

American Name Society *Bulletin*

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President's Note

As I begin my term as President, I am delighted to report that the many changes the ANS went through in 2020 have resulted in a wonderful start to 2021. We were able to hold our first virtual conference, which was well-attended by members from countries around the world. The general feeling was that it was very successful, and that the ANS should continue to hold online events when possible. I was so happy to “see” so many of you!

We have also completed the move from our old publisher to the new home for *Names* at the University of Pittsburgh (<http://ans-names.pitt.edu/>) as an open access journal.

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Our first issue was just published online and the print version will enter production very soon. This huge positive change would not have been possible without the hard work and leadership of our Editor-in-Chief, Iman Nick.

This year, with pandemic rules still in place, we will continue to work on ways to promote the work of the ANS virtually. Together with our new Vice President, Luisa Caiazzo, I will focus on expanding our membership, networking with other related organizations such as the ADS, and reaching out to students, and namers in industry. All ANS news and announcements are available on our main website (<http://www.americannamesociety.org/>) and on our Facebook page.

Thank you all for your membership and support of the ANS!

Warmly,
Laurel Sutton

ANS 2021 Conferences

2021 ANS Annual Meeting Highlights

prepared by Laurel Sutton

The 2021 ANS annual meeting, held online for the very first time on January 22-24, 2021, was an exciting and successful event for ANS Members. 68 people attended virtually from all corners of the globe, and 30 papers were presented on a wide range of onomastic topics, ranging from name popularity in the Netherlands to toponyms to street names in Albania to the names of pet boarding businesses. Our chosen platform, Crowdcast,

allowed both live and pre-recorded presentations, with live question and answer sessions following each paper. We were also able to hold our annual Business Meeting, during which members of the Executive Council gave their year-end reports, and our election for new EC members was held. The meeting also saw the presentation of our first Award for Outstanding Service to Cleve Evans, longtime ANS member and former President, in recognition of his many years of leadership, service, and scholarship in the field of onomastics.

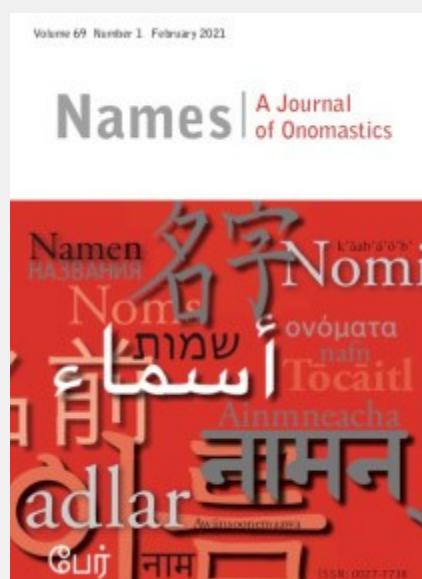
On Sunday, January 24, the ANS Name of the Year discussion took place, moderated by President Laurel Sutton with assistance from former Name of the Year coordinator Cleve Evans; the discussion in the chat was lively, with nominations from the floor and several run-offs when the voting was close. At the meeting's end, the membership voted "COVID-19" and "Kamala" as co-winners of the Name of the Year – the first time ANS has had a tie.

While everyone missed the usual in-person informal chats at the conference, as well as our annual dinner, the online format did allow members to see presenters and moderators, and attendees took full advantage of the live chat to talk with their friends and other members. The global COVID-19 pandemic meant that we had no choice but to hold the conference online; the unexpected benefit was that more members, both in the US and internationally, were able to attend and present. Given the uncertainty around travel restrictions for 2022, and the improved accessibility provided by the online platform, a majority of the attendees were in favor of continuing virtual conferences in one form or another.

The EC would like to thank our technical support, Streamcast, for their invaluable help in preparing for the conference and keeping everything running smoothly!

2021 ANS Panel at MLA

The ANS participated in the online 2020 MLA Convention with the panel "Toponyms and Literaryscapes." The panel was held on Friday January 8, 2021 and was moderated by Luisa Caiazzo. Presentations included "Names and Places in All's Well That Ends Well" by Grant W. Smith, Eastern Washington University; "Activating the Ancestral Archive: Reading Indigenous Place-Name Maps as Narratives of Respect, Responsibility, and Reciprocity" by Marcel Brousseau, University of Oregon; and "Between Strategy and Tactics: The Pleasure of Place-Names in Nautical Voyage Literature" by Alexander Sherman, Stanford University.



Names: A Journal of Onomastics

Names Finally Has a New Home!

prepared by I.M. Nick

The switch has finally happened. The scholarly journal of the American Name Society has now moved to its new publication home, the University of Pittsburgh.

Along with this switch, *Names* also has a completely new website with many innovative, user-friendly features for the global name-lover community. Now, visitors can gain easy and immediate access to all of the articles, reviews, notices, and reports that have ever been published in *Names*. In addition, thanks to the new automated system, potential authors can efficiently upload their manuscript submissions. Under "SUBMISSIONS" authors can also find the journal's manuscript guidelines, publication policy, and *Names* Style Sheet.

The benefits of this system have already begun to pay off as the rates of manuscript submission have increased substantially. For that reason, I would like to invite all interested onomastic scholars to apply to join the Editorial Board. Persons selected for this team must have excellent English writing skills, along with a solid publication record in onomastics. In particular, we are seeking reviewers who have experience with corpus linguistics, statistical analysis, toponymy, and literary onomastics. Scholars who are fluent in a non-English language are also strongly encouraged to apply. In particular, we are seeking English-speaking reviewers who have native to near-native competency in written Arabic, Korean, and Chinese (either Mandarin or Cantonese). If you are interested in applying, simply fill in the application form found here: (<https://nick662.typeform.com/to/P6dzaz>).

Be sure to check out the latest issue of *Names*, volume 69, issue 1, on the new website! All articles in this and past journals are available for free, as downloadable PDFs.

Call for Papers

CFP- ANS Panel at the Modern Language Association Conference: Literary Onomastics: Theory and Practice

January 6-9, 2022, Washington, DC



Literary onomastics is a burgeoning subject, still in the process of establishing its status, with very few book-length studies examining the discipline in detail. Notable 21st-century examples include Leonard Ashley's *Names in Literature* (2003), Alastair Fowler's *Literary Names: Personal Names in English Literature* (2012), and Martyna Gibka's *Literary Onomastics: A Theory* (2019). Champions of the discipline often argue that it provides an additional lens that complements extant approaches to the language of literature, rather than making any claims for general theories of literary names and naming.

Papers accepted for this panel will explore literary onomastics in theory and practice. Examples of themes that can be addressed include literary names and stylistics; literary onomastics and literary theory; literary names and social or cultural theory; socio-onomastics and literature.

Proposal submission process:

- Abstract proposals (350 words) should be sent as an email attachment (PDF format) to Dr. Maggie Scott (m.r.scott@salford.ac.uk).
- Proposals should include "MLA 2022 proposal" in the subject line of the email.
- All submissions must include an abstract, title, full name(s) of the author(s), the author(s) affiliation(s), and email address(s) in the body of the email and NOT within the abstract.
- **DEADLINE: Proposals must be received by 8pm GMT on April 1, 2021.** Authors will be notified about the results of the blind review on or by April 5, 2021.
- Contributors selected for the thematic panel must be members of both MLA and ANS in order to present their papers, and members of MLA by April 7, 2021.

For further information, please contact Dr. Maggie Scott (m.r.scott@salford.ac.uk).

CFP- Special Issue of *Names*: Toponyms and Literaryscapes

Although toponyms are often taken for granted in our daily lives, they carry considerable potential for acquiring personal and social meanings depending on their contexts and co-texts of use. These multi-layered meanings are often utilized by authors as literary resources for evoking associations or invoking evaluative positioning.

Papers accepted for this special issue will explore how the meanings of place-names—be they real or fictional—may be effectively harnessed to shape literary settings within specific works or by specific authors. Examples of themes that can be addressed include—but are not limited to—toponyms choice/invention and their connotations; toponyms in translation; toponyms in literary theory; and toponyms and intertextuality.

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Proposal Submission Process:

- Abstract proposals (max. 500 words) should be sent as an email attachment (PDF format) to Vice President, Dr. Luisa Caiazzo (luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it).
- Proposals should include a preliminary list of references.
- Proposals should include “NAMES 2021” in the subject line of the email.
- All submissions must include an abstract title, the full name(s) of the author(s), the author(s) affiliation(s), and email address(s) in the body of the email and NOT in the abstract.
- **DEADLINE: Proposals must be received by 8pm GMT April 15, 2021.** Authors will be notified about the results of the blind review on or by May 10, 2021.
- The deadline for final papers is July 31, 2021.

For further information, please contact ANS Vice President, Dr. Luisa Caiazzo (luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it) or *Names* Editor-in-Chief, Professor I. M. Nick (nameseditor@gmail.com).

CFP- Special Issue of *Names*: Children's Literature, Names, and Naming

For many of us, one of the earliest and fondest memories includes story-time, when we discovered tales that had the power to inspire, calm, or chill the spirit. Although over the years, the plots of those intricate stories may have faded from our memories, the names of the main characters and the fictional places they lived, have managed to survive.

For an upcoming special issue of *Names*, onomastic scholars and names enthusiasts are warmly invited to re-ignite that early fascination and submit a paper that explores names and naming in children and youth literature. From the names of places,

people, animals, and plants to ferries, goblins, witches, and hobbits, any type of name from any period or language is welcome. Papers examining author names, be they real or pseudonyms are also invited. The works examined may be fiction or non-fiction. The only stipulation is that the literature chosen for analysis be published for children and adolescents/juvenile.

Proposal Submission Process:

- Abstract proposals (max. 500 words, excluding the title and references) should be sent as a PDF email attachment to Professor I. M. Nick (nameseditor@gmail.com).
- For organizational purposes, the proposals must include “CHILD2020” in the subject line of the email.
- All proposals must include an abstract, title, and a preliminary list of references, and the full name(s) of the author(s), the author(s) affiliation(s) in the body of the email and NOT within the abstract itself.
- In the case of multi-authored works, one person must be clearly designated as the contact person.
- **The DEADLINE for abstract submission is June 15, 2021.** Authors will be notified about acceptance on or by July 15, 2021.
- Final papers (max 5,000 words, excluding references) will be due October 15, 2021.

For further information about this call, please feel free to contact Professor I. M. Nick (nameseditor@gmail.com). I look forward to receiving your submissions.

The ANS Emerging Scholar Award

prepared by Luisa Caiazzo

In 2007, the American Name Society established the ANS Emerging Scholar Award (ANSESA) which recognizes the outstanding scholarship of a names researcher in the early stages of their academic or professional career. This special distinction 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 is made up of Drs. Jan Tent (the ESA Committee Chair), Luisa Caiazzo, Dorothy Dodge Robbins, and Maggie Scott.

To be eligible for the ANSESA 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. Winners of the ANSESA will not only receive a cash prize, but will also be 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 will also be designated as the prize-winning student paper in the ANS annual meeting program.

How to Apply

To be considered for this award, applicants must submit the full text of their paper by midnight (E.S.T.) the 15th of October 2021 to both ANS President Laurel Sutton (laurela.sutton@gmail.com) and this year's ESA Chair, Dr. Jan Tent (jan.tent@mq.edu.au).

Submissions must be sent as an email attachment in either a .doc or .docx format. For ease of processing, please be sure to include the keyword "ESA2021" in the subject line of your email.

Papers previously published are not eligible for consideration. However, papers based on unpublished theses or dissertations are eligible. The Emerging Scholar Award Selection Committee will judge all submissions for their methodological soundness, innovation, and potential contribution to the field of onomastic research. Past recipients of the Emerging Scholar award are eligible to re-apply for this award for an entirely new piece of scholarship. However, preference will be given to applicants who have not yet received the award. In addition, the Selection Committee reserves the right to refrain from giving this award in those years when no submission is deemed to have met the above-mentioned requirements.

Deadline for submissions: October 15, 2021

ANSESA: Submission Guidelines

All submissions should be prepared according to the guidelines provided at (<https://ans-names.pitt.edu/ans/guidelines>). Authors are asked to use the formatting rules listed in the official style sheet of *Names*, the journal of the American Name Society. This information is available at the journal website: (<https://ansnames.pitt.edu/ans/StyleSheet>).

Submissions will not only be judged upon the quality of the writing and the scientific merit of the study presented, but also on their adherence to these formatting regulations.

Names Article of the Year Award: An Interview with the 2019 Winners

prepared by I. M. Nick, *Names* Editor-in-Chief



In the Fall of 2020, the Editorial Board of *Names* reviewed each of the articles that had been published the year previously to select the winner for the Best Article of the Year. The deliberations were made difficult by not only the high caliber, but also the impressive diversity of the publications eligible.

After two rounds of voting, a winner was however chosen [1]. The *Names* publication selected as the 2019 Best Article of the Year was entitled “Renaming Me: Assessing the Influence of Gender Identity on Name Selection,” co-authored by Drs. Sharon Obasi (University of Nebraska at Kearney), Richard Mocarski (University of Nebraska at Kearney), Natalie Holt (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Debra A. Hope (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Nathan Woodruff [2]. Explained briefly, this research explores the dynamic nexus between names, the body, and identity amongst transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) adults. As the members of this scientific team revealed, the idea for this outstanding piece of onomastic research came from Dr. Sharon Obasi.

If this last name seems familiar to you, there is a reason. Sharon also happens to be the current Membership Officer of the American Name Society.

As Sharon explained in a recent interview, within the TGNC community, renaming may function “as a mechanism of empowerment” that can profoundly affect individual and collective psychosocial processes within the family. As a product of a community-based participatory research collaborative, the researchers who conducted this work were, according to Sharon, both “guided and informed by members of the transgender and gender diverse community.” Without doubt, the researcher-participant interaction was key to designing a scientifically sound and socially sensitive piece of research. This double agenda was, as Dr. Mocarski stressed, of the utmost importance given the fact that so many TGNC individuals are regularly victimized by the larger-society. Given this vulnerability, Mocarski stated, “this investigation needed to be handled with care since miswording could invoke [...] microaggressions that further stigmatize the community.” Towards that end, before the formal investigation was even begun, the preliminary methodology “was vetted by the Trans Collaborations Local Community Board.”

As Dr. Holt stressed, though time-consuming, such consultations are essential in fine-tuning research methodologies and objectives which then “ultimately produces better research and resources for the target communities.” In Dr. Hope’s opinion, this pre-test process was particularly helpful in “figuring out how to ask the questions in a culturally sensitive way.” The collaboration did not end there, however. After the methodological protocol had been established and the data had been collected, continued interaction assisted in the analysis and interpretation phrases.

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Through every stage of the scientific process, from conception to publication, this work remained true to its interactional principles: a truth reflected in the fact that one of the study co-authors, Dr. Nathan Woodruff, is a leader on the Collaborations Local Community Board.

Ultimately then, as the Members of the Names Editorial Board concluded, what made this onomastic research award-winning was not simply its exploration of a topic of terrific contemporary import. Also exemplary was the fact that this work served as a powerful model for culturally sensitive, politically responsible, and scientifically rigorous onomastic research. On behalf of the *Names* reviewers and the ANS community at-large, I would like to congratulate once again this team of researchers for this outstanding achievement.

Notes

[1] A detailed description of the selection process as well as a list of the other articles recognized by Editorial Board can be found in online in *Names*, volume 69, issue 1, 2020.

[2] The original article can be found in *Names*, Volume 67, Issue 4, 2019: 199-211.

Seeking Name of the Year Coordinator!

The ANS is still seeking an officer for a critical role on the Executive Council: Name of the Year Coordinator.

The person elected to this position will be primarily responsible for coordinating and running the Name of the Year discussion at the Annual ANS Meeting. This involves working in tandem with the Secretary, Information Officer, Journal Editor-in-Chief, Journal Book Review Editor, and journal publisher to solicit nominations for the names of the year, both through email and an online survey. The Name of the Year Coordinator will receive all nominations

and prepare official ballots for the Business Meeting where the Names of the Year will be decided by a majority of votes; they will chair the meeting, run the election, and announce the results at the American Dialect Society Meeting for “Word of the Year.” The Name of the Year Coordinator will prepare a press release about the nominations and winners, as well as written reports on the election process and results.

To apply for this position, complete this form: <https://www.americannamesociety.org/about/apply-to-be-an-ec-officer/>.

ANS Committees

All other ANS committee positions have been filled! Thanks to the ANS members who volunteered for these roles.

ANS Information Officer

Brandon Simonson

Emerging Scholar Award Committee

Chair: Jan Tent

Members: Jan Tent, Luisa Caiazzo, Dorothy Dodge Robbins, and Maggie Scott

Wikipedia Committee

Chair: Amy Franz

Members: Amy Franz, Feng Wang, Saundra Wright

Nominating Committee

Chair: Iman Nick

Members: Iman Nick, Laurel Sutton, Luisa Caiazzo

Civility Code Committee

Chair: Laurel Sutton

Members: Laurel Sutton, Iman Nick, Sara Lousie Wheeler

New Onomastic Books From Our Very Own!

Roger L. Payne, an ANS member since 1974 and Past President, has just published a place-names book titled, *Outer Banks Gazetteer: The History of Place Names from Carova to Emerald Isle* (UNC Press, 2021). More information about the book can be found at (obxplacenames.com).

ANS member Grant Smith's book, *Names as Metaphors in Shakespeare's Comedies*, will be available later this spring from Vernon Press. Briefly stated, Shakespeare often used names to refer to multiple referents, and Smith describes in detail the meanings generated and negotiated from these names. Shakespeare's names and references show his descriptive imagination, his indebtedness to previous literature, and his immersion in the culture of his time. They sometimes appear to be simple word play, but their meanings often reinforce major themes within his plays.

Old Names Books and Papers in Need of a New Home?

If you are one of the millions who has taken the lockdown as an opportunity to go through the many stacks of onomastic books and papers that have magically found their way to your office and you have no idea what to do with them, look no further. In its continuing effort to support research into names and naming, the American Name Society has a special repository for onomastic materials. If you would like to make a donation to this scientific archive, simply drop Professor I. M. Nick (nameseditor@gmail.com) a quick email with a description of your onomastic treasures.

In Memoriam: Honoring the Legacy of ANS Members

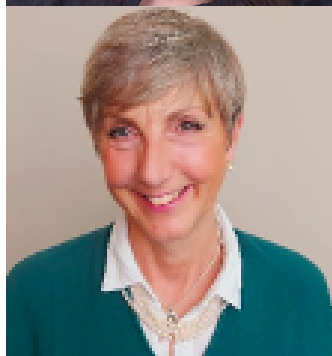
Beginning in the early 1950's, American Name Society is one of the oldest scholarly organizations for onomastic research in the world. Since its start, the ANS has become the academic home to many onomastic scholars. One of the ties that has united this community over the many decades is a single, enduring passion for names. But this is not the only connection we share. There is also the human connection built from times spent and challenges overcome together. In recognition of that bond, I would like to ask you to please let us know when you learn of the passing of one of our members. Simply send an email to me (nameseditor@gmail.com) with any details you might have. We will do our best then to see that a formal announcement is made to honor the life and contributions of that member.

2021 ANS Executive Council



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2021 ANS Executive Council, cont.



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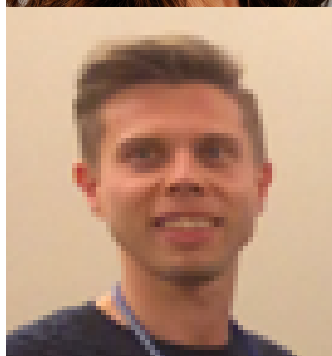
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