The MEDIEVAL STUDIES INSTITUTE

of Indiana University

THE MEDIEVAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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BENJAMIN GARCEAU RECEIVES THE 2015 ANDREA S. MCROBBIE FELLOWSHIP IN MEDIEVAL HISTORY



Indiana University President Michael A. McRobbie and Fellowship Recipient Benjamin Garceau

Benjamin Garceau, PhD candidate in Comparative Literature and English, is the 2015–2016 winner of the Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship, donated by the McRobbie family, 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."

Ben grew up in northern Indiana, and as an undergraduate here at IU Bloomington majored in English, with a minor in Comparative Literature and a special focus in creative writing. "I moved to Chicago and tried to work in marketing after graduation, but I found that I kept trying to have conversations with my coworkers about things I was reading (the possible homelands of the Proto-Indo-Europeans, for example) that they didn't want to have with me." So he decided to return to school.

When Ben returned to IU as a graduate student, he intended to specialize in modernist Argentine literature, a plan that came to an end when he discovered that he really only liked Borges. He audited an Old Irish class taught by Rob Fulk (Professor, English), followed by classes on Old English and Welsh, realizing at last that medieval topics interested him far more than modern ones. Ben also took classes with Rosemarie McGerr (Professor, Comparative Literature) and Patricia Ingham (Professor, English), as well as formal classes on the theory and practice of translation.

"I am most interested in intellectual history, the political aspects of literature, and problems of interpretation/ translation." (Both concepts fall under the semantic domain of the Latin word *interpretatio*.) Ben gravitates toward earlier rather than later medieval sources, and particularly enjoys encyclopedists, hagiographers and so-called "bad" translators, marveling at how uncanny medieval texts can be: from a Western perspective they are culturally familiar—yet at the same time contain jarring differences that make the distance clear. "My usual theoretical model is deconstructive, but I've recently been trying to combine that with traditional philology, the new work on untranslatables coming out of Comparative Literature, and

with philosophical hermeneutics." All of these threads coalesced into the research interests that ultimately led to his disseration, "Untimely Inheritance: A Conceptual History of Translation in Early Medieval Europe."

Beyond the academic sphere, Ben enjoys hiking, and like many Hoosiers is an avid mushroom hunter. He also enjoys movies, and wishes he could go to every screening at the IU Cinema.

This December, Ben successfully defended his dissertation and graduated.

Congratulations, Ben, and thanks to the McRobbie family! ¶

JODY ENDERS AND ALUMNA NANCY WARREN HEADLINE FALL 2015 EVENTS

This fall, the Medieval Studies Institute hosted two respected guest speakers.

On 22 October, Jody Enders, Professor of French & Theater at the University of California, Santa Barbara, delivered "Nothing Sacred: Farce, Pornography, and the Medieval Church," a lecture that examined the nature of late-medieval farce. "In literal, spiritual, and satirical ways that are positively (and negatively) pornographic—farce penetrates the veneer of men and women of the cloth. In so doing, it problematizes the true, the false, and the verisimilar in ways that tell us as much about theater as they do about theology, ideally as it makes us laugh."

On 12 November, Nancy Warren, Professor of English at Texas A&M University and an IU alumna (PhD, English, 1997) returned to IU to deliver "Chaucer, The Chaucer Tradition, and Female Monastic Readers," this academic year's MEST Distinguished Alumni Series Lecture. The talk considered "the ways in which women religious at the Benedictine nunnery of Amesbury and the Brigittine nunnery of Syon read and used works by Chau-

cer, as well as works by John Lydgate and Thomas Hoccleve that form part of the Chaucerian tradition, in the later medieval and early modern periods. Nuns in these communities read such potentially surprising texts as Chaucer's Parliament of Fowls, Lydgate's Siege of Thebes, and Hoccleve's Regiment of Princes. The women religious of Amesbury and Syon drew upon these texts to develop rhetorical strategies and courses of action in complex political situations."

On 26 October, Professors Hildegard Keller (Germanic Studies) and Rosemarie McGerr (Comparative Literature) and Jim Canary, Head of Conservation at the Lilly Library, led the inaugural "Monday Scholars' Talk at the Lilly Library" with an informal presentation and discussion about their upcoming spring 2016 Lilly Library exhibition, "The Performative Book from Medieval Europe to the Americas." For details on the exhibit, see the article on the following page!

And, finally, as part of our fall movie series, "Medieval Kings and Queens: History and Fiction," the Institute screened three films for faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and members of the community.

The series opened on 16 September with The Lion in Winter, an acknowledged classic starring Peter O'Toole, Katherine Hepburn, and, in his first film role, Anthony Hopkins. The film presents a mostly imagined drama of an exceptionally dysfunctional family. The year is 1183, and King Henry II of England gives his fiercely outspoken, independent queen, Eleanor, a holiday break from the castle in which he keeps her exiled, so she can spend Christmas with him, their sons, and other special guests-including Henry's mistress. The aging Henry has dangled the prospect of announcing his successor, and princes Richard, Geoffrey, and John jockey for the crown as they and others do their worst to influence the embittered king. Deborah Deliyannis (Associate Professor, History) introduced the film with brief remarks.

The film series continued with a screening of Ridley Scott's director's cut of *Kingdom of Heaven*. The movie tells the invented story of Balian, a vil-

lage blacksmith in 1180s France, who sets out on crusade to atone for his sins and to come to terms with the death of his wife and child. Along the way, he becomes entangled in the politics of the Kingdom of Jerusalem and must grapple with the competing motives of love, power, and the desire to be the perfect knight. Leah Shopkow (Associate Professor, History) introduced this historically-troubled film with brief remarks.

The film series concluded with the third and final chapter of Peter Jack-

son's riveting screen versions of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. Tolkien, a respected medieval scholar whose academic contributions included bringing *Beowulf* out of obscurity, drew inspiration from medieval literature and mythology to write his fiction. *The Return of the King* brings to a close the quest of Frodo and his faithful sidekick Sam to destroy the ring of power that contains the life-force of the trilogy's title character, the dark lord Sauron. In the balance hang not only the fates of friends, comrades-in-arms, and loved

ones, but the very survival of the various kingdoms of Middle Earth and the sovereign kings and queens who strive to rule justly. **Maksymilian Szostalo** (PhD Candidate, History) introduced the film with brief remarks.

Admission to MEST film screenings is free, and the Institute provides free pizza (including vegetarian options), soda, bottled water, and a vegetable tray. For details on our spring 2016 film series, "From Print to Screen," see the feature article below about the upcoming Lilly Library exhibition! ¶

"THE PERFORMATIVE BOOK"

THE LILLY LIBRARY SPRING 2016 EXHIBITION AND RELATED EVENTS

The Lilly Library main gallery exhibit for the Spring 2016 semester, "The Performative Book from Medieval Europe to the Americas," celebrates 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 includes 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 (Professor, Germanic Studies) and Rose-

marie McGerr (Professor, Comparative Literature) have served as co-curators, and other faculty and graduate students have participated in preparations for the exhibit and related events. These include doctoral students Elizabeth Elmi, John Paul Ewing, Maria Fink, Emerson Richards, and Maksymilian Szostalo and faculty members Bridget Balint, Gua-



dalupe Gonzalez Dieguez, Stephen Katz, and Devan Steiner. In addition, 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, which will take place on 7 February at 4 pm in the Art Museum. The concert will include 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. Recordings of chants and readings from works in the exhibit will be part of touchscreen and Ipod programs that will bring these books to life for visitors to the Lilly Library.

The official opening of the exhibit will take place on 14 January and will feature a lecture at 6 pm at the Lilly Library by **Stephen G. Nichols**, Emeritus Professor of French and Humanities at Johns Hopkins University, on the topic "What is a Manuscript Culture? Performance and Tech-

nology of the Manuscript Book." Two additional lectures will follow at the Lilly Library: "Diagrams: Mindmapping in Medieval Art and Beyond," by Jeffrey F. Hamburger, Professor of Art History at Harvard University, on 9 February at 5.30 pm, and "Boccaccio's Geographies: Mapping Ancient and Modern Time and Space," by Michael Papio, Professor of Italian at University of Massachusetts-Amherst, on 3 March at 5.30 pm. Look for announcements about meals and workshops with the guest speakers!

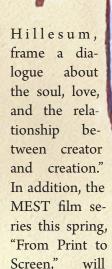
Four films related to the exhibit will

be screened during the semester. On 26 February, at 6.30 pm, the IU Cinema will present *Der Ozean im Fingerhut* (*The Ocean in the Thimble*), directed by Hildegard Elisabeth Keller, with live Foley on stage by sound effects artist **Tony Brewer** from Bloomington (in German with English subtitles by **Julie Lawson**). As Prof. Keller describes this work, "The voices of four women who wrote between 1140 and 1943 come together in a visual and sonic feast for the senses. Cosmological images (many from the Lilly Library) and the visionary writings of the medieval mystics Hildegard of Bingen, Hadewijch, and

Mechthild of Magdeburg, along with the WWII writings of Etty

present three films based on books shown in the Lilly exhibit. On 27 January, at 7 pm, MEST will show The Name of the Rose, directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud and based on Umberto Eco's 1981 novel (introduced by Rosemarie McGerr). On 23 March, at 7 pm, MEST will screen How Tasty Was My Little Frenchman, directed by Nelson Pereira dos Santos and based on Hans Staden's 1557 work Warhaftige Historia (True Story) (introduced by Hildegard Elisabeth Keller). Finally, on 27 April, at 7 pm, MEST will screen A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, directed by Tay Garnett and based on Mark Twain's 1889 novel (introduced by Michael McGerr (Professor, History).

The exhibit will be up all spring semester and will link to a session of presentations about Lilly Library manuscripts at the International Medieval Studies Congress at Kalamazoo in May, organized by Emerson Richards. ¶



mage courtesy Lilly Library

FACULTY AND STUDENT NEWS

Asma Afsaruddin (Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Cultures) published Contemporary Issues in Islam (Edinburgh University Press, 2015). Her previous book Striving in the Path of God: Jihad and Martyrdom in Islamic Thought (Oxford University Press, 2013) won the World Book Award from the Iranian government in 2015. Her book chapter "Competing Visions of Jihad in Early Musannaf Works" was published in the volume Twenty-First Century Jihad: Law, Society, and Military Action, edited by Elisabeth Kendall and Ewan Stein (I.B. Tauris, 2015). Throughout 2015, she gave invited lectures on various aspects of Islamic thought at the annual conference of the Midwest Association of Middle East and Islamic Studies in Louisville, Kentucky; at the Ismaili Centre in Toronto, Canada; at the Hollings Center and EastWest Institute in Istanbul, Turkey, at a Roundtable at the International Studies Association annual conference in New Orleans and at the University of Otago, New Zealand. Professor Afsaruddin was also an invited discussant at the Building Bridges seminar at Georgetown University in Doha, Qatar, May 3-6, 2015, and at the colloquium "Convivencia and Reconquista: Freedom and Responsibility in Medieval Spain" in La Jolla, California, March 12–15, 2015. She was elected member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Religion, the world's largest association of religious studies scholars (2015–1018) and won a grant from the Humanities without Walls Consortium along with co-PIs from Michigan State University for a project on Muslims in the Midwest.

Sarah Bassett (Associate Professor,

History of Art), currently on leave for the academic year 2015–16, is spending the year as a Member at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, where she is working on a book about the understanding, both ancient and modern, of style in the art of late antiquity.

Katie Chapman (PhD Candidate, Musicology) in November launched a beta version of her troubadour melody database (TroubadourMelodies.org), the digital humanities component of her dissertation. The site includes basic information about and transcriptions of the extant troubadour melodies as they are found in the manuscripts. The melodies appear in multiple views so that users can see it divided either by musical phrases or by the line breaks in the manuscript. The Melody Search feature (development in progress) will allow melodies to be searched for either pitch-specific phrases or by contour, providing a more advanced method to find relationships between melodies than has been possible to date. Melodies can currently be searched by their first or last note, number of phrases, range interval, lowest or highest note, or the generation of the author (or those characteristics in combination). The site also gives basic information on the manuscripts and troubadours themselves, as well as tables showing concordances and the total number of melodies by troubadour, manuscript, genre, and catalog number.

Zeynep Elbasan-Bozdogan (PhD Candidate, Central Eurasian Studies) presented "Feminine Voices within Masculine Boundaries: A Comparison of the Female Poets of Amasya and the Women Troubadours of Occitania" at

the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages Graduate Student Preconference in Denver this past November.

Arthur Field (Associate Professor Emeritus, History) writes that his book, The Intellectual Struggle for Florence: Humanists and the Beginnings of the Medici Regime, 1420–1440, has been accepted for publication by the Oxford University Press.

Shannon Gayk (Associate Professor, English) gave two talks this fall, "By Provocative Means: The Powers of Middle English Prayer Rolls," at the Huntington Library symposium on "The Provocative Fifteenth Century," October 16–17, and "Instruments of the Passion in Late-Medieval York," at a symposium on Mobile Markers of Personhood in Medieval Urban Spaces, Duke University, November 20–21.

Lindsey Hansen (PhD Candidate, History of Art) was an invited participant in July in the TEMPLA Medieval Summer School in Barcelona, Spain. The subject of the meeting was "Episcopal, Canonical and Secular Memorial Devices in Medieval Cathedrals: Art, Architecture, Liturgy and Writing." The proceedings of the three-day event will be published in 2016 under the auspices of Oxford University and the British Archaeological Reports. Lindsey was also awarded a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship for the 2015–2016 Academic Year. She spent the first semester of this fellowship researching and writing in Paris, and will be returning to Bloomington in the Spring semester as she works toward finishing and defending her dissertation.

Jacques E. Merceron (Emeritus

Professor of French, FRIT), who retired this past May, has published two articles on epic poetry, "Féerie et paradis dans La Naissance du Chevalier au Cygne (version Elioxe)" in Cahiers de Civilisation Médiévale, t. 58, n° 229, janvier-mars 2015, pp. 27–42, and "Sur les syntagmes chanson de geste, chanter de geste et chanter de... + anthroponyme: contextes, usages et polémiques", in "Si sai encor moult bon estoire, chançon moult bone et anciene". Studies in the Text and Context of Old French Narrative in Honour of Joseph J. Duggan, edited by Sophie Marnette, John F. Levy, and Leslie Zarker Morgan. (Oxford: Medium Aevum Monographs), pp. 125-153; one article on erotic fabliaux, "Rêves érotiques : humour, désir et anxiété sexuelle dans les fabliaux Li Sohait des Vez et Le Moigne," Le Moyen Âge, 2015, t. CXXI, fasc. 2, pp. 409-431). Additionally, he has published three articles on French legends and popular traditions, "Marie emperiere des infernaux paluds: la Vierge, les marais et la mort" in Mythologie Française, juin 2015, no 259, pp. 50-65; "Croyances, rites, formules conjuratoires et charmes relatifs aux abeilles" in Les Cahiers d'Apistoria, 2015, no 13, pp. 4-21; "Un aperçu de la religion populaire en Limousin: Li Pitit Petar de Diu, une ancienne prière populaire (Haute-Vienne et Charente)" in Aguiaine. Le Subiet, juillet-septembre 2015, t. XLVIV, 3e livraison, pp. 15-21 (1e partie); (2nd part forthcoming in september-december 2015 issue). He is currently working on a book on Church, Money, and the System of Spiritual Accounting according to 12th and 13th c. French didactic and edifying works.

Evelyn Reynolds (PhD Candidate, English) gave two presentations this past year, "Beowulf's Poetics of Absorption: Narrative Syntax and the Illusion of Stability in the Fight with

Grendel's Mother" in February at the Illinois Medieval Association at St. Louis University, and "Wher beth they biforen us weren?": Form and Affect in Medieval English Transience Poems," in November at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention in Columbus, Ohio. She also has two articles accepted for publication, "Beowulf's Poetics of Absorption: Narrative Syntax and the Illusion of Stability in the Fight with Grendel's Mother," forthcoming in EMS, and "Trance of Involvement: Absorption and Denial in Fifteenth-Century Middle English Pietas," forthcoming in JEGP.

Emerson Storm Fillman Richards (PhD Candidate, Comparative Literature) attended in July a seminar on Greek and Latin paleography under the auspices of the University of Cassino and the Abbey of Montecassino. She presented her research, conducted while in Paris, on a French Apocalypse and chivalric/fin'amours manuscript in June at the 12th Annual Symposium of the International Society of Medievalists. She is looking forward to a two-day intensive manuscript & codicology seminar in April at the University of South Carolina, hosted by Scott Gwara, with lectures by Raymond Clemens. She has also organized a session on the Lilly's resources for the International Congress on Medieval Studies in May.

Cynthia Rogers graduated with her PhD in July and is currently teaching as a Visiting Lecturer at IU. She has also been invited to be one of the speakers at the Marco Institute's Manuscript Workshop in Spring 2016.

Wayne Storey (Professor of Italian, FRIT) in early November presented "La filologia materiale dei testi francesi, occitanici e italiani: la tradizione nordamericana" at the conference "La

philologie romane aujourd'hui: à la croisée des expériences" (Nov. 5-6) at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. On 11 November he gave an afternoon seminar on new trends in textual studies and textual editing at the University of Verona: "Materialità e immaterialità dei testi nell'era digitale (con prospezioni circa l'edizione critica)." In November his essay, "Il Decamerone e l'eredità veneziana dell'autenticità dal 1471 al 1729," on the editorial competition between Venetian and Florentine publishers of Boccaccio's works was published in the volume Boccaccio nel Veneto: Settecento anni di incroci mediterranei a Venezia. Atti del Convegno internazionale Venezia-Wake Forest University, Casa Artom, 20-22 giugno 2013. On 2 December his essay on Boccaccio's editorial vocabulary, "A Note on Boccaccio's Dantean Categories; or, What's in a Book? libro, volume, pistole, rime", appeared in the inaugural issue of the journal Philology (2015).

John Walbridge (Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures) spent the spring semester (March-June, from the Chinese New Year to the Dragon Boat Festival) at the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies at Peking University as the Ken'an Rifa'i Distinguished Visiting Professor of Islamic Studies. While there he gave a series of lectures of rationalism in Islam at Peking University and another on the philosophy of Suhrawardi at Minzu University, the Chinese national university for ethnic and religious minorities. He also lectured at universities in Shanghai and Xi'an. He published The Alexandrian Epitomes of Galen, vol. 1, consisting of an edition and translation with commentary of three late antique commentaries on works of Galen preserved only in Arabic. ¶

MEDIEVAL GLOBALISMS

MOVEMENT IN THE GLOBAL MIDDLE AGES

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Spring Symposium of The Octobeval Studies Institute of Indiana University

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. CECILY HILSDALE, DEPT. OF ART HISTORY AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

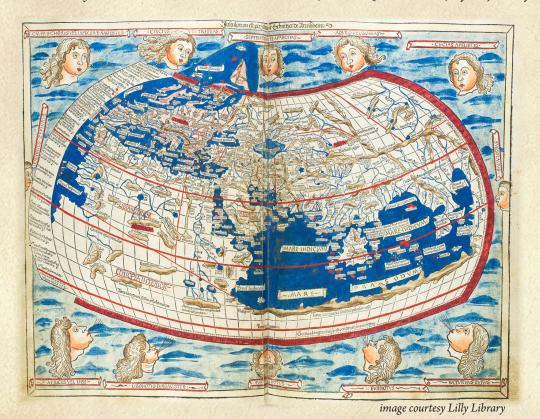
8-9 April 2016 • Indiana University, Bloomington

The Medieval Studies Institute of Indiana University invites proposals dealing with any aspect of Medieval Globalisms: movement, discourse, and cultural exchange. Scholars have rigorously interrogated modern models of globalism, but what does "global" mean for the Middle Ages? This symposium aims to identify the global perspectives that emerged in this period in which people, ideas, and objects traversed the globe through travel, trade, war, and exodus, and to explore the larger geographic context in which the Middle Ages occurred. In addition to the geographic, papers might explore studies of medieval conceptions of the globe and its relation to the self. Rather than viewing medieval places through the model of center and periphery, we ask participants to consider a de-centered medieval globe in which no one locale is given preference over another and to envision the period as a time of dynamic cross-cultural interactions. We encourage proposals about texts, traditions, and localities outside of traditional, Eurocentric medieval studies.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Movement of Objects and People
- Epidemics and Disease Transmission
- Trade Networks
- Reception and Translation of Texts across Cultures
- Exoticism and Fetishization
- Medieval Conceptions of Geography and Mapping
- Ocean and Environmental Studies
- Cosmopolitanism and Urban Centers
- · Diplomacy, Tribute, and Gift-Giving
- Linguistic Interactions
- Local and Global Knowledges
- Alternative Conceptions of the Self and Otherness
- Universalizing Medieval Historiography
- Travel Narratives and Pilgrimage Literature
- Encyclopedism and Technical Writing
- Scientific and Medical Knowledge
- Pedagogy and Teaching Globalisms
- Religion and Religious Minorities

Please send an abstract of no more than 300 words to Miles Blizard (mblizard@indiana.edu) by 15 January 2016



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 Szostalo, 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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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Greetings to members and friends of the Institute, on campus and off!

As fall semester draws to a close, I first want to thank all those who have participated in our events this past semester, which have included lively presentations and conversations. This includes our guest speakers and those who introduced our films, but also the students who have asked questions at lectures and discussed their own research interests at lunches with our guests. As Jody Enders wrote to me after her visit, "Thank you so much again for the spectacular welcome. I had a blast and learned a lot from all my wonderful colleagues there. Of course, I'm also green with envy about your equally wonderful students. I don't know how you do it there at IU, but the results are unequaled anywhere else I've ever visited. It was glorious!"

I also want to offer sincere thanks to the McRobbie family for their continued support of advanced graduate students through the Andrea McRobbie Graduate Fellowship in Medieval History. The students and faculty appreciate the opportunity to reward outstanding students and commemorate the late Mrs. McRobbie's interests in this way.

Finally, I want to offer sincere thanks to Craig Kinney for his generosity in sponsoring the new Jane Bosart Undergraduate Awards in Medieval Studies. 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. We appreciate Mr. Kinney's commemoration of his

mother through these awards: Jane Bosart Kinney received her degree from IU in 1939 and was a life-long supporter of the university.

Best wishes for the holidays and coming semester,

Rosemarie McGerr



JANE BOSART UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

FALL SEMESTER

• Conference Stipend: travel, lodging, and registration costs for the Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting (Boston, February 2016)

SPRING SEMESTER

- Merit award for Outstanding MEST Student: \$1000
- Merit award for MEST Certificate Completion Award: \$1000
- Conference Stipend: travel, lodging, and registration costs for the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, May 2016)
- Summer Study Scholarship: tuition for one 3-credit summer course that will be counted toward the MEST minor or certificate

For details and deadlines, visit indiana.edu/medieval/undergraduate-scholarship-opportunities.shtml