Professor Robert Bjork has received three great honors this year. First, he has been granted a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, during the Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 semesters. The Institute is an independent, private institution that was founded in 1930 as a center for intellectual inquiry; and since the Institute’s inception, some of the greatest thinkers of the twentieth century have been invited to attend, including a number of Nobel Laureates, among them Albert Einstein. During Professor Bjork’s absence, William Gentrup will be the Acting Director of the Center. Also, Professor Dhira Mahoney of the ASU English Department has graciously offered to conduct his classes.

In addition to this honor, Professor Bjork was appointed to the editorial board of the Toronto Old Norse-Icelandic Series of the University of Toronto Press, one of the top three presses in the world for medieval and Renaissance studies. Finally, his article “Speech as Gift in Beowulf,” Speculum 69 (1994): 993–1022, was selected as one of the most important articles in the past 25 years on Beowulf for inclusion in Beowulf: A Casebook, edited by Andy Orchard, to be published by Oxford University Press (publication date forthcoming). Orchard writes, “The eleven essays selected here for inclusion in ‘Beowulf’: A Casebook have been chosen with three principles in mind: firstly, for their currency, in that all were produced within the past twenty-five years or so, albeit that many contain references to valuable work from earlier periods; secondly, for their continuing impact, in that each of the authors featured is without question a major figure in the wider world of Anglo-Saxon scholarship, whose influence is set to last; and thirdly, for their broad coverage of as representative a range as feasible of the crucial issues surrounding the interpretation of Beowulf.”

We congratulate Professor Bjork on these honors, and we wish him a productive year at the Institute.

As part of the ACMRS Distinguished Lecture Series, the Center is delighted to welcome to ASU Dr. Paul Freedman, Chester D. Tripp Professor of History at Yale University, to present his lecture “Scarcity, Abundance, and the Demand for Spices in the Middle Ages.” Dr. Freedman has been teaching at Yale since 1997 and was appointed Chair of the History Department this year. He has received a number of book awards and has written extensively on the history of Spain, particularly Catalonia, as well as medieval peasantry, and church and agrarian history. Dr. Freedman’s lecture will be held on Thursday, October 28 at 7:30 PM, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, Room 199. The lecture is free and open to the public, and a reception will follow at the same location. For further information contact Laura Roosen at 480-965-9323. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Departments of Anthropology and History, and the Program for Southeast Asian Studies.

ACMRS Annual Interdisciplinary Conference
The ACMRS eleventh annual interdisciplinary conference “Feast, Famine, Fasting: Food and Material Consumption in Medieval and Renaissance Culture” will be held February 17–19, 2005, at the Fiesta Inn Resort in Tempe. This conference will focus on both the literal and metaphorical manifestations of feasting, famine, and fasting in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. ACMRS will host prior to the conference “The Medieval Book: A Workshop in Codological Practice,” (continued page ii)
led by Richard Clement of the University of Kansas Spencer Library. The workshop will cover production of the medieval codex, and participants will discuss the processes of making parchment, paper, pens, and ink and also will make quills in preparation for writing (note: this workshop does not cover scripts or calligraphy). The conference registration fee is $80 ($45 for students), which includes welcoming and concluding receptions, two days of concurrent sessions, and a keynote address. For further information view the ACMRS web site or call Laura Roosen at 480-965-9323. If you would like to submit a paper to the conference, please do so by October 1, 2004, via the web address link.library.utoronto.ca/acmrs/conference/.

**FALL RECEPTION**

Friends and affiliates of the Center are invited to join us for the ACMRS Annual Fall Reception, which will be held on Saturday, October 9, 7:00 PM, at the home of Mary and Robert Bjork. Although Dr. Bjork and his wife will not be in attendance at the event, the Center’s Assistant Director William Gentrup along with Dr. Chauncey Wood and his wife Sarah have graciously offered to host the event. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to the Center for yourself and one guest no later than Monday, October 4 at 480-965-9323 or acmrs@asu.edu. You can obtain directions and a map to the Bjork residence by contacting the ACMRS office.

**COMMEMORATING ELIZABETH I**

In conjunction with the traveling exhibition “Elizabeth I: Ruler and Legend” on display at the Scottsdale Public Library from December 15, 2004 through February 18, 2005, ACMRS will host at the library a public symposium entitled “The Many Faces of Elizabeth I” on January 22, 2005. The exhibition is part of a 40-library tour honoring the 400th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth I’s death in 1603, and the ACMRS is delighted to participate in this commemorative event. The panelists presenting at the symposium are Cora Fox, ASU; Retha Warnicke, ASU; Curtis Perry, ASU; Ron Newcomer, ASU; Ian Moulton, ASU West; and Fred Kiefer, U of A. This symposium is free and open to the public. For further details, contact Laura Roosen at 480-965-9323 or laura.roosen@asu.edu; and for details regarding the traveling exhibition, contact the Scottsdale Public Library directly at 480-312-7323.

**NEW FACES**

ACMRS has added a new member to its staff. Dorothy Bungert joins us to take over as Manager of Design and Production for ACMRS publications upon the departure of Karen Lemiski, who served as the Center’s Production Manager for 8 years. Dorothy is a welcome addition to the Center, bringing with her over 15 years of experience in the book publishing and design fields, and having worked with such reputable publishing houses as HarperCollins Publishers and Random House Inc. Dorothy has a wealth of knowledge and expertise that will be of great benefit to the Center, and we are very pleased to have her as part of our team!
The next ACMRS Study Abroad Program will be held July 8 through August 15, 2005, at St. Catharine’s College, Cambridge University, England. The faculty teaching on the program and the courses being offered will be posted on the ACMRS website and announced through program brochures in November. The Cambridge program continues to be a vital part of the Center’s offerings toward fostering study and appreciation of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and the setting in Cambridge is particularly suited to this type of study. Besides the varied course topics offered on the program, each faculty member organizes for the entire group a one-day excursion pertaining to his or her course. Some of the highlights from the Summer 2004 program excursions included a river boat cruise on the Thames, a performance of Shakespeare’s Measure for Measure at the recreated Globe Theater in London, and a trip to the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich for a hands-on viewing of 15th- and 16th-century maps and atlases. The program also includes both opening and closing receptions in the formal dining hall at St. Catharine’s.

The first program information meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 3:30–5:00 pm at the ACMRS office (room to be announced). For further information about this meeting or the Summer 2005 program, contact Jennifer Michaud at 480-965-8097 or jmic@mainex1.asu.edu.

**New ASMAR Volume**

The newest volume in the series Arizona Studies in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance (ASMAR) was published earlier this year. This series presents collections of essays on themes of vital interest to medieval and Renaissance studies. This eighth volume in the series is entitled Reading and Literacy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Compiled and edited by ASU West Professor of English Ian Moulton, it is a collection of nine essays related to reading and literacy in Europe from the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries. Some of the essays included are “Poems and Props in Love’s Labor’s Lost and Much Ado About Nothing,” by Frederick Kiefer and “‘Vaine Books’ and Early Modern Women Readers,” by Kathryn DeZur. Many of the essays included in the volume were presented at the joint meetings of ACMRS and the Renaissance Society of America. This volume will appeal to those interested in European cultural history, the transition from manuscript to print culture, the history of literacy, and the history of the book.

**The Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages**

The Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages (ODMA) project undertaken by ACMRS in 1998 is well into the development process. Initially, the project was slated to be a one-volume dictionary containing about 7,000 entries; now it has been expanded to four volumes, consisting of 1,300,000 words as well as 60 maps and 550 illustrations. Currently, there are approximately 260 contributors working on entries, and another 200 or so who will be added before the commissioning process is completed. To date, we have received nearly 300 submissions to the project, and entries are continuing to arrive daily. The ODMA project is due for delivery to Oxford University Press in January 2006 and set for publication during the same year. This dictionary will be of the first resort as a valuable resource for scholars and lay people alike.
Distinguished Visiting Professor

Giles Constable, Professor Emeritus, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, has been appointed ACMRS Distinguished Visiting Professor for Spring 2005. Professor Constable has taught at Harvard, Princeton, and Cambridge. He also has been the recipient of a number of awards and fellowships from organizations including the Guggenheim Foundation, Harvard University, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the American Philosophical Society. Professor Constable currently is the General Editor for Central European Medieval Texts; and he also has served on numerous advisory and editorial boards, including the journal Speculum, for which he was the Assistant Editor, the journal Mediterranean Studies, as well as the Center's own Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages project, for which he is currently on the Advisory Board. In the Spring, Professor Constable will teach a course entitled “Crusading and Crusaders from the Eleventh to the Fifteenth Century.” For further information about Professor Constable or his course, contact ACMRS.

Undergraduate Student Book Award

The ACMRS Undergraduate Student Book Award was established in honor of the Center’s founding director, Jean Brink, and it is intended to recognize the academic achievements of undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional work in the areas of medieval and Renaissance studies. The recipient of the 2004 award is Katherine Williams, a senior honors student majoring in English Literature, with a minor in music. Katherine received a stellar recommendation for the award from Department of English Professor Curtis Perry, who worked with her in two upper-division literature courses and also directed her honors thesis. Congratulations Katherine!

New ACMRS Publication

The Journal of Aurelio Scetti: A Florentine Galley Slave at Lepanto (1565–1577), translated and edited by Luigi Monga. This recent ACMRS publication is the personal chronicle of the eleven-year captivity of Aurelio Scetti, a Florentine musician who was sentenced to death for the murder of his wife but instead was sent to be a slave in the galleys of Pisana. This text is an exciting rendering of life on a galley, full of details about naval battles with the Islamic fleet and internal fights among Christian admirals, enhanced by Scetti’s own pen-and-ink drawings of galleys, harbors (as pictured below), and storms. Scetti eventually sent his journal to the duke of Florence, with a petition asking to be freed; however, the archives are silent on whether he finally was released or died a prisoner.

Faculty Affiliate Leaves ASU

ASU Professor of Religious Studies and long-time ACMRS affiliate Allison P. Coudert has accepted the Castlefranco Chair in the History of Religion at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Coudert has been at ASU since 1986, specializing in Jewish-Christian relations in 16th–18th century Europe, and she has published extensively on the impact of the Kabbalah on Christianity during this period. She is a graduate of Vassar College and received her Ph.D. from the Warburg Institute of the University of London. During her time at ASU, Professor Coudert produced two monographs (Leibniz and the Kabbalah and The Impact of the Kabbalah in the 17th Century), edited six books, and published over forty articles. She also was awarded a research fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania’s Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies, the Lady Davis Fellowship at the Hebrew University, a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, and a one-year research fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. The University of California, Davis is very fortunate to receive such an accomplished and distinguished scholar as Professor Coudert. She certainly will be missed at ASU and ACMRS.
The Ross-Blakley Law Library, in the ASU College of Law, has created an English Legal History Room housing a special collection of approximately 3,000 books focusing on medieval and Early Modern English legal history. Included in the collection are State Trials, Selden Society publications, the entire collection of nominative reports, and numerous older and current monographs. The collection also includes rare and antiquarian books, both original printings and reprints of important primary sources, and reference books in this field. Included in this portion of the collection are the 1680 Vulgate Edition of the Yearbooks, Rotuli Parliamentorum, Statutes of the Realm, Ruffhead’s The Statutes at Large, Calendar of the Rolls and Pipe Rolls, Coke’s Institutes, several abridgements and the three earliest English legal dictionaries, Rastell’s Termes de Ley, Cowell’s Interpreter, and Giles Jacob’s Law Dictionary.

Professor Jonathan Rose, Willard H. Pedrick Distinguished Research Scholar, has built this collection with the assistance of the library staff using the money from his annual Pedrick stipend and the library’s acquisitions funds.

The English Legal History Room is located in the basement of the Ross-Blakley Law Library. The regular collection is in open stacks and usable by all. The antiquarian books have limited access requiring staff assistance and must be used with the special procedures traditionally employed by research libraries and archival institutions.

For further assistance concerning library information, including hours and directions, please visit the Ross-Blakley Law Library web site at law.asu.edu/library or call (480) 965-6144. For specific questions about materials in the English Legal History Room, please contact Marianne Alcorn at (480) 965-4868 or marianne.alcorn@asu.edu.

Now available through ASU Special Collections is the Janus Press of Vermont’s recently issued work of art entitled Circulus Sapientiae (Circle of Wisdom) in which artist Clarie Van Vliet brings forth a stunning visual celebration of songs by medieval visionary Abbess Hildegard von Bingen (1098–1179). Dynamic pop-ups drawn from images in the hymns blossom from the pages. Latin texts of twelve songs from the Symphony of the Harmony of Celestial Revelations anchor the accordion-fold text, which when opened reveals a colorful panoramic display. A CD of the hymns is included from the Symphony, performed by Anima, a Vermont-based ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of medieval music. This work was inspired by Hildegard’s glorious music, and it was created in honor of the abbess’ 900th birthday. Only 120 copies were produced. The call number for this item is Spec. AB-100, and it may be requested through the Department of Archives and Manuscripts.
Reading Groups

Three reading groups will be meeting at the Center this semester. The Old English reading group, facilitated by Karen Bollerman, will meet on Mondays, 12:45–1:30 PM. The Old Norse reading group, led by Dr. Claudia Tomany, will meet on Wednesdays, 12:45–1:30 PM. Finally, the Latin reading group, facilitated by Paul Arena, will be held Wednesdays, 1:40–2:40 PM. For further details on the reading groups, contact ACMRS.

ACMRS Internship

The Center has established a new unpaid internship program, which is geared toward students working in the area of medieval and/or Renaissance studies who are interested in receiving work experience in this field as well as academic credit. The internship would entail such duties as helping with the production of books published by the Center, assisting with various aspects of the *Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages* project, helping with conference and lecture planning and preparations, as well as photocopying and data entry for a number of ongoing projects. For further details or to apply for the internship, contact Laura Roosen at 480-965-9323 or laura.roosen@asu.edu.

Community Outreach

ACMRS has participated in two community outreach events this year. The first of these was the “See ASU” Exhibit held at the Wells Fargo Arena in March. This exhibit is an annual event at ASU designed to inform and educate school children as well as the general public about the myriad happenings within the various departments at ASU. This year the exhibit was held in conjunction with the Central Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair (CARSEF), so the crowd of visitors was greatly increased. Highlights from this year’s event included the Mars exhibit, complete with recent photos from the planet’s surface, and the ACMRS display of medieval armor, which the students could try on. Also popular at the Center's booth was the medieval and Renaissance game display, where a number of skilled young chess players engaged in lengthy combats against ACMRS staff. (To see photos of “See ASU” visit asu.edu/ia/photogallery/seeasu04/thumbnails.htm.)

The second event was the Madison 1 Middle School Merchant Fair in April, hosted by Ms. Cheryl Wien’s 6th grade class. The objective of the fair was to educate the students about medieval guilds and have small groups of them invent their own guild and create a product to sell at the fair. All of the booths had a medieval theme, and some of the students dressed in period-appropriate garb. The ACMRS staff received a warm reception upon arriving to the fair, where a special booth had been set up for us, complete with a “welcome” banner. The Center’s participation in the event involved displays of a working catapult, medieval armor, and illumination and paleography, in addition to educational handouts about medieval guilds.

Faculty Publications

The following faculty publications should have been included with the list of publications in the Spring 2004 newsletter:


THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7–SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16
SOUTHWEST SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
presents Twelfth Night at the Mesa Amphitheatre
Call 480-990-4404 for information and tickets.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9
ACMRS ANNUAL FRIENDS AND AFFILIATES RECEPTION
at the residence of Robert and Mary Bjork, 7:00 PM
RSVP by Thursday, October 7 at 480-965-9323 or acmr@asu.edu

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16
PIPER CENTER FOR CREATIVE WRITING
DISTINGUISHED VISITING WRITERS SERIES
welcomes former United States Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky
ASU Main Campus, Law Building, Armstrong Hall, 7:30 PM
Free and open to the public

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28
ACMRS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES
Dr. Paul Freedman, Yale University
Scarcity, Abundance, and the Demand for Spices in the Middle Ages
ASU Main Campus, Lattie E. Coor Hall, Room 199, 7:30 PM
Reception to follow
Co-sponsored by the Departments of Anthropology and History, and the
Program for Southeast Asian Studies

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7
THE COLLEGIUM MUSICUM RENAISSANCE CONCERT
University of Arizona
Holsclaw Hall, School of Music and Dance, 2:30 PM
Free and open to the public
2004 Friends of ACMRS Membership Form

My name and address are:

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My name and address are:

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Does your company supply matching funds for charitable donations? ______  If yes, will you be applying for them? ______

Check enclosed $ ______

Credit Card pledge of $ ______ (annually, bi-annually, quarterly, monthly--please circle one.)

Credit Card # _______________________________

Name on card _______________________________

Date of expiration ____________________________

Check make check payable to “ASU Foundation”

Mail to: ACMRS, Arizona State University, Box 874402, Tempe, AZ 85287-4402.

(All funds are being deposited with the ASU Foundation, a non-profit organization that exists for the benefit of ASU.)