



# *The* MEDIEVAL STUDIES INSTITUTE *of Indiana University* NEWSLETTER

Vol. 27 No. 2 Spring 2018

**Our Spring 2018 calendar featured another excellent line-up of events and workshops bringing together students, faculty, and members of the Bloomington and medieval academic communities.**

MEST kicked off the spring semester in January with a roundtable discussion, “**Medieval Translation: Then and Now**,” featuring presentations by IU faculty including **John Walbridge** (NELC), **Jeremy Schott** (Religious Studies), **Sarah Ifft Decker** (Jewish Studies), **Rosemarie McGerr** (Comp. Lit), and **Paul Losensky** (Comp. Lit).

February saw another year of **Medieavalia** at the Lilly Library on “**Liturgical Manuscripts in Person**.” The event showcased presentations on some of the Lilly’s manuscripts and fragments by **John Glasenapp** (Columbia U.), **Susan Boynton** (Columbia U.), **Alison Altstatt** (Northern Iowa), and IU’s **Diane Reilly** (Art History) and **Elizabeth Hebbard** (FRIT), and was followed by a short musical demonstration of liturgical chants.



In March, MEST organized a panel of graduate students discussing the question of



“**How Medieval is Game of Thrones?**” with presentations from **Ali Frauman** (Comp. Lit), **Elizabeth Mafetone** (English), **Lane Sørensen** (Germanic Studies), and **Andrea Whitacre** (English). The panel was widely attended by both undergraduate and graduate students, fans of the HBO TV series and medievalism enthusiasts alike.

Our 30th annual symposium, “**Force, Resistance, and Mercy: Medieval Violence and Nonviolence**,” took place in April as the culmination of many efforts on the part of MEST GSAC, faculty, and our hardworking director and staff. **Elizabeth Allen** (English, UC Irvine) presented a keynote lecture on “**Cuthbert’s Stag: Sanctuary, Kingship, and Sacrifice**.” The **Readers’ Circle Banquet** featured readings from fifteen different medieval languages, and the symposium concluded with “**Los Suenos Sephardicos: Music and Poetry of Judeo-Spanish Communities**,” an early music performance by **La Luna La Mía**.

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## Spring 2018 Events

Also in April, MEST hosted a **Digital Editing and the Medieval Manuscript** workshop, led by Elizabeth Hebbard (IU, FRIT) and Eric Ensley (Yale, English). The workshop offered participants a foundation in the philosophy and practice of digital editions through practical exercises in encoding text.

The **Spring Awards Luncheon** took place on April 20th, honoring awardees of this year's new Shirley Jean Cox awards and prizes for both undergraduate and graduate students, the Clifford Flanigan Memorial Travel Grant winners, and those receiving MEST minors and certificates.



## MEST Graduate Students Receive International Fellowships



**Sean Tandy**, PhD Candidate in the Department of Classical Studies, has been awarded a 2018-9 **Rome Prize** for his dissertation project, "Carmina Qui Quondam: Poetry, Identity, and Ideology in Ostrogothic Italy." "Carmina Qui Quondam" draws on major literary and historic sources from the period, such as the writings of Boethius and Cassiodorus, alongside shorter texts preserved in epigraphic and paleographic sources, to analyze how during the Ostrogothic Period (493–554 AD) the Roman elite in Italy utilized poetry both to maintain class cohesion and to exert political power. Presented by the American Academy in Rome, the Rome Prize is a highly competitive fellowship awarded to artists and researchers in Italian culture, each of whom receives a stipend, workspace, and room and board for a period of five months to two years at the Academy's eleven-acre campus in Rome for the period of their fellowship.

**Julie Chamberlin**, PhD Candidate in the English Department, has been named the Helen Ann Mins Robbins Dissertation Fellow 2018-19 for her project, "Foxes, Felons, and Fables: Animals on Trial in the Middle Ages." Her dissertation investigates the ethical dilemma surrounding the legal personhood of nonhuman animals in the late Middle Ages by examining the legal impulses of beast fables and epics, as well as historical animal trials that occurred during the medieval period. The fellowship was endowed by Helen Ann Mins and Rossell Hope Robbins to provide a period of research at the Rossell Hope Robbins Library for a woman completing a dissertation project in medieval studies. She will take up residence at the Rossell Hope Robbins Library in Rochester, NY during the 2018-19 academic year.



**Stephen Hopkins**, PhD Candidate in the English Department, received a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship to support his project, "The Infernal Laboratory: Hell and Apocryphal Hermeneutics in the Medieval North Sea." The dissertation examines vernacular translations and transformations of The Vision of St. Paul and The Gospel of Nicodemus in order to explore the status of apocrypha in local communities of belief. The research demonstrates that since apocrypha look like scripture, they were often venerated, but because they were not counted as canonical, they were often revised to reflect localized beliefs in the local vernacular. In this way, hell functioned as a literary laboratory, a space in which medieval people could experiment with matters of theology and identity.



# 30TH ANNUAL SPRING SYMPOSIUM

This year marked our 30th annual Medieval Studies Symposium. Our theme, **“Force, Resistance, and Mercy: Medieval Violence and Nonviolence,”** invited papers on images of medieval violence and resistance to violence, both fact and fiction, from iron maidens and witching burnings to the Crusades and the Inquisition. Attendees enjoyed presentations on diverse topics from **“Chivalry and Elite Violence in the Late Medieval Mediterranean,”** a panel proposed by **Dr. Peter Sposato** (History, IU Kokomo), to **“Women and Textual Violence”** and **“Choosing Mercy: Alternatives to Violence.”**

Some highlights included the winner of our graduate paper prize, **Elizabeth Maffetone** (English, IUB), presenting on **“‘For love and nat for hate, thou most be deed:’ Virginia’s Death and Contested Male Identity in the Physician’s Tale,”** and our paper prize’s honorable mention,



**Tucker Million** (University of Rochester) speaking on **“‘The Filthy odor from the bloody carnage:’ Knightly Violence and Knightly Deaths in Trecento Naples.”** In addition to papers on history and literature focusing on a variety of medieval languages and locales, **Emilee Ruhland** (University of Pittsburgh) and **Benjamin Debus** (English, IUB) both presented fascinating papers on modern medievalism, addressing *Beowulf* the video game and Viking Therapy Clubs, respectively.

MEST sponsored a lunch with undergraduate students on Friday (April 6) during the symposium, allowing them to discuss research aspirations with medieval graduate

students, and that evening (April 6), our keynote speaker **Elizabeth Allen** (University of California, Irvine) gave a paper on **“Cuthbert’s Stag: Sanctuary, Kingship, Sacrifice.”** Her talk explored the ways in which sanctuary paradoxically draws violence and imbues physical injury with sacrificial meaning and, in the process, raises pressing questions about human lordship and divine sanction, and about the role of violence in forging community.

The keynote was directly followed by our annual **Reader’s Circle Banquet**, featuring readings in fifteen different medieval languages including Coptic, Middle Chinese, Persian, Middle Welsh, and many more. A donation from local meadery Oddball Fermentables provided a mead tasting, and great fun was had by all.

Finally, another great day of presentations and discussion wrapped up on Saturday (April 7) with an early music performance by **La Luna La Mía**, **“Los Suenos Sephardicos: Music and Poetry of Judeo-Spanish Communities,”** in the Beck Chapel. Both the symposium and the Reader’s Circle had success in new venues this year—the new Global and International Studies Building and the Neal Marshall Black Culture Center—and were grateful for support from faculty and graduate students across departments at IU, as well as the IU Funding Board.



Nina Fiches, University of Bristol, presents on *Awntyrs off Arthure*: Social regulation through violence in Medieval Arthurian Romances.

## NEXT YEAR’S THEME:

### ***On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travelers***

Medieval people were often on the move. Whether their travels were driven by commerce, religion, warfare, exploration, exile, or curiosity, travelers were key conduits of cultural knowledge and exchange in the Middle Ages, returning home with artifacts, stories, and myths. This symposium seeks to provide an opportunity for conversation about the varied geographical, aesthetic, imaginative, and psychological spaces explored by medieval travelers. Papers might consider trade routes, pilgrimages, exploration, crusades, imaginative journeys, metaphorical travel, cross-cultural encounters, spiritual journeys, translatio and travel, discoveries of new or fantastic worlds, maps and mapmaking, souvenirs, badges, and artifacts, and many other related topics.

MARCH 22-23  
2019

# FACULTY & STUDENT NEWS AND AWARDS

**Asma Afsaruddin** (NELC) published three book chapters in 2017: "Tolerance and Pluralism in Islamic Thought and Praxis," in *Toleration in Comparative Perspective*, ed. Vicki Spencer and Takashi Shogimen (Lexington Press, 2017); pp. 136-162; "The 'Upright Community': Interpreting the Righteousness and Salvation of the People of the Book in the Qur'ān." In *Jewish-Muslim Relations in Past and Present*, ed. Josef Meri (Brill, 2017), pp. 48-69; and "Dying in the Path of God: Reading Martyrdom and Moral Excellence in the Qur'an," in *Roads to Paradise: Eschatology and Concepts of the Hereafter in Islam*, ed. Sebastian Guenther (Brill, 2017), pp. 162-180. She was invited to join the Advisory Board for an international seminar series titled "Key Concepts in Inter-Religious Dialogue," based at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany. She also received a grant from the IU Consortium for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Society to co-direct a year-long seminar series on "Islam in the Global Sphere."

**Abby Ang** (English) received the university-wide John H. Edwards Fellowship (2018-2019) and MLK Building Bridges Award.

**Shannon Gayk** (English) Director of the Medieval Studies Institute, published three articles: "'By Provocative Means': Power, Protection, and Henry VIII's Prayer Roll." *Exemplaria* 27:4 (2017): 296-313; "The Form of Christ's Passion: Preaching the Imitatio Passionis in Late Medieval England." *Yearbook of Langland Studies* 31 (2017): 231-257; and "Idiot Psalms: Sound, Style, and the Performance of the Literary in the Towneley Shepherds' Plays." *The Medieval Literary: Beyond Form*, edited by Robert Meyer-Lee and Cathy Sanok, 119-140 (Boydell and Brewer, 2018).

**Ryan Giles** (Spanish and Portuguese) published two books this year: *Inscribed Power: Amulets and Magic in Early Spanish Literature*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017; and an edited collection with Steven Wagschal, *Beyond Sight: Smell, Taste, Touch and Hearing in Iberian Literatures and Cultures, 1200-1750*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017.

**Patricia Clare Ingham** (English) was named John Edwards Taylor Fellow, Manchester University, May 29-

June 4, 2018, and published an article: "Curious Novelties," *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, 93.2, 23-39 (2017).

**Manling Luo** (EALC) received a Research Travel Grant in fall 2017 from CAHI (\$5,000) in support of her field research in Beijing on the culture of informal storytelling in medieval China.

**Rosemarie McGerr** (Comparative Literature) published an article, "The Judge as Reader, the Reader as Judge: Literary and Legal Judgment in Dante, Machaut, and Gower," in Barton Palmer and Burt Kimmelman, eds., *Machaut's Legacy: The Judgment Poetry Tradition in Later Medieval Literature* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2017), 165-90.

**Joe Morgan** (English) won the Wertheim Dissertation Fellowship from the English Department at IU.

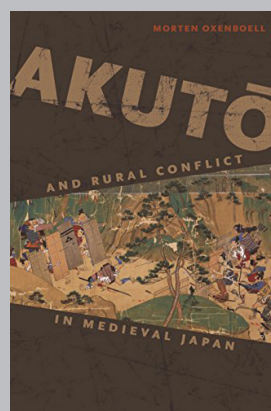
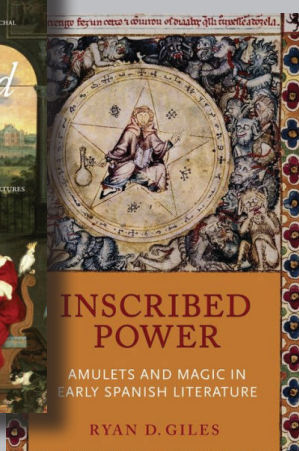
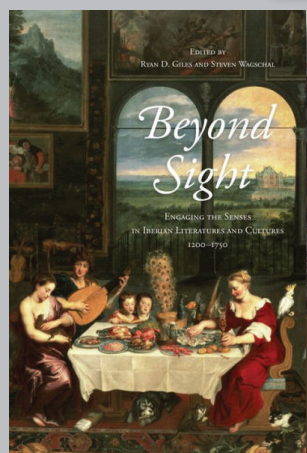
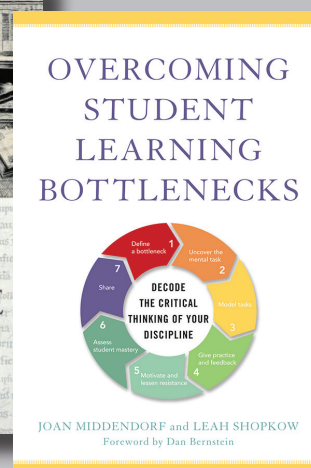
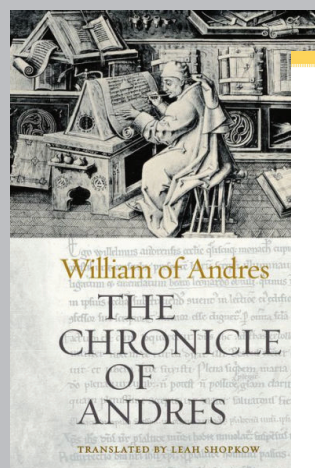
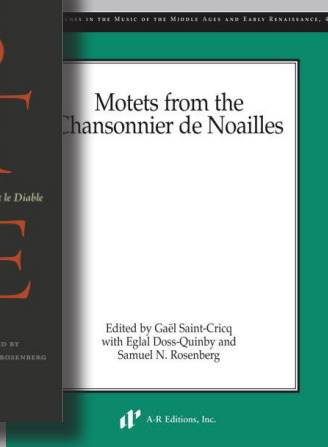
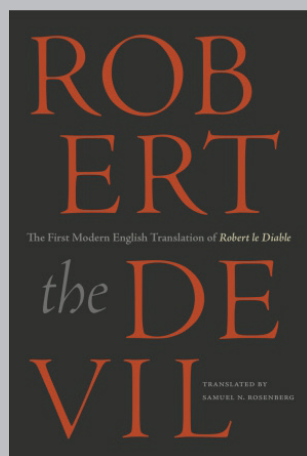
**Morten Oxenboell** (EALC) was appointed Paul V. McNutt and Kathleen McNutt Watson Assistant Professorship in Japanese Studies for the period 2017-2022. He received a New Frontiers of Creativity and Scholarship Award, Arts and Humanities Program, Indiana University in 2018. His book, *Akutō: Rural Conflicts in Medieval Japan*, was published with University of Hawaii Press in May 2018. He also published an article, "Epistemologies of Violence: The Medieval Japanese War Tales," *History and Theory*, vol. 56:4 (December).

**Evelyn Reynolds** (English) published an article: "Kynde in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*." *Arthuriana* 27.3 (2017): 28-52.

**Emerson Richards** (Comp. Lit), with support from the James Marrow Travel Award, visited the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge University to incorporate the Nuneaton Book into her work. The second half of Emerson's MA thesis, titled, "It is Mainly Just That They Are Irish: Anglo-Irish Tensions in T. H. White's *The Once and Future King*," was published in *Arthuriana*. Emerson will be attending three codicology and paleography courses this spring and summer: 'Understanding the Medieval Book' with Peter Kidd; Barbara Shailor's 'Advanced Paleography' course at Rare Book School; and a London



# New Faculty Books



Clockwise from top left:

**Samuel N. Rosenberg:** *Robert the Devil* (trans.); *Motets from the Chansonnier de Noailles* (ed.)

**Leah Shopkow:** *Chronicle of Andres by William of Andres* (trans.); and *Overcoming Student Learning Bottlenecks: Decode the Critical Thinking of Your Discipline*

**Morten Oxenboell:** *Akutō: Rural Conflicts in Medieval Japan*.

**Ryan Giles:** *Inscribed Power: Amulets and Magic in Early Spanish Literature* (ed.); *Beyond Sight: Smell, Taste, Touch and Hearing in Iberian Literatures and Cultures, 1200-1750*.

Rare Book School session, taught by Michelle P. Brown on the production and reception of illuminated manuscripts.

**Samuel N. Rosenberg** (Professor Emeritus, FRIT) has two new publications: *Motets from the Chansonnier de Noailles*, ed. by Gaël Saint-Cricq, Eglal Doss-Quinby, and SNR (A-R Editions, 2017) and *Robert the Devil*, translation of 13th-century *Robert le Diable*, by SNR (Penn State UP, 2018).

**Leah Shopkow** (History) was promoted to Full Professor. She published two books this year: *A translation of the Chronicle of Andres by William of Andres* (Catholic) and *Overcoming Student Learning Bottlenecks: Decode the Critical Thinking of Your Discipline*, with Joan Middendorf as first listed author.

**John Walbridge** (NELC and Philosophy) co-edited with Ali Gheissari and Ahmed Alwishah and wrote three and a half chapters of *Illuminationist Texts and Textual Studies: Essays in Memory of Hossein Ziai*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2018: "Hussein Ziai and Suhrawardī Studies" (13–18), "Illuminationist Manuscripts: The Rediscovery of Suhrawardī and Its Reception" (21–41), "Some Observations on the Kashf al-Ghitā' li-Ikhwān al-Safā" (53–61), and "Suhrawardī's Creed of the Sages" (66–85). His book, *God and Logic in Islam: The Caliphate of Reason*, has been published in Arabic translation. He also lectured at Renmin University, Beijing, Xi'an International Studies University, and Beijing Foreign Studies University in PR China.

**Andrea Whitacre** (English) won a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

# GRANT & AWARD WINNERS

## SHIRLEY JEAN COX AWARDS

Awarded on a competitive basis, the Shirley Jean Cox travel grants and prizes fund both undergraduate and graduate students to attend conferences and summer programs, and recognize superlative undergraduate work in medieval studies, thanks to the generous support of Cheryl Kinney of Dallas, Texas.

### Undergraduate Scholarships

**Mary Gilbert** (Germanic Studies and pursuing a medieval studies certificate), summer study program in Iceland



**Kaela Laughlin** (Art history major), IU Summer Program in Florence.

**Rae Shirley** (Criminal Justice major with an Italian minor), IU Summer Program in Florence

**Katie Hardlannert** (Interior Design), IU Summer Program in Florence

**Laura Oleson** (SPEA), IU Summer Program in Florence

### Graduate Travel Grants

**Julie Chamberlin** (English), New Chaucer Society Congress in Toronto, CA

**Stephen Hopkins** (English), Fiske Conference on Medieval Icelandic at Cornell University

**Joe Morgan** (English), International Medieval Congress at Leeds, En-



gland

**Nicolo Sassi** (Religious Studies), European Academy of Religion meeting in Bologna

**Heidi Stoa** (English), Saga Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland

**Sean Tandy** (Classics), International Medieval Congress in Leeds, England

### Thesis Prize

**Amelia Berry** received the thesis prize for her honors thesis "The Self-Reflexive Devotional: Illuminations in Books of Hours from Late Medieval France," a study of how images work in Books of Hours. The thesis argues that contemplation of the images by a devotee



created a sacred space, one that was privately accessed in contrast to the public-viewed sacred space created in the context of the medieval liturgy, which reified biblical events and created the presence of the divine. The committee was impressed by the sophistication of Amelia's writing and with the overall ambition of the project. Amelia is majoring in Art History with a minor in Medieval Studies.

## Paper Prize

**Jennifer Watkins** received this prize for her capstone paper "The Anonymous Andalusian Cookbook: Digitally Mapping Food and Faith in Medieval Spain," an innovative and ambitious project focusing on an Andalusian Cookbook from 13th-century Spain that argues "that food decisions made within a multicultural late-medieval community were significantly more influenced by religion and the definition of a cultural "other" than they were by commercial and agricultural factors." The project also has a digital component and has been supported by a grant from IDAH.

## C. CLIFFORD FLANIGAN AWARDS

This fund was established in honor of C. 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 attend conferences.

**Matthew O'Donnell** (English), International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo

**Emerson Storm Richards** (Comparative Literature), New Chaucer Society Congress in Toronto

**Andrea Whitacre** (English), New Chaucer Society Congress in Toronto







# Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

This time of year, the opening lines of Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* often run through my mind: "Whan that aprill with his shoures soote, / the droughte of Marche hath perced to the roote... Thanne longen folk to goon on pilgrimages"

[When April's sweet showers have pierced the drought of March to the root...then people long to go on pilgrimages]. Spring also brings changes and movement here at IU. Classes wrap up, and our students and faculty disperse, many on academic pilgrimages of their own, to spend the summer abroad teaching, studying, attending conferences, or pouring over manuscripts in archives. This year, thanks to the support of our new Shirley Jean Cox grants and scholarships, the Medieval Studies Institute has been able to provide support to many students making these journeys. We awarded grants to five undergraduate students traveling for studying abroad courses in Iceland and Italy, and to six graduate students, who will be traveling to Canada, Italy, England, and Iceland to present their research at conferences.

In the MEST office we are beginning to make plans for the 2018-2019 academic year. In addition to our regular events, like our alumni lecture, *Medieavalia*, and our spring symposium, we will also be sponsoring two small symposia: the first, in the fall, on "Forms of Catastrophe: Environmental Change in Medieval Literature;" the second, in January, on "Jews, Christians, and Muslims: Religion and Belonging in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages." We are also planning a series of events for undergraduates, including a reprise of our "Making a Medieval Book" booth, an evening panel on medieval video games, and a course in medieval pilgrimage culminating in a study abroad component, during which students will walk a portion of the medieval pilgrimage route, the Camino de Santiago, in Spain.

We hope to see you at some of these programs and events. Be sure to check our website as the semester approaches for more information. I hope that your summers are full of rest and learning, wherever your journeys may take you.

All the best,

Shannon Gayk  
Director, Medieval Studies Institute

## MINORS

### UNDERGRADUATE

**Kae Bonaguro**  
(English Major)

### GRADUATE

**Moonjin Kim**  
(PhD Student in English)

**Kayla Lunt**  
(PhD Student in Art History)



# CONTACT MEST

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are:

**Shannon Gayk**, Director

**Emilie Cox**, Assistant to the Director

**Julie Chamberlin**, Special Projects Assistant

If you have communications you would like to have distributed as a general announcement in Medieval Studies, please contact Emilie at [MEST@INDIANA.EDU](mailto:MEST@INDIANA.EDU).

[MEST@INDIANA.EDU](mailto:MEST@INDIANA.EDU): for general correspondence with the Institute, or for administrative matters with Emilie, or newsletter and publicity issues with Julie.

[MESTDIR@INDIANA.EDU](mailto: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](mailto: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 Emilie at [MEST@INDIANA.EDU](mailto:MEST@INDIANA.EDU).

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## *Help Support the Work of the Medieval Studies Institute*

**Why?** Your tax-deductible financial contribution allows MEST to continue to provide a diverse array of lectures, programs, and fellowships that promote the scholarship and teaching of the Middle Ages.

**What?** Gifts can be directed to any following funds:

- *The Medieval Studies Institute General Fund*: Your donation will provide general support to the Institute, helping us host events, invite speakers, and continue with our outreach.
- *The Medieval Review Support Fund*: Gifts will support the Medieval Review, an open-access journal that publishes reviews of books in medieval studies.
- *The C. Clifford Flanigan Awards*: Your donation will help support medievalist graduate students.
- *The Shirley Jean Cox Undergraduate Fellowships*: Your donation will help fund our two undergraduate prizes (for the best thesis and paper in medieval studies) and several grants to support undergraduate summer study, study abroad, or internships.

**How?**

- *By mail*: Checks made out to "Indiana University Foundation" may be mailed to The Medieval Studies Institute, 650 Ballantine Hall, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405
- *On our website*: <https://medieval.indiana.edu/about/alumni-giving/index.html>
- *Recurring bank or payroll deductions*: Perhaps the easiest way to offer ongoing support of the work of the Institute, you can make a recurring monthly, quarterly, or annual gift that is deducted from your credit card or bank account. IU Employees can also set up recurring donations through payroll deduction. See <https://www.myiu.org/recurring-gift>.