ACMRS Welcomes New Advisory Board Members

ACMRS is pleased to welcome the following Arizona scholars to the ACMRS Advisory Board. We are so pleased to have them be a part of the center. [http://acmrs.org/about/acmrs-advisory-board](http://acmrs.org/about/acmrs-advisory-board)

**John Alexander, Professor of German, Arizona State University**
John Alexander was born in Hastings, New Zealand. He lived in Havelock North and Tauranga before moving to the United States in January 1964. He studied as a Humboldt Fellow at the TU-Berlin in 1975-76 after accepting a position as Assistant Professor of German at Arizona State University. His research interests include European (mainly German) drama and theatre of the early modern period, which have resulted in three books as well as numerous articles and book chapters. Other interests include German(ic) fairy tales and mythology.

**Bradley Ryner, Assistant Professor of English, Arizona State University**
Bradley Ryner examines the emergence of systemic thought about economics in seventeenth-century England, focusing on intersections between the works of mercantile writers (Gerard de Malynes, Edward Misselden, and Thomas Mun) and dramatists (William Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Philip Massinger, and Richard Brome). His teaching interests include: Shakespeare and Renaissance drama, British literature to 1700, drama as a genre, literary theory, and cultural studies. His general research interests include Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century Literature, Drama, Early Mercantile Treatises, and Actor-Network-Theory.

**Meg Lota Brown, Professor of English, University of Arizona**
Meg Lota Brown is a Professor of English and Director of Graduate Studies in the UA English Department. She is the author or editor of three books and has also published numerous articles on Reformation politics, Renaissance literature, science, art, theology, education, and authors from Shakespeare and Donne to Christine de Pizan and Rachel Speght. Dr. Brown has received nearly every UA major teaching award, as well as recognition for her research, service, and leadership.

**Alyce Jordan, Associate Professor of Art History, Northern Arizona University**
Dr. Jordan teaches introductory survey courses in western art and upper division courses in Medieval, Northern Renaissance, Italian Renaissance, and Baroque. Her research focuses on medieval stained glass and questions of narrative, identity, and representation. Her current book project, co-edited with Janet Marquardt, is *Medieval Art and Architecture after the Middle Ages* which examines issues of reception and the afterlife of medieval art from the Renaissance to the present. Her current research focuses on French visual narrative cycles devoted to St. Thomas Becket.
Exploring the Renaissance 2014: An International Conference
April 3–5, 2014 in Tucson, Arizona

Westward Look, Wyndham Grand Resort and Spa
Local Arrangements: Meg Lota Brown, University of Arizona
Program Chair: Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler, Texas State University, San Marcos
Keynote Lecturer: Karen Newman, Brown University
Louis L. Martz Lecturer: Joseph Lowenstein, Washington University
William B. Hunter Lecturer: Jeffrey Shoulson, University of Connecticut, Storrs

Sponsored by:
The South-Central Renaissance Conference
The Queen Elizabeth I Society
The Marvell Society
The Society for the Study of Early Modern Women
The Society for Renaissance Art History

Discoveries:
South-Central Renaissance Conference News and Notes, a bi-annual newsletter edited by Arlen Nydam (independent scholar), an official publication of the South-Central Renaissance Conference. The newsletter features news, reviews, and short articles on Early Modern literature, music, art, and architecture, and includes membership news, notes on future Conference meetings, coming events, and calls for papers.

For more information visit the conference website: http://www.scrc.us.com/
Dagger of the Mind: Solving the Mystery of Shakespeare’s Death
By John Evangelist Walsh

The cause and attending circumstances of Shakespeare’s death in 1616, at age 53, even today remain unknown. This is all the more remarkable because he was almost always surrounded by crowds of people who knew him well and must have been acquainted with the facts of his death: a large group of close relatives on both his and his wife’s side, many long time friends and neighbors in Stratford, and his London theatre colleagues. Yet not one of these, at the time or later, had the least word to say of his passing, including the physician who probably attended him, his son-in-law Dr. John Hall. Nor have the many earnest and able scholarly efforts made over the decades to fill in the curious, ever-tantalizing gap as yet proved quite successful. Deeply surveying the historical record and the long and brilliant run of Shakespeare scholarship, relying in the main on certain revealing contemporary documents, including his technically fascinating will — here more closely and intriguingly analyzed than ever before — author Walsh offers the first complete, coherent, document-based solution to the age-old mystery. Subtly balancing factual narrative and technical exposition, it is an elegantly original presentation, powerfully argued.

John Evangelist Walsh is an award-winning author of more than twenty non-fiction books, treating both history and biography, all based on documented original research. His range of subjects is wide and varied, often touching out-of-the-way incidents and revealing episodes in the lives of the great and well-known: writers, scientists, entertainers, poets, military men, religionists, statesmen, film figures, inventors, and sportsmen. His two highly original works on Abraham Lincoln were finalists for prestigious literary awards, including the coveted Gettysburg Prize. New York City born, he was long an editor at New York Publishing Houses. With his wife, Dorothy, he now resides in Wisconsin.


Paint: A Story of Shakespeare’s “Dark Lady”
By Grace Tiffany

Emilia Bassano is only a teenager when she’s pitched among the poets, politicians, and painted women of the Elizabethan court. Withdrawn and pensive by nature, she devises a remarkable strategy to preserve her own solitude. At first it works. But she’s soon shocked to find that, so far from truly hiding, she’s attracted the gaze of every courtier and aspiring poet on the scene, including the canniest, hungriest, and strangest one of them all.

Grace Tiffany is a professor of Shakespeare and Renaissance literature at Western Michigan University, and the author of five historical novels set in the Middle Ages or the English Renaissance. Her fiction has been honored by the American Library Association and by Book Sense 76, the “best books” list of the association of American independent bookstores. She lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Grace Tiffany’s depiction of seventeenth-century poet Emilia Lanier is by turns poignant and hilarious. This Dark Lady of Shakespeare’s sonnets will do anything to see her own work in print. Get set for a story of murder, blackmail, seduction — and makeup. — Bonnie Jo Campbell, Bestselling author of Once Upon a River and American Salvage, National Book Award Finalist

Order online: http://www.amazon.com/Paint-Grace-Tiffany/dp/0866988025
The Oxford Summer Study Abroad program offers interdisciplinary study opportunities in the history and culture of medieval and Renaissance Britain. During the five-week program, students live in residence and attend lectures at St. Michael’s Hall at the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies in Oxford. Courses are taught by faculty from CMRS Oxford, Arizona universities, and universities outside Arizona and include weekly excursions to cathedrals, museums, libraries, plays, or other relevant historical sites and cultural events around England. Apply through the ASU Study Abroad Office.

Highlights of the 2014 program include:

- 6 credits in 5 weeks
- 3-day weekends for personal travel
- Course excursions to London, Glastonbury, Stonehenge, and Stratford-upon-Avon
- Courses include: “The Arthurian Legend in History, Literature, and Art” and “Shakespeare and His Contemporaries in Performance”

http://acmrs.org/academic-programs/oxford

Spend three weeks of summer studying in the beautiful and historic city of Prato! Prato is a lesser-known cousin of Florence and Pisa in the central Italy region of Tuscany. The Prato Summer Study Abroad program provides an opportunity to study the Middle Ages and Renaissance while experiencing the rich traditions of Italian life, such as living in a local residence in Prato and having access to stunning, historic buildings, museums, and gardens. The program includes weekly excursions to local sites related to your studies and weekends free for your own exploration. Apply through the ASU Study Abroad Office.

Highlights of the 2014 program include:

- 3 credits in 3 weeks
- Course excursions to Florence, Arezzo, Siena, Ferrara, Mantova, Lucca, Pisa, and Verona
- Course offered: “Music and Place: Experiencing Italian Music in Context”

http://acmrs.org/academic-programs/prato
2014 Summer Field Program:
Akko and the Crusades, Israel

From May 23 to June 15, 2014, the History Department at the University of Rhode Island will be offering a 6-credit multi-disciplinary summer school in Akko (Acre) designed for advanced undergraduates. Students will experience total immersion in the world of the Crusades: their history and historiography, literature, art, architecture, and archaeology. Half of this intensive 3-week course will be 'hands-on' practical training through URI’s unique collaboration with the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Akko International Conservation Center -- Citta di Roma http://conservationcenter.org.il.

While land option students participate in the International Conservation Center program within the UNESCO World Heritage site of Akko, underwater option students will take part in the IAA-URI excavations of Akko’s ancient harbor (scuba & AAUS certification required). Recent discoveries include Hellenistic port facilities and abundant ancient pottery and glass, as well as shipwrecks from the 18th and 19th centuries. Both land and underwater programs will combine for evening classes on the Crusades taught by Medieval historian Prof. Joëlle Rollo Koster of the University of Rhode Island. Students will live and attend classes within the Medieval-Ottoman Old City of Akko and participate in educational tours to archaeological and cultural sites.

The program cost of $4,700 (excluding airfare) covers fees for the History of the Crusades Course and the Archaeology-Conservation Program, shared hostel accommodation, and 2-3 meals per day. For further information (including graduate credit option), please contact the program coordinator: Dr. Bridget Buxton, University of Rhode Island (babuxton@mail.uri.edu, 401-874-4085).

Many thanks to Prof. Joëlle Rollo Koster for providing this information to ACMRS.
UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS IN MARCH:

Catherine Saucier, Assistant Professor of Music History, ASU
Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 7:00pm - Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ
Click here to reserve a seat: https://medievalmusic.eventbrite.com

Scholar Series: “Madness in the Middle Ages – Epiphany or Mental Illness?”
Albrecht Classen, Distinguished Professor of German, University of Arizona
Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 11:00am - Lattie F. Coor Hall, Room 4403 - ASU Tempe Campus
Click here to reserve a seat: https://medievalinsanity.eventbrite.com

Ad Hoc Lecture Series: “The Sense of Feeling in Richard Rolle’s Incendium Amoris”
Arthur Russell, Outstanding Graduate Student Travel Award Winner
Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 2:00pm - Lattie F. Coor Hall, Room 4403 - ASU Tempe Campus
Click here to reserve a seat: https://graduatelecture.eventbrite.com

Fearless Females Series: “Fearless Women Fighters and Writers for Their Faith in 16th and 17th Century Germany”
Albrecht Classen, Distinguished Professor of German, University of Arizona
Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 7:00pm - Mostly Books, 6208 E. Speedway Blvd. Tucson, AZ
Click here to reserve a seat: https://fightersandwriters.eventbrite.com

UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS IN APRIL:

Fearless Females Series: “Margery Kempe: Earthly Wife and Pilgrim Bride of Christ”
James Helfers, Dean of Liberal Arts and English, Grand Canyon University
Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 7:00pm - Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ
Click here to reserve a seat: https://margerykempe.eventbrite.com

Fearless Females Series: “The Forgotten Female in Beowulf: Giving Voice to Freawaru”
Donnita Rogers, Author of Faces in the Fire, Book One of the Women of Beowulf Trilogy
Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 7:00pm - Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, AZ
Click here to reserve a seat: https://womenofbeowulf.eventbrite.com

For more information about ACMRS news and events, visit our website at http://acmrs.org/news/events or send an email to acmrs@acmrs.org.

Questions? Please feel free to contact ACMRS with any questions or suggestions you might have. Send all correspondence by email to acmrs@acmrs.org or by mail to this address. We’d love to hear from you!