First of all, I would like to wish all our members prosperity, joy and a great deal of publications for this year. May you have the good fortune to have all your dreams and illusions come true. I hope you agree that our conference in Kansas City was a global success, celebrated with harmony, peace and good humor. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our friends and colleagues who participated so actively in our XIV Conference at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. A special mention to our two brilliant keynote speakers, Drs. Luce López-Baralt (Universidad de Puerto Rico - Recinto de Río Piedras) and Bruno M. Damiani (Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.).

All of our conferences on humor studies held in so many international cultural centers and universities as Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), San Juan de Puerto Rico, Santiago (Chile), Mexico City, Guadalajara (Mexico), Sudbury (Canada), San José (Costa Rica), Minneapolis (Minnesota), Lisbon (Portugal) exceeded all our expectations and clearly demonstrated that we could grow as an international, vibrant and respectable association. How can I forget the fantastic, professional get-together organized so deliciously by Dr. Laura Areias and our Portuguese friends in Lisbon (2012)?

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the School of Arts & Sciences (UMKC) was honored to host this prestigious conference last October. Scholars coming from fifteen countries including Poland, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Puerto Rico and the United States of America, each dedicated to the study of humor in its different fields featured their work and academic knowledge.

I will not forget either to thank my colleagues, friends, professors, lecturers, students and UMKC staff members who composed a fantastic planning committee able to cover all the aspects of our event, including the unfortunate and unexpected departure of our founder, and executive treasurer, Dr. Paul Seaver, on the same day he would have presented his paper (10/18/2013).

My eternal gratitude to Drs. Alice Reckley, Alberto Villamandos, Matthew Edwards, Ms. Lorena Hidalgo-Johnson, Kelley Young, Xánath Caraza, Stephanie Marquez and many others. This letter has been edited and distributed by our new Executive Treasurer, Dr. Marisa Kalbermatten (Gustavus Adolphus College) and our Executive Secretary, Vera Cecilia Machline (Universidade de São Paulo, Brasil). In my second year of tenure, I will be assisted by our Vice-President, Dr. Francisco Ocampo (University of Missouri-Kansas City).
To submit your membership form, contact:

María Isabel Kalbermatten  
Treasurer, ISLHHS  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 West College Avenue  
Saint Peter, MN 56082-1498  
E-mail: mkalberm@gustavus.edu

PURPOSE:
The International Society for Luso-Hispanic Humor Studies (ISLHHS) promotes the study and appreciation of humor wherever Spanish and Portuguese are spoken. The society encourages all areas of humor scholarship in the Luso-Brazilian and Hispanic worlds. It is dedicated to dissemination of information to a diverse population and encourages communication with others interested in this expanding field.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:
- Information on humor in the Luso-Hispanic world
- Opportunities for professional growth
- Opportunities to serve the ISLHHS
- Communication with colleagues in the field
- Appreciation of humor study
- Possible publication in the Conference’s Selected Proceedings

of Minnesota-Twin Cities) who will be our president for the term 2015-16. We have also elected vocals in order to assist our Executive Board: Laura Areias (Universidade de Lisboa); Thomas Faye (Université de Limoges, France); Robert Fritz (Ball State University, Indiana); Camilo Gomides, Universidad de Puerto Rico-Recinto de Río Piedras); Isabelle Guttón (Universidad de Oviedo, España), Alicia Ocampo (University of Minneapolis-Twin Cities); Eduardo Parrilla Sotomayor (Tecnológico de Monterrey, México); María Antonia Pérez-Andújar (Autora, Kansas City).

At this point, I cannot go further, without evoking the magnificent labor performed by our late President and founder of this splendid Society on Humor Studies, Dr. Paul Seaver and his beloved wife Jennifer. You can find some information through these links:

http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/dailylocal/paul-seaver-jr-condolences/167867768?&page=3#sthash.AK1XiVos.dpbs

Paul believed in his society on humor, he quickly understood that humor was a complex, historic, social, politic, literary and cultural phenomenon. He insisted during our executive board meetings in holding an annual conference in order to talk and explore many of its tentacle ramifications. We also decided to create the “Special Paul Seaver Price” for the best essay written and presented by a graduate student, with a $500 award.

Since we are going forward and looking straight ahead, I need to say a few words about our forthcoming XV Conference at the University of Hawai’i at Manoa, Honolulu. Before going further here is the main link to satisfy your curiosity and all your needs:

https://sites.google.com/a/hawaii.edu/luso-hispanic-humor-studies-conference/

I will remind gently that our member fees were and will still be $20 for the whole year. They will help to pay for some expenses and the Paul Seaver Graduate Student Award. Give me $20 and I’ll give you the world.

For those who are still hesitating, go for it, go with us to Honolulu and enjoy a first or second honeymoon, life is too short, too ephemeral to ignore the Hawaiian Islands. Dr. Lucia Aranda will be waiting for you, the same way we did in previous years. She will be in charge of this major Conference with the local organizing committee and will surely wish us a resounding ALOHA. We will be able to find new venues on humor perspectives. Many Asian friends and scholars will be participating and share with us the humor of Asian cultures and civilizations.

Finally if you have any kind of recommendations, remarks, suggestions, we are here to hear from you and establish a larger dialogue.

Thank you for following us!

Sincerely,

Louis Imperiale
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Abstract submission deadline: March 15, 2014

The International Society for Luso-Hispanic Humor Studies announces the call for papers for its 15th annual conference. Proposals for papers or panels on any aspect of Luso-Hispanic literature or culture are invited. Presentations may be in English, Spanish, or Portuguese and involve any aspect of Luso-Hispanic humor from any period or genre wherever Spanish or Portuguese are spoken. Presentations may focus on but are not limited to the following fields: literature, folklore, semiotics, discourse analysis, art, music, cartoons and graphic humor, film, popular culture, humor theory, and cultural history. Papers must be free of excessive jargon and accessible to the non-specialist.

Participation in the conference is limited to members of the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR LUSO-HISPANIC HUMOR STUDIES.

ABSTRACTS: Abstracts should be between 250-300 words (1 page) in Microsoft Word format and may be in any of the three languages of the Society (English, Portuguese, Spanish). Please do not include identifying information (name, title, etc.) in your abstract file; list that information in the Contact Information section instead.

Proposals are to be received by March 15, 2014. Notification of proposal selection results will be sent via email by April 15, 2014.

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Louis Imperiale, President
University of Missouri-Kansas City
(2012 – 2014)

Francisco Ocampo, Vice-President
University of Minnesota

Vera Machline, Executive Secretary
Pontificia Universidade Catolica de São Pablo

María Isabel Kalbermatten, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor
Gustavus Adolphus College

Laura Areia, Vocal
CLEPUL – Universidade de Lisboa

Eduardo Parrilla Sotomayor, Vocal
Tecnológico de Monterrey

Camilo Gomides, Vocal
Universidad de Puerto Rico

Robert Fritz, Vocal
Ball State University

Alicia Ocampo, Vocal
University of Minnesota

Thomas Faye
Université de Limoges, France

Isabelle Guttón
Universidad de Oviedo, España

María Antonia Pérez-Andújar
(Autora, Kansas City)
FROM THE EDITOR

I am very pleased to present this seventh edition of the International Society of Luso-Hispanic Humor Studies, which will be distributed bi-annually (late Spring and Fall of each year) to members currently on our mailing list. The contents depend on the active involvement of the members of the society. But you do not have to be a member to submit information or brief articles to be considered for publication. Please direct any news of interest to members, reviews, events, articles, jokes, anecdotes and notes to me at the address that appears below. In order that the two annual issues go to print in a timely manner, please do hold firmly to the deadlines (December 1 and May 1). I will do my best to include as much of your input as possible.

Finally, I would like to invite all to join the society by filling out the form that appears on the society’s web site (http://ilhhumorsoc.org) and sending it to me.

Thank you for your interest in, and support for, our society.

Maria Isabel Kalbermatten, Ph.D.
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Participants in the XIV Annual Conference of the International Society for Luso-Hispanic Humor Studies that was held at the University of Missouri – Kansas City in October 17 – 19, 2013.