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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 11, 2012

**“Writing Rwanda: The Importance of
African Women’s Voices.”**

**Presented by: Dr. Lee Slater,
Old Dominion University
February 11, 2012, at 11 a.m.
Fratelli’s Restaurant
1309 S. Salisbury Blvd.
(across from Salisbury University)
Salisbury, MD**



Salisbury, MD, February 11, 2012 – Dr. Lee Slater, French and Literature professor of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA will be speaking on “The importance of African Women’s Voices” on February 11, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., in Fratelli’s Restaurant located in Salisbury, MD.

Dr. Slater’s unique knowledge stems partly from her Ph.D. degree studies in French at Brown University, and partly from complete chance. A chance meeting with a renowned Senegalese poet, a chance dinner with a current justice of Rwanda’s Supreme Court and the very real chance to hear and share stories of women and genocide in Rwanda.

As a result, Lee has been invited to teach creative writing and the value of African women’s literature in Rwanda for the past three years, launching an ongoing writing workshop and book club. This May she will head to Senegal to work with writer Annette d’Erneville on the translation of her poetry into English. Lee Slater currently teaches French and World Literature at Old Dominion University (ODU) in Norfolk, Virginia. Lee received her BA from Dickinson College, her MA from New York University in Paris, and her Ph.D. from Brown University. Before coming to ODU, she taught at the University of Lyon in Lyon, France, Fresno State University, and The Monterey Institute for International Studies.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Please feel free to bring guests. An RSVP is not required, but always appreciated, to: jireveal@verizon.net. An optional lunch follows the presentation, allowing time for networking among writers and guests.

The Eastern Shore Writers' Association (ESWA) holds monthly writing programs, sponsors the Bay to Ocean Writers Conference every February, and publishes *The Delmarva Review*, a literary journal for all writers. As a nonprofit organization, it supports writers and the literary arts across the Delmarva Peninsula. For more information, see the ESWA website www.easternshorewriters.org, or write Hal Wilson, President, ESWA, P.O. Box 1773, Easton, MD 21601.

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