



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

Vol. 27 No. 1 Fall 2017

Fall 2017 was busy for the Medieval Studies Institute, full of stimulating roundtables, hands-on projects, and films.

We participated in the First Thursdays Festival of the Arts and Humanities in September, hosting a booth on **“How to Make a Medieval Book”** (pictured at right), where we invited students, faculty, and members of our Bloomington community to learn about how vellum is made, try writing with a quill, color illuminations, and bind a book.



Also in September, **Ellen Muehlberger** (University of Michigan) gave our annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture, **“Perpetual Adjustment: Untangling Tradition, Cult, and the Passio Perpetuae et Felicitatis.”** And IU alumna **Gina Brandolino** (University of Michigan) led a graduate workshop on **“Writing About Your Teaching.”**

In October, MEST co-sponsored a lecture organized by FRIT: **E.R. Truitt’s** (History, Bryn Mawr) **“Making Time: The Codex and the Mechanical Clock in Late Antiquity and the Latin Middle Ages.”** Her talk was preceded by an interdisciplinary roundtable on **“Premodern Technologies,”** co-sponsored by Renaissance Studies and featuring **Alison Calhoun** (FRIT, IU), **Nahyan Fancy** (History, Depauw), **Patricia Ingham** (English, IU), **Domenico Bertoloni Meli** (HPS, IU), **William Newman** (HPS, IU), and **E.R. Truitt**.

MEST GSAC sponsored a **Transcribe-a-thon** workshop, also in October, during which graduate students from a range of disciplines worked together to transcribe portions of a fifteenth-century manuscript including the *Disticha catonis* and the *Historia de preliis* in Middle English and Latin, respectively.

On October 31st, the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s circulation of his 95 Theses, we partnered with the Renaissance Studies Program to host a roundtable discussion of Luther’s medieval precursors and early modern legacy. Discussants included **Constance Furey** (Religious Studies), **Shannon Gayk** (English), **Eric MacPhail** (French and Italian), **Dana Marsh** (Jacobs School of Music), **Reverend Lyle McKee** (St. Thomas Lutheran Church), and **Robert Schneider** (History). The panel was moderated by **Sarah Van der Laan** (Comparative Literature). (Pictured top of page 2)

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FALL EVENTS

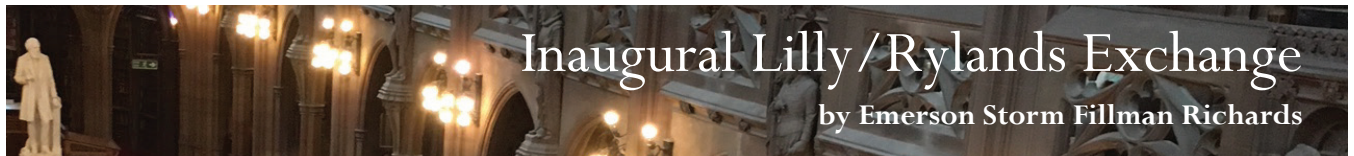
In November, we hosted a symposium, “**Representing Violence in Premodern Cultures,**” featuring visiting speakers **Warren C. Brown** (History, Caltech) and **Mitchell Merback** (Art History, Johns Hopkins), and local participants: **Asma Afsaruddin** (NELC), **Asaad Alsaleh** (NELC), **Michael Ing** (Religious Studies), **Morten Oxenboell** (EALC), and **Nick Vogt** (EALC).

In December, following the last film in our series, *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, we held a brownbag discussion about Joan of Arc featuring a paper by **Winnifred Sullivan** (Religious Studies) and a response by **Karma Lochrie** (English), co-organized by the Renaissance Studies Program.



Throughout the fall semester, MEST co-sponsored a film series at the IU Cinema with Renaissance Studies, the departments of English and Religious Studies, and the College of Arts and Humanities Institute, entitled “**Heretics, Revolutionaries, and Reformers.**” The films included *Becket*, introduced by **Patricia Ingham** (English), *A Man for All Seasons* introduced by **Robert Schneider** (History), *Luther* introduced by **Constance Furey** (Religious Studies), and *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, introduced by **Winifred Sullivan** (Religious Studies).

Thanks to our students, faculty, and co-sponsors for a excellent season of events!



I was fortunate to be selected as part of the inaugural exchange between the Lilly Library (IU) and the John Rylands Research Institute (University of Manchester). Since September, I have been living in Manchester and conducting my research on the thirteenth-century Anglo-Norman Apocalypse manuscripts and their cultural context, though Latin 19, a fourteenth century Flemish Apocalypse held in the Rylands, has been my focus. This Apocalypse, while seemingly beyond my immediate scope, replicates the iconography of two early Anglo-Norman Apocalypses (Oxford, Bodleian Ms. Auct. D. 4. 17 and New York, Pierpont Morgan Library Ms. M. 524). These three manuscripts are classified as belonging to the same family as the manuscript, the Paris Apocalypse (Paris, BnF Ms. 403), on which I am writing my dissertation. The Paris and Manchester Apocalypses act as set points of cultural transition and I am looking forward to dissecting the importance of the endurance of this iconography from a movement from monastic to lay manuscript readership, and from manuscript to print culture. While based at the Rylands, I have also been able to do some necessary research

travel. Under the auspices of the James Marrow Travel Award, I visited the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge and saw another Anglo-Norman Apocalypse manuscript, the Nuneaton Book, which I will be able to use to shed light on a possible mode of production for these manuscripts. I visited the Bodleian to see the Bodleian Apocalypse, and the BnF to consult secondary materials. Michelle Brown, former Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts at the British Library, visited the Rylands and I was able to show her the Manchester Apocalypse and consult with her about facets of its possible production and reception.

Additionally, I was invited to co-teach a session of the course on the History of the Book for students pursuing their Masters in Medieval Studies at UoM. I will leave the Rylands with an updated and revised description and bibliography of the Manchester Apocalypse, as well as transcription embedded in a document that can be used as the basis for TEI coding in the future. The Manchester Apocalypse is now digitized and a multi-spectral image scan of the unique marginal notation has been made, and I am hoping this will be a catalyst for more research to be done on this important manuscript.

Introducing the New MEST Website



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The Medieval Studies Institute

ABOUT

UNDERGRADUATE

GRADUATE

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Interdisciplinary study of the medieval world

We encourage and support interdisciplinary scholarship and research of the Middle Ages. Our students study a broad range of topics focused on the medieval period that cut across disciplines while gaining specific knowledge in an area of interest.

[Explore Medieval Studies](#)

MEST has a new look coming soon! We are in the final stages of preparing our new website to go live. The new home for MEST online will make it easier to stay up to date on news and events, find course listings, contact our affiliated faculty and staff, or donate to one of our programs! Visit us at medieval.indiana.edu.

MEST GSAC UPDATES

MEST GSAC is looking forward to our 30th annual spring symposium, to be held on April 6-7th. This year our theme is **'Force, Resistance, and Mercy'**. We're pleased to announce our program will be made public early in the spring semester. This year, our speakers come to us from the US, Canada, the UK, and Nigeria. Our keynote speaker will be Professor **Elizabeth Allen** (University of California, Irvine), pictured right, whose current work examines medieval ideas of sanctuary.

The symposium's eight panels will cover: "Chivalry and Elite Violence in the Late Medieval Mediterranean", "Women and Textual Violence", "Passivity and Resistance", "License to Kill", "Honor, Kin, and Violence", "Vulnerable Others", "Heroism and Trauma", and, "Choosing Mercy: Alternatives."

We are also pleased to announce the first annual IU Medieval Studies Symposium Paper Prize. All graduate students from outside of IU whose papers have been accepted for the symposium are invited to submit their papers by March 2, 2018 to be considered. Papers will be evaluated by a panel of IU medieval faculty. The prize of \$250 will be awarded before the symposium to help defray costs of travel, and the winner will be noted on the program.



SHIRLEY JEAN COX AWARDS

MEST is delighted to announce two new sets of awards and fellowships for our students made possible by the generous support of Cheryl Kinney of Dallas, TX.

For undergraduate students, we will offer two prizes and several grants.

Prizes: Nominations for these prizes will be due April 1, 2018 and will require a letter from the faculty nominator and a copy of the thesis or paper.

- The first prize is an award of \$300 for the best undergraduate honors thesis on a medieval topic.
- The second is a prize of \$150 for the best undergraduate paper (of at least seven pages) written in a medieval course or on a medieval topic during the 2017-2018 academic year.

Grants: The Institute will also be awarding several grants of \$500 to \$1500 to support undergraduate study abroad, workshops, unpaid internships, and summer study related to medieval topics. Applications, which will include a description of the program or project, a letter from a faculty mentor, a resume, and a provisional budget, are due on February 15, 2018.

The Shirley Jean Cox awards for **Graduate Students** will provide travel support of \$750-\$1500 to present academic research at major conferences (excluding Kalamazoo, which will continue to be supported using the Flannigan Funds). These will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applications, which will include a cover letter, the paper title and proposal, and a budget, are due on February 15, 2018.

McRobbie Fellowship Winner 2017-18



The Andrea S. McRobbie Fellowship is an award that is made possible by a generous gift by President Michael McRobbie and his family in memory of Andrea 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 was the tenth year the fellowship has been awarded. This year's fellowship was awarded to **Natalie Levin**, a Ph.D. Candidate in the History department (pictured on the right accepting her award).

Natalie studies the relations between Muslims, Christians and Jews in early medieval Spain. In addition to her coursework in History and Medieval Studies, Natalie has spent the past three years learning Arabic, so that she can read the Muslim as well as the Christian (Latin) sources. In her dissertation, Natalie focuses on the relationship between the Muslim Umayyad caliphate of Spain and the Christian Ottonian Empire of Germany/Italy in the tenth century, analyzing the diplomatic relationship these groups shared and exploring how their communication and rivalry with one another helped shape their imperial self-representations. She has been in Spain since September for a year on a Fulbright fellowship, where she is doing archival research for her dissertation project.

VISITING MEST FACULTY

Sarah Ifft Decker is a visiting lecturer this year in the Borns Jewish Studies Program. She received her Ph.D. in History from Yale this past spring. Her research focuses on medieval Iberia, which was home to thriving Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities.



Her current book project compares how Jewish and Christian women negotiated economic life in medieval Catalonia in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, focusing on the cities of Barcelona, Girona,

and Vic. Her book comes out of her dissertation, "Gender, Religious Difference, and the Notarial Economy in Medieval Catalonia, 1250–1350."

Her next research project will explore how Jews in Medieval Iberia used the notaries, Christian public officials and legal professionals, to record contracts related to inheritance, marriage, and divorce, as well as the limits of these intersections between Jewish and Christian legal culture.

Elizabeth Hebbard is also a recent graduate of Yale and is a visiting assistant professor in the department of French and Italian. Her work focuses on medieval French lyric composed in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries and transmitted in manuscripts copied in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, exploring notions of authorship and the relationship between lyric text and melodic setting. She is also interested in manuscript fragments, and in using digital tools to virtually reassemble books that have been dismantled and libraries that have been dispersed.



She is working on two separate yet related book projects. One is a new catalogue of troubadour lyric manuscripts, which she demonstrates are more numerous than previously thought. Her second book is a critical history of the troubadour lyric archive based on the revised and updated material record presented in the catalogue.

MEST First Year Fellowship Award

Joshua Harris is the recipient of our First Year Fellowship in Medieval Studies.

Josh is a first year doctoral student in Germanic Linguistics and Philology. He writes that he is interested in all things old and Germanic, but especially in studying the synthesis of Christian themes and Germanic warrior culture found in religious literature written in Old English, Old High German, Old Saxon, and Old Norse.



RICHARD RUFUS PROJECT RECEIVES NEH FUNDING

The tiny, spidery handwriting was barely legible even with a magnifying glass. The manuscript was more than 700 years old, and hadn't been opened in decades.



A note at the top of the first folio read “by Walter Burley,” but as **Professor Rega Wood** (pictured left) deciphered the text, she realized with excitement that it was most definitely not his physics lectures. “It was a thrilling moment, possibly the most thrilling of my career,” even as she shivered alone in the reading room of an

East German library, Professor Wood recalls. “The text wasn’t Burley’s, but it also wasn’t by anyone else then known to have lectured on Aristotle’s physics and the rest of his natural philosophy.” Based on its age and its being found with another work by Richard Rufus of Cornwall, she suspected that it was also by Rufus.

Though it took Professor Wood more than a decade to confirm the attribution, the text did indeed turn out to be by Richard Rufus of Cornwall, an early thirteenth-century teacher at the new universities of Paris and Oxford. As a Franciscan, Rufus had a horror of intellectual pride and probably would have preferred to remain anonymous. And that’s what happened - for two centuries his works were studied and his words were quoted. They were even attributed to great and famous authors, but never to him. Beginning in 1450 his works were considered lost. It wasn’t until 500 years later that scholars began the process of rediscovering Rufus. In 1985, Professor Wood set out on



a decades-long quest that took her to libraries throughout Europe in order to describe all the surviving manuscripts of his works. “We once thought of early medieval philosophy as just as boring paraphrases of the works of ancient Greek philosophers such as Aristotle,” says Professor Wood. “These rediscovered works have shown us that the birth of Scholasticism—the intellectual method of inquiry that lasted from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries—began in large part with early teachers such as Rufus.” And it began not with dull acceptance of ancient arguments, but with logical reconstruction and exciting criticism.



Since that first discovery, Professor Wood has dedicated her career to collecting, editing, and publishing Rufus’ treatises. Since 2000 this work has been done under the auspices of the Richard Rufus Project (RRP) at Stanford University and Indiana University in Bloomington. The works’ impact among scholars studying medieval philosophy is increasing in large part thanks to the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Most recently, NEH awarded Indiana University \$330,000 in funding to support the production of RRP’s critical editions. Also from IU, **Dr. Jennifer Ottman** (Philosophy), pictured above at left, works on the project as Associate Editor.

Retiring MEST Faculty



Wendy Gillespie, Professor of Early Music, retired on June 1 from the Jacobs School of Music, where she had been on the faculty for thirty-two years, as a full professor of viola da gamba and key member of the Historical Performance Institute. At the Jacobs School, she taught courses in early bowed strings, performance studies and reading early musical notation. She also coached chamber music, presented concerts of medieval and renaissance music, organized and taught at workshops and seminars in early music performance all over the world, all the while working and traveling as a performing musician. She was an active member of the Medieval Studies Institute, not only organizing musical events but also participating in some of the Institute's reading groups and serving on its Executive Board for many years. Her work in her field was honored in 2010 by an Alumnae Achievement Award from Wellesley

College and in 2011 with the Thomas Binkley Award from Early Music America, the national service organization for the field of early music. She continues to live in Bloomington (after retiring) and is taking some time for well-earned rest.

Since leaving Bloomington, **Hildegard Keller**, a Professor of medieval German literature and specialist in medieval mysticism, the arts, and film, has returned to Zürich, where she continues to initiate various projects through Bloomlight Productions, founded in Bloomington in 2013, but now a Swiss film and media production company. Over the past months she has been working on the film, "Silvana and the Mouse" (photo at left), which takes as its point of departure a fourteenth-century house, Brunngasse 8, in the old town of Zurich, with late-medieval wall paintings and a dark history behind them, but now inhabited by a poet born in Italy in 1918. The documentary will include animation, which is currently under development. In the

spring, Professor Keller will teach a seminar at the University of Zürich about multimedia storytelling for which Brunngasse 8 will provide the principal focus. Professor Keller also continues to work on Alfonsina Storni, having recently presented the first volume of her prose works in Italian at a book fair in Rome) as well as on Hannah Arendt ("Arendt in America").



Photo copyright: Carter Ross / Bloomlight Productions GmbH

Wayne Storey, Professor of French and Italian and an NEH Fellow from 2014-2018, retired from IU at the end of 2017. An expert in medieval Italian and Old Occitan literature with a special focus on manuscript and early book cultures, Professor Storey published monographs on and editions of medieval poetry, culminating in his ongoing editing and archival project, the Petrarchive (<http://petrarchive.org>): 'rich-text' digital editions and material commentary of Petrarch's *Rerum Vulgarium Fragmenta* (*Canzoniere*) in collaboration with John Walsh (IU) and Isabella Magni (Newberry Library). During his 17 years at IU, Professor Storey taught classes in medieval Italian literature but also in medieval Provence, manuscript cultures, material philology, and textual editing. He also served two terms as the Director of the Medieval Studies Institute, during which he established the *Mediaevalia* at the Lilly series. Professor Storey broadened and deepened the Institute's reach and resources, bringing the Journals Initiative into the program and successfully lobbying for fellowships for our graduate students.

In the next years, Wayne will be completing his commentary for the Petrarchive Project on the manuscript traditions of the *Fragmenta*, two book projects on material philology, and two new digital editions, while continuing his collaboration with the journals *Medioevo letterario d'Italia* and *Textual Cultures*. Now living in western New York, Wayne will be spending much of his time between the Cornell rare books room and libraries in France and Italy.





Letter from the Director

Dear Medieval Studies Friends,

As this newsletter attests, it has been a busy fall semester for Medieval Studies (MEST). Over the past few months, we fostered interdisciplinary conversations about the Middle Ages through roundtable discussions, lectures, and hands-on workshops, and we organized events that introduced aspects of the medieval world to hundreds of students, staff, and members of the Bloomington community. We co-sponsored lectures, roundtables, and a film series with a half-dozen other departments and units. We hosted a number of visiting lecturers, and learned from many of our own faculty experts. We welcomed two new visiting faculty members, who have quickly become engaged members of our medieval studies community, and we said goodbye to several valued colleagues.

We have also been looking toward the spring semester and have been planning an exciting series of events. In addition to our traditional spring events - Mediaevalia at the Lilly and our annual symposium - we will be hosting our second annual January faculty roundtable, this one on "Medieval Translation: Then and Now," as well as a number of other lectures and workshops. See below for our current calendar.

Finally, over the past year we have been working hard in the MEST office on our new website, which will be published early in 2018. We hope that you will bookmark it in your browser as it will not only include an up-to-date calendar of events, but will also feature news of the many projects and accomplishments of our community. You can also keep apprised of our activity on social media by following us on Facebook or Twitter. We hope, too, that you will keep in touch with us, letting us know where your studies of the Middle Ages have taken you.

Best Wishes,

Shannon Gayk
Director, Medieval Studies Institute

SPRING EVENTS

January 19, 12:30-1:30: **"Medieval Translation: Then and Now,"** a roundtable discussion with IU Faculty: **Sarah Ifft Decker** (Jewish Studies), **Paul Losensky** (Comp. Lit.), **Rosemarie McGerr** (Comp. Lit.), **Jeremy Schott** (Religious Studies), **Leah Shopkowitz** (History), **John Walbridge** (NELC). Distinguished Alumni Room, IMU.

February 16-17: Mediaevalia at the Lilly Library: **"Liturgical Manuscripts in Person."** Featuring **Alison Alstatt** (U of Northern Iowa), **Susan Boynton** (Columbia University), **John Glasenapp** (Columbia),

Elizabeth Hebbard (FRIT, IU), and **Diane Reilly** (Art History, IU)

April 6-7: Spring Symposium: **"Force, Resistance, and Mercy: Medieval Violence and Nonviolence."** Featuring a keynote lecture by **Elizabeth Allen** (UC Irvine).

April 20, 12:00-1:30pm: Spring Luncheon and Awards Ceremony

Stay tuned for more information on our website!

CONTACT MEST

The members of the administrative staff of MEST are: **Shannon Gayk**, Director, **Emilie Cox**, Assistant to the Director, and **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.

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

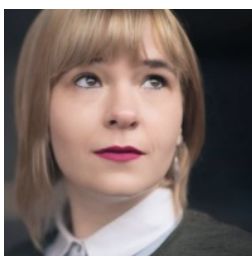
mestdir@indiana.edu: for direct and confidential communications with the Director; this is an administrative account we have established that will transfer from director to director. *Please note that dirmest@indiana.edu is the personal account of another faculty member.*

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 Emilie at mest@indiana.edu.

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Check out IU Prof [@klochire](#)'s new book, "Nowhere in the Middle Ages" featured at the Penn Press booth at [#kzoo2017](#)

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Thanks to authors S. Vander Elst, I. Nelson, S. Farmer...