

The Willa Cather Society seeks proposals for two panels for the 27th annual conference of the American Literature Association at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco on May 26-29, 2016 (Thursday through Sunday of Memorial Day weekend).

1. “Cather’s Short Fiction beyond ‘Paul’s Case’.” Cather’s 1905 short story “Paul’s Case” has rightly become a key text in the queer canon of American literature and, as a result, has received exponentially more attention than any other of Cather’s other short stories. This panel seeks papers giving sustained attention to other Cather short stories. What light can other stories cast on Cather’s better-known works? Where do they fit in the history of the American short story? What critical approaches can make them more interesting to literary historians?
2. Willa Cather: Open Topic. This panel will feature papers on any topic other than Cather’s short fiction.

Please submit proposals (no longer than a page with a header including name, institutional affiliation, and e-mail contact information) no later than **December 15, 2015** to Melissa J. Homestead, Professor of English, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, mhomestead2@unl.edu. Please attach your abstract as a Word document and paste the text into your e-mail message. Acceptances will be issued by January 15, 2016. Papers accepted for these panels will not undergo any additional level of review—acceptance for the panels constitutes acceptance for the conference.

The deadline for submission of panels to the ALA is January 30, 2016. For further information about the conference generally, please consult the ALA website at www.americanliterature.org or contact the conference director, Professor Alfred Bendixen of Princeton University at ab23@princeton.edu with specific questions. For questions about the Cather Society panels, please contact Melissa Homestead.