

THE SEASECS GAZETTE

October 2012

<http://seasecs.net/>



2013 IN DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON FEB 28-MAR 2

Atlantic Potpourri

*All the dix-huitièmiste
news that's
fit to print*

The 39th Annual Meeting of SEASECS will take place from **Thursday, February 28 to Saturday, March 2** at the truly lovely [Francis Marion hotel](#) in Charleston's historic district. The conference



will encourage participants to take advantage of Charleston locales important in eighteenth-century American history like nearby Drayton Hall, the Charleston Museum (America's first museum), and the Dock Street Theatre (America's first theatre). SEASECS is an interdisciplinary organization and welcomes paper proposals on literature, history, music, philosophy, the arts, languages, pedagogy, technology, and other subjects and fields related to the eighteenth century. This will also be the first meeting at which the new **Annibel Jenkins Prize in Performance and Theatre Studies** will be awarded (see p. 4 for details!)

The plenary speakers for the meeting will include long-time SEASECS member, former ASECS president, and Philpott-Stevens Eminent Scholar Paula Backscheider, and the acclaimed

French *dix-huitièmiste*, Dr. Malcolm Cook. Dr. Cook was unable to join us last year but he is happily making it up to us with his presence this year.

Conference activities this year will include extravagant entertainments, which the organizers have been at great pains and expense to bring to you. In what has become an embarrassing and hilarious SEASECS ritual, the rag-tag troupe of itinerant SEASECS players will be presenting another of their godless, lascivious, and unlicensed plays. Rumour has it that this year, it will be John Gay's *What D'Ye Call It? A Tragi-Comi-Pastoral Farce*, though it will probably devolve into a worthless harlequinade under the direction of Misty Anderson, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

On a more hopeful note, we shall have a ball one evening, with **traditional Lowcountry dancing**, led by Chris Hendricks, Armstrong Atlantic State University. Oh how I do love a ball! Dr. Hendricks will offer instruction in various dances and then the assembly will join him in several of them. Gentlemen, kilts are welcome but not required; ladies, dress in a seemly fashion to avoid the assaults on virtue so common to masquerades.

Thank heaven it is **still possible to submit a paper or a full panel** for this year's conference. Our SEASECS [website](#) has more information about the society, the meeting, currently proposed panels, and membership.

Current deadlines:

~For paper proposals for specific panels listed: **October 15, 2012**

~For full panels being organized off-stage: **November 1, 2012**

~For individual paper proposals: **November 1, 2012**

For paper proposals to specific panels listed on the website, please submit to the panel organizer as listed on the website. For new panels and individual paper proposals, please submit materials to the lovely and capable Elizabeth Kuipers, program chair, at Elizabeth.Kuipers@gsu.edu. [Dan Ennis](#) will be responsible for local arrangements. Please do not bother him unless you have a very good reason, as he is a very busy man.

Conference participants must be members of SEASECS. To join the Society or renew your membership, go to <http://www.seasecs.net/index.html>

A limited number of travel fellowships for graduate students will be available. If you would like to apply for those fellowships, please indicate your intention when you submit your proposal. The Society also awards two prizes of \$300 each for the best graduate student papers presented at the conference. Submissions for this year's prize should be directed to [Felicia Sturzer](#) no later than January 10, 2013. See the **last page** of this newsletter for a complete listing of **prizes and awards**.

LEGACIES IN DECATUR, A FEAST ON MANY STAGES

MANY THANKS TO JOE JOHNSON, MARTHA
BOWDEN, KAY DOIG, & PEGGY THOMPSON

THOSE SEASECS MEMBERS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO TRAVEL TO the Decatur/Atlanta area for our March 2012 meeting were treated to a feast for mind, soul, ears, and body, prepared by our organizers and the many others who worked behind the scenes to make the meeting such a success. At the heart of it all was an outstanding program, with over 100 contributors, including J. Paul Hunter's plenary talk "Poetry on the Page: Visual Signaling and the Mind's Ear" and a second plenary session, "Pleasures and Treasures from the Bentley Rare Book Gallery at Kennesaw State University", curated by Tamara Livingston and Robert Williams. Our program continued into the evening with two outstanding musical events. The first of these events, a lecture by Susan Tusing of Clayton State University on Beethoven's Opus 1, followed by a performance of the Trio in C Minor by Trio Bravi was spectacular, and the experience was enhanced by the setting in Agnes Scott College's Thompson Smith Chapel, where the audience watched evening fall through



picture windows as this accomplished trio played. Thanks to Peggy Thompson and Kay Doig for helping to coordinate this concert. The second night of the conference featured a lecture and concert of baroque and classical music at Holy Trinity Episcopal, with Amanda Pepping on trumpet and Calvert Johnson on organ. Area Society member Martha Bowden helped to coordinate this delightful evening.

In addition to the musical entertainments, receptions, and the luncheon, the SEAECS players struck again with a staged reading of David Garrick's *The Bon Ton*, a popular afterpiece and excellent example of a Restoration-style

comedy compressed and sufficiently moralized for a later-eighteenth-century audience. It also shows Garrick's skill with dialogue, a fact too apparent for even this cast to obscure. The play unfolds in the household of philandering Lord Minikin, who is carrying on a clandestine affair with his young ward Letitia Tittup, while his wife Lady Minikin pursues an amour with her soldier-lover, Colonel Tivy, who is publicly courting the flirtatious Miss Tittup. Gravity descends into the affairs of this family in the form of Sir John Trotley, who bemoans the state of affairs in the wretched, corrupt city life that his relatives lead, and, after a masquerade that puts both couples back in the Minikin household, nay, in the same bedroom (in spite of the best efforts of their witty yet somewhat cynical servants), their plots are exposed and Sir John whisks his female relatives off to the country, where nothing immoral ever happens.

As with last year's *The Wifings*, this year's star-studded cast brought the play to life to great applause and guffaws. Thanks to all who participated, either on stage or as punters in the seats, in a delightful event.

LORD MINIKIN.....JOHN VANCE
SIR JOHN TROTLEY.....DAN ENNIS
COLONEL TIVY.....JACK DEROCHI
JESSAMY.....CHRIS HENDRICKS
DAVY.....PAUL KELLEHER
MIGNON.....MERCY CANNON
LADY MINIKIN.....MARTHA BOWDEN
LETITIA TITTUP.....MISTY ANDERSON
GYMP.....EMILY FRIEDMAN



Col. Tivy (Jack DeRochi) petitions Miss Tittup (Misty Anderson)

Prizes, Honors, and Accolades

GRADUATE STUDENT PRIZES

This year's Graduate Essay prize committee awarded two prizes, a reflection of the quality of work being done by our junior colleagues in the society. Those went to **Clayton Tarr from the University of Georgia** for "Framing the Gothic: Ann Radcliffe and Narrative Boundaries," and to **Shelby Johnson, University of Tennessee**, for "Reclaiming History's Terra Incognita: Frances Burney, *The Wanderer*, and Race."

Congratulations to both our winners on their excellent work.

GRADUATE TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS

Each year, SEAECS makes possible several travel grants to enable graduate students to attend the meeting. Congratulations to the 2012 winners **Leah Thomas, Emily Groves, April Stevens, Kathryn Fredericks, Joshua Lynn Beardin, and Garland Beasley.**

PERCY ADAMS PRIZE

This year's Percy Adams prize for the best article in eighteenth-century studies published in 2011 received 12 submissions. This year's winning essay is

François Furstenberg's "Atlantic Slavery, Atlantic Freedom: George Washington, Slavery, and Transatlantic Abolitionist Networks" which appeared in *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3rd ser., 68:2 (April 2011): 247-86. Furstenberg

argues that abolitionist influences on George Washington have been understudied. Furstenberg cites 16 works by abolitionists in Washington's library who influenced Washington and augmented his unprofitable experience with slavery, an influence evident in his Last Will and Testament.

Congratulations to the 2012 winners

SEASECS invites submissions for the **Percy Adams Prize**, an award of \$500 for the best article on an eighteenth-century subject published in a scholarly journal, annual, or collection between September 1, 2011 and August 31, 2012. Authors must be or become members of SEASECS, and only one submission per person will be considered for the prize. Submissions written in a language other than English must be accompanied by an English translation. Three copies must be submitted. Articles may be nominated by the author or by another member. Deadline for submission: **November 15.**

Please send submissions to the Chair of the Percy Adams Prize committee Randa Graves at:

Dr. Randa Graves
Department of English
UAB at Birmingham
lgraves@uab

Graduate Student Prizes for 2013

SEASECS offers two graduate student awards to meeting attendees.

1) Up to six grants of \$350.00 each for travel to the conference. If you do not live in the immediate area of the conference venue and would like to apply for one of these grants, simply identify yourself as a graduate student interested in a travel grant when you send in your conference paper proposal. If you have already sent in a proposal, send a message to the 2013 Program Chair [Elizabeth Kuipers](#), as soon as possible and no later than **February 1** to apply.

2) Two graduate student essay prizes of \$350.00 each. The essay should be a carefully edited version of the paper you are planning to give at the conference. If you are a graduate student interested in having your essay considered for a prize, please send it by email attachment (Word or .rtf file) by the deadline of **JANUARY 10, 2013** to the chair of the Graduate Prize Committee, Dr. Felicia Sturzer, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Felicia-Sturzer@utc.edu. If you have not received a response within 3 business days, please send your email again to ensure there have been no technical failures.

New for 2013: First Annual Annibel Jenkins Prize in Performance and Theater Studies!

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SEASECS Announces New Jenkins Prize

At its annual meeting in Decatur, Georgia, in March 2012, SEASECS passed a motion to establish a prize in honor of one its founding members, Annibel Jenkins. We are pleased to issue the first call for this prize. A description of the criteria is below:

The Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SEASECS) invites submissions for its first annual Annibel Jenkins Prize competition. An award of \$500 will be given for the best article in performance and theater studies published in a scholarly journal, annual, or collection between September 1, 2011 and August 31, 2012. Authors must be or become members of SEASECS. Articles may be nominated by the author or by another member.

The deadline for submissions is **November 15, 2012**. Please send submissions as PDF files and address any other queries about the prize to the chair of the committee:

Martha F. Bowden
Kennesaw State University
mbowden@kennesaw.edu



Summary of Prize Deadlines

Annibel Jenkins Prize November 15
Percy Adams Prize November 15
Graduate Essay Prize January 10
Graduate Travel Prizes February 1

SEASECS OFFICERS

President: Joe Johnson
Vice President: Chris Johnson
Secretary: Misty Anderson
Treasurer: Dan Ennis
Past President: Martha Bowden
Archivist/Historian: Elizabeth Kuipers
Journal Editor: Samia I. Spencer
Graduate Student Member: Shelby Johnson

Members at large: Chloe Wigston Smith, Keith Pacholl, Ivy Dyckman, Marta Kvande, Jack De Rochi, John Barrington

SEASECS Journal

XVIII: New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century

is an annual publication sponsored by SEASECS that seeks to provide insight into the best current scholarly research and writing on the long eighteenth century. For submission details, see the SEASECS website. Please address all queries to the NPEC Editor, Samia I. Spencer, spencsi@auburn.edu, and keep in mind that institutional and individual subscriptions to NPEC are remarkably inexpensive!!

ASECS IN CLEVELAND APRIL 4-7

The next ASECS meeting will take place in Cleveland, OH, at the Renaissance Hotel, which is walking distance from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. More information about the meeting can be found at the [ASECS site](#).

