



Founded 1951

American Name Society *Bulletin*

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Editor's Note

ANS Bulletins are distributed electronically. Please contact me (<luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it>) if you would like a paper copy.

The ANS 2018 Conferences

Explore Salt Lake City, Utah, at the 2018 ANS Conference!

Hi everyone! My name is Brad Wilcox and I have been a member of ANS for many years. I am excited that next year you will be coming to Utah. I teach at Brigham Young University about an hour south of Salt Lake City so this is my stomping ground and I am thrilled to share a few ideas for things you might like to see while you are here next January.



Salt Lake City

While winter is not the most popular time to visit the many national parks we have in Utah, some of them are open. Check on the Internet for details, but you may want to visit Zions, Arches, or Bryce Canyon. The landscapes are amazing!

If you are only in the area for the conference, you may want to drive to Park City, the hub of several ski resorts and the location of the 2002 Winter Olympics. It is an old silver mining town and the main street is made up of remodeled buildings that date right back to the Old West. It is worth the trip just to wander through that historic downtown. Park City is about 45 minutes east of SLC in the mountains. Bring your skis if you are into winter sports. Utah is known for having the "greatest snow on earth."

Salt Lake City is home to the world's largest family history library. It is a short (and free) ride on the light rail away from the hotel where the conference is located. The main floor is a high-tech discovery center where you can quickly locate your family tree and find out which famous people you might be related to. Your visit there is free and there are lots of hosts and hostesses who will help you.



Brad Wilcox

The famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings and are open to the public. The location is very close to the hotel. You can sit and enjoy listening to this amazing choir rehearse. If you are around on Sunday morning, you can attend their broadcast at no cost. Their Sunday morning performance of "Music and the Spoken Word" has been broadcast for more than eight decades. It is the longest ongoing radio program in history. You can get more info at

<https://www.mormontabernaclechoir.org/>

There is the tip of the iceberg for you. There is much more to see and do than you will ever have time for. University of Utah has many great museums as does Brigham Young University, which is about an hour south. Utah Valley

University (also about an hour south of SLC) just unveiled an incredible piece of art: the history of the world in 80 panels of stained glass. You will not be able to keep your jaw from dropping.

<https://www.facebook.com/rootsofknowledge/>

<http://rootsofknowledge.com/rok/index.php/2016/11/22/ksl-covers-unveiling-roots-knowledge/>

I am looking forward to our time together next January in Utah. It gets a little cold in the winters, but we have warm hearts!

Looking forward to seeing you,

Brad Wilcox

CALL FOR PAPERS

2018 ANS Annual Conference 4-7 January, Salt Lake City, UTAH

The ANS is inviting abstract submissions for the 2018 annual conference to be held in conjunction with the Linguistic Society of America.

Abstracts in any area of onomastic research are welcome. The **deadline for receipt of abstracts is June 30, 2017**. To submit a proposal, simply complete the 2017 Author Information Form (AIF) found here:

<http://www.americannamesociety.org/conferences/>

Please email this completed form to Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins using the following address: drobbins@latech.edu. For organizational purposes, please be sure to include the phrase "ANS 2018" in the subject line of your email. Presenters who may need additional time to secure international payments and travel visas to the United States are urged to submit their proposal as soon as possible.

All proposals will be subjected to blind review. Official notification of proposal acceptances will be sent on or before September 30, 2017. All authors whose papers have been accepted must be current members of the ANS and need to register with both the ANS and the Linguistic Society of America. Please feel free to contact Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins should you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to receiving your submission!

CALL FOR PANEL PROPOSALS

2018 ANS Annual Conference

4-7 January, Salt Lake City, UTAH

Building on the great success of such events as our 2016 organized session on “Science Fiction, Fantasy, Mystery, and Horror” and the 2017 panel entitled “Onomastics beyond Academia”, the ANS-EC is inviting proposals for new panels to be held during the 2018 annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

All ANS members are encouraged to submit proposals for a panel of papers on a specialized theme. The panel themes may address **any area of onomastic** research, theory, and/or application. Panels may contain between three to six original papers addressing a single theme. However, particular preference will be given to themes which address issues that have joint appeal to both names specialists and enthusiasts alike.

All proposals must include the following information:

- The Title of the Panel
- A summary abstract (max 500 words, not including references) describing the subject-matter and the potential contribution of the proposed panel.
- The Full Name, Affiliation, Email Address, and a professional biographical sketch (max. 50 words per person) for the Panel Coordinator, Panel Moderator, and Panel Presenters.
- The Title and Abstract (max. 200 words, not including references) for each paper to be presented in the panel.

The official **deadline for panel proposals is the 1st of June 2017**. Please send panel proposals either as a PDF file or Word doc to ANS President, Dr. I. M. Nick (<mavi.yaz@web.de>). For organizational purposes, be sure to include the codeword “ANS2018 PANEL” in the subject line of the email.

Panel Coordinators will be notified about possible acceptance on or about the 1st of July 2017. Panels that have been accepted for presentation will be required to submit a finalized description of their event for inclusion in the ANS and LSA Handbook in early October 2017.

President’s Note

Hello Everyone!

The change of seasons has begun. For many of us, this gradual transition is not only evident in the color of the trees, the length of the days, and the number of papers we have yet to write and/or grade. This seasonal shift is also apparent in our current newsletter that contains reports from our recent annual meeting in Austin, Texas and give you important updates for some of the exciting events planned for 2018.



For example, in addition to our traditional call for papers for the ANS annual meeting, for the very first time, we are also inviting proposals for special panels of papers organized around a central onomastic theme. The details

about how to submit a proposal can be found in this issue and on our ANS website.

The search is also on for new members to join our ANS Executive Council of Officers. If you have ever thought about getting more involved in the ANS, this is a great opportunity. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. On behalf of the ANS Executive Council, we wish you all the very best!

Iman Nick

From the Nominating Committee

New ANS Officers Sought

Ever thought about getting more involved with the American Name Society but did not know how? Here is your opportunity! The American Name Society is currently looking for a few good people who are interested in joining the Executive Council. Starting January 2018, new

officers will be needed to fill the following positions: 1.) **Treasurer**; 2.) **Member-at-Large**; and 3.) **Allied Conference Coordinator**. In addition, the ANS is looking for three people who would be interested in leading one of the following three ANS Facebook Special Interest Groups (SIGs): 1.) *personal names*; 2.) *literary names*; and 3.) *commercial names*. A detailed description of these positions is provided below:

ANS Treasurer (2018-2020)

The person elected to this position will be responsible for keeping official records of all funds and securities of the Society; giving and keeping receipts for moneys due and payable to the Society; depositing all moneys in the name of the Society; responding to inquiries from annual conference attendees regarding registration payments; and informing the ANS President, the members of the ANS-EC, and the general membership about the financial status of the Society via an end-of-the year fiscal report. The ANS Treasurer will work closely with the ANS President, Vice President, and Membership Officer as well as Taylor & Francis, the current publisher of the ANS Journal NAMES. The person elected to this position is expected to have demonstrable accounting experience and competence in using standard spreadsheets programs (e.g. Excel). Applicants for this position must be long-term ANS members in good-standing.

Member-at-large (2018-2021)

The person elected to this position will serve as a voting member of the Executive Council (EC) and is expected to participate actively in the legislative decision-making involved in resolutions and motions placed before the EC. In addition to these duties, members-at-large serve on various auxiliary sub-committees to, for example, help with the nomination of new officers, coordination of the annual conference, and organization of allied conferences. Officers in this position can renew their term of service twice.

Allied Conference Coordinator (2018-2020)

The person elected to this position is principally responsible for organizing the ANS session at the annual conference of the Modern Language

Association. This activity involves issuing a call for papers, assembling a team of abstract reviewers, selecting three authors whose work will be presented at the MLA conference, and coordinating the presentation of the three winning abstracts with the MLA administration. In addition to these duties, as a voting member of the ANS Executive Council (EC), the Allied Conference Coordinator participates in the legislative decision-making of the Society. Although the term of service for this position is for two years, the holder of this office may be re-elected pending approval by the EC. Given the fact that this position requires close communication with the MLA, candidates who have a demonstrated expertise in literary onomastics will receive preference. Holders of this position are also eligible for election as an ANS Vice President.

Coordinator for ANS Facebook Place Names Special Interest Group (2018-2020)

The person elected to this position is principally responsible for managing the ANS Facebook Special Interest Groups (SIGs). There are three ANS SIGs: 1.) **Personal Names**; 2. **Literary Names**; and 3.) **Commercial Names**. For each one of those SIGs, the coordinator is responsible for stimulating and monitoring discussions between users; regularly posting material of thematic interest; answering queries from the general public; and coordinating an informal gathering in-person during the annual ANS meetings. The people chosen for these positions are expected to have excellent writing skills; be a frequent and enthusiastic Facebook user; and have a demonstrable interest in the thematic area of the relevant SIG. The coordinators of the ANS Facebook SIGs will work closely with one another, the ANS President and Vice President, and the ANS Information Officer.

To apply for one or both of these positions, please complete and return the application form to Dr. I. M Nick (<mavi.yaz@web.de>).

The official application form for these positions can be found here:

<<http://www.americannamesociety.org/about/apply-to-be-an-ec-officer/>>

Iman Nick

The ANS 2017 Conferences

2017 ANS Conference Highlights Austin, Texas

The 2017 ANS Conference was held January 5-8 in Austin, TX at the spacious JW Marriott Austin. Attendees enjoyed a myriad of presentations that spanned a range of onomastic interests. Scholars from diverse fields and countries shared their original research on literary, commercial, personal, and place names. Special panels on “Onomastics beyond Academia” and “Names and Naming in Texas” proved particularly popular with conference goers.

Inquiries into literary names were presented in three separate sessions on “Names, Naming, and Literature.” Interpretations of names and naming patterns in works by authors as varied as William Shakespeare, Edgar Allen Poe, Henry James, and Dav Pilkey (of Captain Underpants fame) were provided. Olga Khotskina (Novosibirsk State University) shared her research on “Capitalization of personal names in Old English and Middle English traditions.” Of special interest to attendees were papers on J. R. R. Tolkien’s namecraft. Amber Jorgenson (Louisiana Tech University) spoke on “Gollum and Smeagol: Dual names, duel personalities” and Brad Wilcox (Brigham Young University) explained “The connection between Tolkien’s character names and the languages on which they were based.”

Personal names received significant attention at the conference as well. Papers on “Names, Naming, and Identity” filled three sessions. Topics included collectivist first names, namesaking practices, community identifiers, and interchangeable personal names. Lisa Abney and Lori LeBlanc (Northwestern State University) shared their research on “In-group and outsider use of identifiers in LGBTQ communities,” while Ananda Muhammad (Iowa State University) spoke about “Pakdaengang: A cultural identity of the Makassarese people.” The winner of the American Name Society Emerging Scholar Award, Daniel Duncan (New York University) spoke on “Understanding St. Louis’ love for Hoosier.”

In addition, two panels on “Onomastics beyond Academia” chaired by Laurel Sutton (Catchword Branding) featured business professionals discussing naming practices in relation to brands, products, and babies! Jennifer Moss (BabyNames.com) explained “How the internet shapes baby names,” while Pamela Redmond Satran (Nameberry.com) spoke on “Revolutionizing how and what parents name their babies.” Kemp Williams (IBM Corporation) spoke on “Computational onomastics in threat and fraud detection”; Williams’ presentation received a superior rating by attendees in the ANS post-conference survey.

In recognition of our host city and state, a special panel on “Texas, Names, and Naming” chaired by Edward Callary (Northern Illinois University) required two sessions to accommodate the scholarship. Papers that focused on multicultural naming practices included Gene Rhea Tucker’s “From Tejas to Texas: Mexicans, Anglos, and the battle of places names, to 1845” and Scott Baird’s “Bexar County Texas water resources: A multilingual process of naming . . . and renaming.” In a separate session, Maryann Parada (California State University Bakersfield) considered “The politics of pronunciation: Personal and place names in the Texas media.”

A global perspective on both place and commercial names was evident at the 2017 ANS Conference. Robert Fouser (Ohio State University) presented “Naming cafes and bars in Seoul” and Veronika Robustova (Lomonosov Moscow State University) spoke on “Space objects naming strategies,” drawing her examples from the planet Venus. Commercial names were considered in a session on “Naming, Branding, and Business” chaired by Luisa Caiazza (University of Basilicata). Among the participants, Mirko Casagrande (University of Calabria) shared his critical discourse analysis, “Branding Brexit,” while Jana Altmanova (University L’Orientale—Naples) and Gabrielle Letallec-Lloret (Paris University) discussed “Derivate brand names and lexical creativity.”

Two notable events occurred on Friday, January 8. At noon, Cleveland Evans (Bellevue University) chaired the popular Names of the Year session, in which attendees debated the

merits of various names in four categories (personal, place, fictional, and trade), eventually selecting *Aleppo* as the Name of the Year. Later in the afternoon, Keynote Speaker Dr. Zenzi Griffen (University of Texas at Austin) described her research in “Cognitive processes in name retrieval” and identified the “factors that lead us to call the people (and animals) we know best in the world by the wrong names.” Both events were well attended.

A celebratory conference banquet was held Saturday evening. Attendees enjoyed authentic Tex-Mex fare and lively conversations at Uncle Julio’s on Brazos Street. For a complete list of presenters and sessions, consult the 2017 ANS conference schedule available on the ANS website.

Dorothy Dodge Robbins

Austin 2017 in Pictures



Austin: view from the Marriot Hotel



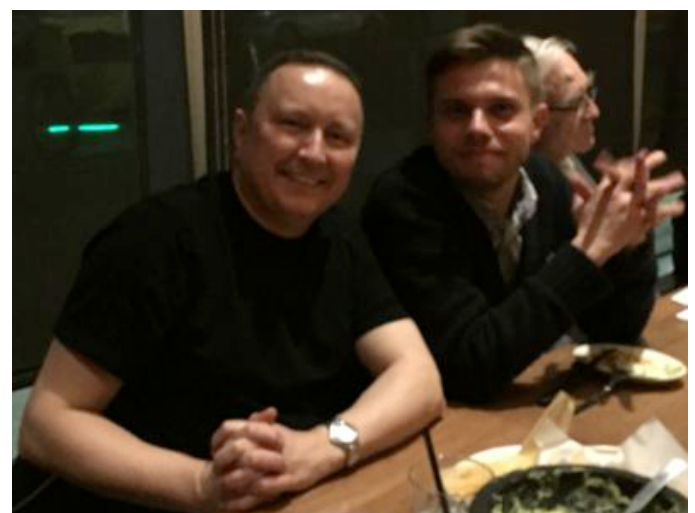
One of the sessions



Dorothy Dodge Robbins presents outgoing Member-at-Large, Sandra Wright, with a token of appreciation on behalf of the ANS



Keynote Speaker Dr. Zenzi M. Griffin with our Vice President, Dorothy Dodge Robbins



Kemp Williams and Mirko Casagrande look dashing at the ANS banquet at Uncle Julio’s



*American Name Society banquet
at Uncle Julio's*



*Lisa Abney giving her presentation
(co-presenter: Lori LeBlanc)*



*Amber Jurgenson and Ernest Ruffeth (Louisiana
Tech University) attend the Words of the Year
session hosted by the American Dialect Society*



*Gabrielle LeTallec-Loret giving her presentation
(co-presenter: Jana Altmanova)*



*Dorothy Dodge Robbins presents outgoing
Information Officer, Lisa Spira, with a token of
appreciation on behalf of the ANS*



Austin: Colorado River

Name of the Year 2016

ALEPPO was chosen the Name of the Year for 2016 at the ANS annual meeting in Austin, Texas on January 6, 2017.



*Dr. Cleveland Evans
Coordinator of the Name of the Year Election*

The names that won the floor for each of the four categories – fictional name, personal name, place name and trade name – were chosen as highly representative of the social significance and power of naming on several grounds:

PERSONAL NAMES: **DRUMPF**, the original German form of President Donald Trump's family name. It became well known when John Oliver, host of HBO's satirical news show "Last Week Tonight," urged viewers to refer to the candidate as "Drumpf". HBO created DonaldDrumpf.com, which still sells "Drumpf" merchandise. The continued use of "Drumpf" shows the power of naming and name-calling.

PLACE NAMES: **ALEPPO**, the largest city in Syria, which has endured over four years of conflict in the country's civil war and has become a symbol for the horrors of modern warfare. It also figured in the presidential election when Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson asked an MSNBC interviewer "What is Aleppo?" in response to a question in September, showing he was not paying attention to international news.

FICTIONAL NAMES: **HAMILTON** was chosen as Fictional Name of the Year. The title of this hugely popular Broadway musical was in the

news in 2016 both because of winning 11 Tony awards, and because of a statement by cast members to Vice-President-elect Pence when he attended a November 18 performance, stating among other things "We truly hope that this show has inspired you to uphold our American values and to work on behalf of all of us." Donald Trump later demanded an apology for that in a Tweet.

TRADE NAMES: **BREXIT**. The blend of "Britain" and "exit", it is the now universal title of the June referendum where United Kingdom voters decided to leave the European Union. It was mentioned in the Presidential election when Trump called himself "Mr. Brexit." The name Brexit was created on the analogy of the earlier Grexit, coined when Greece was deciding whether or not to leave the European Union in 2015.

For further information contact: Dr. Cleveland Evans, chair of the Name of the Year committee, at cevans@bellevue.edu or 402-210-7458.

*adapted from
< <http://www.americannamesociety.org/news/page/9/> >*

CONFERENCE BEST PRESENTATION: Q&A with Computational Linguist, Kemp Williams (IBM Corporation)

by Dorothy Dodge Robbins

DDR: Kemp, your 2017 ANS presentation, "Computational onomastics in threat and fraud detection," was deemed the most popular by attendees in a post-conference survey. Congratulations on your selection!
KW: Thank you, Dorothy. I'm honored.

DDR: Could you tell us about your background and interest in computational onomastics?

KW: I came to computational onomastics quite by accident. I earned my Ph.D. in linguistics in 1989 from Indiana University and took a tenure-track position at Florida International University in Miami that year. After eleven years, a number of reasons conspired to have me leave academia and look for a job in industry. I moved to Washington, DC, and worked at a start-up as a technical lexicographer. The company was sort

of a precursor to IBM's Watson, developing a software suite that could answer questions from consumers directed at a company's website. The start-up ultimately failed and I went to work for Lockheed Martin, creating linguistic knowledge bases to enhance automated entity extraction from unstructured text. While there I saw an ad for a small local company working on linguistic issues in the automated processing of personal names. It sounded interesting, and I had really enjoyed the experience of working with a small company. I took that job in 2003 and three years later IBM bought the company to enhance its offering in the threat and fraud detection space. I've been working on the automated processing of personal and organization names for almost 14 years now. The issues involved in this work are varied and complicated, and there is always some new problem to solve. After all this time, I still find it incredibly interesting.



Kemp Williams giving his presentation

DDR: As did your audience at the 2017 ANS conference! Exactly what role does computational onomastics play in detecting threats and fraud?

KW: These days many of the common things we do require automated name matching. If you want to open a bank account, the US government requires that your name be checked against the OFAC watch list, a list maintained by the Treasury Department of entities (persons and organizations) that US companies are not allowed to do business with. Everyone is familiar with the No-Fly list maintained by TSA

that airlines are required to check for all ticketed passengers. Insurance companies and financial services companies routinely require name matching technology to make sure that duplicate claims aren't being processed or that money isn't being laundered. All of this entails literally millions of comparisons a day, far more than could be done by human agents. Name-matching software has to be fast and accurate. We rely on our computer experts to handle the speed, but the accuracy is largely controlled by trained onomasticians, who have to understand how multicultural naming traditions work, how names may be transliterated from one writing system to another, and how related names may vary. All of these onomastic factors must find themselves encoded into software.

DDR: Kemp, what factors make this particular topic resonate with audience members in 2017?

KW: I think people find this topic interesting since it is an area in which they can see how their academic interest in onomastics actually has very real-world consequences. Onomastics naturally allies itself most closely with the humanities, I think, but seeing automated name-matching at work reveals its scientific side as well. It opens onomastics as an area of study for people who may never have thought about it before.

DDR: But is there a future in computational onomastics? Would you encourage young linguists to enter this field of study?

KW: A few years ago a company whose primary purpose is to advise the federal government surrounding IT issues hosted a name-matching challenge to teams from academia and industry to evaluate their name-matching capabilities on a real-world data set. More than 40 teams participated, many of which were companies who offer name-matching software in one form or another. So there is clearly a market for linguists in computational onomastics. I'd be remiss, however, if I didn't also point out that the number of jobs available probably won't ever rise to meet the number of people who'd like to work in this area. For young linguists, I would recommend getting a solid background in computational linguistics generally, where the job market is more favorable. Having a solid

toolkit in computational linguistics would certainly make it easier to snag the job in onomastics when it comes along.

DDR: Kemp, might we expect to hear you present on this fascinating topic at a future ANS conference?

KW: The 2017 ANS conference in Austin was the 13th in a row that I've attended, and I think I've presented at seven or eight of them. I certainly hope to continue that trend.

Award: Best Article in NAMES 2016

Each year, a special committee of the American Name Society's Executive Council reviews all of the articles published in the Society's journal, *NAMES*, to select the very best scholarly contribution.



Gerrit Bloothoof

This year's 2016 Committee was comprised of the following esteemed scholars: Dr. Kemp Williams (IBM Corporation, United States); Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins (Louisiana Tech University, United States); and the

Chair of the Committee, Dr. Michael McGoff (Binghamton University, SUNY, United States).



David Onland

After much careful deliberation, the 2016 Committee selected the article "Multiple First Names in the Netherlands (1760-2014)" written by Gerrit Bloothoof (University of Utrecht) and David Onland (University of Utrecht). Dr. Gerrit Bloothoof is a researcher at the Utrecht Institute of Linguistics at the University of Utrecht. In addition to onomastics, areas of specialization include language technology and historical record linkage. His work at the Institute centers around an e-corpus of popular Dutch first names. Through the corpus, names researchers can explore the geographic spread of personal names in the Netherlands from 1880 to today.

Dr. Bloothoof's co-author, David Onland, is currently a research assistant at the University of Utrecht. His areas of interest are computer science, digital humanities, and the statistical analysis of historical datasets.

A copy of Bloothoof and Onland's winning piece can be found in the March 2016 publication of *NAMES* 64.1: 3-18.

Iman Nick

The ANS Emerging Scholar Award

The ANS Emerging Scholar Award (ANSESA), established in 2007, recognizes the outstanding scholarship of a names researcher in the early stages of their academic or professional career. To be eligible for this award, applicants must be an entry-level professional, an untenured academic, or a student, and have their single-authored abstract accepted for presentation at the ANS annual conference. They must also be a member of the ANS.



Dorothy Dodge Robbins congratulates Daniel Duncan, winner of the ANS Emerging Scholar Award

Winners of the Emerging Scholar Award not only receive a cash prize, but are also mentored by a senior onomastics scholar who will assist the awardee in preparing his/her paper for submission and possible publication in the ANS journal, *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics*. The paper is also designated as the prize-winning student paper in the ANS annual meeting program.

The Emerging Scholar Award is given to a young scholar whose work is judged by a panel of onomastic researchers to be of superior academic quality. This year's selection committee was made up of Dr. Jan Tent (the ESA Committee Chair), Dr. Luisa Caiazzo and Dr. Mirko Casagrande. The committee received three submissions that were evaluated according to the guidelines provided by the Committee Chair, Jan Tent. The committee agreed that

Daniel Duncan submitted the best paper for 2016, "Understanding St. Louis love for Hoosier", and awarded him the Emerging Scholar Award.

Luisa Caiazzo

ANS Panel at the MLA Convention 4-7 January 2017, Philadelphia, PA

The ANS panel at the MLA Convention 2017 consisted of three papers covering a broad range of themes and approaches. The panel examined the effects of multilingualism on personal names in different settings.

The first speaker was former ANS President and current ANS Book Review Editor, Christine De Vinne (Ursuline College, Cleveland). Her paper was devoted to the transformation and the enhancement of indigenous onomastic pools by the spread of Christian names. Names of saints were obtained as the Christian names of individuals, with multiple consequences on their identities. The second paper was presented by Lucie Möller (University of the Free State, South Africa). This presentation focused on toponomastics in Southern Africa and their development through the language contacts of the speakers. This research explored the development of place names in the interconnected, multilingual context of the regional heritage by tracing indigenous toponyms through phonological and morphological analysis. The final speaker, Lilian Terumi Hatano (Kindai University, Japan), stressed the importance of the links between one's name and national identity. Her case study was the adjustment of personal names of migrants in Japan to the official naming formulae.

The presentations were followed by a vigorous and thought-provoking dialogue.

Andreas Gavrielatos

ANS Panel in Pictures



MLA informal dinner



Lucie Moller at podium during the presentation



Chair Andreas Gavrielatos with panelists

NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics

From the Editor

Volume 65:1 (2017) of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* is now available online to ANS members. The Table of Contents is reproduced here.



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Volume 65 Number 1 March 2017

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Frank Nuessel

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Whitney Laycock

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Donna Lillian

The hard copy of this issue will be mailed to subscribers in March, 2017.

Information about submissions to *Names* is available at the ANS website:

<<http://www.americannamesociety.org/the-journal/>>.

Frank Nuessel

From the Book Editor

Book reviews continue to encompass a wide range of topics. Participants and book exhibits at both the ANS and MLA conferences have contributed a number of suggestions for new titles to consider. Thanks to this variety, we are currently placing reviews for the next two quarters. Again, all are reminded that if they have titles to recommend or if they would like serve as reviewers, they should please contact Chris De Vinne at <cdevinne@ursuline.edu>.

Chris De Vinne

ANS Online

Looking for a Few Good Writers

One of the goals set by the ANS-EC in Austin, Texas, in January 2016 was the continued development of the ANS website devoted to the

long-list of Winners of the Name of the Year Award, a distinction that has proven to be extremely popular among members and onomastics enthusiasts alike. Thanks to the contributions and dedication of Cleveland Evans and other members of the Society, the ANS webpage now displays a list of the Names of the Year between 2004 and 2016, together with the winners of each category (i.e. Personal Names, Place Names, Trade Names, and Fictional Names).

In order to further provide detailed information about each winner, the ANS-EC has formed a committee with the aim of expanding the descriptions of each name. As Chair of this committee, I would like to invite ANS members to write up short (ca. 150 word descriptions) about one or more of the winners of the Name of the Year Award. Each description should include at least three references.

The list of the Names of the Year is available at the following link:

<<http://www.americannamesociety.org/about/names-of-the-year/>>

If you would like to volunteer to write a description or two, simply email me to sign-up for your favorite winner:

Mirko Casagrande at <mirko.casagrande@unical.it>
Mirko Casagrande

In Memoriam

The leaders of the Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS) recently announced the passing of Australian toponymist, William Noble, the former editor of the ANPS Bulletin. Among his many publications is the New Holland Dictionary of Names.



This reference offers detailed information on thousands of personal names in Australian use. William, or “Bill” as he was most often called, is survived by his wife and their three sons.

Iman Nick

ANS Executive Council for 2016

End-of-year Reports*

ANS Officers

ANS PRESIDENT

Iman Nick

Since her last interim report, Iman Nick has primarily focused on the following activities: 1.) coordinating with Taylor and Francis representatives and Membership Officer to continually streamline the subscription and renewal process; 2.) coordinating with ANS-EC sub-committees (e.g. to design the ANS Wikipedia page; to select officer nominees; to select and promote the winners of the Emerging Scholar Award and the Best Article of the Year); 3.) writing ca. 161 tweets for the ANS website; 4.) developing two panels for the ANS conference in Texas (Onomastics Beyond Academia and Texas, Names, and Naming); 5.) writing articles for and co-editing the ANS Bulletins; 6.) responding to inquiries from international journalists and general public; 7.) coordinating with the ANS (Vice-President and Secretary) and LSA and the to design the conference schedule, business agendas; and handbooks; 8.) serving as chair for the Nominating Committee; 9.) co-organizing special issue of *NAMES* with Jan Tent and Frank Nuessel; and 10.) managing ANS-EC business.

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VICE PRESIDENT

Dorothy Dodge Robbins

Dorothy Robbins reported that she assisted Iman Nick, ANS President, with conference planning throughout the calendar year: she helped disseminate Calls for Papers, contacted forty onomastic scholars to serve as reviewers of abstract submissions to the 2017 conference, and provided Iman Nick with a list of those names. After scouting potential accommodations, she

eventually selected Uncle Julio’s for the ANS banquet.

She assisted with editing the conference program through several revisions, made copies of the 2017 ANS Conference Program, the 2017 Conference Questionnaire, and the 2018 Call for Papers, and transported these documents to Austin, TX.

In addition, she assisted with the editing of the ANS News Bulletin and composed several articles for inclusion. She served on both the Nominating Committee and the Article of the Year Committee.

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SECRETARY

Luisa Caiazzo

Luisa Caiazzo reported that she served as reviewer of abstract submissions to the 2017 ANS Conference. She prepared and edited the Fall and Winter issues (2016) of the ANS Bulletin. Both issues were disseminated to members via email.

She also worked on the design for the 2017 ANS conference programme with Iman Nick and Dorothy Dodge Robbins, and sent all members the preliminary schedule.

She served on this year’s ANSESA selection committee. The winner was selected together with Jan Tent, who coordinated the Committee, and Mirko Casagrande.

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ALLIED CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

Andreas Gavrielatos

Andrea Gavrielatos reported that after finalizing the ANS panel “Names and Multilingualism” at the Modern Language Association conference in Philadelphia, PA, he has been preparing for the 2018 Convention. The theme suggested will be “Etymological word-play with names in Literature”. He also reported that with the ANS President they are considering an event in Europe within the scope of ANS.

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* A shortened version of the reports is provided here. If you would like to read the full version of any of these reports, please contact the officer in question directly.

TREASURER

Michael F. McGoff

A document was provided in hardcopy for review.

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MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Jennifer Moss

Jennifer Moss reported that in 2016 memberships have increased to 211. She expressed concern about the membership process as the T&F site has been confusing. As a step to address the problem, she implemented a form on the ANS website which begins the signup, allowing us to get members' names and addresses. However, as she stated, this is not a permanent viable solution because many people subscribe/renew through T&F without registering on our site. Hopefully, the full membership process will be under the auspices of the ANS in January 2018, via the installation of membership software on Wordpress and the implementation of an SSL certificate for secure payment. She recommended we use STRIPE for credit card payments. Moss also pointed out that we need someone monitoring/depositing checks and marking those members paid, a task that should probably be handled by the Treasurer.

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EDITOR

NAMES: A JOURNAL OF ONOMASTICS

Frank Nuessel

Volume 64 (2016) of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* was published on its regular quarterly schedule (March, June, September, December).

The annual award for Best Article in *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* for 2016 was announced in the March 2016 issue of the journal. That prestigious honor was bestowed upon Dr. Michael Adams (Indiana University, Bloomington) for his article entitled "'The Course of a Particular': Names and Narrative on the Works of Joseph Mitchell" published in *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* 63:1 (2015),

pp. 3-15. Cleveland Evans also reported on the results of The Name of the Year contest in *Names* 63:2, pp. 120-122.

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INFORMATION OFFICER

Lisa Spira

Lisa Spira maintained the ANS online presence, updating the website with relevant conference information. She also maintained the daily news postings on the ANS website, Facebook, and Twitter accounts. She also used social media as a form of outreach to those in onomastic news who may not be familiar with the ANS. As regards the ANS website, she noted that last year the most popular page was the homepage, that the majority of viewers came from search engines and that the majority of those who click off went to the T&F website. The most views in one day occurred on December 23rd and were likely related to the News post "Miriam Webster's Name That Thing". In terms of international viewership, most views came from the U.S. followed by Italy and Germany She concluded by saying that she had prepared to hand off the ANS Officer responsibilities to the incoming Information Officer, Laurel Sutton, to ensure a smooth transition.

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IMMEDIATE PAST ANS PRESIDENT

Donna L. Lillian

It was reported that during 2016, Donna Lillian served as a reviewer of abstracts for the 2017 ANS annual meeting, advised the Executive Committee on matters related to Robert's Rules of Order and the ANS Bylaws, and participated in electronic votes of the Executive Committee. Since June 2015, she has served as Immediate Past President of the American Name Society and as President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names/ Société canadienne d'onomastique, the latter being a three-year term of office running from June 2015 to June 2018.

It was also reported that the Past President had considered it a privilege to serve on the ANS Executive Committee and expressed her thanks

to all the members who have helped and supported her during her terms as Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, President, and Past President of the American Name Society. As immediate Past President, she will continue to support the ANS and its members.

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Members-at-Large

MEMBER AT LARGE (2015-2017)

Mirko Casagrande

Mirko Casagrande reported that one of his primary contributions was chairing the Wikipedia committee. By the end of May, the compilation phase ended and the revision process began. The result was a longer and more detailed version of our ANS history which was finally uploaded in September (further details were included in a short piece written for the ANS Newsletter). He added that, as decided together by the ANS President and the other members of the Committee, more would be done in 2017 (i.e. including some short bio-biographical notes for each Past President and Past Editor of Names). In July, he reviewed abstracts for the 2017 ANS annual meeting in Austin and in December he evaluated the papers submitted for the 2017 ANSESA award. The winner was selected together with Jan Tent, who coordinated the Committee, and Luisa Caiazzo.

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MEMBER AT LARGE (2014-2016)

Sandra Wright

A Member-at-Large since 2014, Sandra Wright assisted with ANS conference preparation, helped recruit new members to ANS, helped recruit new officers to the ANS, assisted in promoting research in Onomastic Studies, and helped circulate the link to the new ANS website.

Moreover, she served for both the Nominating Committee and the Wikipedia Committee. As a member of the Nominating Committee, she helped revamp and revise the nomination/election process for new ANS officers, assisted in recruiting new officers, read

and evaluated all nominations for new officer positions, helped put together the final committee report. As a member of the Wikipedia Committee, she helped Iman Nick research the background of past ANS presidents and editors to be used for creating biographical sketches of some of our past members.

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MEMBER AT LARGE (2016-2018)

Jan Tent

It was reported that Jan Tent served as 1. Chair of the ANS Emerging Scholar Award Committee; 2. Reviewer for submissions to the ANS Panel ‘Names and Multilingualism’ at the MLA Conference (January 5-8, 2017, Philadelphia); 3. Team member of group given the task of revising, updating and further developing the ANS Wikipedia webpage; 4. Regular contributor of news items to the ANS ‘Name News’ webpage.

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Auxiliaries

COORDINATOR OF THE NAME OF THE YEAR ELECTION

Cleveland Evans

Cleveland Evans noted that at the annual meeting in January 2016 there were thirty-one total nominees for Names of the Year for 2015, beating the previous record of thirty from 2011 (twenty-two nominations by email before the meeting and ten from the floor). Winners in the categories were: Trade Name: Charlie Hebdo; Place Name: Denali; Personal Name: Caitlyn Jenner; and Fictional Name(s): Rey, Finn, and Poe from “Star Wars”. Caitlyn Jenner won as overall Name of the Year with almost twice as many votes as the all other nominees combined.

He reported that, as of December 21, 2016, 26 nominations for Name of the Year had been sent from seven different individuals by e-mail. A couple of these came in the summer, much earlier than usual. He added that, as usual, nominees from the floor would also be accepted.

He also mentioned that it would be convenient to find young people to train in the coming two years, so that someone who has properly been mentored can come in as Name of the Year Coordinator in the near future.

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BOOK EDITOR

NAMES: A JOURNAL OF ONOMASTICS

Christine De Vinne

It was reported that thanks to the work of generous reviewers, book reviews continue to appear at an average rate of 2-3 per issue of *NAMES*. Reviewers represent a wide range of ANS interests, in general names studies and all the many subspecialties of the field, and in experience, from post-baccalaureate students to seasoned ANS members.

However, additional reviewers are currently needed in general onomastics and in business/economy/marketing names studies. It was pointed out that it is particularly helpful when readers suggest new titles for review, since the field is so broad that it is difficult to keep abreast of all new publications. As of December 6, 2016 there were 14 titles placed with reviewers for future issues and 2 pending responses from publishers and requested reviewers.

Editor's Message

Dear ANS Members,

Let's celebrate together the official coming of Spring with this first issue of 2017! If, on the one hand, this Bulletin looks back to our very engaging conference in Austin and our panel at MLA in Philadelphia, on the other hand, it definitely smells of spring with all the upcoming initiatives and events that are reported.



I hope that the material generously provided for this issue has contributed to recreating the wonderful atmosphere many of us experienced either in Austin or in Philadelphia, pleasant memories. At the same time, I hope it offers a chance to share events, tastes, and flavors with those who could not join us.

As always, whenever a Bulletin comes out, my thoughts go to our upcoming issue and to your contributions that are really invaluable, to say the least. Whatever you feel like sending for our next Summer issue—articles, photos, interviews, reviews, comments, stories, reports or other formats—it would be great if you could do so **by May 20, 2017**.

My heartfelt thanks for your comments and suggestions, which I truly look forward to. A very special thanks goes to our President Iman Nick and our Vice President Dorothy Dodge Robbins for their editing and support, a truly special team!

Let me close by wishing you all a colorful and enjoyable spring time!

Luisa Caiazzo

ANS Executive Council for 2017

ANS Officers

Dr. Iman Nick
President
Germanic Society for Forensic
Linguistics (GERMANY)
mavi.yaz@web.de



Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins
Vice President
Louisiana Tech University (USA)
drobbins@latech.edu



Dr. Luisa Caiazzo
Secretary
University of Basilicata (ITALY)
luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it



Dr. Cleveland Evans
Coordinator of the *Name of the
Year* Election
Bellevue University (USA)
cleveland.evans@bellevue.edu



Dr. Andreas Gavrielatos
Allied Conference Coordinator
University of Edinburgh
(SCOTLAND)
a.gavrielatos@ed.ac.uk



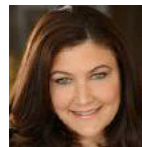
Dr. Michael F. McGoff
Treasurer
Binghamton University (USA)
mmcgoff@binghamton.edu



Dr. Frank Nuessel
Editor of *NAMES: A Journal of
Onomastics*
University of Louisville (USA)
frank.nuessel@louisville.edu



Dr. Christine De Vinne
Book Editor of *NAMES: A Journal
of Onomastics*
Ursuline College (USA)
cdevinne@ursuline.edu



Ms. Jennifer Moss
Membership Officer
babynames.com (USA)
jennifer@babynames.com



Ms. Laurel Sutton
Information Officer
Catchword Branding (USA)
laurelasutton@gmail.com

Members at Large

Dr. Mirko Casagranda
University of Calabria (ITALY):
2015-2017
mirko.casagranda@unical.it



Dr. Jan Tent
Macquarie University
(AUSTRALIA): 2016-2018
jan.tent@mq.edu.au



Dr. Jason Chen
University of Florida (USA):
2017-2019
smallg11@yahoo.com.tw