

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

Vol. 28 No. 2 Spring 2019

Our Spring 2019 calendar kicked off in January with “Jews, Christians, and Muslims: Religion and Belonging in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages,” a two-day workshop featuring visiting speakers **Scott Johnson** (University of Oklahoma), **Maia Kotrosits** (Denison University), and **Sara Ronis** (St. Mary’s Uni-



versity) and local faculty and students: **Asma Afsaruddin** (NELC), **Sarah Ifft Decker** (Jewish Studies), **Kevin Jacques** (Religious Studies), **Abby Kulisz** (Religious Studies) and **Nicolo Sassi** (Religious Studies).

Middle English Song School held their first meeting at the end of January. Throughout the semester, Song School practiced Middle English pronunciation and paleography by reading through the *Towneley Play Cycle*.

The annual **Mediaevalia at the Lilly** event took place in early February, featuring a lecture by **Lisa Fagin Davis** (Medieval Academy of America), “**Gathering Petals:**

Medieval Manuscript Fragments at the Lilly Library,” followed by a workshop on the Lilly’s collection of manuscript fragments with Dr. Davis the following day.

Also in February, MEST GSAC hosted its annual “**Transcribe-A-Thon,**” led by IU’s **Elizabeth Hebbard** (FRIT). Participants learned the basics of transcription and practiced their skills by transcribing a page from a manuscript.

March began with a faculty and graduate student roundtable discussion on current work on medieval science, “**History of Medieval Sciences Across Time and Geography: Critical Approaches.**” Roundtable discussants included **William Newman** (HPSC), **Akash Kumar** (FRIT), **Meagan Allen** (HPSC), **Pouyan Shahidi** (NELC & HPSC), and **Takatomo Inoue** (NELC & HPSC).

MEST’s 31st annual Spring Symposium, “**On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travelers,**” featuring a keynote lecture by **Suzanne Akbari** (University of Toronto), took place at the end of March—see pg. 3 for further details and photos.



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Spring 2019 Events Continued

A special event in April, “Academic Paths for Medievalists after IU,” involved talks from two IU graduates, **Bonnie Erwin** (Wilmington College) and **Corey Sparks** (California State University-Chico), who spoke on making the transition from graduate student



to faculty, the sometimes-winding academic paths that led them to their current positions, and other professional issues.

Later in April, MEST sponsored a lecture by **Margot Fassler** (University of Notre Dame) on “Women and

Their Sequences: The Mysterious Case of Freiburg 1131.” Dr. Fassler is Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Music History and Liturgy at the University of Notre Dame, where she directs the program in Sacred Music.

The **Spring Awards Luncheon** took place on April 20th, honoring awardees of the Shirley Jean Cox awards and prizes, the Clifford Flanigan Memorial Travel Grant winners, those receiving MEST minors and certificates, and the Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship.

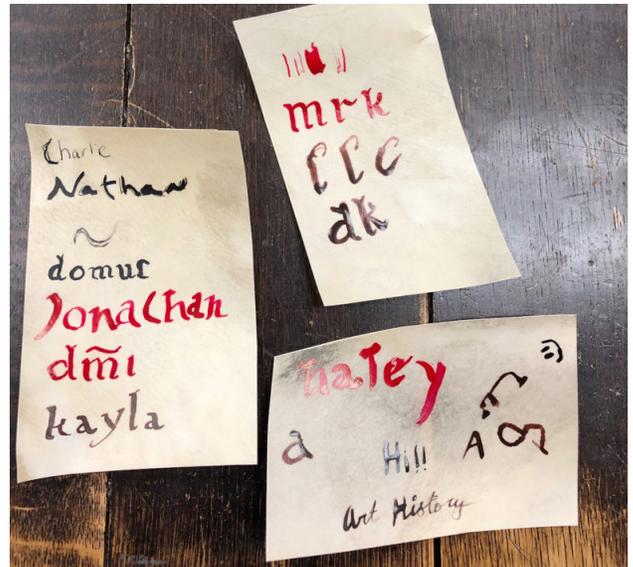
To conclude our programming for the spring, MEST sponsored two sessions at ICMS at Kalamazoo this year on “**Medieval Futura: Then and Now.**” The panels featured IU faculty, graduate students, and graduates alongside panelists from other institutions, including **Karma Lochrie** (IU, English), **Brent Moberly** (IU, English), **Kevin A. Moberly** (Old Dominion U.), **Meagan Allen** (IU, HPSC), **Tom White** (U. of Oxford), **Sarah Line** (IU, English), **Kortney Stern** (IU, English), **Eric Weiskott** (Boston College), **Jordan Zweck** (U. of Wisconsin-Madison), and **Corey Sparks** (California State U.-Chico).

Using the Medieval Studies Manuscript Lending Library

by Kayla Lunt, PhD Candidate, Art History

The new MEST Lending Library is a wonderful resource for introducing students to the unfamiliar materials and production methods encountered when meeting medieval manuscripts for the first time. Using materials from the Lending Library, students were able to touch, pass around, and manipulate parchment (calf, goat, sheep) while discussing signs of production and animal origin. They were also excited to be invited to try their hands at recreating a medieval script by writing on parchment using hand-cut quills—also sourced from the Lending Library. By allowing students to struggle to control their ink while attempting to recreate the ductus of a medieval script, this simple and fun activity helped them gain a new respect for the skill and task of the medieval scribe while developing a greater familiarity with the objects they most frequently see as images in our PowerPoints.

For more information about using the lending library in your classes, contact us at mest@indiana.edu.



31ST ANNUAL SPRING SYMPOSIUM



This year marked our 31st annual Medieval Studies Symposium: “**On the Road: Medieval Travel and Travelers.**”

about travel, and did so through a complex mingling of the scientific and the mystical within travel narratives, as well as a rich vocabulary of knowledge and truth.

Our annual **Reader’s Circle Banquet** this year included readings in twelve different medieval languages read by IU faculty and graduate students from a wide range of departments, including Italian (**Akash Kumar**, FRIT), Syriac (**Nicolo Sassi**, Religious Studies), Middle Welsh (**Robert Fulk**, English), Latin (**Deborah Deliyannis**, History), Old French (**Samuel Rosenburg**, FRIT), Hebrew (**Stephen Katz**, Jewish Studies), Old Norse (**Kari Gade**, Germanic Studies), Arabic (**Attia Youseif**, NELC), Old English (**Joshua Harris**, Germanic Studies), Middle English (**Rosemary McGerr**, Comp. Lit), Persian (**Pouyan Shahidi**, HPSC), Old High German (**Lane Sorensen**, Germanic Studies), and Occitan (**Elizabeth Hebbard**, FRIT).

The symposium featured a keynote speech by Suzanne Akbari, a special exhibit at the Lilly Library, and the annual Reader’s Circle Banquet.

The symposium began on Friday, March 22 with the Lilly Library Exhibit, “**Traveling Manuscripts: A Selection from the Lilly Collection,**” curated by **Joel Silver**. Silver, who is currently the Director at the Lilly Library, highlighted several early manuscripts and printed books that have an interesting provenance and discussed how they traveled to the Lilly, narrating the history of the text, the binding, the book collectors, and how the Lilly acquired each manuscript. Attendees then spent the hour perusing the manuscripts on exhibit.

Presenters from seven other institutions and three countries attended the symposium this year and gave talks alongside IU faculty and graduate students from across the university.

This year’s keynote lecture, “**The Material Landscape in *The Book of John Mandeville* and Christine de Pizan’s *Livre du chemin de long estude*,**” given by **Suzanne Akbari** (University of Toronto), discussed two medieval writers’ approaches to travel in narrative form. Though the travel genre did not exist as such in the Middle Ages, Akbari made a compelling case in her talk for the way in which medieval writers like Christine and Mandeville were interested in writing

Thanks to all of our GSAC officers and committee members and MEST staff for their hard work on this year’s symposium! We are looking forward to continuing the tradition.



Attendees peruse manuscripts at the Lilly Library special exhibit on traveling manuscripts from the Lilly Collection.

NEW READING AND WORKING GROUPS AT IU

Faculty and graduate students at Indiana University began two new groups this year aimed at providing opportunities to engage with medieval languages and materials outside of the classroom. English PhD student Gregory Tolliver organized the **Medieval Queer Reading Group**, which had its inaugural meeting this March. The group is open to graduate students and faculty interested in the intersection of queer theory and medieval studies. Together, the group reads and discusses both foundational and recent texts and questions in the medieval and queer studies fields. Those interested in joining should contact Gregory Tolliver at gretolli@iu.edu. Also this year, Assistant Professor of French Elizabeth Hebbard initiated a **Manuscripts Working Group**, providing hands-on manuscript study experiences. Group activities include, for example, a talk on introducing manuscript studies in the undergraduate classroom, and a demonstration on how undergraduate students can make use of MEST’s new manuscript lending library. Look out next fall for further opportunities to participate in this great new opportunities!



In May, immediately after classes ended, a group of nine students and Professor Shannon Gayk began a slow trek across the north of Spain, following the footsteps of medieval pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago as part of a new study abroad experience focused on medieval pilgrimage. Walking the final 115 km from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela, the class focused both on learning about medieval pilgrimage and thinking about the status of medieval pilgrimages and holy places in the modern world. Students learned about the legends of St. James, read portions of the Codex Calixtinus, and considered the features of the many Romanesque churches they encountered along the way.

The class will run again next summer, but will focus on a different pilgrimage route: the Via Francigena, the medieval route from Canterbury to Rome. Over the course's three weeks, students will walk long portions of this route, which will take them through the English and French countryside, the Alps, and Tuscany as they learn about medieval history, religion, literature, and art. Please contact Shannon Gayk at sgayk@indiana.edu for more information.



PILGRIMAGE

IN PLACE

by Elizabeth Hebbard,
Assistant Professor of French

This spring in FRIT F-361, *La France Médiévale 500-1500*, a course on the cultural history of medieval France, students embarked on a medieval pilgrimage right here at IU. Through this activity, I sought to create a way for students to connect with as many elements of medieval pilgrimage as possible, such as curiosity about the world, encounters with devotional objects, the spiritual benefits of journeying on foot, and the logistics of travel. With the help of several colleagues, a number of medieval pilgrimage sites were set up in buildings and offices across campus. The activity was described to students as follows:



At your own expense and peril, you will travel to your choice of pilgrimage sites around campus. At each site, you will complete some sort of devotional, penitential, or reflective activity. Before departing, a medieval pilgrim normally received a blessing from the local bishop and made a full confession if the pilgrimage was to serve as a penance. You do not need to confess to the local bishop (!), but you will need to demonstrate what the pilgrimage has taught you—to the bishop's satisfaction—in order to receive a badge from that site.

In preparation for their journeys, students read excerpts from Chareyron's *Pilgrims to Jerusalem* in the Middle Ages and encyclopedia articles that covered the key terms (pilgrim, pilgrimage, indulgence, penance, relics). I also provided students with some maps of pilgrimage routes to Santiago de Compostela and of the medieval locations of relics that had come up in previous class discussion, and I encouraged them to locate each site they visited on the map and to contemplate the "distance" they would travel.

On their journeys, students consulted the *Codex Calixtinus* at Burgos, contemplated the judgment

portal at Lincoln Cathedral, read Chaucer at Canterbury, and learned about Jewish pilgrimage in Jerusalem. They studied la Veronica in Rome, learned about the theft and sale of relics in Venice, walked the famous cathedral labyrinth at Chartres, and were censed with holy water at Compostela.

Upon returning, students wrote an account of their pilgrimage in the style of travel accounts we had seen earlier in the semester, Mandeville's *Voyages d'outre-mer* and Theoderic's *Guide to the Holy Land*. In class, students shared their badges with one another and described what they had seen and done on their pilgrimages. Those who collected several badges were offered a papal indulgence, which could earn them a few extra points on an exam or paper.

This pilgrimage was one of a number of "lab" activities in this course designed to give students the opportunity to put their knowledge of medieval France and of the study of the Middle Ages into practice. Other labs included writing with feather quills and searching for gothic and romanesque architectural details on campus buildings. This activity, in the spirit of the mappamundi or the medieval chronicle, invited students to think about the collapsing and telescoping of space and time, about mapping fantasy onto real space, and about traveling—in real and imaginary ways—through literature and personal experience.

FACULTY & STUDENT NEWS AND AWARDS

Meagan S. Allen (Doctoral candidate, History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine) has received a dissertation year fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences for the 2019-2020 year. She will be spending most of the year in Berlin at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science as a visiting Pre-doctoral Fellow.

Christopher I. Beckwith (Distinguished Professor, Central Eurasian Studies) received a New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities Experimentation Fellowship for his project: “We the People and Democracy Belief.” He also published several articles, including: “On the Ethnolinguistic Identity of the Hsiung-nu,” in Zs. Gulacsi (ed.), *Language, Government, and Religion in the World of the Turks: Festschrift for Larry Clark at Seventy-Five* (Brepols, 2018), 33-55; “Early Buddhism and Incommensurability,” *Philosophy East and West* 68:3 (2018): 1009-1016; and with Gisaburo N. Kiyose†, “Apocope of Late Old Chinese Short *ä: Early Central Asian Loanword and Old Japanese Evidence for Old Chinese Disyllabic Morphemes,” *AOH* 71.2 (2018): 145-160.

Deborah Deliyannis (Associate Professor, History), was promoted to Full Professor and co-authored a book, *Fifty Early Medieval Things: Materials of Culture in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages* (Cornell University Press, 2019).



Stephen Hopkins (Doctoral candidate, English) published an article, “An Old English Prose Fragment of Christ’s Letter to Abgar in the Lilly Library,” *Notes and Queries* 66 (2019). He will also be beginning a tenure track job at the University of Central Florida in August.

Patricia Clair Ingham (Professor and Chair, English) has been named the inaugural Martha Biggerstaff Jones Professor of British Literature. There will be a reception and inaugural lecture next fall, November 14, 2019.

Elizabeth Maffetone (Doctoral candidate, English) was awarded the university wide Lieber Teaching Award as well as a dissertation year fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Morten Oxenboell (Assistant Professor, Japanese History Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures) published a book, *Akutō: Rural Conflicts in Medieval Japan* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2018).

Diane Reilly (Professor and Chair, Art History) published a book, *The Cistercian Reform and the Art of the Book in Twelfth-Century France*, and was promoted to Full Professor.

Samuel Rosenberg (Emeritus Professor of French) has recently published two books: *Motets from the Chansonnier de Noailles*. Co-editors and co-translators: Gaël Saint Cricq and Eglal Doss-Quinby. Middleton, WI: A-R Editions, 2017; and *Robert the Devil* (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2018).

Rega Wood (Professor, Philosophy) published *Richard Rufus: Sententia cum quaestionibus in libros De anima Aristotelis*, with Jennifer Ottman, Neil Lewis, and Christopher J Martin (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).

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 Travel Grants

Gabrielle Gilbert and **Amanda Gardin**, for their participation in a study-abroad course pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago.

Mary Gilbert, for her research presentation this year at the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo.

Graduate Travel Grants

Julie Chamberlin, English Department

Andrea Whitacre, English Department

Pouyan Shahidi, History and Philosophy of Science

Pantalea Mazzitello, Department of French and Italian

Thesis Prize

Dax Ritter received the thesis prize for his History honors thesis "Just What Makes Them so Special? The Merovingians, Samo, and What can be Learned from a Comparison between the Two."



Brink: Alfred's Early Negotiations with the Vikings." (pictured)

Paper Prize

Mary Gilbert received the prize for Best Undergraduate Essay for her paper, "Explaining Old English Influence in *Vǫlundarkviða*." (pictured)

Alexander Theohares received an Honorable Mention for his paper, "A Kingdom on the

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.

Natalie Levin, History Department

Gregory Tolliver, English Department

Zachary Engledow, English Department

MEST MINORS & CERTIFICATES

Undergraduate Minor Recipients:

Tom Driver, English Department

Mary Gilbert, Germanic Studies

Graduate Minor Recipients:

Roger Dake, Philosophy Department

Jessica Jacques, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Graduate Minor &

Certificate Recipients:

Maggie Gilchrist, English Department (pictured)

Kortney Stern, English Department (pictured)



ANDREA S. MCROBBIE FELLOWSHIP

Each year we name a recipient of the Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship, an award that is made possible by a generous gift by President Michael McRobbie and his family in memory of Andrea S. McRobbie's interest in medieval studies and is designated to honor an advanced graduate student engaged in "scholarship in medieval history, specifically some aspect of its social history or some theme in medieval social history." This will be the eleventh year of awarding this fellowship, which we think of as the MVP award for graduate work in medieval studies.

This year's Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship in Medieval History has been awarded to **Stephen Hopkins**, who is completing his dissertation in the Department of English and who will begin a tenure-track job as an Anglo-Saxonist at The University of Central Florida in the fall.

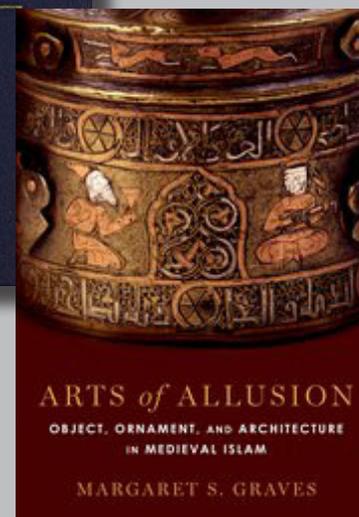
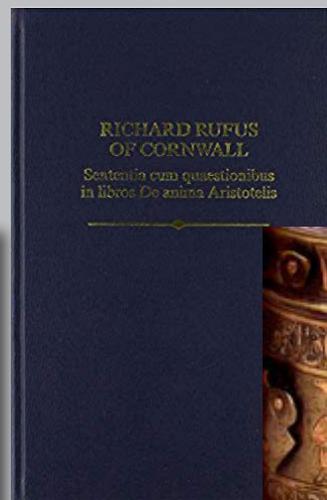
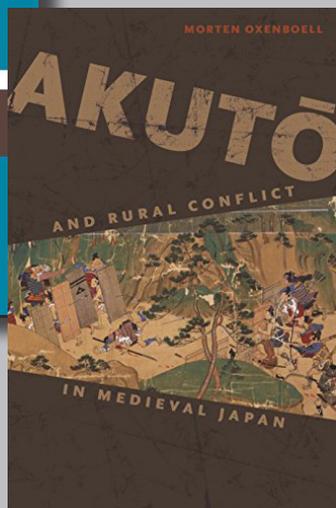
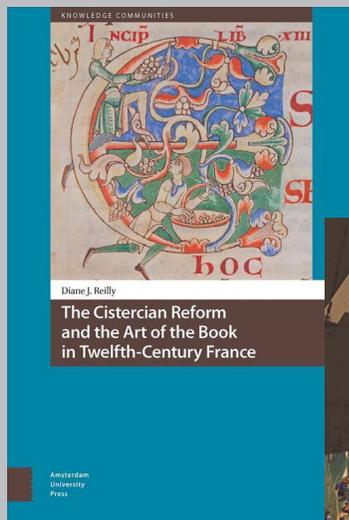
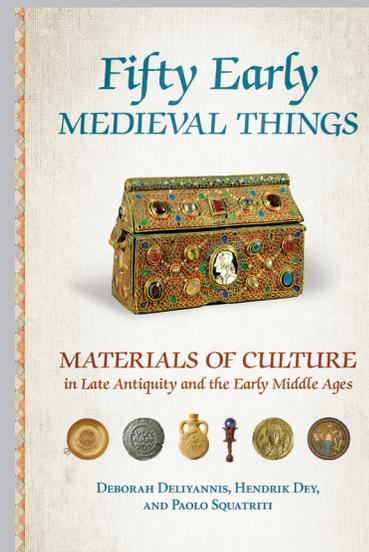
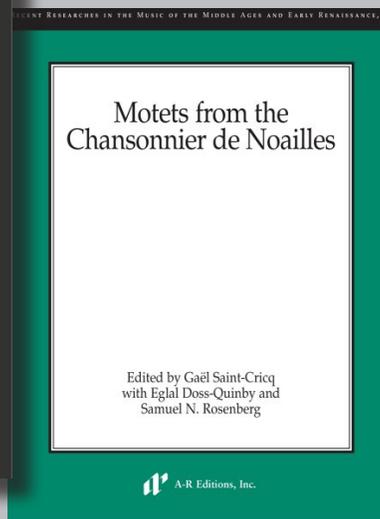
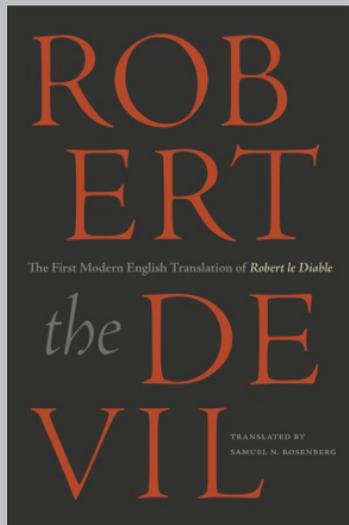
Stephen's dissertation, "**The Infernal Laboratory: Apocryphal Hermeneutics and Hell in the Medieval North Sea**," examines figurations of hell in the apocryphal literatures of the North, arguing that in these texts, hell is "a frontier space of the spiritual imagination." "The Infernal Laboratory"



is an ambitious project, with each of the dissertation's four chapters focusing on a different region/language: the first on Old English texts and contexts, the second on Old Norse, the third on Old Irish, and the fourth on Middle Welsh.

As his nominators note, Stephen is among the most accomplished of our graduate students. He has recently received the English Department's prestigious Parker Prize. He has also received national recognition, including a Mellon Foundation / ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

Faculty Bookshelf



Clockwise from top left:

Samuel N. Rosenberg, FRIT: trans. *Robert the Devil* (Pennsylvania State UP, 2018); ed. *Motets from the Chansonnier de Noailles* (A-R Editions, 2017).

Deborah Deliyannis. History: *Fifty Early Medieval Things: Materials of Culture in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages* (Cornell UP, 2019).

Margaret Graves, Art History: *Arts of Allusion: Object, Ornament, and Architecture in Medieval Islam* (Oxford UP, 2018).

Rega Wood, Philosophy: *Richard Rufus: Sententia cum quaestionibus in libros De anima Aristotelis* (Oxford UP, 2018).

Morten Oxenboell (EALC): *Akutō: Rural Conflicts in Medieval Japan* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2018).

Diane J. Reilly (Art History): *The Cistercian Reform and the Art of the Book in Twelfth-Century France* (Amsterdam UP, 2018).



Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of Medieval Studies,

As you can see here, Medieval Studies once again has had a productive semester of events and activities. From seminars and lectures, to our annual spring symposium, to the work our faculty and graduate students are doing in their undergraduate classrooms, our schedule has been full of opportunities to deepen our engagement with the medieval past. Many thanks to all of the faculty, students, and visitors that make IU such an invigorating place to study the Middle Ages.

We have exciting plans in the works for this coming fall. We will be hosting **Ray Clemens** of the Beinecke Library (Yale University) as our **Mediaevalia at the Lilly** speaker in October. In December we will be co-sponsoring performances of a medieval play, the *Second Shepherds' Play*, in conjunction with a seminar on medieval performance. Perhaps most significantly, we have also begun preparations for welcoming several hundred medievalists from around the world to the **Medieval Academy of America's** annual meeting, which we will be hosting in Bloomington in April of 2021. We are very excited about showcasing all of the things that make Medieval Studies at IU so fantastic: our outstanding faculty and students, our strengths in early music, the manuscripts at the Lilly Library, and the many medieval artifacts held by the Eskenazi Museum of Art.

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

MEST GSAC NEWS

This semester, MEST GSAC organized two events, the “**Transcribe-a-thon**” paleography and manuscript workshop led by **Elizabeth Hebbard** on February 15, and a roundtable, “**History of Medieval Science Across Time and Geography: Critical Approaches**,” put together by **Pouyan Shahidi** on March 6.

The 2019-2020 GSAC officers will be **Kayla Lunt** (Art History) as President, **Maggie Gilchirst** (English) as Vice-President, and **Natalie Levin** (History) as Treasurer.

CONTACT MEST

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are:

Shannon Gayk, Director

Andrew Woodworth, 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*, or for general correspondence with the Institute, please contact Andrew at MEST@INDIANA.EDU.

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 Andrew at 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>.