

NOUVELLES

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
APRIL 2011

NOUVELLES



CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE STUDIES

April hath xxx.days.

5 April 2011

CMRS Film Series: **A Viking Saga (2008)**

Directed by Michael Mouyal, with Ken Vedsegaard, Peter Gantzler and Erik Holmeyer

7:30 PM, 147 University Hall

7 April 2011

Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association (MRGSA) Dinner Party with Walid Saleh

6–8 PM, Off-Campus

8 April 2011

CMRS Lecture Series: **Walid Saleh, University of Toronto**

The Bible in Islamo-Arabic Religious History

2:30 PM, 090 Science and Engineering Library

15 April 2011

CMRS Faculty Colloquium: **Bruce Fudge**

Astonishing Tales and Arabian Nights: A Problem in Arabic Literary History

2:30 PM, 046 Hagerty Hall

19 April 2011

CMRS Film Series: **Aleksandr Nevsky (1938)**

Directed by Sergei Eisenstein and Dmitri Vasilyev, with Nikolai Cherkasov, Nikolai Okhlopov and Andrei Abrikosov

7:30 PM, 147 University Hall

29 April 2011

CMRS Faculty Colloquium: **Tryntje Helfferich**

"They wanted to make us into real soldiers": Non-Combatants Fighting the Thirty Years War

2:30 PM, 147 Hagerty Hall

May hath xxxj.days.

3 May 2011

CMRS Film Series: **1612: Khroniki smutnogo vremeni (2007)**

Directed by Vladimir Khotinenko, with Pyotr Kislov, Artur Smolyaninov and Michal Zebrowski

7:30 PM, 147 University Hall

6 May 2011

MRGSA Open Forum

2–3:30 PM, 168 Dulles Hall

17 May 2011

CMRS Film Series: **Ivan Vasil'evich: Back to the Future (1973)**

Directed by Leonid Gaidai, with Aleksandr Demyanenko, Yuriy Yakovlev and Leonid Kuravlyov

7:30 PM, 147 University Hall

20 May 2011

CMRS Lecture Series: **Peredur Lynch, University of Bangor**

Welsh National Identity and the Bible during the Medieval and Early Modern Periods

2:30 PM, 090 Science and Engineering Library

27 May 2011

MRGSA Spring Meeting

1:30 PM, 308 Dulles Hall

June hath xxx.days.

3 June 2011

CMRS Public Lecture: **Bruce Gordon, Yale University**

Holy Reading: The Piety of the King James Bible

2:30 PM, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 30 West Woodruff Ave

SPRING 2011

NOUVELLES NOUVELLES

APRIL 2011

CENTER FOR
MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

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Nouvelles Nouvelles is published twice quarterly by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

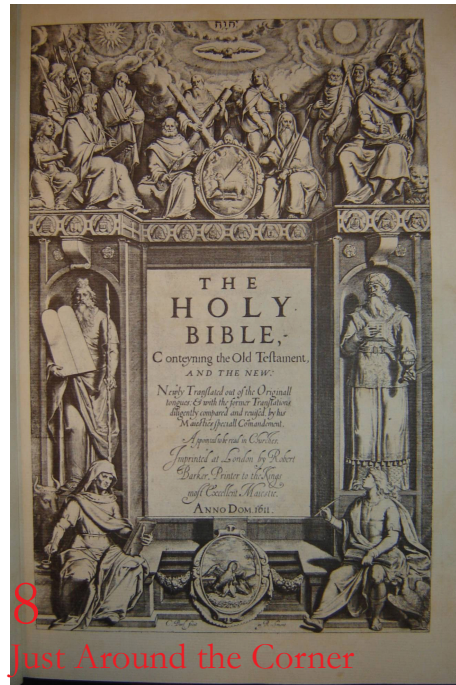
This publication is available in a .pdf format at <http://cmrs.osu.edu/nn>. Please contact cmrs@osu.edu for more information.

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The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is an interdisciplinary unit in the College of Arts and Humanities dedicated primarily to the study of Europe from the end of the Roman Empire through the seventeenth century and its relations with other cultures, particularly in the Middle East and the Americas; analogous cultural developments in the Far East and in Africa also fall within its purview. The Center's activities include the promotion of teaching and research in all aspects of medieval and Renaissance culture, including art, music, literature, religion, history, philosophy, and government. The Center affords students and faculty a variety of opportunities to examine these various cultural forces as they interact with each other.

The activities of the Center include offering courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, administering an undergraduate major and minor, sponsoring a graduate certificate program and Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization, organizing a series of lectures and colloquia, providing graduate administrative and teaching associateships, and publishing a newsletter, *Nouvelles Nouvelles*. It also aspires to serve as a resource for medievalists and Renaissance scholars at other institutions throughout the state. The Center has acted as the headquarters for the New Chaucer Society and the operational home for university-wide planning to commemorate the quincentenary of Columbus' first voyage. We also have a series of occasional publications.



8 Just Around the Corner

Hannibal Hamlin, Professor of English, contributes information about the exciting international conference at OSU in May 2011, *The King James Bible and Its Cultural Afterlife*.

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Colloquia

CMRS Faculty Colloquia

The cover image is an engraving of Spring from the series, *The Four Seasons*, created by Virgil Solis. The back cover image is from a sixteenth-century Book of Hours at the University of Oxford's Bodleian Library, MS Douce 135, fol. 3v. The image depicts Taurus, a man hawking, and pilgrims approaching a church.



Reflecting today, I am inspired by the projects my Gothic Paris students offered this past quarter. Every year I ask for an “Experiential Project,” requiring them to research a topic of interest related to Paris in the years 1100–1300, and then do something to “experience” the topic somehow. This year, one aspiring architecture student studied the extraordinary colorants used in fine medieval cuisine, and baked a scrumptious dish of whole pears encased in what would have been an expensive sugar crust in his dorm room. One library science student examined gargoyles and endeavored to find some in Ohio, submitting a comparative study of Notre Dame and Orton Hall. The guy in the baseball cap in the back of the room made a man’s chemise and bliaut based on twelfth-century images, rediscovering the sewing skills his mother had long attempted to inculcate in him.

One lover of martial arts sought to study unarmed combat, learning along the way about the importance of respecting the extant sources: he had to change his topic to varieties of armor. One student made her own ink; another met with Eric Johnson in Rare Books (always an enthusiastic supporter of student research, thank you!) and copied a quire of the OSU Library’s Parisian manuscript of the Life of Sainte Catherine on to parchment she pricked, ruled, and even rubricated herself. A graduating math major compared the Roman rite with that used at Notre-Dame-de-Paris, and discovered the addition of a short hymn regarding Lazarus was the only major difference. He undertook to chant the evening offices sung at Paris, which he discovered took well over two hours. This is a very short project (600–900 words), simply an introduction to research in Medieval Studies. Every year I wonder if I would enroll more students if I went to a strict multiple choice exam format. Yet these students discovered the challenges and thrills of the detective work that is research, drew on their own resources and sometimes long-forgotten apprenticeships, and worked to inhabit a focused bit of history, getting it off the page. Every year I end up delighted to have these glimpses at the potential of our students.

In our “Translating Piety” lecture series we have recently welcomed Jaime Lara and Meg Cormack, both exploring how European doctrines translated on to foreign soils. If you missed them, Professor Lara gave a fascinating talk showing how a group of Franciscans living deep in Aztec territory 87 years before the King James Translation of the Bible attempted to communicate basic Christian texts such as the Lord’s Prayer via Nahuatl pictures, for a culture that had no notion of “eternal life.” Instead of “for Thine is the kingdom, power, and glory forever,” the translation read, “let there be flowers.” Professor Cormack’s similarly fascinating talk focused on how Icelandic practices of “magic” changed over the Middle Ages and with the Reformation. She argued that magic was treated like any other learned knowledge, rather than as something marginal; black magic was punished not for being magic, but because it was secretive. In contrast with the violent iconoclasm and witch-hunts seen in Europe and North America, Icelanders favored fervent prayers rather than persecutions during calamities such as the plague, and kept the statues of the Virgin and apostles during the Reformation, although some saints were removed as too “Popish.”

Please join us this quarter as “Translating Piety” continues, with Walid Saleh speaking April 8 on “The Bible in Islamo-Arabic Religious History,” Peredur Lynch on May 20 on “Welsh National Identity and the Bible” in collaboration with the Celtic Studies Association Conference, and Bruce Gordon on the King James Bible on June 3 for our annual public lecture, to be held at St Stephen’s on Woodruff Ave. Also join us for our faculty colloquia series (see page 12), with Bruce Fudge (NELC) on April 15 for “Astonishing Tales & Arabian Nights: A Problem in Arabic Literary History” in 046 Hagerty, and Tryntje Helfferich (History) on April 29 for “They wanted to make us into real soldiers: Non-Combatants Fighting in the Thirty Years War,” in 127 University Hall. Also, Bill Monter will speak on “Philip II and Female Rule” on May 27, a lecture co-sponsored with History.

Planning for next year’s lecture series is now underway. The title is “Mapping Minds, Bodies, and Worlds.” Stayed tuned.

May you be inspired to your spring labors by the workers depicted on our cover (remarkable codpiece!)

Sarah-Grace Heller

Acting Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

CMRS ALUMNI

Many students have benefitted from CMRS programs, courses, and activities. We hope you enjoy reading about the professional accomplishments of the following alumna.

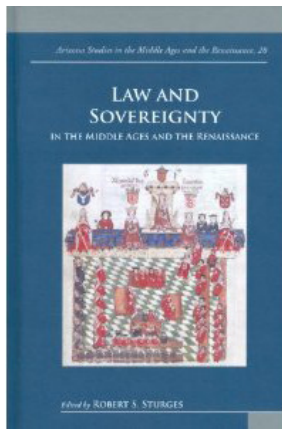


Wendy Matlock completed her Ph.D. in English at OSU in 2003, writing her dissertation, *Irreconcilable Differences: Law, Gender and Judgment in Middle English Debate Poetry*, under the supervision of Karen Winstead. Matlock received many grants and fellowships to support her dissertation research at OSU, including a CMRS Small Grant, a Dissertation Fellowship from the OSU Department of English, and a Mayers Fellowship from the Huntington Library in 2002. While at OSU, Matlock served as a Graduate Associate in the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Matlock accepted a position in 2003 as Assistant Professor of English at California State University in Sacramento. While in California, she was granted Research and Creative Activity Awards in the summer and fall of 2007. She accepted a position as Assistant Professor of English at Kansas State University in 2008. Matlock has recently been awarded several Faculty Development Awards by K-State for travel to international conferences in England, Italy, and India.

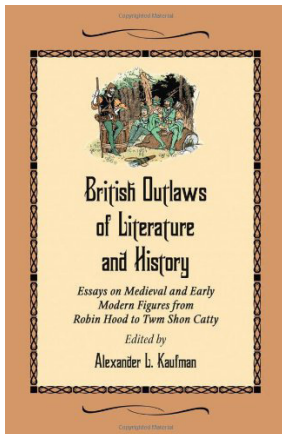
Matlock has published a number of articles and chapters in peer-reviewed publications. These include “Law and Violence in *The Owl and the Nightingale*” in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* (2010), “Vernacular Theology in the *Disputacione betwix the Body and Wormes*” in *Arizona Studies in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (2008), “Secrets, Gossip, and Gender in Dunbar’s *The Tretis of the Tua Mariit Women and the Wedo*” in *Philological Quarterly* (2004), and “‘And long to sue it is a wery thyng’: Legal Commentary in *The Assembly of Ladies*” in *Studies in Philology* (2004). She is currently working on a book that explores how Middle English debate poems like *The Owl and the Nightingale*, *Piers Plowman*, and *The Debate of the Carpenter’s Tools* depiction households as contested spaces devoted both to family and work.

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CMRS AFFILIATES



Mira Assaf (English) presented “‘He Called Us Israelites’: The Jewish Threat in Andrew Marvell’s *Upon Appleton House*,” in the “Marvell in Yorkshire: Hull and Nunappleton” panel at the South-Central Renaissance Conference in St. Louis, Missouri on 4 March 2011.

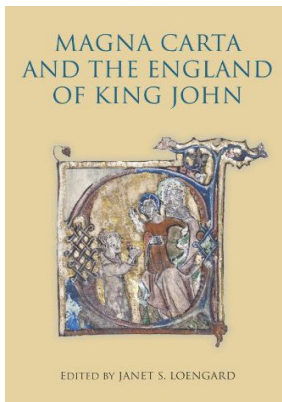
Charles M. Atkinson (Musicology) published “Fifteen Modes versus Eight: On the Background of a Medieval and Renaissance Theoretical Conflict,” in *Musik des Mittelalters und der Renaissance. Festschrift Klaus-Jürgen Sachs zum 80. Geburtstag*, edited by Rainer Kleinertz, Christoph Flamm, and Wolf Frobenius (Georg Olms Verlag, 2010 Rainer Kleinertz). He also published a “Communication” in *Plainsong and Medieval Music* 20 (2011), regarding Neil K. Moran’s article “A second medial mode Palestinian chant in Old Roman, Beneventan and Frankish sources,” *Plainsong and Medieval Music* 19 (2010).



Jonathan Burgoyne (Spanish and Portuguese) published “El juego paremiológico en *La Celestina*, Acto I” in *‘De ninguna cosa es alegre posesión sin compañía’: Estudios celestinescos en honor del profesor Joseph Thomas Snow* (Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies, 2010).

David Cressy (History) directed the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute Seminar, with Chris Kyle of Syracuse University, on “Parliamentary Management and the Fall of Lord Chancellor Bacon,” at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, 19 February 2011.

Richard Firth Green (English) published “Cecily Champaign v. Geoffrey Chaucer: A New Look at an Old Dispute,” in *Law and Sovereignty in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance*, edited by Robert Sturges, (Brepols, 2011); “Florent’s Mariage sous la potence? in *John Gower, Trilingual Poet: Language, Translation, and Tradition*, edited by Elisabeth Dutton, with John Hines and R. F. Yeager (D. S. Brewer, 2010); and “Jean Gobi’s Pardoner Tales,” in *Chaucer Review*, 45 (2011).



Barbara Hanawalt (History) published “Justice Without Judgment: Criminal Prosecution before Magna Carta,” in *Magna Carta and the England of King John*, edited by Janet S. Loengard (Boydell Press, 2010); “Afterword” in *Difference and Identity in Francia and Medieval France*, edited by Meredith Cohen and Justine Firnhaber-Baker (Ashgate, 2010); “Portraits of Outlaws, Felons, and Rebels in Late Medieval England,” in *British Outlaws of Literature and History: Essays on Medieval and Early Modern Figures from Robin Hood to Twm Shon Catty*,

edited by Alexander L. Kaufman (2011). In addition, she gave a paper for the Renaissance Center at the Newberry Library in October, “Rebellion and Submission in Late Medieval London,” which is a chapter of her new book on civic ceremonial in medieval London.

Jane Hathaway (History) published “A Mediterranean Culture of Factions? Bilateral Factionalism in the Greater Mediterranean Region in the Pre-Modern Era,” in *Braudel Revisited: The Mediterranean World, 1600–1800*, edited by Gabriel Piterberg, Teofilo F. Ruiz, and Geoffrey Symcox (University of Toronto Press, 2010).

Michael Jean (Greek and Latin) was admitted to the newly created Diploma Course in Manuscript Studies to be held at the Vatican and Toronto in alternate years. The course is generously funded through a grant from the Mellon Foundation.

Colleen Kennedy (English) published a review of *Untimely Matter in the Time of Shakespeare* by Jonathan Gil Harris in *Early Modern Literary Studies* 15.2 (2010–11).

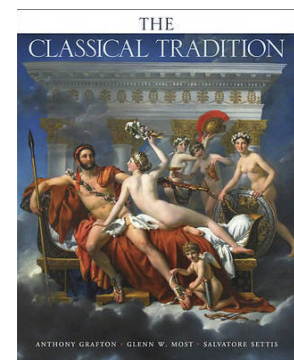
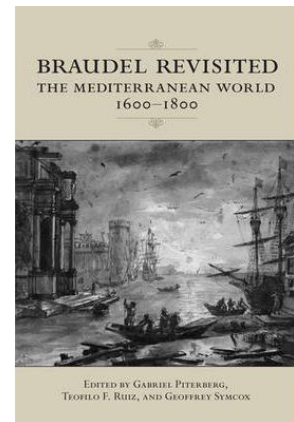
Lisa J. Kiser (English) published “Chaucer” and “Troilus” in *The Classical Tradition*, edited by Anthony Grafton, Glenn W. Most, and Salvatore Settis (Harvard University Press, 2010).

James Lenaghan (History) published “The Sweetness of Polish Liberty: Sixteenth-Century British Jesuit Exiles to Poland-Lithuania,” in the journal *Reformation*.

John Richards (Greek and Latin) received a scholarship from the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. This summer he will take part in the Neo-Latin seminar held at Sassoferrato, Italy as one of two invited graduate students from North America.

Clare A. Simmons (English) published *Popular Medievalism in Romantic-Era Britain* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

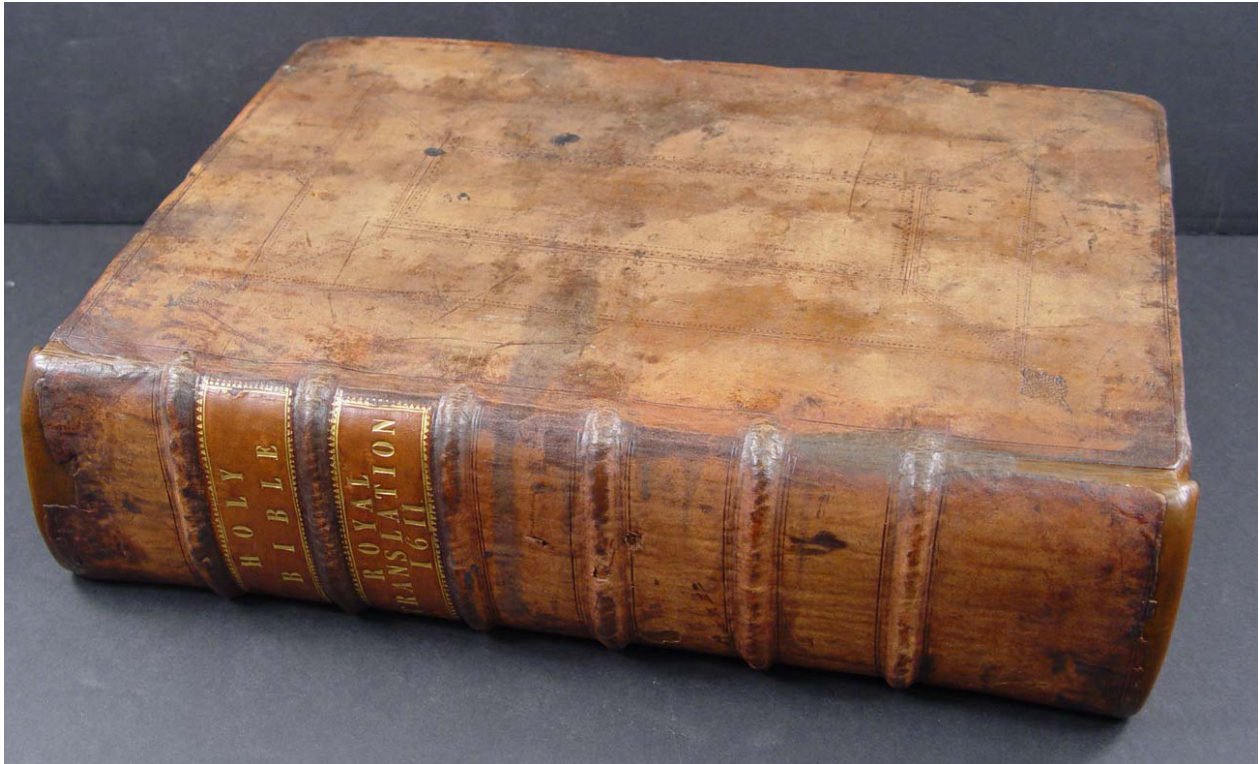
Dale Van Kley (History) presented “E Uno Plures: From One to Too Many ‘Origins’” in a session entitled “From Deficit to Deluge: Reinterpreting the Origins of the French Revolution” for the annual meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies meeting in Charleston, South Carolina on 10-12 February 2011.



THE KING JAMES BIBLE AND ITS CULTURAL AFTERLIFE

The Ohio State University, 5 -7 May 2011

Contributed by Hannibal Hamlin, Professor of English



The English Department at The Ohio State University will host an international conference May 5-7 2011 on the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James (or Authorized) Version of the Bible. Co-sponsors include CMRS, Project Narrative, The Tyndale Society, and the Center for Studies in Religion. The conference will focus on the making of the KJV in the context of Reformation Bible translation and printing as well as on the KJV's long literary and cultural influence from Milton and Bunyan to Faulkner, Woolf, and Toni Morrison. Events will include plenary lectures and discussions, roundtable seminars, and a reading by Pulitzer Prize winning novelist, Edward P. Jones. An accompanying exhibit will be mounted by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library.

Of particular interest to CMRS members will be the keynote by David Norton, probably the greatest living expert on the King James Bible, as well as the panel on the English Bible before the KJV, sponsored by the Tyndale Society. Members may also want to hear Jason Rosenblatt on John Milton and Valentine Cunningham on Daniel Defoe. The panel on Negotiating the Bible and/as Literature will be of interest to all those who read, teach, and write on the Bible "as Literature," exploring the questions raised by that familiar yet problematic designation. The panel on the KJV and narrative will also address broader theoretical and methodological questions about the "literary" nature of biblical narrative, especially in the King James translation. Finally, on Saturday morning, there will be roundtable seminar discussions of a number of focused topics, several of which might interest CMRS members: Bible Translation and the Long Reformation, The Bible and Early Modern Radicals: Milton, Bunyan and Others, and Women Reading/Writing the Bible. The primary discussion will be among seminar participants, but auditors will be admitted to seminar rooms as space permits.

Please visit <http://kingjamesbible.osu.edu/> for more conference information.

Conference Program

THURSDAY

7:00 PM

Welcome and Keynote Lecture: David Norton (Victoria University of Wellington), "The King James Bible's Presence, Use and Influence in Literature"

Opening Reception (Thompson Library)

FRIDAY

9:00-10:30 AM

Plenary Panel 1: The Making of the English Bible

Sponsored by the Tyndale Society

Chair, David Norton

–Gergely Juhász (K.U. Leuven), "Antwerp Bibles in the King James Version: Book of Proverbs as Test Case"

–Leland Ryken (Wheaton College, IL), "The Geneva Bible and the King James Version"

–J. Philip Arthur (Independent Scholar), "William Tyndale: The Exile and the Ploughboy."

10:45-12:15 PM

Plenary Panel 2: Negotiating the Bible and/as Literature

Chair, Hannibal Hamlin (The Ohio State University)

–Leslie Brisman (Yale University), "The Bible as a Literature"

–David Jasper (University of Glasgow), "The Bible as Literature or as the Word of God: The Continuing Influence of the King James Bible"

–Michael Wheeler (University of Southampton), "The Fourth Gospel as 'Poetry': Some Nineteenth-Century Perspectives on the King James Bible"

12:15-1:30 PM Lunch

1:30-3:15 PM

Plenary Panel 3: The King James Bible and Poetry

Chair, Noah Comet (The Ohio State University)

–Maire Mullins (Pepperdine University), "Whitman's Poetic Ministry and the King James Bible"

–Jason Rosenblatt (Georgetown University), "Milton, Anxiety, and the King James Bible"

–Adam Potkay (College of William and Mary), "Romantic Poets and the King James Bible"

3:30-5:00 PM

Plenary Panel 4: The King James Bible and the Novel

Chair, Clare Simmons (The Ohio State University)

–Heather Walton (University of Glasgow), "The Tree of Life Gone Wild: The KJB in Twentieth Century Women's Writing"

–Valentine Cunningham (Oxford University), "Daniel Defoe's Own Version of the Authorized Version."

–Gordon Campbell (University of Leicester), "The KJV in the Victorian novel: Dickens and George Eliot"

8:00 PM

Reading/Talk: Edward P. Jones, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Known World*, *Lost in the City*, *All Aunt Hagar's Children*

SATURDAY

9:00-10:30 AM/10:45-12:15 PM

2 Periods for Concurrent Seminars: Roundtables on Various Topics

–The Bible and 19th century American Literature, led by Greg Jackson (Rutgers University)

–The Bible and African American Literature, led by Joycelyn Moody (University of Texas, San Antonio)

–Bible Translation and the Long Reformation, led by Vivienne Westbrook (National Taiwan University)

–The Bible and Early Modern Radicals: Milton, Bunyan and Others, led by Angelica Duran (Purdue University)

–Women Reading/Writing the Bible, led by Michele Osherow (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)

–The Bible and 19th century British Literature, led by Leslie Tannenbaum and Clare Simmons (The Ohio State University)

–The Bible and Popular Culture, led by Jay Twomey (University of Cincinnati)

1:30-3:15 PM

Plenary Panel 5: The King James Bible and Narrative

Sponsored by Project Narrative

Chair, James Phelan (The Ohio State University)

–David Richter (Queens College, NY)

–James Resseguie (Winebrenner Theological Seminary), "The Narrative of John's Apocalypse and the King James Bible"

–Stephen Prickett (University of Glasgow), "Language within Language: The King James Steamroller"

3:30-5:30 PM

Plenary Panel 6: The Cultural Authority of the King James Bible: Challenges and Appropriations

Chair, Norman W. Jones (The Ohio State University)

–Katharine C. Bassard (Virginia Commonwealth University), "Reading Between the Lines: African American Neo-Slave Narratives and Biblical Re(De)Constructions."

–Raymond-Jean Frontain (University of Central Arkansas), "'Passing the love of women': Anglo-American Sexual Codes and the King James Translation"

–Tat-siong Benny Liew (Pacific School of Religion), "The 'Great Code' in Asian American Literature? An Initial Exploration"

–R.S. Sugirtharajah (University of Birmingham), "The Master Copy: Postcolonial Notes on the King James Bible"

6:00 PM

Closing Reception

MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE FAIRE

An Annual Event at The Ohio State University



Above: Camilla Richards, Kevin Richards (Germanic Languages and Literatures), Richard Firth Green (English), Ryan Judkins (English), and Erika Ernst at the 2009 Faire.

Below: Sarai Silverman (Consumer Sciences, GIS in Medieval and Renaissance Studies) and Kate Tuley (Arabic, Major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies) at the 2010 Faire. Silverman is wearing a woolen surcot in the early thirteenth-century style, and Tuley is wearing a costume based on sixteenth-century women's Ottoman Turkish clothing.

the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Arts and Sciences Student Council, and the Pagan Student Association all play a role in the Faire. The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies has long supported the Faire by attending and publicizing the event. The CMRS staff traditionally attends the Faire, donning their finest Faire garb.



OSU students and community members organize this event; visitors will see musicians, acting troupes, and duelists from around the US. Human Chess is even played at the Faire! The Faire is packed with more than seven stages featuring performers. Visitors will also learn from the many historical enactments at the Faire. Blacksmiths, jewelers, and swordsmen will demonstrate and teach visitors about their crafts. Merchants and craftsmen sell everything from jewelry to toys to t-shirts at the Faire. Chain mail, real swords, and handmade soaps are all available for purchase.

To learn more about the Faire, including a schedule of merchants and performers, please visit the Faire's website at <http://cmrf.org.ohio-state.edu/>.

Each year, on the first Saturday in May, the Medieval and Renaissance Faire brings crowds of costumed performers, merchants, and swordsmen to the South Oval at OSU. The 2011 Medieval and Renaissance Faire will be held on Saturday 7 May from 11 AM to 6 PM on the OSU Mirror Lake, South Oval and West Lawn areas. This year's theme is a pirate tale of Romeo and Juliet. Admission is free, making this event the perfect way to spend a spring-time afternoon! The Faire will take place rain or shine.

Many student and community organizations are involved in the planning and organization of the Faire. The Council for the Medieval and Renaissance Faire, the Medieval and Renaissance Performer's Guild,



Above Top: Ryan Judkins (English) holding Miss Sinister, a hawk, at the 2010 Faire.

Above Bottom: Sarah-Grace Heller (French) and her daughters at the 2010 Faire. Heller is wearing a linen cote in the late thirteenth-century style, and her daughter Lucy Myrtle is wearing a kirtle cut in the fourteenth-century style.

International Conference
MIGRATION, RELIGION, AND GERMANY

Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 8 and 9 April 2011

Migration and religion have shaped in particular the United States but also the German-speaking territories of Central Europe during the religious wars in the wake of the Reformation; immigration (especially from Islamic countries) has taken again an important role in present political debate in Germany (and in the EU). A first group of lectures on April 8, 2011 will present and discuss recent research on the historical phase of early German transatlantic migrations and colonization by Pietists and Moravians in North America, especially Pennsylvania and Ohio from a post-colonial vantage point. The sessions of the second conference day on April 9 will then address individual and group migrations from Turkey and Islamic countries in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and the political and religious controversies and cultural clashes as well as efforts at resolution in Germany. The conference will provide a stimulating intellectual environment for discussing important cultural issues concerning Central Europe, especially the German-speaking countries, and should also contribute to our understanding of the importance of the present migration / immigration debate in the US. To register for the conference and to view a complete conference program, please visit: <http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/events/10-11events/Apr11/migrationreligiongermanyconfapr11.htm>

Organizers

Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Germanic Languages and Literatures becker-cantarino.1@osu.edu

Georges Tamer, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures tamer.2@osu.edu

Program Sessions

Session I: Migration, Religion, and Colonization

Session II: Transnational, Transcultural Migrations

Session III: Islamic Migrations and Contemporary Germany

Session IV: Cultural Representations of Religious Migration in Contemporary Germany

STANLEY J. KAHRL AND BARBARA A. HANAWALT OUTSTANDING ESSAY AWARDS

1. The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will annually present two \$100 prizes:
 - a) one for the best essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written by a graduate student at Ohio State
 - b) one for the best essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written by an undergraduate student at Ohio State
2. Any faculty affiliate of the Center may nominate any essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written for a course offered Spring 2010, Summer 2010, Autumn 2010, or Winter 2011. Papers written for individual-study credit are eligible; honors theses, masters' theses, and chapters of dissertations are not.
3. Nominating Process
 The faculty affiliate should submit one copy of the essay to the Director of the Center. The original title page should be replaced by a completed Nominating Form, available on the CMRS website. The name of the student author of the essay and all written comments of the instructor must be removed from the copy submitted. The Director of the Center will contact the faculty affiliate who nominated the essay if any questions about it should arise or if it should be selected for an award. Nominated papers should be typed, doubled-spaced, with appropriate page format, footnotes, bibliography, etc.
4. The deadline for submitting essays to the Director of the Center is **5:00 PM on Friday, 8 April 2011**.
5. The Director of the Center reserves the right to declare a paper ineligible if it does not meet stated requirements.
6. The winning essays will be selected by a committee of CMRS affiliates.
7. The awards will be presented or announced at the Center's annual spring open house and at annual student awards ceremonies of the Colleges of Humanities and Arts.

CMRS FACULTY COLLOQUIA

15 April 2011

2:30 PM, 046 Hagerty Hall

Bruce Fudge

Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

Astonishing Tales and Arabian Nights: A Problem in Arabic Literary History



In so far as scholars have paid attention to medieval “popular” narrative in the Arab world, they have focused almost exclusively, if understandably, on the collection known as the Arabian Nights or the 1001 Nights. I will consider the place of other less well-known collections, which have been largely excluded from literary histories despite being arguably more important than the Nights. I focus on a collection of stories found in an Istanbul library in the early twentieth century, which goes by the generic title of “Astonishing Tales and Strange Accounts.” Dated to the 14th century, it is older than the oldest known MS of the Nights. Several of the “Astonishing Stories” appear in differing versions in the Nights, and others are not known to exist elsewhere. The textual history of the 1001 Nights itself is murky enough, but about the vast corpus of stories that were also in circulation very little is known. I will present the state of current knowledge regarding this body of literature and then explain a

number of remaining problems. Among these are, is this literature truly “popular”, or does it require a different adjective? What is its relation to the more classical, canonical works, with which it shares some features? Can we suggest why some stories have survived to be included in the Nights and elsewhere, while others, sometimes of remarkable literary quality, seem to have disappeared?

29 April 2011

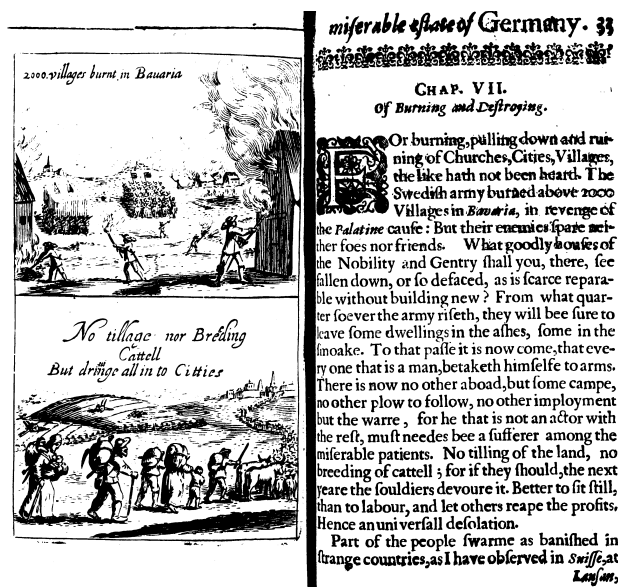
2:30 PM, 147 University Hall

Tryntje Helfferich

Department of History, Lima Campus

“They wanted to make us into real soldiers”: Non-combatants fighting the Thirty Years War

As they swept back and forth across Central Europe, the armies of the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) had a devastating effect on civilian populations. Yet the distinction between civilian and soldier was less well-defined than in the modern age, and it is intriguing to consider how, and how often, those we might ordinarily consider non-combatants were thrust into the middle of the fighting.



CMRS DIGITAL ARCHIVES

CMRS has recently started an effort to digitize a variety of materials useful for teachers and researchers. CMRS is establishing a Media Manager group website which will eventually be accessible through the CMRS website. This site will eventually house an impressive collection of digitized slides, photographs, audio and video recordings, microfilms of manuscripts, and documents in the CMRS archives. Many items have already been digitized, but the complete collection will not be online until the 2011–2012 academic year.

What are specific items you can expect to see online?

- A 1979 audio recording of Herbert Livingston, Frank Ludden, and Frank Pegues discussing the origins of CMRS with Cheryl Frasch and Martha Coolidge
- Photos of the 1979 CMRS Conference, Universities in Transition 1300–1700
- A February 1973 performance of the CMRS Coventry Mummers' Play
- Approximately fifty microfilms of manuscripts in English and French collections

CMRS has organized an impressive array of conferences, lectures, colloquia, and publications in its 46-year-history, and we want to share our accomplishments on the web. Fifteen



The Renaissance Players of the University of Chicago performed *Mundus et Infans* at OSU ca. 1969. The performance was produced by Alan Nelson and directed by Annette Fern.

complete years of *Nouvelles Nouvelles* are now available on the CMRS website, in addition to some issues from years prior to 1995. You can also expect to see links to digital copies of books published from CMRS conferences on the website, as well as programs and posters from past CMRS conferences and lecture series.



Above Left: A panel discussion at a CMRS conference prior to 1979. **Below Right:** In 1979, CMRS hosted the conference, Universities in Transition 1300–1700, at the Ohio Union. At this conference, Joseph Lynch, Peter Gano, and Pamela Transue were photographed in a discussion. **Above Right:** An image from a panel discussion at the same 1979 conference. From left to right: Joseph Lynch, Astrick Gabriel, M. A. Screech, Heiko Oberman, James Kittelson, and Edward Grant.

MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2011 MRGSA EVENTS

7 April: Dinner Party with Walid Saleh

8 April: Co-Sponsor CMRS Lecturer Walid Saleh

6 May: Spring Open Forum

27 May: Spring General Meeting



MRGSA has a very busy spring quarter with plans for three separate events. First, on 7 April from 6–8 PM, Sarah-Grace Heller will host a lasagna dinner party at her home for graduate students and Walid Saleh, the CMRS Lecturer on 8 April. Directions will be provided in our email announcement to the CMRSGrad Listserv, or by contacting Kevin Richards (richards.113@osu.edu). MRGSA is also co-sponsoring Saleh's lecture, "The Bible in Islamo-Arabic Religious History" at 2:30 PM in 090 Science and Engineering Library.

Saleh's lecture will explore issues pertinent to scholars in many different fields. Although the Bible is not part of the scriptural corpus of Islam, it looms large in the religious history of Islam. The Qur'an has its own conception of the Bible and presumes to know it intimately. Eventually, the Bible came to occupy an ambivalent position in the new religion, both a divine Scripture and a corrupted scripture at the same time. This ambivalence has a fascinating trajectory across the centuries. The lecture will attempt to outline the history of the Bible in the religious tradition of Islam.

On 6 May, from 2–3:30 PM in 168 Dulles Hall, MRGSA is hosting a Spring Open Forum for graduate students presenting papers at the 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo. If you are presenting at Kalamazoo, you are welcome to present your paper for MRGSA first; please contact Michele Fuchs (fuchs.38@osu.edu) if you are interested. The scheduled room has

a computer, internet access, and a projector. We hope that graduate students from many departments will attend this event and provide helpful feedback for the presenters. Light refreshments will be provided for attendees.

MRGSA has also planned a Spring General Meeting on 27 May at 1:30 PM in 308 Dulles Hall. At this meeting, we will elect next year's officers and plan next year's events. Any graduate students with event ideas for next year, or an interest in being a MRGSA officer, please email Michele Fuchs. Being an officer for MRGSA is an opportunity to expand your involvement in professional activities, since officers plan and organize scholarly talks and events.

We hope to see many of you at our variety of events throughout the spring quarter!

MRGSA CONTACTS

President: Kevin Richards, richards.113@osu.edu

Treasurer: Michele Fuchs, fuchs.38@osu.edu

Advisor: Dr. Sarah-Grace Heller, heller.64@osu.edu

HOWE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund, CMRS will offer funding for graduate students working on any aspect of the Middle Ages or Renaissance. First preference will be given to students traveling to appropriate research repositories. Second preference will be given to students traveling to conferences/seminars. Applications are available on the CMRS website. The application consists of a 750 word summary of your project and a letter of recommendation from your advisor or faculty member in your home department. Applications are due by 5 PM on **Friday, 15 April 2011**.

NICHOLAS G. HOWE MEMORIAL FUND

The Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund was established to honor the memory of the distinguished medievalist. As a respected scholar of the literature and culture of medieval England and former Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (1995–2002), he demonstrated leadership, devotion, and excitement in all his teaching and scholarly endeavors. Established in 2006, the fund is dedicated to supporting travel costs for graduate students pursuing studies in medieval and early modern topics at OSU. Happily, the fund has recently surpassed \$50,000, an entire year ahead of our five-year fundraising goal!

The annual distribution from this fund will begin to be used this year. First preference will be given to students traveling to appropriate research repositories. Second preference will be given to students traveling to conferences/seminars. The Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, in consultation with a committee of faculty affiliates of the Center, is responsible for adjudicating all applications for funding. Applications will be available soon for interested graduate students. **Contributions to the fund are still warmly welcomed.**

If you wish to learn more or contribute to the **Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund (#480256)** or the **Medieval Studies Center Fund (#307850)**, which supports ongoing activities of CMRS, you can do so in three ways:

1. Donate online at <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive>

2. Send a check to:

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

3. Send a check to:

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

