



# GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONVENTION SERVICES

## Welcome

To Chicago. In December. Because Newfoundland and Siberia were already booked.

## Convention Locations

Most English sessions and exhibits are pompous and pedantic. Most foreign language and comparative literature sessions are poorly attended. The Job Information Center and the child care center are in the Fairmont Chicago, next to the Wayne Booth for Irony.

## Badges

Badge holders are available at the MLA registration and information centers in the Hyatt Regency and the Sheraton Chicago. Please indicate your height in dress shoes so we can assign you an appropriately sized badge holder, and remember to tip generously. Lost badges can be replaced for \$5 at MLA registration centers, unless you losing it is some kind of Freudian thing.

## Business Centers

Business centers? I'm an armchair socialist for crying out loud, what do I need with a business center? You might as well call it the biopolitics center. I do not support "business." Except the ones in my 401(k); you can't spell avant-garde without Vanguard® mutual funds.

## Common Sense, Facilities and Services for Persons With

The MLA is committed to making arrangements that allow all members of the association to leave the convention for brief intervals.

## Exhibits

Riverside Center, Purple Level, Hyatt Regency

Hours: 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., 28 and 29 December

Over 130 firms will display books and materials of interest to teachers of language and literature who wish to stoke their jealousy of their professional colleagues. Admission to the exhibit area is restricted to persons wearing badges or carrying appropriate passes. MLAndroid 6.0, the editor of the *MLA International Bibliography*, will be in the MLA exhibit booth on 28 and 29 December from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to refute grievances about your article's meta-tags.

## Friends of Bill W

Seriously, who is this Bill W character? I hope it's short for William Wallace, because I've got a halberd and some blue face paint in my purse that I hardly ever get the chance to use.

## Illness and Medical Emergencies

Procedures may vary from one condition to another.

**Theory Goggles:** dial 55 from any house phone and describe the situation dialectically. **Ressentiment:** dial 80 from any house phone and describe the situation vindictively. **Sickness Unto Death:** dial 0 from any house phone and describe the situation authentically.

## Lost and Found

Members wishing to report personal scruples either lost or found should call extension 0 for security at the Hyatt Regency, extension 6918 at the Sheraton Chicago, and extension 0-SHIT for a drunken apology to their spouse.

## Lunges

Sheraton Chicago (Ballroom Promenade, Living Room Area, East End, level 4; that prosciutto isn't going to burn itself off, tubby)

Hyatt Regency (roof, East Tower; this is the graduate student lunge)

## Mail and Messages

Although the hotels will make every effort to deliver mail and messages received during the convention, the MLA can assume no responsibility for embarrassing typos, misspellings, or intellectual faux pas. A message service in the Fairmont (International Ballroom, level 2) is provided in conjunction with the Job Information Center to facilitate sadomasochistic cat and mouse games between job candidates and interviewers. For other kinds of messages, determine the recipient's worthiness by referring to the "Who's Important" listing (see "Who's Important" section) posted near the member's lounge in each hotel, then leave messages with the desk clerk at the appropriate hotel. Bulletin boards where convention attendees may post messages for their colleagues will also be fodder for judgmental water cooler conversation.

## Meetings

A complete listing of meetings and panel sessions can be found in Borges' Library of Babel (Sheraton, level 3).

## Membership in the MLA

New membership dues and 2008 renewals will be accepted at the MLA registration centers in the Hyatt Regency, the Sheraton Chicago, and the Fairmont. Individuals who join the association while registering for the convention will receive forty lashes and two hours in the stocks because they are caterpillars of the common weal.

## Parking

Current rates at the downtown hotels vary from approximately "Entire Travel Grant" to "Second Mortgage" per day with in-and-out privileges. (See "Lost and Found" section for procedures in the event that you abuse your in-and-out privileges.)

## Passes

A convention speaker may obtain a pass for a family member or friend who has no interest in language or literature to hear a paper given by that speaker. This way, at least one person in the audience will actually pay attention instead of revising their own notes for the next panel, and you may even receive a non-rhetorical question during the Q + A period.

## 4.7.29. Periodicals, Citing Articles in Splenetic Anonymous

"Lunges." [MLAd](#) December 2007: 2.

## Programs

Copies of the Programs can be purchased for \$5 at the MLA information centers. Free copies are available to newspaper reporters to facilitate the composition of snarky articles that confirm stereotypes of P.C. run amok and burn down any remaining bridges between the academy and public discourse.

## Registration Refunds

The deadline for registration refunds has passed. We suggest selling your passes on Stubhub.edu or Razorgator.edu in an alternate universe.

## Restaurant Reservations and Information

The Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau will provide a Restaurant Reservations and Information desk near the MLA Registration and Information center located in the Hyatt Regency (Gold level; East Tower). Hint: 10% does not make you a good tipper, Mr. Fish.

## Shuttle Bus Service

A free shuttle service will operate between Professional Courtyard and Thinly Veiled Contempt. Buses will also stop at Ambition, Exhaustion, and Horniness.

## Smirking

The MLA allows smirking in restaurants and bars in a designated smirking area. Smirking is prohibited in presentation panels due to the documented health risks associated with second hand smirking. Please be aware of your smirking when you exit the convention center for greater Chicago.

## Social Skills Research Council Workshop

Canceled due to lack of qualified participants.

## Speaker Ready Rooms

Space in the Hyatt Regency (Grand Suite 1, Gold Level, East Tower) and the Sheraton Chicago (Parlor B, Lobby Level) has been reserved to allow speakers to run through their audiovisual presentations before their sessions. Those who have computer presentations should clear the porn downloads from their desktop. (Exception: Women's Studies presentations.)

## Transportation to and in Chicago

MLA convention hotels are located in the North Michigan Avenue area. For our thrifty members, more affordable hotels are located in North Michigan.

**By plane.** Chicago is served by O'Hare International Airport and Midway Airport.

**By train.** Chicago is served by the Hogwarts Express, arriving and departing on the half hour at platform 9 ¾ in Union Station.

**In a boat.** Not recommended until spring.

**With a goat.** May negate benefit of dry cleaned suit.

**On the viewless wings of poesy.** May cause tuberculosis.

## "Who's Important" Directory

The "Who's Important" directory will be posted in the back of your mind in the Hyatt Regency, the Sheraton Chicago, and near the Job Information Center in the Fairmont. The directory will include the names and key publications of persons making celebrated contributions to your field. Members are advised to check their own "Who's Important" listings for accuracy and to make necessary revisions. Most of the information used to compile the list comes from hype and institutional affiliation, not from merit.



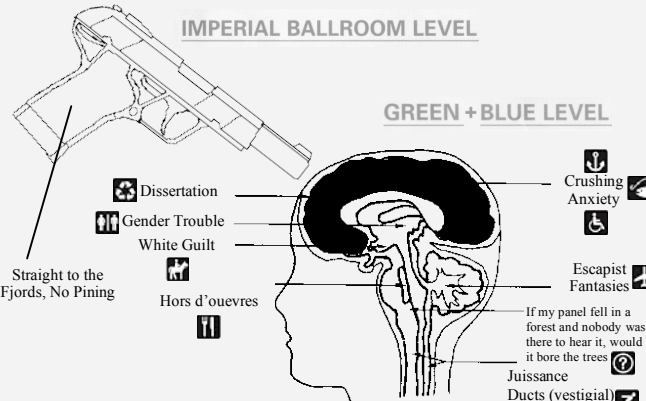
**HOTELS**  
 listed by discipline  
 (NS) - Entire hotel is not sexy

- 1 Hotel Rwanda  
22 Ngugi Bottom Blvd.  
(Post-Colonial Studies)
- 2 Hotel Chevalier  
22 Portman Bottom Blvd.  
(Renaissance + NS)
- 3 Happiness Hotel  
216 Electric Mayhem Dr.  
(University Press Book Peddlers)
- 4 Pension Pragmatica  
19-E Job Security St.  
(Phetoric & Composition)
- 5 Circus Circus  
5 Tab Ave. (Theory Heads)
- 6 halit' n' d'ou si j'ka goQ  
(Militant Grammatarians - NS)  
151 E. Wacker Dr. 60601
- 7 Inn Somniac 13 Flaneur  
Loop (19th Century French)
- 8 Palmer House Hilton  
17 E. Monroe St (Victorianists)
- 9 Renaissance Chicago  
Elevator 6-E (Kazakhstanists)
- 10 A Friend of a Friend's  
Place in DUMBO with a  
Shload of Exposed  
Blick Brooklyn  
(21st Century Americanists)
- 11 Swissôtel Chicago  
323 E. Wacker Dr. 60601  
Confand Goals Who Thought This Weekend  
www.Comec.Com

**CROSS SECTION : YOUR CAREER**

SO FAR	TO COME
Post-Doc: 71	FELTATE DEAN
Dissertation	Research 1
Quals	Research 2-3, etc.
MA Thesis	Liberal Arts
Seminars	Comm. College
BA Work	University of Phoenix

**FAIRMONT CHICAGO PLAN**



**IMPERIAL BALLROOM LEVEL**

**GREEN + BLUE LEVEL**


- Dissertation
- Gender Trouble
- White Guilt
- Hors d'oeuvres
- Crushing Anxiety
- Escapist Fantasies
- If my panel fell in a forest and nobody was there to hear it, would it bore the trees?
- Juissance
- Ducts (vestigial)

A government-issued photo ID will be required upon hotel check in.

**BARTLEBY T. SCRIVENER**

**CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK**

MLA REGISTRATION RECEIPT  
 18 September 2007  
 Dignity (Personal)  
 Date payment received:  
 Payment Amount/Type:




**Chicago**  
**MLA 2007**  
**MLA 2007 CHICAGO**  
**Convention Guide**  
**Annual Convention • 27–30 December 2007**  
*The largest gathering of teachers and scholars in the humanities*