

ACMRS NEWS

OCTOBER 2013

MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES: THE ORIGINAL STEM INITIATIVE

With the tremendous focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) in the U.S. today, ACMRS continues to spotlight the oft times hidden fact that the Medieval and Renaissance cultures were the foundations for the STEM disciplines.

On September 20th, Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson presented "Maria: The Mother of Alchemy" in the ACMRS Fearless Females series. Dr. Hendrickson's presentation was the bridge to a new series highlighting the deeply rooted connection between the Middle Ages and Renaissance and today's sciences; for example, the caduceus, internationally recognized symbol of medicine, was originally a symbol of alchemy.

Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson, Senior Lecturer, ASU Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry mesmerized an audience of over 115 discussing Maria, the Prophetess also known as the Mother of Alchemy, considered the founder of an important school of alchemy in Egypt and may have actually known Archimedes!

While many alchemists of her time were trying to turn common metals into gold, Maria was researching and experimenting with chemical processes of the elements and the chemical reactions of the elements. She was truly one of the first chemical engineers of the day ... and a true fearless female. Most of the audience had never heard of Maria yet were very familiar with her discoveries and inventions that are used today...in the laboratory *and* kitchens; a great deal of the glassware used in the laboratory and the famous "bain marie" were Maria's inventions along with her work on sulfur compounds developing the process for making silver sulfide. One of the most interesting components of the presentation was Dr. Hendrickson's discussion and explanation of "from alchemy to modern chemistry then from modern chemistry back into alchemy."



However, Dr. Hendrickson captured the audience's complete attention when her presentation went from the rise of nuclear chemistry into making gold from base metals – a popular theory and pursuit of alchemy. So is it possible to make gold from base metals? Click here to see Dr. Hendrickson's presentation and find out. <http://acmrs.org/public-programs/hendrickson>

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FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: ANNE SCOTT, NAU

Dr. Anne Scott received her B.A. with honors from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1981, her M.A. from Brown University in 1984, and her Ph.D. from Brown University in 1987. Professor of English, Honors Professor, and President's Distinguished Teaching Fellow at Northern Arizona University, Dr. Scott has taught and published on a wide variety of medieval interests including Chaucer, saints' legends, and medieval genres, including epics, fabliaux, and romances. Along with Dr. Cynthia Kosso, she has edited three collections of essays: *Fear and its Representations in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (Brepols, 2002); *The Nature and Function of Water, Baths, Bathing, and Hygiene from Antiquity through the Renaissance* (Brill, 2009); and *Poverty and Prosperity in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (Brepols, 2012). Dr. Scott has taught for over thirty years, twenty-one of these at NAU, and she looks forward to contributing to ACMRS through the co-editorship of *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History*.

ERIN MCCARTHY WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

ACMRS Assistant Director Erin A. McCarthy has won the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women's Graduate Student Conference Presentation Award for her paper "Gendering Inclusivity and Access in Aemilia Lanyer's *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*," presented at the 2012 meeting of the Renaissance Society of America in Washington, D.C. The award will be presented at the 2013 meeting of the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. McCarthy also gave a talk on Lanyer entitled "More than Shakespeare's 'Dark Lady': The Life and Work of Aemilia Lanyer" as part of ACMRS's *Fearless Females* series in August 2013.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: CYNTHIA KOSSO, NAU

Cynthia Kosso is a Professor in the Department of History at Northern Arizona University. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago in History and Classics, and her Masters degrees in Ancient History and Classical Archaeology from the University of Minnesota. Her professional interests are interdisciplinary in nature—from the translation of ancient languages and the study of innovation in ancient and medieval societies, to public and economic history as reflected in material evidence. She authored *The Archaeology of Public Policy in Late Roman Greece*, BAR International Series, 2003 and numerous articles and book chapters. Along with Dr. Anne Scott, she has edited three collections of essays: *Fear and its Representations in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (Brepols, 2002); *The Nature and Function of Water, Baths, Bathing, and Hygiene from Antiquity through the Renaissance* (Brill, 2009); and *Poverty and Prosperity in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (Brepols, 2012). Dr. Kosso has taught for twenty-two at NAU, and like her colleague Anne Scott, she looks forward to contributing to ACMRS through the co-editorship of *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History*.

IAN MOULTON TO PRESENT AT BIRKBECK RENAISSANCE SEMINAR

Professor Ian Moulton, Faculty Head of Interdisciplinary Humanities and Communication in the School of Letters and Sciences at ASU, was recently invited to present a paper at the Birkbeck Renaissance Seminar at Birkbeck College, University of London.

The seminar will take place on Saturday, November 9, 2013. Professor Moulton will be presenting on "Renaissance Loves" with Linda Grant from Birkbeck and with Stephen Guy-Bray from Toronto. The title for his paper is "Love in Print: Romance and the Book Market." The topic is the spread of contradictory ideas of romantic love through the new medium of printed texts in sixteenth century Europe. This is also the topic of his new book, *Love in Print in the Sixteenth Century: The Popularization of Romance*, forthcoming in 2014 from Palgrave Macmillan.

The Birkbeck seminars are quite prestigious: they are held on Saturdays in London and scholars attend from all over the UK. Speakers are top scholars in the field from the UK and around the world.

Here is a link to the Renaissance Seminar Series site: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/english/our-research/research_seminars/lrs



CHANGING OF THE GUARD FOR STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE HISTORY

After nearly a decade, Peter Medine and Roger Dahood of the University of Arizona have decided to step down as co-editors of *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History* (SMRH), the annual journal published by AMS Press and produced under the auspices of ACMRS. Peter is on research leave for the current academic year and will retire from the university in May. Roger has a sabbatical leave beginning in January. Professors Anne Scott (English) and Cynthia Kosso (history) of Northern Arizona University will take over the editorship in 2014.

Roger and Peter are leaving SMRH in very good shape, and both AMS Press and ACMRS are deeply grateful for their skillful and diligent work on this prestigious publication. All the essays for the 2013 volume (3rd series, Volume 10) are already in press, and Peter and Roger will continue to oversee that volume. They have already accepted sufficient essays to fill the 2014 volume as well, and they will work with the new editors for the journal as they transition into their new positions of responsibility. We thank all four of these scholars for their commitment to the field and to the mission of ACMRS.


Click here to learn more about ACMRS publications programs:
<http://acmrs.org/publications>

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COMING OCTOBER 16 IN TEMPE:

Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Public Programs Series

Fearless Females:
Audacious and Feisty Women of the
Middle Ages and Renaissance



"The Power of Queens: Eleanor,
Matilda, and Guinevere"
Diane Facinelli, Honors Faculty Fellow and Lecturer
Barrett, The Honors College, ASU

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT 7:00 PM
CHANGING HANDS BOOKSTORE
6428 SOUTH MCCLINTOCK DRIVE TEMPE, AZ 85283

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Women and Gender Studies
ASU School of Social Transformation
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

THE ARIZONA CENTER FOR
MIDDLE AGE &
RENAISSANCE
1998

ASU project
humanities
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

changing hands
BOOKSTORE

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to <http://thepowerofqueens.eventbrite.com>

Join us for another great Fearless Females event on the historical queens Matilda and Eleanor of Aquitaine and the mythical queen Guinevere! Empress Matilda (Maude) and Queen Eleanor are two fearless queens whose actions helped change ideas about queenship in twelfth-century England. History and literature provide insight into contemporary views of these women and attitudes about the way they wielded their power. To what degree might these historical queens have affected the depiction of Guinevere during this time?

Dr. Diane Facinelli joined the faculty of Barrett, The Honors College at Arizona State University in 1993, and she was promoted to the rank of Principal Lecturer during the first year this position was available at ASU. She also was the first recipient of ASU's Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Student Mentoring and has been a finalist for the Professor of the Year Award. Dr. Facinelli earned her in English Ph.D. from Arizona State University. She serves as an affiliated faculty member of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and is currently the faculty director of the ACMRS summer program in Oxford, England, where she teaches a course called "The Arthurian Legend in History, Literature, and Art." Her research focuses on the Arthurian legend and issues of law and government in medieval literature.

This program is generously
co-sponsored by:
Project Humanities and
Women & Gender Studies in the
School of Social Transformation at ASU

This program will be held at
Changing Hands Bookstore in Tempe, AZ.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP at
<http://thepowerofqueens.eventbrite.com/>

<http://acmrs.org/public-programs/public-lecture-series>




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COMING NOVEMBER 5 IN TEMPE:

Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Fearless Females:
Audacious and Feisty Women of the Middle Ages and Renaissance

AND BOOK SIGNING!



Author Donnita Rogers will present the November program in the ACMRS Fearless Female series, speaking on "The Forgotten Female in Beowulf: Giving Voice to Freawaru." Based on her research for a trilogy of novels focused on the women of the Beowulf epic, Rogers will talk about roles played by women in sixth century Scandinavia and the imagined life of her heroine, Freawaru, illustrating her talk with photos of the Danish locations used in her first book, *Faces in the Fire*.

"The Forgotten Female in *Beowulf*: Giving Voice to Freawaru"
Donnita Rogers, Author

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 AT 7:00 PM
CHANGING HANDS BOOKSTORE
6428 SOUTH MCCLINTOCK DRIVE TEMPE, AZ 85283

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Women and Gender Studies
ASU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

THE ARIZONA CENTER FOR
MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE
STUDIES

ASU project humanities
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

changing hands
BOOKSTORE

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to <http://womenofbeowulf.eventbrite.com/>

Author Donnita Rogers will present the November program in the ACMRS Fearless Female series, speaking on "The Forgotten Female in Beowulf: Giving Voice to Freawaru." Based on her research for a trilogy of novels focused on the women of the *Beowulf* epic, Rogers will talk about roles played by women in sixth century Scandinavia and the imagined life of her heroine, Freawaru, illustrating her talk with photos of the Danish locations used in her first book, *Faces in the Fire*. Women are largely ignored in this masculine epic. In *Faces in the Fire* Donnita brings to life a woman buried in the pages of *Beowulf*, a woman mentioned only once: the king's daughter, Freawaru. The reader meets Freawaru as a young girl, coming of age in a harsh world of men and monsters. Like all Scandinavian women of her day, she enjoys rights and privileges largely unknown to women of Western Europe, but these freedoms bring challenge. First, Freawaru must master use of the strange 'sight' she has been given. She must also survive the terror of nightly attacks by a swamp monster. Then she is challenged to become a "peace-weaver", using her courage, wit and special skills to end an ancient feud between rival tribes. This event gives readers an opportunity to meet Donnita, have their books signed, and hear Donnita speak of her adventures during the five years she spent researching the historical background, which included crewing on a replica of a Viking ship in the harbor of Roskilde, Denmark, and climbing the royal burial mounds at Old Uppsala, Sweden.

This program is generously co-sponsored by:
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This program will be held at
Changing Hands Bookstore in Tempe, AZ.

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UPCOMING ACMRS EVENTS

OCTOBER

ASU Homecoming Block Party
Saturday, October 19, 2013
Time To Be Announced
Come visit the ACMRS tent!
ASU Tempe Campus

*"The Power of Queens:
Eleanor, Matilda, and Guinevere"*
Fearless Females Part XIII
Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 7:00 pm
Diane Facinelli, Honors Faculty Fellow
Barrett, The Honors College, ASU
Changing Hands Bookstore
6428 South McClintock Drive
Tempe, AZ 85283
<http://thepowerofqueens.eventbrite.com/>

*"Soundproof: Listening for Silence in
Early Modern England"*
ACMRS Distinguished Lecture in
Renaissance Studies
Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 7:00 pm
Heidi Brayman Hackel, UC Riverside
Memorial Union, Alumni Lounge
ASU Tempe Campus

NOVEMBER

"The Women of Beowulf"
& Book Signing
Donnita Rogers, author of
Faces in the Fire
Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 7:00pm
Changing Hands Bookstore
<http://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!

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