



October News

Dear MMLA Community,

Can you believe we're only five weeks away from this year's Convention? View the [digital program here](#). There are several announcements and reminders that we are excited to share regarding this year's meeting (taking place November 14-16 at the Hilton Chicago) and the *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*.

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Convention Reminders:

- **Register for the Convention!**
 - Although the deadline has passed for early-bird-registration pricing, Convention [registration is still open](#) on the MMLA member portal and is required for all attendees.
- **Graduate Student Paper Prize**
 - Graduate students presenting a paper at the 2024 Convention: the deadline to submit your work for the \$100 prize is **October 15th**. Apply by emailing your CV and the accepted paper (3,000-word limit, excluding the Works Cited) to mmla@luc.edu.
- **Reserve a Room at the Hilton Chicago with Member Pricing**
 - The deadline to [reserve a room at the Hilton Chicago](#) with an MMLA member discount is **October 21st**. The nightly member rate is \$229 (excluding tax).
- **Discord Server for Roommate Finders and Rideshares**

- To find a roommate at the Hilton Chicago or make shared travel plans, we recommend joining the MMLA's Convention Discord server.

Panels in Need of Moderators

Panel moderators take on the important job of introducing panel members, keeping speakers to time, and facilitating the Q&A portion of the panel. Plus, volunteering to be a panel moderator is a great way to get more leadership experience at an academic convention. To apply, send your CV, a short bio, and the name of the panel that you would like to moderate to mmla@luc.edu.

The panels that are still in need of a moderator are as follows:

- **Thursday, November 14**
 - The (In)Human Experience in Science Fiction (2:30 - 3:45 pm)
 - The Visions of Versions in Twentieth-Century Fiction and Film (2:30 - 3:45 pm)
 - Affective Experience and the Amelioration of Health Care (2:30 - 3:45 pm)
 - Impactful Environments: Natural and Architectural (4:00 - 5:15 pm)
 - Literary Intersections of Women and Aging (4:00 - 5:15 pm)
- **Friday, November 15**
 - Varying Views of Authorship: Traveler, Laborer, Machine (8:00 - 9:15 am)
 - Engaging Health in the Undergraduate Classroom (8:00 - 9:15 am)
 - Teaching and Tutoring Writing in the Humanities (9:30 - 10:45 am)
 - The Men of Nineteenth-Century American Literature: Religion, Intention, and Conviction (9:30 - 10:45 am)
 - Social Media's Impact in Research and the Marketplace (9:30 - 10:45 am)
 - Supernaturalism and the Body in Literature and Film (4:00 - 5:15 pm)
- **Saturday, November 16**
 - The State, Citizenship, and Women on the Margins (8:00 - 9:15 am)
 - Literary Resistance to Socio-Political Oppression (8:00 - 9:15 am)
 - Philosophical Reflections on Politics and Personhood (9:30 - 10:45 am)
 - Contemporary Discourses of Well-Being (12:45 - 2:15 pm)
 - Novelizing Anthropomorphic Animals & Animality (2:30 - 3:45 pm)
 - New Pedagogical Approaches to Reproductive Justice (4:00 - 5:15 pm)

Convention Announcements:

- **Free Guided Tours at the [Newberry Library](#) (60 W Walton St)**
 - [The Newberry Library](#): Learn about the Newberry's iconic architecture and extensive history on an hour-long guided tour of the building, which is free and open to the public (no registration required). Tours are scheduled for Thursday, November 14 (starting at 1:00

pm) and Saturday, November 16 (starting at 10:30 am and 2:30 pm). *Participants are responsible for transportation to and from the Newberry Library.*

- "[Indigenous Chicago](#)" Exhibit: Take a closer look at the dynamic and complex aspects of Native life in Chicago from the seventeenth century to the present on an hour-long guided tour, which is free and open to the public (no registration required). Tours are scheduled for Thursday, November 14 (at 11:30 am) and Saturday, November 16 (at 1:00 pm). *Participants are responsible for transportation to and from the Newberry Library.*

- **Private Guided Tours at the [International Museum of Surgical Science](#) (1524 N Lakeshore Dr)**

- The MMLA has arranged private member tours at the International Museum of Surgical Science on Friday, November 15th and Saturday, November 16th. If you are interested in participating in one of the tours, please use the forms linked below to register. There are only ten available spots per tour, so sign up today! *Participants are responsible for transportation to and from the IMSS.*
 - [Sign up for the Friday Tour](#)
 - [Sign up for the Saturday Tour](#)

- **Audio/Visual Preparations**

- While all session rooms at the Hilton Chicago will come equipped with a screen, digital projector, and HDMI cable for hook-up, we ask that panelists who wish to display slides, images, or a short video during their presentation bring their own laptop computer with an [HDMI output](#) (or an adapter/dongle, if you are a Mac user). Adapters will not be provided by the Hilton Chicago or MMLA staff, so please come prepared!



Image: Zhorne, Krislyn. *HDMI Port*. 09 October 2024.

- **Wi-Fi Access**

- The MMLA's contract with the Hilton Chicago includes [free Wi-Fi](#), which is intended to enable presenters to access files stored remotely. To be on the safe side, however, we also encourage you to pre-download those materials onto your computer so that they will be accessible without the internet, in the unlikely case that an unexpected outage should occur.

■ Printing Services

- For those who wish to print out a hard copy of their presentation at the hotel, there is a [Business Center](#) located in the lobby of the Hilton Chicago that offers free printing for Hilton guests only. A keycard is required to access the Business Center after 7:00 pm and to use its printing services.
- The Hilton Chicago also has an on-site [FedEx Print & Ship Center](#), which offers self-service copiers to copy and/or print single- and multipage documents from the cloud, USB, or email. Copies start at \$0.20 for black and white and \$1.69 for color.

Extended Deadline for the Fall 2024 *JMMLA* Issue

December 1st, 2024 is the new deadline for article submissions to the Fall 2024 issue of the *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*, "[Going Public](#)." This issue is an extension of the 2023 MMLA Convention theme, "Going Public: What the MMLA Owes Democracy," which asked participants what roles the humanities, especially modern languages and literatures, play in the public sphere. We encourage scholars who presented a paper at the 2023 Convention and whose work engages with the theme to submit critical articles for publication in this issue. Please direct all questions to the MMLA at mmla@luc.edu or to the editor of this issue, **Gaywyn Moore** (gaywynmoore@gmail.com).

Vote on the MMLA's Bylaw Change

The Midwest Modern Language Association seeks ratification by its members of a revision to the MMLA's Constitution, which was approved by the Executive Committee. Active MMLA members will soon receive an email message to which they may respond "yes" or "no" to approve or oppose this revision.

The revision in question adds language specifying a procedure for replacing an MMLA officer who vacates an office prior to the end of a term of service. The proposed language, to be added to section IV 2 of the [Constitution](#), is the following:

If any officer resigns or is otherwise unable to continue serving as an officer, the vacancy shall be filled by a member of the Executive Committee, who shall be elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

We hope the information in this newsletter is helpful to all members who are planning on being a part of this year's MMLA Convention. We are excited to see all of our participants and attendees in Chicago very soon!

Sincerely,

[Click here to learn more about the convention.](#)



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