American Literature Association  
Symposium on American Fiction  
1890 – Present

October 7-9, 2010

Location: DeSoto Hilton Savannah  
15 East Liberty Street  
Savannah, Georgia

Conference Director: Olivia Carr Edenfield  
Georgia Southern University

Acknowledgments

The Association expresses its deep appreciation to Alfred Bendixen, Founder and Executive Director of the American Literature Association, for his twenty-one years of service to the discipline. The Conference Director wishes to express her appreciation to the many people who organized sessions and contributed to the development of this conference. Thank you to the Department of Literature and Philosophy at Georgia Southern University for its support and, as always, a special thanks to my family and to James Nagel, my mentor and friend.

Thursday, October 7, 2010

Registration: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
DeSoto Lobby

Visit and Private Tour of the Flannery O’Connor Birthplace: 5:30 p.m.  
DeSoto Lobby: The group will meet at 5:30 in the DeSoto lobby and will walk together to 207 E. Charlton Street. A $5.00 donation is requested.
The Chippewa Room is open for breaks during the day

Plenary Roundtable: 9:00 – 10:10 (Pulaski Room)
The State of the Discipline of American Literature

Moderator: Alfred Bendixen, Texas A&M University

Allen Josephs, University of West Florida

James Nagel, University of Georgia

Stone Shiflet, Capella University.

H. R. Stoneback, State University of New York New Paltz

Session One A: 10:20 – 11:40 (Lafayette Room)
Flannery O’Connor Society: New Religious Readings of Flannery O’Connor’s Fiction

Chair: Marshall Bruce Gentry, Georgia College & State University


Session One B: 10:20 – 11:40 (Monterey Room)
Contemporary Fiction

Chair: Amber Nicole Shaw, University of Georgia

1. “Jacques Derrida and Philip Roth’s ‘Spooks’: Language as Ghost.” Jane Statlauder, Marymount University

2. “Blake Urizen and Updike’s Roger’s Version.” James Rovira, Tiffin University

3. "Kay Boyle's Process and the Construction of the Modern Woman.” Shannon Whilock Levizke, University of Georgia

4. “Postsecular Ecology in Cormac McCarthy’s The Crossing.” Christopher White, Governor’s State University

Session One C: 10:20 – 11:40 (Telfair Room)
Hemingway and Women: A Roundtable Discussion

Moderator: Gail Sinclair, Rollins College

Gail Sinclair, Rollins College

Sara Kosiba, Troy University

Robert Trogden, Kent State University
Session Two A: 11:50 – 1:10 (Lafayette Room)
Perspectives on Ernest Hemingway and John Steinbeck

Chair: Brad McDuffie, Nyack College

1. “An Inquiry: Trauma's Relationship to Ernest Hemingway's Narrative Progression.” Kathleen Robinson, Eckerd College

2. “The Portrayal of American Communism in John Steinbeck’s *In Dubious Battle* and Ernest Hemingway’s *To Have and Have Not.*” Ernest Rehder, Florida State University

Session Two B: 11:50 – 1:10 (Monterey Room)
Perspectives on Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty

Chair: Ellen Hendrix, Georgia Southern University

1. “Segregation and the ‘Operation of Grace’ in Flannery O’Connor’s ‘The Artificial Nigger.’” Aaron Bremyer, University of West Georgia, and Josh Masters, University of West Georgia

2. “Once Below a Time: Writers O'Connor and Welty in the Mythic Mode.” Mary Doll, Savannah College of Art and Design


Session Two C: 11:50 – 1:10 (Telfair Room)
Southern Gothic in the Fiction of Peter Taylor, William Faulkner, and Carson McCullers

Chair: Bradley C. Edwards, Georgia Southern University

1. “Spencer Brydon in Nashville: Peter Taylor’s ‘The Real Ghost’ and Henry James’s ‘The Jolly Corner.’” Jennifer Eimers, Missouri Valley College

2. “The Motif of Absence in the Carter Family’s Music.” Matthew King Adkins, Georgia Institute of Technology

3. “‘A House of Freaks’: Performance and the Grotesque in Carson McCullers’s *The Ballad of the Sad Café* and *The Member of the Wedding.*” Carmen Trammell Skaggs, Columbus State University
1:15 – 2:15: Lunch (Madison Ballroom)
During lunch we will hear an update from The Hemingway Society: “Cubano Sato in an American Context: Seeing Hemingway in a Cuban Context.” James H. Meredith, President, The Hemingway Society

Session Three A: 2:30 – 3:50 (Lafayette Room)
Willa Cather

Chair: Kathleen Robinson, Eckard College

1. “Willa Cather’s My Antonia and The New World Symphony.” Nicole Camastra, University of Georgia

2. “The Elusive Element’: Food for the Mind, Body, and Soul in Willa Cather’s The Song of the Lark.” Max Despain, United States Air Force Academy

3. “Willa Cather’s Death Comes for the Archbishop as a ‘Novel Démeublé.’” Sarah Young, Benedictine College

Session Three B: 2:30 – 3:50 (Monterey Room)
Southern Literature

Chair: Jessica Newberry, East Georgia College

1. “Whatever Happened to Experimental Southern Literature?” Matthew Luter, Davidson College

2. “Returning to William Faulkner’s ‘Two Soldiers.’” Shawn E. Miller, Francis Marion University

3. “‘The Empty Cup’: The Confluence of Determinism and Personal Agency in Ellen Glasgow’s Barren Ground.” Lisa M. Echtenkamp, Baylor University

Session Three C: 2:30 – 3:50 (Telfair Room)
Literature, Philosophy, and Politics

Chair: Michael Harris, Georgia Southern University

1. "Narratives, History, and Existentialism in Auster's Oracle Night." Kathy Rugoff, University of North Carolina Wilmington

2. “Fiction, Autobiography, & Captivity: Evelyn Scott’s Escapade[s] with Genre.” Rebecca Harrison, University of West Georgia

3. “Moral Compromise and Celebrity Status in Mark Twain's Pudd'nhead Wilson.” Gonzalo Riedel, Concordia University, Montreal
Session Four A: 4:00 – 5:00 (Lafayette Room)
Henry James

Chair: Leslie Petty, Rhodes College

1. “Remembering Rightly: Fictional Narrative in Henry James’s *Italian Hours*.” Mollie Barnes, University of Georgia


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Session Four B: 4:00 – 5:00 (Monterey Room)
Phillip Roth Society

Chair: James Duban, The University of North Texas

1. “Philip Roth’s Real Name: Jewish American Fiction After the Holocaust.” Shaun Clarkson, Texas State University

2. “Guilt of the Living: The Trivial, the Tragic, and Rationalization *Post Factum* in Roth’s ‘Eli, the Fanatic.’” James Duban, The University of North Texas

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5:15 – 6:45: Opening Reception and Keynote Address
Pulaski Room

“Cormac McCarthy and Albert Erskine: The Evolution of a Working Relationship.” Dianne C. Luce, Cormac McCarthy Society
Saturday October 9, 2010

Registration 8:00 – 9:00 am
DeSoto Lobby

The Chippiwa Room is open for breaks during the day

Plenary Session: 9:00 – 10:00 (Pulaski Room)

“The Poetry of Fiction: Faulkner, Hemingway, and Roberts.”
H. R. Stoneback, State University of New York New Paltz

Session One A: 10:10 – 11:30 (Lafayette Room)
Flannery O’Connor Society: Barbecued Sandwiches and Other Delicacies: Close Reading the Tower Scene in Flannery O’Connor’s “A Good Man Is Hard to Find”

Chair: Marshall Bruce Gentry, Georgia College & State University

1. “Monkeying Around at the Tower: The Pitstop at Red Sammy’s in the “’Race’ of Man’ in Flannery O’Connor’s ‘A Good Man Is Hard to Find.’” Linda Rohrer Paige, Georgia Southern University

2. “Why Do You Call Me Good?” Carolyn M. Kerr, Salem State College/Montserrat College of Art


4. “‘Europe Act[ing]’: Of Trans-conglomeration and Global Branding in a Post-Tower Millenium.” Roger Stanley, Union University
Session One B: 10:10 – 11:30 (Monterey Room)
The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake

Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

1. “‘The Honored Dead’: War and Peace in The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake.” Brad McDuffie, Nyack College

2. “‘A Room Forever’: Home in The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake.” Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

3. “A long time ago we heard a folk song’: American Folk Music and The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake.” Michael Renganeschi, State University of New York New Paltz

Session One C: 10:10 – 11:30 (Telfair Room)
American Literary Naturalism

Chair: Kenneth K. Brandt, Savannah College of Art and Design


2. “Imperial walks through the city: Frank Norris and the colonization of San Francisco”: Jim Toweill, Rice University

Session Two A: 11:40 – 1:00  (Lafayette Room)
The Art of Perception

Chair: Francine Koenig, Georgia Southern University

1. “Grotesque Landscapes in Flannery O’Connor and Toni Morrison.” Sherry R. Truffin, Tiffin University
3. "A Father's Capable Face: Perception and Fatherhood in the Works of Andre Dubus III"  Jessica Newberry, East Georgia College
4. “Archiving Performance in Zora Neale Hurston’s Tell My Horse and Mules and Men.” Adalaine Holton, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Session Two B: 11:40 – 1:00  (Monterey Room)
Fiction by Women Writers

Chair: Paul Jaskunas, Maryland Institute College of Art

1. “‘Survival Literature’: The Cultural Work of Lesbian Fiction in 1950s and 60s America.” Clare Bermingham, University of Waterloo, Ontario
2. “The Abject Feminine in Ellen Douglas’s A Lifetime Burning.” Deborah Wilson, Arkansas Tech University
3. “The Duplicity behind Immortality: Body-Soul Doubling in Maria Christina Mena’s ‘The Vine-Leaf.’” Cynthia C. Murillo, Tennessee State University

Session Two C: 11:40 – 1:00  (Telfair Room)
The Fiction of Ernest Hemingway

Chair: Bryant Mangum, Virginia Commonwealth University

1. “‘A Wonderful Story of the Cuban Coast’: Carlos Gutierrez’ Anita Log as Testimony of the Marine Culture of Cuban Fishermen.” Scott McClintock, National University
2. “Grammar and Time in A Farewell to Arms.” Phillip Sipiora, University of South Florida
3. “Hemingway’s Mystery Lady in Islands in the Stream.” John Daily, Lynn University
1:10 – 2:30: Lunch (Poolside)
During lunch, we will hear an update from The Hemingway Society: “Devil in the Details: Updates on Cubano Sato and Hemingway’s Sporting Life.” James H. Meredith, President, The Hemingway Society; Stone Shiflet, Capella University; Frederick Mitchell, Director, Mt. Philo Films The Sporting Life of Ernest Hemingway; Wendy Yamano, Producer, Mt. Philo Films

Session Three A: 2:40 -4:00 (Lafayette Room)
Disorder and Civilization in American Fictions of Violence

Chair: Matthew Luter, Davidson University

1. “‘Senseless Ruin’: Representations of Total War in Edith Wharton’s Fighting France.” Mary Carney, Gainesville State College

2. “‘War is god’: Narcissistic Violence in Cormac McCarthy’s Blood Meridian: Or the Evening Redness in the West.” Leslie Worthington, Gainesville State College


Session Three B: 2:40 – 4:00 (Monterey Room)
Roundtable Discussion of McCarthy’s The Road: The Novel and the Film

Moderator: Allen Josephs, University of West Florida.

Allen Josephs, University of West Florida.

Dianne C. Luce, Independent Scholar

Scott Yarbrough, Charleston Southern University

Session Three C: 2:40 – 4:00 (Telfair Room)
Postmodern Perspectives

Chair: Theresa Welford, Georgia Southern University

1. “‘X Marks the Spot’: Chiasmus in Philip Roth’s The Human Stain and Zadie Smith’s White Teeth.” Richard Kopley, Pennsylvania State University, DuBois

2. “‘Everything is Illuminated’: Bridging the Gap between Trauma and God.” Scott A. Pett, Georgia State University

Session Four A: 4:10 – 5:30 (Lafayette Room)
African-American Perspectives

Chair: Gautam Kundu, Georgia Southern University

1. “An Aesthetical Taste Under Tribulation and Bewilderment.” Xu Lihua, Jimei University


3. “‘We Get Our Own Souls, Don’t We?’: Personal Accountability Leading to Manhood in Alice Walker’s The Third Life of Grange Copeland.” Weihua Zhang, Savannah College of Art and Design

Session Four B: 4:10 – 5:30 (Monterey Room)
Native America Literature and Identity

Chair: Carmen Trammell Skaggs, Columbus State University


Session Four C: 4:10 – 5:30 (Telfair Room)
The Short Story Society

Chair: James Nagel, University of Georgia

1. "Rehabilitating the Worst of F. Scott Fitzgerald." Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

2. "Fitzgerald's 'Winter Dreams' Revisited.” Bryant Mangum, Virginia Commonwealth University

3. "Hemingway's 'Black Ass at the Crossroads.'” James H. Meredith, Capella University

5:30 – 6:30: Closing Reception
Poolside
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Adkins, Matthew King. Georgia Institute of Technology:
  Friday, 11:50 – 1:10 (Telfair), Southern Gothic in the Fiction of Peter Taylor, William Faulkner, and Carson McCullers, presenting
Barnes, Mollie. University of Georgia:
  Friday, 4:00 – 5:00 (Lafayette), Henry James, presenting
Bendixen, Alfred. Texas A&M University:
  Friday, 9:00 – 10:10 (Pulaski), Plenary Roundtable, chairing
Bermingham, Clare. University of Waterloo, Ontario:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Monterey), Fiction by Women Writers, presenting
Bogue, Barbara Zimmermann. Ball State University:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Lafayette), Flannery O’Connor Society, presenting
Brawley, Amanda. State University of New York Paltz:
  Friday, 2:30 – 3:50 (Telfair), Literature, Philosophy, and Politics, chairing
Brandt, Kenneth K.. Savannah College of Art and Design:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Telfair), American Literary Naturalism, chairing
Bremyer, Aaron. University of West Georgia:
  Friday, 11:50 – 1:10 (Monterey), Perspectives on Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty, presenting
Camastra, Nicole. University of Georgia:
  Friday, 2:30 – 3:50 (Lafayette), Willa Cather, presenting
Carney, Mary. Gainesville State College:
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Lafayette), Disorder and Civilization in American Fictions of Violence, presenting
Claborn, John. University of Illinois:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Telfair), American Literary Naturalism, presenting
Clarkson, Shaun. Texas State University:
  Friday, 4:00 – 5:00 (Monterey), Phillip Roth Society, presenting
Curnutt, Kirk. Troy University:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Monterey), The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake, chairing
  Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Telfair), The Short Story Society, presenting
Daily, John. Lynn University:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Telfair), The Fiction of Ernest Hemingway, presenting
Despain, Max. United States Air Force Academy:
  Friday, 2:30 – 3:50 (Lafayette), Willa Cather, presenting
Doll, Mary. Savannah College of Art and Design:
  Friday, 11:50 – 1:10 (Monterey), Perspectives on Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty, presenting
Drizou, Myrto. State University of New York Buffalo:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Telfair), American Literary Naturalism, presenting
Duban, James. The University of North Texas:
  Friday, 4:00 – 5:00 (Monterey), Phillip Roth Society, chairing and presenting
Echtenkamp, Lisa M.. Baylor University:
  Friday, 2:30 – 3:50 (Monterey), Southern Literature, presenting
Edenfield, Olivia Carr. Georgia Southern University:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Monterey), The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake, presenting
Edwards, Bradley C.. Georgia Southern University:
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Gentry, Marshall Bruce. Georgia College & State University:
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Harrison, Rebecca. University of West Georgia:
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Hendrix, Ellen. Georgia Southern University
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Hirsch, Marina. Bainbridge College:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Lafayette), The Art of Perception, presenting

Hoare, Sean. Marymount University:
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Telfair), Postmodern Perspectives, presenting

Holton, Adalaine. Richard Stockton College of New Jersey:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Lafayette), The Art of Perception, presenting

Hooten, Jessica Lynice. University of Mary-Hardin Baylor:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Lafayette), Flannery O’Connor Society, presenting

Jaskunas, Paul. Maryland Institute College of Art:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00, Fiction by Women Writers, chairing

Josephs, Allen. University of West Florida:
  Friday, 9:00 – 10:10 (Pulaski), Plenary Roundtable, presenting
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Monterey), Roundtable Discussion of McCarthy’s The Road: The Novel and the Film, chairing and presenting

Kelley, Kristin. Gainesville State College:
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Lafayette), Disorder and Civilization in American Fictions of Violence, presenting

Kerr, Carolyn M.. Salem State College/Montserrat College of Art:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Lafayette), Flannery O’Connor Society, presenting

Koenig, Francine. Georgia Southern university:
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Lafayette), The Art of Perception, chairing

Kopley, Richard. Pennsylvania State University, DuBois:
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Telfair), Postmodern Perspectives, presenting

Kosiba, Sara. Troy University:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Telfair), Hemingway and Women, presenting

Kundu, Gautam. Georgia Southern university:
  Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Lafayette), African-American Perspectives, presenting

Levizke, Shannon Whtilock. University of Georgia:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Monterey), Contemporary Fiction, presenting

Lockhart, Lana. Indiana University of Pennsylvania:
  Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Lafayette), African-American Perspectives, presenting

Luce, Dianne C.. Independent Scholar:
  Friday, 5:15 – 6:45 (Pulaski), Opening Reception and Keynote Address
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Luter, Matthew. Davidson College:
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  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Lafayette), Disorder and Civilization in American Fictions of Violence, chairing

Mangum, Bryant. Virginia Commonwealth University
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Telfair), The Fiction of Ernest Hemingway, chairing
  Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Telfair), The Short Story Society, presenting

Masters, Josh University of West Georgia:
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McClintock, Scott. National University:
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McDuffie, Brad. Nyack College:
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Meredith, James H.. Capella University:
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Michaels, J. Ramsey. Missouri State University:
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Miller, Shawn E.. Francis Marion University:
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Murillo, Cynthia C.. Tennessee State University:
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Nagel, James. University of Georgia:
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Newberry, Jessica. East Georgia College:
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Paige, Linda Rohrer. Georgia Southern University:
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Pett, Scott A.. Georgia State University:
  · Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Telfair), Postmodern Perspectives, presenting
Petty, Leslie. Rhodes College:
  · Friday, 4:00 – 5:00 (Lafayette), Henry James, chairing
Pollack, Harriet. Bucknell University:
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Ramsey, G. Lee, Jr. Memphis Theological Seminary:
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Rehder, Ernest. Florida State University:
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Renganeschi, Michael. State University of New York New Paltz:
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Rice, David. The College of Saint Rose:
  · Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Telfair), Native America Literature and Identity, presenting
Riedel, Gonzalo. Concordia University, Montreal:
  · Friday, 2:30 – 3:50 (Telfair), Literature, Philosophy, and Politics, presenting
Roberts, LaChanze Harrison. Clark Atlanta University:
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Robinson, Kathleen. Eckerd College:
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Rugoff, Kathy. University of North Carolina Wilmington:
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Shaw, Amber Nicole. University of Georgia:
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Shiflet, Stone. Capella University:
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Sinclair, Gail. Rollins College:
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Sipiora, Phillip. University of South Florida:
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Skagg, Carmen Trammell. Columbus State University:
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Stanley, Roger. Union University:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Lafayette), Flannery O’Connor Society, presenting

Statlauer, Jane. Marymount University:
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Stoneback, H. R. State University of New York New Paltz:
  Friday, 9:00 – 10:10 (Pulaski), Plenary Roundtable, presenting
  Saturday, 9:00 – 10:00 (Pulaski), Plenary, Plenary Session, presenting

Toweill, Jim. Rice University:
  Saturday, 10:10 – 11:30 (Telfair), American Literary Naturalism, presenting

Trogden, Robert. Kent State University:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Telfair), Hemingway and Women, presenting

Truffin, Sherry R.. Tiffin University
  Saturday, 11:40 – 1:00 (Lafayette), The Art of Perception, presenting

Vande Brake, Timothy R. Roberts Wesleyan College:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Lafayette), Flannery O’Connor Society, presenting

Wasson, Kirsten. Ithaca College:
  Saturday, 4:10 – 5:30 (Monterey), Native America Literature and Identity, presenting

Welford, Theresa. Georgia Southern University:
  Saturday, 2:40 – 4:00 (Telfair), Postmodern Perspectives, chairing

White, Christopher. Governor’s State University:
  Friday, 10:20 – 11:40 (Monterey), Contemporary Fiction, presenting

Wilson, Deborah. Arkansas Tech University:
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Worthington, Leslie. Gainesville State College:
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Xu, Lihua. Jimei University:
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Yarbrough, Scott. Charleston Southern University:
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Young, Sarah. Benedictine College:
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Zhang, Weihua. Savannah College of Art and Design:
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Call for Papers
American Literature Association Symposium

“Mysterious America: Crime Fiction in American Culture”

September 22 – 24, 2011

Keynote Speaker:  
Allen Josephs, University of West Florida

ALA symposia provide opportunities for scholars to meet in pleasant settings, present papers, and share ideas and resources. The September 2011 symposium will focus on crime fiction and American culture. We welcome proposals for works on the place of crime in the fiction of canonical American authors (Poe, Hawthorne, Faulkner, Hemingway, O’Connor, Wright, McCarthy, Pancake, and others) as well as papers on classic and contemporary detective fiction. Proposals for panels and roundtable discussions are also encouraged.

Location: DeSoto Hilton Savannah  
15 East Liberty Street  
Savannah, Georgia

Hotel Rate: The DeSoto is offering a special rate of $159 (plus tax) per night for a single or double room. Please make your reservations before September 1st by calling 800-445-8667 or 912-232-9000 and requesting the ALA conference rate.

Conference Directors:  
Alfred Bendixen, Texas A & M  
Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

Conference Fee: $150

Please email all proposals to Olivia Carr Edenfield before July 15, 2011  
carr@georgiasouthern.edu