President’s Column

Dear Members,

It has been both an honor and pleasure to serve as President of this wonderful organization for the last two years. I am thankful for the opportunities it has afforded me as well as the learning experience it has represented. I would like to take a moment to recognize the other Board Members who have been nothing short of amazing as colleagues: Mónica Díaz, Brad Ellis, Ivan Fernández Peláez, Stacey Aaronson and Dana Bultman. Their input and advice during crucial times have proven invaluable, and I continue to be impressed by their professionalism, work ethic and collegiality.

Although 2011 is a non-conference year for GEMELA, we will be participating in several sessions at congresses in the USA and abroad. It is important that we maintain our presence at those venues for visibility purposes. These affiliated GEMELA sessions are crucial to the health of our organization. Please consider attending these conferences and/or proposing new GEMELA panels at others. Any member is eligible to organize a special session. The board will also award small grants ($250) to GEMELA mission-promoting conferences. See our website for further information and guidelines. Feel free to contact me or advertise your sessions/conference through the listserv: list@gemela.org.

Until our next meeting, may your inkwells never run dry!

Saludos cordiales de
Bonnie L. Gasior

Biennial Conference: Mt. Holyoke “Making Connections”

The picturesque Northeast of the United States made for the perfect setting for our most recent, well-attended conference in September 2010. I would like to offer my deepest gratitude to Nieves Romero-Díaz, our conference host, who worked endless hours to ensure all t’s were crossed and i’s dotted. I would also like to acknowledge Harley Erdman and Megan McClain for the lively performance of Unruly Mujeres; Nieves Baranda for an engaging keynote presentation; and Amy William-son for organizing a thought-provoking brownbag roundtable discussion. I hope we continue to “Make connections” and soon, “Build bridges”. See p. 2.
Executive Board Nominations

GEMELA will have elections for four key positions on its executive board during 2011. Sarah Owens, to whom we owe a great deal of thanks for her many years of service, will finish her term as Past President, and Bonnie Gasior will move on to fill that position. Our positions of web advisor and treasurer will carry over for another year. We encourage you to consider nominating yourself or another member for the following positions (descriptions of which appear in our constitution and by-laws: http://www.gemela.org/constitution.html):

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Secretary

Nominations will be accepted from May through August. If you have comments or questions about the duties of each position, please contact Bonnie Gasior (bgasior@csulb.edu) or consult our constitution.

GEMELA 2012: University of Portland

We are thrilled to return to the University of Portland in the Fall of 2012 for our 11th biennial conference, tentatively titled BUILDING BRIDGES. Our gracious host will once again be Kate Regan. Now is the time to think about special panels, roundtables, sessions, workshops, and alternate paper presentations to propose before the CFP circulates. Ideas, suggestions and comments should be sent to: Bonnie Gasior (bgasior@csulb.edu).

MLA 2012: Seattle

GEMELA will sponsor one regular session and one special, proposed, collaborative session at the MLA conference (January 5-8, 2012) in Seattle, Washington:

1. ‘Untold Sisters Today: New Approaches to Iberian and Latin American Women’s Writing (pre-1800).’ We are delighted to have Stacey Schlau chair this session.

2. ‘Teaching Early modern Hispanic Court and Convent Drama: A Roundtable.’ Co-sponsored by GEMELA and Division on 16th and 17th century Spanish Drama.


Promotions, Awards, Grants, Recognitions, Appointments

- **María M. Carrión** was promoted to Full Professor of Spanish at Emory University.

- **Anne Cruz** was named co-editor of the *Journal for Early Modern Women (EMWJ)*.

- **Bonnie Gasior** was recognized by CSULB's President's Commission on the Status of Women for her role in mentoring, advising, and collaborating with female students on campus.

- **Valerie Hegstrom** has received a three-year appointment as Coordinator of the Women's Studies Program at Brigham Young University, starting February 1, 2011. She also received two grants from the university this year: a "Women's Research Initiative Grant" and a Title VI grant from BYU's Center for the Study of Europe to conduct archival research in Portugal and Spain on Bernarda Ferreira de la Cerda.

- **Barbara Mujica** curated an exhibition, "Portraits in Piety," at the Georgetown University Library. The Library recently acquired the Thatcher Collection, some 1500 books by or about women on devotional practices. It includes books from 1521 to the early twentieth century. Mujica included 103 items in the exhibition. Catalogues are available upon request: mujica@georgetown.edu.


- **Margaret Parker** is a featured speaker at five upcoming conferences, including the 2011 Conference on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: Her Work, Colonial Mexico, and Spain's Golden Age, May 13-14, 2011, California State University, Los Angeles. Title of Presentation: “Un tan extraño género de martirio”: Sor Juana's Revisionist Hagiography.”

- **Kate Regan** received an NEH Teaching Development Fellowship last March 2010 to develop a course called Literature into Filmmaking.

- **Nieves Romero-Diaz**, associate professor of Spanish, Latina/o, and Latin American studies, received the Mount Holyoke College Faculty Award for Teaching, 2011.

- **Nina Scott** was asked to serve as interim chair in the Spanish Department at Amherst College, where she has been appointed Visiting Professor and Chair for this academic year.

- **Susan Smith** has been promoted to full professor of Modern Languages at Hampden-Sydney College.

- **Luz Consuelo Triana-Echeverría** was promoted to Associate Professor at St. Cloud State University. In the Fall 2010, she was the Director of the Program Abroad in Concepción, Chile. In January 2011, she was a recipient of a Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Faculty Developer Travel Grant.

- **Lisa Vollendorf** (ed., with Daniella Koustroun) *Women and Religion in the Atlantic World (1600-1800)* was the recipient of the 2010 Society for the Study of Early Modern Women Collaborative Project Award.