ANDREA MOUDARRES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE PRESS TO RECEIVE SCAGLIONE PUBLICATION AWARD FOR A MANUSCRIPT IN ITALIAN LITERARY STUDIES FOR THE ENEMY IN ITALIAN RENAISSANCE EPIC: IMAGES OF HOSTILITY FROM DANTE TO TASSO

New York, NY – 5 December 2018 – The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its twenty-first annual Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies to Andrea Moudarres, of the University of California, Los Angeles, for The Enemy in Italian Renaissance Epic: Images of Hostility from Dante to Tasso, to be published by the University of Delaware Press.

The award is one of eighteen that will be presented on 5 January 2019, during the association’s annual convention, to be held in Chicago. The members of the selection committee were Timothy Campbell (Cornell Univ.), chair; Richard H. Lansing (Brandeis Univ.); and Meredith K. Ray (Univ. of Delaware). The committee’s citation for the winning manuscript reads:

Andrea Moudarres’s The Enemy in Italian Renaissance Epic: Images of Hostility from Dante to Tasso is an eloquent and original account of the Renaissance epic tradition in Italy. Using an impressive array of sources across a variety of philosophical and literary traditions, Moudarres allows different voices to come into conversation around the notion of civil strife. The result is not only a brilliant account of the political stakes of how we read Ariosto and Tasso, among others, but also a welcome intervention in the contemporary moment, when conflict often seems to be the linchpin of political life. Both erudite and highly accessible, this study is an outstanding contribution to Renaissance studies and to wider discussions of the relation of conflict to how we live together.

Andrea Moudarres is an assistant professor of Italian at the University of California, Los Angeles. He received his PhD from Yale University. Moudarres is coeditor of Luigi Pulci in Renaissance Florence and Beyond: New Perspectives on His Poetry and Influence and New Worlds and the Italian Renaissance: Contributions to the History of European Culture. He has contributed essays to books and to journals such as I Tatti Studies and MLN.

The Modern Language Association of America and its 24,000 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;
the 2019 convention in Chicago is expected to draw 7,000 attendees. More information on MLA programs is available at www.mla.org.

The Scaglione publication award was established in 1997 and first presented in 1998; recent recipients include Kristin Phillips-Court, Paola Gambarota, Jo Ann Cavallo, Demetrio S. Yocum, Teodolinda Barolini and Richard Lansing, Sarah Rolfe Prodan, Ruth Ben-Ghiat, Arielle Saiber; and Sarah McNamer; the presses that received subventions to publish their manuscripts include the University of Toronto Press, Cambridge University Press, Indiana University Press, and the University of Notre Dame Press.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies is awarded under the auspices of the association’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. Mildenberger 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 Scholarly Edition and for a Bibliography, Archive, or Digital Project; 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 MLA Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures, and Languages; the Matei Calinescu Prize; and 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, for a Translation of a Literarystudy, and for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Endowment Fund was established and donated by Aldo Scaglione to the Modern Language Association in 1987. The fund honors the memory of Scaglione’s late wife, Jeanne Daman Scaglione. A Roman Catholic, Jeanne Daman was headmistress of a Jewish kindergarten in Brussels, Belgium. When arrests and deportations of Jews began in 1942, she worked with Belgian and Jewish resistance units, helping to find hiding places for two thousand children throughout Belgium. She also helped rescue many Jewish men about to be deported as slave laborers by obtaining false papers for them. Jeanne Scaglione’s life and contributions to humanity are commemorated in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Aldo Scaglione, a member of the Modern Language Association from 1957 until his death in 2013, was Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Literature at New York University. A native of Turin, Italy, he received a doctorate in modern letters from the University of Turin. He taught at the University of Toulouse and at 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 chair of the Department of Italian. Scaglione was a Fulbright Fellow and a Guggenheim Fellow, held senior fellowships from the Newberry Library and the German Academic Exchange Service, and was 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. Scaglione was 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 (1981), 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).