**Featured Events**

**2010 ACMRS Interdisciplinary Conference**

The 16th annual ACMRS interdisciplinary conference, *Humanity and the Natural World in the Middle Ages and Renaissance*, will be held from February 11 to 13, 2010, in Tempe. Pamela O. Long, a widely published, independent historian, will give the keynote address, “Nature and Machines: A Changing Relationship in Medieval and Renaissance Europe.” Her areas of expertise are the history of science and technology and the intellectual history of the late Middle Ages and the Renaissance. A pre-conference workshop on Manuscript Studies, led by Prof. Timothy Graham, Director of the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of New Mexico, will also be offered for a minimal additional cost.

The conference includes a welcome and a farewell reception, two days of concurrent sessions (Friday and Saturday) and a plenary lecture. (The welcome reception is Thursday evening.) For complete registration information, please see the website: www.acmrs.org/conferences.html.

**ACMRS Distinguished Lecture in Renaissance Studies**

ACMRS warmly welcomes Dr. Tom Conley as the Spring 2010 Distinguished Lecturer in Renaissance Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the University Wisconsin, Madison, and currently holds the title Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and Chair of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University. His focus is early modern French literature, film and media studies, and the intersection of literature and graphic imagination. He has produced numerous books, articles, translations, and editions, including *The Self Made Map: Cartographic Writing in Early Modern France* and a recent translation of Christian Jacob’s *The Sovereign Map*. Among his many awards and fellowships are The Guggenheim Fellowship (2003) and the Ordre des Palmes Académiques (2002).

Dr. Conley will deliver “An Errant Eye: Topography and Poetry in Renaissance France” (also the title of his forthcoming book) on Thursday, March 25, 2010, at 7:00 pm, at ASU Tempe, West Hall, Room 135. In this lecture, he examines the emergence of spatial consciousness, made manifest in the growth of cartography, in its relation with the aesthetic and political designs of poetry and related genres. He focuses on how poetry internalizes spatial reason and how it becomes a mode of mapping vital to the cultural contexts from which it emerges. To illustrate his thesis, he draws special attention to Rabelais, the Pléiade, and Montaigne. A reception will follow the lecture, both of which are free and open to the public.

**Chaucer Celebration**

Celebrate the life and works of “the father of English poetry,” Geoffrey Chaucer, in a festival to be held Thursday and Friday, April 1 and 2, 2010, at ASU Tempe. Events begin the afternoon of April 1 with a performance of one of the most famous plays to survive from the Middle Ages, the *Wakefield Second Shepherds' Pageant*, by graduate students and faculty in ASU’s Department of English. A feast of medieval delicacies and the first part of a medieval film festival follows. On Friday, the celebration continues with “Chaucer and Religion,” a roundtable discussion featuring Professor Roger Dahood (University of Arizona) and ASU English faculty. Friday’s activities conclude with the second part of the film festival.

All events are sponsored by ASU’s Department of English and are free and open to the public. For further information, see http://english.clas.asu.edu/events.
ACCOLADES AND AWARDS

ROBERT BJORK NAMED “ASU FOUNDATION PROFESSOR”

In recognition of his scholarly achievements and “outstanding contributions to the university,” ACMRS Director Robert E. Bjork was named Foundation Professor of English, effective October 19, 2009. In the letter announcing the appointment, ASU Executive Vice President and University Provost, Elizabeth D. Capaldi, affirmed “the university’s genuine appreciation for the work [he does] and the contributions [he] make[s].” The distinction, Bjork said, will help advance the multiple causes of ACMRS and is one more palpable expression of the university’s support of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

ACMRS NAMES 2010–2011 FACULTY FELLOW

ACMRS has named ASU Assistant Professor of English, Dr. Heather Maring, the 2010-2011 Faculty Fellow. Her work focuses primarily on oral traditions and medieval literature, and she teaches a variety of courses in these areas. Her current, in-progress book project, which the fellowship will allow her to pursue, is entitled *Oral, Performative, and Ritual Poetics in the Old English Advent Lyrics*. Dr. Maring worked for UNESCO as a consultant, as a contributing editor for the *Manual on Oral Traditions and Expressions*, and for the journal *Oral Tradition* as managing editor and editorial assistant. She has also written articles on the subject of Old English poetry (in *Oral Tradition, Studies in Philology*, and *English Studies*), as well as her own original poetry. Not only is Dr. Maring a great mentor to her students, but she comes highly recommended to this fellowship. ACMRS is pleased to be supporting her outstanding and thoughtful scholarly work.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BOOK AWARD

Annually, ACMRS offers an Undergraduate Student Book Award in honor of the founding director, Jean R. Brink. The University of Arizona’s Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation Committee (UAMARRC) generously contributes to this award. The award is given 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 receives $250 to purchase books. The award is open to all undergraduate students at ASU, NAU, and UA. Faculty from any discipline may nominate, with a brief letter, the student whom they feel is deserving of the award. Additionally, nominated students should submit to ACMRS their current, local mailing address, social security number (for check-issuing purposes), and an unofficial transcript. Please submit the nomination letter and supporting documentation to Dr. Robert E. Bjork, Director, by Friday, April 2, 2010. Questions? Please contact Emilie Roy at emilie.roy@asu.edu.

ACMRS 2010 OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER

Ryan Paul, Ph.D. student in literature at the University of Arizona, is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award for his project, “Iconoclasm and Devotional Poetry in Early Modern England.” His areas of specialty are interdisciplinary early modern studies, Shakespeare and Renaissance drama, and literary and critical theory. His dissertation is entitled “The Unknowing Self: Knowledge, Ignorance, and Early Modern Subjects.” He will be awarded his degree this Spring.

Mr. Paul will present his winning paper at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo in May 2010. In addition, he will give a presentation on Thursday, April 22, 2010, 4:00 pm, at the ASU Tempe Campus, Lattie F. Coor Hall, Room 4403. ACMRS wishes to extend Mr. Paul our congratulations on this tremendous achievement!

The award provides an all-expenses-paid trip to the Kalamazoo conference, which is one of the most prestigious in medieval studies. We are currently accepting submissions for the 2011 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. The deadline for submissions is September 1, 2010.

SPECIAL THANKS AND BEST WISHES

Grazie mille to Leah Faibisoff for her contribution to ACMRS. Graduating from ASU in December 2009, Leah earned B.A. degrees in both English Literature and Italian. In addition to her studies, Leah volunteered for ACMRS by assisting with editing and typesetting; she particularly enjoyed learning about the publishing side of the academic world. Leah’s academic accomplishments to date include presenting at two ACMRS undergraduate conferences (*Discipuli Juncti*, in 2008 and 2009), as well as at the ACMRS Interdisciplinary Conference in February 2009 (for her outstanding paper as voted by the undergraduate conference attendees). She will also be presenting at the 2010 ACMRS Interdisciplinary Conference. Currently studying in Italy as a non-degree student at the University of Padua, she hopes to continue in medieval studies, especially in the fields of early Italian literature, paleography, and diplomatics. She is considering studying at universities in Italy and has already applied to University of Toronto, University of York, and Trinity College, Dublin. Leah’s interest in Italian runs in the family: “I did grow up speaking Italian in my home. My father is an Italophile, and we were always hosting Italians at our home.” ACMRS wishes Leah Buona fortuna!
Fundraising and Outreach

ACMRS Continues Outreach in Asia
In the first week of November 2009, ACMRS Director Robert E. Bjork delivered plenary addresses for the annual meeting of the Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences and for the 14th annual meeting of the Taiwan branch of the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes, both held at National Sun Yat-sen University in Kaohsiung. He also gave invited lectures at the Medieval Studies Centre, National Chung-Cheng University in Minhsiuhg Township, and at the National Taiwan University in Taipei. The lecture tour and resultant discussions with faculty and administrators throughout Taiwan should soon produce some interesting collaborative programs between ACMRS and universities in Taiwan.

ACMRS First Annual Fundraiser Dinner a Success
Amid shining copper tables, booths tucked away in corners, bottle-filled wine racks lining the walls, and old-world chandeliers, the first annual ACMRS fundraiser banquet was held in cozy, southwestern style at Dick’s Hideaway in Phoenix. Attendees included faculty and administrators from ASU and Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, ACMRS affiliates and friends, as well as their family members, and ACMRS students and volunteers. After dinner, Center Director Robert Bjork delivered a multimedia presentation, “From Beowulf to Angelina Wulf, From Parchment to Latex,” to the delight and amusement of the gathering. The food was scrumptious, the wine was flowing, and a good time was had by all!

ACMRS sponsors many programs and activities that greatly benefit from additional funding. In addition to publishing approximately 25–30 books each year (for complete list, see www.acmrs.org/pubs), ACMRS hosts numerous events including two conferences that attract well-established and budding scholars from around the world, programs such as free symposia, lectures, and outreach, as well as fellowships and awards for accomplished scholars. If you would like to become a friend of ACMRS refer to the form attached to this newsletter or contact us.

Thank you for your support!

ACMRS Programs

Cambridge Study Abroad Program 2010
The 15th annual ACMRS study abroad program will be in residence from July 2 to August 9, 2010, at St. Catharine’s College, University of Cambridge. The Cambridge program continues to be a vital part of ACMRS’s offerings, and the Center strives to continually attract quality faculty who teach dynamic courses that take full advantage of the location. For the 2010 program, the faculty and their respective courses are Paul Hartle (University of Cambridge), Shakespeare in Performance; James Helfers (Grand Canyon University), Pirates, Poets, and a Preacher: Renaissance English Exploration; Asa Mittman (California State University, Chico), Man-Eating Monsters and Marvel-Filled Maps; and Albrecht Classen (University of Arizona), Crossing Borders: Medieval and Renaissance Travelers and Travel Narratives. These courses include an off-site excursion every Thursday, organized by each instructor, which pertains to his specific course. This summer, students will venture to Ely, Greenwich, London, Stratford-upon-Avon, and York. Students immerse themselves in Cambridge life and have opportunities to travel and explore. Information meetings for students and program details, are continually updated on the ACMRS Cambridge webpage: www.acmrs.org/web_pages/academic_programs/ac_pro_cambridge.html, or contact Emilie Roy at emilie.roy@asu.edu for more information.

ACMRS Reading Groups
Each semester ACMRS hosts reading groups open to interested students, faculty, and friends. Typically, Latin, Old English, and Old Norse are offered each semester led by experts in their fields. Occasionally, other groups and opportunities for informal language study are offered. For complete details on reading groups meeting during the Spring 2010 semester, visit the ACMRS website, www.acmrs.org/public_programs.html, or contact ACMRS at acmrs@asu.edu.


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS, CONTINUED


FUTURE PUBLICATIONS AND CALL FOR PAPERS

MEDIEVAL CONFLUENCES

ACMRS has undertaken a new series entitled Medieval Confluences: Studies in the Intellectual History and Comparative History of Ideas of the Medieval World in order to broaden its already wide publication list. A sub-series of Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies (MRTS), its purpose is to examine and explore comparative medieval and early modern intellectual history and ideas and expand our understanding of medieval scholarly culture. It encompasses “voices” from multiple traditions beyond those of Western Europe and seeks to examine the interaction of these traditions.


The General Editor is Vasilieos Syros (University of Chicago / University of Helsinki) with Assistant Editor, Leslie S. B. MacCoull (Society for Coptic Archaeology, North America). Muzaffar Alam (University of Chicago), Linda Darling (University of Arizona), Anthony Kaldellis (Ohio State University), Cary J. Nederman (Texas A & M University), and Mauro Zonta (University of Rome, La Sapienza) serve on the editorial board. For information, visit: www.acmrs.org/publications/mrts/med_conf.html.

POETRY OF THE LAW: FROM CHAUCER TO THE PRESENT

What does poetry have to do with law? A great deal as illustrated by David Kader, ACMRS faculty affiliate, and Michael Stanford in Poetry of the Law: From Chaucer to the Present. Their collective effort resulted in this unique, forthcoming anthology by the University of Iowa Press.

As it happens, ACMRS provided some inspiration for the project, which came into being after Professor Kader’s Cambridge Summer Study Abroad course, The Merchant of Justice: Shakespeare and the Law of Elizabethan England; he revisited a dormant project and then connected with a talented student, colleague, and professor, Michael Stanford.

According to David, “one of the primary virtues of a center such as ACMRS is the possibilities it helps realize ... you are invited to pursue one avenue of study or teaching and in doing so discover other opportunities.”

David Kader, Professor at ASU’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law earned his J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law and LL.M. from the University of London. Michael Stanford practices law at the Maricopa County Public Defender’s Office in Phoenix, Arizona. He holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Virginia and a J.D. from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.

MEDIEVAL ACADEMY 2011, CALL FOR PAPERS

On April 14–16, 2011, ACMRS will host the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America (held jointly with the Medieval Association of the Pacific) at the Chaparral Suites Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona. The ACMRS program committee is taking paper and session proposals on all topics and disciplines in medieval studies until May 15, 2010. Medieval Academy members, except 2009 and 2010 presenters, may submit one proposal geared to 30 minutes in presentation length. To learn more, look for details to be posted on the ACMRS website.
Spring 2010 Calendar of Events

February 11–13
16th Annual ACMRS Interdisciplinary Conference
*Humanity and the Natural World in the Middle Ages and Renaissance*
Four Points by Sheraton, Tempe, AZ
For details visit
www.acmrs.org/conferences.html

**Tuesday, February 16**
William Engle, Professor of English
The University of the South
“Adventures in Chiasmus: Memory and Pattern in Late Shakespeare”
1:30 pm, Coor Hall, Room 4403
Free and open to the public

**Friday, February 26**
Lisa St. Louis, Dean of Liberal Arts and Professor of Classical Languages, Grand Canyon University
“Mosquitoes, Manuscripts, and Mysteries: The Strange Tale of ‘Virgil’s Culex’”
1:30 pm, Coor Hall, Room 4403
Free and open to the public

**Friday, March 5**
Ian Moulton
Arizona State University, Polytechnic
1:30 pm, Coor Hall, Room 4403
Free and open to the public

**Thursday, March 25**
Distinguished Lecture in Renaissance Studies
Tom Conley
Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and Chair of Visual and Environmental Studies
Harvard University

“An Errant Eye: Topography and Poetry in Renaissance France”
7:00 pm
West Hall, Room 135
Reception immediately follows lecture
Free and open to the public

**Friday, March 26**
Vincent Gillespie,
J.R.R. Tolkien Professor of English Literature and Language
University of Oxford

“Fatherless Books: Authorship, Attribution, and Orthodoxy in Later Medieval England”
3:00 pm, Memorial Union, Pima Room (MU 230)
Sponsored by ASU’s Department of English
Co-sponsored by ACMRS
Free and open to the public

**Thursday & Friday, April 1 & 2**
Chaucer Symposium and Celebration
Performance of Wakefield Second Shepherds’ Pageant, Roundtable discussion featuring Professor Roger Dahood of University of Arizona and ASU English faculty, Medieval Feast and Film Festival
For details visit http://english.clas.asu.edu/events or contact Richard.Newhauser@asu.edu
Sponsored by ASU’s Department of English
Co-sponsored by ACMRS
Free and open to the public

**Thursday, April 20**
Mary Bjork
Arizona State University, West
“A Stranger in Our Midst: The Spanish Queen in Shakespeare’s All is True”
1:30 pm, Coor Hall, Room 4403
Free and open to the public

**Thursday, April 22**
ACMRS Outstanding Graduate Student Paper
Ryan Paul, University of Arizona
“Iconoclasm and Devotional Poetry in Early Modern England”
4:00 pm, Coor Hall, Room 4403

All events will be held at the ASU Tempe campus unless otherwise noted. Calendar subject to change; for updates, visit www.acmrs.org/calendar.html.
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