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Contributors' Biographies

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Contributors' Biographies

Monica Reyes, wife, mother, educator, and writer, is currently a lecturer of Writing & Language Studies at The University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley. She is also completing her PhD coursework in English at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Her research interests include: themes and rhetoric of travel and journey in fiction, poetry and nonfiction in 19th-century American literature; American Romanticism; and self-construct narratives via web 2.0 tools. Her work on personal narratives has been featured in *Coldnoon: Travel Poetics* (2015) and *The Journal of South Texas English Studies* (2013).

Imen Mzoughi is a permanent assistant at the Higher Institute of Applied Languages and Computer Science of Beja, University of Jendouba. She wrote her doctoral dissertation on cross-poetic discourses on unbound identities in the Caribbean archipelago. Mrs. Mzoughi has presented sixteen main papers in different international conferences in Tunisia on diverse thematic polarities. More importantly, Mrs. Mzoughi has five published articles, which figure out in *TAYR electronic Journal*, *Cross-cultural Journal* (Taiwan), *Serial Languages, Literatures and Communication* (Gabes University), the *International Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies* and *Human and Social Studies Journal*. Mrs. Mzoughi has also co-edited the volume on "Interdisciplinarity beyond the Divide," which appears in the first issue of *Serial of Cross-cultural Issues* ISLAI, Beja (March 2016). More significantly, Mrs. Mzoughi has organized two main conferences on interdisciplinarity and objectivity. Besides, Mrs. Mzoughi was a fullbrighter in Mississippi Valley State University, USA from 2008 to 2009.

Dr. Sarah Foust Vinson is an Assistant Professor of English at Cardinal Stritch University. She teaches courses in Contemporary Literature, Women's Literature, Nonwestern Literature, Science Fiction and Fantasy, African American Literature, and American Literature. She has published on the work of Gloria Naylor and Dorothy Allison. She is currently working on projects related to contemporary women's memoir, in addition to work in the field of peace and justice studies.

Dr. Susan Larkin is a Professor of English and Director of the Women's Resource Center at Virginia Wesleyan College. She teaches courses in Children's and Adolescent Literature, Women's Literature, and Women and Gender Studies. She has published on Laura Ingalls Wilder, Mr. Rogers, and Walt Disney. She is currently working on multiple projects on contemporary women's memoir.

Dr. Beatrice Mendez Newman is Professor of Rhetoric and Composition in the Writing and Language Studies Department at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where she regularly teaches first year writing courses and advanced writing classes. Her research has been published in collections on teaching writing at Hispanic Serving Institutions and writing center pedagogy; her work has appeared in the *English Journal*, *Voices from the Middle*, *HETS Online Journal*, and the *Writing Center Journal*. And she has published several books on preparation for certification exams in Texas. Dr. Newman is very active in the National Council of Teachers of English, serving as a certification program reviewer, as a

reader for NCTE journal manuscripts, and as a national judge for the NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing. She can be reached at beatrice.newman@utrgv.edu.

David Aguilar received his MA in English from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in 2016. He worked as the Assistant Director for UTB's Writing Center and as the Learning Specialist for the Writing Center at UTRGV. He also worked as the editor of *JOSTES (Journal of South Texas English Studies)*, which publishes academic articles on a wide variety of areas related to English Studies (literature, rhetoric, composition, linguistics, theory, and pedagogy). His own research focuses on writing center theory and pedagogy, bilingualism, and composition/rhetoric. He can be reached at aguilardavidh@gmail.com.