

## **FINAL REPORT OF THE 2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

In accordance with Art IV, Sec. 1b, this report presents the results of the 2017 Nominating Committee to the members of the ANS Executive Council. In it, you will find a detailed description of the Committee's solicitation, review, and selection process. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee Chair (mavi.yaz@web.de).

### **Overview**

The members of the 2017 Nominating Committee (Drs. Chris DeVinne, I. M. Nick, Dorothy Dodge Robbins) are very pleased to announce that they once again received a very strong, international set of applications. The caliber of the candidates positively reflects the expanding global reputation of the Society within the onomastic and linguistic community. This year's review process proved exceedingly challenging for a number of reasons. Chief among them was the sheer number of the positions to be filled. Finding a suitable replacement for the Treasurer position was understandably extremely difficult, as this position not only requires a specific skill set, but also considerable seniority. One final factor that made this year's search rather difficult was the fact that we were notified in late Autumn that our current Membership Officer would have to terminate her membership on the ANS-EC. This announcement meant that the Nominating Committee had comparatively little time to find a suitable replacement. Despite these obstacles, the Nominating Committee was able to present a nearly complete slate.

### **Advertisement and Application Processes**

Given the success of the 2017 application process, the same procedure was used again for 2016. Explained briefly, immediately after the ANS annual conference in 2016, the Chair of the Nominating Committee wrote announcements for the open positions to be placed in the ANS newsletters and the ANS website. The Nominating Committee wishes to express its thanks to our present Information Officer Ms. Laurel Sutton and Secretary, Dr. Luisa Caiazzo, for their assistance in placing these advertisements. To increase the number of applications, the Committee chair also sent an advertisement off to linguistlist.org.

All applicants were required to complete an official form. This form not only requested information regarding each applicant's background (e.g. affiliation, education, and contact information on formal references), it also required short answers to the following four points: 1.) primary area(s) of onomastic interest; 2.) educational/professional background; 3.) skills/qualifications which each candidate felt made him/her appropriate for the desired position; 4.) professional goals should the applicant be selected.

### **Application Assessment**

Based on the information provided in the formal applications, the members of the review committee independently reviewed each of the applicants for the following characteristics: 1.) expertise in onomastics; 2.) appropriateness of the applicant's background for the desired position; 3.) the strength of the candidate's self-description with respect to the required duties; 4.) communication skills; and 5.) overall strength of the references provided. After this assessment, the Committee unanimously agreed on the following slate of candidates.

- 1.) **ANS Treasurer: Sandra Wright** is a Professor of Linguistics at California State University, Chico, and the Associate Chair of the Department of English. Her most recent research focuses on binomial name pairs, names in professional contexts, titles of address, and the biases associated with different address forms in English.
- 2.) **Member-at-large: Marco Syrayama De Pinto's** primary area of onomastic interest has to do with Turkish proper names. He has recently presented a paper in a conference in Porto, Portugal about the proper names (and place names) in human Landscapes from his country. Marco majored in Arabic language and literature at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, where he also received his MA. He is currently completing his PhD in Translation Studies. His PhD dissertation explores the modernistic language used by Oğuz Atay in his *Tutunamayanlar*, a work that is similar in many respects to James Joyce's *Ulysses*.
- 3.) **Membership Officer: David Robertson** earned his PhD from the University of Victoria, BC. The title of his dissertation was 'Kamloops Chinúk Wawa, Chinuk pipa, and the vitality of pidgins.' His research centers on endangered language documentation and revitalization and indigenous onomastics. More specifically, his research concerns Native American and Canadian First Nations naming, and historical changes in those practices. In 2015, he was awarded the ANS Emerging Scholar Award for his article "Naming Chinook Jargon."
- 4.) **Allied Conference Coordinator: Andreas Gavrielatos** holds this position currently and was selected to extend his term. Since holding this office, he has successfully organized ANS sessions at the Modern Language Association on such topics as "Literary Wordplay with Names"

(2018, New York City, NY) and “Names and Multilingualism” (2017 Philadelphia, PA). Andreas obtained his PhD in Classics from the University of Leeds (UK). His onomastic scholarship encompasses classical philology and multilingualism. Currently he is a Teaching Fellow at the University of Reading.

## 5.) Facebook SIG Coordinators

### a.) Personal Names

**Maryann Parada**, past winner of the ANS Emerging Scholar Award, recently completed her doctorate in Spanish linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her thesis focused on the lexicon of two generations of Spanish-Swedish-English trilingual ethnic Chileans in Sweden. She is an active user of Facebook and routinely shares the ANS posts across her feed. If elected to this office, her goal would be to facilitate the broad circulation of onomastics news items, reflecting a wide variety of contexts and issues. This virtual interaction would in turn help to foster collaboration and mutual support by organizing SIG gatherings at our annual meeting.

### b.) Place Names:

**Evgeny Shokhenmayer** earned his PhD in General Linguistics (Section 7) at the Paris X University (2009). His thesis was entitled (translated into English) is "Associative fields of proper names and mechanisms of textual comprehension". Since 2002, he has published ca 20 articles in French, 10 in English and 5 in Russian on onomastics. He is the man behind the blogger behind the internationally recognized website “e-Onomastics”. This website has hundreds of millions of users on Facebook.

### c.) Trade Names

**Mirko Casagrande**, a former ANS Member-at-Large, is an Associate Professor of English Linguistics at the University of Calabria, Italy. His areas of interest include Postcolonial Englishes, Translation Studies and Onomastics. He is a member at large of the Executive Council of the American Name Society.

### d.) Literary Names

**Susan Behrens** is Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Marymount Manhattan College, and Director of MMC’s Center for Teaching Innovation and Excellence. She is the author of *Understanding Language Use in the Classroom* (Multilingual Matters, 2018, 2014), *Grammar: A Pocket Guide* (Routledge, 2010), and *Language in the Real World: An Introduction to Linguistics* (co-edited with Judith A. Parker, Routledge, 2010.) Sue also contributes weekly writing and English composition lesson plans to *The New York Times* at [nytimesineducation.com](http://nytimesineducation.com).

### **Applicant Notification of Nominee Committee's Decision**

Once the above selections were made, all of the applicants were contacted to either inform them that their application had not been accepted for this round of selections; or confirm their willingness to accept the nomination. Both of the above nominees have provided their formal acceptance of the Committee's nomination.

### **General Announcement of the Results and Election Preparation**

In accordance with Art IV, Sec. 1c of the ANS Bylaws, the current ANS Secretary, Dr. Luisa Caiazza will send notice of these two nominations to the current ANS membership. This notification will take two different forms: 1.) the ANS newsletter; and 2.) the ANS website. During the ANS annual meeting in Austin Texas, the slate of nominees will be formally presented to the ANS membership for the election process.