e are delighted to announce good news for Professor Bjork. First and foremost, we would like to welcome to the ACMRS family Francesca Erica Bjork, firstborn child of Robert and Mary Bjork. Francesca entered the world on Friday, December 2, 2005, at 9:15 PM, weighing a healthy 6 pounds, 15 ounces. Congratulations on this joyous event!

In other good news, Professor Bjork was named a recipient of a 2006–07 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship. This fellowship will enable Professor Bjork to complete his book “The Emergence of a Discipline: the Scandinavians and Anglo-Saxon Literary Studies,” which he says will be “both a history of the emergence of a discipline and a study in the history of ideas and culture.” Professor Bjork plans to visit the Royal Libraries in Stockholm and Copenhagen and the British Library in London to finish his research. He also will deliver the Fell-Benedikz Lecture at Nottingham University and the keynote address at the Viking Society for Northern Research at the University of London.

Congratulations to the Director

ACMRS welcomes Stephen Orgel, Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor in the Humanities at Stanford University, as the Distinguished Lecturer in Renaissance Studies for Spring 2006. Professor Orgel has been a visiting scholar at eight esteemed institutions, including the University of Cambridge, the Getty Institute in Los Angeles, Humboldt University in Berlin, and the University of Oxford. He has authored or edited more than 25 books, including Imagining Shakespeare (Palgrave, 2003) and The Authentic Shakespeare and Other Problems of the Early Modern Stage (Routledge, 2002). His publications also include more than 70 articles, and he has given numerous lectures at conferences and colloquia. Professor Orgel has received several prestigious awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship (2000–01), a Getty Foundation Fellowship (1986–87), and a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship (1954–55). His ACMRS Distinguished Lecture in Renaissance Studies “Open Secrets,” a lecture on Renaissance magic, will be held Tuesday, February 28, 2006, at 7:00 PM, in the first-floor auditorium of the Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Ave. in Phoenix (on Central just south of McDowell). The lecture is being given in conjunction with a special exhibit of the Phoenix Public Library’s Alfred Knight Collection. Alfred Knight was a businessman who retired to Phoenix and bequeathed his collection of manuscripts, books, and other rare documents to the Phoenix Public Library upon his death in 1958. More than half the collection of over 3,000 pieces contains works of Shakespeare, including one of seven Hamlet quartos from 1676. The collection also boasts illuminated manuscripts, a leaf from the Gutenberg Bible, first editions of Milton’s Paradise Lost, Spenser’s The Faerie Queene, and Joyce’s Ulysses. The library will host an exhibit of the Knight collection from February 6 through March 5, 2006.
ACMRS ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

The twelfth annual ACMRS interdisciplinary conference will be held February 16–18, 2006, at the Embassy Suites, Tempe. The theme of this year’s conference is “Poverty and Prosperity, the Rich and the Poor in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.” The conference registration fee is $90 ($50 for students) and includes welcoming and concluding receptions, two days of concurrent sessions (Friday and Saturday), and the keynote address by Mark R. Cohen, Professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, who just completed a study of poverty and charity in the Geniza period.

In addition to the conference sessions, ACMRS will host a preconference “Workshop on Manuscript Studies” to be 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 16, and a limited number of participants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to sign up for the workshop, send an email to acmrs@asu.edu with “Conference Workshop” in the subject line.

We are in need of volunteers to help with the conference. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Laura Roosen at 480-965-9323. Volunteers receive free admission to the conference.

For complete conference details, visit the ACMRS website or phone the Center. Also, if you would like to submit an idea for next year’s conference theme, email the Center at acmrs@asu.edu with “2007 Conference Theme” in the subject line.

CAMBRIDGE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

There have been some changes for the ACMRS Study Abroad Program over the past year. We are sad to announce that Cora Fox (ASU, English Department) has stepped down as Program Director after three successful years. However, we are pleased to welcome the new Program Director Kari McBride, a faculty member in the Department of Women’s Studies at The University of Arizona, who specializes in Early Modern literature and culture. Professor McBride will serve as Director for the next three years, and we look forward to her term.

The Summer 2006 program will be in residence at St. Catharine’s College, University of Cambridge, from July 7 through August 15, 2006. The courses being offered this year are “Shakespeare in Performance” (offered annually), taught by Dr. Paul Hartle (St. Catharine’s College, University of Cambridge); “Educating Early Modern England,” taught by Professor Kari McBride (The University of Arizona); “City and Cycle in Medieval York,” taught by Professor Victor Scherb (The University of Texas, Tyler); and “Peasants’ Revolts of the Late Middle Ages,” taught by Professor Alan Cooper (Colgate University). We also have some exciting excursions planned for the program this year, including a trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon to see Patrick Stewart perform with the Royal Shakespeare in The Tempest, as well as a journey to York to experience the quadrennial live performance of twelve plays in the York Cycle.

We are accepting applications for the Summer 2006 program. To apply, visit the Summer Sessions website at http//www.asu.edu/ssa/abroad/index.html and complete the new online study abroad application. To obtain further information about the program and application procedures, visit the ACMRS website or contact Jennifer Michaud at 480-965-8097.
ACMRS published a number of books in Fall 2005. One of the highlights is *The Shadow-Walkers: Jacob Grimm’s Mythology of the Monstrous*.

At the start of the 19th century, Jacob Grimm offered an explanation of the origin of languages that replaced the story of the Tower of Babel. This new science, comparative philology, showed how the languages of Europe had developed from a common, long-extinct source. Grimm further went on to comparative mythology, in the hope of achieving a similar result. Two of the most popular works of the Western world remain Grimm’s *Fairy Tales* and J.R.R. Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*, another reconstruction of the mythological world which Grimm pioneered.

This volume reconsiders Grimm’s “Teutonic Mythology” and draws out into the open Grimm’s thesis that an ancient and original mythology could be reconstructed from fragments and that contemporary folk and fairy tales could preserve concepts centuries old. It also discusses material Grimm did not know, or was unable to integrate into his theories, both from ancient texts, such as Norse sagas, not yet edited in Grimm’s time, and from folktale collections not made until after his death.

This collection focuses on Grimm’s “lower mythology,” the non-human races of early European imagination, such as elves and dwarves, trolls and giants, dragons, werewolves, and valkyries. The essays cover material in Old and Middle English, Old and Middle High German, Old Norse, and the modern languages of Northwest Europe, especially of Iceland, home of the strongest living folk tradition. They throw unexpected light on “the shadow-walkers,” the ancient creatures that still haunt the modern imagination.

Other ACMRS titles published in Fall 2005 include the following:

*Holy Ambition: Rhetoric, Courtship, and Devotion in the Sermons of John Donne*, by Brent Nelson. This study examines the rich resource for rhetorical invention that Donne found in the contemporary culture of courtship.

*John of Salisbury*, by Cary J. Nederman. John of Salisbury (1115/20–1180) has earned a considerable and well-deserved reputation as an original philosopher as well as a prominent commentator on the vast intellectual and cultural changes experienced by twelfth-century Europe.

*Translating Desire in Medieval and Early Modern Literature*, edited by Heather Hayton and Craig A. Berry. The essays in this volume take the two kindred principles of translation and desire and map out what happens in pre-modern and Early Modern literature when desire itself is translated from one realm of discourse to another.

*Hermann Conring’s New Discourse on the Roman-German Emperor*, edited and translated by Constantin Fasolt. This English translation—the first of any of Conring’s works—includes the Latin original, an introduction to Conring’s significance, a chronology, notes on the edition and the translation, and an annotated guide to further reading.

*Wace, Le Roman de Brut: The French Book of Brutus*, translated by Arthur Wayne Glowka. This text is a wonderful introduction to the medieval world and holds an interest for all students of the Middle Ages, who will find the work especially helpful in their understanding of Arthur’s place in the long line of legendary kings stretching from the Trojans to the final displacement of the Britons by the Saxons.


*The Medieval Marriage Scene: Prudence, Passion, Policy*, edited by Sherry Roush and Cristelle Baskins. This volume brings together expert scholarship on fictive, artistic, legal, ethical, and economic facets of the institution of marriage across Europe between roughly 500 and 1550.

For ordering instructions or to view a complete listing of publications visit the ACMRS website.
ACMRS announces the eleventh 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 ASU, NAU, and UA undergraduate students. Faculty from any discipline are asked to nominate, with a brief letter, any undergraduate student whom they feel is deserving of the award. Nominated students should submit to ACMRS their social security number, current local mailing address, and an unofficial transcript. The nomination letter and supporting documentation should be submitted to Dr. Robert E. Bjork, Director, by April 7, 2006. For further information about nominating a student for this award, contact Jennifer Michaud at 480-965-8097.

CMRS welcomes Distinguished Visiting Professor Dr. Thomas P. Roche, Jr., Emeritus Professor of English, Princeton University, and his assistant Mr. Robert H. Smith. Professor Roche is in residence at ASU Tempe Campus for the Spring 2006 semester, teaching an upper-division Shakespeare course and a graduate-level Renaissance literature course. Both courses are being offered through the ASU English Department. Professor Roche’s office is located at the Center, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4426. We are honored to have Dr. Roche and Mr. Smith with us this semester.

ACMRS is pleased to announce Stephanie DeBacker as the recipient of the ACMRS Faculty Fellowship for the 2006–07 academic year. Professor DeBacker is an assistant professor in the Department of Language, Cultures, and History at ASU West Campus, where she specializes in Early Modern European history. During her term as Faculty Fellow, Professor DeBacker will be finalizing for publication her book-length monograph Countess Blanca and the Widows of Toledo: Widowhood, Family and Community in Early Modern Spain. Professor DeBacker will begin her fellowship term in Fall 2006.

In an effort to reduce costs and make the best use of funds that are so generously donated by the friends of ACMRS, we are moving away from printing paper copies of the newsletter and towards distributing an electronic version instead. If you would like to receive an electronic version of the newsletter, please send your current email address to acmrsc@asu.edu with “Electronic Newsletter” in the subject line. We will continue to send paper copies to individuals for whom we do not have an email address. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter anymore, please phone or email the Center, and we will remove you from our distribution list. Thank you.

ACMRS is pleased to announce Stephanie Volf, Ph.D. student in medieval literature and longtime ACMRS research assistant, as the recipient of the 2006 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award for her paper “A ‘medicyne of wordes’: Healing through the Book of Hours.” This award provides an all-expenses-paid trip to the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, which is one of the most prestigious conferences in medieval studies. Ms. Volf will present her winning paper at the annual conference, which will be held in May 2006. She also will give a pre-conference presentation of her paper on Tuesday, April 25, 2006, 3:30 PM, ASU Tempe Campus, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4411. Congratulations, Stephanie, on this tremendous achievement!

ACMRS announces the eleventh 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.

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Faculty Fellows Program

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Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Undergraduate Student Book Award

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——, Childhood in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance: The Results of a Paradigm Shift in the History of Mentality (Berlin and New York: de Gruyter, 2005).


——, “Men on the RightWomen on the Left: (A)symmetrical Spaces and Gendered Places,” in Women’s Spaces: Patronage, Place and Gender in the Medieval Church, ed. Virginia Chiefo Raguin and Sarah Stanbury (Albany, 2005): 207–49.

——, review of The Northern Renaissance by Jeffrey Chipps Smith, in Renaissance Quarterly (2005).


Spring 2006 Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events will be held at ASU Tempe Campus. All events are subject to change or cancellation.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2006
ACMRS Lecture “With East and West in Their Minds: When Civilizations Were Clashing Without Bin Laden,” Guiseppe Candela, ASU, Department of Languages and Literatures
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403
Free and open to the public.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16–SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
12th Annual ACMRS Conference
“Poverty and Prosperity, the Rich and the Poor in the Middle Ages and Renaissance”
Embassy Suites Phoenix-Tempe
4400 South Rural Road
Tempe, AZ 85282

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2006
ACMRS Lecture “The Angle of Repose: Comfort, Convenience, and Consumption in the Noble Households of Early Modern Dauphiné,” Donna Bohanan, Professor of History, Auburn University
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403
Free and open to the public.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
ACMRS Lecture “From Moralised Narrative to Sheer Nonsense: Swift’s ‘Tale of a Tub’ and the Fable Tradition,” Jonathan Lamb, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities, Vanderbilt University
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403
Free and open to the public.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6
ACMRS Lecture “The Decameron and The Canterbury Tales: A Poetics of Prudence,” Robert Hanning, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403
Co-sponsored by the ASU Department of English
Free and open to the public.
No-host dinner with Professor Hanning to follow.
(RSVP for the dinner at 480-965-9323.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
ACMRS Lecture “The Decameron and The Canterbury Tales: A Poetics of Prudence,” Robert Hanning, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4403
Co-sponsored by the ASU Department of English
Free and open to the public.
No-host dinner with Professor Hanning to follow.
(RSVP for the dinner at 480-965-9323.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
IHR and ACMRS Lecture
“Opening the Geese Book,”
Corine Schleif, Volker Schier, and William Gentrup
4:45 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 174
Free and open to the public.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23
ACMRS Lecture “The Angle of Repose: Comfort, Convenience, and Consumption in the Noble Households of Early Modern Dauphiné,” Donna Bohanan, Professor of History, Auburn University
3:30 PM (location TBD)
Free and open to the public.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6
ACMRS Lecture
Jean R. Brink, Founding Director of ACMRS, ASU Emerita Professor of English, and Huntington Library Resident Scholar
(titles, time, and location TBD)
Free and open to the public.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
Outstanding Graduate Student Paper
“A ‘medicyne of wordes’: Healing through the Book of Hours,” Stephanie Volf
3:30 PM, Lattie F. Coor Hall, room 4411

Visit www.asu.edu/clas/acmr/calendar.html for updates.
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