

THE MEDIEVAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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THE INAUGURAL JANE BOSART AWARDS



From left to right, Jane Bosart Award recipients Mary Gilbert, Dax Ritter, and Mary Fata; graduate Area Certificate recipient Lindsey Hansen, and graduate Minor recipient Beth Boyd.

At this year's annual Medieval Studies Institute Spring Awards Ceremony held in late April, the proceeds of a generous gift inaugurated a new category of undergraduate student awards.

The Jane Bosart Undergraduate Awards in Medieval Studies are sponsored by **H. Craig Kinney** in commemoration of his mother: **Jane Bosart Kinney** received her degree from IU in 1939 and was a life-long supporter of Indiana University. These awards

provide both much-needed practical support to students taking courses to complete the undergraduate Medieval Studies minor or certificate and exciting opportunities for students thinking about advanced work in Medieval Studies to experience the intellectual exchanges that take place at the largest conferences in our field.

Emma Agatston, a sophomore double majoring in History and Art History, received the Undergraduate

Minor Award.

Mary Fata, a senior English major, received a Conference Travel Stipend for the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo this past May, as well as a Senior Merit Award.

Mary Gilbert, a freshman who plans to complete the Medieval Studies undergraduate certificate, received both a Conference Travel Stipend for the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, as well as

a Summer Study Scholarship, which covers tuition, fees, and books for two medieval-topic courses.

Reed McLeod, a sophomore majoring in Anthropology and minoring in Medieval Studies, received a Conference Travel Stipend for the Medieval Academy Annual Meeting in Boston this past February.

Dax Ritter, a freshman majoring in History with an emphasis on the early medieval period, received a Conference Travel Stipend for the International Congress on Medieval Studies held at Kalamazoo.

The Conference Travel Stipend recipients participated in two of the most central annual gatherings of medievalists. Reed McLeod said of his experience, "I had such a wonderful time at the Medieval Academy meeting. The papers were really rich with detail, and the speakers all put forth such passion with their work. It was truly fascinating to see and hear professionals in the field." Mary Fata writes, "Attending the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan was an eye-opening experience about the academic world. At the congress I at-

tended panels ranging from Medieval Feminist Studies to Dante. As someone interested in pursuing graduate studies, I was pleased to meet people from various backgrounds. I spoke with graduate students, scholars entering the academic job market, and seasoned professors. Each person offered friendly guidance and advice. The best part of the congress was learning about topics I had never studied and realizing how much I had left to learn about subjects I thought I had exhausted. I left the congress with a notebook full of ideas and a very long reading list." ¶

LILLY LIBRARY EXHIBITION HEADLINES SPRING 2016

Many of the Medieval Studies Institute's events of the Spring 2016 semester were closely associated with "The Performative Book from Medieval Europe to the Americas," the Lilly Library main gallery exhibition from mid January to early May. This exhibition celebrated the performative aspects of medieval books, the ways in which early printed books performed medieval texts as well as images of the Americas for early modern readers, and the ways in which medieval books have inspired new works by authors, artists, and composers in modern Europe and the Americas. The exhibit included many of the most beautiful and fascinating holdings of the library, highlighted in terms of what they tell us about the roles medieval and early modern books have performed. **Hildegard Elisabeth Keller** (Prof., Germanic Studies) and **Rosemarie McGerr** (Prof., Comparative Literature; Director, MEST) served as co-curators, and other faculty and graduate students participated in preparations for the exhibit and related events. These included doctoral students **Elizabeth Elmi** (Musicology), **John Paul Ewing** (Germanic Studies),

Maria Fink (Germanic Studies and Comparative Literature), **Emerson Richards** (Comparative Literature), and **Maksymilian Szostało** (History) and faculty members **Bridget Balint** (Associate Prof., Classics; Associate Director, MEST), **Guadalupe González Diéguez** (Assistant Prof., NELC and Jewish Studies), **Stephen Katz** (Professor, Jewish Studies and NELC), **Cherry Williams** (Curator, Lilly Library), **Wendy Gillespie** (Prof., Jacobs School of Music), **Giuliano Di Bacco** (Assistant Prof., Jacobs School of Music), and **Devan Steiner** (Adjunct Assistant Prof. of French, FRIT).

The spring Exhibition was inaugurated by the first MEST lecture of the semester, "What is a Manuscript Culture? Performance and Technology of the Manuscript Book," given by **Stephen G. Nichols**, James M. Beall Prof. Emeritus of French and Humanities, and Research Prof. at Johns Hopkins University. Prof. Nichols's lecture examined how medieval manuscripts have an anomalous status in modern culture. They are visible as precious objects, but little understood for what they actually were: dynamic creators

of culture in their own time.

In early February, the MEST community enjoyed the performance of "Gilding the Lilly," a concert of medieval chants given by the Historical Performance Institute in the Eskenazi Museum of Art. Jacobs School of Music faculty members **Wendy Gillespie**, **Giuliano Di Bacco**, and **Dana Marsh** selected medieval chants for a concert by the Singers of the Early Performance Institute, directed by **Kathryn Summersett**. The concert included the world premiere of "Discubuit Jesus" by **Don Freund** of the JSM composition faculty, based on a medieval chant fragment recently donated to the Lilly Library by the family of **Thomas Binkley**, the late lutenist and founder of the Early Music Institute.

The following afternoon, **Jeffrey F. Hamburger** (Kuno Francke Prof. of German Art & Culture, History of Art & Architecture, Harvard University), **Hildegard Elisabeth Keller**, and **Arne Willée** (doctoral student, Germanic Studies), led a panel conversation discussing how we choose a course of study and a profession, as well as what it means to have a sense of calling in

contemporary academia, how much of that we owe to our teachers, how much to ourselves, and what it might mean to be a medievalist in the modern world and to be a teacher and scholar at an American university in a period of profound changes in and pressures on the educational system in general and the Humanities in particular. The next evening, Prof. Hamburger gave a lecture at the Lilly Library, "Diagrams: Mindmapping in Medieval Art and Beyond." Focusing on the uses of diagrams as instruments of medieval theology and biblical exegesis, the lecture considered one of the most elaborate and extensive examples from the medieval period, a reworking in diagrammatic form by Berthold of Nuremberg of one of the most complex works of the earlier Middle Ages, Hrabanus Maurus' *In honor of the Holy Cross*.

On 3 and 4 March, with the Lilly Library, MEST co-sponsored **Mediævalia at the Lilly** 2016. This year's speaker was **Michael Papio**, Prof. of Italian Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Prof. Papio's lecture, "Boccaccio's Geographies: Mapping Ancient and Modern Time and Space," examined Giovanni Boccaccio's humanistic geographical gazetteer, the *De montibus, silvis, fontibus, lacubus, fluminibus, stagnis seu paludibus, et de nominibus maris liber*, alongside new technologies for geospatial representations that enhance research and teaching alike. The following morning, Prof. Papio led a workshop for graduate students and faculty, "Making Maps of Affiliation in the Reconstruction of a Literary Dictionary." Here, he guided participants through the technological complexities of reconstructing Boccaccio's aforementioned work, a project which verbally visualizes and organizes geographical and mythological information as a dictionary for classical literature.

Late in March, Professors Guadalupe González Diéguez and Stephen Katz gave a talk at the Lilly, "Skin to Skin: A Portable Hebrew Amulet from the Lilly Library," which presented a Hebrew amulet from the Lilly library (Ricketts III.74), written on parchment, with folding marks that indicate it was carried in a leather case. Professors González Diéguez and Katz discussed the material aspects of the amulet, written on animal skin that was meant to be worn close to the body. Amulets were an important element of popular religiosity in medieval Judaism and were often employed by women for protection, particularly against miscarriage and birth-related mortality.

The second weekend of April saw the *twenty-eighth* annual Medieval Studies Symposium, this year examining "Medieval Globalisms: Movement in the Global Middle Ages." **Cecily Hilsdale** (Associate Prof., Art History & Communication Studies, McGill University) delivered the keynote address, "Worldliness in Byzantium and Beyond: Medieval *mondialisation*," which explored the transmission of the tale of Barlam and Josephat. A diverse mix of faculty and students from IU, the University of Wollongong in Australia, Princeton, New York University, the University of Winchester in the UK, the University of Chicago, Queen's University in Canada, the University of Michigan, and Cornell presented sixteen papers upon a wide range of subjects. The annual Readers Circle Banquet hosted readings of passages from medieval texts in eleven different languages: Arabic, Castilian, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Norse, and Welsh.

April also included an interdisciplinary symposium organized by **Shannon Gayk** (Associate Prof., English), **Patricia Ingham** (Prof., English), and **Karma Lochrie** (Prof., English) and

co-sponsored by Medieval Studies, among other units. "Re-reading the Book of the World: Wonder and the Orders of Nature in Medieval Literature and Culture" offered a series of presentations about the relationships between knowledge and wonder in premodern representations of the created world. **Rebecca Davis** (Assistant Prof., English, UC Irvine) spoke on Langland's *Piers Plowman*; **Karma Lochrie**, on Gower's *Confessio Amantis*; **Sara Ritchey** (Associate Prof., History, University of Louisiana), on Caesarius of Heisterbach's *Dialogue on Miracles*; **Lucas Wood** (Visiting Assistant Prof. of French, IU) on Robert de Boron's *Merlin*; **Anne Harris** (Prof., Art History, Depauw) on *Livres des merveilles*; **Jamie Taylor** (English, Bryn Mawr) on Chaucer's *Tretise on the Astrolabe*; **Sonia Velázquez** (Assistant Prof., Comparative Literature and Religious Studies, IU) on Juan Ruiz's *Libro de Buen Amor*; and **Peggy McCracken** (Prof., French, University of Michigan), on *Le roman de romans*.

At the close of April, we gathered to honor students who had completed the requirements for a minor or certificate in Medieval Studies. **Emma Agatston** (History and Art History) completed an undergraduate Minor. **Beth Boyd** (Spanish and Portuguese) completed a graduate Minor. And **Lindsey Hansen** (Art History; 2014 recipient of the **Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship** in Medieval History) completed a graduate Area Certificate.

Throughout the spring semester, our movie series, "From Print to Screen," examined how four works about the medieval world that were part of the Lilly Library exhibition on "The Performative Book" were brought to the screen. The series opened in January with a viewing of "The Name of the Rose," based on Umberto Eco's novel, which was introduced by Rosemarie

McGerr. The Series continued in February with “Der Ozean im Fingerhut” (“The Ocean in a Thimble”), directed by Hildegard Elisabeth Keller. In March, viewers were treated to “How

Tasty was My Little Frenchman,” based on the captivity account of Hans Staden, which was introduced by Hildegard Elisabeth Keller. Finally, in April, the series closed with the 1949 film

adaption of Mark Twain’s 1889 novel, “A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court.” Michael McGerr (Prof., History) introduced the film. ¶

SUMMER DIGITAL HUMANITIES WORKSHOPS

From 9 to 12 June, the Medieval Studies Institute will be holding a pair of intensive Digital Humanities Workshops for interested graduate students, one on Creating Digital Databases, and another on Digital Editing Using T-PEN (Transcription for Paleographical and Editorial Notation). Additionally, a panel and dinner will be held on 10 June from 6 to 9 pm, on Digital Humanities Projects by IUB Medievalists and Guest Speakers. The two workshops will provide up to 14 hours of experience for participants, and all of the sessions will include hands-on practice for participants.

The Creating Digital Databases Workshop will be led by Dr. John A. McEwan of the Center for Digital Hu-

manities at St. Louis University. He is the author of *Seals in Medieval London, 1050-1300: A Catalogue* (London Record Society, 2016), editor of *Seals in Context: Medieval Wales and the Welsh Marches* (University of Wales, 2012), and author of DIGISIG, a digital resource for the study of seals in their cultural context (<http://digisig.org>).

The Digital Editing Using T-PEN Workshop will be led by Dr. James Ginther, Professor of Theology and Dean of St. Michael’s College at the University of Toronto. Dr. Ginther is the author of *Master of the Sacred Page: A Study of the Theology of Robert Grosseteste, ca. 1229/30–1235* (Routledge, 2004) and *The Westminster Handbook to Medieval Theology* (John Knox Press, 2009); he

is also the editor of *Essays in Medieval Philosophy and Theology in Memory of Walter H. Principe, CSB* (Routledge, 2004) and *Robert Grosseteste and His Intellectual Milieu: New Editions and Studies* (Pontifical Institute, 2013). He is also the author of T-PEN: Transcription for Paleographical and Editorial Notation (<http://t-pen.org/TPEN/>); a digital edition of *Norman Anonymous* (<http://normananonymous.org/ENAP/about.jsp>); and Tradamus, a tool for creating digital critical editions (<http://165.134.105.25/Tradamus/>).

Priority registration concludes at 5 pm, Monday, 6 June. To register, please contact mest@indiana.edu. ¶

FACULTY AND STUDENT NEWS

Asma Afsaruddin’s (Professor, NELC) new book, *Contemporary Issues in Islam* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015) was recently reviewed in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. Her article “Jihad and Martyrdom in Islamic Thought and History” was published in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. After a four-year term, she stepped down as chairperson of the NELC department at the end of June 2015. While on sabbatical during 2015–16, Professor Afsaruddin gave invited lectures at the Berggruen Institute at Stanford University (21 September); the University of Notre Dame (2 October); the University of Leiden, Holland (7 November and 11 March); John Carroll University (13 November); the University

of Cyprus, Nicosia (22 March); Holy Cross College (8 April); and the Bayan Claremont School of Theology (16 April). She was also an invited panelist at the Rethink Institute in Washington, DC (5 December); and at an international conference on “Countering Extremism” in Brussels, Belgium (15 March). Afsaruddin was a member of a special panel on “Academic Freedom” at the annual conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) held on 21 November. She was also chair of the Textual Studies Book Award Jury for AAR in 2015.

Christopher Beckwith (Professor, CEUS) had a monograph published, *Greek Buddha: Pyrrho’s Encounter with Early Buddhism in Central Asia*.

(Princeton University Press, 2015), a sole-authored article, “The pronunciation, origin, and meaning of A-shih-na in early Old Turkic,” in István Zimonyi and Osman Karatay, eds., *Central Eurasia in the Middle Ages in Honour of Peter B. Golden* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2016), pp. 39–46; two jointly-authored articles: (with Michael L. Walter), “Dating and characterization of the Old Tibetan Annals and Old Tibetan Chronicle,” in Hanna Havnevik and Charles Ramble, eds., *From Bhakti to Bon: Festschrift for Per Kværne*. (Oslo: Novus Forlag, 2015) pp. 53–88; (with Andrew Shimunek, Jonathan Washington, Nicholas Kontovas, and Kurban Niyaz) “The Earliest Attested Turkic Language: The Chieh (*Kir)

Language of the Fourth Century A.D.” in *Journal Asiatique* 303.1 (2015), pp. 143–151. He also gave some conference presentations: “The law of Heaven and early Central Asian science” at the ‘Buddhist and Muslim Encounters in Premodern South Asia’ conference, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, 12–13 October (mainly on medieval science in Central Asia); “Is tone in Chinese phonemic?” 20th Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonology, Bloomington, 13 Sept. (includes discussion of tones in early medieval Chinese); “Silk Road Roundtable: A Dialogue between Archaeologists and Historians,” American Historical Association, Atlanta, 9 January; “The Scythians, the Medes, and Cyrus the Great,” Frye Memorial Lecture, Harvard University, 18 April.

Miles Blizard (doctoral student, History) published “Martyrs with Unknown Persecutors: Creating Chronology in Vincent of Beauvais’ *Speculum Historiale*,” in the *Vincent of Beauvais Newsletter* vol. 39 (2015), Hans Voorbij and Eva Albrecht, eds., p. 4–19.

Ann Carmichael (Professor Emeritus, History) presented a paper on “Plague Diffusion within and out of Europe’s Uplands,” at the 51st annual International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo.

Deborah Deliyannis (Associate Professor, History) has written several articles: “Episcopal Commemoration in Late Fifth-century Ravenna,” in J. Herrin and J. Nelson, eds., *Ravenna: its Role in Earlier Medieval Change and Exchange*, pp. 39–51 (University of London, Institute of Historical Research, 2016); “Urban Life and Culture,” in S. Bjornlie, K. Sessa, and J. Arnold, eds., *A Companion to Ostrogothic Italy*, pp. 234–162 (Brill, 2016); “Church-Building in Rhetoric and Reality in the 5th–7th Centuries,” in C. Radtki, M. Dan-

ner and D. Boschung, eds., *Politische Fragmentierung und kulturelle Kohärenz in der Spätantike*, pp. 159–182 (Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 2015). She is also a co-organizer of “Vandalia: a symposium about Late Antiquity,” that involves Indiana University, the Ohio State University, and the University of Michigan, which will take place at IU Bloomington on 16–17 Sept. 2016—all are invited!

Elizabeth Elmi (doctoral student, Musicology) has been awarded a travel grant of \$4000 from the American Musicological Society Eugene K. Wolf Fund for dissertation research. She writes, “The AMS travel grant will provide me with the funds necessary to do research for the third chapter of my dissertation, ‘Poetry and Song in Aragonese Naples: Written Traces of an Oral Practice.’ My dissertation investigates oral-literate culture and the tradition of sung poetry in Aragonese Naples through an in-depth analysis of written sources of lyric poetry and secular music from the late fifteenth century. As an inherently unwritten practice, the specific characteristics of improvised song in this period have been lost; yet numerous written sources of music and poetry, as well as contemporary historical accounts, allow us to gain some understanding of how these performances might have sounded. Studying these manuscripts in person is crucial to a thorough understanding of each source and its connections to oral practice.” During her research trip, she will visit Spain and Italy for four to six weeks to study the central music manuscripts for her project: Seville, Biblioteca Colombina, 5-I-43 and Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, nouv. acq. franç. 4379 (originally one manuscript, now in two parts in Seville and Paris); Bologna, Civico Museo Bibliografico Musicale, Ms. Q 16;

Montecassino, Archivio dell’Abbazia, Ms. N 871; Perugia, Biblioteca Comunale «Augusta», Ms. 431. She writes, “I have seen the Paris portion of the Seville-Paris chansonnier in person, but the others have only been available to me through microfilm. I am drafting Chapter 3 of my dissertation, ‘Written Records of Oral Practice: Literary and Musical Manuscripts from Late Quattrocento Naples,’ based on the research I have completed thus far from microfilms and secondary literature. After studying the musical sources in person, I will be prepared to complete the chapter, as I reach my own conclusions about these manuscripts and their relationship to the larger tradition of singing Neapolitan lyric. A philological approach to each source is essential to understanding the history of its production, as well as its function and value within the culture that created it.”

Stephen Hopkins (doctoral student, English) presented a paper at Kalamazoo this year entitled “*Locus Infernus* to Local Hell: Translation, Localization, and the Gospel of Nicodemus” in honor of Rob Fulk. He was also an alternate for a Fulbright to Denmark this year, and plans to apply again; he also received a GPSG Research Award recently, and finished his exam year. “I am now ABD and rejoicing therein.”

Evelyn Reynolds (doctoral student, English) writes, “I have an article forthcoming in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, ‘Trance of Involvement: Absorption and Denial in Fifteenth-Century Middle English Pietàs,’ and an article forthcoming in *Essays in Medieval Studies*, ‘*Beowulf*’s Poetics of Absorption: Narrative Syntax and the Illusion of Stability in the Fight with Grendel’s Mother.”

Emerson S.F. Richards (doctoral student, Comparative Literature; MLS student) will be attending two

sessions of Rare Book School this summer. Both at UVA, the first is an introduction to paleography from 800-1500 conducted by Consuelo Dutschke and in August she will take a seminar in Western Codicology with M. Michèle Mulchahney. She also organized and moderated the panel “What can the Lilly Library do for you?” at Kalamazoo.

Cynthia Rogers (IU PhD, English, 2015) was chosen as a Marco Manuscript Workshop participant, a New Chaucer Society Postdoctoral Fellow (2016/17), and as an NEH Chaucer Workshop participant (Summer 2016).

Heidi Støa (doctoral student, En-

glish) published an article, “The Lover and the Statue: Idolatrous Love in *Tristrams saga ok Ísöndar*” in *The Arthur of the North: Histories, Emotions, and Imaginations*. Bjørn Bandlien, Stefka G. Eriksen, and Sif Rikhardsdóttir, eds., Special issue of *Scandinavian Studies* 87:1 (2015). She participated in two conferences, “Orpheus in the North: Sir Orfeo’s Northern Ballad Analogues,” Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies Conference, New Orleans, 28–30 April, and “Wood and Flesh: Artificial Bodies in Old Norse Literature,” the 16th International Saga Conference, Zürich and Basel,

9–15 August. And she also received a Wigeland Fund fellowship from the American-Scandinavian Foundation for 2015–16.

Sean Tandy (doctoral student, Classics), writes, “I defended my dissertation prospectus. My dissertation will be entitled ‘Carmina qui quondam: Poetry and Elite Roman Identity in Ostrogothic Italy.’ I also presented a paper based on my PhD research at a panel sponsored by the International Boethius Society at Kalamazoo. It was entitled ‘Boethius as Anti-Boethius: A Re-evaluation of the Role of Boethius in Maximianus’s “Third Elegy.”’” ¶

INTRODUCING PROFESSOR LUCAS WOOD

Lucas Wood, who last fall assumed the position of Visiting Assistant Professor of French in the Department of French and Italian, completed his PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania. Like a number of literary scholars, Wood was initially torn between studying medieval literature and Modernism. Ultimately, however, he decided that he wanted to study medieval French literature. Wood greatly enjoys how “medieval literature feels at once intimately familiar and profoundly alien to a modern reader. It shows us many of modern culture’s accepted truths and tropes in the process of formation, but it is also often driven by aesthetic and other commitments that we don’t share and that (like Old French itself) present themselves as fascinating puzzles to be solved through historical research, but also through interpretive trial and error.”

Wood’s research areas include medieval literature, with emphases on courtly narrative (verse and prose), Arthurian / Grail traditions, gender and genre (especially chivalric masculinities), theory and practice of allegory, historiography and fiction.

When researching, Wood is particularly interested in twelfth- and thirteenth-century courtly narratives in verse and prose, works which “problematize their own generic form and/or ideological content, and therefore initiate critical reflection on the kinds of reading practice they demand and on the complicated reciprocal relationship between literary fiction and sociopolitical realities.” Yet he’s also interested in other source types that shed light on these issues from different perspectives. “For example,” he says, “I’ve written on the Old French translation/adaptation of Andreas Capellanus’ *De amore*, and I am currently looking at the 15th-century *Canarien*, a chronicle of the conquest of the Canary Islands that struggles with an impossible imperative to make the history it recounts conform to the ideology and literary conventions of chivalry.”

Wood has found Bloomington and IU very welcoming. He’s especially enjoyed working with medievalist and early modernist colleagues in different departments, for example, in Hall Bjørnstad’s “Monkey Business” roundtable on medieval and early modern

apes last October, and during the workshop / symposium on “Re-reading the Book of the World: Wonders and the Orders of Nature in Medieval Literature and Culture” organized by Shannon Gayk and Patty Ingham this April. “I have also had fruitful pedagogical exchanges with the Lilly Library,” he says. “I brought undergrad students of medieval culture to interact with Lilly manuscripts, and have guest lectured to Cherry Williams’ manuscript studies class on Old French literature in manuscript context.”

Next fall, Professor Wood will be teaching F615, “Medieval Poetics of Desire.” Next spring, he will be teaching F361, “La France médiévale,” an introduction to aspects of medieval French culture. ¶



FLANIGAN FUND SUPPORTS GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL TO CONFERENCES

The C. Clifford Flanigan Fund was established in honor of Clifford Flanigan (1941–1993), Professor of Comparative Literature and a founding member of the Medieval Studies Institute. In memory of his commitment to facilitating opportunities for graduate students, the fund provides travel assistance for graduate students studying the Middle Ages to give papers at conferences. This year, eight graduate medievalists have received support from the Fund.

Julie Chamberlin (English) for her paper “Of Medieval Spaces: Heterotopia and Gender in Marie de France’s *Lanval*” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (2016).

Emilie Cox (English) for her paper “Constructing Gender and Space in Chaucer’s *Reeve’s Tale*,” at the Interna-

tional Congress of the New Chaucer Society, London (2016)

Zeynep Elbasan-Bozdogan (CEUS) for her paper “Feminine Voices within Masculine Boundaries: A Comparison of the Female Poets of Amasya and the Women Troubadours of Occitania,” at the Pre-Conference in Turkish and Turkish Studies, Denver (2015)

Rowena Galavitz (Religious Studies and Comparative Literature), for her paper “Reading Rosa of Lima: The Collages Up, Down, and Sideways,” at the GEMELA (Grupo de Estudios sobre la Mujer en España y las Américas, pre-1800) conference, Puerto Rico (2016).

Lindsey Hansen (Art History) for her paper “Sculpture as Hagiographic Rewriting: The Case of St. Ursin at

Bourges,” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (2016).

Stephen Hopkins (English) for his paper “*Locus Infernus* to Local Hell: Translation, Localization, and the Gospel of Nicodemus,” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (2016).

Heidi Støa (English), for her paper “Wood and Flesh: Artificial Bodies in Old Norse Literature,” at the International Saga Conference, Switzerland (2015)

Usha Vishnuvajjala (English) for the roundtable “Medievalism and Labor” and two Executive Advisory Committee meetings of the International Arthurian Society’s North American Branch, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (2016). ¶

INTRODUCING GRADUATE STUDENT LEE CZERW

Lee Czerw is the 2015–2016 recipient of the Medieval Studies Graduate Fellowship. The award provides the first year of a multi-year fellowship in partnership with the student’s home department. Lee earned his BA from UNC-Chapel Hill, with majors in German Studies and English, as well as a minor in Latin. Lee’s MA came from an EU-sponsored program called GLITEMA (German Literature in the European Middle Ages), jointly administered by several universities. “I spent three semesters at the University of Palermo and one at the University of Bremen, with brief mobility periods at the universities of Porto and Ljubljana.”

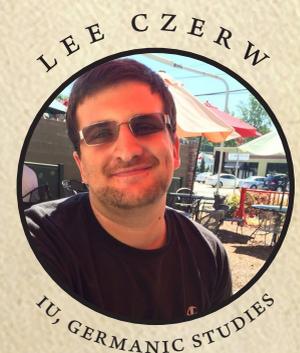
Although he notes that it might sound clichéd, Lee’s interest in all things Germanic was sparked in grade school by reading a translation of the *Nibelungenlied*, the Middle High German epic poem that tells the story

of the dragon-slayer, Siegfried. Since then, his interest in German Studies has remained rather steady—though, he says, “I did have a rather unsuccessful stint as a classicist as an undergraduate.”

Lee is often drawn to non-canonical works, especially given the multitude of dissertations on the *Nibelungenlied* (the Middle High German epic poem that tells the story of the dragon-slayer, Siegfried) and *Parzival*. He wrote his MA thesis on *Apollonius von Tyrland*, a somewhat obscure romance of the fourteenth century. Recently, his interests have started to turn towards Renaissance and Baroque German literature. This past spring semester, he wrote a paper on Hans Stadens’s sixteenth-century captivity narrative (one of the prominent centerpieces on display at the spring 2016 Lilly Library exhibition, “The Performative Book

from Medieval Europe to the Americas”) and put together a research bibliography for *Die Asiatische Banise*, a courtly novel of the seventeenth century.

When Lee can make the time for it, he hopes to learn about phonetics and phonology. He has enjoyed Bloomington. “Compared to where I’m from in North Carolina, it’s a booming metropolis.” ¶



MEDIEVAL STUDIES CONTACT INFORMATION

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are: **Rosemarie McGerr**, *Director*, **Bridget Balint**, *Associate Director*, **Emilie Cox**, *Assistant to the Director*, and **Maksymilian Szostało**, *Special Projects Assistant*. If you have communications you would like to have distributed as a general announcement in Medieval Studies, please contact Maks at mest@indiana.edu.

mest@indiana.edu: for general correspondence with the Institute, or for administrative matters with Emilie, or newsletter and publicity issues with Maks.

mestdir@indiana.edu: for direct and confidential communications with the Director; this is an administrative account we have established that will transfer from director to director. *Please note that dirmest@indiana.edu is the personal account of another faculty member.*

In addition to these two email accounts, we also maintain six distribution lists: one for undergraduate students, one for graduate students, one for alumni, one for faculty, one for core faculty, and one for community members. If you would like to be added to any of those lists, please contact Maks at mest@indiana.edu.

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The DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear members and friends of the Institute, on campus and off,

Once again, the newsletter gives a great account of the many different kinds of intellectually engaging events related to Medieval Studies that the Institute continues to sponsor, as well as the wonderful achievements of our students and faculty. Bringing medievalist scholars from around the country and around the world to campus through lectures, workshops, and the annual symposium enhances interdisciplinary dialogue within the IU community and beyond. The films, exhibitions, Kalamazoo panels, courses, and concerts we sponsor also help to celebrate the diversity and range of the Medieval Studies program, which is one of the most vibrant and robust in the country.

Serving as director of the Institute for the last seven years has been a tremendous honor and pleasure. As someone whose own graduate degrees are in Medieval Studies, having the opportunity to lead a Medieval Studies program that integrates graduate and undergraduate study with research-oriented programming has meant a great deal to me. I want to thank the many faculty and students with whom I have worked over these years for your contributions to the Institute. I especially want to thank Professor **Bridget Balint** for serving as Associate Director of the Institute for the last three years. Without her assistance on many fronts, includ-

ing student advising and working with the Graduate Student Advisory Committee, we would not have been able to accomplish as much as we have. She has been a thoughtful and generous colleague. I also want to thank all of the graduate student assistants who have worked for the Institute and Journals Initiative offices during the time I have served as director, most recently **Emilie Cox**, **Maksymilian Szostało**, and **Miles Blizzard**. I greatly appreciate the time, skill, and creativity you have put into your work. Finally, I want to offer best wishes to Maks, who will be leaving the staff at the end of June: we will all miss the wonderful posters, web pages, newsletters, and brochures he has designed, as well as his sense of humor and assistance at lectures.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer!

Rosemarie McGerr

