ACMRS Unveils New Logo Design

This spring, the ASU School of Art and ACMRS teamed up to design a new logo for the Center. This project, undertaken by a client-based graphic design class, was a semester-long research project for both the students and ACMRS. With amazing designs from the undergraduate class, we came up with a great, sleek new face of the Center. The new logo is a complex image, a collage of symbols that define our purposes: an “A” for Arizona, a Viking helm, a sword, an open book, a Gothic arch, a woman’s headdress, a doorway, etc. What a great symbol for such a multi-faceted organization!
Coming in August 2012:
The next program in the new ACMRS Public Programs series! Join us for the second part in “Fearless Females: Audacious and Feisty Women of the Middle Ages and Renaissance” to hear Professor Retha Warnicke of the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies at ASU speak on the “Wicked Women of Tudor England”! More information is forthcoming over the summer. To learn more about this new public programs initiative, please visit our website at www.acmrs.org/public-programs/public-lecture-series.

Awards and Accolades for ODMA

The *Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages* has in the past been lauded as “the best concise medieval encyclopedia currently available” (*Booklist*) and “A useful work both for non-specialists and for specialists who want quick identifications” (*Choice*). Many favorable reviews have circulated about the usability of this “copious cross-referenced” work since its publication in 2010 and it doesn’t stop there. Now even more praise is being heaped upon these incredible reference volumes, winning critical acclaim two years in a row. *ODMA* has now been named “Best of 2010: Reference” by Library Journal and won the 2011 Booklist Editors’ Choice award! Click here to learn more about the *Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages*: http://acmrs.org/publications/other/ODMA.
Fabian Alfie, Professor of Italian, is the Head of the Department of French and Italian at the University of Arizona. His specialization is on the poetry of the Middle Ages, in particular the poetry of insult and invective. Across his studies, Prof. Alfie demonstrates that literary insult was not strictly about interpersonal strife, but rather it was a way to reinforce social mores. Therefore, literary invective was an important element of Italian culture in the late Middle Ages. Additionally, it played an important literary role, as medieval theorists spoke of all literature as consisting of either praise or blame; insult was central to blame. Prof. Alfie’s latest book is on Dante’s insulting verse, and it came out only last November: *Dante’s Tenzone with Forese Donati: The Reprehension of Vice* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 2011). His previous book was on the irascible poet Cecco Angiolieri (ca. 1260-1313), who insulted Dante and is himself the protagonist of one of Boccaccio’s stories.

Professor Alfie teaches Italian at the University of Arizona at all levels, language, literature, and culture. He offers an advanced course on Dante’s *Comedy* in Italian, as well as a General Education course that deals with the classics of Italian medieval literature in translation (Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio). This summer, he will be teaching Dante’s *Inferno* in Orvieto, Italy, on the University of Arizona’s study abroad program.

Since coming to Arizona in 1997 Prof. Alfie has been active in ACMRS. He has presented scholarly papers at several ACMRS conferences (and plans to do so again in the future!). In addition his volume, “*Accessus ad Auctores*”: *Studies in Honor of Christopher Kleinhenz* co-edited with Andrea Dini, was published by ACMRS Publications earlier this year. To learn more about Professor Fabian Alfie, visit his website at [www.u.arizona.edu/~alfie](http://www.u.arizona.edu/~alfie)
Don’t forget! ACMRS needs your support to continue its many activities that not only support students and faculty but benefit the wider community as well. With your support we can continue to promote medieval and Renaissance studies throughout the world. Please donate today by visiting www.acmrs.org/friends.

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 the address indicated. We’d love to hear from you!