

GSC NEWSLETTER

The Graduate Student Committee of the Medieval Academy of America

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Spring 2017

Message from the Chair

As the end of the spring semester approaches, many of the GSC initiatives are coming into fruition. The GSC sponsored two pedagogy-themed roundtable discussions, one at the MAA Annual Meeting in Toronto (April 2017) called “Tearing Down Walls, Building Bridges: Medieval Diversity and Cross-Cultural Encounters in Syllabus Design and Teaching,” and the other at ICMS Kalamazoo in Michigan (May 2017) titled “To Gladly Teche: Becoming Great Teachers.” Both panels engaged in discussions about approaches to teaching medieval studies in academia.

We also kicked off our mentorship program at the MAA Annual Meeting, and made successful matches at ICMS Kalamazoo. The mentorship program aims to bring together students and faculty across disciplines to discuss academic and career development. If you are planning to attend IMC Leeds this summer, please consider signing up for the program!

In addition to preparing for the conference season, I am happy to announce that the GSC has welcomed three new members: Theodore Chelis, Courtney Krolikoski, and Emerson Richards. I am honored to serve as the new chair and look forward to working with each of the new members this year. I would like to thank our outgoing members, Anya Adair, Justin Barker, and Tamara Caudill for all of their hard work on our conference panels, newsletters, digital presence, and mentorship projects. A special thanks to Anya, whose dedication to her role as chair has made the work of the committee both successful and enjoyable. I would also like to thank our returning members, Caitlin Hutchinson and Katherine Sedovic, for their continuing commitment to the GSC!

We would like to wish everyone a happy end to the academic year. We look forward to meeting you at future conferences!

Sincerely,
Danielle Griego
MAA GSC Chair, 2017-2018

2015-2016 MAA Graduate Student Committee

Danielle Griego (University of Missouri) - Chair
dngg28@mail.missouri.edu

Theodore Chelis (Pennsylvania State University)
tchelis@gmail.com

Caitlin Hutchison (University of Delaware)
chutch@udel.edu

Courtney Krolikoski (McGill University)
courtney.krolikoski@mail.mcgill.ca

Emerson Richards (Indiana University)
emstrich@indiana.edu

Katherine Sedovic (Trinity College Dublin)
sedovick@tcd.ie

Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with questions, comments, and concerns. We strive to serve the graduate students of the MAA, and are always happy to hear from our constituency.

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Spotlight on Professional Organizations: Getting Involved in the Medieval Community



The International Marie de France Society (IMFS) encourages you to develop your professional connections with Marie de France scholars internationally. The IMFS was founded during the seventh triennial Congress of the International Courtly Literature Society (July 26-August 1, 1992). The IMFS works to establish friendly and productive exchanges between scholars and students interested in Marie de France and the anonymous lays.

IMFS sponsors three sessions annually at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (ICMS) held at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Topics and titles of sessions are decided at the annual business meeting held during the ICMS. This past year, our panels included *The Versatile Marie de France*, *Teaching Marie de France: A Roundtable*, and *Performances of Yonec*. The 2018 call for papers will be issued by mid-August. We welcome proposals from graduate students. Abstracts should reach the session organizer by September 15, 2017. We offer registration reimbursement annually to a graduate student participating in one of our panels.

Both the IMFS [Facebook group](#) and [Twitter](#) provide active forums for connecting with Marie de France scholars about recent research, new publications, and events of interest, as well as engaging in active discussions with the IMFS community.

In addition to research exchanges through our annual conference sessions and virtual forums, IMFS encourages graduate students to participate in a variety of professional development opportunities within the society, including: Graduate Student

Representative (a two year term with an opening available in 2018); IMFS Webmaster (yearly renewal, with an opening available in 2018); and Social Media Coordinator (yearly renewal).

The society's annual publication, *Le Cygne: Journal of the International Marie de France Society*, issued in the Fall, includes articles, book reviews, and bibliographies for Marie de France and the anonymous lays, as well as relevant contextual research. The journal has served since 1995 to promote scholarship and facilitate research exchanges among both its members and the broader community of scholars interested in Marie de France. Articles go through a double-blind peer review process and are subsequently indexed in the MLA International Bibliography. Beginning in the coming year, articles published in *Le Cygne* will be available on JStor as well. We welcome submissions from graduate students and have a record of publishing high-quality student work. For the submission timeline and guidelines, contact Glyn S. Burgess, Editor: af02@liverpool.ac.uk.

We welcome graduate student and early career scholars as members and encourage you to become involved in IMFS. Membership is open to all persons interested in any aspect of scholarship on Marie de France and the anonymous lays. Annual dues for graduate students are \$15, and for early career scholars, \$25. Inquiries about membership should be sent to IMFS Secretary/Treasurer Ed Ouellette: ed_oulette1@me.com.



GSC at the MAA Annual Meeting

GSC member Katherine Sedovic attended the MAA Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada (April 6-8 2017) in place of GSC Chair Anya Adair. Katherine was involved in the MAA council and business meetings, where she presented a brief report on the GSC's work over the past year. The report was well received, especially in terms of the GSC's expansion of both its mentorship program and newsletter.

A significant topic of discussion at the MAA council meeting was the need to discuss with and demonstrate to graduate students the wide range of 'alt-ac' (alternative-academic) careers available to young medievalists. The GSC has decided to focus its 2018 MAA Annual Meeting round table on the topic of alt-ac careers, and is in the process of contacting panelists and putting together the proposal. Stay tuned for more information regarding the GSC panel and the 2018 MAA Annual Meeting at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia (March 1-3, 2018).

The GSC also sponsored a panel at the MAA Annual Meeting focusing on how to teach diversity in university-level medieval studies classes. The panel was well-attended, and resulted in a lively discussion among panelists and audience members about techniques for representing the diversity of the Middle Ages in often strictly organized curriculums.

A highlight of the 2017 MAA Annual Meeting was a three-day graduate student workshop focusing on the cataloguing and digital editing of medieval manuscripts. The six participants worked hands-on with manuscript fragments, describing, cataloguing, and encoding them using TEI and XML text coding. Workshop participants also enjoyed a tour of the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies (PIMS) outstanding and wide-ranging collection of medieval manuscripts. Many thanks to the hard work of the workshop organizers: Jessica Henderson, Cai Henderson, Julia Mattison, Julia King, Anna Wilson, and Gina Hurley.

GSC at ICMS Kalamazoo

To Gladly Teche: Becoming Great Teachers (A Roundtable)

Organizers: Joshua Eyler (Rice University); Caitlin Hutchison (University of Delaware); Tamara Bentley Caudill (Tulane University); Frank Napolitano (Radford University); Shyama Rajendran (George Washington University)

Presiders: Joshua Eyler and Caitlin Hutchison

Panelists: Kalani Craig (Indiana University-Bloomington); Christine Evans (University of Wisconsin-Madison); Beth Fischer (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill); Meg Gregory (Illinois State University); Shyama Rajendra; Frank Napolitano; Gregory Roper (University of Dallas)

The GSC co-sponsored a roundtable discussion with the Center for Teaching Excellence at Rice University. The goal of the panel was to address concerns about teaching medieval studies in both lower- and upper-level classes. Questions the panelists sought to answer were: How do students balance the demands of teaching while working on their own scholarship? What should students do when teaching opportunities are rare in their departments? How can medievalists utilize their own specialities within general courses? And how can students transfer skills learned teaching lower-level classes to upper-level classes, as required for the job application process?

The panelists and audience engaged in a vibrant discussion about different pedagogical approaches to medieval studies. Panelists suggested ways to connect with students while leading seminars as teaching assistants, provided models on how to address non-specialist audiences, and put forth ideas about how to incorporate the digital world into medieval studies. After the roundtable, the GSC hosted a reception, which was well-attended, and gave graduate students an opportunity to meet people both within and outside of their fields of study.

Conversion Narrative

Valentina Grub

PhD Candidate, History of Art
University of Saint Andrews



There was no epiphanic moment when I knew I wanted to become a medievalist. Alas, I didn't pull a pen from a stone and become the 'once and future medievalist', but rather I just sort of flowed into medieval studies. I guess the seeds were sown early though, since my favorite film growing up was Disney's *Robin Hood* (the animated version with the animals). My secondary schools were always very small, and so I didn't get to study much specialized history until college. Though I did join the SCA, I can't say that I was a dedicated member, and I've actually never been to a Renaissance Fayre!

After matriculating as an undeclared major at Wellesley College, I finally chose Classical Civilization as one major, and Medieval and Renaissance Literature as my other. I remember a few classes that were instrumental in fanning the flames of my medieval studies. The first was a Chaucer class taught by the inestimable Dr. Kathryn Lynch- it was fun and interactive, and we even had a movie showing of Pasolini's *Canterbury Tales*. The next major class was Arthurian Legends, taught by Dr. Lynch's former student and now professor, Dr. Sarah Wall-Randall. This class was amazing because we got to trace the evolution of the Arthurian legends, from their earliest incarnations, through Malory, and up to the Mists of Avalon. The final class was a seminar on Hildegard von Bingen. It was a joint Religion/Music class, and so half was taught with a religious focus, then a break, and then

we'd reconvene and listen and analyze her music. All these classes were supported by the college's special collections, where I also worked. I think it was handling medieval manuscripts on a day to day basis that made the subject matter feel so real and personal. There's nothing like seeing a doodle of a grumpy teacher on the flyleaves of a four-hundred year old manuscript to make you feel connected to history! So much, yet so little, changes.

After I graduated from Wellesley College, I wasn't sure if I wanted to go specifically into manuscript studies or medieval history, so I did a master's in Medieval Studies at the University of Saint Andrews, where my final project focused on a British Library manuscript, MS Stowe 17. For this project I worked with Dr. Kathryn Rudy, who has since become my doctoral supervisor. I did take a year off after my master's, but the 'real' world didn't hold much appeal. However, one interesting learning experience was that I studied embroidery with one of the professional embroiderers from the Royal School of Needlework who had worked on the Duchess of Cambridge's wedding gown. So I returned to Saint Andrews with a renewed commitment to academia and an interest in embroidery. My project, now in its final stages, investigates the lifecycle of embroidered vestments made in England, usually for export, between 1100-1400 (*opus anglicanum*). In addition to extant textiles, some of which have never been studied, I'm also looking at wills, inventories, letters, and chronicles about how they were used and perceived, as well as those who made them.



Detail from the Butler Bowdon Cope, 1330-50.
Victoria & Albert Museum, London.

GSC at ICM Leeds

Graduate Student Reception:

There will be a graduate student reception at IMC Leeds 2017 hosted by the MAA GSC. Date, time, and location of the reception are still to be confirmed, so please keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#) and Twitter account, [@GSC_MAA](#) for more details coming soon!

GSC Digital Presence

The GSC's [Facebook page](#) is rapidly increasing in number of "likes". We are approaching 1,500 followers! If you have not done so already, be sure "like" us on Facebook.

Additionally, we invite you to follow us and tweet at us on Twitter, [@GSC_MAA](#), where we are moving towards 1,000 followers!

The GSC has made an executive decision to retire the medieval grad student listserv, and will now relay all updates through its Facebook page, Twitter account, and newsletter.

We encourage members of the MAA to contribute by posting links to relevant news content both in terms of professional development and research.

Would you like to get more out of our digital presence? Please feel free to email Caitlin Hutchison (chutch@udel.edu) or Courtney Krolikoski (courtney.krolikoski@mail.mcgill.ca) with your suggestions and/or comments.

GSC Mentorship Program at IMC Leeds

The GSC offered its Mentorship Program at the MAA Annual Meeting in Toronto and ICMS Kalamazoo and will be offering the program in IMC Leeds later this summer. The main goal of the Mentorship Program is to pair students and faculty with similar research interests in order to discuss questions about professional development. This year, the Mentorship Program made 22 successful matches at the MAA Annual Meeting and 29

matches at ICMS Kalamazoo. The deadline to sign up for the Mentorship Program for Leeds is June 2!

If you are interested in signing up for the program, you can sign the form at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNsl2j2qGIkeGX_gMosv4Qi36x87dz8e7SGRskoCmnu66G1w/viewform.

Any questions or concerns regarding the program can be sent to Danielle Griego, dngg28@mail.missouri.edu.

(Some) Upcoming Deadlines for Fellowships and Grants

No Formal Deadline, Review began April 1

[NEH Research Fellowships:](#)

\$1,750 stipend per five-week period, plus travel costs and accommodation for research at The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Study at St. Louis University. Applicants must possess an earned doctorate or be a Ph.D. candidate at the dissertation stage. Available for five-, ten-, or fifteen-week periods.

May 31

[CAS Sofia Advanced Academia In-Residence Fellowships:](#)

Located in Sofia, Bulgaria, the Center for Advanced Study (CAS) promotes high-level scholarship in the social sciences and humanities. In addition to supporting focus-group research, CAS Sofia invites outstanding scholars to pursue their individual research projects during in-residence periods of up to five months.

May 26 – August 8 (various deadlines)

[IHR Bursaries:](#)

IHR Bursaries help students pursue research at the IHR or other London based archives. The IHR Bursaries award students up to £500.

June 15

[Fordham Medieval Fellows Program:](#)

Supports one or two semesters of research at Fordham's Center for Medieval Studies. The award includes faculty status at university facilities, library access, a carrel, an office with computer and printer,

a research-oriented email account, and photocopy privileges.

August 1 – November 15

[American Association of University Women \(AAUW\):](#)

American Dissertation Fellowships

September 1

[Medium Aevum Research Travel Bursary:](#)

The purpose of the Society's Research Travel Bursaries is to support relevant research by scholars, at any stage in their career, who are not in receipt of the requisite funding from other sources. The value of all grants is between £300 and £1000.

October 31

[William T. Buice III Scholarship:](#)

Tuition remission for one session of Rare Book School in summer 2018 for returning RBS students with demonstrable financial needs, preference given to underrepresented populations and smaller institutions. Approximately ten scholarships given annually.

November 15

[Heckman Stipends:](#)

For travel to Saint John's University, housing and meals, and costs related to duplication of HMML's microfilm, or digital resources. Deadline is for residencies between January- June 2018.

November 24

[Camargo Core Foundation Residencies:](#)

Scholars and thinkers should be connected to the Arts and Humanities, and working on French and/or Francophone cultures, including but not limited to cross-cultural studies that engage the cultures and influences of the Mediterranean region.

December 1

[Helen Ann Mins Robbins Fellowship in Medieval Studies:](#)

Provides a period of research at the Rossell Hope Robbins Library, University of Rochester, for a woman completing a dissertation project in medieval studies. Open to qualified applicants in all fields of medieval studies.

Additional fellowships can be found on the following databases:

Cornell: <http://gradschool.cornell.edu/fellowships>

Duke: <https://researchfunding.duke.edu/>

Harvard: <http://gsasgrants.fas.harvard.edu/ggg.cgi>

H-Net: <http://www.h-net.org/announce/group.cgi?type=Funding>

MAA:

<http://www.medievalacademy.org/?page=Awards>

UCLA:

<https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/grapes/search.asp>

(Some) Upcoming Deadlines for Summer Programs

No deadline (rolling admission)

[Rare Book School:](#)

Various courses at locations throughout the US, taking place throughout June-August.

May 30

[American Academy in Rome Winter School in Latin Palaeography and Codicology](#)

American Academy, Rome, Italy,

January 8-19, 2018

May 31

[Historical Notation Bootcamp:](#)

Yale University, New Haven, August 7-11 2017.

June 1

[Greek and Latin Summer School:](#)

University College Cork (UCC), Cork, Ireland,

June 19 –August 10

June 9

[Bologna University Greek and Latin Summer School:](#)

Bologna University, Bologna, Italy,

June 19 – July 7

June 2

[London International Palaeography Summer School:](#)

London, UK, June 12-16

July 24

[Cambridge University International Summer School, Medieval Studies:](#)

Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK,
August 6-19

**Several other summer programs of interest to medievalists are listed on the [NEH website](#) and the [MAA blog](#).

**For a forum listing many Latin and Greek summer courses in North America and abroad, visit: www.summer-classics.com

(Some) Upcoming Conferences and Deadlines for CFPs

CFP deadline: May 31, 2017
[Gender\(ed\) Histories of Health, Healing and the Body, 1250-1550](#)

University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
January 25-26, 2018

[Singular Acts: The Role of the Individual in the Transformation of Collective Culture](#)

Warburg Institute, London, UK
November 16, 2017

CFP deadline: June 1, 2017
[Reading the Natural World: Perceptions of the Environment and Ecology in the Global Middle Ages and Renaissance](#)

Phoenix, Arizona
February 8-10, 2018

CFP deadline: June 7, 2017
[The Renaissance Society of America 64th Annual Meeting](#)

New Orleans, Louisiana
March 22-24, 2018

CFP deadline: June 12, 2017
[SEMA Annual Conference](#)

Charleston, South Carolina
November 16-18, 2017

CFP deadline: June 15, 2017
[4th International Conference: The Middle Ages: A Global Context?](#)

Lisbon, Portugal
December 13-15, 2017

[Make/Risk/Work, BABEL Working Group](#)
University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada
November 26-29, 2017

[Fifth Annual Colloquium on Thinking About Mythology in the 21st Century](#)

Edinburgh, Scotland
November 10-11, 2017

CFP deadline: June 16, 2017

[Vital Constitutions](#)
Rice University, Houston, Texas,
October 13-14, 2017

Conference: June 19-21, 2017
[Fifth Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#)

Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, Missouri

Conference: June 22-24, 2017
[Spaces, Images, Mentalities: Lisbon Medieval Culture and War Conference](#)

Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

Conference: June 23, 2017
[Mobility and Space in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe](#)

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Conference: June 23, 2017
[Reformations during the Middle Ages and Renaissance](#)

Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction Colorado

Conference: June 29 – July 1, 2017
[Mal/Evil: 14th Annual International Medieval Society Conference](#)

Paris, France

Conference: June 30, 2017
[Approaches to Late Medieval Court Records](#)

Durham University, Durham, UK

Conference: July 12-15, 2017
[Fratr, Magister, Minister et Episcopus: The Works and Worlds of Saint Bonaventure](#)

Franciscan Institute at Saint Bonaventure
University, Saint Bonaventure, New York
CFP deadline: July 16, 2017
[Ars et Scientia](#)
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
October 27, 2017

Conference: July 17-20
[Church and City in the Middle Ages:
2017 Harlaxton Manor Symposium](#)
Harlaxton Manor, Lincolnshire, UK

Conference: July 31 – August 1
[Eighteenth Biennial Meeting of the International
Society of Anglo-Saxonists](#)
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, Hawai'i

CFP deadline: August 1, 2017
[Texts and Context](#)
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
October 20-21

Conference: September 13, 2017
[Monasteries in the Digital Humanities](#)
Tyniec, Poland

CFP deadline: September 15, 2017
[The Image of the Multitude in Art and Philosophy](#)
Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK
March 10, 2018

Conference: September 16, 2017
[Networks: Mid-America Medieval Association
Conference XLI](#)
University of Missouri-Kansas City,
Kansas City, Missouri

Conference: September 22-24, 2017
[Ireland Conference of the American Society of Irish
Medieval Studies](#)
Glenstal Abbey, County Limerick, Ireland

Conference: October 13-14, 2017
[44th Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript
Studies](#)
Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, Missouri
**Additionally, a thorough list of conferences and
CFPs can be found on the Medieval Academy of
America's [conference calendar](#).

****For more information about the newsletter, or
to discuss features in future issues, please contact
Katherine Sedovic (sedovick@tcd.ie)
or Emerson Richards (emstrich@indiana.edu).**

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