Cultures*. Eds. David Castillo and Bradley Nelson. Vanderbilt University Press, 2012.

----. *Baroque Horrors: Roots of the Fantastic in the Age of Curiosities*. University of Michigan Press, 2011.

Cruz, Anne J., and Rosilie Hernández, eds. *Women's Literacy in Early Modern Spain and the New World*. Aldershot, UK; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2011.

Cruz, Anne J., and Enriqueta Zafra, eds. *The Life and Times of Mother Andrea*. Translation, Anne J. Cruz. Woodbridge, UK: Tamesis, 2011.

Cruz, Anne J. "Una lectura reformista de la picaresca: El *Lazarillo de Tormes* y el *Guzmán de Alfarache*."

Ínsula: Revista de Letras y Ciencias Humanas 778 (octubre 2011): 25-27.

----. "Teresa Guerra, poeta entre el Barroco y la Ilustración." *Bulletin Hispanique* 113.1 (2011): 297-312.

----. "Reading over Men's Shoulders: Noblewomen's Literary Practices in Early Modern Spain." In *Women's Literacy in Early Modern Spain and the New World*. Ed. Anne J. Cruz and Rosilie Hernández, Aldershot, UK; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2011. 41-58.

----. "Introduction." In *Women's Literacy in Early Modern Spain and the New World*. Ed. Anne J. Cruz and Rosilie Hernández. Aldershot, UK; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2011. 1-16.

----. "Notes on Translation." In *The Life and Times of the Madre Andrea*. Enriqueta Zafra, editor; Anne J. Cruz, translator. Woodbridge, Suffolk, UK: Tamesis, 2011. 25-33.

Cruz, Anne J., and Elias L. Rivers, "Three Literary Manifestos of Early Modern Spain." Introduction and translation of documents by Juan Boscán and Garcilaso de la Vega. "Little-Known Documents." *PMLA*, 126.1 (2011): 233-42.

Cruz, Anne J. "Teresa de Ávila, Spanish Nun, reformer and author, 1515-1582." *Women Writers' Network* http://www.womenwriters.nl/index.php/Women_writers%27_networks. 2011.

----. Review of María M. Carrión. *Subject Stages: Marriage, Theatre, and the Law in Early Modern Spain*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, *Stanford Law and History Review* 29.2 (2011): 640-42.

Díaz, Mónica. "Native American Women and Religion in the American Colonies: Textual and Visual Traces of an Imagined Community." *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* 28.2 (2011): 205-231.

Haidt, Rebecca. *Women, Work and Clothing in eighteenth-century Spain*. Oxford, UK: Voltaire Foundation, 2011.

Owens, Sarah. "Food, Fasting and Itinerant Nuns." *Food and Foodways* 19.4 (2011): 274-293.

----. Review of *Writings from the Convent: Negotiating Ethnic Autonomy in Colonial Mexico*, by Mónica Díaz. *Colonial Latin American Historical Review*. 16.4 (Fall 2007): 462-463. (This book review came out in fall of 2011 - the journal is backlogged).

Quispe-Agnoli, Rocío. "Taking Possession of the New World: Powerful Female Agency of Early Colonial Accounts of Perú." *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* 28.2 (2011): 257-289.

Thomas, George. *The Politics and Poetics of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Press, forthcoming September, 2012.

Velasco, Sherry. *Lesbians in Early Modern Spain*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2011.

NEWS FROM BIESES

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SPANISH WOMEN WRITERS-

[HTTP://WWW.UNED.ES/BIESES](http://www.uned.es/bieses)

The BIESES database now comprises 7.500 entries on works by women writers and on secondary literature. There is information on 323 different writers up to 1800. The website includes links to 540 digitized works by women (from Middle Ages through the 20th century) and some of the most important bibliographies such as Manuel Serrano y Sanz, *Apuntes para una biblioteca de escritoras españolas*. It also includes editions of some works by Ana Caro and Teresa de Cartagena, as well as other lesser-known texts.

BIESES will host an international conference July 5-7, 2012, in Madrid on:

WOMEN WRITERS BEHIND THE GRILLE. CONVENTUAL FEMALE CULTURE IN EARLY MODERN SPAIN .

Abstracts may be sent to congreso.bieses@gmail.com by April 1, 2012.

A DIALOGUE OF FLOWER & SONG

By Cindy Williams Gutiérrez

Set mostly in fifteenth-century Mexico, Cindy Williams Gutiérrez's play, *A Dialogue of Flower & Song*, re-imagines a historic Mesoamerican literary event that took place around 1490. In the original *Dialogue of Flower & Song*, seven Mesoamerican poet-kings from rival chiefdoms gathered to discuss the meaning of poetry or "flower and song." Not so in this re-imagining where boundaries of time, space, and gender are crossed. The host of the original dialogue—sage and poet-king Tecayehuatzin—returns from the Land of the Fleshless to invite three female poets from pre-Conquest Mexico, New Spain, and the contemporary Mexican Diaspora to a "do-over." The women must debate the purpose of poetry and wrestle with what it means to "be impeccable." The winner of the debate may be able to alter the course of history. There is nothing anti-war war correspondent Diana would like to do more than redo a secret from her past—until she realizes she has to match zeal and wit with legendary poets Macuilxochitzin and Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.



PROMOTIONS, AWARDS, GRANTS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- **Bonnie Gasior** was promoted to Full Profesor at The California State University, Long Beach.
- **Anne J. Cruz** was appointed Acting Director of the University of Miami's Center for the Humanities for the academic year 2011-2012. She was also invited as a Keynote Speaker at "The Crisis of the Confined Body," Romance Languages Graduate Student Conference, University of California, Berkeley, April 15, 2011; where she presented "The Walled-in Woman in Early Modern Spain."
- **Asunción Lavrin** was named member of the Mexican Academy of History, which is correspondent to the Royal Academy of History in Madrid.
- **Nieves Romero Díaz** was promoted to Full Professor at Mt. Holyoke College. She is particularly proud to have been a member of AEEA since she was a graduate student and to continue her membership in GEMELA now as a full professor.
- **George Thomas** was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Reno.
- **Luz C. Triana-Echeverria** was awarded a year of sabbatical to conduct research in Spain and Colombia and have started to write her memoirs.
- **Elia J. Armacanqui-Tipacti** has organized a session on behalf of GEMELA at the upcoming Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention to take place in Cincinnati on November 8-11. The title of the session is "Early Modern Nun's Gift -Giving."