



FRONTISPIECE: STEVE BENNETT

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Wow, folks! Two editions in one week. With thanks, once again, to everyone who expressed support through the last several months, I now want to look forward to our upcoming conference in June. The [CFP](#) is still live and we are accepting papers.

For this year, we will be welcoming Angela Drummond-Matthews and Deborah Scally, both of the University of North Texas at Dallas, as our joint keynote speakers. You can see some of their earlier work in the [last edition](#) of *The Phoenix Papers*.

Ryosuke Watanabe, Executive Director of International Affairs of the International College of Liberal Arts at Yamanashi Gakuin University, will be presenting on programs his school offers in partnership with dozens of American universities for student exchanges and many other fascinating opportunities. This panel will be mostly for those interested in setting up similar exchanges with their own colleges. His second panel, about the various scholarships themselves, including a ten-day short course series to begin in Spring 2017, will be primarily for students, though we encourage everyone interested to attend both sessions.

Lastly, we have a bit of a surprise. We are finalizing a few details so I cannot disclose just yet, but I think people will be quite happy.

In short, we are back to our customary levels of excellence and invite one and all to join us for the 2016 FANS Conference in Dallas, Texas.

And so, without further ado, I present to you the current edition of *The Phoenix Papers*.

Sincerely,

J. Holder Bennett
Editor-in-Chief, *The Phoenix Papers*
Chairman, Fandom and Neomedia Studies Association

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to encourage the study of fans through their interactions with neomedia. We understand neomedia to refer to both new media, as well as traditional media that is being used or interpreted in new ways. The study of fandom has implications for studies ranging from Economics to Political Science, and from History to Anthropology, and so we believe it should be better studied to further all areas of academic progress.

VISION STATEMENT:

Our vision is to encourage, assist, and publish research on fandom and neomedia studies.

The FANS Association and its members take no position on the opinions, beliefs, and thoughts expressed in the following pages



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