

CALL FOR PAPERS: MCLLM

Conference Date: April 1-2, 2016

Deadline for Proposals: January 29, 2016

Theme: "Keep the Change"

The 24th annual Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language and Media (MCLLM) at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL, is currently accepting proposals for 15 minute papers from individuals and panels. MCLLM encourages proposals from a broad range of research and studies in the fields of English and communication. Possible topics include: literature and poetry, creative writing, linguistics, written and visual rhetoric, journalism, narrative and documentary film, music, games/video games, television, radio, new and social media, and pedagogy in these fields.

We are particularly interested in papers that explore this year's theme: **Keep the Change**. This title refers broadly to changes in attitudes, beliefs, styles, approaches, forms, media, and ideologies. It encompasses social and political questions, as well as various genres and contexts in art, language, communication and media. It can imply embrace of progress or resistance to it, as well as alluding to economic exchange and even altruism.

Please submit 200-500 word proposals by January 29, 2016, to mcllm@niu.edu including name institutional affiliation, email, and phone number of each author. Panel proposals should include a brief overview of the panel's theme and purpose, along with a 200-500 word abstract for each paper.

We are also pleased to announce that this year's keynote speaker will be musician, scholar, and author Adam Gussow, associate professor of English and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. His research interests include African American literature, blues and Southern music, racial violence and reconciliation, and southern literature. Also a renowned harmonica player and teacher, he has made numerous blues recordings, as a solo artist and as part of the duo Satan & Adam. Gussow will be presenting a talk on the evening of April 1, following the reception and optional conference dinner. He is the author of *Mister Satan's Apprentice: A Blues Memoir* (1998), *Seems Like Murder Here: Southern Violence and the Blues Tradition* (2002) and *Journeyman's Road: Modern Blues Lives from Faulkner's Mississippi to Post-9/11 New York* (2007), as well as the novel *Busker's Holiday* (2015).

Sincerely,

The MCLLM Committee

mcllm@niu.edu

<http://www.niu.edu/clasep/conferences/mcllm/index.shtml>