

# UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE

January 30, 2017

Welcoming Colleagues and Friends of CLA:

The Host committee welcomes you to the 77<sup>th</sup> CLA Convention in Columbia, Missouri. The University of Missouri-Columbia is the main organizer of the 2017 Convention. The 2017 theme of the Convention is *Interdisciplinary Studies and Diversity in Languages and Literatures*. The Convention Hotel is the Stoney Creek Hotel, 2601 S Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203. The hotel's amenities include an outdoor pool, an indoor pool, and a spa. Additional amenities at this hotel include complimentary wireless Internet access, gift shops/newsstands. When you make your reservation, please call 1800-659-2220 in order to receive the group discount. The main airport is in Saint Louis (STL); from there, take a shuttle bus to Columbia. Here are the two main shuttle bus companies where you can make your reservations. [www.moexpress.com](http://www.moexpress.com) & <http://www.ezgobusmo.com>. We also have a regional airport you can visit at <http://www.flycou.com/>

On Thursday April 6, we will have a reception at the University of Missouri Alumni Center. You will enjoy poetry reading with Dr. Anand Prahlad of the University of Missouri and his students; A Talking Drum Group Performance by MU Music Students under the direction of Dr. Stephanie Shonekan; and a performance by Dr. Ramona Hyman titled "Montgomery 55 on My Mind: Success Lessons from the Boycott."

On Friday April 8, Jamaica Kincaid will be our keynote banquet speaker. Writer, novelist, and professor Jamaica Kincaid skillfully and elegantly tempers the boundary between poetry and prose. Through her books and novels, including *Annie John*, *Lucy*, *At the Bottom of the River* and *A Small Place*, she has carved out a unique and cherished place in the American literary landscape.

All the members of the local committee join me in wishing you a very pleasant stay in Columbia, MO. Should you have a question before, during, or after your visit to Columbia, do not hesitate to contact me at [badianem@missouri.edu](mailto:badianem@missouri.edu)

Finally, here is a list of several restaurants around the conference center:

[Waffle House](#), 2701 S Providence Rd: 0.1 from Stoney Creek Hotel.

[Grand Cru](#), 2600 S Providence Rd: 0.2 miles from Stoney Creek Hotel.

[Murry's](#), 107 Green Meadows Way: 0.3 miles away from Stoney Creek Hotel

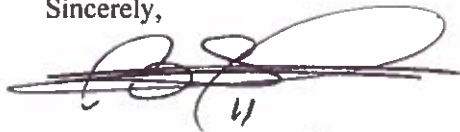
[The Upper Crust](#), 3107 Green Meadows Way Ste 102: 0.3 miles from Stoney Creek

[Peking Restaurant](#), 212 E Green Meadows Rd Ste 4: 0.4 miles from Stoney Creek

For an extended list of restaurants in Columbia, please go to this website:

<http://discoverthedistrict.com/explore/?category=22>

Sincerely,



Mamadou Badiane, PhD  
Chair Host Committee

