

**MICHAEL K. BOURDAGHS, ATSUKO UEDA, AND JOSEPH A. MURPHY
TO RECEIVE THE MLA'S SCAGLIONE PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION OF A
SCHOLARLY STUDY OF LITERATURE**

New York, NY – 5 December 2011 – The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its ninth Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature to Michael K. Bourdaghs, of the University of Chicago; Atsuko Ueda, of Princeton University; and Joseph A. Murphy, of the University of Florida, for their translation of Natsume Sōseki's *Theory of Literature and Other Critical Writings*, published by Columbia University Press.

The prize is one of eighteen awards that will be presented on 7 January 2012, during the association's annual convention, to be held in Seattle. It is awarded each odd-numbered year for a translation into English of a book-length work of literary history, literary criticism, philology, or literary theory. The members of this year's selection committee were Bella Brodzki (Sarah Lawrence Coll.); Earl Fitz (Vanderbilt Univ.); and John McGowan (Univ. of North Carolina), chair. The committee's citation for the winning translation reads:

Theory of Literature and Other Critical Writings, by Natsume Sōseki (1867–1916), provides English language readers with major critical works by Japan's foremost novelist of the twentieth century. Sōseki aspired to a grand and systematic explanation of literature, focusing on literature's effects on readers. Based on the cognitive psychology of his day, his account explores how the content of the literary work generates emotional responses. Michael K. Bourdaghs, Atsuko Ueda, and Joseph A. Murphy have done a

superb job of supplying the contextual information necessary for today's non-Japanese reader to appreciate the subtlety and significance of Sōseki's work.

Michael K. Bourdaghs is an associate professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He received his MA and PhD from Cornell University. He was previously affiliated with the University of California, Los Angeles. He is the author of *The Dawn That Never Comes: Shimazaki Tōson and Japanese Nationalism* and the forthcoming *Sayonara Amerika, Sayonara Nippon: A Geopolitical Pre-History of J-Pop* and is editor of *The Linguistic Turn in Contemporary Japanese Literary Studies: Textuality, Language, Politics*, among other volumes. His articles, chapters, and translations have appeared in numerous publications. His current project is a manuscript entitled "Owning Up to Sōseki: Property, Knowledge, and the Origins of Twentieth-Century Literature."

Atsuko Ueda is an associate professor of East Asian studies at Princeton University. She received her PhD from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She was previously affiliated with Stanford University and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She is the author of *Concealment of Politics, Politics of Concealment: The Production of "Literature" in Meiji Japan* and the coeditor of the *Literature and Literary Theory* issue of *Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Study*. Her articles have appeared in journals such as *Japan Forum* and *Journal of Japanese Studies*. Her current project is a manuscript entitled "Voices of Language: Linguistic Reform Movements in Meiji Japan."

Joseph A. Murphy is currently associate professor of Japanese literature and media studies at the University of Florida. He has basic education in mechanical engineering and advanced degrees in East Asian literature and film studies. He is the author of *Metaphorical Circuit: Negotiations between Literature and Science in Twentieth Century Japan* and has published numerous articles on narrative theory and comprehension, including the forthcoming "Theory of Mind in Reconciling the Split Object of Narrative Comprehension," in *Cognitive Literary Studies: Current Themes and New Directions*.

The Modern Language Association of America and its 30,000 members in 100 countries work to strengthen the study and teaching of languages and literature. Founded in 1883, the MLA provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. The MLA sustains one of the finest publication programs in the humanities, producing a variety of publications for language and literature professionals and for the general public. The association publishes the *MLA International Bibliography*, the only comprehensive bibliography in language and literature, available online. The MLA Annual Convention features meetings on a wide variety of subjects; this year's convention in Seattle is expected to draw 8,000 attendees. More information on MLA programs is available at www.mla.org.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature was presented for the first time in 1995, when the winner was Joseph B. Solodow. The award has since been presented to John Charles Chasteen; Richard Heinemann and Bruce Krajewski; Marie-Claude Hays; Richard Beardsworth; Charlotte Mandell; John R. Shepley; Margaret L. King and Diana Robin; Steven Rendall; Shelley Frisch; and Karen Green, Constant J. Mews, and Janice Pinder. Honorable mentions have been presented to Channa Newman and Catherine Porter.

The prize is presented under the auspices of the MLA's Committee on Honors and Awards. Other awards sponsored by the committee are the William Riley Parker Prize; the James Russell Lowell Prize; the MLA Prize for a First Book; the Howard R. Marraro Prize; the Kenneth W. Mildener Prize; the Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize; the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars; the Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize; the Morton N. Cohen Award; the MLA Prizes for a Distinguished Scholarly Edition and for a Distinguished Bibliography; the Lois Roth Award; the William Sanders Scarborough Prize; the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies; the MLA Prize in United States Latina and Latino and Chicana and Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies; the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Comparative Literary Studies, for French and Francophone Studies, for Italian Studies, for Studies in Germanic Languages and

Literatures, for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures; and the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Endowment Fund was established and donated by Aldo Scaglione to the MLA in 1987. The fund honors the memory of his wife, Jeanne Daman Scaglione. A Roman Catholic, Jeanne Daman taught in a Jewish kindergarten in Brussels, Belgium. When deportation of Jews began in 1942, she helped find hiding places for two thousand children. She also helped rescue many Jewish men by obtaining false papers for them. Her life and contributions to humanity are commemorated in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Aldo Scaglione, a member of the MLA since 1957, is Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Literature at New York University. A native of Torino, Italy, he received a doctorate in modern letters from the University of Torino. He has taught at the University of Toulouse and the University of Chicago. From 1952 to 1968 he taught at the University of California, Berkeley, and from 1968 to 1987 he was W. R. Kenan Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 1987 he came to New York University as professor of Italian and then served as chair of the Department of Italian. He has been a Fulbright fellow and a Guggenheim fellow, has held senior fellowships from the Newberry Library and the German Academic Exchange Service, and has been a visiting professor at Yale University, the City University of New York, and the Humanities Research Institute of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In 1975 he was named Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. He has been president of the American Boccaccio Association and was a member of the MLA Executive Council from 1981 to 1984. His published books include *Nature and Love in the Late Middle Ages* (1963); *Ars Grammatica* (1970); *The Classical Theory of Composition* (1972); *The Theory of German Word Order* (1980); *The Liberal Arts and the Jesuit College System* (1986); *Knights at Court: Courtliness, Chivalry, and Courtesy from Ottonian Germany to the Italian Renaissance* (1991); and *Essays on the Arts of Discourse: Linguistics, Rhetoric, Poetics* (1998).