Nouvelles

NOUVELLES

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Ohio State University
May 2008
Greetings

Our last newsletter of 2007/08 might seem an appropriate occasion to look back on last year’s events and congratulate ourselves on winding up yet another successful lecture series, but—other than noting the remarkable accomplishment of our final speaker, Kim Butler (I think her lecture on the Sistine Chapel was the first one we’ve actually had to turn people away from because the room was getting dangerously overcrowded)—I’d rather take a moment to outline what we have planned for you for next year.

We start the new year with a bang—a conference entitled “Smiles and Laughter in the Middle Ages” to be held on October 3-4 in the George Wells Knight House in honor of Barbara Hanawalt, holder of the King George III Chair of British History and a former Director of CMRS. This conference was originally planned to coincide with Barbara’s retirement, but since she has already deferred that unhappy event for a further year, the organizers are secretly hoping that a concentrated atmosphere of smiles and laughter might encourage her to do so yet again. We have an impressive array of outside speakers signed up, but I am particularly eager to hear from those among our own community who would like to offer a paper; we still have a few slots open, and as you will have gathered from the conference title a little levity in your choice of topic would not go amiss. As a further way of marking Barbara’s substantial contribution to the life of the Center, we intend to rename the Kahrl Prize for the best Graduate Essay in Medieval or Early
Greetings, cont...

Modern Studies. From 2010 onward it will be known as the Hanawalt Prize, and shortly thereafter we are hoping to be able to fund it from the newly-endowed Howe Fund, which Barbara herself has so generously supported. The prize for the best undergraduate essay will of course continue to be named after our first director, Stanley J. Kahrl.

Only a week after the “Smiles and Laughter” Conference we embark on a new lecture series. Our theme for the 2008/09 is, alas, a timely one: “The Culture of War.” Our first speaker will be the medieval historian Richard Kaeuper from the University of Rochester, to be followed by Stephen Fliegel, curator of the recent highly successful armor exhibit at the Cleveland Museum of Art, who will be delivering our annual public lecture. The complete line-up of speakers has yet to be finalized, but I can tell you that it will include Patricia Cahill from Emory University, Christine Chism and Camilla Townsend (both from Rutgers University), John Niles from the University of Wisconsin, Jerold Frakes from Buffalo University, and Celeste Brusati from the University of Michigan. I hope you will agree with me that such an impressive array of fine scholars holds the promise of an exciting and enlightening series.

Much closer in time is the annual CMRS annual end-of-the year party. I do hope as many of you as possible will join us at the Kuhn Honors House between 4:00 and 5:30 next Wednesday (May 28th) to congratulate our Kahrl Prize winners and to view our newly framed and mounted photographs of CMRS founders and past directors. My thanks are due to Ryan Judkins for undertaking to collect these photographs and get them framed. This rogues’ gallery will eventually be hung in the CMRS outer office, but you can get a sneak preview on Wednesday.
Finally, it’s time to say goodbye to two members of the CMRS Office. Rachel Clark has served as GAA and webpage manager for the past year with grace and efficiency; we will all miss her calm good sense. Our other loss is even greater. Ethan Knapp has served as Associate Director for five years and has proved to be an invaluable right-hand man. He provided the continuity when I first took over from Barbara and I could not have asked for a more affable and level-headed colleague to show me the ropes. Not only I but a whole generation of Center students have benefited from his wise counsel and he will be sorely missed. However, life goes on, and I’m delighted to announce that Ethan’s role next year is to be taken by Sarah-Grace Heller of the French Department, a stalwart supporter of CMRS and someone conspicuously suited to carrying on the good work of promoting medieval and early-modern studies both within the university and beyond.

Best Wishes,

Richard Firth Green
Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Frank T. Coulson (Professor, Greek and Latin) organized and moderated a panel “Glossing Latin and Vernacular Texts in the Middle Ages” at the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 11 May. His article “Procne and Philomela in the Latin Commentary Tradition of the Middle Ages and Renaissance” recently appeared in *Euphrosyne* 36 (2008) 181-196.

David Cressy (Professor, History) is currently a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford, and presented “Scandalous and Seditious Words Against Charles I” at the University of Cambridge on 8 May.
Laura-Michele Diener (PhD Candidate, History) has accepted a job in the history department at Marshall University in West Virginia.

Richard Dutton (Professor, English) presented “Shakespeare, Court Dramatist.” Cooper Honors Program Lecture. University of Arkansas at Little Rock. 14 April.


Barbara Hanawalt (Professor, History) published, with Lisa Kiser, the edited volume Engaging with Nature: Essays on the Natural World in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (Notre Dame, IN: U of Notre Dame Press, 2008). The volume arose
Sarah Iles Johnston (Professor, Greek and Latin) has been elected to the executive committee of the American Society for the Study of Religion. She has delivered several papers this year on late antique divinatory practices. Her book *Ancient Greek Divination*, will be out in June in the UK and later this Autumn in the United States (Blackwell Publishing).

Lisa Kiser (Professor, English) published, with Barbara Hanawalt, the edited volume *Engaging with Nature: Essays on the Natural World in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (Notre Dame, IN: U of Notre Dame Press, 2008). The volume arose from the 2004-05 CMRS lecture series. She also presented “Literature and Environmental History,” in the session on “Problems and Paradigms in Medieval European Environmental History,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, 8 May.


Michael Swartz (Professor, NELC) presented the inaugural lectures in the Benita and Sigmund Stahl Lecture Program in Jewish Studies at New York University in April. The program consisted of three public lectures plus three graduate semi-
nars. The lectures were entitled, “The Signifying Creator: Alternative Creation Myths in Rabbinic and Synagogue Literatures;” “The Semiotics of the Priestly Vestments in Ancient Judaism;” and “Divination and Its Discontents: Generating and Questioning Meaning in Talmudic and Esoteric Judaism.”


Michael Van Dussen (PhD Candidate, English) has been awarded a Presidential Fellowship for 2008-09. He has also published “Bohemia in English Religious Controversy before the Henrician Reformation” in The Bohemian Reformation and Religious Practice. Vol. 7. eds. Zdenek V. David and David R. Holeton (Prague, 2008). He will also presenting in June on “Heresy without Borders: Refuting the Oxford Testimony of Wyclif.” Invited Talk. Eighth Symposium on the Bohemian Reformation and Religious Practice. Vila Lanna, Prague, Czech Republic.

Please submit any news you would like included in “Among Us” to judkins.7@osu.edu.
An Interview with a Manuscript Dealer

Following the theme of private collections that has directed this series throughout the year, our last article offers an interview with Mr. Boyd Mackus, a well-known manuscript dealer from Akron, OH. Mr. Mackus briefly addresses the nature of the manuscript business, its ethical questions, and the value of manuscripts for modern society.

Could you describe briefly what you do?

We buy and sell Western illuminated manuscripts and historical documents from the 12th to the 16th century. There is the occasional earlier piece. As an example we have two documents on vellum which are from the 5th century. Ours is a very narrow market. There are only about a dozen or so dealers in Europe and America who have an extensive inventory. Our sources are auction houses, other dealers here and in Europe, and collectors both here and abroad.

In what sort of manuscripts or documents do you specialize?

Single leaves and complete manuscripts (written by hand). These tend to be mostly liturgical, but we do have some other texts as well. The documents have a variety of subjects. Examples are: Charter of Marie of
How did you get interested in manuscripts and manuscript dealing?

I am an opera singer, and through music became acquainted with a manuscript dealer. We started collecting and eventually this turned into a business. This all started about 20 years ago.

Where does your business take you, and what sort of schedule do you keep?

We travel to Europe (mostly France) about 2 or 3 times a year. We have a pretty busy exhibition schedule including antiquarian book fairs and antiques shows. Every year we are in New York, Boston, Chicago, Washington D.C., Columbus, Florida, Texas, and the West Coast. We probably average about one exhibition per month.

What do you think of ethical issues concerning manuscript dealing, particularly taking apart manuscripts and selling the individual pages or illuminations?

Since much of the world’s art remains in private hands, there is a need for persons to vend things. This is left to the auction houses and private dealers. There are many reasons for the existence of single leaves, and the history of collecting them is long. Having said that, I am firmly opposed to the breaking up of books and do not do so. We simply sell things as they come to us.

We’ve all heard stories of manuscript theft and black-market deals. How much of a problem is it? Have you ever given evidence in a case...
of manuscript theft?

Fortunately, theft is a rare occurrence. It happens. We who are in the Columbus area know this. I have never had to give evidence in this regard. And, the incidence of forgery is very rare. Part of the reason is that there is no contemporary counterpart to this art form.

What are some reactions people have to the manuscripts you sell?

People are all different. One of the real joys of what I do is to place a manuscript with an enthusiastic buyer who will cherish that manuscript or document for years. This may be an individual, but we also sell to libraries and museums. Our list of institutional customers is quite long and growing. There are always lots of smiles connected with what we do. It enriches people’s lives.

What value do you think manuscripts have for modern people? Is it artistic or antiquarian value, or do you think people learn something significant by seeing this distinct format with its complex method of production? Something of all three?

Well, yes, something of all three. As I mentioned before, there is no real contemporary counterpart to this art form. Manuscript illumination as an art form offers a significant part of the story of humanity going back to the Middle Ages and beyond. Manuscript writing and illumination combine the intellectual along with the artistic and historic. Upon seeing and touching a page one is thrown back to the age of knights and chivalry. Being

Book of Hours, Paris, c. 1490-1500
able to own and hold something that is centuries old gives one a tangible connection to history. Because the market for manuscripts remains under-valued, anyone who is willing to spend a modest amount of money can acquire an authentic piece of beautiful medieval art.

**Do you have a personal collection?**

We have some of our early purchases which we do not offer for sale. We are also interested in art deco and have some of that as well.

**I’m sure you have a funny story or two: would you like to tell one?**

Sometimes when we do antiques shows we get involved in appraising items a la “The Antiques Road Show”. A woman came to my booth with a 19th/20th century map of the Missionary Journeys of St. Paul. She obviously had been watching too much T.V. and thought she had a real prize on her hands. I told her that it was probably worth $300 plus the frame. She seemed genuinely disappointed and went to the print dealer around the corner with the same question. He told her that he felt it was worth around $200. Undaunted, she approached yet another print dealer. He did not mince words and said, “Lady if you don’t get it out of that mat and frame it is going to fall apart. But then, the map is really not worth what a new frame would cost.” Not a good day for her. I felt sorry for her but it did have a humorous side.

**Thank you.**

~ By Ryan Judkins
Fall Courses

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies presents

Arthurian Legends

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 504
AQ08[Ramseyer Hall 0115]TR 9:30-11:18#14170-7

Professor Ethan Knapp
(Department of English)

This course will explore the rich tradition of Arthuriana 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, 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 Isolde 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: cmes@osu.edu|Website: http://cmars.osu.edu

14
This interdisciplinary course will explore roughly one and a half centuries of the history, politics, and culture of London, beginning with the religious upheavals of the Protestant Reformation and culminating with the restoration of monarchical government and the Great Fire of London in 1666. We will begin by studying the factors behind London's phenomenal growth in the sixteenth century, a growth that quickly made London the center of economic and political life in Britain. By reading a range of primary documents including urban surveys, plays, and pamphlets we will consider the opportunities and problems spawned by urbanization (social mobility, poverty, disease) as well as the institutions and structures that regulated the life of the city. At the center of our considerations will be the burgeoning entertainment industry (and especially the public theater) that helped to define London in the eyes of its inhabitants.

MWF 11:30 - 1:30 | 3 Credits | 44169-4
Dudley Mall 0080

For more information, contact the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at cmmr@can.edu or 752-7495.
Or visit http://www.can.edu/courses
"By the books that we have, we know the deeds of the ancients, and of centuries past. In our books we learn that Greece had the first age of chivalry. Then that chivalry and learning came to Rome, and now it has come to France..."

So says the author of Le Morte d'Arthur, Christian de Troyes, in the 12th Century, when Paris became a center of learning, beauty, political power, and commerce. Meet the men behind the first Gothic cathedral, the abbot Suger, whose ideas for attracting pilgrims to the church favored spaces full of light, dazzling colors, and miraculous relics. Meet Abelard, the great teacher who first shocked the Parisian university world with his philosophy, then with his secret marriage to his gifted female student, Heloise. Read tales of Courtly Love, King Arthur's justice, and wayward students. Explore the streets of Paris and its monuments, both those lost to time and those still standing.

Assignments: A short analytical paper using the Scholastic Method, reconstructing the techniques of medieval universities; a short research project on a monument or aspect of daily life for the course website; a chronology of major dates and figures, to help you master the historical timeline, using your own learning style; short quizzes, midterm & final.

Course website: http://people.columbus.ohio-state.edu/heller64/ gothiparis_mrs215/

3:30-3:30 | Fall # 14168-4 | 5 Credit Hours | Page Hall C20

For more information, contact the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at <cmrs@osu.edu> or 292-7493. Or visit http://cmrs.osu.edu/courses/
Call For Papers

Texts and Contexts

October 31 – November 1, 2008

A conference at The Ohio State University, sponsored by The Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies.

The conference seeks to investigate the textual traditions of various texts and genres, including texts in classical Latin, mediaeval Latin, Anglo-Saxon, Middle English, and the vernaculars. Preference will be given to those abstracts which deal with newly discovered texts and their manuscript settings, or which present new perspectives on established textual traditions. We encourage graduate students and newly established scholars to submit their work.

Plenary speaker: Keith Busby, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Please send abstracts to Professor Frank T. Coulson, Director of Palaeography, 190 Pressey Hall, 1070 Carmack Road, Columbus, OH 43210 or by email at epig@osu.edu.

Kuhn Honors and Scholars House

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 28 May 2008

Come Celebrate the End of Another Successful Year With the CMRS
Applications Due: 2 September 2008 for admission and grants-in-aid; 5 January 2009 for admission only (for most programs). For further information, see: http://www.folger.edu/template.cfm?cid=2506

Program: The University Cultures of Early Modern Oxford and Cambridge
Directors: Nicholas Tyacke
Status: A Fall Faculty Weekend Seminar

Description: In the 1960s, historians studying sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Oxford and Cambridge were preoccupied with counting the growing numbers of students and analyzing their social composition, as part of what Lawrence Stone dubbed an “educational revolution.” A contemporary debate between Mark Curtis and Christopher Hill concerned the education on offer at English universities. For Hill, universities were essentially Aristotelian backwaters which failed to respond to the changing needs of society. Curtis responded by assigning them a vanguard role both in propagating the studia humanitatis and the training of youth. In the decades since, the focus has increasingly been on the curriculum—including the role of universities in scientific change and the contribution of puritanism—while somewhat neglecting the creation of new educated elites, lay as well as clerical, and the cultural diffusion of classical learning at the hands of graduate schoolmasters. With the recent completion of multi-volume histories of Oxford and Cambridge, however, this is an opportune moment to take a fresh look at not just the two English universities but also at their constituent colleges and halls. Applications from faculty scholars with research projects relating to the many and varied ways universities influenced the wider English society are welcome, and participants will discuss their projects within the seminar’s intellectual framework.
**Program: Introduction to Early Modern English Paleography**
**Directors:** Heather Wolfe
**Status:** A Spring Semester Skills Course

**Description:** This skills course provides an introduction to English handwriting of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with a strong emphasis on the secretary hand. Participants will be introduced to a wide range of documents of historical and literary interest from the manuscript collections of the Folger Shakespeare Library, including correspondence, literary works, accounts, inventories, wills, miscellanies, commonplace books, receipt books, petitions, and depositions. Applicants should describe their progress to date on a relevant research project and the kinds of manuscript resources it requires. Enrollment is limited to eight participants.

**Schedule:** Thursdays, 1 – 4:30 p.m., 29 January through 16 April 2009, except 26 February and 26 March.

**Program: Researching Theatre History**
**Directors:** Russell Jackson
**Status:** A Spring Semester Seminar

**Description:** Sponsored by the Center for Shakespeare Studies, this seminar will focus on the theory and practice of research in theatre history, with particular emphasis on recent developments in the field. Although “recreating” past performances continues to play a major role, theatre historians have ceased to regard it as the only goal of their work, and increasing attention has been paid to agendas and methodologies from other disciplines. Participants will explore a range of possible paradigms for theatre research, including the interpretation of theatrical biography and autobiography; the evaluation of theatrical reviewers; the use of archival material in interpreting the economic and social dimensions of performance; the archaeology of acting styles; the place of scenic spectacle and music in Shakespearean performance; and the rediscovery and application
of early modern staging techniques. In addition to presenting their own research to the seminar, participants will develop skills in interpreting visual and audio-visual records of stage performance by working with promptbooks and other production records in manuscript and print drawn from the Folger’s extensive and unique holdings.

**Schedule:** Thursdays, 1 – 4:30 p.m., 22 January through 2 April 2009, except 26 February.

**Program: A Libelous History of England, c. 1570-1688**

**Directors:** Alastair Bellany

**Status:** A Spring Semester Seminar

**Description:** The history of libels—bitter, satirical, defamatory and sometimes obscene texts, in prose or verse, sung or chanted, illicitly printed or circulated in handwritten copies—offers a unique window on the political and literary culture of early modern England. Employing a multi-disciplinary perspective that approaches political history as cultural history, this seminar will explore the various meanings of libelous political discourse from the late Elizabethan era to the Glorious Revolution. Working with the Folger’s rich collections of printed books, news diaries and poetry miscellanies, and making use of the concurrent Folger exhibition on the culture of news in early modern England, participants will explore libels from two broad perspectives: as forms of political media, circulating in the early modern literary underground that constituted a crucial element of the emergent political public sphere; and as dynamic and complex political representations of monarchs and ministers, parliaments and policies, that reveal many of the ideological fissures and tensions that shaped the turbulent history of late Tudor and Stuart England.

**Schedule:** Fridays, 1 – 4:30 p.m., 23 January through 3 April 2009, except 27 February.
At the Library

Books New to the University Libraries

Compiled by
Anne M. Fields and Amanda Gluibizzi
Subject Specialists for English and Fine Arts


Brown, Michelle P. *Manuscripts from the Anglo-Saxon Age.* Z106.5.G7 B76 2007


Curta, Florin, ed. (with the assistance of Roman Kovalev). *The Other Europe in the Middle Ages: Avars, Bulgars, Khazars, and Cumans.* DJK46 .O87 2008


Dutton, Paul Edward. *Charlemagne’s Mustache: And Other Cultural Clusters of a Dark Age.* DC73 .D87 2004

Eisenberg, Andrew. *Kingship in Early Medieval China.* JQ1511


Green, Dennis Howard. *Women Readers in the Middle Ages*. Z1039.W65 G74 2007

Gruendler, Beatrice, ed. (with the assistance of Michael Coo- person). *Classical Arabic Humanities in Their Own Terms: Festschrift for Wolfhart Heinrichs on His 65th Birthday*. PJ6064.H36 C53 2008


de Holanda, Francisco. *Dialogues with Michelangelo.* ND1130 .H61 2006


Imhof, Michael and Tobias Kunz. *Deutschlands Kathedralen: Geschichte und Baugeschichte der Bischofskirchen vom frühen Christentum bis heute.* NA5561 .I44 2008


Rudy, Kathryn M. and Barbara Baert, eds. *Weaving, Veiling, and Dressing: Textiles and Their Metaphors in the Late Middle Ages*. NK8808 .W42 2007

Schoff, Rebecca L. *Reformations: Three Medieval Authors in Manuscript and Movable Type*. PR418.T48 S36 2007


Stabile, Giorgio. *Dante e la filosofia della natura: Percezioni, lin-
guaggi, cosmologie. PQ4390 .S77 2007


Swanson, R. N. Indulgences in Late Medieval England: Passports to Paradise? BX2281.3 .S93 2007


Woodall, Joanna. Anthonis Mor: Art and Authority. ND653.M8 W66 2007

As we approach the $20,000 mark, the Howe fund is already well on its way to reaching its endowment target of $50,000. This sum may look like 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 very 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
May

At Philip and Jacob, away with the lambs, that thinkest to have any milk of their dams:
At Lammas leave milking, for fear of a thing, least Requiem aeternam in winter they sing.

In May get a weeding hook, a crotch and gloue, and weed out such weeds, as the corn doth not love:
For weeding of winter corne, now it is best,
But June is the better, for weeding the rest.

From Thomas Tusser's Five Hundred Points of Husbandry.
First published 1557.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Reff</td>
<td>Comparative Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelley Fenno Quinn</td>
<td>East Asian Languages and Literatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Dutton</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Farmer</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah-Grace Heller</td>
<td>French and Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Grotans</td>
<td>Germanic Languages and Literatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Shippy</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Kaldellis</td>
<td>Greek and Latin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Davis</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Kleinbub</td>
<td>History of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graeme Boone</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Davis</td>
<td>Near Eastern Languages and Cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamar Rudavsky</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predrag Matejic</td>
<td>RCMSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Collins</td>
<td>Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Burgoyne</td>
<td>Spanish and Portuguese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey Smith</td>
<td>University Libraries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>