



**MIFLC**  
**REVIEW**

JOURNAL of THE  
MOUNTAIN INTERSTATE  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

# MIFLC Review

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# Editorial policy

The *MIFLC Review* was established in 1990 under the editorship of Leonor A. Ulloa and is the annual publication of the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. It publishes the best papers presented at the Conference's October meeting, including critical studies on the modern languages and literatures as well as interdisciplinary, comparative, linguistic, and pedagogical studies.

Manuscripts may be written in English, French, Spanish, or German and should be between ten and fifteen pages long, excluding notes; in form they must follow the 1985 *MLA Style Manual*. The author's name should appear only on the cover page of the manuscript. The deadline for submissions is December 15.

The President of the MIFLC will serve as Chair of the Advisory Board at the institution hosting the annual meeting. This Board will perform the initial screening of the manuscripts, after which the Chair will submit all manuscripts to the Editor of the *MIFLC Review*. The Editor will then remove the cover pages and authors' names from the manuscripts and forward them to the members of the Editorial Board for a final assessment.

The *MIFLC Review* will consider only manuscripts based on papers and presentations at the annual MIFLC meeting. The author should send the original manuscript and one copy, along with a stamped self-addressed envelope, to the Chair of the Advisory Board at the host institution.

Accepted manuscripts are the property of the *MIFLC Review*, which retains all copyrights. Rejected manuscripts without self-addressed, stamped envelopes will not be returned.

All correspondences should be addressed to Professor Leonor A. Ulloa, *MIFLC Review*, P.O. Box 6937, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

The *MIFLC Review* is a member of the Conference of Editors of Learned Journals and is indexed in the MLA Bibliography.

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## Editor's Note

With this issue *MIFLC Review* begins the annual publication of the best papers read during the Conference's October meeting. Our purpose in establishing *MIFLC Review* as the official organ of the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference is to make innovative ideas discussed at our annual convention more widely available and to arouse interest and generate discussion among our members.

All the manuscripts that were submitted, whether accepted or not, were carefully reviewed by the members of the Advisory Board and the specialists on our Editorial Board. Approximately eighty articles were received and, after a careful screening under our policy of anonymous submission, eighteen were accepted for publication. The essays included here cover three general areas — literature, linguistics, and pedagogy — that will be addressed in future issues of *MIFLC Review*.

The opening essay is Daniel Reedy's keynote address on "New World Encounters: The Impact of Syphilis on Aspects of Western Culture." Reedy analyzes disease as metaphor in Hispanic literature from the medieval period to the present, setting the stage for a discussion of disease as literary trope.

The essays in literary criticism that follow, on subjects ranging from Chinese feminist writing to experimental Latin American novels, represent a variety of topics, cultures, literary periods, and research methodologies. Deborah D. Bufton's "Finding Their Voices: Stages of Liberation in the Works of Chinese Women Writers Since 1920" examines some of the changing themes in the works of Chinese feminist writers in the twentieth century. Francis Bright's "Language as Object: Gift-giving and Dialogue in Scève and Pernette du Guillet" studies the medieval traditional *topos* of the gift-ring, a symbol of both fidelity and constraint, as an appropriate paradigm for interpreting the nature of Scève and Pernette du Guillet's "dialogue." Janice Horner Kaufman's "Original Borrowings from the French in Chaucer's Translation of *Le Roman de la Rose*" disputes earlier studies by proving that Chaucer's translation was significant not only in introducing old French loanwords, but also in expanding and reinforcing the use of previously borrowed ones. Stephen Steele's "Resisting Chrétien's Grail: Some Analytic Footing" argues that Chrétien's *Perceval* both upholds the tradition of Christian orthodoxy and yields critical motifs at odds with that tradition. In "La population nerveuse d'A la Recherche du temps perdu, Frédéric Fladenmuller illuminates an important aspect of characterization in Proust's work. Frank Pilipp's "The Truth About Language? — It's All Lies: Ingeborg Bachmann's 'Ein Wilder-

moth'" studies Bachmann's phenomenological approach to the limits of human perception and communication with regard to consciousness, intellect, and human values. Domenico Ierardo's "L'infinito possibile: Sciascia e la sua morte" draws parallels between Sciascia's own life and the life of Vice, the protagonist of his last novel, *Il cavaliere e la morte*.

Richard Burkard's "Enxienplo de la propiedad qu'el dinero ha": Stanzas 490-512 as Evidence of the Secondary Unity of the *Libro de buen amor*" analyzes the "Enxienplo" as an instance of an imperfectly contextualized subtheme in the *Libro* at the same time that it takes into consideration the priorities of the poet in composing his work. José Killer's "Subversión de tres motivos mitológicos en la poesía satírico-burlesca de Quevedo" concludes that the inversion of the myths used by Quevedo in his satiric poetry does not respond to a ludic purpose, but is the result of Quevedo's own disenchantment with love and the feminine condition. Richard Curry's "Recurrent Patterns in the Structure of *Miau*" is an analysis of the disposition of macro- and micro-narrative structures, intertextual models borrowed from *costumbrismo* and drama, repetitious narrative events, and different temporal segments that shape the overwhelming sense of futility permeating the lives of Pérez Galdós's characters. Frances Meuser-Blinow's "Rereading the New World Chronicles" offers a new dimension to the reading of Colonial texts by comparing Cortés's *La segunda carta de relación* with information revealed in Díaz del Castillo's *Historia verdadera de la conquista de la Nueva España*, Las Casas's *Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias*, and Fray Toribio de Benavente's *Carta al Emperador: refutación a Las Casas*. John Zubizarreta's "The Intertextual Intrigue of Carlos Fuentes's *Aura*," investigates the ways in which the works of James, Poe, Faulkner, and Hawthorne inform and shape Fuentes's novella. In his "El lector se rebela: 'Instrucciones para John Howell' de Julio Cortázar o la estética de la subversión," Santiago Juan-Navarro uses the theories of Roland Barthes and Wolfgang Iser to read this short story as a metaphor of the act of reading. Jorge Febles's "Sobre intenciones e intuiciones: la desnaturalización de textos en *Raining Backwards*" identifies Roberto Fernández's subversive manipulation of texts by Neruda, Bécquer, Martí, and Vargas Llosa.

In the section of linguistics, Andrew S. Allen's "Should Historical Explanation Follow Syntactic Form or Semantic Function?" argues that valid historical explanation of conditional sentences must include discussion of semantic function as well as the traditional grammatical explanations that he considers incomplete.

The first essay in the section on pedagogy, Linda Crossland and Patti McMillan's "Is 'Student-Athlete' an Oxymoron? Strategies for Teaching Foreign Language to Collegiate Athletes," provides practical suggestions

for teachers and student-athletes. "Teaching, Learning, and Assessment: A Computerized Supplement for the French Literature Survey" by Edwina Spodark suggests computerized testing as a means of exposing students to supplementary material and increasing their knowledge.

The first issue of *MIFLC Review* concludes with a selection from *Quadrivium* by the Cuban novelist Carlos Rubio. Rubio's parodic manipulation of descriptive passages is reminiscent of José Lezama Lima, Severo Sarduy, and other Latin American Neo-Baroque writers. In 1990 *Quadrivium* won the Nuevo León International Prize for Novels in México.

In closing I wish to extend my appreciation to the members of the Advisory Board and the Editorial Board for their astute observations and careful critiques of the manuscripts submitted for publication. I am particularly indebted to Justo C. Ulloa, Paul Witkowsky, and Kathy Acosta for contributing selflessly to help make this first issue of *MIFLC Review* a reality. I would also like to thank the Radford University Foundation and the Executive Committee of the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference for their generous financial support.

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS