

Inside:

GSAC Update	2
Faculty, Student, & Alumni News	3
Scholarly Editions & The Digital Age	4
Photo Gallery	6
Upcoming Events	8

November 2012

Vol. 22 No. 1

CHMTL RECEIVES GRANTS FOR NEW AND CONTINUING PROJECTS

The Center for the History of Music Theory and Literature (CHMTL) at the Jacobs School of Music has been awarded grants to support old and new projects in medieval music theory.

Since 1998 CHMTL has hosted the *Thesaurus Musicarum Latinarum* (TML) a project initiated by Thomas Mathiesen, that currently gives free access to over nine hundred Latin texts on music from the Late Antiquity to the modern era, with an emphasis on the medieval period. Sister projects also hosted by CHMTL focus on comparable texts in English, French and Italian, striving to document the entire history of theoretical thinking on music and also helping to expose the many and deep intellectual links between music and the other arts and sciences.

In 2012, under its new director, **Giuliano Di Bacco**, the center has started a new phase of modernization and expansion of its activities. A new website is now up (www.chmtl.indiana.edu) and a new version of the *Thesaurus* is scheduled for publication on-line in early 2013. This past August, thanks to a grant from the Institute for Advanced Study, CHMTL co-organized with MEST a workshop on "Scholarly Editions and the Digital Age: Text and Music," hosted at the Memorial Union (see page 4). Earlier this year Professor Di Bacco secured for CHMTL a major grant through Indiana University's "New Frontiers in the Arts and the Humanities" towards the further improvement of the TML and the development of a new series of editions, translations, facsimiles and computer-assisted studies on texts and sources.

MEDIAEVALIA 2013

We are delighted to welcome Roger Wieck, Curator of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City, as this year's Mediaevalia speaker. Roger has held curatorial positions at the Walters Art Museum and the Houghton Library at Harvard as well as authoring a number of important texts on Books of Hours including *The Prayer Book of Claude de France* (2010), *The Hours of Henry VIII: A Renaissance Masterpiece* by Jean Poyet (2000), *Painted Prayers: The Book of Hours in Medieval and Renaissance Art* (1997), *Time Sanctified: The Book of Hours in Medieval Art and Life* (1988), in addition to many other books and articles on medieval manuscripts.



The Prayer Book of Claude de France
Image Courtesy Morgan Library

I first met Roger when I attended his course at Rare Book School, "Introduc-

(Continued on Page 7)

Fabulous New Faces at MEST

Our new Assistant to the Director, **Erin Sweany**, discovered the Middle Ages during her undergraduate days as a Physics major at Purdue. After taking a class on Old English, she wound up



Erin Sweany

graduating with majors in English Literature and Medieval Studies (as well as a minor in Math!). Manuscript studies clinched the deal, she says: "I love the

mystery of confronting a medieval text that is unmediated by a former transcriber, editor, or translator." Hopelessly enmeshed in mediaevalia, she crossed the Wabash to get her Masters in English at Indiana and is now a doctoral candidate here in English. Her early training in science shines through in her dissertation, which is exploring Anglo-Saxon representations of health and disease in Old English texts.

A born organizer, Erin loves her new job, especially being able to interact with medievalists from all over the university and to help them in whatever capacity she can, whether it's arranging events, conquering paperwork, or helping students navigate the MEST minor and certificate.

Corey Sparks, our new Journals Initiative Editorial Assistant, is a PhD candidate in English, working on his dissertation, which examines how, by the fourteenth and fifteenth cen-

(Continued on Page 2)

New Faces (continued from page 1)

tures, carceral developments were intimately connected to physical and conceptual developments in other confining spaces. Examining a variety of spaces poetically imagined and also physically experienced enabled Corey to see a compelling link between literary texts about confinement and literary texts produced in confinement. Corey has been in Bloomington since 2007, coming to us from Fresno Pacific University in California (where he majored in Classics and English with a concentration in Secondary Education) by way of the University of Chicago, where he earned his MA in Humanities in 2006. Corey's interest in the Middle Ages stems from its "estranging" power: "the period holds a mirror up to our own, and in it seemingly recognizable features are turned strange. The layered performance of surfaces that Chaucer pulls off in the *Canterbury Tales* or the rabbit hole of personification word play in *Piers Plowman* feel at times almost postmodern even as their historical and cultural difference persists." For Corey, Medieval Studies is the pinnacle of the humanities: "What other space in the humanities is so rigorously and forthrightly interdisciplinary?" Of his new job, Corey says he loves it: "First and foremost, I have fantastic colleagues. It's humbling to see the hard, brilliant work they do to advance the study of the Middle Ages here at Indiana and across the discipline. Being the Editorial Assistant for the Journals Initia-



Corey Sparks

tive has immeasurably deepened my appreciation for the work that academic journals do."

Andrea Whitacre, also in the English Department, is our 2012-2013 Medieval Studies Fellowship recipient. The award supports a first-year medievalist, offering one year of funding to jumpstart the graduate career of the honored student. Andrea attended Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana and studied abroad for a summer term at Christ Church College, Oxford, but her career as a medievalist started even earlier, when she was in high school, reading Tolkien. After reading the *Lord of the Rings*, Andrea, entranced by the mythology and the folklore of the middle ages, began reading Tolkien's *Gawain and the Green Knight*, followed by *The Monsters and the Critics* and *Sigurd and Gudrun*. "I don't



Andrea Whitacre

think I would have come to know medieval studies if I hadn't first been interested in Tolkien," she says. Andrea's interests converge around Anglo-Saxon and Old Norse, and particularly the religious, mythological, and folkloric beliefs of those periods. She is particularly intrigued by the blending of cultures that takes place throughout the medieval period—the Roman blending with the Germanic and the Christian blending with the pagan. She also enjoys studying languages and the ways they interact.

New Leadership for Graduate Student Advisory Committee

In an effort to ensure continuity from year to year, the GSAC has revised its governing structure to include a President and a Vice-President. The President will lead the GSAC for the current year, while delegating tasks to and helping train the Vice-President, who will take over as President the following year.

Our brand-new president for 2012-2013 is **Lindsey Hansen**, PhD candidate in Art History. A long-distance swimmer and Colorado native, Lindsey is working on a dissertation tentatively titled, "Visual Narratives for Episcopal Self-Promotion at the Cathedrals of Amiens, Bourges and Reims." She is looking at four High Gothic portals constructed c. 1220-1235 and examining how local hagiography was used to shape the public identity of local bishops.

Lindsey has been an active member of the GSAC for almost three years. She found in the group a scholarly and social community that has enriched her graduate experience, and she looks forward to furthering that: "IU has a fantastic group of graduate medievalists," she says, "I'm looking forward to working with the GSAC to help foster that community and help it grow even stronger."

Vice-President **Sean Tandy** is a PhD student in Classics. A proud New Englander from Concord, New Hampshire, he just received his MA this past spring and has begun qualifying exams for his PhD. He is interested primarily in Late Antique and early medieval literature, culture and history, in particular the continuing tradition of historical epic and topical poems in Greek and Latin.

Sean has been involved with the GSAC since his very first semester in graduate school: "I have found it to be a fun, supportive, academically enriching experience. The Institute offers not only official academic events like symposia and conferences, but also the camaraderie and support of graduate students and professors from various departments on campus."

Thanks to Lindsey and Sean for their service and dedication!

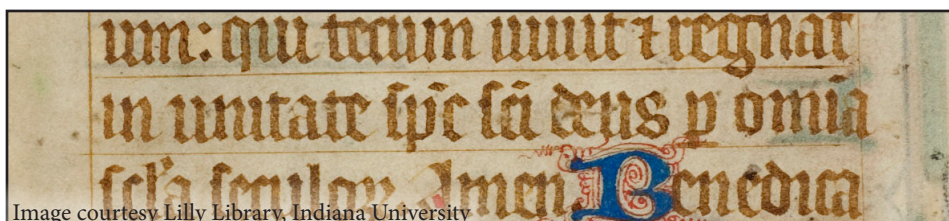


Image courtesy Lilly Library, Indiana University

FACULTY, STUDENT, & ALUMNI NEWS

Professor **Christopher I. Beckwith** (Central Eurasian Studies) published a book with Princeton University Press, *Warriors of the Cloisters: The Central Asian Origins of Science in the Medieval World* (see right).

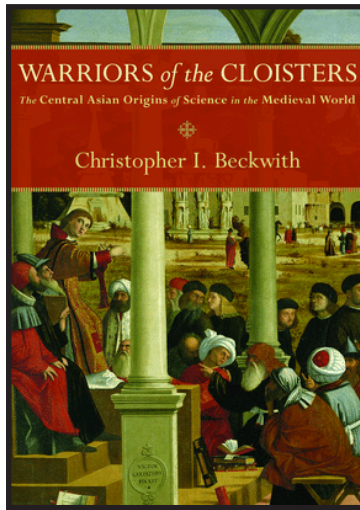
He also published an article, "On the Ethnolinguistic Position of Manchu and the Manchus within Central Eurasia and East Asia" in *Manzokushi Kenkyu, Journal of Manchu and Qing Studies*, 10 (2012): 17-30.

In addition, Professor Beckwith gave the following international lectures and conference papers: "The problem of Peter of Poitiers and his Sentences," at the Faculty of Medieval Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, January 11, 2012; "The Origins and Spread of Zoroastrianism," at the Conference 'The Influence of Central Eurasian Religious Beliefs on the Cultures of the Periphery,' at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, April 24-25, 2012; "The Importance of Being Circular: Logic in Buddhism, Pyrrhonism, and Hume's Neo-Pyrrhonism. Conference 'Between Imagination and Encounter: Religious Cultures in Contact in Pre-Modern Central Asia and its Borders'. Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, June 5-6, 2012; and "Near Eastern Indic sources of Achaemenid rule and their reflexes in Bactria and China" at Leiden University, Leiden, June 13, 2012.

Heather Coffey, who earned her PhD in 2012 in the History of Art at Indiana, is now Visiting Assistant Professor and Visiting Scholar in the Center for Global Islamic Studies at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Professor of History **Deborah Deliyannis** has been on sabbatical this fall semester, working on her book *Bishops and Buildings in the Early Middle Ages*. She recently gave a talk titled "Church-building in rhetoric and reality in the fifth-seventh centuries," at the conference "Poli-

tische Fragmentierung und kulturelle Kohärenz der Spätantike," held at the internationales Kolleg Morphomata Universität zu Köln, Germany.



Robert Fulk, Professor of English, gave the plenary address, "Digital Philology: Praxis and Prospects," at the annual meeting of the Medieval Association of the Midwest at Xavier University in Cincinnati in September. His *Introduction to Middle English:*

Grammar + Texts was published by Broadview Press in January, and his edition of *The Old English Canons of Theodore* (edited with Stefan Jurasinski) was published by Oxford University Press for the Early English Text Society in October.

Writes Professor **Patricia Ingham** (English): "In Spring, 2012 I was awarded an NEH fellowship through the National Humanities Center, in the Research Triangle in North Carolina, for Academic Year 2012-2013, where I'm happy to say there are a number of medievalists and early modernists in residence this year. I am in residence, and trying to finish my book, *Medieval New: Innovation, Novelty, History*

The New Chaucer Society, held in July in Portland, Oregon, was a big success, and Indiana was in the house! **Karma Lochrie** and I co-chaired the program committee, and graduate students **Corey Sparks**, **Kerilyn Harkaway-Krieger**, **Emily Houlik-Ritchey**, **Arwen Taylor**, and **Cindy Rogers** all gave papers. I also gave a paper drawn from my book.

Last February, I co-organized a symposium, sponsored by the journal I edit, *Exemplaria*, on the topic of "Surface, Symptom, and the State of Critique" in honor of *Exemplaria*'s 25th year. Speakers included Carolyn Dinshaw, Jeffrey Jerome Cohen, Sarah Kay, Henry Turner, Michelle R. Warren, and George Edmondson.

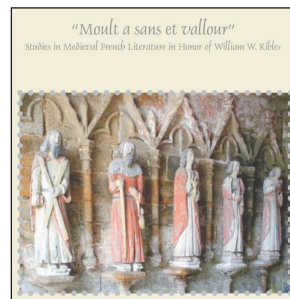
Also featured were Indiana's own **Karma Lochrie**, and **Constance Furey**.

Professor of Comparative Literature **Rosemarie McGerr**, along with three other Indiana University Bloomington Medieval Studies Faculty members (**Suzanne Stetkevych**, **Hildegard Keller**, and **Michael Long**) has been invited to serve on the planning committee for a multi-university, multi-year project entitled "Performing the Middle Ages," funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The performances will begin at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in spring 2013 and Notre Dame University in the fall of 2013. They will be working on planning for performances at IUB in the future.

Professor McGerr also had a new article called "The Reader as Judge, the Judge as Reader: Literary and Political Judgment in Dante, Machaut, and Gower" accepted for publication in a collection called *Machaut's Legacy: The Judgment Poetry Tradition in Late Medieval Literature*, edited by R. Barton Palmer and Burt Kimmelman (University Press of Florida, 2013).

Cynthia Rogers, PhD Candidate in English, has been named the Helen Ann Mins Robbins Fellow for 2012-2013, and is now in residence at the Robbins Medieval Library at Rochester, New York.

Professor of French **Samuel N. Rosenberg** recently published "Translating the Prose Lancelot," in "*Moult a sans et valleur*": *Studies in Medieval French Literature in Honor of William W. Kibler*. Ed. Monica L. Wright, Norris J. Lacy, and Rupert T. Pickens. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2012, 357-366.



Fredericka Schmadel has passed a milestone and is now a Ph.D. candidate in folklore. She is doing fieldwork in Arizona, working on a dissertation on nature mysticism at a Girl Scout camp in the 1960's. She has some advice for burgeoning scholars: "I encourage all medieval-

(Continued on Page 5)

Scholarly Editions and the Digital Age: Text and Music

The interdisciplinary workshop, “Scholarly Editions and the Digital Age: Text and Music,” took place on Friday, August 31st, co-organized by the Center for the History of Music Theory and Literature and the Medieval Studies Institute. The workshop drew together scholars from a variety of fields to present and discuss their diverse experiences on how the digital medium has changed approaches to the production of scholarly editions.

Eleven speakers from diverse disciplinary backgrounds presented on a variety of current issues in digital humanities. After a welcoming address by **Rose-**

marie McGerr of Medieval Studies and an introduction by **Giuliano Di Bacco** of CHMTL, Martha Nell Smith (University of Maryland) set the tone for the conference with a provocative call for the digital humanities to invest itself in promoting more methodologically sophisticated and human-centered technological approaches.

Three Indiana University scholars spoke on the diverse application of the digital humanities to their work. **William Newman** (Department of History and Philosophy of Science), who shared his efforts to use technology to map and understand the complex thought of Isaac Newton; **John Walsh** (School of Library and Information Science), whose work on the Swinburne Project draws together diverse data into an hypertextual narrative to provide a comprehensive view of poet Charles Algernon Swinburne that is deeply embedded in the culture of the Victorian era; and **H. Wayne Storey** (Department of French and Italian), who shared provocative questions arising from his research on Petrarch’s sources, regarding how

the digital approach challenges our view of the stability, and even the very definition of the textual object.

Three other renowned guest speakers also participated: Perry Roland (University of Virginia) shared his work as the principal architect of the Music Encoding Initiative, a model of encoding of music notation that can be used



to render musical repertoires machine-readable and compatible with new analytical tools; Richard Freedman (Haverford College) with his project on a set of music books crafted by the 16th-century Parisian print-

er Nicolas du Chemin, showed how such technologies could be used to advance the study of the French Renaissance chanson; Benjamin Albritton (Stanford University) focused on the digitization of medieval manuscripts and the creation of platforms in which various digital resources might be used in productive convergence; finally James Ginter (Saint Louis University), creator of a new tool for transcription from digital facsimiles, discussed how best to facilitate productive relationships between digital humanities and the less technologically-inclined specialists (especially those working with non-literary sources) who hope to draw upon these new resources.

Additional speakers from Indiana University represented two programs at IU specifically devoted to exploring and promoting the application of technology to scholarship—the Digital Library Program and the Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities. **Michele Dalmau** provided an overview of the Text Encoding Initiative and its uses;

(Continued on Page 7)

Reading Groups

Late and Medieval Greek

From the Septuagint to Romanos the Melodist, and everything in between. All genres—including novels, letters, histories, poetry, hymns, treatises, and epigraphy—are fair game. Contact **Sean Tandy** (smtandy@indiana.edu) for meeting times and current readings.

Medieval Latin

An assortment of Latin texts. Previous authors include: Gregory the Great, Bede, Abelard, Heloise, Isidore of Seville, and Ubertino of Casale. Contact Miles **Blizard** (mblizard@indiana.edu) for current readings.

Old Norse

Meets one Friday evening per month. Two semesters Old Norse (or equivalent) are required. Contact **Kari Gade** (gade@indiana.edu) or **Rob Fulk** (fulk@indiana.edu) for details.

Old English

An informal group that meets regularly to read Old English literature. Contact **Kyle Grothoff** (kgrothof@indiana.edu) for details.

Song School

Readings in Middle English. Please contact **Shannon Gayk** (sgayk@indiana.edu) for details.

Early English Literature & Culture

A Working Group for scholars of Early English. Contact **Shannon Gayk** (sgayk@indiana.edu) for details or to be added to the listserv.



FACULTY, STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

ists to write book reviews. Sometimes we are the only people around with the language competencies to write them usefully. I speak from experience.

I ran a google search on myself, as I do about once a year, and saw a link to (English-language) Wikipedia. I followed it, to find that a book review of mine appeared in the bibliography section of the article on Nicolaus Furichius, a Strasbourg-based physician and alchemist during the Thirty Years' War.

I had written a book review for the *Journal of Folklore Research* on Thomas Reiser's new edition of Furichius's masterwork on alchemy, full of mythical images, symbols, and allusions. The edition is in the Latin of the day -- it's a natural science verse epic -- and the translation of the epic was into modern German rather than English. This was all on English-language Wikipedia. Anyhow, with the Internet things may turn up unexpectedly, including book reviews, so write them! That's my advice."

Holly Silvers (Indiana University History of Art PhD 2010 and former Journals Initiative Assistant) is now an Assistant Professor at Minnesota State University at Moorhead.

Arwen Taylor, along with **Erin Sweany**, both PhD candidates in English, gave a jointly-authored paper ("An Interpretive Journey: The Role of Medieval Themes in a Modern Dream Vision") at the 27th International Conference on Medievalisms at Kent State - Canton (Canton, OH).

PhD candidate in Voice Performance **Wolodymyr Smishkewych** recently joined the faculty of the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick, Ireland as director of the MA in Ritual Song and Chant, for which (he is happy to announce) the admissions portal is now open.

Professor of Philosophy **Rega Wood** published a paper, "Richard Rufus of Cornwall and Early Commentaries on Aristotle's *De anima*," in *Portraits de Maitres Offerts* a *Olga Weijers*, Porto 2012, pp. pp. 7-19.

Emily Houlik-Ritchey wins McRobbie Award

Emily Houlik-Ritchey, PhD candidate in English, is the 2012-2013 winner of the Andrea McRobbie Award, which supports an advanced graduate student engaged in "scholarship in medieval history, specifically some aspect of its social history or some theme in medieval social history related to its art, philosophy or literature."

Emily attended the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, for her Bachelor's, where she majored in English with a minor in Spanish before coming to Indiana for her Master's and her PhD. She will be defending her dissertation and completing her PhD in May 2013.

Emily's interests center on ethics and the ethical representation of differences (gender, religion, culture, history, geography) in late medieval English and Spanish literature, especially romance narratives. Her dissertation, "Loving the Neighbor: Difference, Desire, and Aggression in the Romance of Late Medieval England and Spain," assesses the ethics of difference in the shared romance narratives of late medieval England and Castile (1360-1450). Weaving together familiar and under-



Emily Houlik-Ritchey

studied geographies, languages, and texts, Emily analyzes desire and aggression as attributes of neighbor relations. Via the theoretical category of the neighbor, she argues that fantasies of difference, such as the Saracen and Jew, function to illuminate medieval Christians' anxieties over their ethical injunction to love their neighbors as themselves. This project delves into both the historical archive and contemporary psychoanalytic theory to broaden our understanding of ethical dilemmas pervasive in late-medieval literatures.

In addition to the McRobbie Award, Emily has been honored with several fellowships (from, among others, the College of Arts and Sciences, the National Endowment for the Humanities Teaching Institute, and the Mellon Institute in Spanish Palaeography) and has won essay contests both at Indiana and in national competition, and her article, "Rewriting Difference: 'Saracens' in John Gower and Juan de Cuenca," is forthcoming in *ES. Revista de Filología Inglesa*, in a Special Issue on John Gower.

Currently, while finishing up her doctorate, Emily is teaching in the English Department, and this semester she is teaching "Introduction to Poetry." She loves teaching this class: "I enjoy very much working through dense and complex (or deceptively simple) verse with students," she says.

As will assuredly be the case with her students (since Emily is also an award-winning teacher), poetry proved to be Emily's entrée into Medieval Studies, which she discovered when, as an undergraduate taking a Chaucer class, she had to prepare to read a stanza of "Troilus and Criseyde" aloud, pronouncing the Middle English as accurately as possible. The beauty of the language enthralled her, and continues to fuel her passion for the Middle Ages.

PHOTO GALLERY

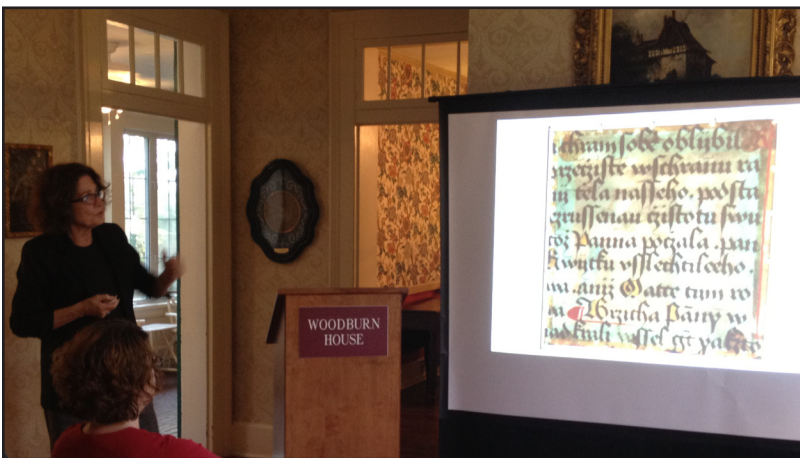


At Left: Professor **Olga Impey** joins colleagues and friends **Rosemarie McGerr**, **Samuel Rosenberg**, **Jeffrey Ankrom**, and **Leah Shopkow** at the September 21 Fall Reception and Roundtable, at which she was honored, on the occasion of her retirement, for her years of service to Medieval Studies.

Below: Interim Director **H. Wayne Storey** welcomes guests and offers words of thanks (and a parting gift) to Professor Impey.



From the Roundtable: **Cherry Williams**, Curator of Manuscripts at the Lilly Library, discusses what is "New and Notable" in the collection (below), while **Dot Porter**, Associate Director for Digital Library Content and Services at the Indiana University Libraries, speaks about new ventures in open access to digital medieval manuscripts (below right).



Paul Freedman (left), Professor of History at Yale University, listens to questions from the audience after his lecture on the preservation and destruction of medieval manuscripts in Spain at his October 18 lecture at the Lilly.

At Right: students, faculty, and community members listen intently to Professor Freedman's lecture.



Mediaevalia (Continued from Page 1)

tion to Illuminated Manuscripts.” An authority on the genre of Books of Hours, Roger is a dynamic and engaging instructor and speaker. Since the Lilly Library is home to an enviable number of Books of Hours, both fragments and codices, it seemed a perfect match.



Roger Wieck

All events for Mediaevalia 2013 are co-sponsored by Medieval Studies, the Friends of the Lilly and the Germanic Studies Department, and will be held at the Lilly Library in the Slocum Room. The series will begin on Friday morning, February 8th with a hands-on workshop (times to be determined), using Lilly materials, conducted by Roger for 15 pre-registered students. This will be followed by an evening lecture and reception from 5-7PM the same day which is free and open



A leaf from one of the Lilly's many Books of Hours

to the public. Students may register for the workshop by contacting me at: chedwill@indiana.edu at any time.

Please plan to join us for this very special event!

—Cherry Williams

Scholarly Editions (Continued from Page 4)

Dot Porter focused on the specific challenges represented by medieval texts to the creation of tools for text collation and digital editions, as well as how digital editions compare with traditional publications in the academic use; and Clara Henderson discussed the challenges of digital editions to traditional scholarly practicalities of peer reviewed publication.

Discussions were extensive, passionate, and richly collegial. The active participation of interested scholars with limited technological background reaffirmed the importance of dialogue between various fields of experience and digital humanists. Overall, the quality of these sessions was enhanced by the truly interdisciplinary scope represented by the speakers, several of whom expressed excitement at the opportunity to interact with scholars occupied by similar concerns in diverse fields.

The following morning, several of the participants returned for an informal “study day.” This session was focused more specifically on music.

Roughly fifty to sixty people attended the workshop, providing active, participatory feedback. Genuine conversations emerged from these sessions, many of which spilled into the following study day. Although the more focused topic matter discussed on Saturday made for a smaller group, an audience of roughly twenty participants, in addition to panelists and discussants, were in attendance.

On both days, presentation materials and audio were streamed on the Web. Although online participation was small (roughly five-to-ten participants at a time throughout the day on Friday), this was a valuable experiment in using Webinar tools to open up such a gathering to audiences beyond the physical conference space. Following the conference, we received outside requests to archive the web-stream online. While, unfortunately, we were unable to satisfy this request, we shall plan for this possibility in the future, and we are happy to interpret it as a sign of the success regarding our first experiment with this technology.

—Daniel Bishop, CHMTL Editorial Assistant

Medieval Studies Film Series

The Medieval Studies Film Series was a great success this Fall. Our three screenings, all on the theme “Religious Lives,” were well-attended by a diverse group of students, faculty, and community members, many of whom stayed afterwards to discuss both the movies and the history behind them. And to eat pizza. While all three films had very different takes on religious life and approached the question of charisma in and opposed to the institutional church in very different ways and with very different assumptions and agendas, all of them highlighted aspects of religious life that would have dominated the reality of medieval expressions and performances of faith.

The films we screened—*The anchoress* (1993), *Brother Sun, Sister Moon* (1973), and *Ostrov* (2006)--will all be available on loan to members of the Medieval Studies community who would like to use them for teaching, as will our Spring selections.

The Spring series theme will be “Pilgrimage,” so please feel free to suggest movies by emailing mest@indiana.edu!

Medieval Studies Movie Series: **Religious Lives**

Movies are open to all, and the Medieval Studies Institute will provide pizza, soda, and snacks

Anchoress (1993)
Wednesday, September 19 7:30pm Woodburn Hall 120

Enter the medieval world of Christine Carpenter, a visionary girl who is to become an anchoress (walled-in recluse) so that she can “live in the Virgin’s house forever.” Based on actual letters that were written about such an anchoress in 1325, the film follows Christine as she awakens to her own sensuality and explores her own female, earth-based spirituality.

Brother Sun, Sister Moon (1972)
Wednesday, October 17 7:30pm Woodburn Hall 101

This classic, aesthetically stunning movie directed by Franco Zeffirelli is a dramatization of events in the life of St. Francis of Assisi from before his conversion experience through his audience with the pope, including his friendship with St. Clare.

Ostrov (The Island) (2006)
Wednesday, November 14 7:30pm Woodburn Hall 101

Somewhere in Northern Russia in a small Russian Orthodox monastery lives a very unusual man. His fellow-monks are confused by his bizarre conduct. Those who visit the island believe that the man has the power to heal, exorcise demons and foretell the future. However, he considers himself unworthy because of a sin he committed in his youth. The film is a parable, combining the realities of Russian everyday life with monastic ritual and routine.

