

Instituto Franklin
Universidad de Alcalá
Alcalá de Henares

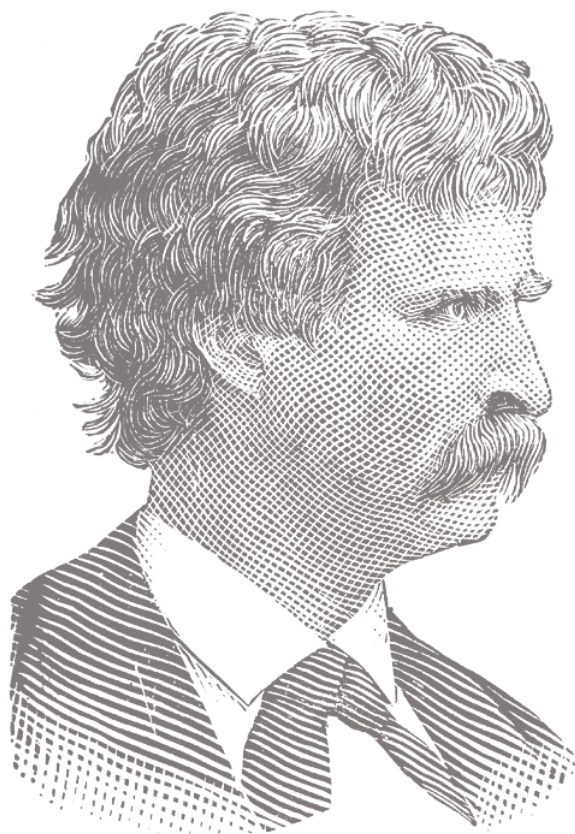
14-16
Abril 2011



Spanish Association for American Studies

Boletín nº 9. Año 2010





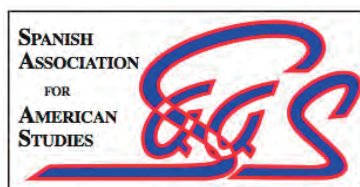
Cien años sin Mark Twain, 1835-1910

Edita: Jesús Benito

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INFORME DEL PRESIDENTE

Estimadas/os colegas:

En este año, como viene sucediendo cada año en que no se celebra el congreso bienal, los miembros de la Junta Directiva hemos estado cooperando con el comité organizador del próximo Congreso de Alcalá (14-16 de abril de 2011) además de atendiendo a la gestión de las becas y el premio otorgados por nuestra Asociación. En el momento de escribir estas líneas la preparación del próximo congreso está bastante avanzada y confiamos en tener un amplio número de propuestas para los dieciocho paneles que ya fueron aceptados en su día. Os recuerdo, a las personas que han enviado una propuesta ya aceptada, que la fecha límite para entregar la contribución completa al coordinador del panel es el 11 de febrero de 2011.

Ya han confirmado su presencia como conferenciantes plenarios en Alcalá los profesores Paul Lauter, del Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut) y nuestra compañera Basia Ozieblo (Universidad de Málaga). El Comité local de Organización, presidido por el profesor José Antonio Gurpegui, está haciendo las gestiones oportunas para poder contar con un escritor de relevancia cuya obra guarde relación con el tema del Congreso.

En la Asamblea Ordinaria del día 7 de mayo del corriente, celebrada en la Complutense gracias una vez más a nuestra colega Isabel Durán, se discutieron temas referidos al próximo Congreso, así como a las becas que ofrece nuestra Asociación y a la situación de la Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos y del Boletín. Se encomendó al Vicepresidente de SAAS la labor de seguir gestionando la preparación del mismo, que aparece, un año más, en colaboración con el Instituto B. Franklin de la Universidad de Alcalá. Este Presidente desea agradecer de nuevo tanto a Jesús Benito como a José Antonio Gurpegui las gestiones y el esfuerzo que han hecho posible este número 9 del Boletín.

Muy a mi pesar, tengo que destacar como elemento negativo referido al cuadro de actividades que lleva a cabo anualmente nuestra Asociación que la Beca SAAS/Fulbright en su convocatoria para el curso 2010-11 ha quedado vacante por falta de propuestas relacionadas con los estudios estadounidenses o American Studies. Deseo desde esta página haceros un llamamiento para que divulgéis el interés de esta beca entre vuestros conocidos y ex-alumnos o a que os animéis para solicitarla vosotros mismos en la próxima convocatoria, correspondiente al curso 2011-2012, en la que el requisito principal será, además de presentar un proyecto referido a nuestra temática, el haber alcanzado el grado de doctor con posterioridad a diciembre de 2002. Las bases de la convocatoria se publicarán, en las fechas oportunas, en nuestra web (<http://www.saasweb.org/>).

Un saludo muy cordial. Espero que podamos vernos en Alcalá en Abril.

Francisco Collado Rodríguez
Universidad de Zaragoza

Queridos amigos y colegas,

Aprovecho con especial gusto la oportunidad que me brinda la Junta directiva de SAAS y en especial Jesús Benito, editor de este boletín, para dirigirme a vosotros invitándoos a participar en el próximo congreso de la Asociación que se celebrará en el Instituto Franklin-UAH. Se trata, indudablemente, de un acontecimiento especialmente relevante para nosotros en el 2011, y ya trabajamos para que cuanto se relacione con la organización esté a la altura de la calidad académica de comunicaciones y plenarias adelantadas en este mismo boletín. Será esta una oportunidad irrepetible para que todos vosotros conozcáis de primera mano las posibilidades académicas y profesionales que el Instituto pone a vuestra disposición. A fin de cuentas, como algunos de vosotros ya me habéis escuchado decir en alguna ocasión, el Instituto Franklin es un centro de investigación “de” y “para” americanistas. Esa es nuestra vocación y el sentido de su existencia, por lo que quienes acudáis al congreso vendréis a vuestra casa.

En este 2010 que ya languidece hemos podido alcanzar los objetivos previamente fijados. La revista “Camino Real”, dedicada al estudio de las hispanidades en los Estados Unidos, ya está indexada en las principales páginas de índice de impacto, como Latindex o MLA. Para conmemorar el IV Centenario de la publicación en Alcalá de Henares de *Historia de la Nueva Mexico*, Manuel M. Martín Rodríguez (Universidad de California, Merced) ha preparado una edición especial de la histórica obra de Gaspar Pérez de Villagrà para la “Biblioteca Benjamin Franklin”. En esa misma colección, hemos publicado el monográfico *España y el teatro de Arthur Miller*, de nuestro compañero Ramón Espejo (Universidad de Sevilla). En la “Colección Camino Real”, dedicada a divulgar en España obras literarias de autores de origen hispano en Estados Unidos, Nuria Brufau (Universidad de Salamanca) ha traducido la novela de Graciela Limón, *Los recuerdos de Ana Calderón*. Y, finalmente, en “Tribuna Norteamericana” los estudios *Política Hispana: España y las Comunidades Hispanas de Estados Unidos*, de Guillermo López Gallego; *Las relaciones entre Estados Unidos y Pakistán. Continuidad y cambio con la administración Obama*, de Alberto Priego y *The United States Supreme Court and the Political Process: The Contemporary Status of Voting Rights Law*, de Mark Rush.

En el ámbito de la investigación se han subvencionado cuatro proyectos a otros tantos equipos de investigadores por un importe total de 100.000€ y, lo más importante, se ha podido reservar un depósito de 150.000€ dedicados a la investigación del próximo 2011. También ha sido posible aumentar la cantidad destinada a publicaciones. Pero, como director del Instituto Franklin, me siento especialmente satisfecho del notable incremento en los fondos destinados a becas y, muy especialmente, de aquellas destinadas a los estudios de master-doctorado. Todos los alumnos matriculados para el curso 2010-2011 han recibido una beca del 75% de la matrícula y cuatro de ellos, quienes obtengan mejor expediente, la tendrán del 100%.

Espero poder saludaros personalmente a todos vosotros el próximo mes de abril en Alcalá. Hasta entonces,

José Antonio Gurpegui
Director Instituto Franklin-UAH

ACTA DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL DE SAAS
CELEBRADA EN LA UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID
EL 7 DE MAYO DE 2010

Lugar: Sala de Juntas de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Da comienzo la sesión a las 13:05 con el siguiente orden del día:

1. Aprobación, si procede, del Acta de la sesión anterior.
2. Informe de la Presidencia
3. Informe de la Vicepresidencia
4. Informe de la Tesorería y aprobación, si procede, de las cuentas del ejercicio.
- 5 Informe del Congreso de Alcalá
- 6 Informe sobre la Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos.
7. Informe sobre las Becas Fulbright y "Washington Irving".
8. Asuntos urgentes, si los hubiere.
9. Ruegos y preguntas.

1. Aprobación, si procede, del Acta de la sesión anterior.

Se aprueba por asentimiento el acta de la Asamblea celebrada en Barcelona el 3 de abril de 2009 con motivo del IX congreso de la asociación.

2. Informe de la Presidencia

El presidente de la Asociación, Dr. Collado da la bienvenida a los nuevos miembros de la Junta, Dr. Jesús Benito y Dr. Víctor Junco, que entraron a formar parte de la directiva de SAAS en el Congreso de Barcelona, en sustitución de las Dras. Isabel Duran y Ana Manzanas, es decir, en los cargos de vicepresidente y vocal respectivamente.

A continuacion,el Dr. Collado dedica unas palabras de recuerdo al Dr. Carmelo Cunchillos, de la Universidad de la Rioja, recientemente fallecido, amigo y querido colega de muchos miembros de nuestra Asociación.

3. Informe de la Vicepresidencia

El Dr. Benito anuncia la publicación de un nuevo número del Boletín. El número 9 saldrá previsiblemente a finales de noviembre. Se plantea la posibilidad de incluir artículos, tal y como se discutió en la asamblea de Barcelona, según las posibilidades económicas.

4. Informe de tesorería

La Dra. Miriam López presenta las cuentas de la Asociación. Se aprueban por asentimiento.

5. Informe del Congreso de Alcalá

El Dr. Collado informa del desarrollo de los preparativos para el siguiente congreso, que tendrá lugar en Alcalá los días 14-16 de abril de 2011. Todos los planes para el congreso se desarrollan con normalidad. Una vez recibidas y seleccionadas las propuestas de paneles, se publicarán en la página web y en el próximo boletín de la Asociación, así como en una página específica del Instituto Franklin de la Universidad de Alcalá.

6. Informe sobre la *Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos* (REN)

La directora de la revista, Dra. Toda, comunica que el número 13 de la misma salió tarde debido a algunos imprevistos del Servicio de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Sevilla. La Dra. Toda sugiere la posibilidad de publicar la revista en una imprenta privada. Se acuerda evaluar el posible costo y calibrar las ventajas de esta opción.

La Dra. Toda recuerda que en la Asamblea de Barcelona se aprobó sacar el número 14 de la revista como monográfico con el título “Crisis and Catharsis in US Culture: From 1929 to 2009”, pero comenta que se han recibido pocas propuestas para este tema concreto. Se acuerda distribuir la convocatoria de propuestas para dicho volumen por diversas listas y ampliar el plazo hasta el 30 de septiembre. El número 14 de la revista aparecerá como número doble (2009-2010).

7. Informe sobre las Becas SAAS–Fulbright y Beca “Washington Irving”

En el momento de celebrar la Asamblea la beca SAAS-Fulbright estaba aún sin resolver.

La Secretaria, Dra. Cristina Garrigós, informa que, una vez reunida la comisión SAAS/Instituto Franklin, la beneficiaria de la beca de este año ha sido Rocío Carrasco, de la Universidad de Huelva, con un proyecto de investigación titulado “Género, Identidad y Realidad Virtual en el Cine de Ciencia Ficción Estadounidense”.

8. y 9. Asuntos Urgentes y Ruegos y Preguntas

No habiendo ningún asunto urgente que tratar, ni ningún ruego o pregunta, se levanta la sesión a las 13:55 hs.

Cristina Garrigós
Universidad de León

INFORME DE TESORERIA

Se incluye a continuación el informe de tesorería presentado durante la Asamblea General de Socios de 7 de mayo de 2010. El saldo de SAAS al 20 de marzo de 2009 era de 25.403,50 €. Desde entonces los movimientos en nuestra cuenta han sido:

Concepto	Cantidad
Material de oficina	-15,00 €
Flores comité organizador de Barcelona	-66,00 €
Gastos de Asesoría 2008-2009	- 510,40 €
Gastos bancarios 2008-2009	- 400,84 €
Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos	- 2862,34 €
Reuniones Junta Directiva (Madrid y Alcalá)	- 1.659,25 €
Becas y premios concedidos	- 3600,00 €
Cuotas de EASS	- 84,00 €
Cuotas de SAAS 2009	+7.642,88 €
Cuotas devueltas	- 362,64 €
Intereses bancarios	+ 2,24 €

Todo esto nos da un saldo actual, a fecha 31 de marzo de 2010 de 23.485,91 €.

La relación de personas que desde marzo de 2009 han solicitado a la Asamblea su aceptación como nuevos socios de SAAS son: Emilia María Durán Almarza, M^a Jesús Castro Dopacio, M^a Dolores Narbona Carrión y Patricia San José Rico. En este mismo periodo se han dado de baja los siguientes socios: Teresa García Torres, Matthew Roudané, Antonia Domínguez Minguela, Alfredo Jiménez Núñez, Emeline Jouve, María Pirgerou, Daniela Fargione, Russell Di Napoli, María Hierro, Ana del Hoyo Barbolla, Teresa Nandín, Carolina Recio y Manuel Ortiz Lobato.

A los que me informaron que deseaban darse de baja de antemano y que no se les pasara el cobro de la cuota, les doy las gracias por haber ahorrado a SAAS los consiguientes gastos bancarios.

Miriam López Rodríguez
Universidad de Málaga



Group photo portrait of author and humorist Mark Twain (a.k.a. Samuel L. Clemens; middle), noted American Civil War correspondent and author George Alfred Townsend (left), and David Gray, editor of the Buffalo Courier (right).

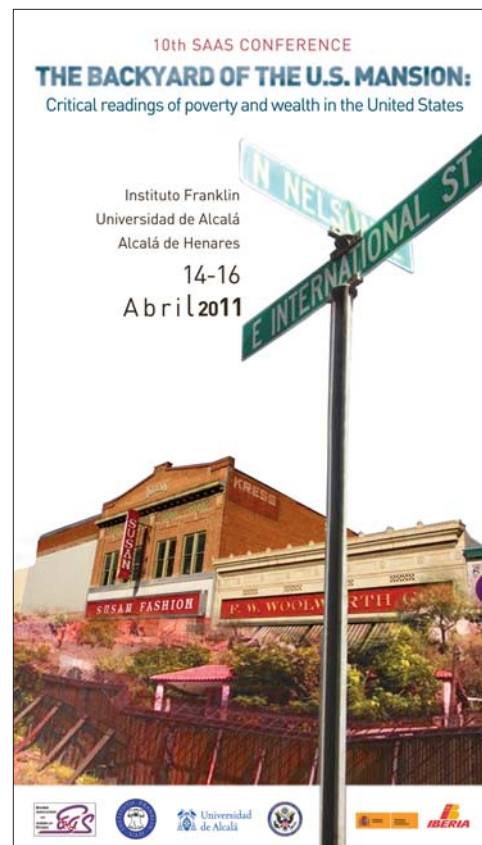
X CONGRESO DE SAAS. ALCALÁ DE HENARES (MADRID), 14-16 DE ABRIL DE 2011

La Asamblea de Socios de SAAS, reunida en Barcelona en el IX congreso de la Asociación con fecha 3 de abril de 2009, dio el visto bueno para la celebración del próximo congreso de SAAS en Alcalá de Henares. A continuación se ofrece una descripción del tema general del congreso para que sirva de guía a la propuesta de paneles, así como los plazos pertinentes.

THE BACKYARD OF THE U.S. MANSION: Critical Readings of Poverty and Wealth in the United States

In the subtitle of one of his well-known books, David S. Landes asks *Why Some Are So Rich and Some So Poor*, a matter that can apply to whole nations, territories and peoples, whether collectively, individually or by class. Historians, philosophers, creative writers, politicians, anthropologists, and sociologists have been debating on the issue for ages and the assumption is that the debate will continue till poverty is eradicated from earth, if such a blessing ever happens. In the United States, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the gulf between the haves and have-nots has steadily widened since the 1970s, and has dramatically peaked in the current economic crisis. The 10th International SAAS Conference, to be held at the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, will offer a space of reflection on the cultural, social, historical, and ideological dimensions of the binary *poverty and wealth* in the past and present of the United States of America. Some issues to be addressed at this international meeting will be:

- Cultural constructions of poverty and wealth. From material factors to the ways poverty/wealth is lived, negotiated and represented.
- The pervasiveness of poverty in cultural works: the force and social impact of the creative ideologue.
- Material and ideological contradictions. The poor/wealthy binary in the discourse of American individualism. Still awaiting an American union strike.
- The denial of class as a defining feature of American life. What's un-American about the discourse of class? How is class inflected by race and gender? Why is class less of an issue than race, ethnicity and gender?
- Poverty and Wealth across the border. How does poverty travel across the US national borders?



- Migration, immigration, and the pursuit of (material) happiness.
- Technological expectations for an unknown future. From the Industrial Revolution to the posthuman condition: Utopias and dystopias in American culture, literature, and the arts.
- From the American Dream to consumerism or the commodification of happiness. Old dreams of Exceptionalism and the ever-present invisibility of poverty in American history and the arts.
- Ecological poverty versus industrial wealth? Ethical readings of the wealth/poverty divide in the post-Katrina USA.
- Human rights and political denial: Post-9/11 USA, War on Terror and the reinstallation of American Exceptionalism.

More information about the Conference will appear soon at <http://www.saasweb.org/>

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Scholars Paul Lauter and Barbara Ozieblo are confirmed as plenary speakers for the SAAS-Alcalá conference. The organizing committee is working hard to secure the participation in the conference of one or two US writers.

PAUL LAUTER

Trinity Collage, Hartford

Paul Lauter is Allan K. and Gwendolyn Miles Smith professor of literature at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. He has served as president of the American Studies Association (of the United States), and is general editor of the groundbreaking *Heath Anthology of American Literature*, now in its sixth edition. In the 1960s, Dr. Lauter served as peace education secretary and director of peace studies for the American Friends Service Committee, and executive director of the U.S. Servicemen's Fund. During 1964 and 1965 he worked in freedom schools in Mississippi, then in Roosevelt University's Upward Bound program, and in 1967 he became director of the first community school project in the nation, at Adams-Morgan in Washington, D.C. He was also active in the faculty and staff union at the State University of New York, serving as statewide vice-president for academics, as chapter president, and as grievance officer, among other positions. He was also one of the founders of The Feminist Press and its treasurer and an editor for fourteen years.

He teaches American literature, specializing in the early 19th century and in contemporary multicultural writing. One of his recent books, *From Walden Pond to Jurassic Park: The Cultural Work of American Studies* traces the development of American Studies as a discipline and a form of cultural and political discourse in the United States and overseas. Other recent volumes include a co-edited collection called *Literature, Class, and Culture*, and a volume of Thoreau's writings for the New Riverside Series. His latest major project was the edition of *A Companion to American Literature and Culture*, an expansive volume which provides a set of fresh perspectives, some related, some dissonant, on the wealth of texts produced in and around what is now the United States. Dr. Lauter was the 2001 recipient of the annual Jay Hubbell

medal for lifetime achievement in American Literary Study awarded by the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association.

BARBARA OZIEBLO
Universidad de Malaga

Barbara Ozieblo is Professor of American Literature at the University of Málaga, Spain. Her main areas of research are in Women's Studies and American Theater: she has been one of the key scholars in the rediscovery of Susan Glaspell, significant dramatist and novelist of the early twentieth century, and co-founder and first president of the Susan Glaspell Society. Her *Susan Glaspell: A Critical Biography*, published by the University of North California Press in 2000 was the first full-length biography of Glaspell. She has also written essays on various aspects of Glaspell's plays and novels, and co-edited *Disclosing Intertextualities: the Stories, Plays, and Novels of Susan Glaspell* (Rodopi 2006). Ozieblo has also published on other women writers in publications such as the *Journal of American Theatre and Drama*, *Twentieth-Century Literature* and *Dosiers Feministes*. She has organized or co-organized three International Conferences on American Drama and was co-editor of the publications that ensued. At the University of Malaga, she leads a Research Group currently engaged in studying the portrayal of gender violence in plays by American women playwrights. Ozieblo has been a member of SAAS since its inception, and served as Treasurer for eight years.

* * *

What is the chief end of man?—to get rich. In what way?—dishonestly if we can; honestly if we must. Who is God, the one only and true? Money is God. God and Greenbacks and Stock—father, son, and the ghost of same—three persons in one; these are the true and only God, mighty and supreme...

Mark Twain, "The Revised Catechism" 9/27/1871

LIST OF PANELS

1. Small Presses and Innovation: Drawing Larger Circles in Society and the Market

Panel Chair: Manuel Brito

Institution: Universidad de La Laguna

E-mail: mbrito@ull.es

According to Len Fulton's *Directory of Small Press & Magazine Editors & Publishers*, there were over 5,000 small press publishers and editors in the United States by the early 1990s. This panel will analyze how the circulation of innovative American literature appealed to the pattern of bringing inequalities to light through the publication of small presses in the late 20th century. Our goal is to study how the editors of these small presses overcame diverse factors related to their own marginality and material poverty. This panel will also focus on excluded literary voices involved in cultural deprivation and their involvement in the publishing of small presses: Chicanos, African Americans, regional poets, authors related to workshops or gay and lesbian writers. Suggested topics could include, but are not limited to:

- What role/s small publications played in changing literature and social perspectives in the period 1970-2000.
- How academy subsumed innovations and creative research published in little magazines and small presses.
- Market vs. individual position in the publishing industry.
- What are the benefits of these publications considered as 'high' culture? Were they useful?
- How technological production affected potential readers of this kind of publication.

Similarly, this panel will discuss the practical attributes in any small press that Loss P. Glazier mentions: 1) not "corporate" 2) locally based 3) small scale administration 4) integrity of the publication rather than conceived as a commodity, and 5) well-defined, limited readership. Finally, we will reflect on how poverty conditions usually associated with small presses do not impede that their authors become successful in the market, as can be seen through their continual presence in bookstores, awards lists, and regularly accepted submissions in major trade publications.

2. 'Heading for a Change': Deconstructing the Upward-Mobility Ethos in American Literature and Culture

Panel Chair: Mercè Cuenca

Institution: Universitat de Barcelona

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From Anzia Yezierska's "How I Found America" (1920), to Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* (1949), from Patricia Highsmith's *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (1955), to Showtime's TV series *Weeds* (2005-2009),

American culture and literature problematize the upward-mobility ethos which has shaped US identity from the inception of the nation. In this panel, we welcome contributions which explore this issue. We are particularly concerned with how American literary and cultural texts have sought to challenge and/or subvert the equation between the American Dream and economic progress. This progress is usually represented in the body politic as a visible success story best summarized as “from rags to riches”. However, American arts and letters are ripe with discourses which contradict the construction of the American Dream as unequivocally materialistic and propose that it can be defined otherwise: as a learning process, a yearning for equality, etc. Furthermore, characters who suffer physical or psychological harm due to their belief in upward-mobility as an exclusively money-oriented system serve the purpose of highlighting how disruptive this cultural given actually is. We invite proposals which examine how the capitalist American Dream and its consequences are problematized through such deconstructions of the success story and/or through characters whose damaging commodification at the hands of the capitalist system personify the evils of ruthless materialism.

Suggested Topics:

- In what way/s have American writers and artists at large negotiated the paradox between the yearning for equality, which is at the core of the nation’s definition of “Democracy”, and the “rags to riches” ethos?
- In what way/s have American writers and artists at large sought to re-define the American Dream from a non-Capitalist perspective? Have the strategies that question exclusively materialistic values varied historically?
- To what extent do race, gender and/or sexuality impinge upon the (re)construction and representation of the American Dream in the nation’s arts and letters?
- To what extent can the portrayal of characters who suffer physical or psychological harm at the hands of their belief in upward-mobility undermine the mainstream construction of the “American Dream”? Is this an effective strategy?
- Do the cultural and literary deconstructions of the success story serve the purpose of questioning the upward-mobility ethos or, conversely, do they reinforce the distinction made in the American social imaginary between “winners” and “losers”?

3. Literature from the Golden State: California as a Land of Wealth and Poverty

Panel Chair: Eusebio De Lorenzo

Institution: Universidad Complutense de Madrid

E-mail: delorenzo@filol.ucm.es

For two centuries the American unconscious has equated California with a land of opportunity. The most desired destination of the westward journey, California has always been accorded the status of western haven, where travelers begin a new life of material gains or spiritual regeneration. This illusion has consolidated the American dream by holding up California as a land of quest, possibility, renewal, and plenty.

However, history and literature have shown that such a construct has an underside of squalor and injustice. Nineteenth-century westbound explorers featured the romantic quest for virgin territories as inextricably intertwined with fraud or hasty get-rich-quick schemes. In the twentieth century, immigrants' memoirs revealed exploitation and violence as the pillars sustaining the California ideal. In the 1950s, the spiritual rebirth undertaken by the Beats in California was undermined by their political and social stigmatization. Even the lasting prosperity of Northern California or Los Angeles has found its foil in the moral degradation depicted by crime fiction, in which urban landscapes become ideal backdrops for both affluence and vileness.

This panel welcomes contributions on the literature of California as a testimony to the construct of the American dream. Of special interest will be deconstructive analyses and critical readings which question the validity of California as a paradigm for prosperity. Proposals for this panel may consider the following topics as related to constructions of wealth and poverty:

- travel and exploration narratives of California (e.g. Jack London, Mark Twain, R. L. Stevenson)
- Gold Rush stories
- landscape and nature as sources of wealth or renewal (e.g. John Muir, Gary Snyder)
- The Beat generation and their experience of California
- California Noir: degradation and materialism (e.g. Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler, James Ellroy)
- California as a site of counterculture
- Californian experiences of immigration
- Californian identity and the position of the other

4. Life-Writing and its 'From Rags to Riches' Variations

Panel Chair: Isabel Durán

Institution: Universidad Complutense

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It is well known that St. Augustine's conversion "from sin to grace", as traced in his *Confessions*, found its secular counterpart in Benjamin Franklin's conversion "from rags to riches", as presented in his *Autobiography* (1791), a book that also illustrates the process of self-invention and renewal which Crèvecoeur referred to in his *Letters from an American Farmer* (1782). During his own lifetime, and even to this day, Franklin represents the archetypal American. Presenting himself as an ordinary man from humble beginnings, Franklin outlines the story of his extremely successful life and offers readers a formula that could enable them to achieve a similar success. In so doing, he created what would become an enduring component of American identity: the self-made man and the individualism on which it relies.

The proposed panel seeks to analyze, in a time of crisis, the enduring influence of Franklin's success story or the lack thereof. We shall explore how the belief that, with hard work and great effort, every individual can achieve success in America simultaneously includes and excludes many people. It is inclusionary, because it has traditionally suggested that success and the American Dream are available for anyone willing to follow Franklin's work ethic and faith; and, in fact, it has been a source of inspiration

for many success stories à la Horatio Alger, as much as for many stories of assimilation written by immigrants who moved from barrio or ghetto life to fame and wealth. But it has also proved to be exclusionary because despite the implied claims to universality, Franklin's self-made man also excluded peoples of African, Mexican, Asian, and indigenous descent, as well as women and poor people of all colors, as they have also stated in their testimonial autobiographies. Moreover, the story of the self-made man posits an adversarial relationship between the individual and the larger community: the individual is viewed as an autonomous, wholly independent human being who succeeds despite society's emphasis on conformity, a theme that also articulates much autobiographical literature.

Suggested specific topics, always within the field of life-writing, include (but are not limited to):

- Success or failure life-stories
- Rewriting "assimilation" in autobiography: immigration and exile autobiographies
- Class, gender and ethnic identity in autobiography
- The individual vs. the community in "stories of becoming"
- Revisions of the "from rags to riches" paradigm in life-writing
- How does wealth/social class contribute to strengthening the myth of the New Adam/the self-made man?
- The poor as "the other"
- Contemporary versions of the Horatio Alger stories
- Working-class autobiography

5. LULUs: Not in the US backyard

Panel Chair: Carmen Flys Junquera

Institution: Franklin Institute, Universidad de Alcalá

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Rachel Carson, with the publication of *Silent Spring* in 1964, started the flight of the American middle class to the suburbs in an attempt to escape the effects of health hazards due to contamination. The American public became conscious of the risk involved in living in certain areas, an awareness augmented significantly by the Love Canal scandal in 1978. Since the 1980s, the term NIMBY (Not In My BackYard) has been used to describe local opposition to the development of an area with either infrastructures such as railways, highways, mobile phone masts and industrial parks or LULUs (Locally Undesirable Lands Uses) such as prisons, halfway houses, power plants, incinerators, landfills and waste sites. In 1982, the publication of "Toxic Wastes and Race" made it clear that racial and ethnic minorities were particularly affected by the location of LULUs in their "backyards" and a new wave of racial nimbyism arose in an effort to protect their neighborhoods. With the accelerated pace of the globalizing process and the signing of the NAFTA agreement in 1994 and the subsequent CAFTA agreements in the last decade, the US has displaced many of its LULUs to Mexico, Central and South America as well as to other underdeveloped countries in Asia. Thus the undesirable US backyards are now sited in other continents where American eyes are not offended by their consequences.

Environmental justice ecocriticism, particularly since the publication of *The Environmental Justice Reader* in 2002, has become a strong force, working together with local activist groups, in tracing and denouncing the location and effects of these multiple LULUs, from lower class to racial neighborhoods in the US, to the border and other current sites abroad. Many American writers have portrayed these issues in their works in an effort to not only make American readers “see” the effects, although they might take place thousands of miles away, but also to realize that eventually, the consequences of exporting undesirable land uses will come home and once again contaminate the backyard of their mansions. This panel welcomes presentations of a variety of literary, film or cultural LULUs that the US is hiding and exporting either to marginal areas or across the border and how writers perceive the effects for the privileged owners of the “mansion”.

Suggested topics could include, but are not limited to, the analyses of literary or cultural (film, art, music) texts that:

- portray the globalizing process and its multiple ramifications, including its backlash in the US.
- illustrate how the dislocation of US LULUs across the borders have affected the local peoples.
- present the globalizing process as accelerating climate change and increased migrations.
- depict how the globalizing process is widening the gap between rich and poor, north and south.
- consider how environmental issues are intimately linked to issues of poverty, migrations and injustice.

6. Poverty and Wealth in the House of the South

Panel Chair: Constante González

Institution: Universidade da Santiago de Compostela

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In *The Poetics of Space* Gaston Bachelard described the house as the “felicitous space” which constitutes one of the truly great integrative forces in the life of the individual. Blindfolded by his privileges of gender and class, Bachelard did not include power or gender in his analysis, as if space were not always related to power relations. The house of the American South has not always been a home for those who did not conform to its suffocating traditions. Many southern women have traditionally found the family home to be a locus of oppression. Blacks had to wait centuries to be admitted into the house of the South, and many continue to complain with good reason that America is still not the home where they always feel welcome.

From the days of the plantation society, so many southerners have been bedevilled by poverty, disease, illiteracy and other forms of discrimination. The culture of segregation that dominated the South from the end of Reconstruction to the Civil Rights movement inhibited the natural expression of class division, as the much stereotyped poor whites were so avid for the invigorating drug of white supremacy that gave them an automatic superiority over African-Americans. In Lillian Hellman's play *The Autumn Garden* a French girl explains the difference between French homes and families and those in the American South: “You have so many rooms and therefore more troubles.” We suggest some of the rooms, among others, that might be worth a visit:

- Intersections of race, gender and class
- Representations of poor southern whites in literature and film
- The Agrarian movement: the identification of modernity and industrialism with spiritual poverty
- The South's reincarnation as the Sunbelt
- The disappearance of the rural South and the new spaces and roles available to women
- The ecological and economic difficulties of areas like southern Appalachia
- The Tobacco Road South: portrayals of the underside of southern life and calls for social reform
- Immigration, globalization and the end of southern exceptionalism
- Post-Katrina reconstructions
- Children and poverty in the South
- Poverty and racism in southern music, photography, and the arts

7. Land/Scapes on the USA Stage: Theatrical Interventions in the Land of Opportunity

Panel Chair: Noelia Hernando Real

Institution: CSEU La Salle- UAM

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From its very foundation, landscape has been used ideologically in the creation of the national identity of the United States. As E. L. Magoon put it in his essay "Scenery and Mind": "The diversified landscapes of our country exert no light influence in creating our character as individuals, and in conforming our destiny as a nation." But while the mythology that the USA was the land of the cornucopia where there was a place for everybody and where the common dream of prosperity founded on notions of liberty, equality and free enterprise was transmitted, contesting elements of the myth had to be used and repressed. Native Americans were exterminated or put on reservations, African Americans were enslaved, and immigrants who did not fit into the WASP cosmology were simply left out on the margins of this mythological landscape. In her 1920 play *Inheritors*, Susan Glaspell already realized that "They're people from the other side of the world who came here believing in us, drawn from the far side of world by things we say about ourselves. Well, I'm going to pretend – just for fun – that the things we say about ourselves are true" (139). As a living experience, theater provides the audience with the unavoidable confrontation with the landscape of the stage. This panel focuses on the works of American playwrights who explore the possibilities of landscape to discuss questions of poverty and wealth. The overall objective is to discuss the American stage as the site where the American Dream scenario of material and spiritual wealth is re-negotiated, questioned and re-written. This panel welcomes papers which address the following issues:

- How do playwrights explore the relationship between landscape and individual or national destiny regarding poverty and wealth?
- How are the mythological landscapes of the American Dream re-worked?
- How is the stage space used to escape from the land of poverty and/or how does the stage represent the USA as a land of opportunity?

- What are the theatrical relations between migration and American landscapes in the works of USA playwrights?
- What voices are suppressed in the American landscape?

8. We Are Poor, We Are Rich: Representations of *Barrio* Life in Chicano Popular Art and Culture

Panel Chair: Amaia Ibarra Bigalondo

Institution: Universidad del País Vasco/ Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea

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The proliferation of a Chicano body of literature that accompanied and supported the *Movimiento Chicano*, gave public visibility to the reality of US city *barrios*, where living conditions were precarious, educational resources scarce, gender division an everyday life issue, and violence, a growing phenomenon. The achievements of the *Movimiento* were many, but a quick glance at the sociological data proves that there are still issues unresolved in these still “marginalized” areas. However, and despite the harsh situation, the *barrio* also represents a shelter from the aggressions of the brutal economic (and ethnic) hierarchical arrangement of the social fabric in the country, becoming a “state of mind, (which) represents more than a space” (Díaz 2005: 56). In our day, this state of mind and its significance is being expressed not only through the most “canonical” means of cultural representation, but also through various and diverse forms of contemporary popular culture produced from and by the community. Hence, murals, graffiti, *corridos*, rap, gang culture and its defining, intrinsic body language and communication rites, among others, are becoming the most direct, sharp and effective means of (inter)personal and collective communication, as well as taking the pulse of the cultural production of contemporary Chicano youth. In this context, the aim of this workshop is to explore diverse current Chicano popular artistic and cultural forms, in an attempt to observe the way they portray poverty and dignity, violence and community, life and death, and in sum, *barrio* life and the new “*barrio* sociocultural ideology”. We welcome papers that address:

- popular culture as a means of formation of *barrio* ideology, gang life and culture,
- the relevance of street culture, murals, digital forms of artistic creation and new modes of performative and visual arts in the divulgation of *barrio* reality.

9. Super-Diversity in Migratory Patterns

Panel Chair: Aitor Ibarrola Armendáriz

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It used to be the case that, throughout the 19th and a substantial part of the 20th century, most immigrants to the United States came driven by dreams of new opportunities and the achievement of

material prosperity. Most of them were, of course, economic migrants who due to the meagre conditions and very narrow horizons at home decided to leave their past and native culture behind in order to “make it good” in America. Much of the best literature in the country tells us of the stories of success (and/or failure) of those courageous spirits who, often with nothing but their clothes on their backs, decided to cross the ocean to the New World. Because many of the newly arrived had little to lose in this transition, they were more than happy to wholly open themselves up to the workings of the receiving culture. Hence, the assimilationist processes prevailed throughout much of the history of the nation. Since the mid-20th century, however, the contingents of foreigners reaching the American shores have become much more diverse and heterogeneous. While it is true that one could still speak of economic migrants being the largest group among the newcomers, refugees, scholars, executives, asylum seekers, students, etc. have made the picture much more eclectic. This fact has certainly had a significant impact on the kind of life stories and migratory trajectories that are represented in recent immigrant narratives. The motivations for moving have changed, attitudes to the country of origin are different, settling and adaptation processes have taken new shapes, individuals are not just interested in material improvement. Recent fiction by immigrant authors is not only an invaluable source of information but has also provided us with metaphors that help us understand a bit more precisely how the image of America has changed in the newcomers’ minds and how their relationship with the country has been profoundly transformed.

Suggested/Related Topics:

- Elements of transnationalism in recent American fiction.
- Forms of allegiance to the sending and receiving country.
- Differences between forced and willing migrations.
- Metaphors used to represent the migrant experience.
- Different types of auto-ethnographies and autobiographies.
- New developments of the concept of ethclass.
- New policies of diversity management in literature.
- The relation between the ethic and the aesthetic in migrant fiction.
- The incidence of gender, occupational, religious, etc. roles in migrant fiction.
- New factors in the adaptation process to a new culture.

10. Currency Collapse, Moral Collapse: Material and Spiritual Poverty in Cormac McCarthy’s Fiction

Panel Chair: Carmen Méndez

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Recently popularized by film adaptations of his works, and hailed as one of the most haunting writers of the last decades, Cormac McCarthy’s novels are pregnant with images of poverty, often defined by his choice of settings (the American South and the Southwest, or a desolate post-apocalyptic environment). The material wastelands of McCarthy’s *oeuvre*, where deprivation, drought and famine seem to define

the characters' choices, also bring about a poverty that we might deem spiritual, a poverty reflected in spectacles of brutality and sadism as seen in the gangs of *Blood Meridian*, or in new definitions of property and commodities (slavery, human harvesting), as seen in *The Road*. Likewise, the deprivation of family ties and the ultimate symbol of US material property (real estate) leads to murder and stealing in the name of survival (*Child of God*), while the illusion of property is further explored in *Suttre*. Most of McCarthy's novels could be analyzed as a study of the possession of property and its misfortunes by characters living on the fringe of society (such as Blevin's horse and Colt pistol in *All the Pretty Horses*).

McCarthy challenges the economic modes America has been based on: slavery is featured prominently in *The Road*, where the two main characters are also, quite appropriately, carrying around their possessions in a wrecked supermarket cart. Nomadism, also noticeable in his novels, appears to be the only choice in a world where men return to primitive systems of economic organization. Contributions to the panel may include, but are not limited to, studies on:

- the effects of the US/Mexico frontier on currency and commodities, especially in *The Border Trilogy* and *No Country for Old Men*
- new commodities: drugs, stolen money (*No Country for Old Men*), slavery and dystopia (*The Road*)
- human life as a commodity in *The Road*, the (economic) value of human beings
- McCarthy's novels as a critique of US systems of production of wealth and its discontents
- nomadism in McCarthy and its consequences on the organization of the economy
- pertinent readings of McCarthy as a reflection of the current economic crisis
- wealth and poverty in film adaptations of McCarthy's novels.

11. 'Garbage in the Backyard of the US Mansion': Chicano/a Food Traces and the Identification of Cultural Consumerism

Panel Chair: Juan Ignacio Oliva

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When in 1984, Linda Keller Brown and Kay Mussell co-edited *Ethnic and Regional Foodways in the US: the Performance of Group Identity* (U Tennessee P), they wanted to analyze how much cooking idiosyncrasies affect, in an anthropological way, the pride of a given group and to what extent cultural identity is represented by the ingestion of specific foods. It is definitely true that the way in which nations cook their meals provide enriching information about their behaviour, especially when food, spices and other products form part of a definite ethnic culture that has evolved throughout long periods of history. This is the case of the Mexican-American cuisine, which has developed a specific, interracial and "exotic" way of mixing up ingredients from Aztec, Mayan, European, Spanish, English, and American flavour. Like any other syncretism, Chicano/a food has been hybridized and bastardized by fast-food philosophy and large scale consumerism in the US and everywhere else, to the point that it can also be considered as a trademark of the American capitalist global market. Consequently, it is the aim of this panel to consider whether the uses and abuses of Mexican-American food have to do with power-based and hegemonic

issues, and to what point eating it implies a socio-cultural and cheap choice of junk-food. It will also be valuable to find out, in terms of ecological crisis and environmental justice, whether the misuse of the Chicano/a culinary wisdom is related to that of other minorities and, lastly, whether the specific way in which this food is served to the client, and the waste materials employed, equal in toxicity other US cooking proposals.

Suggested topics include (but are not restricted to) the following:

- Food as fake, food as a political construct.
- Food as a mark of cultural identity leading to integration or exclusion from the mainstream.
- Appropriations and misappropriations of culinary exoticism.
- Feminizations and male-chauvinisms regarding the act of cooking.
- Eco-centric and anthropological images of food and other culinary activities.

12. The Poetics of Poverty in American Poetry

Panel Chair: Viorica Patea

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This panel invites papers that reexamine the aesthetic, socio-economic as well as the emotional and psychological implications of poverty in American Poetry. Poverty represents a crucial and recurrent motif in many poems. Poets have often projected themselves into the personae of the disenfranchised, the poor, the marginal, the exile. The poor are victims and overcoming poverty has triggered a wealth of utopian and ideological thinking, leading to radical poetics. Poets have meditated on poverty, indicted or glorified it in numerous ways. For Aristotle "poverty is the parent of revolution and crime" (*Politics*). Poverty is linked to suffering, socio-political factors, and a long history of discrimination that includes concerns of class, gender and race which provide the necessary ingredients for poeticizing. T. S. Eliot's second tempter's allurements "To set down the great, protect the poor,/ Beneath the throne of God can man do more?" in *Murder in the Cathedral* repeats a biblical motif that has become a constant theme in word literature from Goethe's *Faust* to Dostoyevski's *The Dispossessed* as well as the object of numerous socio-political treatises.

Yet poverty is also considered a source of virtue and unspoiled simplicity associated with original innocence. Hence the poor are the paradigm of purity. As such poverty can function as the symbol of total abandonment of materialistic desires and the expression of spiritual plenitude giving rise to forms of asceticism and the belief that the poor are often happier than the rich since they appreciate existence more fully.

From an aesthetic point of view poverty spells concision and economy of words which are deeply inscribed in the modernist agenda of early twentieth-century poetics when brevity is perceived as more effective and genuine than rhetoric. On the other hand, the poverty of words invites reflections on linguistic boundaries and limitations *vis a vis* the inexpressible.

Suggested topics:

- The poetic tradition of social concerns: poets, movements, schools, groups.
- Poems of class, gender and social discrimination.
- Denouncing poverty: poverty as social shame, experiences of deprivation and discrimination, socio economic aspects of poverty.
- The figure of the poor, the disenfranchised, the marginalized.
- Emotional and psychological implications of poverty and suffering.
- Poverty as virtue versus poverty as social shame.
- The poverty of words: the aesthetics of economy and concision of modernist aesthetics.
- The limitations of words vis a vis the inexpressible, and many other related topics in American poetry are welcome.

13. Staging the Body as a Space of Wealth and Poverty in American Contemporary Theater

Panel Chair: Eulalia Piñero Gil

Institution: Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

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The human body is today a prevailing symbol of social success or failure. The body is a space that personifies more than ever the materialistic values of the post-industrial American society. In other words, the body is the visible icon of wealth and poverty, of excess and scarcity, of an urge for greater and greater materialistic prosperity. Human bodies are regulated and modelled as objects to mirror economic position: sexuality, childbirth, fasting, desires, ageing, and shaping. In this way, bodies become the individuals' representation of their social status. As Susie Orbach observes: "We are judged physically and our social and economic position has depended on how our bodies are seen and where we are placed socially and economically" (2009, 134). Therefore, bodies embody the tensions of wealth and poverty as they become spectacles that reflect these opposing material experiences. Contemporary American theater represents an essential space for exploring cultural constructs of the body as a site of wealth and poverty. This panel welcomes papers which address the following issues in contemporary American theater:

- What is the relationship between body and economic position?
- If the body is a social construct, how does it become the icon of social class?
- How do the bodies on stage represent the society of wealth and poverty?
- How does the human body encompass the pursuit of the post-industrial American Dream?
- There is a permanent desire and longing for a material body, for an unstable body which becomes an object, how does the American stage embody these needs?

14. 'God Shed His Grace on Thee': Exceptionalism and its Implications for Economics and Class in the United States

Panel Chair: Michael A. Rockland

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On February 6, 2010 Sarah Palin, the former vice presidential candidate of the Republican Party, commenting on America's current economic problems, said: "It would be wise for us to start seeking some divine intervention again in this country so that we can be safe and secure and prosperous." The statement as a whole is indicative, but the word "again" especially so. It suggests that the deity has often, if not always "chosen" the United States for preferred treatment. This panel will examine the influence of American exceptionalism in creating the myths of a classless and universally affluent society. I will speak on the subject briefly by way of a general introduction and the paper proposals should address the following topics:

- Discussions of one or more of the new books on American exceptionalism, Hodgson and Pease, for example.
- Exceptionalism in the George W. Bush administration's unilateralism with possible reflections on how exceptionalism may or may not be playing out in Obama's multilateral approach.
- Exceptionalism in American literature, especially in the works of such writers as Herman Melville.
- Exceptionalism as a central theme in American history—e.g. The Augustinian notion embraced by the Puritans of creating "A City on the Hill," the concept of "Manifest Destiny," etc.
- Exceptionalism as a universal theme of nations and religions—not at all peculiar to or restricted to the United States

15. 'Off the beaten track': Appalachian Images and Narratives of Poor Mountain People

Panel Chair: Carmen Rueda Ramos

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The twelve-state Appalachian region has often been identified as the poorest area in the United States. In *The Other America* (1962), Michael Harrington pointed out Appalachian chronic poverty to the rest of America. He wrote that "Poverty is often off the beaten track. It always has been. The ordinary tourist never left the main highway...[and] does not see the company houses in rows, the rutted roads... [where] everything is black and dirty." Throughout the twentieth century, government efforts have been made to eradicate poverty in the rural areas of Appalachia (Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal in the 1930s, John F. Kennedy's 1963 presidential commission on Appalachian poverty, Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty in 1964, and Bill Clinton's public statement on poverty in Kentucky in 1999). Portrayals of poverty have

always been present in the narratives, films and documentaries about Appalachia. Some of these images of poor mountain folk have presented them as both stereotypical “hillbillies” (lazy, violent and inbred) and victims of corporate greed, government neglect and, lately, environmental abuse. The feeling that some parts of Appalachia are still America’s backyard pervades the body of work of many contemporary writers, photographers, and filmmakers of the region. Some of the topics that we might want to address include:

- Critical readings of poverty and Appalachia as a symbol of exploitation and extraction in the works of contemporary writers such as Dorothy Allison, Wendell Berry, Wilma Dykeman, Denise Giardina, Chris Holbrook, Silas House, Chris Offutt, Anne Pancake, Breece D’J Pancake, Lee Smith, and Meredith Sue Willis, among others.
- Novels dealing with unionization, miners’ strikes and social revolts in the 1920s and 1930s in the region, and Appalachian out-migration to cities after WW II.
- Fiction and Nonfiction writing as a form of social activism in Appalachia “to raise awareness of what is happening in our own back yards” (Silas House, *Missing Mountains*, 2005, 6).
- Novels/documentaries dealing with mountaintop removal mining and the destruction of landscape, natural resources and the perpetuation of poverty.
- Images (re)presenting extreme poverty: a strategy to fight or to perpetuate stereotypes about the region? Shelby Lee Adams’ controversial *Appalachian Portraits*.

16. From Rags to Riches: The Underprivileged and the Affluent in US History

Panel Chair: Antonia Sagredo Santos

Institution: Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia

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This panel offers a space for reflection on the historical and cultural dimensions of poverty and wealth and their impact on the American society. The pursuit of prosperity and material happiness has taken place from early times when explorers went to the United States in search of riches. Immigrants and settlers have been pushed from their homeland because of starvation (e. g. The Great Irish Famine), disease, political oppression, religious persecution, overcrowded cities, etc. However, in spite of the allure of the American dream some of the newcomers have remained as part of the underprivileged.

We want to focus our attention on the fact that some groups have had more opportunities than others. Certain ethnic communities have suffered from discrimination, exclusion and prejudice. At the same time, other dominant groups, especially the WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) have maintained a privileged position in U. S. society and have had more chances to become affluent. We welcome papers that are concerned with the issue of poverty and wealth in the past and present history of the United States of America. One topic to be addressed may be migration since the United States has long symbolised the beginning of a new life for millions of immigrants fleeing poverty and hardship. Another crucial topic is considering periods of economic crisis such as the Great Depression, the oil crisis in the 1970s and the current one and their repercussions on industry, farming, housing, the banking system, etc. Another key

topic is ecological poverty and industrial wealth in recent American history. We could study an ethnic minority group (i. e. the black community, the Chicano community, etc) placing our emphasis on the socioeconomic approach. We also invite papers to deal with some of the main policies and legislative measures to overcome all the obstacles that the situation of poverty causes. We welcome interdisciplinary papers which offer different perspectives on poverty and wealth in American history and culture.

17. Of Majors and Minors: The Rich and Poor Languages of American Cinema

Panel Chair: Boris Vejdovsky

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American cinema dominated by Hollywood production has arguably become the major expression of America today. Hollywood is the nation's second export industry and it generates an income that can only be estimated in astronomical figures. Money has always been not only the necessary condition of the film industry, but also part of its fascination. Thus, after producing *Titanic*, the most expensive movie of all times, James Cameron broke his own record in 2010 with *Avatar* which may have cost as much a half-a-billion dollars. The major language of contemporary America seems to be, then, a rich language. It is a language that not only uses all the major aspects of America (its political and financial system) but that also expresses itself with all the major themes and—to use a musical metaphor—in the major chords of the nation. Another way of expressing this would be to say that the major or rich language of Hollywood constantly reaffirms and reestablishes the ideological, political and aesthetic borders of America.

In their 1975 essay on Kafka, Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari proposed that “minor literature” (*une littérature mineure*) was not so much literature written in a minor language, but rather literature written by a minority of people within the major language. They further propose that minor languages and literatures deterritorialize major languages and literatures.

Without necessarily following Deleuze and Guattari's terminology or conceptualization, this panel invites contributions that will examine whether there is something akin to “minor literature” in American cinema. Is it possible to express oneself in a minor tone, or is it possible to speak in a poor language within the rich fluency of Hollywood? Contributors are invited to speak on strategies of deterritorialization of American mainstream discourse and to expose possible strategies of resistance and counter-discourse. Examples could come from alternative cinema and from contestation voiced by radical directors or actors, but also from mainstream cinema to see whether there may be something in American cinema that does not love the borders of established discourse and that manages to speak in a poor or minor language within the language of riches.

Topics include but are not limited to the expression and representation in cinema of:

- American aesthetics: its establishing and its contestation
- Politics: conservatism, liberalism, radicalism
- Systems of values: monetary and moral

- Gender and sexual encoding of major and minor discourse
- Technology and control
- Definition of reality and rites of assent

18. Miscellaneous Panel

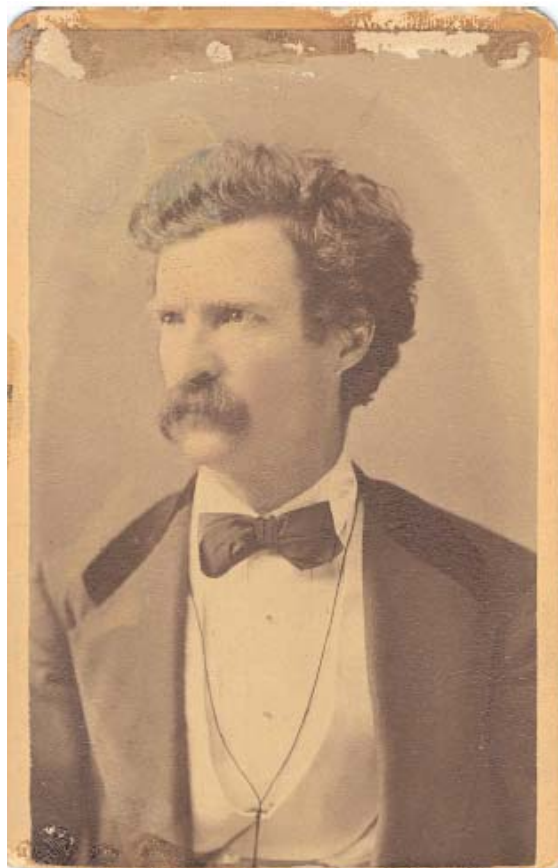
Panel Chair: Cristina Alsina/Víctor Junco

Institution: Universitat de Barcelona/Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

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No man can say aught against honest poverty. The books laud it; the instructors of the people praise it; all men glorify it and say it hath its reward here and will have it here after. Honest poverty is a gem that even a King might feel proud to call his own, but I wish to sell out. I have sported that kind of jewelry long enough. I want some variety. I wish to become rich, so that I can instruct the people and glorify honest poverty a little, like those good, kind-hearted, fat, benevolent people do.

Mark Twain, Letter to Alta California,
May 26, 1867.



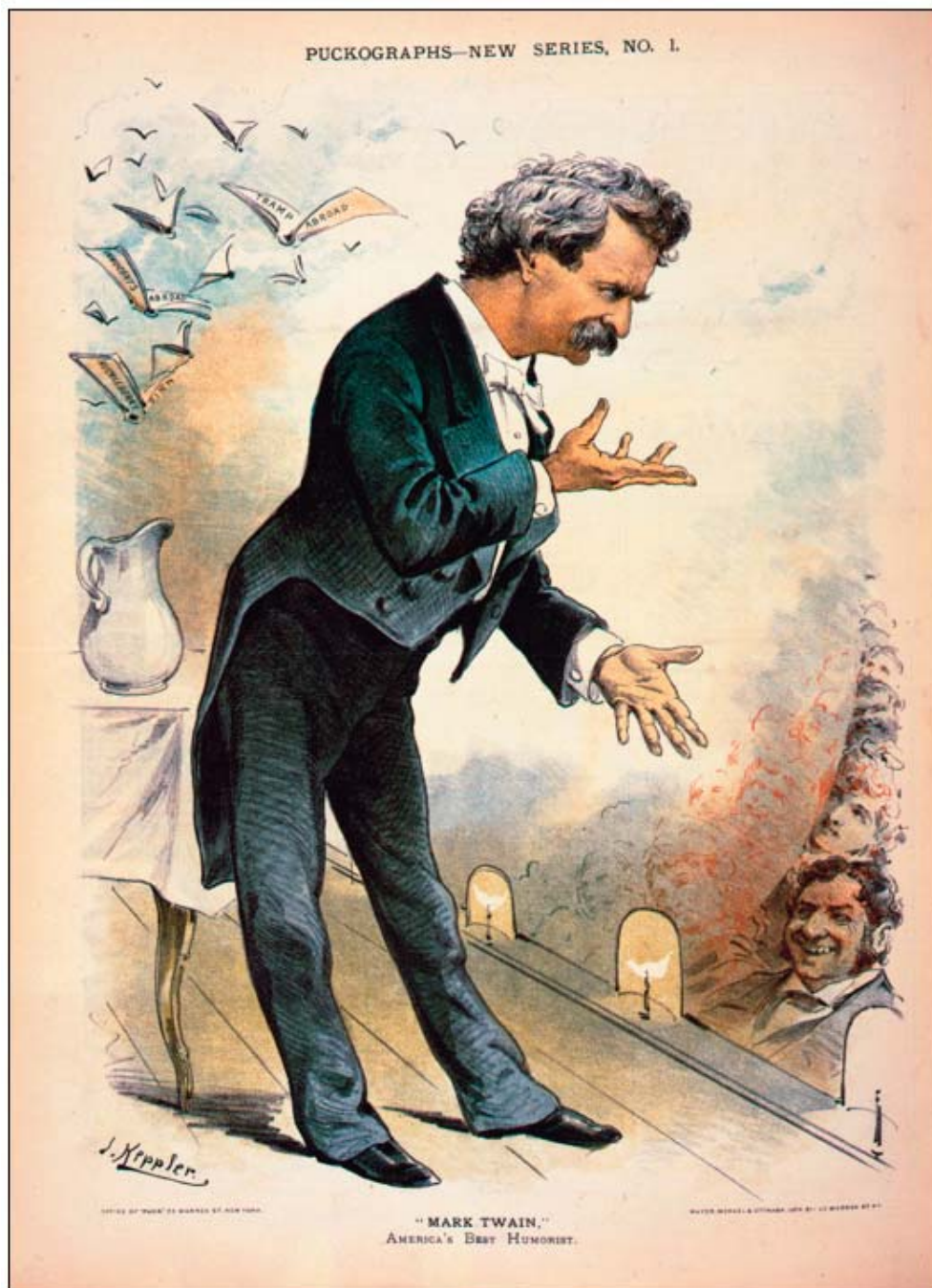
GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS

- **Abstracts of Proposals** are to be e-mailed directly to the chair of the selected panel using the form at the end of this file. The deadline for submitting abstracts is **October 29, 2010**. Panel chairs are expected to accept/reject proposals and have panels set up by **November 19**.
- Panels cannot have more than three contributions each.
- The deadline for the submission of the final and complete version of papers accepted by panel chairs is **February 11, 2011**.
- All complete papers have to be submitted in electronic format to the panel chair who accepted them. Please, **include a brief CV** of approx. 300 words, indicating your present affiliation and main publications.
- Before the Conference, all the papers will be circulated among the panel participants.
- The final version should never exceed **2500 words**. Panelists will be talking for about 20 minutes and there will be a final round of questions once all panelists have presented their contributions. Panel chairs are also expected to offer a brief summary and comments on the contributions to their own panels.
- Panel sessions should not last more than one hour and thirty minutes, including the question/answer section.
- All participants **MUST** have registered for the Conference ahead of time (see SAAS web page at <http://www.saasweb.org>).
- Panel chairs are also expected to dissuade panelists from simply reading their papers.
- If panelists have any special requirements for their presentations, they should let their panel chairs know as soon as possible.

* * *

Igualmente se recuerda que, tal como se acordó en el Congreso de Jaén en 2005, el Congreso de SAAS estará abierto a personas (españolas o extranjeras) que no sean socias de SAAS a condición de que paguen la cuota de un año de afiliación a la Asociación además de la cuota de inscripción en el congreso. Esto no incluye a los socios de ASA (American Studies Association), asociación afiliada a SAAS, que sólo tendrán que pagar la cuota de inscripción al Congreso.

IMPORTANT: Non-members of SAAS (of all nationalities) are welcome to participate in the conference, but will be required to pay membership dues for one year as well as the conference registration fee. Members of ASA (American Studies Association), need only pay the conference registration fee.



Mark Twain as public speaker, depicted by Puck magazine caricaturist and founder Joseph Keppler in 1885.

PUBLICACIONES Y TESIS DE SOCIOS DE SAAS

Armengol, Josep M. and Àngels Carabí, eds. *Debating Masculinity*, Harriman, Tennessee: Men's Studies Press, 2009.

Debating Masculinity offers a contemporary discussion of men and masculinities from an interdisciplinary perspective, including interviews to, and chapters by, leading masculinity scholars including Michael Kimmel, Lynne Segal, David Gilmore, Patricia Gowaty, Carolyn Dinshaw, David Eng, Linda Jones, Krin Gabbard, and David Leverenz. Combining a multiplicity of disciplinary and critical approaches, the book explores the past, present, and future of masculinity studies in highly innovative and provocative ways, analyzing the relationship between masculinity and such pressing questions as violence, fatherhood, feminism, men's movements, identity politics, intimacy and friendship, homophobia, etc. Book orders: Men's Studies Press (publisher@mensstudies.com), Amazon (www.amazon.com), Barnes and Noble (www.barnesandnoble.com), etc.

Armengol, Josep M. *Richard Ford and the Fiction of Masculinities*, New York: Peter Lang, 2010.

Richard Ford and the Fiction of Masculinities demonstrates how contemporary U.S. novelist Richard Ford, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for literature, rewrites gender, and in particular masculinity, from highly subversive and innovative perspectives. Josep M. Armengol analyzes the construction, as well as the de-construction, of masculinity in all of Ford's major fictional texts to date, ranging from *A Piece of My Heart* to *The Sportswriter* to *The Lay of the Land*. Given its simultaneous critique of traditional masculinity and its depiction of alternative models of being a man, Ford's fiction is shown to be particularly interesting from a men's studies perspective, which aims not only to undermine patriarchal masculinity but also to look for new, non-hierarchical, and more egalitarian models of being a man in contemporary U.S. culture and literature. By framing Ford's contemporary representations of masculinity within a more general context of American literature, this book reveals how his texts continue along a trajectory of earlier American fiction while they also re-examine masculinity in new, more complex ways. *Richard Ford and the Fiction of Masculinities* contributes to the much-needed revision of men and masculinities in U. S. literature, and especially Richard Ford's fiction, where constructions of gender and masculinity remain, paradoxically enough, largely unexplored.

Castro Borrego, Silvia Pilar y María Isabel Romero Ruiz, eds., *Identidad, Migración y Cuerpo Femenino: Identity, Migration and Women's Bodies as Sites of Knowledge and Transgression* (Volumen Bilingüe Español/Inglés), Oviedo: KRK Ediciones, ISBN 978-84-8367-213-6 Pp. 289.

Este libro examina factores determinantes para la construcción de una identidad femenina como sujeto colonial y poscolonial, como son el género, la liminalidad y la frontera, así como realidades más oscuras de la alienación, la discriminación, el trauma, el desequilibrio mental y espiritual. Estas realidades que conforman la identidad femenina son el resultado de la migración, el racismo y la colonización, de ahí que el enfoque metodológico sea de tipo interdisciplinar y de género.

Carrasco Carrasco, Rocío, *Of Men and Cyborgs: The Construction of Masculinity in Contemporary US Science Fiction Cinema*, Universidad de Huelva, 2010. (Directora: Sonia Villegas López)

This PhD dissertation argues that science fiction cinema is a distinguished genre in the exploration of male identities in the U.S.A. Particularly, it attempts to illustrate that images of men and male cyborgs in contemporary science fiction films effectively suggest gender and identity concerns and can, therefore, be taken as cultural referents. This study of masculinity establishes four general patterns: the “menaced man”, the “conquering man”, the “artificial man” and the “virtual man”. These dominant trends of representation mirror, in a higher or lesser degree, society’s perception of gender, which inevitably affect the representation of masculinity. For such a study, four key films are analysed: Spielberg’s *The War of the Worlds* (2005), Baird’s *Star Trek. Nemesis* (2002), Cameron’s *Terminator 2: Judgement Day* (1991) and the Wachowskis’ *The Matrix* (1999). These films show the construction of masculinity in science fiction cinema while opening debates on the degree of permissiveness of the genre.

Gene Allen Smith and Sylvia L. Hilton, eds., *Nexus of Empire: Negotiating Loyalty and Identity in the Revolutionary Borderlands, 1760s–1820s*, Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2010.

From the 1760s until the 1820s the Gulf of Mexico region played a key role in the turbulent redefinition of the political boundaries of North America. From the Atlantic coast of Florida across to Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, and even the Pacific coast of California, multiple challenges and opportunities created a shifting nexus of interests, identities and loyalties. Within this broad band of territory, Native American nations, Spain, France, England, and ultimately the United States competed for increasingly important strategic and commercial advantages. *Nexus of Empire* focuses on the people who inhabited this region, one of the continent’s most dynamic borderlands. These individuals—some famous, some unknown—were presented with unusual opportunities to pursue their own interests as nations and empires attempted to defend or extend their own spheres of political, social, and economic control. The essays in this collection examine the personal experiences of men and women, Native Americans, European colonists,

Americans of the newly independent United States, free people of color, and slaves, analyzing the ways in which these individuals defined and redefined themselves amid a turbulent world of competing loyalties.

This volume humanizes the promise and perils of living, working, and fighting in a region troubled/afflicted by constant political upheaval and economic uncertainties. It offers intriguing glimpses into a fast-changing world in which individuals' attitudes and actions reveal the convoluted balancing acts of identities that characterized this population and this era.

Henry, Gordon D. Jr., Nieves Pascual Soler and Silvia Martínez-Falquina, eds. *Stories Through Theories/Theories Through Stories: North American Indian Writing, Storytelling, and Critique*. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2009.

This text explores the uneasy relations—often contentious, sometimes complicit—between American Indian Literature and literary theory. Some of the essays in this book open American Indian narratives to theoretical critique based on “western depth models.” Others work from a very different direction, finding critique in storytelling and processes of narrative production, thereby exposing dimensions of literary theory that grow from the indigenous ground of Native stories themselves. Taken together, these essays provide compelling evidence for looking at primary Native cultures, authors, and histories as enrichments of Native literature.

Ana Manzananas, Jesús Benito, *Cities, Borders and Spaces in Intercultural American Literature and Film*, New York: Routledge, 2010

This book examines the spatial morphologies represented in a wide range of contemporary ethnic American literary and cinematic works. Drawing from Henri Lefebvre's theorization of space as a living organism, Edward Soja's writings on the postmetropolis, Marc Augé's notion of the non-place, Manuel Castells' space of flows, and Michel de Certeau's theories of walking as a practice, the volume extends previous theorizations by examining how spatial uses, appropriations, strictures, ruptures, and reconfigurations function in literary texts and films that represent inhabitants of racial-ethnic borderlands and migrational U.S. cities. The authors argue for the necessity of an alternative poetics of place that makes room for those who move beyond the spaces of traditional visibility—displaced and homeless people, undocumented workers, hybrid and/or marginalized populations rendered invisible by the cultural elite, yet often disciplined by agents of surveillance. Building upon Doreen Massey's conceptualization of liminal space as a sphere in which narratives intersect, clash, or cooperate, this study recasts spatial paradigms to insert an array of emergent geographies of invisibility that the volume traverses via the analysis of works by Chuck Palahniuk, Helena Viramontes, Karen Tei Yamashita, Gloria Anzaldúa, Alejandro Morales, and Li-Young Lee, among others, and films such as Thomas McCarthy's *The Visitor*, Steven Spielberg's *The Terminal*, and Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu's *Babel*.

Michael Rockland, *Reminiscences of Spain/Recuerdos de España*, University of Valencia Press, 2011.

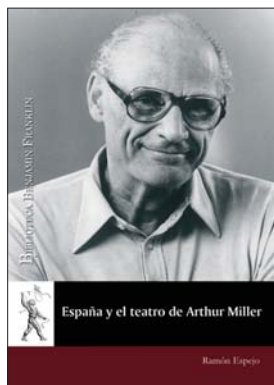
In this book I discuss my long relationship with Spain, dating back to four years spent with the American Embassy in Madrid as a cultural attache. Stories include "A Day in Madrid with Martin Luther King," "How I Managed to Avoid Shaking Hands With Francisco Franco," and "The Bombs and the Casa Americana," which focuses on the day the United States inadvertently dropped four unarmed nuclear bombs on a little Spanish town, the international crisis that ensued, and how, as a result, I became director of the American cultural center in Madrid.



Huck Finn, illustration by E.W. Kemble from the 1885 edition of Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

PUBLICACIONES INSTITUTO FRANKLIN 2010

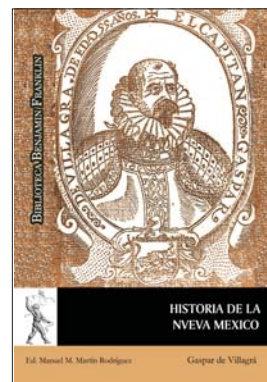
España y el teatro de Arthur Miller



El profesor Ramón Espejo realiza un estudio monográfico sobre la repercusión del teatro de Arthur Miller, el dramaturgo norteamericano más representado en nuestro país.

Historia de la Nueva Mexico

El profesor Manuel Martín-Rodríguez edita esta edición del poemario de Villagrà coincidiendo con el cuarto centenario de su publicación.



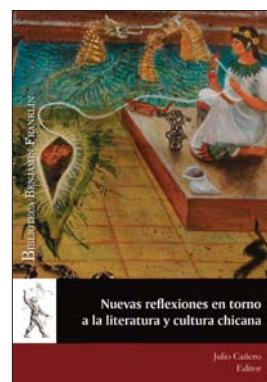
Camino Real



La revista de **CAMINO REAL. Estudios de las Hispanidades Norteamericanas** se consolida como revista académica multidisciplinar sobre los hispanos en Estados Unidos con sus números 2 y 3 en el 2010.

Nuevas reflexiones en torno a la literatura y cultura chicana

El Dr. Julio Cañero edita esta compilación de artículos, elaborados por prestigiosos profesores, con clara vocación de investigación al aproximarse a los nuevos modelos literarios y culturales de la Comunidad Chicana.



Tribuna Norteamericana



Durante el 2010, se han publicado tres nuevos números de la colección **Tribuna Norteamericana** analizando la política hispana; las relaciones entre Estados Unidos y Pakistán con la Administración Obama; y el más reciente a la actual ley electoral de los Estados Unidos.

Los recuerdos de Ana Calderón

Esta obra de la escritora hispana Graciela Limón es la novela traducida al castellano en el 2010 –*El olvidado pueblo de Simons* de A. Morales lo fue en el 2009– para formar parte de la Colección Camino Real.





Biblioteca Javier Coy d'Estudis Nord-Americans

ÚLTIMOS TÍTULOS

66. Elena Ortells Montón, *Truman Capote, un camaleón ante el espejo*

“Soy alcohólico. Soy drogadicto. Soy homosexual. Soy un genio.” Éstas son las palabras con las que el propio Truman Capote se definió en un momento determinado de su existencia. Escritor precoz, abiertamente homosexual y aficionado al alcohol y a las drogas acabó suicidándose, incapaz de asumir el contraste entre el mundo que él imaginaba y la cruda realidad. Veinticinco años después de su muerte la turbulenta personalidad de este extravagante escritor continúa cautivando a los lectores, alimentando páginas y páginas de la prensa escrita y llamando la atención de la crítica. *Truman Capote, un camaleón ante el espejo*, se presenta como un modesto intento de reivindicar la memoria de éste no siempre brillante pero extraordinario escritor que merece ocupar un lugar más destacado en los anales de la historia literaria.

67. María Jesús Castro Dopacio, *Emperatriz de las Américas: la Virgen de Guadalupe en la literatura chicana*

Emperatriz de las Américas: la Virgen de Guadalupe en la literatura chicana se centra en el análisis del icono espiritual más relevante entre la población chicana de EE.UU.: la Virgen de Guadalupe. Las relecturas efectuadas por subjetividades con anterioridad silenciadas permiten descubrir cómo se han elaborado discursos plurales y novedosos en torno a esta imagen religiosa, herencia del catolicismo español implantado en el continente americano. Los textos analizados proponen una revisión del estereotipo de femineidad ideal transmitido por la figura guadalupana desde el punto de vista institucional. Pese a las cambiantes re-territorializaciones geopolíticas, el símbolo guadalupano continúa estando vigente gracias a la actualización de significados llevada a cabo en las letras chicanas.

68. Louisa May Alcott, *Louisa May Alcott: tres relatos de adultos*, trad. y ed. Miriam López Rodríguez

Desde la publicación de *Mujercitas* en 1868, Louisa May Alcott ha sido considerada una escritora conservadora de novelas románticas para adolescentes. Sin embargo, durante las últimas tres décadas numerosas investigadoras han trabajado para modificar esta imagen almibarada e incompleta de la autora y han mostrado la amplitud y complejidad de su producción literaria. Esta labor de recuperación de la

obra alcottiana se ha visto lamentablemente limitada casi en su totalidad a estudios en lengua inglesa. Este volumen es un intento de paliar esta carencia de publicaciones en español con la presentación de tres relatos hasta ahora inéditos en nuestra lengua: el relato gótico *Tras la máscara*, el cuento *La doma del tártaro* y la sátira *Semillas trascendentalistas*, escritos todos ellos para un público adulto.

69. Emilia María Durán Almarza, *Performeras del Dominicanyork: Josefina Báez y Chiqui Vicioso*

Performeras del Dominicanyork ahonda en el análisis de la formación de la identidad cultural en el marco de las experiencias diaspóricas y su representación en el teatro contemporáneo. Partiendo del análisis de las obras de Josefina Báez y Chiqui Vicioso, dos artistas que comparten la experiencia de la migración a la ciudad de Nueva York, se estudia las diferentes formas en que el género, la raza, la etnicidad y la localización geográfica interactúan en la formación de identidades transculturales. Al centrarse en la producción de discursos étnicos en dos áreas geográficas distintas pero interconectadas —el Caribe y Nueva York— se revelan convergencias y divergencias en las producciones culturales caribeñas y latinas, así como la presencia simultánea de modernismos y post-modernismos en el mundo post-colonial.

70. Francisco Javier Rodríguez Jiménez, *¿Antídoto contra el antiamericanismo? American Studies en España, 1945-1969*

Este volumen estudia cómo Estados Unidos comenzó a utilizar la difusión de su cultura en el exterior con fines propagandísticos, a partir de 1945. Desde Washington se quiso reivindicar la valía de los *American Studies*, esto es, las artes y las letras estadounidenses.

En juego estaba mostrar al mundo que no sólo tenían poderío militar y económico, también *High Culture*. A tal efecto se invirtieron importantes sumas de dinero para que los Estudios Norteamericanos pudiesen tener su espacio, independiente de la *British Culture*, en las aulas universitarias europeas.

Tales maniobras de proselitismo cultural no alcanzaron el éxito esperado en la España franquista. Fueron varias las razones que impidieron que los *American Studies* se hicieran con un hueco propio en los planes de estudio españoles: la asimetría de la alianza militar hispano-estadounidense y sus secuelas, el retraso en la incorporación a los circuitos de intercambio cultural promovidos por Estados Unidos, o la escasa tradición de estudios filológicos y culturales en lengua inglesa.

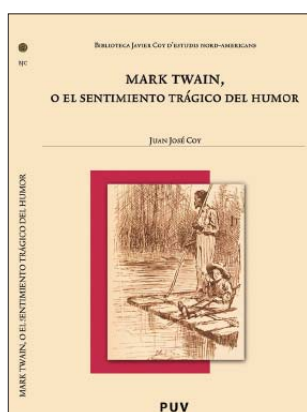
Todo ello hizo que los intentos por promocionar los *American Studies* alcanzasen unos resultados mediocres, siendo a su vez causa y efecto de la persistencia del antiamericanismo español.

71. Rubén Vázquez Negro, *Sam Shepard: el teatro contra sí mismo*

Además de *enfant terrible* de la cultura norteamericana, Sam Shepard (1943) es el creador de algunas de las obras más influyentes de la historia reciente del teatro de su país. Todas ellas manifiestan una

vocación experimental, que se concreta en un lenguaje hipnótico, unos personajes y unas tramas casi impredecibles y una escenografía alejada del realismo convencional. *Sam Shepard: el teatro contra sí mismo* es el primer libro sobre el dramaturgo en España, y en él se analizan detalladamente los antecedentes de su producción, las exigencias que ésta plantea a los actores y al espectador, y el reflejo de todo ello en sus títulos más importantes. Junto a lo puramente formal, el autor explora también el alcance y las limitaciones ideológicas de un teatro que rescata los valores más arraigados del imaginario norteamericano, como el apego al mundo rural, el espíritu de aventura y la búsqueda incesante de una identidad personal y colectiva.

72. Juan José Coy, *Mark Twain o el sentimiento trágico del humor*



La Biblioteca Javier Coy d'estudis nord-americans presenta *Mark Twain o el sentimiento trágico del humor* como un texto en homenaje, en primer lugar, al genial escritor en el centenario de su muerte, y, en segundo, al autor del mismo, Juan José Coy, uno de los pioneros en el estudio de la literatura norteamericana en nuestro país y reverenciado maestro de muchos otros estudiosos del campo. Como todo aquello que Juan José Coy ha escrito a lo largo de sus muchas décadas compromiso férreo con la investigación, este largo ensayo sobre la figura de Mark Twain destila lo que él mismo denomina Conocimiento, con mayúscula, es decir, una auténtica apropiación personal de la vida y obra del autor norteamericano que, además de proporcionarnos placer, nos capacita para reaccionar con más sensibilidad ante determinados aspectos de la vida.

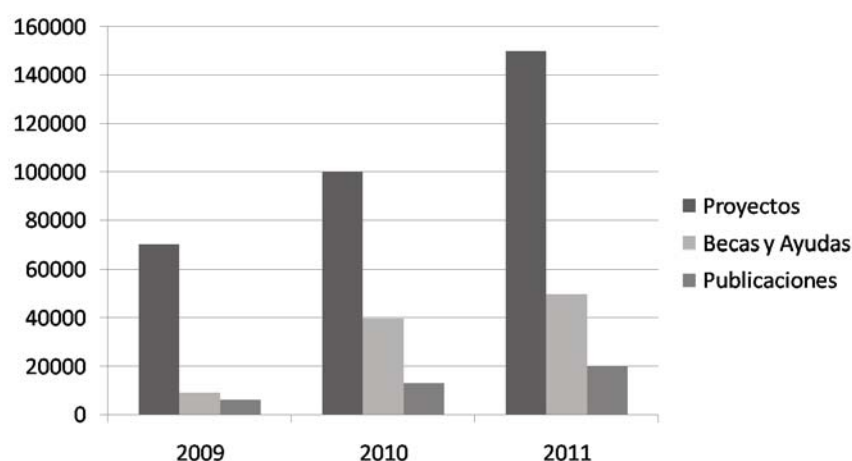
73. Douglas Edward LaPrade, *Hemingway prohibido en España*

El nombre de Hemingway era conocido entre los oficiales franquistas varios años antes de que su ficción estuviera al alcance de los lectores españoles. Para Franco, Hemingway, que había participado en el bando republicano durante la guerra civil, era un propagandista rojo y su novela *Por quién doblan las campanas*, uno de los elementos que más contribuían a la tergiversación en el extranjero de los hechos históricos de la contienda. *Hemingway prohibido en España* saca a la luz los documentos oficiales sobre el norteamericano depositados en el Archivo General de la Administración de Alcalá de Henares, que fueron compilados por los burócratas gubernamentales franquistas; estudia los expedientes de los censores sobre los libros del escritor y reproduce los pasajes que éstos tacharon de las ediciones españolas de dichas obras. Para la censura franquista, concluye Douglas LaPrade, Hemingway representaba una amenaza tanto desde el punto de vista político como moral que había que neutralizar.

LA INVESTIGACIÓN EN EL INSTITUTO FRANKLIN

En los últimos años el Instituto Franklin ha incrementado sustancialmente sus fondos destinados a la investigación en Estudios Norteamericanos garantizando su continuidad al destinar un remanente a modo de reserva para tal fin. Además de colaborar estrechamente con SAAS, el Instituto mantiene relaciones corporativas con distintas instituciones, asociaciones y centros oficiales, como AEDEAN (Asociación Española de Estudios Anglo-Norteamericanos), la Embajada de Estados Unidos, la *American Studies Network*, la Fundación Consejo España-Estados Unidos, la Cámara de Comercio de Estados Unidos en España, el *Middelburg Center for Transatlantic Studies*, el *Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute* o HACU (Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities), para desempeñar su labor fundamental de promover la investigación inter y multidisciplinar relacionada con los Estudios Norteamericanos.

Gracias a los fondos propios, generados por sus programas académicos, el Instituto Franklin se ha convertido en referente del apoyo y financiación de la investigación sobre Estados Unidos en España.



Fondos destinados a investigación por el Instituto Franklin en euros (€)

En la actualidad, gracias a estas inversiones, existen tres “grupos de investigación consolidados” y otros siete “grupos en formación” relacionados con los Estudios Norteamericanos y Estados Unidos pertenecientes a diferentes disciplinas: Cultura, Literatura, Ecología, Medio Ambiente, Relaciones Internacionales, Arquitectura, Derecho y Economía. En el 2010 la cantidad destinada a estos proyectos ha ascendido a los 100.000€ y la reserva de fondos para este capítulo en el 2011 es de 150.000€.

En el Máster Oficial en Estudios Norteamericanos se han matriculado 22 alumnos para el curso 2010/2011. La cantidad destinada en este próximo curso en concepto de becas para los alumnos, pago de profesorado, encuadernación de tesis doctorales, invitación de conferenciantes, adquisición de material bibliográfico e informático... etc. es de 50.000€.

CONVOCATORIAS DE BECAS



BECA “WASHINGTON IRVING” DE ESTUDIOS NORTEAMERICANOS (2011) SAAS / INSTITUTO FRANKLIN

Se convoca una beca de 1600 € para ayudar a los socios y socias de SAAS en sus tareas de investigación en el campo de los Estudios sobre Estados Unidos. Dicha ayuda está financiada por el Instituto Franklin, de la Universidad de Alcalá, y consiste en una estancia en dicho Instituto, durante la primera quincena de septiembre, para investigar en el tema propuesto por quien solicita la beca. La ayuda consiste en 600 € para hospedaje y manutención en lugar propuesto por el Instituto Franklin, hasta 200 € para transporte, 100 € para fotocopias y material de oficina, 100 € para material informático y 600 € en libros de la bibliografía específica propuesta por el/la solicitante; estos libros formarán parte del fondo bibliográfico del Instituto pero estarán a disposición de quien haya conseguido la ayuda en el momento en que la disfrute. Se facilitará un espacio adecuado al estudio en las dependencias del Instituto Franklin.

Para poder optar a las ayudas será necesario ser miembro de pleno derecho de SAAS en el momento de solicitarlas. Las solicitudes (modelo libre) se enviarán en papel o por medio de correo electrónico (en archivos pdf. de Adobe), a la Secretaría de SAAS en la siguiente dirección:

Dra. Carmen Flys Junquera
Instituto Universitario de Investigación en Estudios Norteamericanos Benjamin Franklin
Colegio de Trinitarios, Calle Trinidad 1
28801 Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain

Las solicitudes podrán enviarse desde el momento de la publicación de esta convocatoria hasta el 15 de febrero de 2011. En ellas se expondrán los motivos por los que se opta a la ayuda y deberán ir acompañadas de:

- 1) Copia firmada en papel o archivo en pdf. del curriculum vitae del candidato o candidata.
- 2) Copia en papel o archivo escaneado en pdf. del expediente académico personal si el/la solicitante es Becario/a de Investigación o alumno; u hoja de servicios si es profesor/a, emitida por la autoridad correspondiente de su centro de trabajo o institución.
- 3) Declaración jurada, en papel o en archivo escaneado en pdf., de que el/la solicitante no percibe ninguna otra ayuda para este fin durante el período de disfrute de la ayuda.

4) Breve memoria, en papel o pdf., del proyecto de investigación que se pretende realizar en la que se hará un resumen del estado de la cuestión que se desea investigar, los objetivos específicos del estudio y su posible relevancia y la metodología que se empleará. Se enumerará asimismo la bibliografía relevante que el/la solicitante desearía adquirir con cargo a la ayuda, de acuerdo con las bases anteriores.

La selección será realizada por una Comisión elegida a tal fin por la Junta Directiva de SAAS y el Instituto Franklin. La relación priorizada de las candidaturas se notificará por correo electrónico a las personas interesadas, se hará pública en la página web de SAAS (<http://www.saasweb.org/>) y se publicará en el Boletín anual de SAAS. El año que coincida con la celebración del Congreso bienal de SAAS, el resultado se hará público en la cena de clausura del mismo.

Para la elaboración de la relación priorizada la Comisión tendrá en cuenta los méritos académicos, científicos y profesionales de los/las solicitantes, así como la calidad del proyecto de investigación presentado y su viabilidad. Asimismo, la Comisión podrá solicitar el asesoramiento que considere oportuno a la hora de evaluar la calidad científica de los proyectos presentados. En el caso de que haya renuncias o bajas entre las primeras personas nominadas, la Comisión hará uso de la lista priorizada. El fallo de la Comisión es inapelable.

It is good to begin life poor; it is good to begin life rich –these are wholesome; but to begin it poor and prospectively rich! The man who has not experienced it cannot imagine the curse of it.

Mark Twain, Autobiography of Mark Twain

OTRAS BECAS DEL INSTITUTO FRANKLIN

Beca/ Ayuda	Carácter	Candidatos	Fechas	Dotación
Margaret Fuller	Literatura sobre Estudios en EE. UU.	Miembros de pleno derecho de AEDEAN	15 días en julio o la primera quincena de septiembre	1.600€
Richard Rorty	Filosofía sobre Estudios en EE. UU.	Investigadores pre- o postdoctorales	15 días en julio	1.600€
Kenneth Galbraith	Economía sobre Estudios en EE. UU.	Investigadores pre- o postdoctorales	15 días en julio o septiembre	1.600€
Benjamin Franklin	Multidisciplinar. Para realizar investigaciones en alguna universidad o centro de investigación norteamericano	Profesores en activo de la Universidad de Alcalá no adscritos al Instituto Franklin	Al menos 15 días consecutivos en cualquier mes del año	3.000 €
Sabine Ulibarri	Estudio de hispanos en EE. UU.	Investigadores europeos no españoles	15 días en julio o septiembre	1.600€
Harry Levin	Ayuda de asistencia a Congresos relacionados con estudios norteamericanos	Alumnos de doctorado o doctores en sus dos primeros años	Cualquier período del año, según congreso	5 ayudas de 200€
Allan Poe	Ayuda de asistencia a Congresos del Instituto Franklin	Alumnos de doctorado o doctores en sus dos primeros años	Cualquier período del año, según congreso	4 ayudas de 200€
Eleanor Roosevelt	Encuadernación de tesis doctoral	Investigadores predoctorales que estén realizando su tesis doctoral en el Instituto Franklin	Cualquier período del año, según tribunal de tesis	300€

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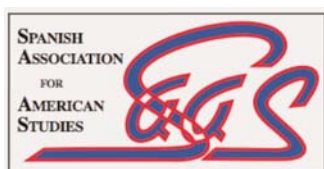
- ✓ Ensayos o artículos sobre hispanos en Estados Unidos en la revista CAMINO REAL
- ✓ Volúmenes monográficos (incluidas tesis doctorales) sobre temas relacionados con EE. UU. en la BIBLIOTECA BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
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The authors, who necessarily have to be SAAS members, should send two copies of their work to the local organizers at the University of Alcalá de Henares:

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28801 Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain

Once the award is announced, the volumes will be returned to the authors.

The jury's decision, which is unappealable, will be made public during the members' general assembly during the conference.

The endowment of the award is 600 euros.

The next deadline, to coincide with the 10th conference of SAAS at the University of Alcalá de Henares, is January 15th, 2011.

Following the SAAS board's agreement, the composition of the jury will not be made public.

FULBRIGHT COMMISSION

CONVOCATORIAS ABIERTAS O DE PRÓXIMA APERTURA

Ampliación de estudios. Curso 2011-2012

Fecha prevista de apertura de próxima convocatoria: enero de 2011

Objetivo: Realización de estudios de posgrado en universidades de Estados Unidos.

Disciplinas: Todas las áreas de conocimiento.

Requisitos: Nacionalidad española o de otro país de la Unión Europea; título superior obtenido entre enero de 2004 y junio de 2010; excelente conocimiento del idioma inglés - hablado y escrito-, demostrable mediante el *Test of English as a Foreign Language* (TOEFL); dependiendo del tipo de estudio que se quiera realizar, puede ser necesaria experiencia profesional y/o la presentación de los resultados del *Graduate Management Admission Test* (GMAT).

Duración: De 10 a 12 meses, renovable por un segundo período de máximo 12 meses.

Período de disfrute: Entre el verano u otoño de 2011 y el verano de 2012, según el calendario académico de la universidad de destino.

Dotación: Viaje, compra de libros y materiales; manutención; matrícula; seguro médico y de accidentes.



FULBRIGHT-SAAS, SPANISH ASSOCIATION FOR AMERICAN STUDIES. CURSO 2011-2012

Próxima convocatoria: abril de 2011

Objetivo: Investigación postdoctoral en cualquier área de las que componen el campo de "American Studies".

Disciplinas: Estudios sobre Estados Unidos.

Requisitos: Nacionalidad española o de otro país de la Unión Europea; estar en posesión del grado de Doctor con posterioridad al 31 de diciembre de 2002; excelente conocimiento del idioma inglés – hablado y escrito – en el momento de formalizar la solicitud.

Duración: De 3 a 4 meses, sin posibilidad de renovación.

Período de disfrute: Entre enero y septiembre de 2012.

Dotación: Manutención, gastos de primera instalación, viaje y seguro medico

LECTORES DE ESPAÑOL. CURSO 2011-2012

Fecha prevista apertura próxima convocatoria: marzo de 2011

Objetivo: Enseñar español en una universidad o "college" de Estados Unidos, a la vez que se estudian dos o tres asignaturas, en la mayoría de los casos no a nivel de posgrado.

Disciplinas: Enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera.

Requisitos: Nacionalidad española o de otro país de la UE; licenciatura en Ciencias de la Educación, Pedagogía, Filología española o inglesa, o en otra especialidad siempre que se demuestre experiencia en la enseñanza de idiomas; flexibilidad, capacidad de adaptación y disposición para colaborar con el departamento al que se incorpore en la institución receptora.

Duración: Un curso académico, sin posibilidad de renovación.

Período de disfrute: De agosto de 2011 a mayo de 2012.

Dotación: 4.000 US\$ más la oferta concreta de cada universidad; seguro de enfermedad y accidente.

BOLSAS DE VIAJE "RUTH LEE KENNEDY". CURSO 2010-2011

Fecha prevista apertura próxima convocatoria: diciembre de 2010

Objetivo: Ayudas destinadas a mujeres universitarias que quieran ampliar conocimientos o investigar en centros de enseñanza superior en Estados Unidos.

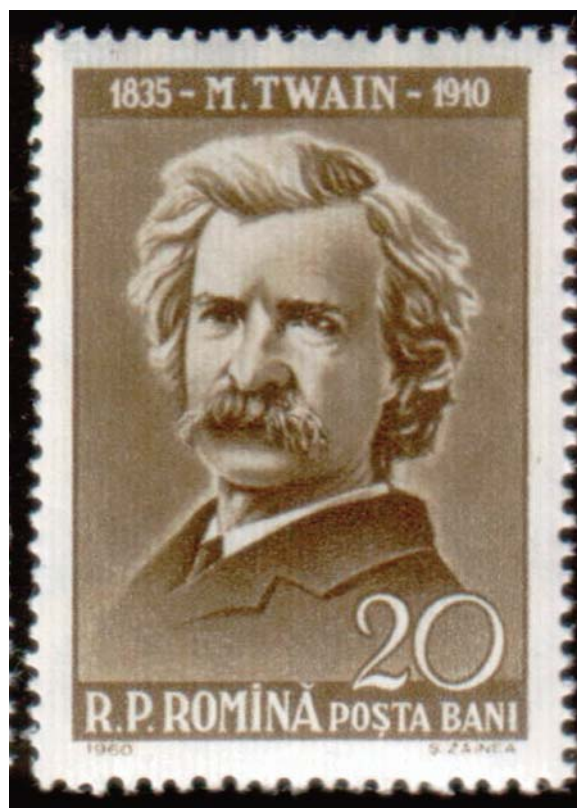
Disciplinas: Todas las áreas.

Requisitos: Ser mujer y tener nacionalidad española o de otro país miembro de la Unión Europea; haber obtenido la titulación superior o el doctorado en una universidad española en junio de 2003 o en fecha posterior; poseer un excelente conocimiento del idioma inglés, hablado y escrito.

Duración: Mínima de seis meses para estudios de postgrado o mínima de tres meses para proyectos de investigación postdoctoral. Máxima de 12 meses en todos los casos.

Período de disfrute: Deberá estar comprendido entre el otoño del 2010 y el verano del 2011.

Dotación: Bolsa de viaje de 3.000 dólares, no renovable.



Some men worship rank, some worship heroes, some worship power, some worship God, & over these ideals they dispute & cannot unite—but they all worship money.

Mark Twain's Notebook



EAAS GRANTS

The European Association for American Studies provides travel grants for postgraduate students in the Humanities and Social Sciences who are registered for a higher research degree at any European university. There are two grants: the Transatlantic Grant and the Intra-European Grant. Four to six scholarships are awarded each year. The following information is extracted from the EAAS website.

Transatlantic Grant

The Transatlantic Grant will permit the holder to conduct research which illuminates some aspect of the relationship between the United States and Europe, or between the United States and a country or countries within Europe, in a designated university in the United States. The term of the grant will be between three weeks (minimum) and eight weeks (maximum). Successful applicants will receive a grant intended to cover round trip travel and some of the living expenses. Only students registered for a Ph.D. are eligible to apply for the Transatlantic Grants.

Intra-European Grant

The Intra-European Grant will allow the recipient to conduct research for a period of up to four weeks in an American Studies Center or university library in Europe. Graduate students who are registered either for a Ph.D. or a Master's degree by research are eligible to apply for Intra-European Grants.

Applications must be made on the official form and should include written confirmation from the host institution that the researcher will have access to the necessary resource materials, and a letter from the student's academic supervisor. Applicants will be required to supply a detailed estimate of the cost of their visit, including the cost of travel, subsistence, and incidentals. They should also state the minimum amount of money needed to make the trip possible. Applicants are encouraged to seek supporting or matching funding wherever possible.

Grant recipients will be responsible for making their own arrangements for travel and accommodation. Travel must be completed within twelve months of the grantee being notified of the award. Grantees will be required to submit a report to EAAS within thirty days of returning from their research visit.

Updated information can be found at www.eaas.eu/travel_grants.htm

CONVOCATORIAS DE CONGRESOS

MARCH/APRIL 2011

BEYOND TRAUMA: NARRATIVES OF (IM)POSSIBILITY (IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURES IN ENGLISH)

Departamento de Filología Inglesa y Alemana
Universidad de Zaragoza
March 31 – April 2, 2011
Deadline for proposals: December 1st, 2010

For more than two decades, the causes, effects and manifestations of traumatic experiences have been studied from a variety of perspectives: psychoanalysis, medicine, anthropology, history and literature. As is well known, trauma involves personal or collective shock, disempowerment and memory disorders. The recovery process does not usually follow a linear, uninterrupted sequence; traumatic events refuse to be put away, since the memory of trauma keeps coming back in incomprehensible and fragmentary forms such as hallucinations, nightmares or flashbacks. Somehow, resolution of the trauma is never final, recovery is never complete, as the impact of the traumatic event continues to reverberate throughout the survivor's life.

Beyond Trauma: Narratives of (Im)possibility seeks to analyse this phenomenon and the possibilities of recovering from trauma as represented in contemporary narratives in English. Is fiction the appropriate site to explore the therapeutic process of working through traumatic events? Or are non-fictional forms like testimony or autobiography better equipped for it? What narrative strategies are deployed in order to convey that process? Are some literary genres more suitable than others for the representation of trauma and/or self healing? Is there any significant divergence in the approach to trauma and healing by hegemonic and marginal or minority groups? How are the ethical implications of representing trauma conveyed?

We welcome contributions that explore these and other related issues.
Suggested topics for discussion include, but are not limited to:

- Ethics and the aftermath of trauma
- The possibilities of working through trauma
- Repetition, obsession and the return of the dead
- Loss, mourning, commemoration and ritual
- Formal experimentation and the representation of trauma and healing
- The invisible inscription of gender and its traumatic effects
- The depathologization of melancholia in non-normative genders and sexualities

- Survival and guilt
- Unresolved mourning
- Victims as/and perpetrators
- From dissociated trauma to acknowledged memory
- From traumatic memory to the narrative of the unspeakable
- Remembrance and affect
- The revenge fantasy versus the forgiveness fantasy
- Recovery and the reawakening of trauma
- Trauma as the source of a survivor mission (political, social, religious commitment)
- Transgenerational trauma and the (im)possibility of recovery
- Unhealed racial divisions and violence
- Testimony as a ritual of healing

Confirmed plenary speakers: Cathy Caruth, Avril Horner, Roger Luckhurst

Three copies of completed papers (max. 2,500 words, aprox. 9 double-spaced pages, including notes and works cited) following the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, together with a 100-150 word abstract should be sent to the organisers. Author information is to be sent in a separate sheet (including name, filiation, contact address and paper title). Deadline for submissions: December 1st, 2010.

Marita Nadal (mnadal@unizar.es)

Mónica Calvo (mocalvo@unizar.es)

Dpto. de Filología Inglesa y Alemana

Facultad de Filosofía y Letras. Campus Plaza San Francisco

Universidad de Zaragoza

50009 Zaragoza

Spain

MARCH 2011

HEIDELBERG CENTER FOR AMERICAN STUDIES 8TH ANNUAL
SPRING ACADEMY CONFERENCE
POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE

University of Heidelberg, Germany, March 21-25, 2011

Deadline for Proposals: Dec. 15, 2010

The eighth HCA Spring Academy on American History, Culture, and Politics will be held from 21-25 March 2011. The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) invites applications for this annual oneweek conference that provides twenty international Ph.D. students with the opportunity to present and discuss their Ph.D. projects.

The HCA Spring Academy will also offer participants the chance to work closely with experts in their respective fields of study. For this purpose, workshops held by visiting scholars will take place during this week.

We encourage applications that range broadly across the arts, humanities, and social sciences and pursue an interdisciplinary approach. Papers can be presented on any subject relating to the study of the United States of America. Possible topics include American identity, transatlantic relations, U.S. foreign policy, gender, literature, issues of ethnicity, as well as various aspects of American history, religion, and culture.

Participants are requested to prepare a 20-minute presentation of their research project, which will be followed by a 40-minute discussion. Proposals should be a maximum of 300 words with a provisional title. These will be arranged into ten panel groups.

Besides cross-disciplinary and international discussions during the panels the Spring Academy aims at creating a pleasant collegial atmosphere for further scholarly exchange and contact.

Accommodation will be provided by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies.

Applications will be accepted: September 1 - December 15, 2010

Selections will be made by: January 15, 2011

Please use our online application system: www.hca-springacademy.de

More information: www.hca.uni-heidelberg.de

APRIL 2011

ETHNIC CANONS IN GLOBAL CONTEXTS

25th Annual MELUS Conference: Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States
Florida Atlantic University. Boca Raton, FL

April 7 – 10, 2011

Deadline for proposals: Nov. 15, 2010

Keynote speakers: Karla Holloway, Shirley Geok-Lin Lim, and Gary Shteyngart

As an ongoing and vital process through which societies and cultures have become integrated through a globe-spanning network of communications, economics, and politics, globalization addresses the transnational circulation of ideas and languages. Its impact on literature is manifold, with both positive and negative associations, wherein cultures receiving outside influences ignore some, adopt others as they are, and then immediately start to transform others. Certain aspects of globalization – such as hybridity and multi-rootedness – are increasingly present in literary texts as we witness ways in which

they shape new literary forms, interrogate existing canons, and explore the emergence of ethnic canons. We invite paper abstracts and complete panels, workshops, and roundtable proposals on all aspects of the multi-ethnic literatures of the United States. We are particularly interested in proposals that explore globalization in terms of its influence on ethnic canons, and vice versa, and encourage presentations on all global frameworks of analysis, such as Atlantic studies, global feminisms, pan-Africanism, postcolonialism, transnationalism, global indigenous studies, etc. Submissions should detail requests for specific audiovisual equipment, if needed. We also ask that a proposal for a complete panel, roundtable, or workshop include a short description of the central topic, supplemented by brief abstracts of individual speakers' contributions.

Deadline for abstracts and proposals (250 words in Word or rtf format): NOVEMBER 15, 2010 Please e-mail abstracts to: Prof. Nora Erro Peralta and Prof. Taylor Hagood at melus2011@gmail.com

MAY 2011

REFRACTIONS OF BOB DYLAN - CULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS OF AN AMERICAN ICON

University of Vienna, Austria, May 19-21, 2011

Deadline for Proposals: November 7, 2010.

This conference, which almost directly coincides with the seventieth birthday of the US- American artist, invites you to investigate various aspects of 'metamorphoses' of Dylan. What about the ways in which Dylan's texts and the text "Dylan" have been translated, adapted and re/constructed? How and to what ends were they appropriated, and how did they become relevant for cultural, political or social productions mainly in non-American cultures? A strand of the conference is especially interested in topics concerning Dylan and Austria.

Dylan's cultural production in the second half of the 20th century, his songs, but also his changing images and self-fashionings have informed and productively re/shaped certain images of America from outside and within. The conference wants to look at cultural appropriations of 'Dylan' in different cultural, regional, and political contexts. It is thus interested in the political function and appropriation of popular culture, and in the broad field of Americanization. It might be helpful to envision Americanization here not predominantly as cultural imperialism but also as a "liberating form of expression" (Kooijman) for other cultures, and as active cultural appropriation. Along Robert Kroes's lines who argues that "the only culture Europeans had in common in the late twentieth century was American culture", investigations of 'Dylan translations' in any (European) regional or national cultures are welcome.

This is a call for papers and also for whole panels. It invites topics from the fields of cultural studies, literary studies (American, German, Comparative), history, the Arts, film studies, music and musicology studies, and folk studies to look at adaptations of lyrics and songs, but also of self-constructions and stage personae or of trans-lations of certain "structures of feelings" (Williams) into divergent cultural settings. I

would like to encourage topics that not only focus on Dylan's songs and lyrics and their adaptations, but on aspects of cultural appropriations of Dylan's persona/e, his own work in film or films about him (e.g. *Masked and Anonymous*, *I'm Not There*), his creative writing and life writing (e.g. *Tarantula* or *Chronicles Vol. 1*), or his paintings. It might also be interesting to discuss cultural appropriations of other US American popular icons in a contrastive way.

The conference will also take a fresh approach to the tradition of academic gatherings. It will, for instance, include a singer/songwriter session in which (Austrian) musicians talk about and sing out their influences and translations of the "Song and Dance Man".

Please send your proposals for panels and/or papers (200-400 words) to eugen.banauch@univie.ac.at

JUNE 2011

WOMEN AND THE ARTS: DIALOGUES IN FEMALE CREATIVITY IN THE U.S. AND BEYOND

University of Lisbon Centre for English Studies (ULICES)

International Conference - 15-17 June 2011

Deadline for proposals: January 31, 2011

The American Studies Group of the University of Lisbon Centre for English Studies is organizing Women and the Arts: Dialogues in Female Creativity in the U.S. and Beyond (15-17 June 2011). The three-day international gathering will promote a reflection on women's artistic production, contrasting the U.S. context with other cultures.

The conference in Lisbon will cover multiple areas, including writing, the visual arts, music, and the performance arts. We will debate women's aesthetic expression in the U.S. and elsewhere in these diversified fields, from modernity to the contemporary age, and reflect on the specific conditions of production, circulation, and reception of their works.

We aim to engage scholars from a wide range of areas, as well as artists, critics, and curators in order to foster interdisciplinary debate.

Among our invited participants are Professor Sandra M. Gilbert, groundbreaking critic, theorist, and poet, who will give a plenary lecture; renowned storytellers Laura Simms and Muriel Bloch, who will be mentoring a workshop; and acclaimed Portuguese poet and scholar Ana Luísa Amaral. The list of suggested topics for research and discussion includes:

- The U.S. and Beyond - Comparative Approaches:
- The influence of American gender theory and politics
- Women's Art and American Regionalism
- Criteria for the definition of a specifically feminine cultural and artistic production
- Critical revisions towards representative literary and art histories
- Canonical dynamics and the transatlantic debate

- Women artists' perspectives on traditions, categories, and the politics of art institutions
- GLBT subjectivities and the arts
- The outlook for women's art at the onset of the 21st century

250-word abstracts and 250-word bios should be sent in the body of the message to womenartslisbon@gmail.com by 31 January 2011.

Selected contributions will be included in a collection of essays to be published internationally.

Edition guidelines will be provided to authors at a later stage.

JULY 2011

“AMERICAN CONFIGURATIONS”: FIFTH WORLD CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,

July 27th through 29th, 2011 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.)

America, with its multiple narratives, landscapes, languages, and experiences, projects itself in time like a mosaic in movement: a mosaic of cartographies imagined over time and projected in the descriptions of travelers and scientists, in fiction and poetry, in the discourses of politicians and activists, and in the images of photographers, artists, and filmmakers. The 5th IASA World Conference proposes to be a space for debating how different communities form senses of Americanness, originating from places of knowledge, politics, art, memory, and lived experience, where a possible “America” may be configured.

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Subthemes:

- imagination and images
- memory and community
- geographies of power
- time and Americanness
- routes and ‘scapes’
- traditions in perspective
- possible modernities

Full instructions for submitting proposals will be posted soon on the official IASA website at: www.iasaweb.org <<http://www.iasaweb.org/>>

JULY 2011

TRANSFORMING HENRY JAMES

Fifth International Conference of the Henry James Society
John Cabot University, Rome
Date: 7-10 July 2011

Proposals for full panels/workshops (90-minute sessions) are welcome.

Send abstracts and CVs to Donatella Izzo (donatella.izzo@fastwebnet.it) and Greg Zacharias (gwzach@creighton.edu).

All conference participants will be required to be members of the Henry James Society. Membership can be secured through subscription to the *Henry James Review*. Subscription for non-members will be available during registration.

Follow conference details at the Henry James Society's homepage

(<http://mockingbird.creighton.edu/english/HJS/Home.html>) and on Facebook (Henry James Society, Inc.)

Deadline for abstracts (250 words) and short CVs (1 page) 15 December 2010.

SEPTEMBER 2011

IN SEARCH OF SOLUTIONS: THE CONVENTIONAL, THE EXPERIMENTAL AND THE BIZARRE

MELOW (The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the World) & MELUS-India (The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States)

OUCIP (formerly known as ASRC), Osmania University, Hyderabad
September 22-24, 2011

Deadline for receipt of abstracts: 30 November 2010.

In a world that is rapidly changing it is inevitable that our parameters for the study of literature, culture and society are forever being re-defined. There are emerging spaces that cry for attention, black holes that have remained undetected for too long, alternative solutions that may provide an answer to many of our problems, and novel ways of negotiating issues related to the multifarious aspects of human life.

MELUS-MELOW 2011 focuses on these new approaches that (a) move away from the beaten track to clear fresh ground; (b) advocate the use of fresh critical / theoretical approaches to questions faced by human society; (c) focus attention on areas that have been under-represented; or (d) provide new insights into prevalent issues.

Abstracts not exceeding 250 words may be submitted on the following sub-themes:

1. A Transcultural World: Emerging issues in a global approach to literature and culture
2. Global Solutions: From the national to the transnational
3. Strange and Unfamiliar 'Other' Worlds – the Fantastic, the Supernatural and the Surreal
4. Off the Beaten Track: Not-so-popular culture and cinema
5. Cyborg literature
6. The Old and the New: Re-interpreting the Classics
7. Lessons from History: The Fictionalization of Fact
8. Changing Seasons: Lessons from Ecology, Terror Strikes, Natural Disasters
9. Watchdog Media: Journalistic Literature, Yellow Journalism
10. A special MELUS-India Panel will be devoted to "Re-visioning the United States: The Re-emergence of US Studies outside the Americas"

The Conference will be held in Hyderabad at the OUCIP (former ASRC).

Prospective delegates will please note that we are focused primarily on literature but our attempt is to go interdisciplinary. We welcome approaches to literature from other perspectives.

Send the abstract with the necessary information by email (as part of the TEXT message, and NOT as attachment) to mjaidka@gmail.com with a copy to aneelraina@gmail.com

MARZO 2012

THE HEALTH OF THE NATION

European Association for American Studies

Izmir, Turkey

March 30–April 2, 2012

Deadline for parallel lectures and workshop proposals: January 31, 2011

"Leave all the afternoon for exercise and recreation, which are as necessary as reading. I will rather say more necessary because health is worth more than learning." (Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Garland Jefferson, June 11, 1790.)

Over the past two years, President Obama's proposed health care reforms initiated an often bitter and sometimes divisive debate which, while focused on health provision, also asked fundamental questions (and exposed tenaciously held positions) about the state of the nation, its history and ideology. Our conference theme, the Health of the Nation, addresses these issues, where health can be both literal and metaphorical, personal and public, human and environmental. The self-analysis involved in considering the health of the nation has always been a characteristic of Americans, and is an issue variously understood according to time, circumstance, and disciplinary approach. Health and the body also retain their metaphoric power in national self-awareness, while a heightened awareness of environmental health

and risk is a topic of growing importance, as is the development of Recreation and Leisure Studies as an academic subject.

The EAAS welcomes proposals for parallel lectures and workshops investigating the Health of the Nation from all perspectives and disciplines. Topics addressed might include: the relation between health and wealth (Emerson said "The first wealth is health"); the health of the individual and the health of the state; the politics and economics of health care; the legal and constitutional dimensions of healthcare provision; the body's health in literature and film (often linked symbolically to national trauma); the relation between health and healing; illness as metaphor; the ideals of health communicated by the media; health and the environment.

The deadline for submission of workshop and parallel lecture proposals is January 31, 2011. Potential workshop chairs and parallel lecturers should prepare a one-page abstract and a ½-page cv. Please do not submit proposals for individual workshop papers at this time. These should be sent to selected workshop chairs who will be announced in the May 2011 issue of the ASE newsletter.

JULY 2012

BUILDING DIALOGUES IN THE AMERICAS

54 International Congress of Americanists

Vienna, Austria 15-20 July 2012

The Organizing Committee invites members of the academic community to participate in the 54 ICA to be held in Vienna, Austria, in July 2012.

Americanist scholarship is marked by a vibrant diversity of ontological, epistemological, and methodological questions. Since its inception, Americanists have gathered at ICA meetings to discuss empirical and normative scholarship, liberal and conservative politics, positivist and post-positivist perspectives, as well as activists and theoretical approaches, among other things. While these specializations often have been artificially separated, we aim to facilitate sharing of insights, questions, methods and viewpoints that could foster dynamic dialogues.

We want to promote self-reflection and encourage trans-disciplinary dialogues. Henceforth, we invite proposals for symposia that emphasize conjunctions between disciplines, subfields, theories and methods.

The Congress program will be organized in two steps.

From July 2010 until 15 December 2010, proposals for symposia will be received via the online form. Symposium proposals need to name the title of the symposium (with an abstract) and the corresponding thematic area, name one or two conveners, and suggest three to five papers to be included.

In April 2011, the pre-approved symposia will be published in the Preliminary Program on the ICA website. A Call for Papers within the pre-approved symposia will be open from 15 April 2011 until 31 August 2011. Symposia conveners will decide about acceptance of papers. The Organizing Committee will notify presenters during October 2011.



ASA NEWS

After years of delay, the National Research Council's new report on doctoral programs in the United States was finally unveiled today. I'm sure the rankings are the source of much discussion in your office and among your membership. Faculty members, in particular, would like to know where their programs stand, and why.

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* has exclusive tools that explore data such as faculty productivity and program rankings, and you and your members can use them:

- * An exclusive interactive tool that helps you compare the rankings of nearly 5,000 programs in 59 fields of study. (After selecting your fields and programs, make sure to look at the "How to Use This Page" feature to see all the ways to read and interpret the data.)
- * An FAQ that explains what the rankings mean — and how to read them.
- * Analysis that compares the new results to the 1995 rankings.

For The Chronicle's complete coverage, go to

<http://chronicle.com/page/2010-Rankings-Doctoral/321/>

There are wise people who talk ever so knowingly and complacently about "the working classes," and satisfy themselves that a day's hard intellectual work is very much harder than a day's hard manual toil, and is righteously entitled to much bigger pay. Why, they really think that, you know, because they all know about the one, but haven't tried the other. But I know all about both; and as far as I am concerned, there isn't money enough in the universe to hire me to swing a pickaxe thirty days, but I will do the hardest kind of intellectual work for just as near nothing as you can cipher it down—and I will be satisfied, too. Intellectual "work" is misnamed; it is a pleasure, a dissipation and its own highest reward. The poorest paid architect, engineer, general, author, sculptor, painter, lecturer, advocate, legislator, actor, preacher, singer, is constructively in heaven when he is at work; and as for the magician with the fiddle-bow in his hand who sits in the midst of a great orchestra with the ebbing and flowing tides of divine sound washing over him—why certainly, he is at work, if you wish to call it that, but lord, it's a sarcasm just the same. The law of work does seem utterly unfair—but there it is, and nothing can change it: the higher the pay in enjoyment the worker gets out of it, the higher shall be his pay in cash, also. And it's also the very law of those transparent swindles, transmissible nobility and kingship.

Mark Twain, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*

CFPs: REVISTAS DE INVESTIGACIÓN

LOVE AND ROMANCE IN AMERICAN CULTURE

JAC: *Journal of American Culture*, Special Issue

Deadline: 30 Nov 2011

Ideas of romantic love suffuse our lives and guide our emotional experiences and behaviors. Romance comes in various forms of romantic entertainment—books, films, music—which affect and form our socially constructed notions of love, gender and courtship. These constructs of love guide public and private behavior, create judgments of values in relationships and control rules of openness or closure in expression. There is a variety of ways that American culture has understood and practiced love and romance. This special issue of the *Journal of American Culture* will present a conversation about romantic love and its representations which explores love and romance as a theme in art, life and culture.

We are seeking manuscripts which discuss contemporary and historical representations of love and romance, consider ways of showing love and affection and explore socially constructed notions of love, gender and courtship. We are particularly interested in interdisciplinary approaches and analyses (literary, sociological, psychological, historical, anthropological, etc) involving any variety of topics (race, gender, class, homosexuality and queer studies, place, region, structure) which consider emotional values, attitudes and behaviors considered appropriate to love and romance

Submissions are welcome on topics which might include, but are not restricted to, issues and themes such as: • romantic relationship events, rituals and ceremonies (weddings, holidays, festivals) • dating and courtship rites (speed dating, personal ads) • popular music and love songs • depictions in the media and popular culture (e.g., film, television, literature, comics) • romantic love in advertising, marketing, consumerism • internet and cyberspace (blogs, texting, social networking) • literature and fiction (genre romance, poetry, animé) • amatory writings, love letters, courtship and self-help manuals • types of relationships (marriage, gay and lesbian) • feelings and emotions (intimacy, attachment, eroticism) • types of love: platonic, philosophical, divine and spiritual romance • neurobiology of love and biological attraction • historical practices and traditions of and in romance • regional and geographic pressures and influences (southern, Caribbean) • material culture (valentines, foods, fashions) • folklore and mythologies • jokes and humor • romantic love in political discourse (capitalism) • psychological approaches toward romantic attraction • emotional and sexual desire • subcultures: age (seniors, adolescents), multi-ethnic, inter-racial

We suggest manuscript submissions of 4000-6000 words in length, double-spaced, in current MLA style. Due to virus and security concerns, we do not accept zipped or compressed files.

Manuscript deadline: 30 November 2011 Publication date: March 2013

THE JOURNAL OF THE SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH

Deadline: January 31, 2011

The Journal of the Short Story in English (<http://jsse.revues.org/>) will publish a special issue on the stories of Edith Wharton (1862-1937) in 2013.

In *The Writing of Fiction*, Edith Wharton says that the difficult task of the short story is “to suggest illimitable air within a narrow space.” This is not a strictly formal imperative: in the more than 85 short stories she published in her lifetime, Wharton returned again and again to the themes of suffocation, entrapment, and entombment. Her chronicles of life in New York, Paris and Italy, her war stories and her ghost stories are not simply illustrations of a state of society (although they are that too), nor are they merely portraits of individuals in moments of strife. They tend, instead, to examine the destinies of men and women exerting themselves within imperfect institutions, paying the price for cruelty, folly, obsession, and for the absence of courage and honour. Wharton analyses conventions, shows how they damage individual lives, but usually leaves her characters caught in their private predicaments. Within the limited space of the story, in other words, she suggests “illimitable air” and the possibility of a world elsewhere, but usually dashes any hope of escape. One of the pleasures of reading Wharton resides in the scathing irony with which she examines her characters’ failings and vices. Her precision and unflinching ruthlessness place her among the master short story-writers of the twentieth century and the seriousness with which she thought about composition and style, as well as the regularity of her output, show that she never thought of the story as being an inferior form. Yet many of Wharton’s short stories are no longer available to the general reader, and no complete collection has been published since 1968.

Articles in the special issue of *JSSE* (but these are only suggestions and other ideas are welcome) might discuss:

- the marriage question (marriage, husbands, wives, divorce, open marriage, children);
- Wharton’s ghost stories and her notion of the eerie;
- art, collectors, philistinism;
- material culture: clothes, furniture, houses, and “wanting, getting, having”;
- war;
- New York as city and as society;
- Edith Wharton’s stories at the movies: film adaptations include “Bread upon the Waters” (1935), “Pomegranate Seed” (1951), “Confession” (1953), “Afterward” (1983), “Bewitched” (1983), and “The Lady’s Maid’s Bell” (1983); the study of the influence of cinematographic techniques on Wharton’s work is another possible angle.

Articles might also focus on a particular story or on two or more stories; on Wharton’s narrative strategies; on the publication history of a story or a group of stories (e.g. “The Bunner Sisters”, which was repeatedly rejected and finally published in 1916) or, more generally, on the reception of the stories. Finally, they might consider the place of the short story within the Wharton canon.

Proposals (of 200 to 300 words) should arrive by January 31, 2011. Completed articles (not exceeding 6,000 words) must follow the MLA manual of style and include an abstract (not exceeding 250 words). Submissions will be peer-reviewed and are due by June 30, 2011.

ES: REVISTA DE FILOLOGIA INGLESA

ES 32, Winter 2011

Deadline: Submission of originals: 15 January 2011 Acceptance of originals: 15 April 2011

ES: Revista de Filología Inglesa is an annual journal that has been published by the Department of English (University of Valladolid) since 1971. Its aim is to disseminate empirical and theoretical research related to English Studies by publishing contributions on a variety of research topics on all aspects of English Studies, including history, culture, literature, language, teaching and learning and translation,

It is internationally peer-reviewed (double blind) by external referees, all of them experts on each of the fields covered by the journal. It is one of the most reputed journals of English Studies in Spain and it has been assessed by a group of specialists of different Spanish universities and members of the CSIC with a mark of 7.66 out of 10. It also meets most of the scientific requirements established by *Latindex*. It is currently indexed by the ISOC-CINDOC, Latindex, DICE, Linguistics and Language Behaviour Database (Cambridge), and IBZ Online.

EJAS: EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF AMERICAN STUDIES

<http://ejas.revues.org/index.html>

Accepting articles all year round

Alongside Special Issues, the themes of which are announced in advance, EJAS runs regular accretive issues and welcomes submissions on all subjects related to its interests. The Journal will post articles online in the regular issue as soon as they are accepted and cleared for publication. The accretive issues will be closed each June and December.

EJAS does not accept abstracts and proposals - only finished articles in compliance with the Submission guidelines posted on the EJAS website will be considered for publication.

EJAS publishes both solicited and unsolicited articles. The latter, in particular, are published incrementally to constitute two yearly volumes, unless they bear on a theme on which a forthcoming issue may be based.

All articles should be addressed to the Editors responsible for respective fields:

Pawel Frelik at ejas-lit@eaas.eu for contributions bearing on literature, culture and the arts, and Giles Scott-Smith at gp.scott_smith@zeeland.nl for contributions bearing on history, social sciences and international relations. Articles should be submitted electronically in a message sent to the appropriate address as an attachment in RTF format. They may include visual material, providing it has been pre-formatted into the text of the article by the author and the necessary rights have been secured. EJAS cannot and will not commit any funds to the securing of reproduction rights. EJAS assumes no responsibility for the contributors' statements of fact or opinion. Once published on this site, the articles may not be published anywhere else without the express permission of the Journal.

CAMINO REAL

CAMINO REAL: Estudios de las Hispanidades Norteamericanas

Editor: José Antonio Gurpegui, PhD (Senior Professor of American Studies, UAH)

CAMINO REAL is a peer-reviewed and multidisciplinary publication of the Instituto Franklin- Universidad de Alcalá. The journal is published twice a year, spring and fall. It is divided in four sections (Critical Articles, Interviews, Reviews and Creative Writing) and includes articles that reflect the different sensibilities and peculiarities of the Hispanic world in the United States, including artistic, political, economic, sociological, cultural, literary, and historical perspective.

CAMINO REAL welcomes new submissions for its next numbers in 2011. Please follow the publication guidelines on the journal's web site before submitting:

<http://www.institutofranklin.net/en/research/publications/revista-camino-real>

COPAS: CURRENT OBJECTIVES OF POSTGRADUATE AMERICAN STUDIES

Current Objectives of Postgraduate American Studies (COPAS) is devoted to research by young Americanists. The e-journal was conceived as an opportunity for publication in the interdisciplinary field of American Studies and as an easy-to-access platform for scholarly exchange by young Americanists. The publication project originated in the 1999 Postgraduate Forum of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS) in Regensburg. It is located at the Chair of American Studies at the University of Regensburg. The editors are Birgit Bauridl, Ingrid Gessner, and Juliane Schwarz-Bierschenk. COPAS connects its readers and contributors to ongoing and recently completed research projects in American Studies. It publishes papers from the various areas of American Studies, such as literature, history, popular culture and media cultures, visual culture, political science, sociology, and geography.

Information: <http://www-copas.uni-regensburg.de/>

JOURNAL OF AMERICAN STUDIES OF TURKEY

A biannual print and on-line publication of the American Studies Association of Turkey, the Journal of American Studies of Turkey publishes work in English by scholars of any nationality on American literature, history, art, music, film, popular culture, institutions, politics, economics, geography and related subjects. The Editorial Board particularly welcomes articles which cross conventional borders between academic disciplines as well as comparative studies of American and other cultures.

Journal of American Studies of Turkey also publishes creative work, notes, comments as well as book and film reviews. All articles are reviewed by an objective, blind peer-referee process before acceptance. Prospective authors should examine the details for the preparation and submission of papers.

Journal of American Studies of Turkey has been indexed in the MLA International Bibliography, Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory, and the American Humanities Index since the publication of its first issue of Spring 1995, and in the MLA Directory of Periodicals since 1999.

AMERICAN STUDIES JOURNAL

The *American Studies Journal* is published semiannually by the Center for United States Studies at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. Its primary target audience is teachers of English and American Studies in Germany and throughout the world, yet also seeks to engage university-level readers. The e-journal publishes both research articles and articles on teaching methods. Each issue of the *American Studies Journal* is devoted to a particular theme in American Studies.

Next Issues:

No. 55 "Women's Voices from the House of Time"

No. 56 "Teaching Popular Culture"

Visit Journal Web Site: <http://asjournal.zusas.uni-halle.de/>

COMPARATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

Comparative American Studies is an international journal that extends scholarly debates about American Studies beyond the geographical boundaries of the United States, repositioning discussions about American culture within an international, comparative framework.

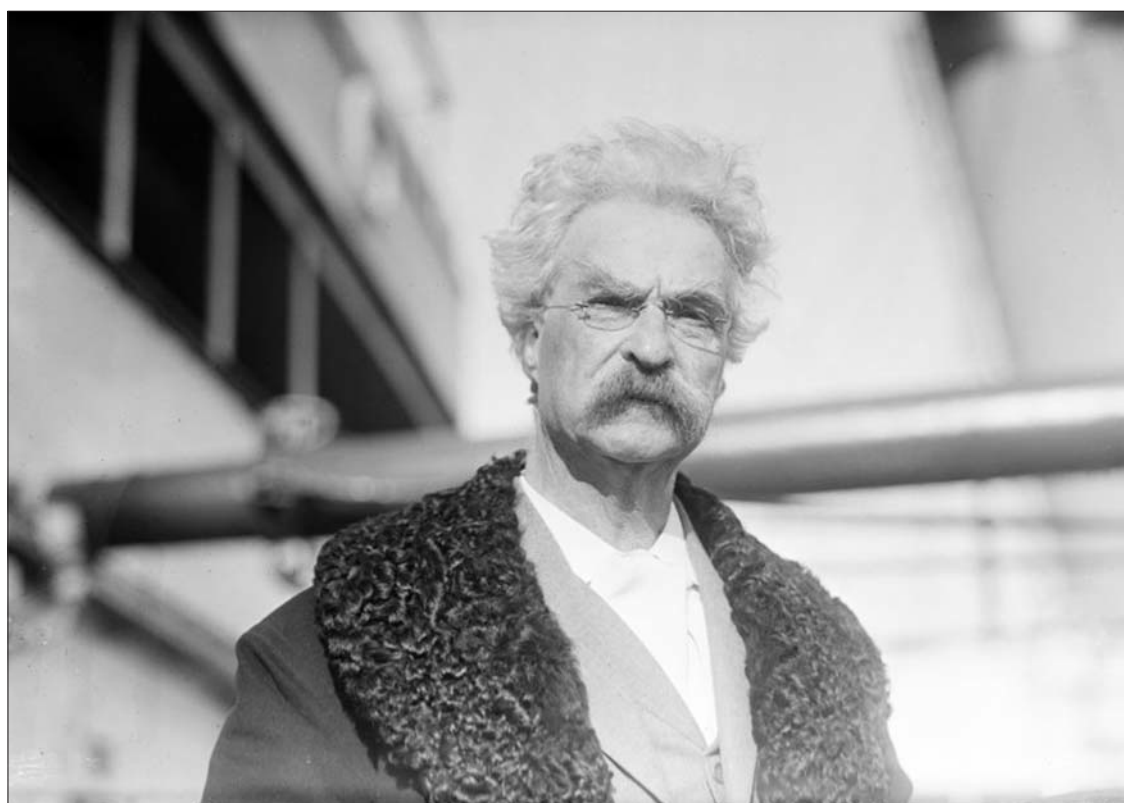
At this time of increasing globalization there is a growing need for American Studies to be re-articulated in a comparative manner: that is to say, first and foremost taking account of interactions between the USA and other parts of the world, whilst also fully attending to multi-ethnic comparisons within the USA. The special need for developing international comparison is acknowledged in the USA itself as well as throughout Europe and worldwide; indeed, there is increasing academic interest within the American Studies community in the United States in the development of perspectives on this area of study from outside the USA's borders. The events of September 2001 in New York City and Washington DC have brought home even more sharply how the destiny of the USA must now be understood in relation to global networks rather than simply domestic politics. The main disciplines covered in the journal are: literature, film, popular culture, photography and the visual arts. Attention is also given to history, the social sciences and politics, particularly insofar as these fields impact on cultural texts.

The main disciplines covered in the journal are: literature, film, popular culture, photography and the visual arts. Attention is also given to history, the social sciences and politics, particularly insofar as these fields impact on cultural texts.

Submission of Papers: All papers are assigned to a member of the Editorial Board to guide them through the reviewing process. Papers are accepted on successful completion of double blind peer review.

Contributions and other correspondence should be sent to the Editor, Nick Selby via email: N.Selby@uea.ac.uk.

Please see our website for full details of the journal including submission guidelines, Instructions for Authors and a full list of Editorial Board members <http://maney.co.uk/journals/cas>.



Picture of Mark Twain in 1909.

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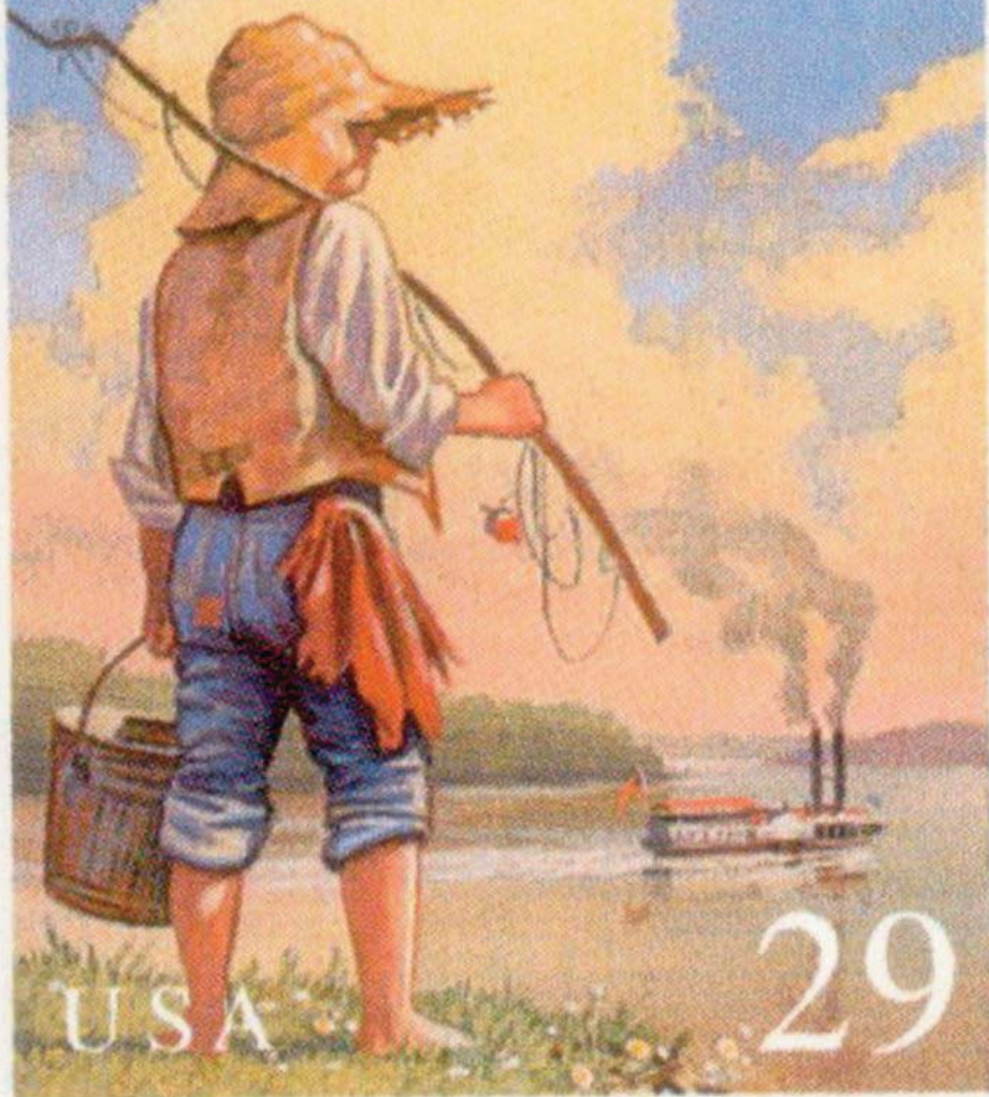
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THE ADVENTURES OF
HUCKLEBERRY FINN



USA

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