Professional Notes and Comment

Although the items printed in this section are meant to serve the professional interests of the membership, the editor does not solicit the items and cannot vouch for their reliability. Members should exercise reasonable judgment in responding to them. Contributors may send items to Professional Notes and Comment, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004–1789 (fax: 646 458–0030; pnc@mla.org).

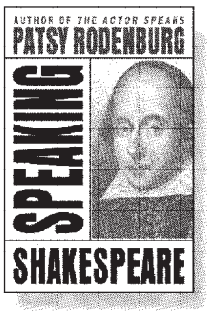
AFRICAN WRITERS. Original essays are solicited for a volume about literary alliance or association, deep and hidden affinities, in African literature. It has been commonly assumed that African writers do not read one another's works. The editors of this proposed book, however, believe that African writers not only tap common traditional oral sources but also constantly draw inspiration from one another's works. Send 1-page abstracts by 30 January 2003 to either Ode S. Ogede, Dept. of English, North Carolina State Univ., Durham 27707, or Kwadwo Osei-Nyame, Jr., Africa Dept., SOAS, Univ. of London, London WC1H OXG, England. Completed essays (5,500–7,500 words in length, in MLA format) are due 30 August 2003.

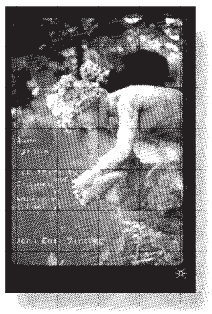
ASIAN AMERICAN WRITING AND CRITICISM. Papers are solicited for a collection of essays addressing the place of literary aesthetics and literary theory in Asian American writing and criticism. The volume contends that to fully participate in the larger landscape and critical discourse of American literature, Asian American literary criticism must move beyond and across its current dominant negotiation with cultural studies and sociological approaches to literature to deploy questions of writerly performance and authorial interventions in American literary traditions and development. While keeping historical and materialist concerns in critical sight, analysis of Asian American literature must engage issues of aesthetics, genre, and form and formulate or use theories that illustrate how Asian American literary works contribute to contemporary discussions of aesthetics and representation. What is the place of literary aesthetics in Asian American narrative or poetic discourse? What role does the "literary" play in our reading and appreciation of the nuances of Asian American authorial production? These concerns can be widely interpreted to formulate essays that address one or more of the following and that support their theses by engaging with a literary text or texts: How does Asian American writing and criticism contribute to the larger discourse of literary aesthetics and to the history of the aesthetic? How does Asian American literary criticism negotiate the relation between literary theory and cultural studies or between literary aesthetics and ideology? Has the intersection between these perspectives been valid and useful? What metacritical approaches to current Asian American criticism can be developed? How does Asian American literature partake of or contribute to current theoretical innovations? How do genre studies, narrative poetics, or linguistic approaches help the reading of Asian American texts? Does Asian American writing generate or invite renewed approaches to issues of representation and aesthetics? What links does Asian

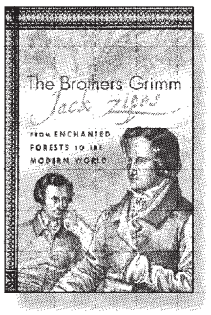
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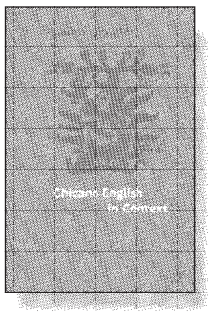
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American literature demonstrate, on a literary and aesthetic level, with other ethnic American literatures? Final papers (5,000–6,000 words in length, in MLA style) are due 1 May 2003. Address inquiries to the editors of the volume, Sue-Im Lee, English Dept., Anderson Hall, 10th floor (022-29), Temple Univ., 1114 West Berks St., Philadelphia, PA 19122-6090 (leesi@temple.edu), and Rocío G. Davis, Modern Languages Dept., Univ. of Navarre, Pamplona 31080, Spain (rgdavis@unav.es).

VICTORIAN CRITICAL INTERVENTIONS. Donald E. Hall, editor of Victorian Critical Interventions, a new book series at Ohio State University Press, solicits provocative, theory-based contributions to Victorian cultural studies. This series will focus solely on brief manuscripts that make brash and revisionary claims. The series seeks manuscripts that are (or are revisable to) 40,000–60,000 words in length and that are adaptable to a standard format. In final draft form, each series entry must open with an introduction that sets out the book's interventionist claim and surveys the context into which it is intervening, continue with three or four body chapters covering its topic thoroughly, and conclude with a clear and succinct assessment of the impact of the book's argument on the field of Victorian studies. Pertinent manuscripts might examine any of a wide variety of "texts"—literary, religious, political/historical, art- or music-related, gender/sexuality-related, science- or class-related—or even Victorian studies itself. Engaging with Victorian studies as a multi- and interdisciplinary field, manuscripts should be accessibly written and appeal to a diverse audience of readers (including intermediate through advanced-level students) interested in clear delineations of the scholarly conversation on a particular topic, as well as in one critic's attempt to reveal its omissions and add provocatively to it. Series volumes should work to redefine what we know and do as Victorian studies. Send inquiries to Hall, English Dept., California State Univ., Northridge 91330-8248 (donald.hall@csun.edu).

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND MEMORY. Submissions are invited for an anthology of essays on historical memory and the civil rights movement, to be published by the University of Georgia Press. This collection will explore the many ways in which the civil rights movement has been constructed and disseminated in American historical memory and examine the significance of particular memories of the movement for contemporary politics and culture. The editors seek manuscripts on all aspects of the memory of the movement. Potential topics include films, music, civil rights monuments and museums, the invocation of the movement in political debates, the creation and use of civil rights "icons." Essays should be no more than 25 manuscript pages in length and should be written for a general audience. Send completed manuscripts by 1 March 2003 to both editors, Renee Romano, Dept. of History, Wesleyan Univ., Middletown, CT 06459, and Leigh Raiford, John Hope Franklin Center for Interdisciplinary and International Studies, Duke Univ., PO Box 90402, 2204 Erwin Road, Durham, NC 27708. For more information, e-mail Romano (rromano@wesleyan.edu).

JUDITH ORTIZ COFER. Contributions are invited for a collection of critical essays on the poetry and prose of Judith Ortiz Cofer. The editors, Lorraine Lopez and Margaret Crumpton, especially encourage papers that engage the following topics in Cofer's work: biculturalism, bilingualism, family, female bildungsroman, feminism, folklore, genre, home-place, humor, identity issues, negation, storytelling, symbol, theme. Send two copies of completed essays (15–25 pp. in length) and 1-page vitae, postmarked by 21 February 2003, to Lopez, Dept. of English, 1654 Section B, Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, TN 37235.

WOMEN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY. Scholars are invited to contribute entries for a forthcoming two-volume reference set titled *Encyclopedia of Women's Autobiography*, to be published by Greenwood Press in 2005. In design and format this volume will be identical to other Greenwood encyclopedias, such as *Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies* (2001) and *The Feminist Encyclopedia of French Literature* (1999). To participate, write immediately to the editors, Jo Malin (jmalin@binghamton.edu) and Victoria Boynton (boyntonv@cortland.edu). Complete manuscripts are due by 1 May 2003. There will be a small monetary award and a complimentary copy of the two-volume encyclopedia, at the time of its publication, for contributors of entries over 4,000 words in length. For contributors of entries under 4,000 words, there will be a complimentary copy.

ASIAN AMERICAN AND ASIAN DIASPORA CHILDREN'S LITERATURE. Essays are invited for a collection tentatively titled *Yellow Peril, Model Minority, or Karate Kid: Critical Perspectives on Asian American and Asian Diaspora Children's Literature*. Contributors may examine children's and young-adult literature coming from the experience of Asians and people of Asian descent in the United States and in Canada, Britain, and other Commonwealth nations. Essays exploring issues of construction of identity, race, biraciality and multiraciality, hybridity, adoption, assimilation, difference, and marginality are welcome. The impact of circumstances of history, such as colonization, war, and immigration policy, may also be considered, as well as attempts to adapt and negotiate art forms and genres such as painting, calligraphy, illustration, poetry, and folk tales. Comparative approaches across ethnicities are also encouraged. Queries are welcome, at any stage. Abstracts (of 1–2 pages) are due by 20 February 2003 and completed essays (5,000–6,000 words in length and following MLA format) by 2 April 2003. Interested contributors who have seen this announcement elsewhere should note the extended deadline; a university press with an excellent list of Asian American titles is interested in

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the project. Send abstracts to Dolores de Manuel, English Dept., Nassau Community Coll., Garden City, NY 11530 (516 572-8154; fax: 516 572-8134; demanud@sunynassau.edu or gk90@prodigy.net).

GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND CULTURE. The Lang monograph series Gender, Sexuality, and Culture is a forum for the investigation and analysis of the contested terrain between culture, gender, and sexuality in any historical period, past or contemporary. Submissions to the series are welcome. Their topics may include (re)theorizations of gender in relation to, or its constitution through, sexuality, race, class, or culture; studies of sexuality and sexual identity that produce new understandings of gender; or new inquiries into culture, broadly defined, that raise compelling implications for the ways in which we think about gender and sexuality in the contemporary social world. Of particular interest are manuscripts that analyze non-Western cultural representations of gender and their relation to sexuality, especially in postcolonial contexts, and those that theorize transgender from feminist, queer, postcolonial, or cultural studies frameworks. Manuscripts may be submitted in English or in French and should conform to the most recent edition of the *MLA Style Manual*. All manuscripts will be subject to external appraisal. For information on the submission of manuscripts, write or call Phyllis Korper, Senior Editor/Acquisitions, Peter Lang Publishing, 275 7th Ave., New York, NY 10001 (212 647-7700; phyllisk@plang.com). For specific queries regarding the series and its scope, write to William J. Spurlin, Series Editor, School of English, Humanities Bldg., Cardiff Univ., Cardiff CF10 3XB, Wales (spurlinwj@cardiff.ac.uk).

ILLNESS NARRATIVES. Contributions are sought for *Illness in the Academy: A Collection of Pathographies by Academics*. Pathographies (illness narratives) are important learning tools for medical education and for undergraduate courses in the humanities and social sciences. An ability to read other people's stories with accuracy and sensitivity is critical to those working in the fields of medicine, social work, psychology, history, and literature. Growing out of the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute "Medicine, Literature, and Culture," this collection reveals how one's discipline influences the way one understands and manages the experience of illness. Contributors should submit a short pathography (approximately 15 pp. in length) that gets at the essence of an experience with illness—either their own or that of a family member, close friend, or colleague. The editor seeks pathographies from academics in all disciplines, and the form of these pathographies is entirely flexible. Contributors need not provide an argument, hypothesis, or theorem and may write straightforward stories, blur genres (e.g., mix chronological narrative with poetry, mathematical equations, or musical notations), or suggest the nature and impact of the disease allusively and imagistically instead of linearly. Send completed narratives by 15 February 2003 to Kimberly R. Myers, Dept. of English, Montana State Univ., PO Box 172300, Bozeman 59717-2300. For a full description of the project or to discuss ideas, call or write Myers (406 994-5170; myers@english.montana.edu).

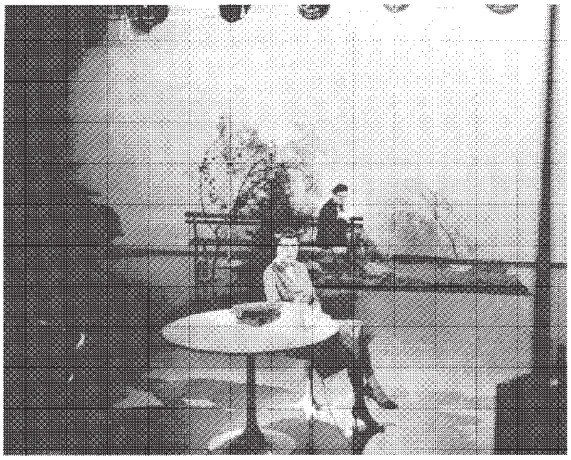
REPORT ON COMPOSITION. The Association of Literary Scholars and Critics has issued a report on the teaching of composition in schools. The complete text of the report is available at http://www.bu.edu/literary/projects/briggs/briggs-report.pdf.

ROMANI STUDIES PRIZE. The Gypsy Lore Society gives a prize of $300 for the best unpublished paper by a young scholar on a topic in Romani studies. Papers in English by graduate students beyond their first year of study and by PhDs no more than three years beyond the awarding of the degree at the time of submission are eligible to compete. Any topic appropriate for the journal *Romani Studies* will be considered. The submitted paper must be unpublished and not under consideration for publication at the time of submission. Papers that have appeared in a "working papers" series are eligible for consideration. Those that have appeared in conference-proceedings volumes of any sort are not eligible, unless they are substantially revised or expanded. Written versions of papers presented at a conference are eligible, as are papers based on chapters of dissertations or MA theses (raw dissertation chapters or MA theses themselves are not eligible). In all cases, the selection committee will look for self-contained scholarly articles of publishable quality that treat some relevant topic in an interesting and insightful way. The deadline for receipt of papers in the department is 30 October 2004. The screening committee expects to announce the winner by 30 January 2005. The winning paper will be published, after any necessary revisions, in an issue of *Romani Studies*. The committee reserves the right not to award the prize in a given year. Interested scholars should submit four copies of the paper along with an abstract (no longer than 250 words) and a cover sheet with the title of the paper and the author's name, affiliation, mailing and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers, date of entrance into an appropriate graduate program or of receiving the PhD, and United States social security number, if the author has one, to Gypsy Lore Society Prize Competition, Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 405 Foster Hall, Univ. of Chicago, 1130 East 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637.

THEATER RESEARCH PRIZE. The American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) offers the Gerald Kahan Scholar's Prize, an annual prize of $500 for the best essay in English on any subject in theater research. The author must be untenured and within seven years of the doctorate—or be a student working toward the doctorate—at the time the essay is published. The Kahan prize is presented at the ASTR annual meeting. To be eligible, an essay must

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have been published in a refereed journal or anthology dated 2002. Previous winners are ineligible. Essays may be nominated by members of ASTR, by editors (one essay per issue), by the authors themselves (one entry only), or by other persons on the authors' behalf. For editorial submissions, the committee will verify the author's eligibility, requiring only that editors include the author's current address in the submission. For other submissions, include a brief statement of the author's credentials in conformance with the award's eligibility requirements, as well as the author's current address. Those wishing to nominate essays should send four photocopies of each entry (do not send copies of the journal), together with particulars of publication and information concerning the author's eligibility, by 15 March 2003 to Carol Fisher Sorgenfrei, Dept. of Theater, 102 East Melnitz Hall, Univ. of California, Box 951622, Los Angeles 90095-1622.

Journal Notes

➸ Published annually by graduate students of the University of California, Davis, under the auspices of the Hemispheric Institute on the Americas, *Brújula* is an interdisciplinary journal with a focus on Latin American literary studies. The journal seeks to foster a dialogue between established academics and a new generation of scholars, while including original essays from a variety of fields such as linguistics, anthropology, history, and sociology. With each issue, *Brújula* intends to highlight a theme of relevance in current debates and to create a forum that explores transnational perspectives on critical approaches. For its second issue, the journal will focus on the topic Indigenous America. A forum for questions of cultural legitimacy that are emerging in the context of globalization, this edition will concentrate on the production of intellectual, literary, and artistic, as well as critical, works in the indigenous context. Write to brujula@ucdavis.edu for submissions guidelines. The deadline for papers is 15 February 2003.

➸ *Changing English: Studies in Reading and Culture* is a fully refereed journal for English teachers at every level. The journal wishes to elicit articles and reviews from writers concerned with English teaching anywhere in the world. The editors welcome contributions from teachers and writers in all areas of the curriculum, where these bear on developments in aspects of language, literacy, and literature teaching. Submissions and editorial correspondence should be addressed to Susan Alice Fischer, Assoc. Editor, *Changing English*, PO Box 1287, Cathedral Sta., New York, NY 10025-1287 (safcpw@earthlink.net). For further details on the journal, including contents pages, visit the Web site of the publisher, Taylor and Francis (http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/1358684X.html).

➸ The editors of *Contemporary Justice Review* (*CJR*) invite authors from all disciplines to submit essay titles and abstracts for a special issue, *The Birth of Another World: Utopian Visions of Justice and Human Well-Being in Literature, Theory, and Practice*. Essays should focus on visions of a new social order in which humanly disabling differences are eliminated and new social arrangements take into account and meet the needs of all. Submissions might analyze the work of authors who have grappled with the creation of a just world and consider how their vision of a new world moves us forward as an interdependent global community. Authors selected might include Ursula LeGuin, Marge Piercy, William Morris, Edward Bellamy, Samuel Butler, Charles Nordhoff, R. Buckminster Fuller, B. F. Skinner, George Bernard Shaw, Henry David Thoreau, George Orwell, and Walt Whitman, among others. Submissions might also focus on past and present communities serving as demonstration projects for a new world community—for example, the Shakers, Catholic Workers, the Farm, Jonah House, Twin Oaks, Oneida, and Disney's Celebration. An essay might offer theoretical perspectives on alternative forms of family (kinship), school (learning), and work (livelihood) and how we might bring them about. Discussions might include views of how design influences well-being and justice, how forms of community (from intentional community to cohousing) can prevent suffering and foster joyful living, and the value of restorative and transitional justice for healing trauma and furthering well-being in communities. Also of interest are film and book reviews and review essays consistent with the theme of the issue. Books examined might include *Spaceship Earth*, *Democratic Vistas*, *Walden Two*, *Brave New World*, *Animal Farm*, *Herself*, *News from Nowhere*, *Woman on the Edge of Time*, and *The Dispossessed*. Film review essays might focus on directors such as Oliver Stone, Stephen Frears, Kurosawa, Marzieh Meshkini, George Lucas, Makhmalbaf, Yimou, or Spike Lee. Essay titles and 200-word abstracts should be sent by 15 March 2003 to the *CJR* managing editor, Lisa Trubitt, LC SB 31, Univ. at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12222 (fax: 518 442-3847; ltrubitt@uamail.albany.edu). Inquiries can be sent to Trubitt or to the *CJR* editor in chief, Dennis Sullivan (gezellig@global2000.net). Notification of acceptance will be made by 1 May 2003; finished essays (circa 25 typed, double-spaced pages) will be due 15 January 2004 for inclusion in the June and September 2004 issues of *CJR*.

➸ The *French Interdisciplinary* is accepting submissions for a special issue, *Visual Arts in Nineteenth Century Western Europe*. Send two copies of articles (approximately 3,500–5,000 words in length, typed, double-spaced, and with parenthetical or internal citations throughout and a works-cited page in accordance with *The Chicago Manual of Style* [14th ed.]), along with a

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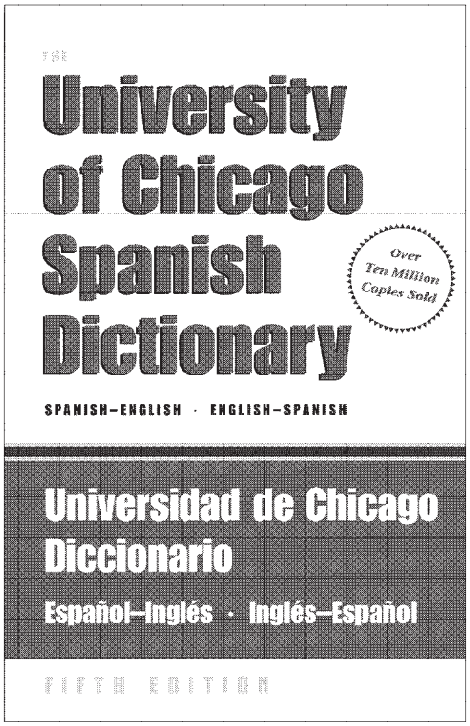
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cover letter bearing the author's name, the paper title, and a short summary of the text, no later than 5 February 2003 to the *French Interdisciplinary*, Dept. of French, City Univ. of New York, Graduate Center, 365 5th Ave., New York, NY 10016. Articles in English or French are welcome. Address inquiries to danamilstein@nyc.rr.com.

➤ For the Fall-Winter 2004 issue, *Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture* seeks lively, innovative, musically knowledgeable papers on jazz poetics, fiction, politics, and history. The large body of jazz fiction and poetry—much of it worth concentrated study—has been neglected. One reason is that jazz writing has rarely met its greatest challenge: how to render verbally the experience of playing, composing, or listening to music. Most jazz scholarship has instead focused on political questions: Is jazz a peculiarly American or democratic idiom? How do the tensions between individualism and communal interaction affect performance and composition? How do mainstream jazz and the various alternative jazz subcultures (e.g., West Coast vs. East Coast, avant-garde vs. traditional, Latino vs. Anglo, African American vs. Euro-American) interact and compete musically, financially, and socially? How do educational, cultural, and commercial institutions shape the music? Is jazz dead? Send 250-word abstracts treating these and other questions in jazz writing to Mark Osteen (mosteen@loyola.edu) by 31 January 2003. Selected papers will then be solicited by July 2003.

➤ *Lit: Literature Interpretation Theory* invites essays for an upcoming special issue on Mary McCarthy. The guest editor, Brenda Murphy, seeks articles on the full range of McCarthy's writings, although treatments of her fiction and of her cultural commentary and reportage are particularly welcome. The issue aims to situate McCarthy's work within the post–World War II American cultural context, in which she was widely viewed as the United States' leading female intellectual and woman of letters. For this reason, articles on her relation to contemporaries such as Hannah Arendt, Elizabeth Hardwick, Robert Lowell, Phillip Rahv, Edmund Wilson, Lillian Hellman, and Norman Mailer are also appropriate. *Lit* addresses a general literate audience and encourages essays unburdened by excessive theoretical jargon. Submissions, 5,000–10,000 words in length, must use MLA citation style. Send essays in triplicate (if you are outside the United States and Canada, one copy will do), along with 100-word abstracts, by 1 April 2003 to Regina Barreca, Editor, *Lit: Literature Interpretation Theory*, Dept. of English, Univ. of Connecticut, Box 4025, 215 Glenbrook Road, Storrs 06269-4025 (http://www.sp.uconn.edu/~litjourn).

➤ Volume 30 (2003) of *Medievalia et Humanistica: Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Culture* is open to contributions from all sources. The editorial board welcomes scholarly, critical, and interdisciplinary articles of significant interest on relevant material and urges contributors to communicate in a clear and concise style the larger implications, in addition to the material of their research, and to hold documentation to a minimum. Articles in English may be submitted to Managing Editor, *Medievalia et Humanistica*, PO Box 28428, Austin, TX 78755-8428. Inquiries concerning subscription should be addressed to the publisher, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 4720 Boston Way, Lanham, MD 20706 (301 459-3366; fax: 301 459-2118).

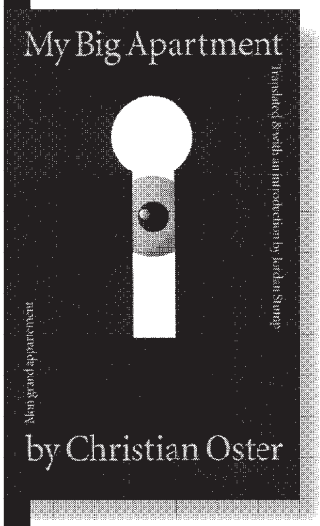
➤ *Nexus: The International Henry Miller Journal*, a new periodical dedicated to the work and life of Henry Miller and his circle, seeks submissions for upcoming issues. The journal's primary goal is to reevaluate Miller's place in the canon by interpreting his texts with fresh perspectives. The editors especially invite submissions that use poststructuralist theory, new historicism, gender studies, psychoanalysis, cultural studies, queer theory, or narratology, but all critical approaches are welcome. Essays on such figures as Anaïs Nin, Michael Fraenkel, Lawrence Durrell, Walter Lowenfels, Conrad Moricand, and June Miller are also encouraged. The deadline for submissions to the inaugural issue is 15 March 2003. Late submissions will be considered for future issues. To submit an article (in MLA format) or receive subscription information, write to James Decker, Mount Saint Clare Coll., Clinton, IA 52732 (jamdec@clare.edu).

➤ *Points of Entry: Cross-Currents in Storytelling* encourages narrative writing in journalism by exploring cross-currents in storytelling in reporting, fiction, and oral tradition. The journal strives to make connections among reporters, editors, and journalism and literature professors and students. For more information, visit the journal's Web site (http://www.pointsofentry.org) or write Terry Lee, Dept. of English, Christopher Newport Univ., Newport News, VA 23606.

➤ Original essays are sought for *Women Literary Salons in Renaissance Europe*, a special issue of *Renaissance and Reformation / Renaissance et Réforme* (2004) relating to literary salons under the patronage of women in any country of Renaissance Europe. Proposals (1 page maximum) in French or English should be submitted no later than 1 March 2003 to François Rouget, Dept. of French, Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON K7L 3N6, Canada (fax: 613 533-6522; fr2@qsilver.queensu.ca).

➤ Papers are invited for *Shakespeare and the Low Countries*, the 2004 issue of the *Shakespeare Yearbook*. The volume, edited by Ton Hoenselaars and Holger Klein, will be devoted to Anglo-Dutch relations in the widest sense insofar as these manifestations of cultural exchange bear on Shakespeare, his fellow playwrights, and

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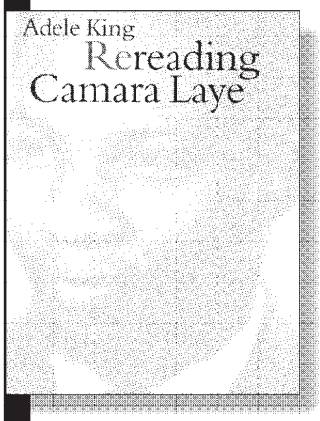


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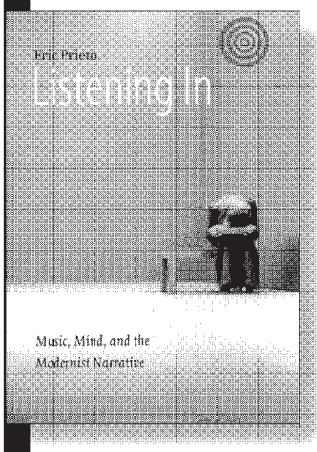
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English Renaissance drama as a whole. Papers may address topics including Johannes de Witt and the 1590s drawing of The Swan; traveling companies, strolling players; the First Folio engraving of Shakespeare by Maarten Droeshout; the bust of Shakespeare by Gheerart Janssen; the impact of the Dutch Wars on early modern playwrights and poets (Shakespeare, Marlowe, Jonson, Chapman, Tourneur, Sir Philip Sidney); the "image" of the Dutch and Flemings as represented in early modern English drama; the interrelations between English Renaissance drama and the other arts, including music, painting, mapmaking, and engraving; English Renaissance drama's negotiation of the young Dutch Republic's political experiment; the impact of English Renaissance drama on Dutch theater history—connections between, on the one hand, Shakespeare and his contemporaries and, on the other, early modern Dutch playwrights like Jan Vos (author of *Aran and Titus*), Joost van den Vondel, and G. A. Bredero; Dutch and Flemish performances of Shakespeare and his contemporaries; the Dutch and Flemish reception of Shakespeare and his contemporaries in nontheatrical contexts; Dutch translations and adaptations of Elizabethan and Jacobean playwrights, from the earliest translations of Shakespeare, Kyd, Marlowe, and Middleton to films like *Prospero's Books* (produced in the Netherlands, with a Dutch cast) and adaptations like *Ten Oorlog*; Dutch-language parodies of the work of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, travesties, allusions, and other intertextual variants (Jane Stevenson, *Astraea*); Shakespeare and education in the Low Countries. If you have in mind a topic not mentioned here, write Ton Hoenselaars for advice. The deadline for the submission of papers is September 2003. Send proposals and suggestions for papers to Hoenselaars, English Dept., Utrecht Univ., Trans 10, 3512 JK Utrecht, Netherlands (ton.hoenselaars@let.uu.nl).

➸ *South Asian Review* invites submissions for a special issue on Globalization with a Focus on South Asia (here defined as India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangla Desh, and Nepal). The issue will be edited by John C. Hawley. The journal is the publication of the South Asian Literary Association, an allied organization of the Modern Language Association. Housed at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, and under the editorship of K. D. Verma, the journal is fully refereed and welcomes submissions on all aspects of South Asian literatures from any theoretical or critical approach. For the special issue, fields beyond literature (e.g., film, gender studies, geography) are also welcome. Topics such as mimicry, the migrant intellectual, and global impact on local sexualities are likely, as well as many others. Send complete manuscripts (15–25 pp. in length, double-spaced throughout, and following the latest MLA style) by 15 February 2003 to Hawley, Dept. of English, Santa Clara Univ., 500 El Camino, Santa Clara, CA 95053 (fax: 408 554-4837; jhawley@scu.edu). Books on related topics should be called to the attention of P. S. Chauhan for possible review (chauhanp@home.com).

➸ *Victorians Institute Journal* invites papers for a special section in volume 31 on Ghosts of the Victorian. Now that more than a century has passed since Victoria's death, what does Victorianism mean? How do the ghosts, remnants, relics, specters of our Victorian past continue to haunt and inspire us? Articles, which may wish to consider whether the Victorian past really is "ours," could explore modern and postmodern adaptations of Victorian fictions for screen and stage; "Victorian" as a contemporary decorating style and its relation to "authentic" Victorian style; Victorian poetry in contemporary culture (did Tennyson enjoy a post-9/11 revival?); reconsiderations of Victorian empire; the brief resurgence of "Victorian values" in late-twentieth-century American culture; etc. Completed articles should be submitted by 1 July 2003 to Editors, *VIJ*, Dept. of English, Virginia Commonwealth Univ., Box 842005, Richmond 23284-2005. Send inquiries to the editors, Elisabeth Gruner (egruner@richmond.edu) or David Latané (dlatane@vcu.edu).

Meeting of the MLA Executive Council

[Note: The Executive Council voted to approve these minutes at its October 2002 meeting.]

The council met on 17–18 May 2002 at the MLA office in New York. President Stephen Greenblatt presided. The officers present were First Vice President Mary Louise Pratt, Second Vice President Robert Scholes, and Executive Director Phyllis Franklin. The Executive Council members present were Michael Bérubé, Judith Butler, Rey Chow, Reed Way Dasenbrock, Roland Greene, Françoise Lionnet, Nancy K. Miller, Cary Nelson, Tey Diana Rebolledo, A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, Amada Sandoval, Sidonie Smith, and Katie Trumpener. The MLA staff members present were Director of Bibliographic Information Services and Editor of the *MLA International Bibliography* Barbara Chen, Managing Editor of MLA Publications and Director of Publishing Operations Judy Goulding, Director of Financial Operations Amilde Hadden, Director of Convention Programs Maribeth T. Kraus, Director of English Programs David Laurence, Director of Book Publications David G. Nicholls, Associate Executive Director and Head of the Division of MLA Operations Regina Vorbeck, Director of Foreign Language Programs Elizabeth B. Welles, and Assistant to the Executive Director and Coordinator of Governance Carol Zuses. Executive Director Designate Rosemary G. Feal also attended the meeting.

The council convened in regular session through the morning and most of the afternoon on 17 May and

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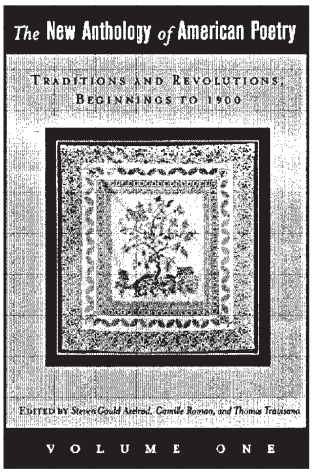
The New Anthology of American Poetry

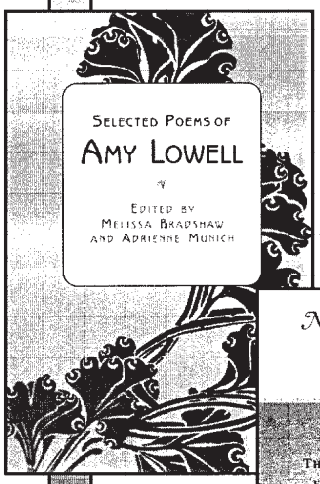
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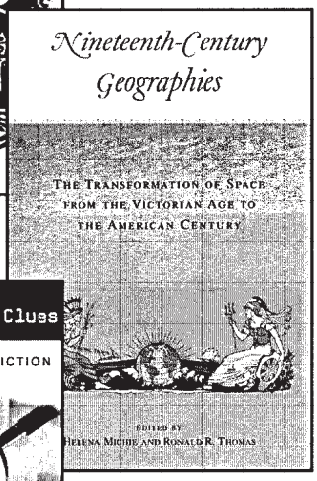




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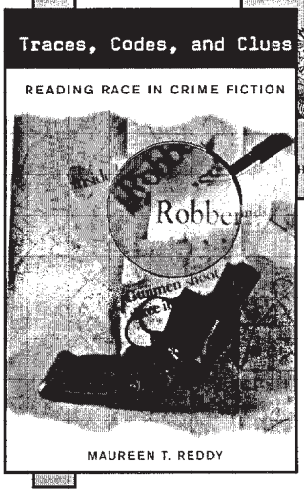
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began to work through its agenda. Toward the end of the afternoon, the council met in executive session to review staff salaries before reconvening in regular session to continue its consideration of agenda items. On the morning of 18 May, the council convened again in regular session to review and take action on the remaining items on its agenda. The council adjourned at 12:05 p.m., having concluded all the business before it.

The council took the following actions:

1. *Administration and Finance*. The Finance Committee presented a midyear report on finances with a summary of association income and expenses in the fiscal year 2001–02 after seven months. The committee also presented to the council a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2002–03 that projected a small surplus of $109,740 in the association's unrestricted fund. The tentative budget anticipated relatively stable expenses but increased revenue associated with the publication of the sixth edition of the *MLA Handbook* in spring 2003 and with the sale of library subscriptions to the electronic formats of *PMLA* and *Profession* (see item 2 below). The Finance Committee drew the council's attention to other features of the tentative budget, including a decrease in *Job Information List* revenue; higher convention revenue from the increase in registration fees, growth in exhibit booth rentals, and better attendance than in 2001; a modest increase in ADE and ADFL dues; and increased book promotion expenses associated with the new edition of the *MLA Handbook*. Also noted was the inclusion of funding for an English curriculum sample survey, which the council discussed in February 2001. The survey was expected to provide information that would be useful to the field and of interest to the public. At the conclusion of its discussion, the council voted to approve the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2002–03.

The council adopted the following two resolutions relating to financial management for implementation on 1 August 2002 following the retirement of Phyllis Franklin as executive director. [Note: The president certified the council's action by signing the original documents containing the resolutions. These documents were then stamped with the association's corporate seal.]

> WHEREAS, article 4, section E of the constitution of the Modern Language Association provides as follows: "The permanent fund of the association and its other endowment funds shall be administered by a board of three trustees, each appointed by the Executive Council for a three-year term, the three terms to be staggered by one year. One of the trustees shall be designated the managing trustee"; and
>
> WHEREAS, Carolyn G. Heilbrun and Malcolm Smith have been appointed by the Executive Council as two of the three trustees with authority to administer the permanent fund of the association and its other endowment funds, and Malcolm Smith has been designated the managing trustee of this committee (the "Permanent Fund Committee");
>
> NOW, THEREFORE, be it
>
> RESOLVED, that, upon the written direction to Rosemary G. Feal, executive director, and Regina M. Vorbeck, associate executive director, of any member of the Permanent Fund Committee to effect the purchase, transfer, sale, or other disposition of any security or securities held in the permanent fund or any other endowment funds, the executive director and associate executive director be and hereby are authorized and directed to take all such steps and to execute and deliver all such documents as they shall deem necessary or appropriate to effect such purchase, transfer, sale, or other disposition; and be it further
>
> RESOLVED, that the president of the MLA be and hereby is authorized and directed to certify this resolution to any third party requiring delivery of same in order to substantiate the proper authority for the disposition of the securities of the permanent fund or any other endowment funds.
>
> RESOLVED: That Rosemary G. Feal as executive director of the corporation and Regina M. Vorbeck as associate executive director of the corporation be and hereby are authorized jointly to open a custody account with the United States Trust Company of New York in the name of the corporation and deposit therein such property of the corporation as they may deem advisable.
>
> It is FURTHER RESOLVED: That Rosemary G. Feal and Regina M. Vorbeck be and hereby are authorized jointly to direct all changes of investments and authorize the delivery of any securities or cash, and the property therein shall be subject to such control until further action by this board.
>
> It is FURTHER RESOLVED: That United States Trust Company of New York be and hereby is designated a depositary of this corporation and is authorized and directed to pay checks and other orders for the payment of money when signed in the following manner: [manner of signing specified].

The council also adopted a third corporate resolution, from JPMorgan Chase Bank, for implementation on 1 August 2002. By adopting this resolution, the council made the following authorizations. (1) It authorized the officers to open bank accounts at JPMorgan Chase Bank in the name of the association. (2) It authorized Rosemary Feal, Judy Goulding, Maribeth Kraus, David Laurence, and Regina Vorbeck to sign nonpayroll checks over $1,000. (3) It authorized Rosemary Feal and Regina Vorbeck to effect loans and advances and to obtain credit from the bank for the association. [Note: A signed copy of this resolution was entered into the minute book of the association.]

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Finally, the council designated Deloitte and Touche to conduct the audit of the association's fiscal year 2001–02 accounts.

2. *Electronic Publication of Current Issues of* PMLA *and* Profession. The council received a staff report outlining the work that staff members had done to conceptualize electronic versions of *PMLA* and *Profession* and to solicit proposals for the electronic publication and distribution of current issues of the journals from a number of publishers and distributors of print and electronic journals. This work was prompted by the impending availability (by Dec. 2002) of an electronic archive of *PMLA* through the JSTOR collection of scholarly journals. Since the MLA's agreement with JSTOR established a five-year moving wall between the JSTOR archive and current issues of the journal, the most recent five volumes of *PMLA* were not yet available in electronic form. The staff noted that the availability of the JSTOR archive was likely to increase demand from libraries for an electronic version of the current issues of *PMLA* and that the distribution to libraries of electronic versions of both *PMLA* and *Profession* would enhance the revenue that the association earns from library subscriptions.

The staff proposed the following arrangement for the distribution of *PMLA* and *Profession* in electronic format. Members would continue to receive both *PMLA* and *Profession* in print as a benefit of membership. A searchable list of sessions from the Program issue of *PMLA* and a searchable list of MLA members and the addresses they provide for the Directory would be made available to members in the members-only section of the MLA Web site, also as a benefit of membership. Library subscriptions would include both print and electronic formats of the six issues of *PMLA* and the annual issue of *Profession*. The yearly library subscription fee for both formats of both journals would be $300. Libraries that did not want the journals in electronic format could continue to subscribe to *PMLA* alone in print for $128, the current print subscription rate. The staff also provided information about the two vendor proposals that met the association's needs in varying degrees. The council discussed the staff proposal and approved both the development of electronic formats for the current issues of the two journals and the proposed distribution arrangements.

3. *Trustee Appointment*. The council appointed Herbert Lindenberger, professor of comparative literature at Stanford University and a past president of the MLA, as trustee of the association's invested funds for the term 2002–03 (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1328).

4. *Approval of the February 2002 Council Minutes*. The council reviewed a draft of the minutes of its February 2002 meeting. Council members requested one clarification and then voted to approve the revised minutes for publication in the October 2002 issue of *PMLA*.

5. *English and Foreign Language Conference*. Phyllis Franklin presented a report to the council on the success of the Conference on the Relation between English and Foreign Languages in the Academy: Constructing Dialogue, Imagining Change. The conference, cosponsored by the MLA and New York University (NYU) and held at NYU on 12–14 April 2002, attracted 197 participants, many more than the 100 originally expected, who came from two high schools and 123 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. Franklin noted that participants' comments about the conference, received during and after the event, were positive, and several council members who participated in the conference also reported that the sessions they had attended were useful. Franklin added that the editor of *PMLA* had agreed to carry a set of the conference papers in the October 2002 issue of *PMLA*, and the council was told that a joint ADE-ADFL summer seminar planned for 2003 would consider the issues raised at the conference.

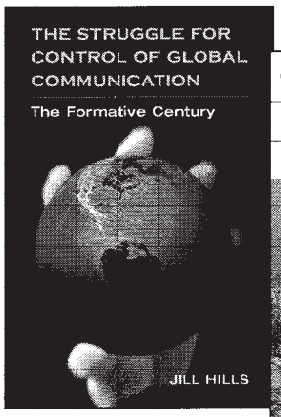
6. *Report on Participation in MLA Activities*. The council received a report on the ranks, geographic locations, and institutions of members who served the association in various capacities in 2001 and early 2002 (i.e., as members of standing committees except for publication and prize committees, as members of ad hoc committees, as representatives to conferences and the American Council of Learned Societies, and as scholar bibliographers). The staff regularly provides this information because the council is concerned to involve a broad cross section of the membership in association activities. The information in the report will serve the council as a guide for future appointments.

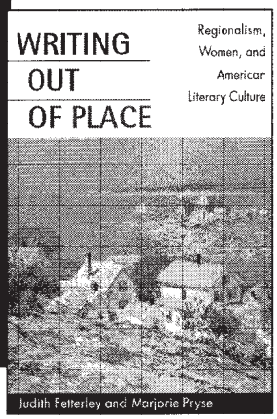
7. *Council Subcommittee on* PMLA *Editor*. Because Carlos Alonso's term as editor of *PMLA* will expire at the end of June 2003, the council was asked to begin selecting the next editor. A council subcommittee was constituted and charged with reviewing the selection criteria, determining how to solicit members' interest in the position, and presenting to the council in February 2003 a number of recommended candidates along with background information on each. Named to the subcommittee were Mary Louise Pratt; Diana Rebolledo; LaVonne Ruoff, chair; Robert Scholes; and Katie Trumpener.

8. *Access to the MLA Convention for the Business, Government, and Not-for-Profit (BGN) Sectors*. After the February council meeting, at which the council considered the issue of access to the MLA convention for groups from the BGN sectors (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332), Phyllis Franklin received two additional requests from government agencies for space at the convention. Using the council's e-mail discussion list, Franklin circulated information about these requests to council

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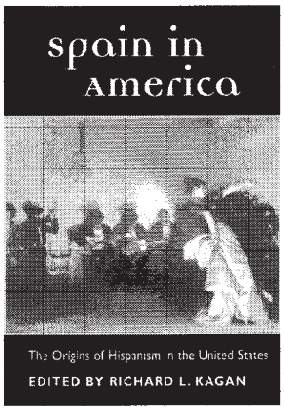
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members. After some discussion, council members suggested that a subcommittee consider the requests and report to the council in May. Participating on the subcommittee were Judith Butler; Cary Nelson; LaVonne Ruoff; and Robert Scholes, chair.

The subcommittee, which deliberated on a conference call, recommended basing decisions about access to the convention on a group's purpose or function. Groups whose purpose is to assist scholars or support research should have access to meeting space at the convention. Groups that wish to discuss job opportunities should, as previously decided, have access to the *Job Information List* and the Job Information Center at the convention. The council accepted the subcommittee's recommendation. It also discussed the possibility of encouraging nonacademic employers to avail themselves of the MLA's job service. Franklin said that the staff could try to compile a list of nonacademic employers from such sources as the Humanities at Work project of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation and send them a mailing to solicit their interest in the convention. An announcement in the *MLA Newsletter* could inform MLA members of this initiative.

9. *Endorsement of Statement by the Association of American University Presses*. Phyllis Franklin reported to the council that Peter Givler, executive director of the Association of American University Presses, had asked if the MLA would join his association and other groups in a public statement of support for the University of Minnesota Press, which had been attacked for publishing a book called *Harmful to Minors: The Perils of Protecting Children from Sex*. Givler's request was urgent, since the Minnesota House of Representatives was trying to cancel the book or eliminate funding for the university. Because the council had regularly supported similar requests in the past, Franklin consulted the president about an endorsement of the public statement. He agreed that the MLA should support the statement. The council was asked to authorize the president's action, and the council voted unanimously to do so. The statement appears below.

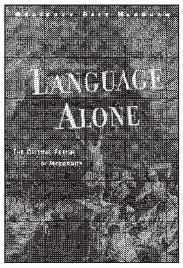
> The undersigned organizations strongly support the University of Minnesota Press, which has been attacked for its decision to publish "Harmful to Minors: The Perils of Protecting Minors from Sex," by Judith Levine. Without even reading the book, critics have called for its suppression and demanded that the Minnesota legislature cut the funding of the University of Minnesota.
>
> Ideas become controversial when they challenge conventional wisdom. Many are unwise. However, some are beneficial, challenging us to examine our basic assumptions and consider the way we have always done things. The First Amendment exists to allow us to debate the wisdom of those ideas and make up our own minds. Censorship only supports a status quo that cannot otherwise be defended.
>
> We applaud the University of Minnesota Press's decision to face that challenge and enrich the public debate about this essential issue. Its decision is one of which a great university can, and should, be proud. We trust the University of Minnesota appreciates the value of a courageous press to its educational mission and reputation.
>
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> Feminists for Free Expression
> Freedom to Read Foundation
> First Amendment Project
> Modern Language Association of America
> National Humanities Alliance
> National Coalition against Censorship
> Online Policy Group
> Peacefire
> Publishers Marketing Association
> PEN American Center
> PEN New England
> Upper Midwest Booksellers Association

10. *Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs*. Phyllis Franklin reported to the council on the meeting of the Committee to Examine the Methodology for the Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs that she attended on 15 April 2002. The committee is affiliated with the National Research Council (NRC), which is responsible for a periodic study that rates research-doctoral programs in the United States. The committee was seeking comments on the criteria used in the last study, from 1995, and recommendations for changes in the next study. Franklin, who had used the council's e-mail discussion list to solicit council members' input before the committee meeting, expressed concern about the previous study's emphasis on large programs. Because of this emphasis, few interdisciplinary fields had been included, and small language programs had been placed at a disadvantage. She urged the NRC to broaden program inclusiveness in its next study and agreed to provide additional information for the committee about the situation of small language programs. In addition, Franklin requested that the NRC seek better information about fellowship support and consider using fellowship support for humanities graduate students as an indicator of program strength. She also requested information about

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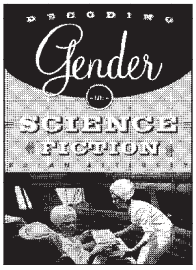
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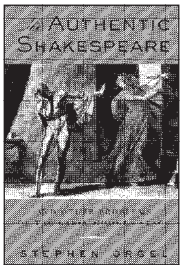
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a department's history in placing its PhDs. Noting that the criteria the NRC used to judge faculty achievement (e.g., research grants, citations, prizes and awards) have limited relevance in the humanities, Franklin offered the Executive Council as a source of information on ways of judging faculty achievements. After the committee meeting, an NRC staff member asked if the MLA could assist with the identification of interdisciplinary programs. An objective way of identifying such programs was needed. Franklin noted that the MLA's list of departmental administrators might be of use in this context. Because of the ongoing need to provide information useful to the committee, Franklin suggested constituting a small council subcommittee to deal with questions from the committee and NRC staff members. The council agreed and appointed Reed Dasenbrock, Roland Greene, Françoise Lionnet, and Sidonie Smith to the subcommittee.

11. *Participation in the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)*. At its February 2002 meeting, the council approved the MLA's participation in a conference that the Coalition on the Academic Workforce (CAW) planned to organize to examine educational issues connected with institutional staffing practices (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1330). At the present meeting, Phyllis Franklin reported that CAW had received and accepted an invitation to make its proposed conference a part of the January 2003 AAC&U annual meeting. CAW members thought that meeting with the AAC&U, which includes the American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD), offered an extraordinary opportunity to discuss staffing practices with institutional administrators and faculty members. Franklin further noted that CAW, the AAC&U, and ACAD hoped to interest educational researchers in studying the effects of various staffing practices on the retention of undergraduates. The MLA was asked to help plan the CAW sessions at the AAC&U meeting and to send two staff members and several association members to the meeting. The MLA's representatives at the meeting will be David Bartholomae (Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh), Richard Dunn (Univ. of Washington), and Catherine C. Fraser (Indiana Univ., Bloomington).

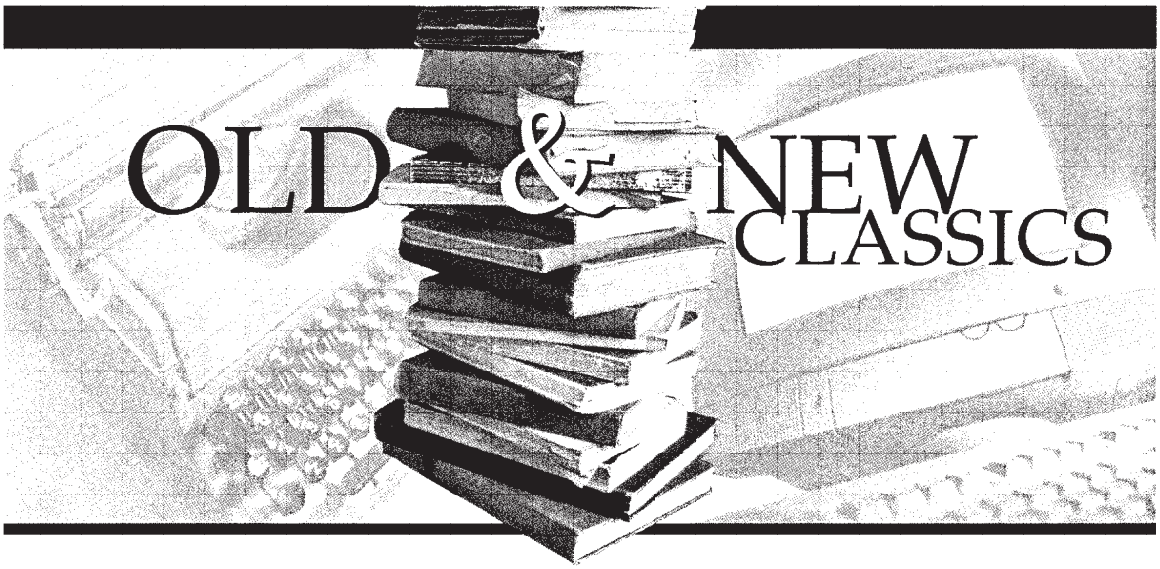
12. *International Book Donation Project*. The staff reported to the council on the feasibility of sending books and journals to Afghanistan and other countries abroad, a project that the council had discussed in February (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332). Relying on information received from staff members at the United States Department of State, the staff advised the council that it would not be possible at the present time to pursue a book donation project that targeted Afghanistan. The project would have to concentrate on other countries. The staff planned to continue working on the project, gathering information on programs and organizations that could provide the necessary logistical support for the distribution of books abroad.

13. *Implementation of Delegate Assembly Recommendation on Staffing Practices*. The council received the plan it had requested for implementing the 2001 Delegate Assembly's recommendation that the MLA use average percentages of full- and part-time faculty members in various kinds of English and foreign language departments, as reported in the MLA's fall 1999 staffing survey, as a measure of the quality of undergraduate programs and call public attention to this measure (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332). The staff had prepared a draft statement outlining the issues and proposed to discuss the statement with representatives of *US News and World Report* and *Time*, which publish evaluations of undergraduate programs that are widely consulted; to publish the statement in *Profession 2002*, the *ADE Bulletin*, and the *ADFL Bulletin*; and to distribute the statement to the American Association of University Professors, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Conference on College Composition and Communication, members of the American Council of Learned Societies, and Coalition on the Academic Workforce. Council members suggested that the draft statement be revised to focus on the importance of a critical mass of full-time tenure-track teachers in terms of continuity of curriculum and services to students. The staff undertook these revisions immediately after the council meeting, circulated the revised statement to the council, and received the council's authorization to go forward with the implementation plan. The revised statement appears below.

Ensuring the Quality of Undergraduate Programs in English and Foreign Languages: MLA Recommendations on Staffing

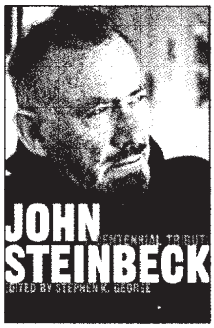
The Modern Language Association believes that college students have a superior educational experience when they are taught by faculty members who have appropriate institutional support. As a rule, full-time faculty members, especially those holding tenured or tenure-track appointments, teach under conditions that provide clear educational advantages for their students. Full-time faculty members are able to give more time and attention to class preparation and to their students. Those holding tenured or tenure-track appointments have access to professional development and advancement and receive salaries and benefits that are nationally competitive. They design the curriculum and receive the institutional support necessary to stay abreast of their fields and maintain the curriculum's integrity and currency. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members remain at an institution and are available to students throughout their undergraduate years and after graduation. Part-time faculty members, while they may be fully qualified

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Stephen K. George
Foreword by Terry Gorton

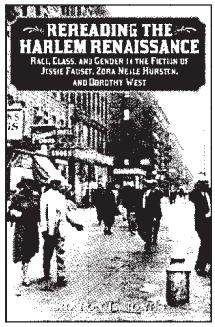
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scholars and teachers, are generally poorly paid, receive substandard office space and other support, and have tenuous institutional standing and little chance to advance professionally. An institution's use of a critical mass of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members therefore provides a measure for judging the quality of undergraduate education.

Can a critical mass be specified? Different types of institutions have different missions and therefore different staffing profiles. A recent MLA study documents the staffing practices of 1,991 departments that teach English and foreign language courses in 1,294 United States and 52 Canadian colleges and universities. The study, the first of its kind, reveals the average percentage of undergraduate course sections that full-time faculty members in different types of institutions and departments taught in fall 1999. The MLA believes that institutions show their commitment to quality in undergraduate education when the percentage of undergraduate course sections taught by full-time faculty members is above average for a given type of department. For PhD-granting departments, staffing is above average when full-time faculty members teach more than 46% of a department's undergraduate course sections. For MA-granting departments, staffing is above average when full-time faculty members teach more than 62% of a department's undergraduate course sections. For BA-granting departments, staffing is above average when full-time faculty members teach more than 72% of a department's undergraduate course sections. For AA-granting departments, staffing is above average when full-time faculty members teach more than 53% of a department's undergraduate course sections.

One way to judge the quality of undergraduate programs in specific institutions is to determine whether the percentage of sections that full-time faculty members teach is above average. Averages for the five types of English and foreign language departments surveyed are presented in the table below. The first row shows the average percentage of undergraduate course sections taught by full-time faculty members in four degree-granting types of departments and in departments that do not grant degrees. The fourth row shows the average percentage of course sections taught by part-time faculty members and graduate student teaching assistants. The other rows show these percentages for the subcategories that make up each of the two main categories of teachers. Rows 2 and 3 show the percentages of course sections taught by the two subcategories of full-time teachers—faculty members holding tenured or tenure-track appointments and faculty members holding full-time non-tenure-track appointments—while rows 5 and 6 show these percentages for the two subcategories of part-time instructors—faculty members holding part-time appointments and graduate student teaching assistants.

Table
Average Percentages of Undergraduate Course Sections Taught by Full- and Part-Time Instructors in Different Types of English and Foreign Language Departments

	Highest Degree Granted by Responding Department (Number of Respondents in Category)					
Type of Instructor	PhD (271)	MA (298)	BA (879)	AA (288)	No degree (255)	All depts. (1,991)
Full-time faculty members	**45.7**	**62.1**	**71.6**	**52.7**	**56.1**	**58.3**
Tenured and tenure-track	29.3	43.7	54.5	41.6	39.0	42.1
Non-tenure-track	16.4	18.4	17.1	11.1	17.1	16.2
Part-time instructors	**54.3**	**37.9**	**28.4**	**47.3**	**43.9**	**41.7**
Faculty members	17.5	27.5	27.6	47.2	42.0	29.9
Graduate student teaching assistants	36.8	10.4	0.8	0.1	1.9	11.7

Source: MLA Survey of Staffing in English and Foreign Language Departments, fall 1999

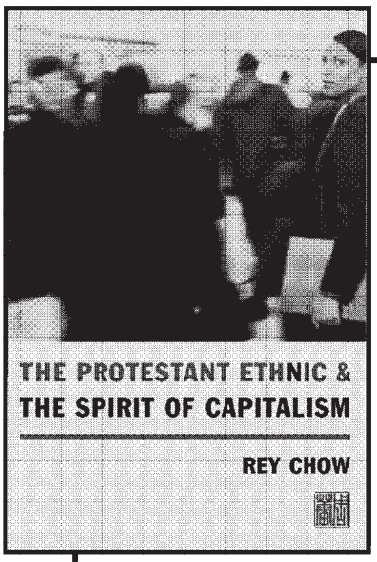
14. *Delegate Assembly Recommendation on Per-Course Compensation for Part-Time Faculty Members*. The staff presented to the council a more detailed plan for disseminating the following recommendation, which the council received from the 2001 Delegate Assembly and approved at its February meeting (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332).

> Part-time faculty members perform a valuable role in institutions, giving employers flexibility in scheduling and providing a high level of expertise without a substantial long-term commitment from the institution. These faculty members should be compensated not only for their expertise but also for the flexibility and convenience they offer. The Modern Language Association therefore recommends a salary range of $5,000 to $7,000 per course section, with fringe benefits and cost-of-living increases, as the reasonable minimum compensation for part-time faculty members.

The recommendation was to be published as an MLA policy in *Profession 2002*, in the *ADE Bulletin*, in the *ADFL Bulletin*, and at the MLA Web site. The staff also planned to send the statement to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the Conference on College Composition and Communication, the National Council of Teachers of English, the American Association of University Professors (for *Academe*), the Community

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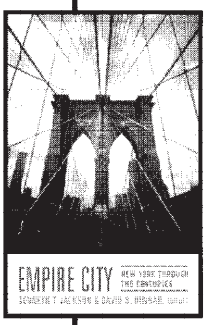
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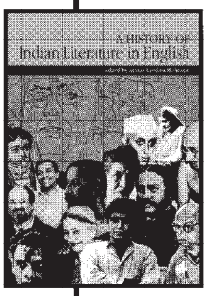
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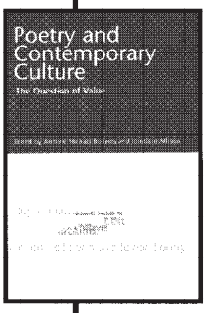


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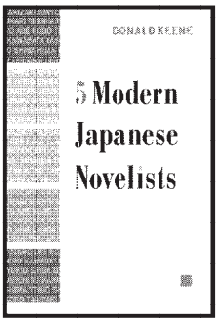
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College Humanities Association, the *Adjunct Advocate*, the members of the American Council of Learned Societies, and organizations of part-time teachers. Finally, the staff reported that the members of the Coalition on the Academic Workforce (CAW) had been asked to endorse the recommendation. Responses from CAW members were expected in the fall.

15. *Implementation of Delegate Assembly Recommendation on Entry-Level Salaries for Full-Time Teachers*. The council received the plan it had requested for implementing the 2000 Delegate Assembly's recommendation that the MLA adopt, publicize, and update annually a minimum wage and benefit package for full-time teachers. Acting on the council's previous decision (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1334–36), the staff drafted a policy statement and proposed to publish it in *Profession 2002*, in the *ADE Bulletin*, in the *ADFL Bulletin*, and at the MLA Web site. In addition, the statement would be sent to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Conference on College Composition and Communication, National Council of Teachers of English, American Association of University Professors, Community College Humanities Association, and members of the American Council of Learned Societies. The council reviewed and revised the draft policy statement and approved the plan for disseminating it. The statement the council approved, which will be updated annually by the Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, appears below.

> The minimum salary range for full-time appointments at the entry level should be at least $34,000 to $37,000 for those at the rank of instructor and at least $43,000 to $46,000 for those at the rank of beginning assistant professor. Health-care benefits and shared contributions to a portable retirement plan should also be provided.

16. *Delegate Assembly Recommendation on Domestic Partner Benefits*. The council returned to its consideration, begun at the February 2002 council meeting, of the 2001 Delegate Assembly motion calling on the MLA to encourage institutions that offer domestic partner benefits to indicate these benefits in their job announcements or in the materials they send to candidates they wish to interview (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332). After brief discussion, the council approved the following wording for the new policy statement.

> Institutions that offer domestic partner benefits are encouraged to indicate these benefits in their job announcements or in the benefit information they make available to candidates they wish to interview.

The council also authorized the staff to disseminate the new policy statement at the MLA Web site along with existing policy statements related to the job search (see next item).

17. *Handling of Job-Search Policies at the MLA Web Site*. Because of the addition in recent years of a number of new association policies related to the job search and because of differences in the presentation of these policies at the MLA Web site, in February the staff requested and received the council's authorization to develop a plan for the regular handling of job-search policies at the MLA Web site (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332). The staff plan called for leaving a set of policies dealing with the reimbursement of various expenses incurred in the job search in its current location (at the top of the log-in page for departments submitting listings for the *Job Information List*) but gathering other policy statements, including the new policy on domestic partner benefits (see previous item), in a section of the Web site that would be linked to the first of the six screens seen by those submitting job listings. The link would be embedded in a motivating sentence, such as "To ensure that your department is competitive with others in attracting qualified candidates, you may wish to consult MLA policies and recommendations for departments and search committees." The staff also proposed that the council ask the Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities to review all association policies related to the job search and to select the ones to be placed in the new section of the Web site. After brief discussion, the council authorized the staff to implement this plan.

The council also returned to another matter it had considered preliminarily at the February council meeting: whether to maintain or modify the implementation of a 2000 Delegate Assembly motion that asks the MLA to ascertain whether departments comply with the set of association policies covering the reimbursement of various expenses incurred in the job search (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1336). According to the mode of implementation authorized by the council, which departs from what the assembly had recommended (see Oct. 2001 *PMLA* 1490–92), departments submitting listings for the *Job Information List* are asked to indicate whether they comply with the association's reimbursement policies. Departments are permitted to submit listings even if they leave the question about compliance unanswered. Since the council limited this mode of implementation to the first year, the staff asked the council to decide whether to maintain or to modify the implementation of the motion. Because of the logistics involved in the submission of job listings by departmental personnel, the high ratio of compliance found in the first year (see again Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1336), and the possibility that one hundred or more departments might be prevented from submitting their job listings if a response to the compliance

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question was required, council members saw no advantage in modifying the current approach to implementation and voted therefore to maintain it.

18. *Further Consideration of a Resolution Approved by the 2001 Delegate Assembly*. In February 2002, the council reviewed the six resolutions that the 2001 Delegate Assembly had approved, as required by the MLA constitution (art. 7.B.3). In the case of one resolution, which asserted that Hostos Community College had violated students' right to free speech during an incident that took place on campus in August 2001, council members reviewed the documentation that the assembly had received from one of the resolution's proposers and from the president of Hostos and found that they could not make the determination that the constitution requires—namely, that the resolution contained no "erroneous, tortious, or possibly libelous statements" (see Oct. 2002 *PMLA* 1332–34). The council therefore asked Phyllis Franklin to consult the association's lawyer about the resolution and authorized her to forward the resolution to the membership if the lawyer found no legal problems.

At the present meeting, Franklin reported that the MLA's lawyer had reviewed the relevant documents and concluded that the resolution was not libelous. He noted, however, that the documents the assembly received did not prove the resolution's assertion that students' free-speech rights had been violated. Nonetheless, because the MLA constitution's provisions do not address doubt about the validity of statements in resolutions—that is, the constitution requires a positive finding that a resolution contains an erroneous statement—there was no basis for the council to withhold the resolution from the membership. Franklin had not forwarded the resolution to the membership so that the council could fully consider the lawyer's conclusion. The council also received a letter from one of the proposers of the resolution, who urged the council to allow the resolution process to proceed. After discussing the resolution in the context of the council's constitutional responsibilities, the council authorized the staff to proceed with the ratification phase of the resolution process. Council members also reiterated their concern, expressed initially at the February meeting, about the adequacy of the association's procedures for handling resolutions that name specific parties and asked once again that the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee review these procedures.

19. *Lifetime Achievement Award*. The council selected A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, professor emerita of English at the University of Illinois, Chicago, as the third recipient of the association's Lifetime Achievement Award. The award will be conferred during the 2002 annual convention in New York. Ruoff, who is also an Executive Council member, received no information pertaining to this agenda item, was absent from the meeting when the award was discussed, and took no part in the council's decision.

20. *Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of Scholarly Publishing*. The council received the final report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of Scholarly Publishing, which presented a grim analysis of the current state of scholarly publishing in the humanities. The committee reported on a breakdown in the system of scholarly publishing caused by a number of factors, including decreased library budgets leading to cuts in library purchases of scholarly monographs, declining support by universities for their presses at the same time that operational costs have risen, and increased demand for publication outlets from growing numbers of humanities scholars trying to meet tenure and promotion requirements for book publications. The committee also discussed such issues as electronic publication, publishing books with European and Latin American presses, and emphasizing the quality of an individual scholar's publications over the quantity. Guided by its analysis of the system of scholarly publishing, the committee concluded its report with sets of recommendations directed to departments, to university libraries, to publishers, and to university administrators. The staff noted that the report was scheduled for publication in *Profession 2002*, which would reach members in December.

The council accepted the report and instructed the executive director to write to the committee on behalf of the council and thank the committee for its work. Council members discussed the report and the state of scholarly publishing at length, bringing to bear not only their own knowledge of the situation but also various experiences reported to them by former students who were facing imminent tenure decisions without the benefit of a book contract. They looked at both short-term and long-term approaches to addressing the problems outlined in the report (e.g., calling on universities to provide a first-book subvention to new assistant professors in humanities fields, just as they cover start-up laboratory costs for new hires in the sciences; reexamining publication requirements for promotion and tenure at the departmental level, where these requirements originate; encouraging faculty members' input into decisions about library purchases in humanities fields). Because the situation of junior faculty members facing imminent tenure decisions was seen as particularly urgent, the council discussed what might be done to raise awareness of the issues before the committee's report appeared at the end of the year. The council decided to ask the president to write a letter to MLA members and department chairs about the breakdown in the system of scholarly publishing and the repercussions that were already being felt in the scholarly community. In addition, a council subcommittee was constituted and given two tasks: writing an

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article for the Fall issue of the *MLA Newsletter* aimed at heightening members' awareness and discussion of various short- and long-term approaches to the problems identified in the committee's report and arranging a meeting for representatives of the three communities that have a large stake in the system of scholarly publishing—scholars, university presses, and research libraries—a meeting at which a common agenda that all parties might pursue could be worked out. Serving on the council subcommittee were Rey Chow; Reed Dasenbrock; Roland Greene; Nancy Miller; Cary Nelson, chair; Amada Sandoval; and Katie Trumpener.

21. *Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Professionalization of PhDs*. The council received the final report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Professionalization of PhDs, in which the committee sought to provide both a realistic assessment of the needs of graduate students with respect to professionalization and a comprehensive review of the methods that graduate institutions, departments, and students should use to meet those needs. The committee noted that it was particularly important at the present moment, in a tight job market, for all involved to work to provide graduate students with adequate information about what professional activities are likely to enhance their chances of finding either an academic or a nonacademic job. In addition, the committee hoped that its report would serve to overcome resistance by graduate departments to taking significant responsibility for the professionalization of their graduate students. Accordingly, the report presented sets of recommendations directed to PhD-granting institutions, graduate departments, graduate students themselves, and the MLA. The staff noted that the report was scheduled for publication in December in *Profession 2002*.

During its discussion of the report, the council noted that the breakdown in the system of scholarly publishing was a factor in the professionalization of graduate students. The council therefore asked that the committee include in its report a reference to the report on the future of scholarly publishing that the council had already considered (see previous item). Council members encouraged the staff to make special efforts to disseminate the report to graduate student members and asked if the report would be available at the MLA Web site. The staff responded that it would. At the conclusion of its discussion, the council accepted the report and instructed the executive director to write to the committee on behalf of the council and thank the committee for its work.

22. *Request from the Committee on Honors and Awards (CHA)*. In May 2001, the council approved a proposal for a new association prize in Chicana and Chicano and US Latina and Latino literary and cultural studies and asked the CHA to implement the prize (see Jan. 2002 *PMLA* 170). At the present meeting, the council received a request from the CHA to reformulate the new prize. The CHA was concerned that the establishment of this prize would motivate other minorities to propose prizes in their particular literatures and cultures and that the resulting proliferation of prizes in narrow areas of study would lead to a devaluation of these and other MLA prizes. The committee therefore suggested that the council reformulate the prize into one with a more comprehensive rubric, such as transcultural and diaspora studies. The council declined to reformulate the prize and made appointments to the selection committee for the new prize based on a list of suggestions that the CHA forwarded to the council. Appointed were Frances Aparicio (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago), María Herrera-Sobek (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara), and Rafael Pérez-Torres (Univ. of California, Los Angeles).

23. *Request from the Committee on the Literatures of People of Color in the United States and Canada (CLPC)*. The CLPC requested that the council endorse the two sets of guidelines for good practice that the committee had developed in 2000 and 2001. The first set of guidelines dealt with course offerings in the literatures, cultures, and languages of people of color in the United States and Canada. The second set of guidelines dealt with the recruitment, mentoring, and evaluation of junior faculty members of color. Both sets of guidelines had been published in draft form in the *MLA Newsletter* and were subsequently revised. The committee hoped to publish the revised sets of guidelines in *Profession 2002* along with the council's endorsement of the guidelines. After brief discussion, the council agreed to endorse the guidelines.

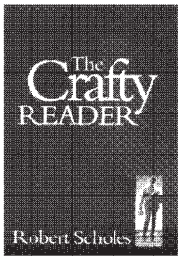
24. *Request from the Committee on Disability Issues in the Profession (CDI)*. The CDI requested that the MLA sponsor a national conference on disability studies in the humanities. The committee explained that the dual goal of the proposed conference was to achieve a greater understanding in the humanities of what the committee called disability literacy and to explore questions relating to the new learning environments created by the presence in the university of people with disabilities. The CDI expected that such a conference would have broad appeal for the MLA membership, for university administrators, and for other humanities organizations.

During their discussion of the conference proposal, council members noted that the theme of disability literacy was strong and had the potential to redefine both intellectual and pedagogical dimensions of the humanities. Phyllis Franklin added that it would be beneficial to involve the health services community in the conference to allow for pragmatic discussions about providing needed services to students and teachers. The council voted to approve the conference in principle and, because of concerns about the financial commitment that the conference represented, asked the CDI to

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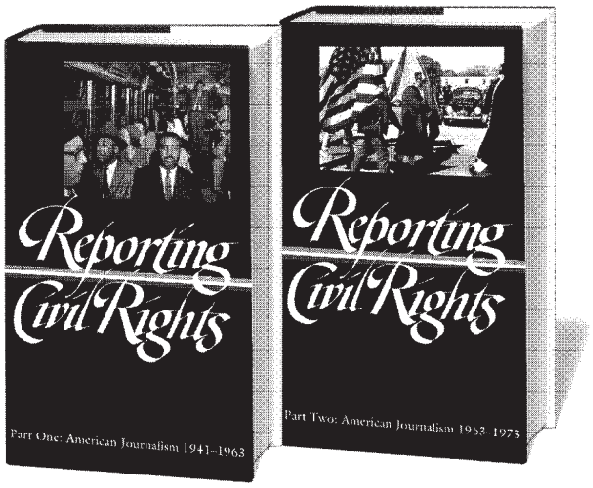
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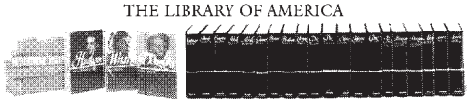
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identify a cosponsor for the conference. Once a cosponsor was found, the council asked that the staff prepare a budget for the conference and that the CDI develop a more specific conference plan.

25. *Recommendations from the Program Committee*. The council received and acted on the Program Committee's recommendations regarding allied organizations and discussion groups. Continuing the review of existing allied organizations that was begun in 1991, the council renewed the allied organization status of the following organizations: Conference on College Composition and Communication, Emily Dickinson International Society, International Courtly Literature Society, International Vladimir Nabokov Society, Keats-Shelley Association of America, D. H. Lawrence Society of America, G. E. Lessing Society, Lyrica Society of Word-Music Relations, Marlowe Society of America, Marxist Literary Group, Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society, MELUS, Melville Society, Milton Society of America, Modern Greek Studies Association, William Morris Society, National Council of Teachers of English, Harold Pinter Society, Popular Culture Association.

Three allied organizations—Gamma Kappa Alpha, Langston Hughes Society, and Ezra Pound Society—which did not submit the required materials for the Program Committee's review, were temporarily suspended as allied organizations, and their privilege to hold sessions at the 2003 convention was also suspended. These suspensions will be reconsidered once the organizations send their materials for review. [Note: After the council meeting, the Langston Hughes Society communicated with the MLA office. As a result, the society will retain its privilege to hold sessions at the 2003 convention.] The council also temporarily suspended the allied organization status of the Pirandello Society of America and the Poe Studies Association and suspended their privilege to hold sessions at the 2003 convention. The suspension of the Pirandello Society was based on the apparent lack of democratic procedures in the governance of the society. The Poe Studies Association was suspended because it did not provide a copy of its constitution or bylaws, required for the Program Committee's review. These suspensions will be reconsidered when the organizations provide the necessary information about their governance procedures.

Two organizations applied for and received allied organization status. They are the William Faulkner Society and the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women.

Members of an allied organization, the North American Catalan Society (NACS), inquired about the possibility of creating an MLA discussion group focused on Catalan language and literature. Because it was not feasible to have both an allied organization and a discussion group with the same focus, the NACS members were told that the society would be discontinued as an allied organization if a discussion group was established. On this understanding, the Program Committee recommended that the organization be removed from the list of allied organizations and that the MLA's Discussion Group on Provençal and Catalan Language and Literature be split into two discussion groups, one on Provençal language and literature and one on Catalan language and literature. The council accepted the committee's recommendation. The change in the Provençal and Catalan discussion group will take effect in 2003.

In other actions relating to discussion groups, the council approved a petition for a discussion group on travel literature. The new discussion group will organize its first session for the 2003 convention. The council agreed to request a revised petition for a discussion group on Mexican cultural and literary studies and, pending consideration of the revised petition, granted the petitioners the privilege of organizing one session for the 2003 convention. The council did not approve petitions for discussion groups on food studies, adoption and kinship studies, nineteenth-century music-literature studies, and the Gothic. Finally, the council granted permanent status to the following discussion groups: Media Studies, Opera as a Literary and Dramatic Form, Scottish Literature.

26. *Council Meeting Schedule*. The council approved the following dates for its meetings in 2005: 25–26 February, 20–21 May, and 28–29 October.

27. *Committee Appointments*. The council made seven additional appointments to MLA committees and appointed three committee chairs or cochairs. The council also rescinded the cochair appointments it made in February for the Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession because the recommendation that was transmitted to the council in February was incorrect. The committee planned to forward a new recommendation to the council in October. The names of all new committee members appear in the listings of MLA committee members in the September 2002 (Directory) issue of *PMLA*.

In Memoriam

Richard Henry Ballinger, Texas A&M University, College Station, 15 June 2002

Raymond K. Binder, Loras College, 6 September 2002

Thornton Y. Booth, Utah State University, 2 July 2002

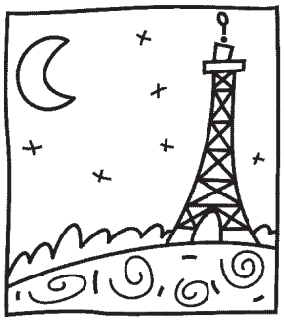
Frederick George Bracher, Pomona College, 24 August 2002

Richard L. Brengle, Indiana University Southeast, 17 April 2002

Charles J. Burkhart, Temple University, 23 December 2001

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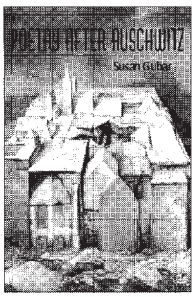
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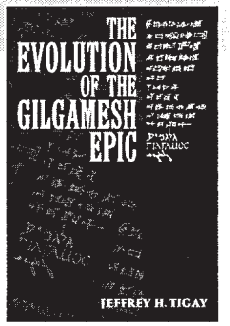
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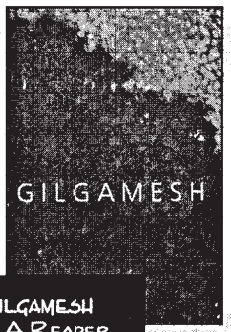
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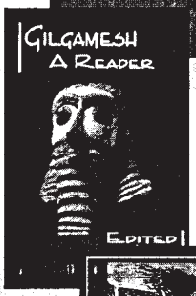


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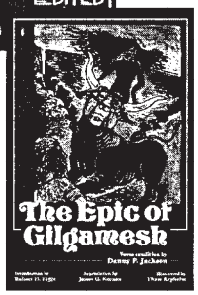


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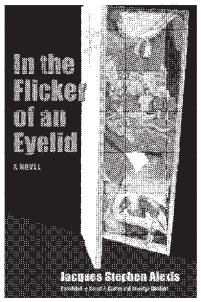
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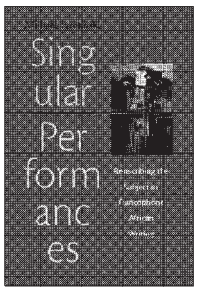
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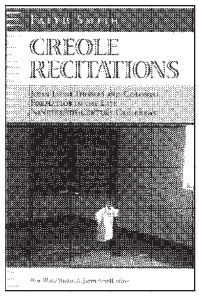
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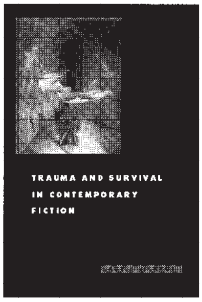
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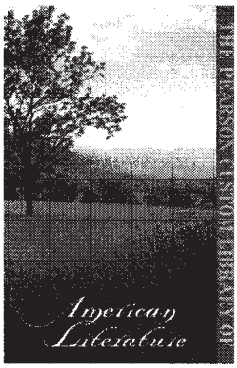
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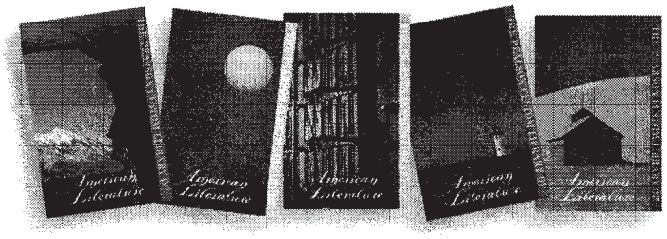
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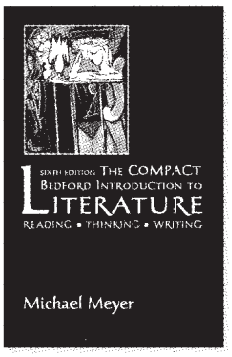
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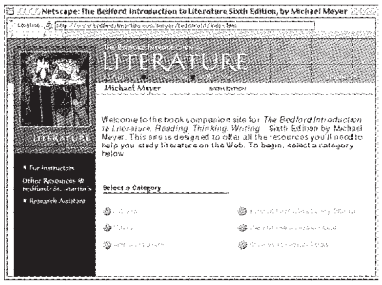
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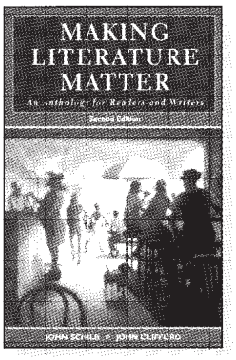
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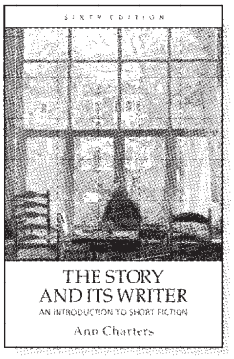
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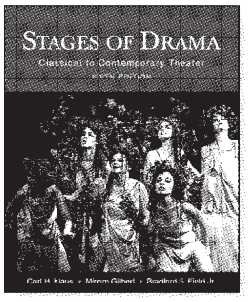
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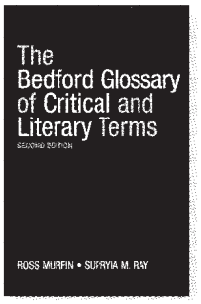
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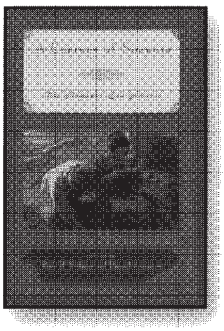
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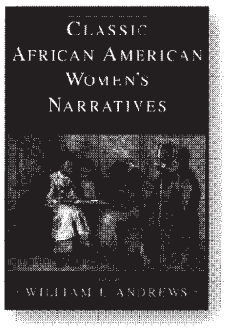
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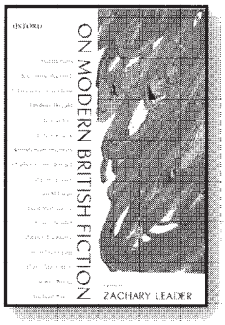


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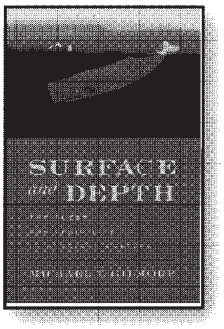
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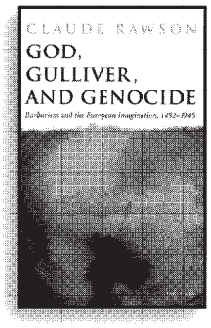
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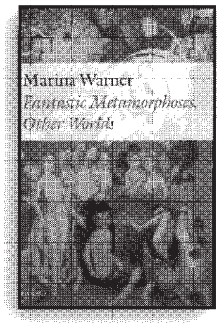
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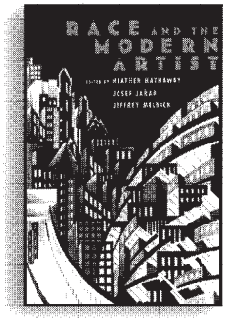
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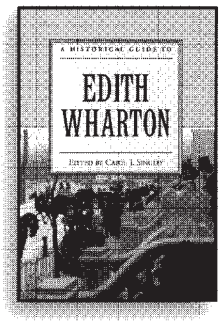
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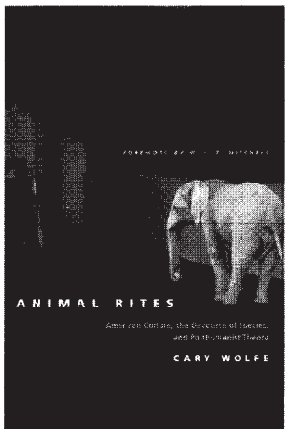
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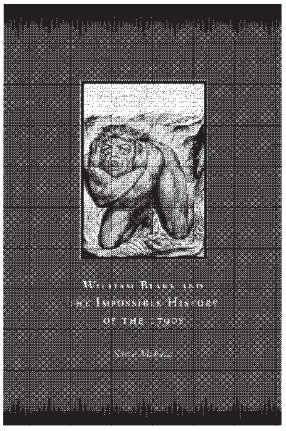
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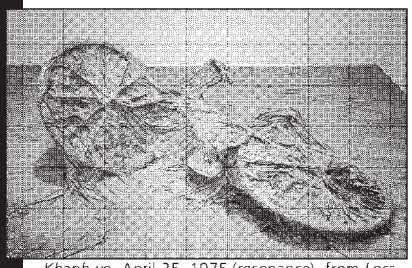
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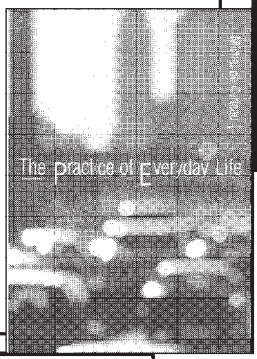
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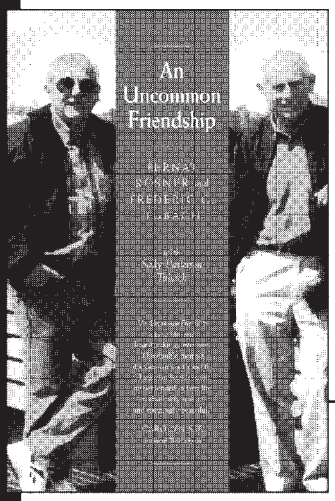
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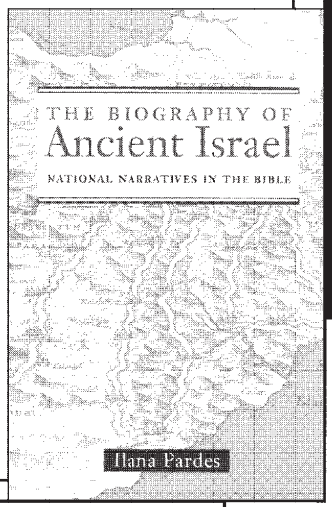
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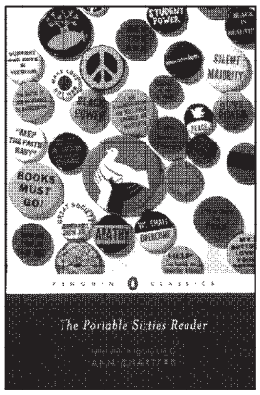


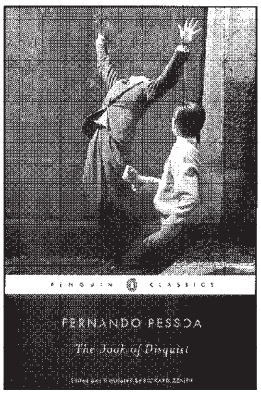
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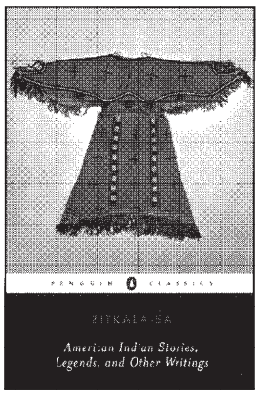
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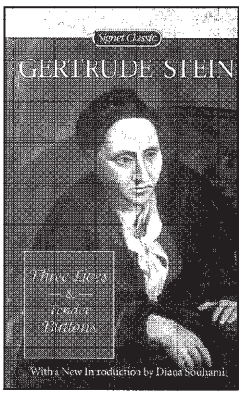
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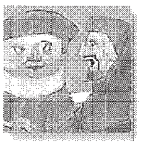
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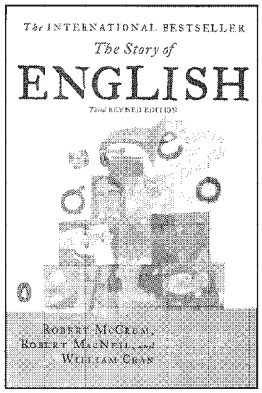
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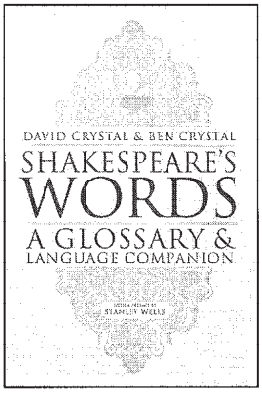
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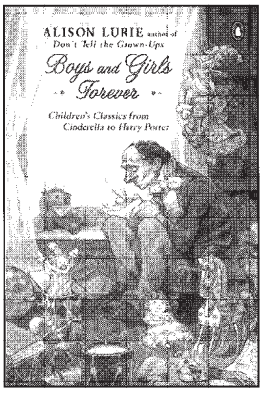
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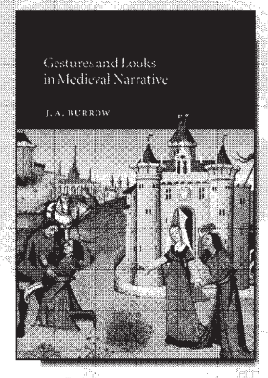
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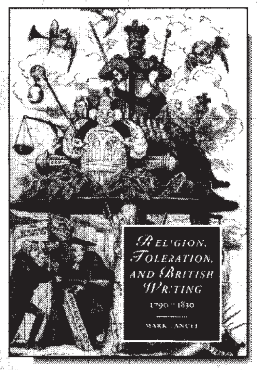
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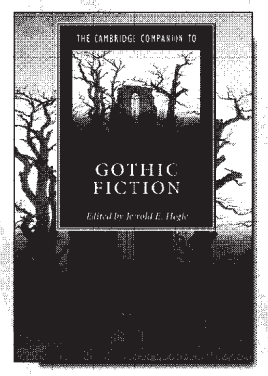
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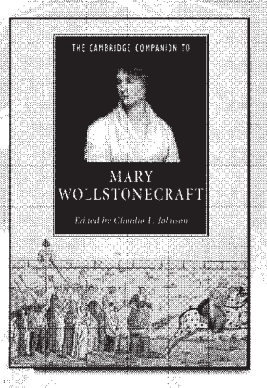
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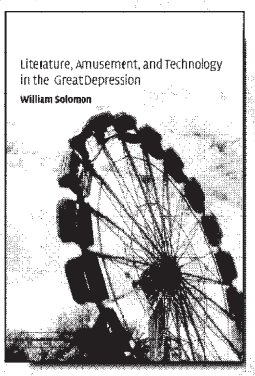
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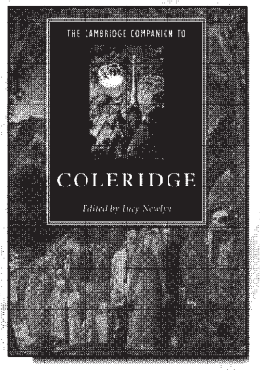
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