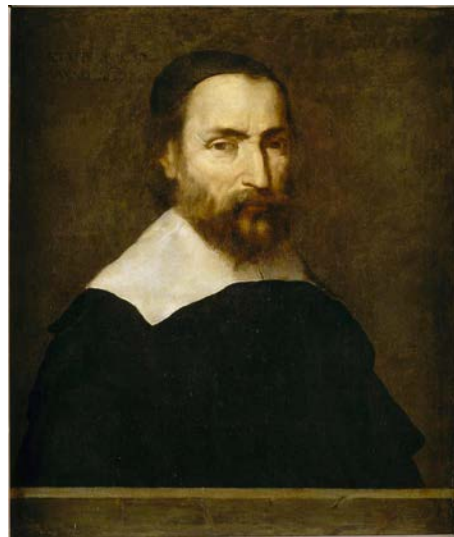


The Renaissance Studies Program
“Individuals, Groups, and the Constitution of Renaissance Societies” Series
Presents the fourth lecture by

PETER N. MILLER

*Peiresc and the Merchants of Marseille:
The Two Cultures in Action*



5:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 9, 2013
Sassafras Room
Indiana Memorial Union

The Provençal humanist Nicolas Fabri de Peiresc (1580-1637) is known today for his encyclopedic erudition, extraordinary curiosity, and commitment to collaborative research, all of which earned him Pierre Bayle’s approbation as the “procurator-general” of the Republic of Letters. Unknown, however, is his close working relationship with the merchants, mariners and ships captains of Marseille. Yet no satisfactory account of how he managed his Mediterranean correspondence network can be offered in the absence of this very practical dimension. Moreover, the problem this points to extends well beyond Peiresc: the separation of scholarship from the practical life in our historical hindsight. Reconstructing Peiresc’s intellectual life in its fullest dimension, therefore, can serve as a model for a kind of “material culture of cultural history.”

Peter N. Miller is Dean and Professor at the Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY

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