

**Mestiza Rhetors: An Anthology of Latina Rhetorical Activism
in North America, 1880-1920**
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Abstract

Since receiving the CCCC Research Grant in 2013, we have successfully composed, submitted to a university press, and received reviewer feedback on our coedited critical anthology “Mestiza Rhetors: An Anthology of Mexicana Activism in the Spanish-Language Press, 1887-1922.” This anthology brings together thirty-five pieces of primary works by understudied yet revolutionary Mexicana newspaper women who published their work in locations along the US-Mexico border. Thirty-four of the thirty-five pieces included in the manuscript were originally published in Spanish (and in Spanish-language newspapers) and remained untranslated. The CCCC Research Grant funded the translation of well-over the thirty-four selections we included in the anthology, enabling us to create a bank of newspaper contributions by Mexicana writers and to choose the ones we believed would work best in our anthology. We gathered our primary texts from two main databases “America’s Historical Newspapers” and “Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project. Periodicals Project.” Professor of Spanish Language and Spanish American Literature Joel Bollinger Pouwels translated all primary materials.

The reader reports from the press were positive and recommended publication. We were thrilled to hear this news, especially because the editor agreed to the significance of publishing the anthology in its bilingual formation.

Summary

The procedure of this study can be triangulated into the following: 1) Digital archival search, using a variety of different key words (*mujer*, *periodista*, *escritora*, *feminista*, and *poeta*); 2) Translation, transcription, and analysis of writings; 3) Research on the historical and discursive significance of each rhetor and piece of writing. We were satisfied with our method and especially with Pouwels’ translations. As we move toward publication, however, we will employ another translator to ensure the accuracy of our transcriptions and translations.

Recommendations for Future Studies

We hope our project serves as an invitation for scholars to conduct more research on not only Mexicana rhetors and rhetorics, but also Latin American (female and male) rhetors more broadly. A second and equally important aspect of this project is a recommendation to our field to continue to fund and support translation projects, as we see it as a critical research method that embraces and propels multilingualism.