



# American Name Society

# Bulletin

## In This Issue

President’s Message	1
ANS Name of the Year Workshop	2
ANS Name of the Year Discussion and Vote Conference	2
ANS 2024 Annual Conference	3
ANS Panel at MLA 2024	3-4
Names: A Journal of Onomastics	4
Call for Papers	4-6
• Names, Naming, and Diversity in Youth Literature	
• Names, Naming, and Psychology	
In Memoriam: Honoring the Legacy of ANS Members	6
2023 ANS Executive Council	7-9

## President’s Message

prepared by Laurel Sutton

2023 has been difficult but ultimately rewarding for the ANS and its members. We started off the year with a wonderful Annual Meeting, where more than 30 papers were presented by onomastic scholars from around the world. The journal, edited by our outstanding Editor-in-Chief Iman Nick, has continued its only-only publication of cutting-edge research on names and naming in all forms. And despite the issue we had mid-year with the need to reconstitute the top level of the EC, we have continued to move forward with plans for new ANS activities in 2024.

The first event will be the Name of the Year discussion, to be held on January 4, 2024. The American Dialect Society was delighted that we will be able to give them our results and so issue a joint press release with their Word of the Year discussion, something we have not be able to do in recent years. Next is the first meeting of the year, to be held on February 17, 2024. This one-day meeting will see papers presented by 16 onomastic scholars, as well as our Business Meeting. We hope to hold two more meetings in 2024, one of them specifically focused on onomastics in Asia.

I am proud to continue to as ANS President, and will do my best to lead us in 2024.

# ANS Name of the Year Workshop

In preparation for the ANS Name of the Year discussion and vote (scheduled for 12:00 pm [Noon] Pacific on January 4, 2024), the ANS held a workshop to review and clarify the nomination and voting procedures. This workshop was conducted by Laurel Sutton (ANS President), Iman Nick (*NAMES* Editor-in-Chief, and Star Vanguri (ANS Secretary) and was attended by members of the EC and of the regular membership. As a group, we went through the Name of the Year call paragraph by paragraph and made edits throughout to improve the distinctions between the nomination categories as well as the voting and selection procedures. All changes were approved by the attendees.

The newly revised Call for Names is now available: <https://www.americannamesociety.org/call-for-nominations-2023-names-of-the-year/>.

Details on voting and selection procedures are available here: <https://www.americannamesociety.org/about/names-of-the-year/>.

Don't forget to nominate your choices for Names of 2023!

## ANS Name of the Year Discussion and Vote

Join us for our annual Name of the Year discussion! We will be nominating, discussing, and voting on eligible names in the following categories:

- Personal Names: Names of groups or individuals, including nicknames, given names, surnames, or a combination of these.

- Place Names: Names or nicknames of any real geographical locations (e.g., rivers, lakes, mountains, streets, buildings, regions, countries, etc.).
- Brand Names: Names of commercial products, companies, organizations, and businesses (both for-profit and non-profit). This category includes personal names used as brands for commerce.
- Artistic/Literary Names: Names of fictional persons, places, or institutions, in any written, oral, or visual medium (e.g., titles of art or musical works, books, plays, tv programs, movies, games, etc.).
- E-Names: Names of online platforms, websites, and movements, as well as hashtags, usernames, etc.
- Miscellaneous Names: Names that do not fit in any of the above five categories.

The discussion will be conducted by Laurel Sutton, ANS President and Name of the Year Coordinator.

If you have not done so already, you can nominate names via this form: <https://nick662.typeform.com/to/qiS2bXas>.

**Advance nominations must be received no later than December 31st, 2023, at midnight Pacific.**

**Tickets to this event are free!**

The URL to our Zoom room will be sent to everyone who registers for this event. See you there!

# ANS 2024 Annual Conference

The first **ANS 2024** Annual Conference will be held online, using Zoom, **Saturday February 17, 2024**. This one-day event will feature presentations from sixteen scholars, as well as updates on the ANS and a report on the Name of the Year Discussion.

**The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend!** Each attendee must fill out a form and pay separately. Detailed information for attendees, along with the book of abstracts, will be sent in January.

You can register online here:

<https://www.americannamesociety.org/conference/s/ans-2024-annual-conference-registration/>.

Alternatively, you may download a PDF of the Conference Registration Form here:

<https://www.americannamesociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2024-ANS-Registration-Form.pdf> and mail it to ANS Treasurer Sandra Wright, as per the instructions on the form.

## ANS panel at MLA 2024

The ANS panel at MLA 2024 Meets in Philadelphia on Friday, January 5, 2024.

What names did Mark Twain give to anticolonial conflicts in India in his late nineteenth century travelogue, and how might those names have shaped—and continue to shape—readers’ perceptions of the people involved?

How are naming and labeling practices also acts of placemaking in fictional worlds and, by extension, in the real world? And how did a novel set in a middle school spark a nationwide campaign against the verbal abuse of name calling?

Learn the answers to these questions and more at the ANS panel session at the 2024 Modern Language Association Conference, held in Philadelphia, January 4-7. The panel, “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Names and Naming in Literature,” explores onomastic questions in 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 builds on Toni Morrison’s concept of the “Africanist Presence” as a literary device used by white writers to make moral judgments about non-white people and “trace[s] how the notions of removal, extinction, massacre, and mutiny were perceived [through the use of naming choices] within the white imaginary.”

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 series of coming-of-age stories, set in the 1980s to the 2010s during a time of social transformations, to explore—from the perspectives of both creator and creation—“first names, honorifics, and identity labels in relation to gender and sexuality norms in Türkiye.” Additionally, Görkemli discusses “newer labels of translated/ transliterated English words” and the protagonist’s underlying thinking behind naming/labeling choices.

*cont’d p.4*

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 “analyzes the ways in which names are used to both denigrate and empower” people and explores the ways in which Howe depicts a group of middle-school students who “use their shared difference as a source of empowering camaraderie” to “take on their school’s abusive culture of name-calling.”

When: Friday, January 5, beginning at 1:45 p.m.

Where: Marriott – 414

Need more information? Email Anne Anderson at [awanderson.editing@gmail.com](mailto:awanderson.editing@gmail.com)

## ***NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics***

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

prepared by I.M. Nick

*NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics* is currently seeking onomasticians to join its Editorial Board of Reviewers. Persons selected will be responsible for assessing ca. two manuscript submissions per month and for helping to select the winners of the *NAMES* Best Article of the Year award.

Although newcomers to the Board may represent any area of onomastic research, there is a critical need for investigators with one or more of the following areas of specialization:

- Asian languages and literatures
- Middle Eastern languages and literatures
- Statistical methods of analysis

Interested applicants are asked to complete and submit the form found via the following link: <https://nick662.typeform.com/to/P6dzaz>.

Should you have a question about the Board and its responsibilities, please do not hesitate to contact *NAMES* Editor-in-Chief, I. M. Nick at [nameseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com).

## **Call for Papers**

### Call for Book Chapters: *Names, Naming, and Diversity in Youth Literature*

Recent years have seen a significant increase in works of fiction that champion and celebrate diversity and inclusion for young readers. This literary evolutionary literature has also introduced children, to the enormous diversity of. The current call is for book chapters that examine how youth literature use names to present child, adolescent, teen, and/or tween readers to ethnic, cultural, linguistic, neurological, religious, diversity. Proposals centered on the use of names and naming in youth literature dealing with individuals, families, and communities from the following groupings are particularly, but by no means exclusively, welcomed:

- Ethnoracial minorities, including those with mixed heritage
- The differently abled
- LGBTQ+
- Communities of faith
- Immigrants and asylum-seekers

Although the proposals must be in English, the works selected for examination may include other languages. Proposals will be judged upon their thematic fit and potential to make a substantive contribution to the fields of onomastics and literary studies.

*cont'd p.5*

All Interested authors are asked to submit formal proposals using the following guidelines.

#### 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 “DIVERSITY” 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) and their 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 submissions, one person must be clearly designated as the primary contact.
- The DEADLINE for proposal submissions is January 15, 2024. All proposals will be submitted to a double-blind review process. Authors will be notified about acceptance on or by February 15, 2024.
- Final chapters (max 7,000 words, excluding abstracts and references) will be due April 15, 2024.

Please note that submissions that do not center on youth literature will be automatically rejected.

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

### Call for Book Chapters: Names, Naming, and Psychology

Names researchers with a strong background in psychology are asked to send in a chapter proposal for possible inclusion in a multi-authored

interdisciplinary reference. Each chapter will focus on providing a summary of the latest psychological research findings on names and naming.

In particular, proposals are solicited that address psychological research on one of the following topics:

- trade names (i.e., products, brands, services, and/or organizations)
- name calling and bullying in primary and secondary education
- the effects of age and aging on the retention of names
- the effect of names and naming on individual physical health and illness
- the interaction between names and naming and the perception of the natural environment

Proposals will be judged upon their thematic fit, scientific content, and demonstrated writing style.

All interested authors are asked to submit formal proposals using the following guidelines.

#### Proposal Submission Process

- Abstract proposals (max. 800 words) must include a preliminary list of references and a brief biographical sketch (max in 300 words) in which the author’s background in onomastics and psychology is detailed.
- Proposals must be sent as a PDF email attachment to Professor I. M. Nick at [nameseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com).
- For organizational purposes, the proposals must include the term “PSYCH” in the email subject line
- The full name(s) of the author(s) and their affiliation(s) must appear in the body of the email. These details should NOT appear in the attached proposal.

*cont’d p.6*



- In the case of multi-authored submissions, one person must be clearly designated as the primary contact
- The DEADLINE for proposal submissions is January 15, 2024. All proposals will be submitted to a double-blind review process. Authors will be notified about acceptance on or by February 15, 2024.
- Final chapters (max 7,000 words, excluding abstracts and references) will be due January 15, 2025

For further information about this call, please feel free to contact Professor I. M. Nick at [nameseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com).

## **In Memoriam: : Honoring the Legacy of ANS Members**

Beginning in the early 1950's, the American Name Society is one of the world's oldest scholarly organizations for onomastic research. Over its long history, the ANS has been the academic home to many onomastic scholars with illustrious careers. Should you learn of the passing of one of members, please let us know so that we can honor their lives and scholarly contributions with a formal tribute. To request a formal ANS death notice simply send the name of the deceased member and any additional details you may have to the following address: [nameseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nameseditor@gmail.com).

---

## 2023 ANS Executive Council



**MS. LAUREL SUTTON**

President Pro Tempore, Immediate Past President  
Catchword Branding (USA)  
laurelasutton@gmail.com



**DR. STAR MEDZERIAN VANGURI**

Secretary  
Nova Southeastern University (USA)  
sm1850@nova.edu



**DR. ANNE ANDERSON**

Allied Conference Coordinator,  
Independent Researcher/Scholar (USA)  
awanderson@usf.edu



**DR. SAUNDRA WRIGHT**

Treasurer  
California State University, Chico (USA)  
skwright@csuchico.edu



**DR. SHARON N. OBASI**

Membership Officer, Place Names SIG Coordinator  
University of Nebraska at Kearney (USA)  
obasis2@unk.edu

## 2023 ANS Executive Council, cont.



PROFESSOR I.M. NICK

Editor-in-Chief of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics*  
Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics (GERMANY)  
mavi.yaz@web.de



DR. CHRISTINE DE VINNE

Book Review Editor of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics*  
Ursuline College (USA)  
cdevinne@ursuline.edu



DR. BRANDON SIMONSON

Information Officer  
Boston University (USA)  
simonson@bu.edu



DR. ANDREAS GAVRIELATOS

Member at Large 2020-2021  
University of Reading (ENGLAND)  
a.gavrielatos@reading.ac.uk



DR. WANG FENG

Member at Large 2021-2022  
Yangtze University (P.R. CHINA)  
wangfeng@yangtzeu.edu.cn



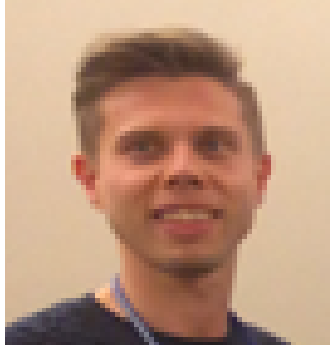
---

## 2022 ANS Executive Council, cont.



DR. MARYANN PARADA

Personal Names SIG  
California State University, Bakersfield (USA)  
maryannparada@gmail.com



DR. MIRKO CASAGRANDA

Trade Names SIG  
University of Calabria (ITALY)  
mirko.casagrande@unical.it



DR. SUSAN BEHRENS

Literary Names SIG  
Marymount Manhattan College (USA)  
sbehrens@mmm.edu