



POEMAS
DE LA UNICA POETISA AMERICANA,
MUSA DEZIMA,
POR JUANA INES DE LA CRUZ,
MONJIGA PROFESSA EN EL MONASTERIO
de San Geronimo de la Imperial Ciudad
de Mexico.



GEMELA NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

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Letter from the President

Dear Members of GEMELA,

I hope you are doing well and staying healthy despite the many trying circumstances we have all faced. Indeed, the past year has challenged us professionally and personally. Unfortunately, we have not been able to meet, share our work, and celebrate our accomplishments face to face. And yet, these circumstances have also allowed us to think up new ways to connect and welcome new members to GEMELA.

As you may remember, we had to postpone our biennial conference slated for October 2020. Nevertheless, I am happy to announce that we continue to plan for the symposium in Valencia, Spain in Fall 2022. Our wonderful hosts remain very enthusiastic, and we are all looking forward to an exciting program and set of events. A call for papers will be issued in Spring 2022. In addition to regular sessions, we will explore how to best incorporate virtual participation opportunities for those who cannot attend in person. Be on the lookout for future announcements and the CFP!

The postponement of our biennial conference led the Board to look for alternative ways to serve the membership. Described in more detail below, we held a virtual symposium in October 2020, and plan a second virtual gathering for Summer 2021. We also created a mentorship program (thank you, Emily Francomano!) and considerably expanded our online presence through [Facebook](#) and the [GEMELA website](#) (thank you, Montserrat Pérez!). Moreover, GEMELA continues to sponsor and organize panels at the RSA, the MLA, and other international and regional conferences. Through various media and by offering opportunities for intellectual and professional exchange, we hope to foster partnerships and facilitate venues for GEMELA members to present their research, share information, and mentor each other.

Spread the word about GEMELA and encourage graduate students and colleagues to join. Visit our [website](#) and join our [Facebook page](#). Share announcements and publications on our [news board](#). [Become a member or renew your membership](#). Our goal is to continue to grow, advance the study of early modern women's writing and cultural production in Spain and the Americas, and support each other's professional trajectories.

The Board and I thank all active members for your continued commitment to GEMELA and its mission.

Saludos y abrazos,

Rosie

Rosilie Hernández
GEMELA President
Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
Professor of Hispanic and Italian Studies
University of Illinois, Chicago

GEMELA

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Mentoring has always been one of the hallmarks of GEMELA. At our own biennial conference and panels at other conferences, informal mentoring and connections between scholars at all levels sprung up organically. Mentoring can be helpful at all levels of our careers, from our first years in a graduate program to preparing dossiers for promotion and assuming administrative positions. We encourage GEMELA members to see themselves as both mentors and mentees. Our first round of pairings are in place and first met, with great success, at our virtual conference kickoff event last October.

If you are interested in being a mentor or a mentee, please visit our GEMELA website. We plan to do a new round of pairings in the near future. We'll do our best to pair or group members according to their specific interests and professional needs.

<http://www.gemela.org/mentorship/>



Present and Future Directions of Women's Scholarship Virtual Conference October 2020

GEMELA held a wonderful two-day virtual conference in the fall. We had 15 excellent presentations, and over 65 members and visitors from all over the world joined us. We broadcasted the event live on our Facebook page and celebrated our mentorship program kickoff. **Thank you to all those who participated!**

<http://www.gemela.org/virtual-conference-2021/>

Margaret E. Boyle, Bowdoin College
"Scents and Celestinas"

Gema Balaguer Alba, Universidad de Sevilla
"Una poeta en la encrucijada hispano-lusa: Mariana de Luna y el Ramalhete de flores (1642)"

Valerie Hegstrom, Brigham Young University
"How George Ticknor was Wrong about Bernarda Ferreira de Lacerda: "Liras à aclamação do rei dom João o IV"

Laura Rodríguez Fernández, Università degli Studi di Pavia
"Mujeres y literatura en el Milanesado español"
Guillaume Candela, Brown University
"Mujeres enamoradas" in the conquest of Paraguay 16th century"

Nieves Romero-Díaz, Mount Holyoke College
"Los consejos matrimoniales de Sor María de Ágreda a la Condesa de Chinchón. Correspondencia inédita (1655-1663)"

Eleanor Marsh, San José State University
"Tras el rastro de la sangre: Un mapa de la menstruación en textos inesperados anteriores a 1800"

Emily Colbert Cairns, Salve Regina University
"Wet Nurses Under Scrutiny: Regulating Lactation in the Seventeenth-Century Casa Cuna"

Paola Uparela, University of Florida
"Invaginaciones coloniales: Verificaciones gineco-escópicas en la historia de Catalina de Erauso"

Isabel Oleas-Mogollón, Independent Scholar
"Female Agency and the Public Space: The Confraternity of Saint Rosalia in Eighteenth-Century Cuenca."

Ana Guillermina Gómez Murillo, Universidad de Guadalajara
"Mujeres en actividades agroganaderas en el septentrión novohispano. Siglos XVII-XVIII"

Liliana Pérez Miguel, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
"Encomenderas y obras pías en el Virreinato Peruano en el Siglo XVI"

Mark Lentz and Catherine Tracy Goode, Utah Valley University/ Americas Research Network (ARENET)
"Que mi marido no sepa nada...": Women's Illicit Love Letters in late 18th-century Yucatan"

Laura Martínez Martín and Guadalupe Adámez Castro, Universidad de Alcalá. Grupo SIECE-LEA
"Hermana de vuestra merced que todo su bien desea": la recuperación digital de cartas privadas de mujeres (siglos XV-XIX)"

María D. Martos Pérez, BIESES, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia
"Comunidades femeninas y escritura en la España de la primera Edad Moderna"

SAMLA GEMELA PANEL 2020

Jelena Sánchez (North Central College) and Sarah Finley (Christopher Newport University) represented GEMELA in a panel on early modern women's cultural production at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference in November 2020. Jelena's presentation "Drafting Legal Documents: Isabel Barreto, the First Admiral of the Sea in European History" examined Isabel Barreto's voice and agency through legal documents written by the sailor herself. The approach highlighted Barreto's significant contribution as an admiral and explorer in European history and also drew out women's authority as authors of their own wills. Sarah's discussion of "Sor Juana and the Countess of Villaumbrosa" addressed a notable gap in Sor Juana studies, where the Countess of Villaumbrosa has received little attention. In response, Sarah examined Countess's role as a patron and member of Sor Juana's transatlantic networks of lettered women.



GEMELA SPONSORED RSA PANELS 2021

This year the RSA will be held in a virtual format and all sessions will be recorded. If you are planning to register for the conference, please attend our sponsored sessions and support our members.

[https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/21virtual/meetingapp.cgi/Index/
Associate%20Organization~447](https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/21virtual/meetingapp.cgi/Index/Associate%20Organization~447)

The Power of Divine Revelation and Religious Women's Cultural Production in Spain and the Americas

April 13, 1-2:30

<https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/21virtual/meetingapp.cgi/Session/4166>

Feelings of Maternity in Early Modern Spain

April 20, 11-12:30

<https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/21virtual/meetingapp.cgi/Session/4167>

MLA 2022

CALL FOR PAPERS

This is a Call for Papers for a guaranteed session of GEMELA at the MLA Convention in Washington, DC (January 6-9, 2022).

Present and Future Directions of Women's Scholarship in Iberia and the Americas, pre-1800

We invite papers exploring topics related to GEMELA's mission of promoting women's cultural production. Interdisciplinary and transnational approaches welcomed. Submit 250-word abstract and a brief biography to Sara Guengerich, sara.guengerich@ttu.edu.

Deadline for submissions: Monday, 22 March 2021

Please be aware that all participants in GEMELA sponsored panels must be current members of the association.

We ask you to please consider submitting your work or collaborate with our organization for this next MLA meeting. Please direct your question to sara.guengerich@ttu.edu regarding this announcement.

<http://www.gemela.org/cfp-mla-2022/>

Summer 2021 Virtual Event

Encouraged by the success of our virtual conference last October and looking to connect with the membership, the Board is presently organizing a virtual *ZOOM* meeting for Summer 2021. In addition to thematic panels, we plan to hold an event celebrating recent books and edited volumes published by active members of the Association. In addition, we will offer opportunities for mentors and mentees to meet and exchange information.

Stay tuned for an upcoming CFP and further announcements!



Board Election 2021 Announcement

In a typical year, we would hold elections for the next GEMELA board in April or May of 2021. Given the extraordinary nature of the past year, the GEMELA board members would like to ask the GEMELA members to consider a postponement of board elections for one additional year. By delaying the reorganization of the board, we can maintain the stability and cohesion of GEMELA during this unexpected pandemic experience. In addition, we hope by postponing one more year, we can better maintain continuity going into the planning and preparation of the next GEMELA conference in Fall 2022. In a few weeks, the Board will send out a ballot for approval of this postponement by the membership. If this postponement passes with a majority vote among active GEMELA members, we will hold GEMELA board elections in May 2022.

Be sure to vote when you receive the ballot!



Retrato de Sebastiana
 Ynoe Josepha de S. Aug-
 Hija legitima de D. Mathi
 Alvaro Martinez y de D.
 Thomasa de Dios. Y
 Mendiola de Edad de
 16 años del Año
 de 1757 años

**Become a Member/
 Renew your Membership
 GEMELA MEMBERSHIP**

<http://www.gemela.org/renew-membership/>

GEMELA BOARD

Questions about the Association and requests for information may be directed to any of the board members.

President: Rosilie Hernández
president@gemela.org

Past President: Emily Francomano
past.president@gemela.org

First Vice-President: Sara Guengerich
first.vice-president@gemela.org

Second Vice-President: Sarah Finley
second.vice-president@gemela.org

Secretary: Emily Beck
secretary@gemela.org

Managing Director: Bradford Ellis
treasurer@gemela.org

Web Advisor: Montserrat Pérez Toribio
webadvisor@gemela.org