

**Call for Seminar Proposals and Papers**  
**2008 Meeting of the American Comparative Literature**  
**Association**  
**April 24-27, 2008**  
**Long Beach, CA**  
***“Arrivals and Departures”***

The conference theme refers to the fact that the Port of Long Beach, together with the adjacent Port of Los Angeles, is the largest in the nation and a significant international gateway. The idea, of course, goes far beyond the place itself and encompasses literal journeys as well as all of the figurative, metaphorical, social, political, imaginative, emotional and psychological possibilities of representing movement. The topic embraces everything from traditional travel narrative to topics of exile, nomadism, diaspora, and intellectual arrivals and departures. The topic can also be interpreted in terms of our discipline: its origins and its future directions. One can discuss whether narrative undermines or strengthens the concepts of arrivals and departures; in other words, can we differentiate between them, can we really ever say that we have arrived and at what point do our departures start. Sessions and papers on any topic within the broad range of comparative literary studies are also welcome, in addition to presentations which focus on the conference theme. We encourage panels and papers that are transhistorical, intercultural, and interdisciplinary.

The ACLA's annual conferences have a unique structure in which most papers are grouped into 9-12 person seminars that meet two hours per day, for the three days of the conference, in order to foster discussion. Some 8-person (or smaller) seminars meet the first two days of the conference. Previous conference programs that show this structure are available online at <http://www.acla.org>. The conference also includes plenary sessions, workshops, roundtables, a business meeting, a banquet, and other events.

**Deadline for Seminar Proposals, October 15, 2007**  
**Deadline for Paper Proposals, December 3, 2007**

Long Beach will be a unique site for the conference. Located within easy distance from three airports (Los Angeles International, Long Beach, and Orange County), the conference will be held at the downtown Westin Long Beach Hotel. Shopping and restaurants surround the hotel, which is within easy walking distance of the beach, and local attractions include the Museum of Latin American Art and the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific. We plan to have the conference banquet on the historic Queen Mary. Long Beach is a thirty minute drive to many Los Angeles locations, including UCLA, the Getty Museum and the Huntington Library (and the same to Disneyland!).

For more information, contact [cfisher2@csulb.edu](mailto:cfisher2@csulb.edu)