ACMRS does not have a Distinguished Lecturer in Medieval Studies for the Fall 2008 season. However, Dr. Alastair Minnis, Professor of English at Yale University, will deliver his lecture on "Medieval Edens: Sex, Death, and Power in Paradise" on Thursday, November 13, at 7:00 PM, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 199. There will be a reception following the lecture, and both the lecture and reception are free and open to the public. Contact ACMRS for more information.

ACMRS is dedicated to offering community outreach programs, and our annual fall symposium is at the core of this outreach. The topic of the symposium this fall is Defining Celticity, co-sponsored by the Scottsdale Public Library. Three talks on a variety of Celtic topics will be presented by Joseph Nagy (UCLA), Morgan Davies (Colgate University), and Karen Overbey (Tufts University); the specific paper topics will be announced on the ACMRS website in late September. In addition to these presentations, Ron Newcomer (ASU) will show a montage of Celtic/Irish films set in the Middle Ages.

The symposium will be held on Saturday, October 18, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium. Participants can register the day of the symposium. This event is free and open to the public.

ACMRS and The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (ASU at the West Campus) announce the first undergraduate medieval and Renaissance studies conference in the United States, “Discipuli Juncti: Students Connected through the Middle Ages and Renaissance.” This conference is intended to give undergraduates who are interested in medieval and/or Renaissance culture an opportunity to present their research or project to a group of their peers, and also to work with a faculty mentor.

The conference will be held at ASU at the West Campus on November 14, 2008, and the keynote speaker will be Alastair Minnis (Yale University), one of the world’s foremost authorities on Chaucer and the ACMRS Distinguished Lecturer in Medieval Studies. For full details, contact Professor Mary Bjork at mary.bjork@asu.edu.
ACMRS READING GROUPS

ACMRS is hosting three faculty-led reading groups for Fall 2008. The Old English reading group, led by Heather Marcion, is meeting Tuesdays, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4457; the Old Norse reading group, led by Robert E. Bjork, is meeting Thursdays, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4438; and the medieval Latin reading group, led by Paul Arena, is meeting Thursdays, 2:00–3:00 PM, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4457. These reading groups are open to interested students and faculty.

ACMRS Distinguished Visiting Professor

CMRS is proud to welcome Dr. Susana Torres Prieto as Distinguished Visiting Professor for Fall 2008. Dr. Torres Prieto received her Ph.D. Doctor Europaeus in Slavonic Philology from the Universidad Complutense, Madrid (Spain), and she comes to the Center from Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), where she has been working on a Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia (Spain) Research Postdoctoral Fellowship for the development of the project “The Use of Literary Genres in the Creation of an Image of Power in the Ruling Dynasties of Medieval Russia, 10th–13th Centuries.” Dr. Torres Prieto has taught courses on Slavonic and Old Church Slavonic at Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Latin and Greek at St. Louis University (Madrid Campus); Russian at Centro Superior de Idiomas Modernos (Universidad Complutense de Madrid); and Spanish at Universidad Commenius de Bratislava. She has also written, edited, and contributed to a number of books and articles, among them Ivan Shponka y su tía, by Nikolai Gogol (bilingual edition Russian-Spanish) and the forthcoming Sources for the Study of Pre-Christian Slavic Religion (Bilingual Edition), as well as “Slavic Epic: Past Tales and Present Myths,” in The Ancient World, Comparative Histories and “Magia Cristiana en la Rus de Kiev,” in Ilu. Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones. Dr. Torres Prieto also completed a research stay at The University of Cambridge (United Kingdom) and the Hilander Research Library at Ohio State University.

While in residence at ASU, Professor Torres Prieto is teaching two courses: “Christian Syncretism in the Middle Ages,” an undergraduate course being offered as REL and HST 394; and “Folklore as Propaganda: The Appropriation of Tradition,” a graduate course being offered as REL, HST, and POS 494/598. Professor Torres Prieto’s office is located at the Center, in Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4426.

ACMRS Welcomes Adjunct Scholar

ACMRS is pleased to welcome as an adjunct scholar Dr. Yejung Choi, who is Associate Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature, Hoseo University, Chonan, Choongnam, South Korea. Professor Choi has taught graduate courses on Chaucer, Spenser, Classical Literature, and Feminism, as well as undergraduate courses in British and American Literature. She is also Editor of Literature and Religion and Medieval and Early Modern English Studies.

Professor Choi’s main areas of research have been on Chaucer and female writers in the 14th and 15th centuries. She is currently doing work on Margery Kempe and will write an article about her this fall.

Professor Choi will be in residence with ACMRS during the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 semesters, and during her stay she will be developing an idea about courtliness represented in Anglo-Norman and English romances, focusing on its class-specific features and its effect on the construction of masculinity/femininity in the later Middle Ages of England.

Hayden Library Acquires Medieval Codex

Le Livre Des Simples Medecines, a codex now in the National Library of Russia, is heralded as one of the most celebrated herbaria of the Middle Ages. It is the work of Matthaeus Platearius and was illuminated in France, ca. 1470, by Robinet Testard, “servant and illuminator” of Charles of Angoulême. It reputedly was painted for Louise of Savoy, wife of Charles of Angoulême and mother of François I. It is remarkable not only because of its beautiful illustrations, but also because it contains the culmination of European medieval knowledge of the animal, vegetable, and mineral substances used to cure or relieve illnesses. Special Collections in the ASU Hayden Library has recently acquired a beautiful facsimile of this codex, which is accompanied by a full-color commentary in both Spanish and English. The call number is Spec B-746.
CAMBRIDGE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

The next ACMRS study abroad program will be in residence July 3–August 10, 2009, at St. Catharine’s College, University of Cambridge. 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. It provides students with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of a variety of topics on medieval and Renaissance history and culture, while inhabiting and visiting many of the locales that provide the context for their studies. In addition to the varied courses offered on the program, each week a faculty member organizes a group excursion pertaining to his or her course. The program also includes opening and closing receptions in the formal dining hall at St. Catharine’s College, and students have ample opportunity to travel and explore on their own.

A couple of the highlights from the Summer 2008 program included trips to London, Oxford, and The Sutton Hoo Ship Burial, as well as a visit to Stratford-Upon-Avon to attend a Royal Shakespeare Company performance of Hamlet, starring Patrick Stewart as Claudius and The Ghost.

The first student informational meeting and complete program details will be announced on the ACMRS website in late Fall 2008. For further details about the program and upcoming meetings, contact Jennifer Michaud at jennifer.michaud@asu.edu.

ACMRS INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

The fifteenth annual ACMRS interdisciplinary conference will be held February 12–14, 2009, at the Four Points by Sheraton, Tempe. The theme of the conference is “The Five Senses in the Middle Ages and Renaissance,” and the keynote speaker will be Stephen G. Nicholas, James M. Beall Professor of French and Humanities and Chair of the Romance Languages and Literatures Department at The Johns Hopkins University. The conference registration fee is $90 ($45 for students) and includes welcoming and concluding receptions, two days of concurrent sessions (Friday and Saturday), and the keynote address.

Prior to the conference, ACMRS will host a workshop on manuscript studies led by Timothy Graham, Director of the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of New Mexico. The workshop will be held on Thursday afternoon, February 12 and is limited to 25 participants. To register, email acmrs@asu.edu with “conference workshop” in the subject line. The cost of the workshop is $15.

Proposals for sessions and individual papers will be accepted until 5:00 pm (MST) on October 15, 2008. To submit a proposal, visit http://link.library.utoronto.ca/acmrs/conference. For complete conference details, visit the ACMRS website or phone the Center.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BOOK AWARD

ACMRS announces the fourteenth annual Undergraduate Student Book Award in honor of the Center’s founding director, Jean R. Brink. This award is given each year to an undergraduate student who has excelled academically in medieval and/or Renaissance studies and who intends to continue study in one of these areas at the graduate level. The recipient of this award will receive $250 for the purchase of books. Along with ACMRS, The University of Arizona’s Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation Committee (UAMARRC) has generously offered to contribute to this award.

The award is open to all ASU, NAU, and UA undergraduate students. Faculty from any discipline are welcome to nominate, with a brief letter, any undergraduate student whom they feel is deserving of the award. Nominated students should submit to ACMRS their current local mailing address, social security number (for check-issuing purposes), and an unofficial transcript. The nomination letter and supporting documentation should be submitted to Dr. Robert E. Bjork, Director, by April 3, 2009. For further information about nominating a student for this award, contact Jennifer Michaud at jennifer.michaud@asu.edu.
Mary Bjork, ASU Assistant Professor of English (at the West Campus), just received a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Culture and was appointed to the editorial board of the journal *Mediterranean Studies*.

Robert E. Bjork, ASU Professor of English and Director ACMRS, was just appointed to the editorial board of the annual journal *Anglo-Saxon England* (Cambridge University Press), the premier journal in Anglo-Saxon studies.

Albrecht Classen, UA Distinguished Professor of German Studies, received an NEH Summer Institute stipend for “Holy Lands,” Oxford 2008. He also received the Henry & Phyllis Koffler Award for Research, University of Arizona, 2008.

Markus Cruse, ASU Assistant Professor of French and Italian, spent the Spring 2008 semester on a research leave supported by the ACMRS faculty fellowship. He is completing his book, *The Manuscript as Monument: Illuminating the Roman d’Alexandre in MS Bodley 264*, and co-editing *The Social Life of Illumination* (Brepols, 2009) with Joyce Coleman (University of Oklahoma) and Kathryn Smith (New York University). A DVD of his performances of fifteenth-century French farces at the 12th triennial conference of the Société Internationale pour l’Étude du Théâtre Médiéval has been produced by the Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique.

Monica H. Green, ASU Professor of History, completed her term on the Council of the American Association for the History of Medicine this spring. She continues on the Council of the Medieval Academy of America. In May and June, she held a Countway Library Fellowship at Harvard University, where she continued her research on premodern surgery. In the fall, she will be travelling again to Italy for the Third Convegno Internazionale of the Commissione Scientifica della Edizione Nazionale “La Scuola Medica Salernitana,” where she will present a paper on the impact of Arabic *materia medica* on the 12th-century Salernitan school of medicine. She is also an invited speaker at a symposium on “Scientific Manuscripts in the Digital Age” to be held in October at the University of Pennsylvania.

Paul Milliman, UA Assistant Professor of History, received the 2008 Ambassador Kazimierz Dzierwanowski Memorial Award (jointly sponsored by the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America (PIASA) and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, DC) for his Ph.D. dissertation, *Disputing Identity, Territoriality, and Sovereignty: The Place of Pomerania in the Social Memory of the Kingdom of Poland and the Teutonic Ordensstaat* (Cornell, 2007). The annual award for the best dissertation on a Polish topic accepted at an American university was established to honor the memory of Ambassador Kazimierz Dzierwanowski, the first Polish ambassador to the U.S. from post-communist Poland.

Asa Mittman, CSU Chico Assistant Professor, Department of Art and Art History, is an ACMRS affiliate who left ASU in Spring 2008 to accept his post at CSU, Chico. He also co-founded a new organization on medieval monsters called MEARCSTAPA (Monsters: The Experimental Association for the Research of Cryptozoology through Scholarly Theory And Practical Application).

Jonathan Rose, ASU Professor of Law, was Chair of the local arrangements committee & Co-Chair of the program committee for the 2007 Annual Conference of the American Society of Legal History, hosted by ASU’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
Annual ACMRS Friends & Affiliates Reception
6:00 PM, at the home of Robert and Mary Bjork
Please RSVP by September 10
audrey.walters@asu.edu or 480-965-9323.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
Professor Paul Milliman, University of Arizona
“Ludus Scaccarii: Games and Governance in Twelfth-Century England”
3:00 PM, Coor Hall, room 4403

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Annual ACMRS Friends & Affiliates Reception in Flagstaff, 6:00 PM
at the home of Professor Charles Connell
Contact ACMRS for information and directions.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Professor Albrecht Classen, University of Arizona
“Female Ruse and Male Violence in Sixteenth-Century German Prose Narratives: The Gender Battle Continued”
3:00 PM, Coor Hall, room 4403

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15
Annual ACMRS Friends & Affiliates Reception in Tucson, 6:00 PM
at the home of Professor Kari McBride
Contact ACMRS for information and directions.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
“Virgil’s Aeneid: World Tour,”
A Latin/English performance by Mark Miner
Northern Arizona University, Liberal Arts Room 135
5:00–7:00 PM
Book 1 Lines 420–756, The ekphrasis in the Carthaginian temple, the first meeting of Dido & Aeneas, and Dido’s beguiling by Venus (and Cupid!) at the banquet.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
Annual ACMRS Symposium: Defining Celtivity
10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Scottsdale Civic Center Library Lower Auditorium
Co-sponsored by the Scottsdale Public Library
Free and open to the public

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23
Professor Charles Connell,
Northern Arizona University
“The Voice of the People in the Middle Ages: Studies in the Medieval Notion of ‘Public Opinion’”
3:00 PM, Coor Hall, room 4403

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7
“Early Modern Theater and Knowledge Production: A Symposium for Graduate Students and Faculty”
2:00–5:00 PM, Social Sciences, room 109
For complete details and to RSVP, contact Ayanna.Thompson@asu.edu.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
(A)Wake for Milton
Sponsored by the English Club, the Department of English, and ACMRS
Memorial Union 207, 12:00–2:00 PM
For details, visit www.asu.edu/english/homecoming.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Distinguished Lecture in Medieval Studies
Professor Alastair Minnis, Yale University
“Medieval Edens: Sex, Death, and Power in Paradise”
7:00 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 199
Co-sponsored by the Department of English
A reception will follow the lecture.
Free and open to the public.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Undergraduate Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies
“Discipuli Juncti: Students Connected through the Middle Ages and Renaissance”
ASU at the West campus, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

This calendar is subject to change. For updates, visit www.asu.edu/clas/acmrs/calendar.html.
2008 Friends of ACMRS Membership Form

Bequest __________ (ACMRS will contact you.)

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  Date of expiration ______________________________

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

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