Nouvelles

NOUVELLES

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Ohio State University
January 2008
Nouvelles Nouvelles is published twice quarterly by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

This publication is available in a.pdf format at http://cmrs.osu.edu/nn. Please contact cmrs@osu.edu for more information.
Greetings

We begin the new year with both a vale and a salve.

Sadly, we say farewell to the last of the surviving founders of CMRS, Herbert Livingston. In 1965, together with Francis L. Utley (English), Franklin M. Ludden (History of Art) and Franklin J. Pegues (History), the music historian Herbert S. Livingston, conceived the idea of an interdisciplinary Center of Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the Ohio State University, and four years later, under the directorship of Stanley J. Kahrl, their dream became a reality. Three years ago, in my first contribution to Nouvelles Nouvelles after taking over the directorship, I announced that Anne Walters Robertson from University of Chicago would be giving a lecture in honor of Dr. Livingston as part of our Anniversaries series for 2005/6. Much to our delight Herbert felt strong enough to attend this lecture in person, and everyone who was present will recall his lively contributions to the discussion afterwards. It is some consolation that he lived long enough to see his own contribution honored in this way, but his death marks the end of an era, and the passing of so stalwart a supporter of the Center is indeed a sad occasion.

On a far happier note, it is my pleasant duty to introduce you to the newest member of our medieval community. This quarter sees the arrival Georges Tamer in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures from the Freie Universität Berlin. Professor Tamer, the inaugural holder of the M.S. Sofia Chair
Greetings, cont...

in Arabic Studies, brings to the Ohio State such a remarkably wide range of interests that to describe him simply as a medievalist would be impertinent. Nevertheless I am delighted to note that the subtitle of his Ph.D. dissertation, “Islamic Philosophy and the Crisis of Modernity,” is Studien zum Verhältnis von Leo Straus zur islamischen Philosophiedes Mittelalters, and that he has, moreover, worked on such figures as Al-Gazali, Al-Farabi, Averroes, and Maimonides. Self-evidently, his medieval credentials are impeccable and CMRS, along with the whole College of Humanities, expects to be enormously enriched by the presence of this distinguished M.S. Sophia Professor. We extend him our warmest welcome, and look forward eagerly to involving him in our activities in the future.

As I announced last year, this quarter starts with something of a hiatus in our regular lecture series. This was a deliberate choice to give those of you who are deeply enmeshed in job-talks something of a breather, but we will be resuming normal service once again on February 22, when Bruce Holsinger will be visiting us from the University of Virginia. Only a week later is an event that many of us have been looking forward to for some time: Vagantes, a traveling graduate-student conference in Medieval Studies, will be held on our campus. I have seen something at first hand of the enormous amount of work that a small and dedicated group of our own students have put into organizing this conference. It is a great feather in our cap to have been chosen to host Vagantes, and I trust that as many of us as possible will recognize our graduate students’ dedication by turning out to hear their papers.

Best Wishes,
Richard Firth Green
Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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Universities and Centers both are built by the people who imagine what they can be. The collective imagination of The Ohio State University and of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies has suffered with the passing of Herbert S. Livingston, the founder of the graduate program in musicology and one of the founders of the Center.

Born in 1916, Herbert Livingston completed his Bachelor’s of Music at Syracuse University in 1937 before moving on to the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he successively finished his A.B. (1942), M.A. (1947), and Ph.D. (1952). He interrupted his studies to serve as a lieutenant in the Navy during WWII, stationed on the D.E. USS Carroll. In 1950, Livingston joined the faculty of Michigan State University and taught there for six years before being recruited by OSU to found a graduate program in musicology. Along with Francis Utley, Franklin Ludden, and Franklin Pegues, Livingston established the CMRS in 1965.

He gave his time generously to the community as well as the university, acting as the organist and choir director of Bethel
Presbyterian Church from 1957 to 1989, as well as serving on the OSU Council on Instruction and the University Senate. After founding the graduate program in musicology, he served as Chair of the Division of Music History there until his retirement in 1986.

He passed away on November 29, 2007, at the age of 91.

Livingston’s contribution to scholarship live on in the university, the Center, and the memories of his former colleagues and students. That contribution is best expressed in the words of two of them:

“Livingston’s dissertation on the Italian opera sinfonia in the eighteenth century was one of the pioneering studies of the genre, but he devoted most of his career to establishing OSU’s musicology program and promoting interdisciplinary scholarship at OSU. Among his proudest professional achievements were attracting superb scholars to join the faculty there, helping to develop a strong Music/Dance Library, and guiding students toward productive careers in musicology.

He was [also] a walking history of the American Musicological Society, attending his first meeting in 1939, and his recollections of its past and personalities were wonderfully vivid. Anyone who wants a delightful glimpse into “the way we were” would be well advised to consult the viva voce interview and its transcription that were made in 1997 for the AMS Oral History project. In his words the early years of the Society will remain in living memory for a long time to come.”

~Charles Atkinson, Professor, School of Music

“It was in the late nineteen-fifties. “What would you like to be doing about five years from now?” With this question, Dr. Livingston gave my then-uncertain life as a super-annuated student a decisive direction. To put questions and let the student discover...
possible answers marks the born teacher. As a result, I eventually found myself among the first to graduate from The Ohio State University with a Ph.D. in music. Throughout the years it took me to achieve this goal, Dr. Livingston remained not only the most patient and sagacious of advisers, but became a revered friend, so revered indeed that only years after reaching faculty rank myself and so a certain collegiality did I have the courage to address him by his first name.

The kindest of men, Livingston has a wonderful way to bring one back from intellectual absurdities. One memory among many may suffice: I was carrying on with great enthusiasm about the marvels of the Renaissance Age, if one could have lived then and soon. First came the gentle smile with just the smallest touch of irony; then, “How long has it been since you have witnessed a public execution?”

“He never let up on the exacting standards, on being the devil’s advocate, finding this unclear and that redundant, patiently carrying me beyond fatigue and discouragement. The only way one could make up at least a little for such dedication was the abiding attempt to emulate him in always putting students first.”

~Hilde H. Junkermann, Professor Emerita, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

(Junkermann’s comments excerpted from an article in The Journal of Graduate Music Students at the Ohio State University, v.9, Spring 1985.)


Anna Grotans (Professor, Germanic L & L) presented “’Frenkisce’ in the Eastern Empire” at the Modern Language Association, Chicago, Illinois. 28 December 2007.

Dan Hobbins (Assistant Professor, History) presented “What crisis? Fourteenth- and fifteenth-century written culture” in the panel “The Burden of Late Medieval History” at the AHA on January 6, Washington, D.C.

Parvaneh Pourshariati (Assistant Professor, NELC) published Decline and Fall of the Sasanian Empire: The Sasanian-Parthian Confederacy and the Arab Conquest of Iran (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). It is being released on 20 Feb. in Europe.


Please submit any news you would like included in “Among Us” to judkins.7@osu.edu.
Ohio: The Land of Castles?

Ohio is home to a surprising number of local castles, built by oil magnates, enthusiasts, and inventors. Here’s a sampling of some of the more interesting ones:

Chateau Laroche

History: Chateau Laroche was built almost entirely by one man, Harry Andrews (1890-1981), who began construction in 1929 and continued it until he died. Said to have had an IQ of 181, Andrews returned from his service as a nurse in WWI disgusted with modern warfare and with women, and declared that, “Nothing that God ever made on the earth is more awe-inspiring and heartwarming than the sight of an able-bodied youth just budding into manhood, cleanminded, honest, honorable, gentle, living in God’s image, and humbly conscious of his approval. . . . They are the saviors of mankind.” The leader of a local scout troop, the members of which called themselves the Knights of the Golden Trail, Harry decided to build them a castle. He saw it as a return to a cleaner method of warfare and of life.

Services: Tours, special events, seasonal haunted house, and camping trips.
Points of Interest: Andrews was the oldest living Notary Public in Ohio, and he never charged more than a quarter for his service.

Location: Loveland, Ohio

Contact Info: (513) 683-4686; http://www.lovelandcastle.com/

Glamorgan Castle

History: Glamorgan was commissioned by Col. William Henry Morgan, the president and principal owner of the Morgan Engineering Co., who named it for his father’s birthplace in Wales. Morgan sent an architect to Europe to study designs, and construction began in 1904, lasting until 1909. The total cost was $400,000. Ownership shifted from the Morgans to an Elks Lodge for the sum of $25,000 in 1939 before being bought by the Alliance Machine Co. for its international headquarters in 1964. In 1973, the company gave the castle to the Alliance City School district, and it now houses the district’s central administrative offices.

Services: Tours

Points of Interest: Originally included bowling alleys, a billiards room, and a swimming pool in the basement.

Location: Alliance, Ohio

Contact Info: (330) 821-2100; https://www.edline.net/pages/Alliance_City_SD/Glamorgan_Castle/
Squire’s Castle

History: Now called Squire’s Castle, this structure was originally built in the late 1890s as a gatehouse to the intended summer estate of Feargus B. Squire, one of the founders of the Standard Oil Company. The intended estate was never constructed and he sold the property in 1922, and it is now owned by Cleveland Metroparks. Unfortunately, the park has gutted the castle out of fear of vandals.

Services: Public park.

Points of Interest: According to local legend, Squire took his family to the estate during the summers and used the gatehouse as a cottage, despite his wife’s strenuous objections, who hated both the country and the gatehouse. They say that he began to spend more and more time at the cottage, drawing up plans for his estate house, all while his wife’s agitation over being forced to stay out in the country grew. She developed insomnia and, one night, while restlessly pacing through the house, she entered the trophy room, where Squire kept the heads of animals he’d hunted in various exotic places. She became frightened by something, screamed in terror, and tried to run out of the room, but fell and broke her neck. Squire blamed himself, and the estate was never constructed. They say that the ghost of Mrs. Squire still haunts the castle, and people who pass by at night can sometimes hear her screams or catch a glimpse of her red lantern. In actuality, however, Mrs. Squire probably never visited the castle, and she died some years after it was sold.

Location: Outside Cleveland, Ohio.

Contact Info: http://www.clemetparks.com/
Mac-O-Chee and Mac-A-Cheek Castles

History: Built by the Piatt family on their farms in the latter half of the nineteenth century, the castles are renamed for the Mecoche division of the Shawnees who once occupied the area. Mac-A-Cheek Castle is currently the site of a historical restoration project, “From the Ground Up,” which is supported by the Ohio Humanities Council and intended to display the development of the Ohio farm over time. The restoration project includes several aspects, both horticultural and architectural, all of which are intended to be educational opportunities for students.

Services: Local museum, tours, special events, seasonal programs, educational opportunities.

Points of Interest: Mac-A-Cheek castle is also the site of a creek restoration project, which is intended to be the focal point of a planned environmental center.

Location: West Liberty, Ohio

Contact Info: (937) 465-2821; http://www.piattcastles.org

If you have a collection that you think might be appropriate for “Just Around The Corner,” or know of someone who does, please contact Ryan Judkins at judkins.7@osu.edu. We’d be happy to try and add it to our series!
Vagantes is an annual, traveling conference for graduate students studying any aspect of the Middle Ages. The conference was conceived with several goals in mind, which include fostering of a sense of community among medievalists in the beginning stages of their careers, providing exposure to an interdisciplinary forum, and showcasing the resources of the host institutions, all at minimal cost to graduate students.

If you are interested in helping out with the conference or reading abstracts, please contact either Elizabeth Zimmerman (zimmerman.243@osu.edu) or Ryan Judkins (judkins.7@osu.edu).

We’d love to have to your help and encourage you to volunteer!
YMAGINA (Young Medievalist Germanists in North America) is pleased to announce a call for papers for the following sessions at the 2008 GSA conference in St. Paul:

1. Otherness/Sameness In the German Middle Ages
Papers that explore representations of otherness or sameness in medieval and early modern German texts. Texts or traditions that establish, dismantle or problematize gendered, ethnic, social, religious or chronological/historical dichotomies, hierarchies or parallels.

2. Beyond the Canon: Rediscovering Forgotten Medieval Texts
Papers that examine recently discovered, once popular, long or recently ignored medieval texts. What determined popularity in the Middle Ages and what caused it to diminish? How is the “canon” defined and what factors or texts motivate its reconsideration? When and why does “epigone” equal “inferior”? To what extent does scholarly bias of any kind, past or present, affect or determine how “pariah” texts are approached today?

3. Dreams and the German Middle Ages
Dream is an extraordinarily prominent motif in the Middle English literary tradition, but what about Middle High German? Does the German tradition have anything comparable, for example, to the Middle English Pearl in importance and aesthetic poetic quality? This panel invites papers that explore representation, function, and interpretation of dreams in both secular and religious discourses of the German Middle Ages; the language of dreams; medieval allegory and dream vision; dream vs. awakening, etc.

We seek 15- to 20-minute papers, in English or German. Please send an abstract (max. 250 words) and a brief CV that includes institutional affiliation by Friday, February 8th, 2008, to both of the following organizers (e-mail submissions only, please):

Dr. Olga Trokhimenko
Foreign Languages and Literatures
Univ. of North Carolina Wilmington
Wilmington, NC 28403
Phone: (910) 962-7379
Fax: (910) 962-7712
trokhimenkoo@uncw.edu

Dr. Kirsten M. Christensen
Pacific Lutheran University
Tacoma, WA 98447 USA
Phone: (253) 535-8775
Fax: (253) 536-5132
kmc@plu.edu
The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is pleased to announce the upcoming course

The Court of Charlemagne

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 210
SQR8|University Hall 82|TR 1:30-3:18|#13712-4

Professor Anna Grotans
(Dept. of Germanic Lang. & Lit.)

Taught in English

This course fulfills 5 credits of the GEC Arts and Humanities, Cultures and Ideas requirement

This interdisciplinary GEC course aims at illuminating the so-called “Dark Ages” of Europe roughly 1,000 years ago. Our point of departure will be the cultural Renaissance at the court of Charlemagne, ruler of the Holy Roman Empire. We will discuss topics such as daily life at court, in the countryside, and in monasteries; beliefs, values, pagan and religious cults, military and religious campaigns; the status of women and minorities; the emergence and implications of literacy; the art of the medieval book; medicine and the development of science and learning; and the later construction of Charlemagne as a national hero for both France and Germany. For evidence we will draw upon a variety of literary and non-fiction texts, art, architecture, music and other cultural artifacts from the period.

For more information, please contact:
The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Main office: 242-7495
E-mail: cmrs@msu.edu
Website: http://cmrs.msu.edu
The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is pleased to announce the upcoming course

ARThurian LEGEnds

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 504
SQ08|Campbell Hall 209|MW 11:30-1:18|S13713-0

Professor Karen Winstead
(Department of English)

This course will explore the rich tradition of Arthurian that flourished in the Middle Ages and continues to thrive in modern popular culture. We will sample a few of the earliest legends about King Arthur in British histories and saints’ lives, then look at the development of some of the most famous Arthurian legends, including the quest for the holy grail and the tragic love stories of Tristan and Iseult and of Lancelot and Guinevere. The authors we will study include Geoffrey of Monmouth, Chrétien de Troyes, and Thomas Malory. We will also see two or three modern films on Arthurian topics. Requirements include 3 exams; a short paper is optional for extra credit.

For more information, contact: The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Main office: 242-7495|E-mail: cmars@osu.edu|Website: http://cmars.osu.edu
The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is pleased to announce the upcoming course

**Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies**

**Medieval and Renaissance Studies 611**

**History of the Book**

Professor John N. King  
(Humanities Distinguished Professor of English or of Religious Studies)

Professor James Bracken  
(Associate Director of University Libraries & Professor of English)

This course will study the construction and transmission of books during the era of the hand press (c. 1450–1800). Topics will include the medieval manuscript tradition, the advent of printing in Europe, the manual construction of books as material objects, book illustration, the marketing of books within the European book trade, reading habits, and censorship. Students will also consider broader cultural issues concerning orality, literacy, visuality, and artificiality. Students will gain hands-on experience with the rich collections of our Rare Books and Manuscript Library through frequent book exhibitions, demonstrations, and individual projects.

This course is suitable to advanced undergraduate and graduate students in all fields.

Each student will undertake a research project concerning the “biography” of a notable book in his or her major field (e.g., a Spanish major might scrutinize the printing and publication history of* Don Quixote*; a student of art history or biology might consider* Vesalius’s Anatomy*). For additional information, please consult the instructors at king.j@gwu.edu or bracken.j@gwu.edu.

**Spring Quarter 2008**

**TR 1:30-3:18**

**University Hall 051**

**UG 5 credit hours**

**Call # 13714-5**

For more information, contact the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at cmr@gwu.edu or 252-7495. Or visit http://cmr.gwu.edu/courses/

Amodio, Marc C., ed. Oral Poetics in Middle English Poetry. PR317.O72 O7 1994


Bertelli, Sandro. La Commedia all’Antica. Z8215 .B47 2007

Betsinger, Tracy Kay. The Biological Consequences of Urbanization in Medieval Poland. THE:ANT2007PHDB487


Blumenkranz, Bernhard. Juifsetchrétiensdanslemondeoccidental, 430-1096.


Burland, Margaret. Strange Words: Retelling and Reception in the Medieval Roland Textual Tradition. PQ1523 .B87 2007

Chua, Amy. Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance – And Why They Fall. JC539 .C58 2007


Fyler, John M. Language and the Declining World in Chaucer, Dante, and Jean de Meun. BS1235.52 .F95 2007

Glick, Leonard B. Marked in Your Flesh: Circumcision from Ancient Judea to Modern America. BM705 .G57 2005

2007


Havsteen, Sven Rune, ed. Creations: Medieval Rituals, the Arts, and the Concept of Creation. BH301.C84 C723 2007

Hudson, Harriet, ed. Four Middle English Romances. PR2064 .F68 2006


Laiou, Angeliki E. The Byzantine Economy. HC294 .L34 2007


Lev, Efraim. Practical Materia Medica of the Medieval Eastern Mediterranean According to the Cairo Genizah. RS64 .L48 2008

Luisetto, Frédéric. Arméniens & autres chrétiens d’orient sous l’adomination


Magdalino, Paul and Maria Mavroudi, eds. The Occult Sciences in Byzantium. BF1434.B9 O23 2006


Malo, Roberta. Saints’ Relics in Medieval English Literature. THE:ENL2007PHDM356

March, Francis Andrew. Translations of Latin Hymns of the Middle Ages. BV468 .M31 1879

Medieval Mayhem: An Opera Rara Highlights CD. LP44556


Ott, John S. and Anna Trumbore Jones, eds. The Bishop Reformed: Studies of Episcopal Power and Culture in the Central Middle Ages. BV670.3 .B57 2007

Paston Letters and Papers of the Fifteenth Century. DA240.P294 2004


Saradí, Hélène. The Byzantine City in the Sixth Century: Literary Images and Historical Reality. HT115 .S27 2006


Shzogimen, Takashi. Ockham and Political Discourse in the Late Middle Ages. B765.O34 S56 2007


Subtelny, Maria. Timurids in Transition: Turko-Persian Politics and Acculturation in Medieval Iran. DS289.7 .S838 2006


Ta-Shma, Israel M. Creativity and Tradition: Studies in Medieval Rabbinic Scholarship, Literature and Thought. BM496.6 .T25 2006


Walts, Dawn Simmons. Time’s Reckoning: Time, Value and the Mercantile Class in Late Medieval English Literature. THE:ENL2007PHDW358

CMRS Faculty Colloquium

“Geoffrey Chaucer v. Cecily Champain: New Light on an Old Case”

Richard Firth Green
(Humanities Distinguished Professor of English)

Friday, Feb. 8
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Dulles 168

Shakespeare and Film

CMRS Winter Movie Series

Feb 12: Merchant of Venice (2004); starring Al Pacino & Jeremy Irons; directed by Michael Radford.

Feb 26: Shakespeare in Love (1999); starring Joseph Fiennes & Gwyneth Paltrow; directed by John Madden.

All movies at 7:30 in University Hall 038. Pizza and pop provided
Under its new rules, OSU requires that all endowed funds (and endowment is vital if we wish this award to keep Nick’s memory alive in perpetuity, rather than simply until the money runs out) reach a minimum level of $50,000. This is a tall order for a small program like the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, but I intend to make this particular fund our flagship appeal over the next few years, and with a display of the same kind of generosity and good will that typified Nick Howe himself I’m confident we can make it.

If you wish to contribute to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund yourself, you can do so in three ways:

You can donate online at https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive (the fund number is #480256); or you can send a check to either

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
The Ohio State University
308 Dulles Hall
230 W. 17th Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1361

or

M.J. Wolanin
Director of Development
020 Mershon Center
1505 Neil Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43210-2602

With most sincere thanks,

Richard Green
January

When Christmas is ended bid feasting adue,
go plaie the good husband, thy stocke to renue:
Be mindful of rearing, in hope of a gaine,
dame profit shall give thee, reward for thy paine.

Who both by his Calfe, and his Lambe wil be known,
may wel kil a neat, and a sheepe of his own:
And he that can reare up a pig in his house,
hath cheaper his bakon, and sweeter his souse.

From Thomas Tusser’s Five Hundred Points of Husbandry.
First published 1557.
## Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
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