President’s Column

As the AEEA embarks on its sixth year as an association, we are pleased about the robust health of our organization and about the maturation of medieval, early modern, and colonial women’s studies among Hispanists. Our members have been on the forefront of this field, as evidenced by our numerous publications and the leadership that members have shown as mentors, advisors, and leaders in the numerous subfields related to our enterprise of recuperating and interpreting women’s cultural production in Spain and the Americas before 1800.

At our board meeting in Washington, DC, during the 2005 MLA, the AEEA Board decided to regularize our newsletter communications with members. The newsletter will be sent to members and then posted to our website two times a year during conference years and once during non-conference years.

The purpose of the newsletter is:
• To promote scholarship on medieval, early modern, and colonial women’s cultural production from Spain and the Americas through 1800.
• To educate members and non-members about the profession.
• To encourage scholarship, mentoring, and strong interdisciplinary connections.
• To disseminate information about publications, conferences, and grants.

I would like to encourage members to submit announcements, Calls for Papers, research grant deadlines, and other relevant information to our email address: aeeamail@yahoo.com. This will help us meet our goals as an association and, more importantly, it will help us continue strengthening our collective profile as a group of serious scholars and teachers.

Os desea a todos y a todas un feliz y próspero año nuevo,
Lisa Vollendorf (lvollendorf@yahoo.com o aeeamail@yahoo.com)

2006 Conference (5-7 October, 2006)

The AEEA will co-host its 2006 conference with the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater at Georgetown University. Bárbara Mujica will be our host. The original dates overlapped with Rosh Hashanah, so the organizing committee voted to change the dates to 5-7 October. Abstracts are due 15 March 2006 to aeeamail@yahoo.com. (Subject line: Abstract 2006)

The conference will begin at 8:30am on Thursday, October 5 and will end after a special taller at GALA Theater on Saturday, October 7, at 1:00pm. Please make your travel plans accordingly so as not to miss the opening sessions on Thursday and the taller with GALA actors on Saturday.

Christopher Wilson will deliver the keynote address. One of his articles on Carmelite imagery and iconography can be found at: http://nmsantos.com/TeresaCW.html
2005 Highlights

- The AEEA had two special sessions at the AILFH in Honduras. Participants: Bonnie Gasior, Sarah Owens, Jane Tar, Carmen Blanco-Flynn, María José Delgado, Alicia Giralt.

- The AEEA had a special session at the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry at the University of Miami. Participants: Nieves Romero-Díaz and Stacey Schlau.

- The AEEA and the AHCT agreed to co-host the AEEA’s 2006 conference at Georgetown University. We will have simultaneous sessions on comedia and women’s cultural production, with joint sessions on early modern women and the keynote address, as well as a taller at GALA Theater in D.C.

Graduate Award Competition: For the 2006 conference, we have two special graduate student awards: 1) A special $250 prize for Medieval Women’s Studies and 2) The Early Modern/Colonial Graduate Student Award, which will be in the amount of $250 and awarded for the best paper submitted to the competition for papers on early modern Spain and/or colonial Latin America. Please encourage graduate students to submit papers, as we want to encourage the next generation of scholars to be part of our growing field of inquiry. Graduate students should send abstract plus full 7-10 page paper by 15 March 2006 to: aeeamail@yahoo.com. Subject line: 2006 Graduate Submission.

E-Journal

As the AEEA has evolved, we have broadened our scope of inquiry from an initial focus on literary writings to a broader approach that incorporates humanities, fine arts, and the social sciences. There is no journal that shares this three part emphasis on gender, the pre-eighteenth century Hispanic world, and interdisciplinary study. In order to create a venue for outstanding publications related to women’s cultural production in the Hispanic world before 1800, the AEEA will guest edit the online journal Laberinto in 2007.

Editorial Board Nominations

The Editorial Board shall consist of published scholars in the fields of medieval, early modern, and colonial studies. Initial election to the board is for a three-year term, with possibility of re-election or re-appointment depending on the evolution of the journal. Editorial Board members will be expected to provide guidance for the journal, evaluate submissions, and choose content for issues. There is no technical proficiency or expertise needed. The Board’s first meeting will occur at the Georgetown meeting of the AEEA in September, 2006. The first issue of the journal is expected to be published in June 2007. For previous issues, visit: http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/laberinto/. Please send nominations to the AEEA Second Vice President and E-Journal coordinator, Barbara Simerka <bsimerka@hotmail.com> by 15 March 2006. Nominees will be asked to submit a one-paragraph biography. Elections will be held from April 15-May 15, 2006.

Executive Board Nominations

The AEEA will have elections for two key positions on its executive board during 2006. We welcome nominations and self-nominations for the positions of Web Advisor and Treasurer by 15 March 2006. In particular, we are seeking a member with expertise in web design and website maintenance. Elections will be held from April 15–May 15, 2006. Duties will commence with 2006 conference. Please send nominations to Lisa Vollendorf (aeeamail@yahoo.com).

Election Preview

Between 15 March and 15 April 2006, the membership will be asked to vote on the editorial board, the executive board, and on two important issues:

- **Motion 1:** After much consideration and surveying of members, the Executive Board has moved to put an organizational name change to a vote. The board believes that the AEEA should consider changing its name to one that has a more transparent acronym that will announce our purpose to those unfamiliar with our work. The name proposed by the board is: GEMELA Grupo de Estudios sobre la Mujer en España y las Américas (pre-1800).

- **Motion 2:** The board also has moved to propose a mission statement change that will more accurately reflect the focus of our membership’s research and teaching interests. The original mission statement appears on our website (www.aeeahome.org). The proposed statement reads: “The [organization] strives to unite scholars across traditional disciplinary boundaries through its focus on women’s cultural production in medieval and early modern Spain and colonial Latin America through 1800. Our purpose is to disseminate information and knowledge about women and their role as cultural producers. Our conferences and publications encourage excellence in teaching and research based on all interdisciplinary approaches related to our principal field of inquiry.”
Member News

Many of our members have contributed to the (hopefully) soon to be published MLA Approaches to Teaching volumes edited by Emilie Bergmann and Stacey Schlau (on Sor Juana) and Alison Weber (on Saint Teresa and the mystics), and also to Julián Olives and Elizabeth Boyce’s *En desagravio de las damas*. Congratulations to those editors for their wonderful work on early modern and colonial women.

We also congratulate the following members on their publications in 2005:

- ----. "Sor Juana en el Cono Sur," an introduction to a heretofore unpublished play on Sor Juana by Uruguayan playwright Mercedes Rein.
- ----. *The Lives of Women: A New History of Inquisitional Spain*. Vanderbilt UP.

Forthcoming member publications between Jan.-June 2006:


KEEP IN TOUCH

Thank you all for your ongoing participation in AEEA. Stay tuned for our spring news, including: calls for nominations and elections. And don’t forget to submit your abstract by 15 March 2006 to aeeamail@yahoo.com.

Questions or comments?
Please contact us!
aeeamail@yahoo.com or
http://www.aeeahome.org