



# ASLE News

A Biannual Publication of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Fall 1999

Volume 11, Number 2

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Walter Isle, ASLE President, *Rice University*

Our third ASLE conference was by and large very successful. Nearly all of the written evaluations commented on the intellectually energizing character of many sessions and speakers and on the familiar congeniality of an ASLE gathering. I believe we have from the start been a genuine community in which each of us with our variety of interests can thrive, and that common ground was evident in the meeting rooms and hallways in Kalamazoo. The variety in the program represents the variety of ASLE, especially when I think back on sorting individual proposals into specific sessions on individual authors, literary periods from medieval to modern, literature from Australia, Japan, and Latin America, ecocritical theory, environmental justice, and service learning, as well as sessions devoted to personal essays and poetry.

Of course, no conference or program is perfect, and I've received a number of suggestions for development. Some of the concerns of the Diversity Caucus, which formed during the meeting, are central to our future as an organization and not just to our biennial conferences. But I want to describe some of the ways the ASLE leadership has been addressing some these issues in recent years. Under my predecessor Molly Westling's leadership, ASLE has emphasized the need for greater diversity. One ongoing example of this would be our journal *ISLE* and the diversity of writers appearing in each issue. Beyond that, a Diversity Task Force was established after the Missoula conference, and that group, together with other ASLE members, made specific suggestions for sessions on environmental justice, minority writers, and other diversity issues that along with a session on service learning were important features of the Kalamazoo meeting. Some members of those panels were provided financial support to enable them to attend the conference, with a per diem stipend in some cases. The ASLE Graduate Liaisons, Mei Mei Evans and Wes Berry, also prepared an environmental justice bibliography that is up on the website. Another suggestion was that we have more variety in the types of sessions (more roundtables, discussion groups, workshops, etc). I would encourage all of you to develop innovative suggestions for the kinds of sessions you would like to see at our next meeting. With a few exceptions, a diverse program can only be formed from your proposals.

Planning for a conference of course includes lining up plenary speakers. Our effort in Kalamazoo was to achieve some regional representation, so that Stephanie Mills, David Orr, Wendell Berry, Paul Gruchow, Conrad Hilberry, and Scott Sanders were on our list. Marilou Awiakta and Gloria Bird were recommended by the Diversity Task Force and others in ASLE. Although the makeup of the list of plenary speakers was one focus of the Diversity Caucus, a substantial number of written evaluations singled out the plenary sessions as the thing they liked most. The final plenary session, it should be noted, was made up of ASLE members who had recent or forthcoming books representative of our diverse concerns. Forming a list of plenary speakers should include considerations of diversity and regional representation as well as stature in the field of environmental literature, but it unfortunately also has to include financial considerations. At each of our conferences, some speakers have been willing to come for considerably less money than they ordinarily receive for appearances. We were unable to invite some speakers because their fees were simply too high, in a couple of cases \$8,000-\$10,000. It is relatively easy to diversify a list of plenary speakers (although I do not think we need quotas to insure that). The much larger and more difficult task is diversify the audience--the membership of ASLE. That task is up to each of us individually, to invite our colleagues to join us, to reach out to others in the academic community and beyond and bring them into our organization.

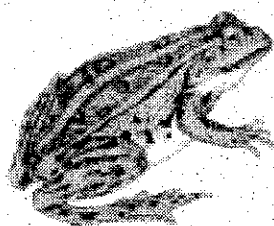
Our 2001 conference will be held at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. Our local host will be Max Oelschlaeger, whose work I'm sure many of you know. Choosing a site for a conference involves a number of factors, not least of which is a volunteer to host and an institution which will help fund the conference (in the past this has been a commitment of \$7,000-\$8,000 on the part of the host institution) as well as provide adequate facilities for a meeting of about 400 people. In regard to plenary speakers, Molly Westling and Adam Sweeting have volunteered to develop a list of potential speakers for the 2001 conference, and I

*Continued on page 3.*

Election Ballot Inside

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Column.....	1
WALTER W. ISLE	
Vice-President's Column.....	3
SUE ELLEN CAMPBELL	
ASLE Volunteers.....	4
ASLE Positions Open.....	5
Report on ISLE.....	5
Liasons.....	6-7
Elections.....	8-11
Conferences & Gatherings.....	12-14
2001 ASLE Conference.....	15
Publication Opportunities.....	15
ASLE Bookshelf.....	16-17
Diversity Caucus Formed.....	17
ASLE Membership Form.....	17



*old pond  
a frog leaps in  
sound of water*

—Matsuo Basho (1644-1694)

### DONORS AND PATRONS, SPRING 1999

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## ASLE News

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ASLE News is the biannual newsletter of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, reporting ASLE's business to and publishing letters from its membership. Items of interest, including news about conferences, forthcoming publications, and work in progress, should be sent to: Ralph Black, Dept. of English, Wake Forest University, Box 7387 Reynolda Station Winston-Salem, NC 27109.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

SueEllen Campbell, *Colorado State University*

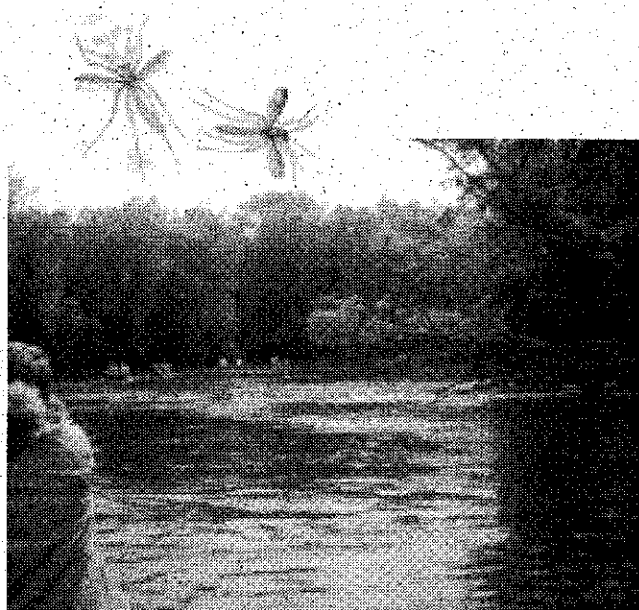
We all know that environmental problems are enormous and unfathomably complex—and that if anything is certain, it's that there can be no easy or single fixes. So what are our choices? Ignore, deny, fiddle while the world burns. Submit to despair. Become full-time activists. Try to balance an ordinary life with working to make things better.

Most of us in ASLE, I think, have settled on the last path. We raise children, tend houses and gardens, take vacations; we teach, write books, travel to conferences; and we try to turn as much of our work as we can to environmental issues. We're interested in ASLE because we share professional interests, but also, and I suspect more importantly, because some kind of passion for the living planet is for us central.

But what can any one of us do? Even Mother Theresa couldn't eliminate poverty in India. And how many environmental problems can any one of us tackle? How do we choose where to direct our efforts? Well, we consider our particular talents and limitations; we think about what we could do *best* in any one moment. We decide on a task and devote ourselves to it until the occasion is past, another more urgent job appears, or time runs out. And we hope that something we do will help, either immediately or, more often, indirectly and after a delay. The more who work in this way, the stronger this hope.

The strength of ASLE, I think, is in the passions of its members. And that plural on "passions" is essential. Since environmental problems have no single center, what we most need is a vast array of efforts, each carried out with love, anger, and energy. We agitate against radioactive and toxic dumps, then watch Tibetan monks build a mandala of colored sand. We conspire to capture traders in endangered animals, and we elegize extinct birds. We contemplate hurricanes, study public land management and forest preservation, lead students to investigate and join their communities. We organize things—professional meetings, neighborhood groups, protests, academic programs. We meditate on how humans grow attached to places, to the land, to other creatures—and on what leads us to destroy and neglect. We think about how such things take form in written culture, how books can help us to understand and even, sometimes, to fight.

None of us can do all of these things at once, but we can each try to do our own best work. It's equally important, I think, that as members of ASLE we all continue to nurture and help strengthen each other's work—whether or not we're taking the same paths at the same moment. Having taught in both contentious and harmonious English departments, I've seen how much more productive an encouraging environment can be, and I very much want to see ASLE continue to be a group that stays focused where it counts—in our difficult but necessary struggles against our common enemies, the often faceless (but still, alas, human) threats to a healthy, diverse, *living* planet.



*ASLE members strike out for a 13-mile canoe paddle on the Kalamazoo River during the summer conference in Michigan.*

### *President's Column (continued from page 1)*

know they will welcome any suggestions for speakers, especially Chicano/a, Native American or others from the Southwest. Possible 2003 locations include Tulane in New Orleans and Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin, on the shore of Lake Superior. SueEllen and I welcome other suggestions for sites and/or offers to host.

ASLE thrives on the work of its members, especially those who volunteer to put in extra time on many necessary jobs, as well as working on specific issues as the Diversity Caucus has done. As you can see from the note of thanks in this issue, there are many. I would like to thank personally my friend and colleague Tom Bailey, whose work in Kalamazoo was seemingly unending and whose devotion to ASLE is immeasurable (and who did order vegetarian food for the banquet, which the chef failed to deliver).

One special volunteer whose willingness to serve will benefit us all (as it has in the past) was one of the founders of ASLE. The Executive Council has named Cheryl Glotfelty as Executive Secretary of ASLE, providing continuity as well as historical memory necessary in an organization whose leadership changes annually. I am delighted she has accepted this role.

A note on the election ballot in this issue: there are two fine candidates for Vice President and more candidates for Executive Council than ever before, an indication of the commitment I have described. You can do your part by being sure to vote.

My year as President has been at times demanding, but it has also been a great pleasure. I have made new friends and been able to spend time with old ones. And it is certainly a pleasure to pass this task on to SueEllen who is both a former student and a friend.

## ASLE VOLUNTEERS

**W**ith the sole exception of a paid part-time assistant to the treasurer, ASLE runs entirely on the volunteer energy and time of its members--busy people who nevertheless take on various tasks both short and long, official and unofficial, public and hidden. Many of these activities were proposed and initiated by individual members, and we would like to continue this tradition.

In this and future issues of the newsletter, we will highlight the importance and variety of these contributions. We've asked these volunteers to report upon their activities (such as conference tracking, editing ISLE, and establishing links with other professional organizations) for inclusion in the newsletter; each report will include the name of at least one member whose energy it represents. If you'd like additional information about these activities, please contact the member listed.

The following people deserve to be singled out for their work with regular activities and the nitty-gritty aspects of supporting a growing organization.

### BIG THANKS to:

**Allison Wallace**, for her six heroic years of service as ASLE treasurer, and her assistant, **Malika Osborne**. In bringing us from birth to prosperity, from a tiny initial membership to our current thousand or so members, Allison has contributed countless hours of her time, countless units of energy and patience, as well as lots of ideas about how best to run our business. The organization would have collapsed without her.

**Ralph Black**, for editing the *ASLE News*, the ASLE newsletter, for four years. Only those who have tried to fill in for him in producing this issue fully understand how much work this has taken, but all of us have benefited from his commitment and labors.

**Kenton Temple**, for producing the ASLE Bibliography -- a massive job of work and a very useful one.

**McKay Jenkins**, for stepping in to serve as ASLE's secretary while we continued to work out our business and membership procedures.

**Tom Bailey**, for doing the immense amount of groundwork it took to put on the conference in Kalamazoo, and **Lisa Slaphey**, for helping Walter Isle put

together the program and keep the conference data base straight.

**Dan Phillipon**, for the skill and hours he continues to put into being the ASLE webmaster--keeping us not just adequately but impressively online.

**Chris Cokinos, John Tallmadge, and Cheryll Glotfelty**, for their continuing efforts to bring the ASLE bylaws into conformity with our practice and our needs.

**Andrea Herrmann**, for starting our graduate student mentoring program.

**Wes Berry and Mei-Mei Evans**, graduate student liaisons, for compiling an Environmental Justice bibliography for the website.

**Laird Christensen and Peter Blakemore**, former graduate student liaisons, for the huge job they did creating the ASLE syllabus exchange for the website.

**Michael Branch, Shin Yamashiro, and Tom Hillard**, for compiling the list of books by ASLE members that appears in this newsletter.

### Call for Papers: ASLE Sessions at 2000 MLA

February 1, 2000. Now in its third year as an Allied Organization within the MLA, ASLE will hold two sessions at the 2000 MLA Convention in Washington, D.C.

**Papers for session one**, "Presenting the Environment: Film, T.V., and Popular Culture" might address how these media and venues present, represent, and alter our perceptions of and experiences in natural environments. Questions might include: how does popular culture show images of nature in contemporary film, t.v., or advertisement? how do popular images of nature help or hinder environmental advocacy? when does nature function as a backdrop and when does it function as a central figure?

**Papers for session two**, "Nature History, Nature, and Science Writing," might address how have scientific writings on the environment and/or natural history contributed to the genre of nature writing and environmental awareness? what is the value of scientific observation of natural phenomena? under what conditions are such approaches useful in increasing environmental awareness, in furthering creative approaches to the natural world, or in merging such disciplines as science and art? Please send a one-page abstract and c.v. (include your e-mail address) by Feb. 1, 2000 to: Bonney MacDonald, Chair, Dept. of English, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308. Presenters must be MLA members by March 20, 2000 as well as current ASLE members. Please send submissions by mail only.

### Submissions Sought for Kalamazoo Conference Collection

Walter Isle and Tom Bailey will edit a collection representative of work presented at the conference in Kalamazoo. They would like to have the book represent the character of the conference, so any presentation from poetry to personal essay to ecocriticism will be considered. A similar volume from the 1997 Missoula conference will be appearing soon from the University of Utah Press, which is also interested in printing the ASLE 1999 volume.

Please send two copies of your submission, with a note indicating the session you participated in, one to Walter Isle, Office of the Provost MS2, Rice University, 6100 Main, Houston, TX 77005, and one to Thomas C. Bailey, Office of the Provost, 3100 Siebert Administration Building, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5130. The deadline for submissions is January 15, 2000.

## ASLE Treasurer Position Open

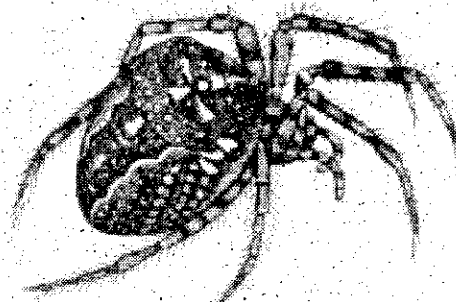
We need a willing and detailed-minded member to serve as Secretary-Treasurer, an appointed rather than elected ASLE officer responsible for managing ASLE's finances and memberships. The Secretary-Treasurer also attends and advises annual meetings of the ASLE officers and Executive Council.

Responsibilities include: Managing ASLE's money; managing its membership information, administering bi-annual mailings encouraging members to renew; printing and distributing the annual membership directory; occasionally printing ASLE brochures and stationery; responding to queries, and attending annual ASLE business meetings. Basic procedures for all of these operations have been worked out.

The treasurer has permission to hire clerical and/or technical assistance at a stipend of \$2500 per year (this stipend, however, cannot be paid to the treasurer), so while proficiency with databases would be helpful, it is not required.

Starting Date: Spring 2000 desired. Allison Wallace, the current treasurer, has generously offered to ease the transition, including traveling to the new treasurer's location and spending the necessary time to train him or her.

Interested members should send a brief letter -- by January 15, 2000 -- indicating what they expect they can bring to the job in the way of diligence, enthusiasm, ideas, institutional support, and time. Letters should be sent to Walter W. Isle, ASLE President, Provost's Office, Rice University, 6100 Main, Houston, TX 77005.



## ASLE News Editor Position Open

The Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment is seeking a member to serve as editor of *ASLENews*, the organization's newsletter. The editor is an appointed rather than elected ASLE position, and the editor is responsible for writing, editing, coordinating contributions, publishing, and mailing the biannual newsletter. The newsletter editor also attends annual meetings of the ASLE officers and Executive Council. The position requires organizational skills, a keen sense of deadlines, and ability to cajole contributors. Some experience with desktop publishing is desirable.

**Desired Starting Date:** In time for the Spring 2000 issue.

Interested members should send a brief letter -- by January 15, 2000 -- indicating what they expect they can bring to the job in the way of diligence, enthusiasm, ideas, institutional support, and time. Letters should be sent to Walter W. Isle, ASLE President, Provost's Office, Rice University, 6100 Main, Houston, TX 77005.

## Report on *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*

Scott Slovic, *ISLE* editor

By the time this newsletter appears in their mailboxes, ASLE members should also have received their copies of the Summer 1999 issue of *ISLE*. Produced over the summer, this over-sized issue of the journal contains a wealth of scholarly and creative work, ranging from a subtle and eclectic cluster of articles on animals and literature to a dazzling collection of new literary nonfiction. Contributors to the issue include not only creative writers and literary scholars, but an environmental historian, an environmental scientist, and a professor at a distinguished school of veterinary medicine.

Much has been made, in recent months, of ASLE's need to diversify itself and to contribute to the increasing diversity of environmental scholarship in general. From the beginning, we have tried to make *ISLE* an outlet for new and diverse voices, and issue 6.2 is no exception. But to make

this effort even more noticeable, Joni Adamson and Rachel Stein are currently working to plan a special plenary session on environmental justice and multicultural issues for the North American Interdisciplinary Conference on Environment and Community that will take place at the University of Nevada, Reno, February 10-12, 2000; a transcript of this roundtable session will appear in a future issue of *ISLE* together with a cluster of related materials.

*ISLE* continues to receive mountains of submissions, and with our small staff of volunteers we "process" this good work as expeditiously as we can, counting on the judgment and expertise of the journal's excellent advisory board in determining what to publish in future issues. We hope ASLE members find this to be a publication worth reading.

# ASLE Forms Liaisons

## ASLE-CCCC

**Randall Roorda, Liaison**

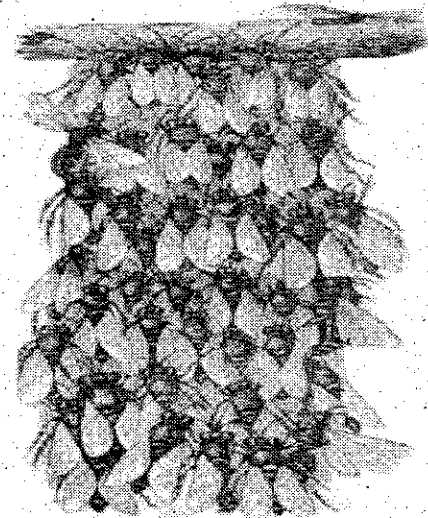
**A**SLE-CCCC ("Azlee-Four C's") is a group devoted to ecology and composition, to exploring intersections among language, literacy, pedagogy, and environment. It is a sub-group of ASLE constituted as a special interest group within CCCC, the professional organization for rhetoric and composition studies. We will hold our second annual meeting at the CCCC convention in Minneapolis this spring. The convention runs from April 12-15, and our meeting is scheduled for Friday evening, April 14, from 6-7 p.m. We plan an interactive meeting, with roundtable-leaders facilitating talk on several topics. With half a dozen sessions from ASLE-CCCC members accepted, the convention promises to be a productive one for ecocomposition enthusiasts.

This year our group is offering a full-day, pre-convention workshop, entitled "Life on the Mississippi: Modeling Ecological Literacy in a Complex Environment." We intend to get conference-goers out of the convention hotel and into the surrounding environs to learn about the place they've dropped into while exploring approaches to teaching that place--approaches that can be adapted to their own home places. We urge interested parties to sign up for this workshop, come to the conference a day early, explore the river and city with congenial peers, and help make this workshop a success--the first in what we hope to make a continuing practice.

ASLE-CCCC has instituted an e-mail listserv, to which all interested are invited to subscribe. Send a message to [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UMKC.EDU](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UMKC.EDU) with the single line: subscribe ASLE\_CCCC (your full name). Note the underscore (it's not a hyphen) in the list's name. Note further that you don't need parentheses around your name; they're there so that literalists will not type "your full name." If you'd like more information or would like to be added to our e-mail distribution list, please contact Randall Roorda at [roorda@cctr.umkc.edu](mailto:roorda@cctr.umkc.edu).

### Funds Available for ASLE Events

Anyone who wishes to organize some kind of ASLE event during the year 2000, and who would like some financial support from the ASLE treasury, should write or call SueEllen Campbell (970-491-5382; [scampbell@vines.colostate.edu](mailto:scampbell@vines.colostate.edu)) by the middle of January. All applications will be presented to the officers' meeting in Reno in February.



## American Literature Association

**Rochelle Johnson, Liaison**

**M**embers of ASLE established official ties with the American Literature Association (ALA)--the major organization of American literature specialists--beginning with the ALA's fifth annual conference, held in 1994. The ALA had featured presentations related to green literary studies prior to this formal relationship, but by becoming an affiliate organization, ASLE gained an annual standing session at the ALA conference, guaranteeing a forum for ASLE members' work.

Like members of most major scholarly organizations, many ALA members are new to ecocriticism, nature writing, and environmental literary studies. However, our panels at ALA meetings have attracted large and enthusiastic audiences, which suggests that our American literature colleagues are interested in our work and eager to incorporate green studies into their teaching and scholarship. Previous ASLE panels at the ALA have focused on such topics as Contemporary American Nature Writing, Environmental Poetry, Early Women Nature Writers, and the Literature of Natural Disaster.

The ALA meets during Memorial Day Weekend every year, and the conference site has traditionally alternated between Baltimore and San Diego. With the May 2000 meeting, the southern California site moves to Long Beach. ASLE members interested in ASLE-ALA should contact Rochelle Johnson, ASLE's representative to the ALA, at [rjohnson@acofi.edu](mailto:rjohnson@acofi.edu), or at the Department of English, Albertson College of Idaho, 2112 Cleveland Blvd., Caldwell, ID, 83605. Members may also wish to visit the ALA website at [www.americanliterature.org](http://www.americanliterature.org).



## American Studies Association, Environmental Studies Caucus

Adam Sweeting and Joni Adamson, Liaisons

Last spring we asked the members of a few listservs whether anyone was interested in joining a new American Studies Association caucus devoted to environmental studies. The response was quite encouraging, which led us to believe that a formal group along those lines could be established. As a result, a new group -- the Environmental Studies Caucus of the American Studies Association has been launched. All ASLE members are welcome to join. Our first formal meeting will be held at the ASA meeting in Montreal in late October.

We interpret environmental scholarship quite broadly to include both the natural and the built environments. Hopefully, the caucus will provide a forum for anyone interested in the role that physical space plays (or has played) in the construction of social, political, or cultural life. We are eager to have a wide ranging membership in order to take advantage of the interdisciplinary traditions and possibilities of the ASA. We hope to draw on the insights and energies of researchers in geography, literature, the natural sciences, urban planning, and all other

fields interested in the environment.

Unlike the MLA, which has provisions for formal affiliations between scholarly organizations, the American Studies Association will not grant official status to any new group. Nevertheless, the ASA leadership (which has been very supportive of the new venture) does allow caucuses to sponsor panels and to use conference facilities for meetings. To that end, we hope that the caucus can bring together like-minded folks who might never meet. We can put together panels for the ASA national conference as well as the several regional conferences held throughout the year. Hopefully, both the breadth and depth of environmental scholarship within American Studies will increase.

For more information about the caucus, contact: Adam Sweeting (sweeting@bu.edu) or Joni Adamson (j.adamson@u.arizona.edu). We have also established a new listserv to facilitate contact among caucus members. To subscribe, send mail to [listserv@listserv.arizona.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.arizona.edu) with the following message: SUBSCRIBE ENSTUD firstname lastname.

## Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

Gyorgyi Voros, Liaison

When I attended the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association annual meeting in San Diego last spring, I was struck by the number of subject areas and panels that could easily have accommodated lines of inquiry we at ASLE exert upon both literature and the culture at large. Established areas within PCA/ACA such as "American Indian Literature and Culture," "Popular Culture and Environment," and "Travel Culture," for example, are obvious venues for probing alternative views of nature, representations of nature in mass media, and ecotourism. Beyond that, though, the phenomena, disciplines, and methodologies embraced by Popular Culture Studies--journalism and media, advertising, technology, masculinities, law, geography, border culture, utopian studies, gender studies, sociolinguistics--afford a rich reserve of material for investigating constructions of physical nature.

Next spring's PCA/ACA convention in New Orleans will feature two panels within a newly established area, "Representations of Nature in Popular Culture"--an area broad enough to encourage a wide-ranging interdisciplinary approach to many media, institutions, and phenomena. The panels, "The Ecothrillers of Carl Hiassen" and "Animal Representations in Popular Culture," are cosponsored by ASLE. As area chair, I am most excited by the

variety of participants and methodologies represented. The Carl Hiassen panel will include discussions of the impact of tourism on Florida, the commodification of endangered species, the satirization of ecoterrorism, and parallels between Hiassen and Abbey, while the animals panel features presentations by a political scientist, a professor of drama, and a literature professor.

Both as area chair and as liaison between ASLE and PCA/ACA, I encourage ASLE members to think ahead to the 2001 meeting and consider how they might participate in this exciting and new wide-open field for studying--and perhaps doing something about--the way culture creates and interacts with nature in everyday life.

### Submissions Sought for Best Grad Paper at Kalamazoo Conference

A prize will be awarded to the best paper presented by a graduate student at the 1999 conference in Kalamazoo. The essay will be published in ISLE. Please send your submissions to Ann Fisher-Wirth, English Department, University of Mississippi, University MS, 38677. The deadline for submissions is January 15, 2000.

# ASLE Elections: Candidates' Statements

## CANDIDATES FOR VICE-PRESIDENT (2)

**Annie Merrill Ingram**  
Davidson College

I am honored to run for Vice President at the nomination of the recently-formed Caucus for Diversity. In talking with many of you in Kalamazoo or via e-mail, I have learned that we share a number of common interests and hopes for the future of ASLE: preserving the organization's friendliness and inclusivity; resisting the dehumanization evident elsewhere in academe; furthering ASLE's leadership in ecocriticism as well as in more holistic and ecological perspectives in education; and promoting greater diversity in our membership, conference speakers and themes, and scholarly endeavors.

I've been a member of ASLE since its inception. Because I have benefitted from the generous efforts of previous ASLE leaders, I want to give my energy back to the organization. In the past decade, I have held administrative positions in Comparative Literature, NEH summer seminars, and a British Studies program at Oxford University. I am currently an assistant professor of English at Davidson College in Davidson, NC, where I regularly teach ecocomposition and environmental literature. I include experiential pedagogies such as service learning and community-based research in these courses and as a focus of my scholarship connecting ecocriticism and ecopedagogy. I have also written articles on 19th- and 20th-century American women writers.

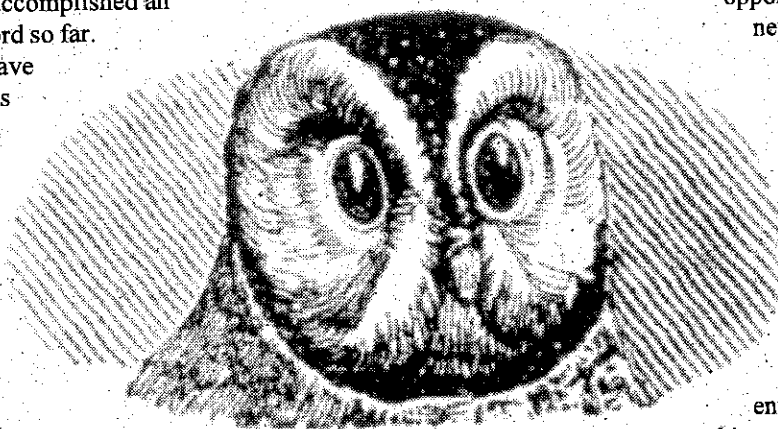
ASLE has accomplished an impressive record so far.

Many of you have suggested ways that we can continue to grow—for example, by reaching out to scholarly and activist communities who address environmental justice issues. By making our biennial and off-year meetings even more communal (more roundtables, more performances, more connections with the local communities). By strengthening ASLE's grassroots commitments through regional symposia and mini-conferences. By persistently questioning how we define "nature" and "environment," and by diligently questioning our own assumptions. I look forward to meeting these challenges.

**Randall Roorda**  
University of Missouri, Kansas City

I've been considering why, among so many worthy members of ASLE, I've been honored with this nomination. There's scholarship, of course: my having published a book on nature writing, called *Dramas of Solitude*, and other work on ecocriticism and composition in ISLE and elsewhere. But many of us publish, not a few more voluminously than this. The nominators must have sought someone active in outreach on behalf of ASLE, and so noticed my efforts to form a subgroup of ASLE devoted to ecology and composition, the second gathering of which will convene at the CCCC convention this spring. I observed a need for this group through years of work in composition, issuing in my position as a professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where I've served as director of composition, graduate teacher coordinator, and currently, as director of the Greater Kansas City Writing Project. Through administering writing programs, teaching "green," and founding ASLE-CCCC—a locus for environmental concern in composition, and a voice for literacy and pedagogy in the host organization—I have discovered in myself a penchant for the work of group-building, which I'm grateful others have discerned as well.

This election is potentially charged, since it is ASLE's first in which a semblance of slates has cropped up. One candidate for this position—a friend, hardly an opponent—has been nominated by the newly-constituted Diversity Caucus, while I have not. The appearance of opposition is deceiving, as there's little in the Caucus's requests that I don't sympathize with. I admit to questioning the proposed 51% solution to enforcing diversity among conference speakers, which seems to me a mechanistic approach to addressing factors rooted in environmentalism's checkered history—factors reflected in the demographics of our organization. This doesn't mean we shouldn't work toward a gathering in which most participants, let alone speakers, are "nondominant." I think most of us agree that we should. Our differences are strategic and rhetorical, I suspect: I think such ends are best effected through practice, not prescription, and I prefer to emphasize continuity over departure in ASLE's growth and necessary change.





# ASLE Elections: Candidates' Statements

## CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (7)

**Roberto Forns-Broggi**  
*Metropolitan State College*



I lived in the deserts of Peru for almost 29 years, but I have also traveled several times to the Andes and once to the Amazon. Then I obtained my Spanish Ph.D. in Arizona, and currently I am assistant professor of Spanish at Metropolitan State College in Denver, Colorado. I wrote the chapter "Latin American Poetry and Ecology" for *The Literature of Nature: An International Source Book*, edited by Patrick D. Murphy. At the ASLE Conference in Montana in 1997, I presided over the panel "Hispanic Voices" and presented a paper on the possibility of talking about Nature Writing in Latin America. At the Conference on Environment and Community in Reno in February 1998, I delivered a paper on "Nature and Feminine Subjectivity in Contemporary Latin American Poetry." This year, with a group of colleagues, professors of Latin American Literature, I organized another panel on ecological perspectives for the ASLE conference in Kalamazoo. With Patrick Murphy, we edited a special issue of the *Hispanic Journal* devoted to the topic of "Ecology and Latin American and Caribbean Literatures," material that will be also be part of another project in English. It has been my pleasure to see that the number of papers and people has increased around these marginal subjects.

My efforts right now are more deeds than desires: promoting reading of Latin American literary masterpieces in my classes, and encouraging students, colleagues, and the public to watch Latin American and Spanish films. What a challenge to carry out all the way an ecological perspective in this arena. So what I offer to ASLE is the same spirit: work hard to make things happen. It wouldn't be a bad idea to have screenings of different movies -- American and foreign -- to raise awareness and questions about our environment, nor to bring more Latin American colleagues, writers, and thinkers to our meetings. I also want to change any paternalistic appearance to our functions in ASLE, and open more possibilities for walking on bridges between cultures, generations, and real people.

**Mark C. Long**  
*Keene State College*



I currently serve as Assistant Professor of English and American Studies at Keene State College, Keene, NH, where I teach twentieth-century literature, with an emphasis in poetry and environmental writing, and Ameri-

can studies. Since joining ASLE in 1995, I have presented papers and organized panels on environmental writing at the biennial conference and at a number of regional conferences, including the PAMLA, MMLA and NEMLA. As a member of the Executive Council, I will advocate the diverse range of scholarship in ecocriticism and American/cultural studies; promote the concerns of graduate students and the interests of other ASLE members who are in the first stages of their academic careers; endorse the value of the convention for faculty from the two-year community college to the four-year college and university; address the issues brought forth by members, such as the caucus on diversity; help to clarify the mission of the organization with its membership; and develop new ways to use the biennial conference as a site for connecting academic interests to the cultural work of environmentalists and artists. I welcome the opportunity to contribute my professional energy and expertise to ASLE.

**Christine Mürphey, MSW**  
*Tulane University*



As coordinator of Tulane University's thriving interdisciplinary undergraduate Environmental Studies Program for the past five years, I bring to ASLE my experience in building programs which encourage the reading and writing of environmental literature by providing academic credit incentives as well as interdisciplinary support for its study. As a creative writer, I also bring a sensibility which feels at home in ASLE. My immediate concern for serving on the ASLE Executive Council, however, would be the assistance it would offer me in forming working relationships with other ASLE Council members, which would strengthen the possibility that Tulane University in New Orleans may be chosen as the site of ASLE's 2003 conference. A foundation laid ahead of time will be necessary for such an undertaking to take place. Tulane University has much to offer ASLE in terms of increasing its diversity of membership and outlook. A comparatively small city of the south, New Orleans' population is over half African-American and attracts a sizable population of artists who flock to the lower cost of living and cultural accent of the city. Home to a dozen other universities and colleges which could potentially participate in the ASLE conference, New Orleans also contains a wealth of grassroots environmental activists and academic researchers, who could offer ASLE members an expansion of their conference focus.

**Barbara "Barney" Nelson**  
*Sul Ross State University,*  
*Alpine, Texas*



**A** charter member of ASLE, I serve on the Editorial Board for ISLE, and did my doctoral work under Cheryll Glotfelty at the University of Nevada, Reno. So I have been very familiar with ASLE policies and goals since its beginning. I am currently helping to organize a winter ASLE symposium in Big Bend National Park. As one of ASLE's outspoken rural voices, I believe it is vitally important that our organization support diverse viewpoints as well as diversity in race and gender in order to maintain credibility in academia.

I teach numerous nature-based courses of my own design: American Nature Writers, Southwestern Literature, and Rural Women in American Literature (as graduate classes); Environmental Literature, Nature Writing, Reading and Writing the Big Bend; Southwest Literature, and World Literature (all with heavy emphasis on nature). In addition I have designed freshman composition and freshman research classes around endangered species and water research. I have just formed a committee to try to implement an official environmental arts and science major/minor at my university, and I brought three of my graduate students to the recent ASLE conference in Michigan: two females and one Hispanic male.

If elected to the ASLE executive committee, I would recommend eliminating plenary sessions at the next ASLE conference as a way to encourage more equality among presenters, and would suggest planning hikes and activities in such a way that they do not interfere significantly with attendance at conference sessions. On the other hand, if my wise suggestions are voted down, I would cheerfully work to produce the goals desired by the majority -- well, maybe semi-cheerfully. I am dependable and work hard.

I have published three books on rural culture and have three new books in process: two with the University of Nevada on representation of domestic animals in American literature and one, hopefully, with Texas A&M on nature writing. My current research interests include Thoreau, Austin, Abbey, Ehrlich, Hasselstrom, Kittredge, and subjects connecting rural communities to nature.

**Rachel Stein**  
*Siena College*



**I** am running for Executive Council to offer my skills and energy to ASLE in order to help this organization continue to flourish and to foster a range of perspectives and approaches to environmental literatures. My scholarship, including my book *Shifting the Ground:*

*American Women Writers' Revisions of Nature, Gender and Race*, and my teaching focuses on intersections between environmental concerns and social justice issues. An associate professor of English at Siena College in Loudenville, NY, I teach a course on Literature and Environment, but I also teach courses in Women's Studies, African American Literature and Native American Literature in which I include materials that illuminate the ways that damaging constructions of difference have historically been grounded in negative conceptions of nature. I have also gained administrative experience in fostering institutional inclusiveness at Siena College, where I have run a writers series that very successfully hosted authors from many world-cultures, and where I currently direct our Women's and Multicultural Studies program which has diversified our curriculum and our campus programming.

I would bring these skills and contacts to the ASLE executive council. Two years ago I was appointed to ASLE's Task Force for Diversity which took some small steps toward greater inclusiveness. This year at the conference in Kalamazoo, I helped found the Caucus for Diversity in order to increase these efforts. If elected to the executive council, I would aim to forge links to allied environmental and multicultural organizations, to create an exchange of ideas and interests that could help ASLE continue to grow in these vital directions.

**Gyorgyi Voros**  
*Virginia Polytechnic Institute*  
*and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia*



**M**y primary goals for ASLE, as an executive council member, would be threefold: to increase ASLE's international presence, to urge a more interdisciplinary profile for the organization, and to bring more attention to urban versions of the experience of nature.

As a body concerned with both cultural representations of nature and the actual fate of the planet, ASLE needs a more active role worldwide, especially in parts of the world where environmental debates are of immediate vital importance to human and other life. Lively dialogue with our colleagues in eastern Europe, Russia, south Asia, China, Africa and elsewhere will revitalize a conversation that in the West sometimes takes on a hermetic, enervated quality.

Last summer's keynote address at the biannual ASLE conference concerning the gaps between science and the humanities convinced me that ASLE needs to embrace the expertise of as many thinkers and artists from different disciplines as possible. One goal of this organization should be to reconfigure the relationships among academic disciplines and modes of thought. The input of biologists, physicists, environmental historians, environmental artists, etc., would revitalize and deepen our discussions.

Finally, ASLE's organizational presumptions about what constitutes "nature" need to be revamped and greater attention brought to cultural work emerging from the urban sensibility -- especially in the Eastern United States -- toward nature.

I have a Ph.D. in English from CUNY and have been an instructor of English at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, since 1989. I am the author of *Notations of the Wild: Ecology in the Poetry of Wallace Stevens*. As liaison between ASLE and the Popular Culture/American Culture Associations, I am working to establish an ASLE presence and a real concern for representations of the natural world in popular culture studies. My current scholarship focuses on a critical study of A.R. Ammons and a cultural study of the national park experience.

**Kathleen R. Wallace**  
*Columbus, Ohio*



A member since ASLE's beginnings, I am eager to give back to its members some of the energy, friendship, and support they have given me. I have served the organization informally by writing reviews for *ISLE*, volunteering to edit the newsletter until a permanent editor can be found, and by my scholarship. I am particularly interested in African American and urban literary approaches to place and nature. My publications and

presentations in this area have focused on Audre Lorde and Toni Morrison, the latter of which are co-authored with Karla Armbruster. My other interests include mapping, composition, and teacher development.

My career trajectory has been typical -- lots of teaching as a graduate student, adjunct, and faculty fellow and three years in a full-time administrative/teaching position as assistant director of first-year writing at Ohio State University. Last year, I left Ohio State to explore riskier ground as a full-time writer, independent scholar, and non-traditional teacher. Originally from the Upper Midwest, I am working on becoming "more native" to this central Ohio bioregion by volunteering with OSU's arboretum and area metro parks as a volunteer naturalist. These experiences inform my current writing and scholarship. One of ASLE's strengths has been its history of welcoming a variety of members, and I would welcome the opportunity to represent members working outside typical academic settings.

If elected to the Executive Council, I would bring well-honed administrative and consensus building skills, an appetite for hard work, and a sense of humor. A member of ASLE's newly formed Diversity Caucus, I would help ASLE foster outreach to those who may be unaware of ASLE but might appreciate an invitation to participate. I would also explore grant opportunities to support existing and new projects -- such as community workshops held in conjunction with our bi-annual conference -- suggested by members. Thank you for considering me.

### How to Connect with ASLE's Electronic Resources

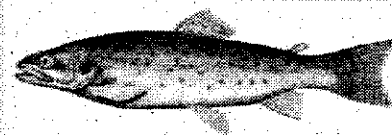
ASLE supports a website and access to several electronic discussion lists. @sle ONLINE is located at <http://www.asle.umn.edu/> and includes contact and membership information, resources for teachers, archives for the ASLE discussion list, calls for papers and conferences, a job listing, and links to many other resources.

The ASLE discussion list supports electronic conversations of general interest to ASLE members. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to [Majordomo@umn.edu](mailto:Majordomo@umn.edu), and the text of your message should read: subscribe asle. You will receive a welcome message with additional instructions shortly after you send your message.

The diversity-1 listserv is sponsored by the Caucus for Diversity to support discussions related to the interests of the caucus (see news item above). If you would like to subscribe, send an e-mail message to Annie Ingram at [aningram@davidson.edu](mailto:aningram@davidson.edu), and she will add you to the list.

### ASLE Bibliography Changes Hands

H. Lewis Ulman of Ohio State University has volunteered to serve as ASLE's new bibliography. Anyone interested in contributing should contact him by e-mail [ulman.1@osu.edu](mailto:ulman.1@osu.edu) or mail: H. Lewis Ulman, Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Rhetoric and Composition, Department of English, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210-1370.



### ASLE Clip Service/Journal Watch

Ecocriticism and ASLE continue to catch the attention of journal editors outside our usual stomping grounds. Check out the Forum on Literatures of the Environment in *PMLA*, Vol. 114, October 1999, pages 1089-1104 and the Summer 1999 issue of *New Literary History*, edited by Lawrence Buell and devoted entirely to ecocriticism.

## CONFERENCES AND GATHERINGS

Visit the ASLE web site at <http://asle.umn.edu> for an up-to-the-minute listing of conferences of interest and calls for papers. If you would like to announce a call for papers or a conference of interest in an upcoming issue of *ASLE News*, please contact Rochelle Johnson, Conference Tracker, at: [rjohnson@acofi.edu](mailto:rjohnson@acofi.edu) or (208) 459-5894.

**December 1, 1999.** The North American Interdisciplinary Conference on Environment and Community will take place at the University of Nevada, Reno, February 10-12, 2000. Hotel reservations can be made at the University Inn: tel. 775-323-0321. Send submissions to Scott Slovic, Center for Environmental Arts and Humanities/098, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557. For information, please contact Corey Lewis at 775-784-8015 or [corey@scs.unr.edu](mailto:corey@scs.unr.edu).

**December 1, 1999.** Colorado Culture; Food and Culture; Kansas Culture; Western Weather. The Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Associations and American Culture Associations will meet from February 9-12, 2000, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. For more information, see the calls for papers section of ASLE's web page.

**December 1, 1999.** The Frontier In Film. Proposals are invited for the Frontier in Film session at the annual meeting of The Southwest/Texas Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, which will be held at the Sheraton Old Town Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, from February 9-12, 2000. Please forward proposals (100-200 words) by December 1 (preferably sooner) to: Edward J. Rielly, Dept. of English, Saint Joseph's College, 278 Whites Bridge Rd., Standish, Maine 04084-5263; (207) 893-7930; Fax (207) 893 7866; [erielly@sjcme.edu](mailto:erielly@sjcme.edu).

**December 1, 1999.** Rethinking the Human Sciences: Interdisciplinary Studies, Global Education, & the Languages of Criticism. This conference will be held at The George Washington University, from April 7-8, 2000. For a list of suggested topics, visit the conference web site: [www.gwu.edu/~global](http://www.gwu.edu/~global). Please send a 250 word abstract including your name, affiliation, telephone number, address, and email to: Global Conference, GWU - Program in the Human Sciences, 2035 F Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20052; or by e-mail to [global@gwu.edu](mailto:global@gwu.edu); (202) 994-6134 (phone); (202) 994-7034 (fax).

**December 3, 1999.** Borderlands. The Fourth Annual ASU Writers Conference, in Honor of Elmer Kelton, will be held from February 24-26, 2000, at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. This year's keynote speaker will be James Carlos Blake. Please send submissions to: Gloria Duarte-Valverde, Conference Committee Chair, Dept. of English, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX, 76909; send inquiries to [Gloria.Duarte@angelo.edu](mailto:Gloria.Duarte@angelo.edu).

**December 15, 1999.** At the Crossroads: Transforming Community Locally and Globally. The Oral History Association will hold its annual meeting at the Marriott Hotel in Durham, North Carolina, from October 11-15, 2000. Send proposals and queries to: Mary Murphy, Dept. of History, P.O. Box 172320, Montana State Univ., Bozeman, MT, 59717-2320; 406-994-5206; fax: 406-994-6879; [uhixmm@montana.edu](mailto:uhixmm@montana.edu).

**December 15, 1999.** Robinson Jeffers. The 6th Annual Conference of the Robinson Jeffers Association will be held in Carmel,

California, from February 26-27, 2000. All proposals should be mailed or emailed to: David J. Rothman, Executive Director, RJA, PO Box 1296, Crested Butte, CO, 81224; [djrr@rmi.com](mailto:djr@rmi.com); send a copy of submission to: Robert Zaller, President, RJA, Dept of History & Politics, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, 19104.

**December 15, 1999.** Climate Change Communication: An International Conference. This meeting, hosted by Environment Canada and the University of Waterloo, will be held from June 22-24, 2000, in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Abstracts should be 200 to 500 words and can be submitted by e-mail to: [c3confer@fes.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:c3confer@fes.uwaterloo.ca). Authors are encouraged however, to submit their abstracts in electronic form through the World Wide Web using the submission form located at <http://geognt.uwaterloo.ca/c3confer/>. Please indicate whether the abstract is for an oral, workshop or poster presentation. Further details about the conference are available at the above web address.

**January 1, 2000:** A Graduate Student Conference: The Wild West(s): Re-reading Frontiers in Western American Literatures, Geographies and Cultures. University of Montana, March 31-April 2, 2000. Submit one page abstracts or panel proposals by January 1, 2000 to Graduate Student Literature Conference, c/o Department of English, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812 or via email to [ijulie@selway.umt.edu](mailto:ijulie@selway.umt.edu).

**January 1, 2000.** Ecocritical Approaches to Southern Literary History. The *Mississippi Quarterly* invites contributions for this special issue. Send two hard copies of essays to: *Mississippi Quarterly*, P.O. Box 5272, Mississippi State, MS, 39762.

**January 7, 2000.** Unmasking Ethnic New England. The annual conference of the New England American Studies Association will be held at the University of Southern Maine in Portland on April 29-30, 2000. Submissions (one-page with a cv) should be postmarked by January 7, 2000, and sent to: Adam Sweeting, NEASA Program Chair, Boston University, College of General Studies, 871 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. Feel free to contact Adam Sweeting ([sweeting@bu.edu](mailto:sweeting@bu.edu)) with questions.

**March 3, 2000.** Millennial Animals: Theorising and Understanding the Importance of Animals. The University of Sheffield, England, will host this conference from July 29-30, 2000. Send all correspondence to: Robert McKay and Sue Vice, Millennial Animals, Dept. of English Literature, University of Sheffield, Shearwood Road, Sheffield S10 2TN, UK; [egp97rmi@shef.ac.uk](mailto:egp97rmi@shef.ac.uk). Please visit the website: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/D-H/e/conferences/animal.html>.

**No deadline given.** Environmental Justice 2000: Building Coalitions for Environmental Justice in the Northwest. March 10-12, 2000. For more information about the conference, visit the web site: <http://www.wsu.edu/~amerstu/EJ2K/ej2k.html>. Those interested in presenting or attending should contact Susan M. Lewis at [smlewis@wsu.edu](mailto:smlewis@wsu.edu) or (509) 335-5957.



## University of Northern Arizona Site for 2001 ASLE Conference

Plans are underway for ASLE's next bi-annual conference, which will take place at the University of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff, Arizona, June 19-23, 2001. Max Oelschlaeger will be the site organizer. Max is an environmental philosopher and holds an endowed chair in Community, Culture, and Environment at UNA. Molly

Westling and Adam Sweeting have already begun working on a list of possible keynote speakers, and the ASLE officers will be thinking soon about programming options. If you have any suggestions, please contact SueEllen Campbell at [scampbell@vines.colostate.edu](mailto:scampbell@vines.colostate.edu).

## Publication Opportunities

**March 1, 2000.** Editors Sidney I. Dobrin and Kenneth Kidd seek abstract proposals for a new collection entitled *Wild Things: Children's Literature and Ecocriticism*. This collection seeks to provide for scholars and teachers of children's and young adult literature, as well as rhetoric and cultural studies, essays which address both critical readings of texts and pedagogical approaches to teaching and examining ecological literacy within these loosely defined genres. The editors encourage submissions to address both critical and rhetorical readings of young adult and children's literature framed within how particular pieces and/or authors address ecological literacy, environmentalism, and/or conservationism. 500-word proposals should be submitted no later than March 1, 2000. Please include your name, address, email address, phone numbers, proposed article title, abstract, and a brief bio/vitae (no more than one page). All proposals should be sent to Sidney I. Dobrin and Kenneth Kidd, Department of English, Box 117310, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-7310 or may be sent by email to either [sdobrin@english.ufl.edu](mailto:sdobrin@english.ufl.edu) or [kkidd@english.ufl.edu](mailto:kkidd@english.ufl.edu).

**January 15, 2000.** Food Culture. Dr. Sherrie Inness seeks contributors to a new anthology on gender, women, and food culture. Particularly welcome are essays that explore the complex relationships between United States women and food in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and essays that focus on a single food item or items (red and green chili, chocolate bon bons, spring water, tamales, ice cream, canned soup, apple pie, Kraft macaroni and cheese, Jell-O, or Spam are a few possible topics) and issues of gender. Also welcome are essays that more generally examine issues related to food culture and gender concerns in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and essays that discuss race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic class. Contributors may adopt an interdisciplinary approach to their material. Papers should be lively, vibrant, and engaging; they should be of broad interest to scholars in many academic disciplines from the humanities, including history, women's studies, English, American studies, Chicana Studies, Asian-American studies, and African-American studies. Articles should be 8000 to 11,000 words (this includes notes and references); accompanying photographs are welcome. Please send completed work, an abstract of 250-300 words, and

curriculum vita to Dr. Sherrie A. Inness, Department of English, 1601 Peck Blvd., Miami University, Hamilton, Ohio 45011 ([inness@muohio.edu](mailto:inness@muohio.edu)). Early submissions are encouraged.

**January 30, 2000.** Ecofeminism and Globalization. The co-editors of this book seek chapter length contributions. The purpose of the volume is to bring ecofeminism into a discussion with the social, political and ecological consequences of globalization, and to challenge ecofeminism. This may involve a challenge to the theoretical approach within some ecofeminist approaches to move beyond a framework of the cultural, ideological, religious and conceptual connections between women and nature into acknowledging the centrality of the concrete contexts of deforestation, drought, pollution, militarization and socio-economic impoverishment. One goal is to address the need for adequate responses to the dominant global systems of corporate rule and economic profit and can leave ecological and social ruin in their wake. The editors intend this volume to be a step in the evolution of ecofeminist perspectives in dialogue with the intent of liberation from the vantage points of liberation theologies, North/South experiences, and radical and political movements. Empirical data and concrete case studies will be appreciated. This volume will be addressed to those engaged in ecofeminist discourses and to an educated public. Chapters are expected to be approximately 20-30 pages in length. The editors seek a wide range of theoretical and material perspectives around the theme of challenging ecofeminism. Suggested topics include: ecofeminism and corporate rule; ecofeminism and Chiapas; ecofeminism and global initiative in and consequences of intellectual property rights; ecofeminism and war (effects, small arms trade, Taliban); ecofeminism and less affluent or impoverished contexts; ecofeminism and ethnocentrism; ecofeminism and theory; ecofeminism and postcolonial discourses; and ecofeminism and religion. Please send copies to both Heather Eaton and Lois Ann Lorentzen, the co-editors: Lois Ann Lorentzen, Dept. of Theology and Religious Studies, 2130 Fulton St., Univ. of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, 94117-1080; (415) 422-2431; fax: (415) 422-2346; and Heather Eaton, St. Paul Univ., 223 Main St., Ottawa, Ont., K1S 1C4, Canada; (613) 236-1393 x2276; fax: (613) 751-4016; [heaton@ustpaul.uottawa.ca](mailto:heaton@ustpaul.uottawa.ca).

# ASLE Bookshelf, Fall 1999

If you're an ASLE member with a new book that you'd like other ASLE members to know about, please send the citation, and we'll put it in the next newsletter. Books from any genre, any country, and in any language are welcome. And, if we've missed your recent book, and it didn't appear in an earlier issue of the newsletter, please contact us and we'll include it next time. -- eds.

**Anderson, Lorraine, Scott Slovic, and John P. O'Grady, eds.** *Literature and the Environment: A Reader on Nature and Culture*. Reading, MA: Addison, Wesley, Longman, 1999.

**Bass, Rick.** *Brown Dog of the Yaak: Essays on Art and Activism*. Minneapolis: Milkweed, 1999.

---. *Fiber*. Athens: U Georgia P, 1998.

---. *The New Wolves: The Return of the Mexican Wolf to the American Southwest*. New York: Lyons P, 1998.

---. *Where the Sea Used to Be*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998.

**Barnhill, David Landis.** *At Home on the Earth: Becoming Native to Our Place*. Berkeley: U of California P, 1999.

**Bennett, Michael, and David Teague, eds.** *The Nature of Cities: Ecocriticism and Urban Environments*. Tucson: U of Arizona P, 1999.

**Branch, Michael P., and Daniel J. Philippon, eds.** *The Height of Our Mountains: Nature Writing from Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah Valley*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1998.

**Carr, Glynis,** compiler. "Feminist Ecocriticism: A Selected Bibliography for Ecofeminist Literary Theory and Criticism." Updated September 1999. Available online in the bibliographies section of "The Greening of Women's Studies" <<http://www.facstaff.bucknell.edu/gcarr/greening>>. To contribute to the site or to suggest items for the bibliography's next update, contact Glynis Carr at [gcarr@bucknell.edu](mailto:gcarr@bucknell.edu).

**Carpenter, Jill, ed.** *Of Frogs and Toads: Poetry and Short Prose Featuring Amphibians*. Sewanee, TN: Ione P, 1998.

**Cohen, Michael P.** *A Garden of Bristlecones: Tales of Change in the Great Basin*. Reno: U of Nevada P, 1998.

**Comer, Krista.** *Landscapes of the New West: Gender and Geography in Contemporary Women's Writing*. Chapel Hill: U of North Carolina P, 1999.

**Elder, John.** *Reading the Mountains of Home*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1998.

---, ed. *Stories in the Land: A Vital New Model for Environmental Education*. Great Barrington, MA: Orion Society, 1998.

**Fox, William L.** *Driving by Memory*. Albuquerque: U of New Mexico P, 1999.

**Frazier, Jane.** *From Origin to Ecology: Nature and the Poetry of W. S. Merwin*. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1999.

**Gaard, Greta.** *Ecological Politics: Ecofeminism and the Greens*. Philadelphia: Temple UP, 1998.

---, and **Patrick D. Murphy.** *Ecofeminist Literary Criticism: Theory, Interpretation, and Pedagogy*. Champaign: U of Illinois P, 1998.

**Hasselstrom, Linda.** *Feels Like Far: A Rancher's Life on the Great Plains*. New York: The Lyons P, 1999.

**Holmes, Steven J.** *The Young John Muir: An Environmental Biography*. Madison: U of Wisconsin P, 1999.

**Johnson, Rochelle and Daniel Patterson, eds.** *Rural Hours*. By Susan Fenimore Cooper. Introduction by Johnson and Patterson. Athens, Ga: University of Georgia Press, 1998.

**Kerridge, Richard, and Neil Sammells, eds.** *Writing the Environment*. New York: St. Martin's P, 1998.

**Lane, John, and Gerald Thurmond, eds.** *The Woods Stretched for Miles: New Nature Writing from the South*. Athens: U of Georgia P, 1999.

**Lord, Nancy.** *Green Alaska: Dreams from the Far Coast*. Washington, DC: Counterpoint, 1999.

**Lowe, Thomas.** *Singing Stone: A Natural History of the Escalante Canyons*. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1999.

**Marshall, Ian.** *Story Line: Exploring the Literature of the Appalachian Trail*. Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 1998.

**Merchant, Carolyn.** *Green Versus Gold: Sources in California's Environmental History*. New York: Island P, 1998.

**Patrick D. Murphy,** guest editor. "Gary Snyder: An International Perspective," a special double issue of *Studies in the Humanities* (26.1-2 [1999]). The issue contains essays by contributors from Croatia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Spain, and the U.S. \$6 postpaid for domestic delivery and \$8 postpaid for international delivery. Send orders to *Studies in the Humanities*, English Department, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705-1094.

---, ed. *Literature of Nature: An International Sourcebook*. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1998.

**O'Connell, Nicholas.** *At the Field's End: Interviews with 22 Pacific Northwest Writers*. Revised and Updated. Seattle: U of Washington P, 1998.

**Olsen, W. Scott, Dawn Marano, Douglas Carlson, and Wendy Bishop.** *When We Say We're Home: A Quartet of Place and Memory*. Salt Lake City: U of Utah P, 1999.

**Philippon, Daniel J.** *The Friendship of Nature: A New England Chronicle of Birds and Flowers*. By Mabel Osgood Wright. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999.

**Quammen, David.** *Wild Thoughts from Wild Places*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1998.

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#### ASLE MLA Panel Scheduled

December 29-30, 1999. Scheduled ASLE panels for the 1999 MLA Convention in Chicago include: "Writing the Nature We See: Tourism, Travel, and Exploration Writing," Walter W. Isle, session chair, Wednesday, Dec. 29, 12-1:15 p.m., Haymarket, Hyatt Regency (session 541); and "Living in Nature: Pastoral, Suburban, and Urban Landscapes," John Dolis, session chair, Thursday, Dec. 30, 8:30-9:45 a.m., Ogden, Hyatt Regency (session 765).

## Diversity Caucus Formed

A group of members met during the Kalamazoo conference and formed ASLE's Caucus for Diversity to support growing interest in race, class, gender, and sexuality in the study of literature and the environment while encouraging greater diversity among members and in conference planning.

A letter from the Caucus for Diversity was presented to the Executive Council during the ASLE business meeting at the end of the conference; the full text of that letter is available on @sle ONLINE at <http://www.asle.umn.edu/about/diversity.html>.

A listserv, diversity-l, has also been set up for members to share information and ideas related to the interests of the Caucus for Diversity.

If you would like to subscribe, send an e-mail message to Annie Ingram at [aningram@davidson.edu](mailto:aningram@davidson.edu), and she will add you to the list.



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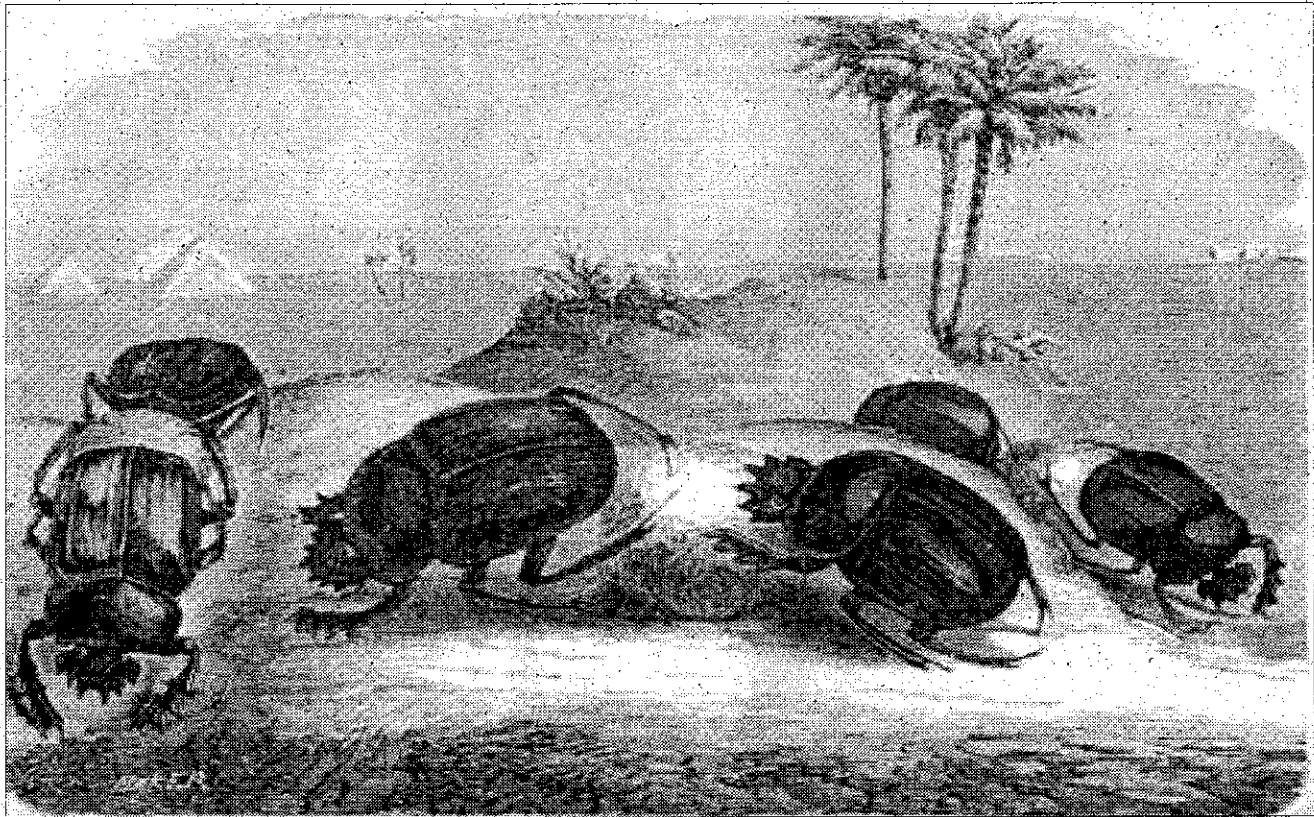
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