

ABOUT THE GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE

The Graduate Student Committee (GSC) acts on behalf of graduate student members of the Academy to voice their concerns about medieval studies and to promote their participation within both the Academy and the broader academic community.

In addition to fostering international and interdisciplinary exchange, the committee is especially dedicated to providing guidance on research, teaching, publishing, funding, professionalization, and employment through conference panels, the GSC Newsletter, and the Mentoring Program.

Established in 2001 as an ad hoc group, the GSC became a standing committee and an official part of the Academy's structure in 2008.

The GSC consists of five At-Large Members and a Chair who are appointed for two-year terms and work with the Executive Director to advocate on behalf of graduate students.

To self-nominate, please visit our web page on themedievalacademy.org.

MAA GSC

News, Networking, & Mentorship

For information about our mentoring program, newsletter, or conference programming . . .

Visit our web page:

http://medievalacademy.site-ym.com/?page=Grad_Students

Send us an email:

GSC@themedievalacademy.org

Like us on Facebook:

**Medieval Academy
Graduate Students**

Follow us on Twitter:

@GSC_MAA



Graduate Student Committee

THE MEDIEVAL ACADEMY



OF AMERICA

Mentoring Program

GSC@TheMedievalAcademy.org

 Medieval Academy Graduate Students

 @GWC_MAA

What do past participants say about the Mentoring Program?

Since 2006, the GSC has paired hundreds of graduate students with senior scholars for mentorship exchanges. Participants consistently provide positive feedback about their experiences. Here are some of their comments:

My mentor was very friendly and offered great advice both on my dissertation project as well as on how to best make use of conferences for networking.

It was great to have a candid conversation about professional goals outside of an actual interview and from a different perspective.

It's always great to meet someone new in the field and have the opportunity for a one-on-one discussion. My mentor was very generous with her time and advice.

We got to exchange a lot about the job market and being a young, female scholar.

I met with my mentor for lunch on Friday, and it was very informative. We spoke about the difficulties that come with transitioning from a graduate student to a faculty member. We also spoke a lot about managing stress and winding down the dissertation. Very helpful!

Questions? Contact us at

GSC@TheMedievalAcademy.org

What is the Mentoring Program?

The GSC Mentoring Program facilitates networking between graduate students and established scholars by pairing student and scholar according to discipline.

Mentorship exchanges—which take place at the Medieval Academy Annual Meeting, the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo), and the International Medieval Congress (Leeds)—are intended to help students establish professional contacts among scholars who can offer them career advice.

The goal is that pairs meet for conversation at the conference, though mentors and mentees sometimes decide to stay in contact.

All graduate students are welcome to apply, regardless of Academy membership.

Why become a mentor?

Mentors often comment on the positive experience and inherent rewards of offering guidance to more young scholars.

We were very well matched. My mentee had things to talk over that I have experience with.

She also does very interesting work, so I enjoyed hearing her talk about that, and she was interested in hearing what I do, too!

For graduate students, the added experience of meeting with established medievalists in their specific sub-fields offers an exciting opportunity to gain valuable, first-hand knowledge about the profession.

How do I sign up to participate in the Mentoring Program?

Calls to participate in the Mentoring Program are distributed to Academy members, professional organizations, listserv communities, and through our social media accounts eight weeks before the start date of each conference: January for the Medieval Academy Annual Meeting, March for ICMS Kalamazoo, and May for IMC Leeds.

But why wait? If you know which conference(s) you'll be attending and would like to meet with a mentor while there, you can sign up now by completing the participation form found linked to the GSC web page:

http://medievalacademy.site-ym.com/?page=Grad_Students

How should I prepare for a meeting with my mentor?

Mentorship exchanges are intended to respond to your needs and concerns as a young scholar entering the profession.

Mentors are setting aside time during their own conference experience to meet and offer guidance.

Please arrive well prepared with specific questions or topics to discuss.