1. President’s report:

Since the annual business meeting scheduled for the RSA: What a different world we live in than the one that was leading up to the annual meeting in Philadelphia earlier this spring. More than anything, we, the Executive Council of the Cervantes Society of America, hope our members, your family and loved ones are staying safe and healthy. Since quarantine has been in place, so many of our colleagues have turned their creative energies to online performances and other activities. To name a few, the SRBHP project, Cancionero de abril y mayo; Pedro Larrea’s reading of Don Quijote, one chapter a day (from Mar 21-May 11, 2020); or Efe Tres Teatro production, “Merolico entremeses cervantinos,” a one-man representation of “El retablo de las maravillas,” “El viejo celoso,” and “La cueva de Salamanca.” Undoubtedly there have been many other projects underway as well. We’d love to hear about them.

A new look: Please join me in congratulating our communications director, Cory Reed, for his thoughtful and exciting work in designing a new web site for the CSA (cervantessocietyamerica.org). His dedication and careful attention to detail have been key to the success of this transition. ¡Gracias, Cory!

Changes to the Executive Council: Thanks to our outgoing members of the Executive Council, Julia Domínguez, James Iffland, and Leah Middlebrook for their three years of service, and welcome to the new members, David Castillo, Paul Johnson, and Sonia Velázquez who are serving from 2020-22.

Because we were not able to meet in person to solicit volunteers for the nominating committee, the 2020 committee will consist of Eduardo Olid, a 2019 holdover, Moises Castillo, a member of the Executive Council, and Christina Lee, also from the Executive Council, as chair. Thanks to all three for volunteering this year.

Looking forward: As a nation we have struggled to come to terms with racism and other injustices. Recent protests and social media outcries are helping to expose these indecencies. As both Cervantistas and global citizens, perhaps we can embrace the idea, “Be the change you want to see in the world,” and in this way emulate the ideals of don Quijote.

2. Vice-president’s report: Mercedes Alcalá Galán
Two CSA panels – one related to ethics in Cervantes, the other on travel – were organized for the Renaissance Society of America conference, which was to be held in Philadelphia on April 2-4, 2020. Due to the pandemic, these panels will be rolled over to next year’s RSA conference in Dublin, April 2021. Also, Rachel Schmidt, who was scheduled to deliver the keynote address in Philadelphia, has agreed to do so at the CSA annual business meeting at RSA-Dublin in 2021. Also, look for a call for additional panels this summer.

The CSA panel at the MLA Convention in Seattle, January 9-12, 2020, was entitled “What does ‘being human’ mean in Cervantes’ works?” The topic for the CSA panel at the next MLA Convention in Toronto, January 7-10, 2021, will be “The Cervantine Paths of Persistence.” The CSA will also co-sponsor a panel with the MLA Forum for 16th- and 17th-Century Spanish and Iberian Drama entitled “Drama Off-Stage.”

The CSA collaborated in two panels with the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry at the SRBHP’s conference at the University of California–Irvine on October 17-19, 2019. The theme for both panels was: “Cervantes and Poetry: The Power of Words.”

In addition, four different regional CSA symposia took place in 2019:
- Chicago Newberry: “18th Annual Cervantes Symposium,” April 12, 2019;
- California: 31st Cervantes Symposium of California, titled “¿Cervantes sin fronteras? / Cervantes without Borders?”, hosted at CSU–Northridge on April 19, 2019;
- Florida: 12th Cervantes Symposium titled “Ingeniousness from Antiquity to Cervantes” University of Florida, October 24-25, 2019;
- Northeast: 3rd Cervantes Symposium of the Northeast entitled “Cervantine Ventures”, hosted by Princeton University (October 26, 2019).

Other Cervantine encounters over the past year, both national and international, include:
- Venice, XIV Coloquio Internacional, Asociación de Cervantistas (October 2-4, 2019);
- Universidad de Navarra, “Cervantes, entre burlas y veras” (December 16-17, 2019);
- University of Kentucky, Symposium in honor of John Jay Allen (February 28, 2020).

The triennial Asociación Internacional del Siglo de Oro (AISO) conference, which includes panels on Cervantes, is scheduled to be held at the Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland, July 20-24, 2020.

Plans are underway for the first joint conference of the CSA and the AC (Asociación de Cervantistas), which will take place on July 6-10, 2021, at Princeton University. Marina Brownlee and Christina Lee will host. The organizing committee, which consists of Marina and Christina as well as Ana Laguna, Isabel Lozano, José Manuel Martín Morán
and Carolyn Nadeau, have been meeting regularly this spring. Look for more information, including a call for papers, in the next few months.

3. Managing Director’s report: David A. Boruchoff

Finances:
I am pleased to report that the Cervantes Society of America is in excellent health, both financially and in meeting its professional and academic objectives. Increases in our checking and investment accounts have allowed the Society to support five regional symposia, improvements to our website, printing and mailing costs of the journal and a modest honorarium for the keynote speaker at the annual meeting. In addition, the program of grants to assist graduate students presenting papers on Cervantes at academic meetings is being expanded to include non-tenure track faculty.

Membership:
Because of rising production and mailing costs of our journal *Cervantes*, as well as the hope to expand support for symposia, paper presentation grants and other initiatives, the Executive Council decided at its annual meeting in September 2019 to increase the cost of dues for 2020. The new rates are:

- Regular Membership - $50.00 per year
- Student Membership - $25.00 per year
- Institutional Subscription to the journal - $75.00 per year
- Joint Memberships for couples were eliminated

There are presently 193 individual members up-to-date in their dues and thus in good standing:

- Lifetime Members - 59
- Regular Members - 108
- Student Members - 26

An additional 69 people who paid dues in 2019 are delinquent in neglecting to pay those for 2020. All of these people were sent a mailing explaining the new dues categories and an individualized reminder that, as stipulated in our Constitution, anyone whose dues are not received by 15 February will lose the benefits and privileges of membership, including the following:

- A subscription to the Society’s journal *Cervantes*
- The possibility to publish in *Cervantes*, subject to the Editor’s acceptance of the article submitted or review commissioned
- A subscription to the Society’s *Newsletter*
- The right to vote in elections of officers of the Society and of representatives on the Executive Council, and on other business of the Society
- The right to participate in the Annual Meeting of the Society
• The possibility of participating in academic meetings and panels sponsored by the Society
• The right to apply for grants to support presentations at academic meetings and panels sponsored by the Society (graduate students and non-tenure track faculty only)
• Periodic mailings with calls for papers and announcements relating to Cervantes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>01 April 2020</th>
<th>01 April 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual members:</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional subscribers:</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although the number of individual members grew steadily in previous years, the drop over the past 12 months is of concern. The suspension of PayPal subscriptions to accommodate the new dues rates may account for the loss of a few phantom members, who, other than sending dues automatically, have had no contact with the CSA for decades. It is also possible that the increased cost of membership—which is still less than that of most societies—led some people to invest their funds elsewhere. More likely is the habit of some on-and-off members to pay dues only when they envision an immediate reward, such as the chance to publish in our journal or apply for a grant. This is shortsighted. The health of a society like ours depends on the continual support and, above all, participation of its members. In this regard, I would note one encouraging trend: the number of lifetime members in the CSA has grown from 17 in 2016 to 59 today. Your support of the Society is much appreciated!

4. Editor’s report

1. Submissions
   2011: 12 of 36 accepted = 33% acceptance rate
   2012: 12 of 35 accepted = 34% acceptance rate
   2013: 10 of 34 accepted = 29% acceptance rate
   2014: 13 of 26 accepted = 50% acceptance rate
   2015: 13 of 35 accepted = 37% acceptance rate
   2016: 16 of 39 accepted = 41% acceptance rate
   2017: 7 of 22 accepted = 32% acceptance rate
   2018: 9 of 21 accepted = 42% acceptance rate
   2019: 7 of 16 accepted = 44% acceptance rate
   2020: 0 of 5 accepted (so far)

2. Forthcoming issues: 39.2 (Fall 2019) is very late but should be published soon. 40.1 (Spring 2020) is on track for a summer publication date.

3. Special Cluster: “Cervantes and science fiction” (40.2 [Fall 2020], guest-edited by Brad
Nelson [Amy Williamsen would have been co-editor]) is on track for a fall publication Date.

   First batch (31.1-2, 31.1-2, 33.1-2 to fill out all issues produced while I have been editor [2011-2019]): Uploaded to Project Muse site August 2019.
   Second batch (30.1-2, 20.1-2 […] 19.2 to include all the issue between Fall 2010 and Fall 1999 for which we currently have archived pdfs): Pending.
   Third batch (19.1, 18.1-2 […] 1.1-2 to include most of the issues prior to Fall 1999 for which my graduate student assistant made scanned pdfs of articles that only existed in html format): Pending.
   Fourth batch (stragglers to include any issues for which we still don’t have scanned pdfs): Pending.

5. Communications Director’s report.
   Effective June, 2020, the CSA has a new web site that includes improved options for dues payment by credit card and collection of accurate member information, as well as capacity for additional expansion as our needs change. The new web site also features a .org domain. Web traffic from the old site will continue to be redirected to the new site for the foreseeable future.