



# American Name Society

# Bulletin

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## Report on the Presidency

prepared by Laurel Sutton

On May 30, 2023, during a formal meeting of the electoral portion of the American Name Society’s Executive Council (ANS-EC), decisions were made on several important issues. The first was a formal motion to remove Dr. Luisa Caiazzo as ANS President. In accordance with suggested parliamentary procedures as outlined by Robert’s Rules of Order (ROR), Dr. Caiazzo had first been given official written notice of this proposal on May 20, 2023. The notice contained the following reasons for the motion to remove from office:

sustained dereliction of presidential duties despite repeated reminders and requests for action, clarification, and direction; continued lack of transparency, fairness, and consistency in the application of standard parliamentary procedures; and repeated flagrant violations of the Society’s established parliamentary norms. As a direct consequence of these (in)actions, the work of the ANS officers has been significantly impeded, both individually and collectively, within ratified sub-committees; the normal operation of the ANS as a whole has been critically hampered; members of the ANS-EC have either resigned or resolved to resign should the current presidency continue; and the structural integrity of the ANS-EC as well as its continued existence has been seriously threatened.

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This motion was made by four voting officers of the ANS-EC. Two days after this notice was delivered, Dr. Caiazzo wrote to the ANS-EC that she “was about to resign.” However, on May 26, 2023, four days after that response, Dr. Caiazzo sent an unauthorized email to ca. 158 ANS members. The email message incorrectly claimed that she had not been informed about the reasons for the motion for removal, and suggested that the proposal had been motivated by individual personal biases rather than the ANS-EC’s reaction towards professional breaches. The unauthorized message also violated ANS policies and legal standards regarding data protection.

Understandably, this action sparked a number of member complaints and once again publicly injured the good name of the ANS, disturbed the Society’s well-being, and hampered its work.

That being the case, on May 30, 2023, a formal motion for the removal of Dr. Caiazzo from the office of ANS President was made by the following members of the ANS-EC: 1.) the Immediate Past President, Ms. Laurel Sutton; the ANS Secretary, Dr. Star Vanguri; the ANS Treasurer, Dr. Sandra Wright; the Editor-in-Chief of the ANS Journal, *NAMES*, Dr. I. M. Nick; and the ANS Membership Officer, Dr. Sharon Obasi. The outcome of the vote was as follows: 89% in favor of the motion to remove; 0% against the motion to remove; and 11% voted to abstain. This outcome fulfills the ROR regulation that the passage of a motion to remove from office requires a simple majority after written notice has been given; and the higher threshold set by the ANS Bylaws which mandates that a two-thirds majority is required to vote in favor of said motion during a meeting at which a quorum of voting ANS-EC officers is present. In addition to these conditions being either met and/or exceeded, it is important to note that all but one member of the ANS-EC were in attendance at the meeting.

Consequently, the motion to remove from office was carried.

In a separate motion, which was unanimously approved by the ANS-EC, it was resolved that any future action taken by Dr. Caiazzo which may tend to violate the rules and regulations of the organization; tarnish the good name of the ANS or of its journal, *NAMES*; and/or malign any member of the ANS, will result in immediate ANS membership suspension or revocation.

Immediately after the meeting, Dr. Caiazzo was sent official notice of these resolutions.

Finally, during the same meeting, an overwhelming majority of the ANS-EC voted in favor of the motion to re-instate Laurel Sutton as ANS President pro tempore for the remainder of the current presidential term.

## Note from the President Pro Tem

I am pleased to be able to step back into the position of ANS President Pro Tem (until the end of 2024). I want to thank the ANS-EC for their literal vote of confidence and I will do my best to serve the Society to the best of my ability. The ANS has gone through many changes in the last few years; we are continuing to find new ways to build a Society for the modern age of onomastics. We welcome participation from the membership in supporting onomastic scholarship!

Laurel Sutton

# Update on the ANS 2024 Annual Conference

prepared by Laurel Sutton

After much discussion, the ANS-EC has decided to break from tradition in 2024. Rather than holding one annual conference in January, we plan to hold several events over the course of the year:

- January: We will hold the Name of the Year discussion (date TBD). This event will be free and last approximately 2 hours.
- February: We will hold a one-day conference, possibly in partnership with another scholarly organization focused on onomastics. When we have a Call for Papers, we will send it out to the ANS membership.
- Summer/Fall: We expect to hold at least one more one-day conference, which might be focused on onomastics in Europe or Asia. We have many members in China, Korea, and Japan, and we think a conference that is suited to the Pacific time zone would be welcomed!

## NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics

### Applicants Sought for the *NAMES* Editorial Board

prepared by I.M. Nick

In recent years, *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics* has seen a significant increase in the number of submissions received from around the world. If you would be interested in joining the team of experts responsible for assessing this cutting-edge research, the *NAMES* Editorial Board is seeking new reviewers. To apply, simply complete the application form found here:

<https://form.typeform.com/to/P6dzaz>.

# Call for Papers

## Names, Naming, Gender, Sex, and Sexuality

Edited by I. M. Nick and Sharon N. Obasi

Recent years have seen a significant increase in public awareness of and sensitivity towards the diversity of individual and group identities where gender, sex, and sexuality are concerned. These developments have also been accompanied by the introduction of many new names for individuals and groups to label these developments. At the same time, in many places around the world, there has been a marked backlash against recognizing the complexity of identity where gender, sex, and sexuality are concerned. These counter movements have also been marked by onomastic developments.

The current call is for book chapters that specifically explore the interplay between names, naming, gender, sex, and sexuality. Possible subjects to be explored include, but are by no means limited to the following:

- Law and regulations governing the personal names of individuals by gender, sex, and sexuality
- Names for diverse individual and group identities (e.g., cis, trans, bi, LGBTQ+).
- Naming customs in cultures that recognize three or more genders
- National and international trends in gendered names and naming
- Naming, gender and artificial intelligence bots, virtual assistants, etc.
- Inferring gender based on phonology (phononomastics)

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- Researching names and gender: perspectives on compliance and integrity
- Naming and gender policies in education
- Names and gender in advertising and health messaging
- Discussion and next step ideas in names and gender

### 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](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com)).
- For organizational purposes, the proposals must include “Gender2023” in the subject line of the email.
- All proposals must include an abstract, title, and a preliminary list of references.
- The full name(s) of the author(s); the author(’s’) affiliation(s) must appear in the body of the email. These details should NOT appear in the attached proposal.
- In the case of multi-authored submission, one person must be clearly designated as the primary contact.

**The DEADLINE for proposal submissions is October 15, 2023.**

All proposals will be submitted to a double-blind review process. Authors will be notified about acceptance on or by November 15, 2023.

Final chapters (max 7,000 words, excluding abstracts and references) will be due April 15, 2024.

For further information about this call, please feel free to contact Professor I. M. Nick ([nameseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com)). We look forward to receiving your proposals!

## ANS News

### And the Winner is. . . A Report on the 2022 *NAMES* Best Article of the Year Award

prepared by I.M. Nick

Each year, the Editorial Board of *NAMES* reviews the articles that have been published in the journal to select the articles for its prestigious Best Article of the Year Award. After assessing the contents of all four issues published in 2022, four articles were given the highest ratings for creativity, writing style, research methodology, innovation, and overall potential to make a significant contribution to the field of onomastics research.

In fourth place was “Gendering Urban Namescapes: The Gender Politics of Street Names in an Eastern European City” by Mihai Rusu (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu) in *NAMES* 70, no. 2: 11–25).

In third place was by Sohrab Towfighi (University of British Columbia), Adrian Marcuzzi (University of British Columbia), Salman Masood (University of British Columbia), Mohsin Yakub (California University of Science and Medicine), Jessica B. Robbins (University of Wisconsin), and Faisal Khosa (University of British Columbia) in *NAMES* 70, no. 3: 39–50 “Using Onomastics to Inform Diversity Initiatives: Race, Gender, and Names in Academic Radiology in Canada.”

Taking second place was a contribution to the 2022 Special Issue of *NAMES* which was devoted to Children’s Literature. The award-winning piece was “My Name Is...: Picturebooks Exploring Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Names” by Carrie Anne Thomas (The Ohio State University) and Blessie Samjose (The Ohio State University) in *NAMES* 70, no. 4: 18–30.

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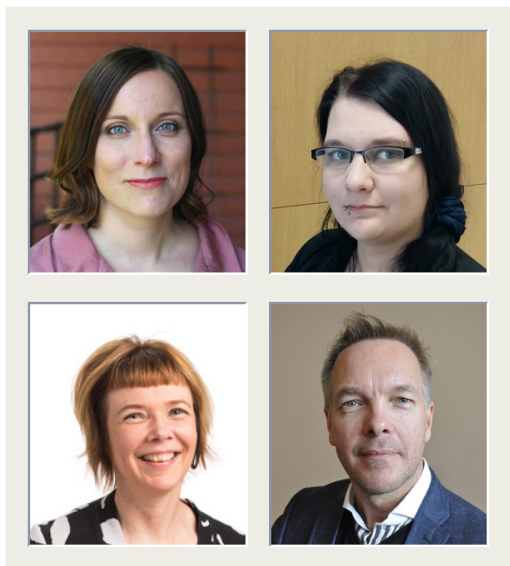


And, finally, the article which the Editorial Board selected as being the top paper for 2022 was “Mapping Digital Discourses of the Capital Region of Finland: Combining Onomastics, CADS, and GIS” by Jarmo Harri Jantunen (University of Jyväskylä), Terhi Ainiala (University of Helsinki), Salla Jokela (Tampere University), and Jenny Tarvainen (University of Jyväskylä) featured in *NAMES* 70, no. 1:19–39.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of *NAMES*, its international list of subscribers, and the ANS membership, the Editor-in-Chief sent the authors of the four winning papers a special letter of recognition. The winners of the 2023 Best Article of Year were also sent special commemorative glass awards in recognition of their superior achievement. Sincere thanks goes to all of the members of the Editorial Board for so generously sharing their time and expertise. All four articles can be accessed for free in the online journal article archive found here: <https://ans-names.pitt.edu/ans/issue/archive>.

## An Interview with the Winners of the 2022 Best Article of the Year Award

prepared by I. M. Nick



The very first issue of *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics* features a cutting-edge piece of onomastic research. Entitled “Mapping Digital Discourses of the Capital Region of Finland: Combining Onomastics, CADS, and GIS,” this innovative piece of research was co-authored by an stellar interdisciplinary team of researchers: Jarmo Harri Jantunen (Department of Language and Communication Studies at the University of Jyväskylä), Terhi Ainiala (Director of the Department of Finnish, Finno-Ugrian, and Scandinavian Studies at the University of Helsinki), Salla Jokela (Faculty of Social Sciences at Tampere University), and Jenny Tarvainen (a PhD researcher University of Jyväskylä).

What sets the research paper of this interdisciplinary team apart is not only its technical innovation, but also its methodological elegance, and interdisciplinary sophistication. It is these qualities which will no doubt make their *NAMES* article a seminal publication in the field of onomastics for many years to come. It is for these reasons that this exemplary piece of scholarship was chosen to receive the 2022 Winner of the Best Article of the Year Award. For this issue of the ANS newsletter, the award-winning authors graciously agreed to give an e-interview to the *NAMES* Editor-in-Chief. Below are excerpts from that longer interview:

### How did you develop the idea for this fascinating research project?

To start with, in our understanding, the study of names is primarily multidisciplinary by its very nature. Working as a multidisciplinary group in solving questions linked to naming, urban discourses, and social media was a natural starting point for us.

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We also had previous experience working together and combining the strengths of our various theoretical and methodological backgrounds. This was the first time all four of us had co-authored an article together. But it certainly won't be our last!

**How did all you tie together all of your differing research interest?**

Terhi Ainiala (University of Helsinki): As an onomastician, I have always been interested in the usage of names in various contexts. One of the most exciting current contexts is definitely social media, and I was curious to find out the differences and similarities between the usage of city names in Finland's capital region and the urban discourses connected to them. Jarmo and me had already before done research on corpus-assisted onomastics, and now we were happy to have Salla and Jenny in our group. Salla's expertise in urban geography and GIS was inspiring and valuable to us, like Jenny's strong skills on quantitative methods.

**The team not only brought together different areas of research, but also scientists at different stages of their career. How was that experience?**

Jenny Tarvainen (University of Jyväskylä): I was starting to work as a doctoral researcher with a related topic and similar set of methods when I joined the team, and I am very grateful to have the opportunity to learn and grow as a researcher in this group. I am interested in linguistic mechanisms that (re)shape our understanding of reality, and I believe that we are on the verge of something new and important in respect to it. I am looking forward to explore the idea further in my thesis and with this amazing group!

**In recent years, many winners of this award have come from Nordic countries. Can you provide a brief description of the onomastic scene in this region of the world?**

In Nordic countries, there is a long tradition in collaboration within onomastics. For example, the Nordic Cooperative Committee for Onomastic Research (NORNA\_) has been in existence more than 50 years already. In recent years, Nordic researchers in socio-onomastics have established their own network. Thanks to these initiatives, dynamic theoretical and methodological discussions as well as excitingly diverse joint projects have continued to be at the core of Nordic onomastics. These cooperations have made it possible to develop new and innovative perspectives into onomastics.

**Can you recommend a few books or articles for onomasticians who are new to GIS and CADs?**

For CADs:

Partington, Alan, Alison Duguid, and Charlotte Taylor. 2013. *Patterns and Meanings in Discourse: Theory and Practice in Corpus-assisted Discourse Studies (CADs)*. Amsterdam: John Benjamin Publishing Company.

Baker, Paul. 2006. *Using Corpora in Discourse Analysis*. London: Continuum.

For GIS:

Gregory, Ian N, and Andrew Hardie. 2011. "Visual GISTing: Bringing Together Corpus Linguistics and Geographical Information Systems." *Literary and Linguistic Computing* 26, no. 3: 297–314.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/llc/fqr022>

Gregory, Ian N., Christopher Donaldson, Patricia Murrieta-Flores, and Paul Rayson. 2015. "Geoparsing, GIS, and Textual Analysis: Current Developments in Spatial Humanities Research." *International Journal of Humanities and Arts Computing* 9, no. 1: 1–14. 10.3366/ijhac.2015.0135

## ANS 2023 YouTube Videos

prepared by Laurel Sutton

We are pleased to announce that all recorded presentations from the 2023 Annual meeting have now been uploaded to our YouTube channel. There are 31 videos, representing outstanding onomastics scholarship from members all over the world. Please visit our YouTube channel to view these videos, as well as those from the 2022 and 2021 Annual Conferences!

<https://www.youtube.com/@americannamesociety5739>

## MLA 2024 ANS Panel to Explore DEI Concepts through Literary Onomastics

prepared by Anne Anderson

Panelists have been selected for the ANS panel at the 2024 Modern Language Association Conference to be held January 4-7 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The panel, titled “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Names and Naming in Literature,” features a range of literary genres from diverse cultures and time periods and includes works written for adults and youth.

Rowshan Chowdhury, a doctoral candidate and teaching associate in the Department of English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, will present “Naming ‘Mutiny’: Equatorial Rebellions and Mark Twain’s *Following the Equator*.”

Chowdhury explores the ways in which Twain named anticolonial conflicts in India in his late nineteenth century travelogue and how those names—and those of other writers—shaped readers’ perceptions of the people involved.

Serkan Görkemli, associate professor of English at the University of Connecticut, Stamford, will present “Naming Queerness in Writing Fiction set in Türkiye.” Görkemli uses his own work to illustrate how “competing practices of naming and labeling are central to the queer Turkish experience” and are “essentially an act of place-making for those who are different.”

Iman Nick, president of the German Society for Forensic Linguistics, will present “What if the World is Like Misfits Like Us: Calling Out Name-Calling in James Howe’s *The Misfits*.” Nick considers the harm caused by verbal abuse and explores the ways in which Howe depicts a group of middle-school students “use their shared difference as a source of empowering camaraderie” to “take on their school’s abusive culture of name-calling.”

The call for papers noted that “narrative works can create scenes that make space for us to consider deeply the essence of the ideas encased in the labels [DEI]” and invited submissions exploring ways in which “literary components of narrative fiction and non-fiction works address DEI concepts through names of characters (characteronyms), places (toponyms), institutions, and events as well as through depictions of socio-cultural, religious, ideological, personal, and political practices of naming, renaming, and unnamings.” We are very pleased with the response and look forward to a rich conversation in Pittsburgh.

# ANS Executive Council 2022 End-of-Year Reports

## President's Report

Ms. Laurel Sutton

2022 was my last full year as President and I will now hold the title of Immediate Past President.

My main responsibilities were:

- Organizing the 2023 conference with our (former) Vice President, Luisa Caiazzo; we brought on Megan Rouch and Katie Swindler to provide management and technical support
- Helping Editor-in-Chief, Iman Nick with the journal *NAMES*; this included providing a third round of proofreading, preparing the journal for print publication, and coordinating with our printer
- Fielding inquiries on naming from journalists (directing them to experts like Cleve Evans and Jennifer Moss)
- Working with Sharon Obasi, our Membership Officer, in the management of our membership payments and tracking
- Assisting Brandon Simonson, our Information Officer, with website upkeep and mailings to members
- Reviewing submissions to *NAMES*, as assigned by Iman
- Editing and uploading presentations from the 2022 ANS Conference to our YouTube channel
- Ensuring that positions are filled on the EC, either by members who wish to continue, or by finding new members; NB we failed to fill the Vice President position!

Outside of the ANS, I continued my work with the LSA SIG Linguistics Beyond Academia; we provide resources, networking, and support for linguists entering the non-academic job market. Our latest offering is a podcast, called *Linguistics Careercast*, which I host; I interview linguists who have made the transition to industry about their career journeys.

I am delighted to introduce our new President, Luisa!

## Vice President's Report

Dr. Luisa Caiazzo

As Vice President, I have supported our President in managing day-to-day business. I began last year by chairing one of the sessions at the 2022 conference and presenting my own research on toponyms. I prepared and circulated the call for papers for this conference. We had more this year than last year. I distributed them for peer review. In September I sent out acceptance notifications to about forty scholars. Throughout the year, I've responded to conference inquiries from members and put together the book of abstracts. I've worked with fellow officers on other matters related to our society functions and governance, including the tutoring of the winner of last year's Emerging Scholar Award, contributed an article to our newsletter, served on the nominating committee, and also reviewed some articles for the journal. I also organized an event titled, "(Why) Naming Matters," with Mirko Casagrande at the University of Calabria and this was aimed at introducing students to names in general and to the ANS in particular. This was well received and was made possible by the generous contribution of our past Past President and Editor-in-Chief Iman and our Past President Dorothy and Jan Tent. I'd like to repeat this experience this year. We may have students from more universities exchanging ideas and learning about names.



## Secretary's Report

### Dr. Star Vanguri

My first task as Secretary for 2022 was taking the minutes for our EC meeting at the ANS conference last year. Throughout the year, I gathered content from our members for our newsletter and compiled the 2022 issues. I also reviewed proposals for this year's conference. I collect and tally the ANS-EC ballots when we have a vote. Please let me know if you have feedback or suggestions for the newsletter.

## Allied Conference Coordinator's Report

### Professor I.M. Nick

After the resignation of the ANS-EC appointed Allied Conference Coordinator before the cessation of the office term, I solicited submissions for a special panel of papers on Literary Onomastics for the 2023 annual conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA). The title of the ANS Panel was "488 - Revealing Names and Shifting Identities in Contemporary Literature of the United States." The following papers were presented on Saturday, January, 2023:

- "Politicized Place Names: Toni Morrison's Literary Map in *The Bluest Eye*" by Dr. C. De Vinne (Ursuline College)
- "Public and Private Names: The Internal Journey of Natalie Waite in Shirley Jackson's *Hangsamen*" by Dr. S. Behrens (Marymount Manhattan College)
- "Viewing Names and Identity in Diverse Picture Books through a Lens of Damage and Desire" by Dr. B. Samjose and Ms. C. Thomas (Ohio State University)

- "Planting Seeds in Literary Narrative: Onomastic Concepts and Questions in Yangsook Choi's *The Name Jar*" by Dr. A. W. Anderson (University of South Florida)

The panel was chaired by Dr. De Vinne and Dr. Behrens. In accordance with a formal vote taken amongst the participants, the decision was made to select an online format of the 2023 ANS panel that took place during the hybrid MLA conference. Many thanks to the panel chairs and panel presenters for their invaluable contribution to this important academic event.

## Treasurer's Report

### Dr. Saundra Wright

Overall, our budget is healthy, though we are continuing to spend more than we take in. In 2022, we spent approximately \$9,375. This has included conference-related costs, journal printing, journal shipping, and editing costs for the journal. It also includes payments to our web hosting company and our open access journal site. As of now, the balance in our CHASE account stands at \$41,034, which is \$4,300 less than this time last year. Our biggest expense in 2022 was our print journal, which incurred hefty printing and shipping costs (approximately \$5,100 for those two costs alone). Once we move to an online-only subscription in 2023, I am hopeful our expenses will level out. In addition to issuing payments and sending reimbursements, I have been in charge of purchases, tax forms, journal mailings, answering questions about budget-related expenses, and advising on society expenditures. I have also been processing mail-in renewals and mail-in conference fees, as well as those fees submitted by bank transfers and other means. In sum, our budget remains solid.

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However, 2023 will be an important year as we see what effect moving away from the print journal has on our overall financials. While we will be bringing in less money in terms of membership fees (particularly from the institutions who paid higher rates for print journals), we will be saving a significant amount of money on printing and shipping.

## **Membership Officer's Report**

### **Dr. Sharon Obasi**

As Membership Officer I have contacted ANS members to encourage renewal of membership and I have worked on recruiting new members, especially students, to ANS. These efforts have led to a roster of approximately 200 members from 35 countries. I also served on the editorial board of the journal *NAMES* and reviewed several submissions to that publication.

## **Editor-in-Chief of *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics* Report**

### **Professor I.M. Nick**

Over the past six months, since my last report, I have continued to expand the number of reviewers for the *NAMES* Editorial Board and edited two issues of *NAMES*. The newest member of the Board is Professor E Aldrin of Halmstad University in Sweden. I also authored 1 editorial, 2 articles, 1 book review, and 1 obituary for the last two issues of *NAMES*. The Winter issue of *NAMES* was a special collection on Names, Naming, and Children's Literature. For this special issue, I wrote and distributed the call for papers, organized the blind review process, and contributed both an article and an introductory editorial. This Special Issue of our journal is also the last printed issue of *NAMES*. From this point forward, *NAMES* will only appear online. In line with the *NAMES* policy of

releasing a Special Issue of *NAMES* per year, I also issued a call for papers and review process for submissions on Names, Naming, and Ukraine. This Special Issue will be released in the Winter of 2023. I completed and submitted *NAMES* for possible acceptance in the international academic Directory of Open Access Journals. The application was approved and *NAMES* now carries the DOAJ seal.

In accordance with the guidelines specified in the Committee on Publication Ethics, I guided a formal investigation into an allegation of plagiarism that was brought to the attention of myself; the *NAMES* Book Review Editor, Dr. C. De Vinne; ANS President, Ms. Laurel Sutton; ANS Vice President, Dr. Luisa Caiazzo; and the *NAMES* former Editor, Dr. Frank Nuessel. The problem was raised by a vigilant member of the *NAMES* Editorial Board. Based on the evidence the investigation uncovered, the publisher involved substantiated the plagiarism claim and the book was formally withdrawn from the market.

In addition to these journal-related duties, I also co-authored several proposals for the ANS Executive Board along with ANS President Laurel Sutton and wrote the final reports on the election process. I helped edit issues of the ANS Bulletin and contributed several news items. I also initiated a new segment of the Bulletin which is dedicated to helping junior researchers introduce themselves to the ANS community and, if possible, assist them in finding an academic supervisor. I have also served as an advisor for a past Emerging Scholar winner in the awardees attempts to publish a version of a conference presentation. Finally, I have assisted the President on a number of constitutional questions, have answered public queries, and given several broadcast interviews on onomastics.

## Book Review Editor of *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics Report*

Dr. Christine De Vinne

This report begins with a note of gratitude to Iman, who dedicates untold hours of time to every issue of *NAMES* in order to maintain the high quality for which the journal is known. Thank you, Iman.

In keeping with the format she has established, 2 book reviews have been featured in all 4 issues of Volume 70 for calendar year 2022. Those 8 reviews cover a spectrum of topics: anthroponyms, toponyms, eponyms, chrematonyms, and scientific names. One was for a multi-topic anthology, edited by Oliviu Felecan, and two were on literary names, one on names in Shakespeare by ANS member Grant Smith and one on names in the novel *The Mayflies*. Six of these reviews were completed by previous reviewers and two by reviewers new to ANS, including Tristan Alphey from last year's conference—welcome, Tristan!—and Paul Woodman, also from the UK, a specialty reviewer arranged by Oliviu for the anthology.

In preparation for upcoming issues, I requested or arranged for reviews of 10 books, while a number of books previously requested remain in the hands of reviewers, some of you present at this meeting, and I thank you.

Many of the books reviewed in the journal come from titles suggested by ANS members and readers. You are our best source. The journal is always looking for new titles—and new reviewers. In particular, the following works are looking for a home on a reviewer's shelf:

- *Place Name Politics in Multilingual Areas* by Peter Jordan, et al. (Palgrave, 2019)
- *Mapping Place Names of India* by Anu Kapur (Routledge, 2021)

- *Naming and Othering in Africa* by Sambulo Ndlovu (Routledge, 2021)

Alternatively, contact me by email and I can share with you a longer list with other titles and topics: cdevinne@ursuline.edu.

In collateral onomastic work:

- I presented “Johnny Appleseed and Granny Smith: Proper Names and the Common Apple,” at the virtual ANS conference in January 2022.
- I published one of this year's book reviews, for *A History of the Twentieth Century in 100 Maps* by Tim Bryars and Tom Harper, in *NAMES*, vol. 71, no. 1, pp. 50-52.
- I served as anonymous reviewer for abstracts submitted for the ANS panel at the 2023 MLA conference (in July 2022) and for this ANS conference (in August 2022).
- I published “Place Names in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*: A Literary Landscape of Racism” in *NAMES*, vol. 70, no. 3, 2022, pp. 1-11, with thanks to those who provided anonymous reviews of the manuscript.
- I presented a related paper, “Politicized Place Names: Toni Morrison's Literary Map in *The Bluest Eye* and Home,” expanded to include a second novel, on the virtual ANS panel at the Modern Language Association, earlier this month in San Francisco. Thanks to Susan Behrens for chairing that session for me, while I was in transit at the Minneapolis St. Paul airport on my way home.
- I reviewed 3 manuscripts for the journal as an Editorial Board member.

I extend my thanks to the many members and scholars who generously lend their work to the reviews in our journal. Your thoughtful analyses, rich contextualizations, and lucid prose make book reviews a destination section of each issue of *NAMES*.

## Information Officer's Report

### Dr. Brandon Simonson

2022 was my second year as Information Officer. Most of my work for the ANS has been weekly updates to our website and our Names in the News posts. I also updated some outdated facts in our Wikipedia page. Occasionally throughout the year we've also posted calls for papers and recent publications related to onomastics. We're especially interested in posting your news to the ANS website, as well. If there is anything you'd like to share with the society, whether it's related to name news or your own recent publications in onomastics, please do let us know. News updates are posted to the website and to our social media accounts, so they are widely circulated. Personally, I've moved far less frequently between my home in Boston and my second home in Toulouse than in prior years. It's been nice to stay in one place, especially after celebrating the arrival of my son. I did some work with the journal in my capacity on the editorial board of *NAMES* and published a review of a fantastic work on Jewish surnames in Romania. In the coming months, I'm hoping to work on a few more updates related to the website that I was working on in prior months, and hopefully those will go live within the next few months of this year.

## Immediate Past President Report

### Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins

In my final year as Immediate Past President of the ANS, I served as a member of the Emerging Scholar Award Committee (chaired by Jan Tent), reviewed submissions for this category, and conferred with the chair and fellow committee member about our decision. I submitted a book review for *NAMES* and reviewed two articles for the journal. Throughout the year, I kept apprised of ANS matters and cast my vote on ANS proposals.

I continued my research into literary onomastics. I have enjoyed my term as Immediate Past President and wish Laurel all the best as she begins her term as IPP.

## Member-at-Large Report

### Dr. Wang Feng

I chaired a session of ANS 2022, reviewed three academic articles for *NAMES*, and co-authored an article and submitted it to *NAMES* for blind review. I also participated in the Name of the Year 2022 Nominations, voted on the 2023 Virtual Conference Proposal, Emerging Scholar Award, VP Officer Contingency Plan, etc.

## Place Names SIG Report

### Dr. Sharon Obasi

As coordinator of the Facebook Special Interest Group on place names I have continued to post information regarding toponymic research, policies, as well as "fun facts" about place names from around the globe. The Facebook group now has 113 members and I thank everyone for contributing to the growth of this group. I look forward to continuing to increase group membership and to stimulate conversation regarding place names.

## Trade Names SIG Report

### Dr. Mirko Casagrande

Last year, I monitored the activities of the group. I accepted and refused members on the basis of their interests. It would be nice to have more members and to see their comments and posts. Quite often we get spam, so that is a bit disappointing. It will be nice to have a group of people who are really into trade names and onomastics.

*cont'd p. 13*

I also reviewed abstracts for this conference and coordinated the “Why Naming Matters” seminar with Luisa. We are looking forward to having more of those in the future.

## **Personal Names SIG Report**

### **Dr. Maryann Parada**

As coordinator of the Facebook special interest group on personal names, I have continued to make posts sharing news stories and other pertinent media. We welcomed a few new members following last year’s meeting. I have made a point to promote the ANS and onomastics research in my linguistics circles, and this year I would like to further promote and stimulate our Facebook group by incorporating things like polls, discussion topics, and resource sharing. I wish everyone a peaceful and prosperous 2023!

## **Literary Names SIG Report**

### **Dr. Susan Behrens**

- Presented at MLA with four other ANS members in January 2023 panel “Revealing Names and Shifting Identities in Contemporary US American Literature”
- Presented “Public and Private Names: The Internal Journey of Natalie Waite in Shirley Jackson’s *Hangsamen*”
- Quoted in this article about foreign-sounding names in Gothamist.com:

<https://gothamist.com/miscellaneous/even-in-a-melting-pot-uncommon-names-can-boil-over>

- Interviewed by WNYC/NPR, October 18, 2022: Onomastics. Aired January 2023:

<https://www.wnyc.org/story/even-melting-pot-uncommon-names-can-boil-over/>

- Reviewer/on Editorial Board for *NAMES*
- Two book reviews so far for *NAMES* in 2023: *Mayflies* and *The Vixen*
- Read and evaluated abstracts for ANS 2023 conference



# 2023 ANS Executive Council



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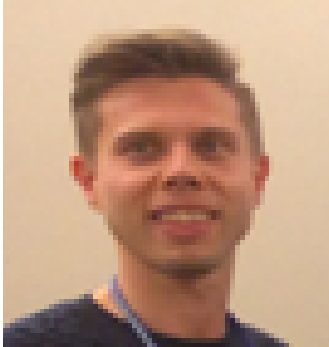
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## 2022 ANS Executive Council, cont.



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