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# POLITICS AND LITERATURE NEWSLETTER

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Summer 2004

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## Membership

Don't forget to renew when completing your annual APSA registration form! The Politics and Literature Organized Section must meet mandatory enrollment.

### 2003-2004 Officers

#### Chairperson:

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**Be Sure to Visit our Website  
at**

[www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit](http://www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A Change in Leadership

The Politics and Literature Executive Committee recently approved the appointment of **Eduardo A. Velasquez**, Washington and Lee University, as the 2004-2005 Panel Chair.

Velasquez, originally the nominee for the 2005-2006 Chair position, will replace Aristide (Ty) Tessitore, Furman University, who withdrew as this year's Chair.

As a result of this change, which leaves the 2005-2006 Chair position vacant, the usual deadline for nominations has been extended.

### SPECIAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Please submit nominees for 2005-2006 Panel Chair on our website:

[www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit](http://www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit)

The deadline is

**Monday, August 30, 2004**

## APSA NEWS

Join us in Chicago! September 1-5

### Politics and Literature Business Meeting

**Friday, September 3, 12:30PM**

The Palmer House, Parlor G

All members are encouraged to attend

**Mary M. Keys,**

**University of Notre Dame,**

**Wins 2003 Best Paper Award**

for

“Tolkein's Tales and Political Philosophy in Liberal Democracy”

### ATTENTION PANEL CHAIRS

Please be sure to consider nominees  
for 2004 Best Paper Awards

**Nominations may be submitted  
on our website**

[www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit](http://www.apsanet.org/~politicsandlit)

# APSA 2004 PANELS

## 41-1 Shakespeare's Political Knowledge and the Problem of Eros

Thursday, Sep 2, 8:00 AM

Chair: Pamela K. Jensen, Kenyon College

Papers: "The Beautiful and the Base in Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida"

Carol L. McNamara, Utah State University

"Shakespeare's Henry V: Eros, National Identity, and Humane Politics"

Constance C.T. Hunt, Michigan State University

"Alcibiades beyond Eros: The Unlikely Reform of the Ancient City in Shakespeare's Timon of Athens"

Joseph H. Lane, Emory & Henry College

"Aristotle's Megalopsuchos and Shakespeare's Coriolanus"

Carson L. Holloway, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Discussants: Montgomery B. Brown, American Enterprise Institute

Tim Spiekerman, Kenyon College

## 41-2 Politics and Theatre

Thursday, Sep 2, 10:15 AM

Chair: Christine Dunn Henderson, Liberty Fund, Inc.

Papers: "Spectators, Spectacle, and Spectation in Joseph Addison's Cato"

Mark Yellin, Liberty Fund, Inc. & Christine Dunn Henderson, Liberty Fund, Inc.

"Quantum Ethics Meets Quantum Physics: Reflections on Michael Frayn's Copenhagen"

Eduardo A. Velasquez, Washington & Lee University

"Rousseau and the English Stage"

John T. Scott, University of California, Davis & Robert

Zaretsky, University of Houston

"Theatricality in the Plays of Tom Stoppard"

Corey Abel

Discussants: Ryan Patrick Hanley, Yale University

James F. Pontuso, Hampden-Sydney College

## 41-3 Political Philosophy Come to Rick's: Casablanca and American Civic Culture

Friday, Sep 3, 2:00 PM

Chair: Paul A. Cantor, University of Virginia

Papers: "Casablanca and the Truth of Ethnic Stereotyping: Rick and the American Character"

James F. Pontuso, Hampden-Sydney College

"Love, War, and Politics: Casablanca and The English Patient"

Mary P. Nichols, Fordham University

"Michael Curtiz: Casablanca's Man of Mystery Director"

Paul C. Peterson, Coastal Carolina University

"On the Priority of Loyalty to Consent in an Adequate Account of Human Liberty"

Peter Augustine Lawler, Berry College

Discussants: Paul A. Cantor, University of Virginia

Leon Craig, University of Alberta

## 41-4 The Modern Tendency to Tyranny: Literary Explorations

Saturday, Sep 4, 2:00 PM

Chair: James H. Read, College of Saint Benedict

Papers: "Tyranny and Ordinary Language: Nabokov's Bend Sinister and Invitation to a Beheading"

Eric Petrie, Michigan State University

"Philosophical Terrorism and the 'Gift' of 9/11: Postmodern Critiques of America"

Alan Levine, American University

"The Uses of Plato's Republic in 'The Conformist' and 'I Went Down'"

Zdravko Planinc, McMaster University

"The Banality of Innocence: Graham Greene's Quiet American"

Paul R. Babbitt, Southern Arkansas University

Discussants: Constance C.T. Hunt, Michigan State University

Oona Eisenstadt, Pomona College

## 41-5 Flannery O'Connor on Modern Tyranny

Saturday, Sep 4, 8:00 AM

Chair: Ralph C. Hancock, Brigham Young University

Papers: "Democracy and Tyranny in Flannery O'Connor's 'A Good Man is Hard to Find'"

Mark T. Mitchell, Patrick Henry College

"Bound for Glory: The Gospel of Racial Reconciliation in Flannery O'Connor's 'The Artificial Nigger'"

Lucas E. Morel, Washington & Lee University

Discussants: Marc Guerra, Assumption College

James E. Seaton, Michigan State University

## 41-6 Can Literature Save Us?

Sunday, Sep 5, 8:00 AM

Chair: Michael Keren, University of Calgary

Papers: "Literature and Salvation in J.M. Coetzee"

Michael S. Kochin, Yale University

"Lukacs: Critical Realism and the Dream of the Marxist 'Bourgeois'"

Alberto Spektorowski, Tel Aviv University

"Rorty, Politics and the Idea of Literary Culture"

Michael T. Gibbons, University of South Florida

Discussants: Michael Keren, University of Calgary

Simon A. Stow, College of William & Mary

## 41-7 How Does She Do It?: Feminism and Gender in Contemporary Culture

Friday, Sep 3, 4:15 PM

Chair: James E. Seaton, Michigan State University

Papers: "True Love on TV: A Gendered Analysis of Reality Romance Television"

Michelle D. Brophy-Baermann, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

"I DO Know How She Does It: Kate Reddy and Feminism's Unfinished Business"

Lynne E. Ford, College of Charleston

"Genderopolis? Sexual Politics and the Work of Don DeLillo"

Heather Hadar Wright, Antioch College

"Biology and the Political in Feminist Literary Theory"

Diana Akers Rhoads, Hampden-Sydney College

Discussant: Elsa Dias, Purdue University

#### **41-8 Democracy's Defenders in American Literature**

Friday, Sep 3, 10:15 AM

Chair: Sara MacDonald, St. Thomas University

Papers: "Blinded amidst the Light: The Experience of Knowledge in Brother to Dragon and Beloved"

Joseph H. Lane, Emory and Henry College & Christie Maloyed, Emory and Henry College

"The Defenders of Democracy: The Snopses and their Opponents in William Faulkner's "The Mansion"

Susan Storing Benfield, Fordham University

"The Flowers of Freedom or the New Tyranny: The Princes of Science, Art, and Religion in Henry Adams' Esther"

Natalie Taylor, Skidmore College

"Mosses, Manses, and Mores: Nathaniel Hawthorne on the Nature of Political Institutions"

Joel A. Johnson, Augustana College

Discussants: Sara MacDonald, St. Thomas University

Lauren Weiner, U.S. Senate Staff

#### **41-9 New Frontiers: The Role of Democracy and Citizenship**

Saturday, Sep 4, 4:15 PM

Chair: Amy Catherine Alexander, California State University Fullerton

Papers: "Inequalities in Fiction: Frontier Encounters and Transformations in Jorge Luis Borges"

Alejandra M. Salinas, Liberty Fund

"Willa Cather and the Politics of the Frontier"

Patrick S. Roberts, University of Virginia

"The Function of Arnold at the Present Time: Sympathetic Critic of Democracy or (Unwitting) Authoritarian?"

Simon P. Stacey, Princeton University

Discussants: Amy Catherine Alexander, California State University Fullerton

Christopher Michael Whidden, Northern Illinois University

University

#### **41-10 Global Citizens and Communities**

Saturday, Sep 4, 10:15 AM

Chair: David Kendall Heckerl, St. Mary's University, Canada

Papers: "Saving Place: Thomas More and the Cosmopolitans"

Susan J. McWilliams, Princeton University

"Displaced Communities: The Heterogeneity of Life, Liberty, Love and Refugees in the Work of Theo Angelopoulos"

Lasse A Thomassen, University of Essex

"Literary Interventions: Global Inequality and the Recycling of Social Waste"

Derek S. Merrill, University of Florida

"Pantheism and Individualism: Tocqueville vs. the Emersonians"

Charles Eric Schulzke, Brigham Young University

Discussants: David Kendall Heckerl, St. Mary's University, Canada

Davide Panagia, Trent University

#### **41-11 Executive Leadership in a Cultural Context**

Thursday, Sep 2, 2:00 PM

Chair: Lilly J. Goren, College of St. Catherine

Papers: "Inequality and Inequity in Political Leadership: Henry Fielding's Satire in Jonathan Wild"

John Uhr, Australian National University

"Global Dissemination of American Popular Culture through Presidential Rhetoric: Theodore Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan, and George W. Bush"

Gl Tyler, University of Colorado, Boulder

"Henry V: Shakespeare's Machiavellian Monarch?"

William J.G. Bewick, Michigan State University

Discussants: Stephen F Knott, University of Virginia

Mary A. McHugh, Merrimack College

#### **41-12 Fantasy vs. Reality: Politics Through a Variety of Cultural Prisms**

Sunday, Sep 5, 10:15 AM

Chair: Alexandra Elizabeth Hoerl, Rutgers University

Papers: "Democratic Narratives: Political Founding in Magical Realist Novels"

Michael Neblo, Ohio State University

"Revisiting the Spirit of 1968 through Gilbert Adair and Bernardo Bertolucci's "The Dreamers"

Arcelia Rodriguez, University of Maryland, College Park

"Tom Joad and the Evolution of American Political Culture: Revision and Revivification of Steinbeck's Story in the Art of John Ford, Woody Guthrie, and Bruce Springsteen"

Cyrus Ernesto Zirakzadeh, University of Connecticut

"Fortunate Fools in Literature and Film: Inverting Everyday Politics for Times of Trouble"

John S. Nelson, University of Iowa

Discussants: J. Kam Shapiro, Illinois State University

Joseph M. Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University

#### **41-13 Poetry, Politics and the Limits of Logos**

Friday, Sep 3, 8:00 AM

Chair: Pamela K. Jensen, Kenyon College

Papers: "Fable as Method: Rousseau's Profession of Faith"

Denise Schaeffer, College of the Holy Cross

"Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice: Where Three Roads Meet"

Kenneth Mathew DeLuca, Hampden-Sydney College

"The Empire of Poetry: On Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus"

Michael Davis, Sarah Lawrence College

Discussants: David K. Nichols, Montclair State University

Pamela K. Jensen, Kenyon College

#### **41-14 The Mark of Totalitarianism**

Friday, Sep 3, 2:00 PM

Chair: Barbara Allen, Carleton College

Papers: "Toward a New Form of Totalitarianism For Our Times, or, Why 1984 Happened in 1984"

Kevin Cameron, Lafayette College

"Why, Bartleby?: A Democracy of Listless Souls"

Elmer Almachar

"Shadow on the Hudson: Religion and Morality in Isaac Bashevis Singer's America"

Sanford Kessler, North Carolina State University

Discussants: Lee David Trepanier, Southern Utah University

Barbara Allen, Carleton College

**41-15 The Dark Side of the Heart: Tragedy and Culture in Literature**

Thursday, Sep 2, 4:15 PM

Chair: George Patrick Lynch, Liberty Fund

Papers: “‘Bryan, Bryan, Bryan, Bryan’: Tragic Populism in Philip Roth’s America”

Philip Abbott, Wayne State University

“The Dark Side of the Heart: The Political Significance of Destructive Emotions in the Political Thought of Aristotle and Dostoevsky”

Marlene K. Sokolon, West Texas A&M University

“Laughing at Tragedy: Machiavelli’s Literary Works”

Carly Kinsella, Fordham University

“Nietzsche, Wagner, and Dionysian Public”

Matthew J. Voorhees, Rutgers University

Discussant: George Patrick Lynch, Liberty Fund

*A Message from the 2004-2005 Chair:*

*Welcome. Our continuing existence depends on your support, most visibly paying dues, encouraging APSA members to join our section, volunteering to pay dues of APSA members friendly to Politics and Literature. As for the content of our continuing investigations, I encourage paper and panel proposals that grapple with the nature of the literature artifact itself. Such endeavors are related to but different from those that explore how literature captures political life, translates or humanizes philosophical issues. What is a metaphor? Allegory? Poem? Play? In the context of our own intellectual and moral climate, these are important questions. For, we might argue, the "literary turn" coupled with the fascination with anti-foundationalist doctrines aims to deprive literary artifacts of philosophical content, or at the other extreme reduces the artifact to ideology. How does a literary artifact occupy a space between philosophy and politics?*

*Eduardo A. Velasquez  
Washington and Lee University*

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