



## Post-Convention Highlights and Announcements

The annual convention always marks a time for reflection and renewal at the MMLA. Over the convention weekend, we celebrated the MMLA's latest efforts to continue cultivating a vibrant academic community.

### In this issue:

- Nominate yourself for the Executive Committee
- Convention Highlights
  - New leadership roster
  - Convention book & paper prizes
  - Keynote speaker recap
  - Announcement on the 2024 convention
- Future issues of *JMMLA*
  - Spring 2024: submission deadline extended
    - The new deadline is **January 15, 2024**
  - Fall 2024: call for papers
  - Spring 2025: call for a guest editor
- Stay in touch with the MMLA

---

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

---

Per the MMLA bylaws, faculty at all ranks are allowed and encouraged to submit their own name to be considered for the next Executive Committee election. To nominate yourself, please send a CV and a letter of interest to [mmla@luc.edu](mailto:mmla@luc.edu) before January 15, 2024.

Nominees should be scholars who support the MMLA's mission to provide a forum for disseminating scholarship and improving teaching in the fields of literary and cultural criticism. Nominees do NOT need to be active members when nominated, but if elected they must become MMLA members in order to serve on the committee.

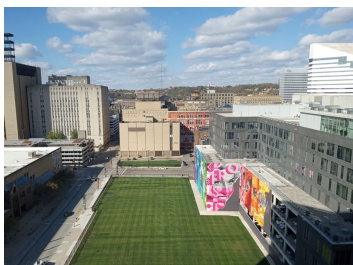
Additionally, the Executive Committee's position of graduate-student member will become vacant in the spring, so graduate students interested in serving on the EC are encouraged to nominate themselves for that position.

We are limiting the process to self-nomination only, but if you know of a colleague who would be well-suited for the role, please encourage them to put their own name forward.

---

## CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

---



The 2023 MMLA convention was an inspiring and generative endeavor. With 225 registrants participating in seventy-five scheduled sessions, member engaged each other in a variety of challenging and informative discussions. Read more about the convention highlights below.

## New Leadership

---

On Thursday, as the convention's virtual day presentations were underway, the Executive Committee met in Cincinnati. Among other decisions, the EC elected a new vice president. Following the convention, the prior president became the treasurer, and the prior vice president ascended to the presidency.

The current roster of officers is the following:

**President** - Nathan Jung teaches writing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has been a member of the MMLA since 2010.

**Treasurer** - Gaywyn Moore teaches at Santa Clara University and has served on the Executive Committee since 2019.

**Vice President** – Joe Keener is an Associate Professor of English and Director of the Honors Program at Indiana University Kokomo. He has served on EC since spring of this year.

---

## Convention Prizes

---

Each year during the convention, the MMLA provides opportunities for scholars of different standings to submit work for various prizes.

### Book Award Winner

**Justine Murison** for her book *Faith in Exposure: Privacy and Secularism in the Nineteenth-Century United States* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2023).

### Graduate Student Paper Prize

**Vivian Lei** for "Writing Affect In/Through Body Parts: The Aggressive Affectivity of Melancholia in Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's Dictée." Lei's work

will appear in the Spring 2024 *JMMLA*.

### Undergraduate Student Paper Prize

Students who presented in the convention's Undergraduate Research Symposium will be considered for this prize. Final submissions of papers presented at the convention are due December 10.

---

## Kenynote Speaker

---

On Friday evening, Emilio Sauri presented his talk “Seeing Like a Work of Art: Form, Inequality, and the ‘Democratic View.’” Through the lens of Andreas Gursky’s photograph “[Untitled 13](#)”, Sauri explored how art’s form helps discern the larger systems responsible for producing inequality.



Sauri's address was excerpted from his book *Imperial Decay: Literature, Autonomy, and the End of Modernization in the Americas*, forthcoming from Northwestern University Press.

---

## Post-Convention Survey

---

A reminder to all who attended the convention: please fill out the survey that was sent previously to your email.

---

## 2024 Convention

---

On Thursday the EC also made decisions about next year's convention. The theme will be: "Health in/of the Humanities." The convention will be held November 13-17 at the Hilton Chicago Suites in Chicago, IL. Though we enjoyed many benefits of the virtual day this year, all sessions will be held in person in 2024.

## FUTURE ISSUES OF JMMLA

### Spring 2024: Call for Submissions

**Extended Deadline: January 15, 2024**

The theme of the Spring 2024 issue of *JMMLA*, "Intelligence," responds to the opportunity presented by massive, messy cultural discourses to rethink the very notion of intelligence. We welcome contributions that explore what intelligence is, what it has been, and what it might be, particularly from a humanities perspective.

For a list of topics and questions regarding the Spring 2024 issue, preview our [Current Calls for Submission](#) page. Submission procedures and formatting guidelines are described on the [journal page](#) of the website for the Midwest Modern Language Association.

Please direct all queries to the special issue co-editors, Naomi Michalowicz ([nm2925@columbia.edu](mailto:nm2925@columbia.edu)) and Nathan Jung ([najung@wisc.edu](mailto:najung@wisc.edu)).

---

### Fall 2024: Forthcoming Call for Papers

The theme for the Fall 2024 issue of *JMMLA* will be the same as this year's convention: "Going Public: What Does the MMLA Owe Democracy?"

Submissions on this topic from all members are welcome. We highly encourage presenters from this year's convention to revisit and revise their papers for submission. A call for submissions is forthcoming.

---

## Spring 2025: Call for Guest Editor

Each spring edition of the *JMMLA* has a guest editor, whose interest and expertise in a particular topic will provide the theme for that issue. For spring 2025, we're looking for an editor who will foster discussion of the selected topic across the pages of the journal, encouraging vital conversation among the MMLA's scholarly community. Topic descriptions may be in the form of a call for submissions. [Examples of current calls](#) can be found on the MMLA website.

To be considered, submit the following to the MMLA at [mmla@luc.edu](mailto:mmla@luc.edu) by **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**:

- Your most recent CV
- A cover letter describing your expertise on your proposed topic
- A description of your proposed topic

---

## FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

---

We at the MMLA are moving into the final phase of converting all our digital information and communications to our new member portal. This will be the final message sent out from the MailChimp mailing list.

---

*Copyright © 2023 MMLA, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

[mmla@luc.edu](mailto:mmla@luc.edu)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

---