

The Chair

Bob Acker: The semester is winding to a close and the festive season is upon us. I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday break and convey to you my best wishes for a successful and fulfilling New Year. Our Fulbright TAs (Selin Bitti, Maria del la Paz Garcia-Villalba Navaridas, Andrea Kuenz, Tamara Shtanova, and Shiho Yamamoto) will be off to a FLTA Workshop in Washington, D.C., Dec. 10 - 14. I hope they have a rewarding experience. Other faculty will be busy teaching courses during the January Wintersession. We will all be back for the first day of our contract on Jan. 21, 2009 ready to face the exciting challenges that lie ahead.

MALT

Marty Marko, MALT Bulletin editor, reminds us that he invites contributions and announcements for inclusion in the next edition. The deadline for submissions is Mar. 3, 2009, but early submissions are welcome. If you are considering a contribution or have questions, please contact Marty by email or drop by his office.

French

Bénédicte Boisseron presented "The Belleville Hybridization of Momo in *Monsieur Ibrahim*" at the Rocky Mountain MLA Convention in Reno, NV, Oct. 9-11.

Russian

Ona Renner-Fahey attended the conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies held in Philadelphia in November. She presented a paper on mythologies of the creative process and inspiration in twentieth-century Russian poetry.

Clint Walker attended the main conference for Slavic scholars in the United States, which is organized annually by AAASS, or the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. This year it was in Philadelphia. He gave a paper on the writer Andrei Platonov called "Andreigyny, or Passion According to Andrei: Platonov, Sex and Gender in the 1930s" (about Platonov's relation to Stalinist paradigms of sex and gender). He was also the discussant on a panel on Mikhail Bulgakov's novel *The Master And Margarita*.

Spanish

Maria Bustos presented "Patagonia: Tracing the Southern Frontier in Contemporary Argentinean Literature" at the Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies Conference in Las Vegas, NV, November 7-8.

Clary Loisel presented "The Inequality of Language in the Narrative Works of Rosario Castellanos" at the Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies Conference in Las Vegas, NV, November 7-8.

The next issue of the MCLL newsletter will appear on February 4, 2009.
--