

W

newsletter for the program in

Medieval studies

director's letter

As the fall semester and the leaves hit their peaks, the Program in Medieval Studies at the U. of I. turns five years old. It continues to thrive, as the activities of the past academic year attest. In spring 2006, two additional graduates received certificates in medieval studies to complement their PhDs: **Rebecca Brackmann** (English) and **Johanna Bradley** (comparative and world literature).

In 2005-2006 we welcomed **Valerie Hotchkiss** as head of Rare Book and Manuscript Library and as professor of medieval studies (see her profile in this newsletter) and **David Price**, as professor of Germanic languages and literatures, religious studies, history, medieval studies, and the Program in Jewish Culture and Society. This fall we are joined by **Areli Marina**, assistant professor in the School of Architecture, **Elenora Stoppino**, assistant professor in the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, and **Julie Singer**, visiting assistant professor in the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese. We look forward to their active participation in our program.

This past year was packed with lectures and events. One highlight was the return of **Mary Carruthers** (New York University) in fall 2005 for a conference in her honor—"Making Thoughts, Making Pictures, Making Memories"—that brought scholars **Albrecht Classen** (University of Arizona), **Herbert Kessler** (The Johns Hopkins University), **Adam Cohen** (University of Toronto), and **Georgia Frank** (Colgate) to join Mary and me in an exploration of the active role of memory



Anne D. Hedeman, Mary Carruthers, and Adam Cohen

in medieval culture. Mary's return after her visit as Mellon Distinguished Visiting Professor in spring 2005 allowed us to renew acquaintances and continue rich conversations. We are grateful to Mary for her time and to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for their financial support. A second highlight was the celebration surrounding the induction of **Marianne Kalinke** (Germanic languages and literatures) as Trowbridge Chair in Literary Studies. Marianne was one of those directly responsible for the founding of the Program in Medieval Studies at Illinois and many of us were pleased to celebrate with her. Finally, the year culminated with the performance in Medieval Latin of Hrotsvit of Gandersheim's *Dulcitius* (*A Dramatic tale of Haughtiness Undone and Perseverant Innocence*). The cast, which included **Daniel Abosso** (classics), **Erin Donovan** (art history), **Karl Goetze** (classics), **Alex Hovan** (art history), **Angela Kinney** (classics), **Quentin Obis** (English), **Amy Oh** (classics), **Poul Martin Ploug Pedersen** (Manchester), and **B. Kay Suleiman** (classics), brought the tale of persecution and martyrdom to life with the help of their patron and sponsor, **Danuta Shanzer** (classics).

The Program in Medieval Studies continues to profit from the academic exchange with universities in the United Kingdom through the Worldwide Universities Network. This year **Paul Martin Ploug Pedersen** came from the University of Manchester to work with **Ralph Mathisen** (history) and **Emily Hutchison** came from the University of York to work with me in art history.

To learn more about the offerings of the Program in Medieval Studies and the activity of faculty and students in the program during 2005-2006, please consult this newsletter and visit our newly redesigned website: www.medieval.uiuc.edu.

anne d. hedeman
Director



Mary Carruthers and friends



New faculty joins medieval studies



Valerie Hotchkiss took up her position as head of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library in August 2005. She also holds the title of professor of medieval studies. Before her arrival she spent the last 12 years as the director of the special collections library at

Southern Methodist University, where she was also a professor of medieval studies.

Her education includes an AB in classical languages from the University of Cincinnati with extensive study abroad at the University of Tübingen, a master's degree in library science, and a PhD in medieval studies from Yale University.

Her books include *Clothes Make the Man: Female Transvestism in Medieval Europe* and, as co-author, *The Reformation of the Bible / The Bible of the Reformation*. She recently published the multi-volume *Creeds and Confessions of Faith in the Christian Tradition* with Jaroslav Pelikan at Yale University Press in 2003 (a book positively "blurbed" by both the pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury, no less!). She is also author, editor, or con-

tributor to many works, has published numerous articles in the area of medieval studies, and edited, produced, or curated more than 25 exhibition catalogs.

When she arrived, Valerie said her priorities in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library would be "to make the collections more accessible to the scholarly community and to improve the physical space and conditions in which the books are housed and used." The renovations to the public spaces were completed in late May and the space is now more inviting, including a sound-proof reading area for those using the collection.

Still to tackle, according to Valerie, are the unacceptable conditions in which the rare books and manuscripts themselves are housed. What is needed is a separate, climate-controlled, secure facility for the storage, use, and celebration of the magnificent collections of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, she says, and she is trying to raise awareness of this fact.

In her first year at U. of I., she has not only renovated the public spaces in the library, but also managed to secure two large grants, totaling over \$650,000, to catalog the massive backlog of rare materials. Those projects got underway in June. She was also instrumental in establishing a new summer program on rare book librarianship within GSLIS, and she has taught a course on "Great Printers and Their Books." Plans are in place for a new lecture and workshop series sponsored by the library that will deal with "Books in Culture / Culture in Books." She is currently working on a book about early printing in England which will accompany an exhibition of books from U. of I. at the Grolier Club in New York City.

Valerie is married to David Price, professor of religious studies. They have a 5-year-old son, Samuel.

faculty prizes and distinctions

Lori Ann Garner (English) won both the Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching by Instructional Staff and the LAS Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching by Instructional Staff. She also received an NEH Summer Stipend for her project “Oral Tradition, Architecture, and Old English Poetry.”

Anne D. Hedeman (art history) was named to the Board of Advisors for the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery in Washington.

Stephen Jaeger (Germanic languages and literatures and comparative and world literature) spent the year at the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, finishing (nearly) his book *Charisma and Art*.

Marianne Kalinke was appointed Trowbridge Chair in Literary Studies.

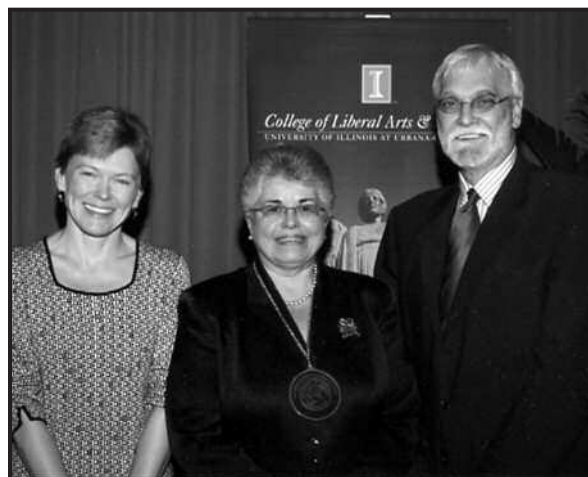
Ralph Mathisen (history) was a Mellon Faculty Fellow at U. of I. for 2005-2006 and was named an Associate Member at the U. of I. Center for Advanced Study for 2006-2007 for his project “Citizenship and Identity in the Late Roman and Early Medieval Worlds.” He was elected to a four-year term on the Governing Board of the Byzantine Studies Conference.

Robert Ousterhout (architecture) has been named Associate at the Center for Advanced Study at U. of I. for 2006-07.

D. Fairchild Ruggles (landscape architecture) was offered but declined the Hamad bin Khalifa Endowed Chair in Islamic Art from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Carol Symes (history) was a visiting scholar at the Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium, in summer 2006. She was also the recipient of a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, which will fund archival research on the role of public media in the promotion of political agency and the formation of civic institutions in the towns of medieval Flanders. She hopes that this work will contribute to a study on “The Shaping of a Medieval Public Sphere.”

Renée Trilling (English) was awarded a Mellon Faculty Fellowship for spring 2007, and attended the 2006 NEH Summer Seminar on “Holy Men and Holy Women of Anglo-Saxon England” at Cambridge.



Marianne Kalinke (center) celebrates with Dean Sarah Mangelsdorf and Acting Provost Jesse Delia. Photo by H. Zanotti.

Research work of program in medieval studies faculty

Rob Barrett (English) is finishing up his book-length study of the literature and drama of medieval and early modern Cheshire (tentatively titled *Against All England: Regional Identity and Cheshire Writing, 1195-1656*). Part of the book was recently published as “The Absent Triumphator in the 1610 Chester’s Triumph in Honour of Her Prince” (a chapter in Robert E. Stillman’s 2006 Brill collection, *Spectacle and Public Performance in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance*). After he finishes this project Rob will begin work as the editor of the Chester mystery cycle for the TEAMS Middle English Text Series.

Claudia Bornholdt (Germanic language and literatures) published an article, “In was zu shouwen also not: ‘Salman und Morolf’ bildlich erzählt,” in *Visualisierungsstrategien in mittelalterlichen Bildern und Texten*, ed. by Horst Wenzel and C. Stephen Jaeger in cooperation with Wolfgang Harms, Peter Strohschneider, and Christof L. Diedrichs (Berlin, 2006), pp. 226-247 and completed a monograph, *Beyond Gender and Genre: Married Virgins in Twelfth-Century Germany*, which is currently under review for publication. She is also a co-editor and contributor for a festschrift for Marianne Kalinke: Claudia Bornholdt, “Fabella Alexis confessoris. The Legend of St. Alexius in the North,” in *Romance and Love in Medieval Iceland: A Festschrift in Honor of Marianne Kalinke*, ed. Johanna Bradley, Kirsten Wolf, and Claudia Bornholdt (Cornell, forthcoming). She also gave an invited lecture, “Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue: Marriage Past and Present” at a conference called “Trajectories: The Past and Future of German Studies” at Indiana University; presented a paper entitled “Remembering to be Remembered: Conceptions of memoria in Twelfth-Century German Saints’ Lives” at the German Studies Association Meeting in Milwaukee, October 2006; and gave a round-table presentation enti-

tled “‘Garstig Glitsch’rige Germania’: Teaching the Nibelungenlied” at the 41st International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo.

Martin Camargo (professor and head of English) published “The State of Medieval Studies: A Tale of Two Universities,” *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*, 27 (2005), pp. 239-47, an invited contribution to the colloquium: Administrative Perspectives on Chaucer Studies. He read four conference papers: “What’s in a Name?: The Titles of Medieval Arts of Poetry and Prose as Indices of Reception” at the Fifteenth Biennial Congress of The International Society for the History of Rhetoric in Los Angeles; “Medieval Rhetoric Delivers” at the 20th Annual Conference of the American Society for the History of Rhetoric in Boston; “What Goes with Geoffrey of Vinsauf?: Codicological Clues to Pedagogical Practices in England, ca. 1225-ca. 1470” at the international conference, Classics in the Classroom, in Sydney; and “The *Poetria Nova* in its English Context: Medieval Manuscripts as Guides to Classroom Practice” at the Planning Conference, International Society for the History of Rhetoric, in Strasbourg. He delivered four invited lectures: a plenary lecture on “Medieval Rhetoric Delivers: Pedagogy and Performance in and Beyond the Medieval Classroom” at the Annual Convention of the Medieval Association of the Pacific in Salt Lake City; “Pedagogy and Performance in the Medieval Classroom” at the Rhetoric Beyond Words conference at Balliol College, Oxford; “Where Chaucer Learned How to Act: ‘Gladly Lerne, Gladly Teche’” at “A Celebration of John Fleming, Scholar, Teacher, Friend” in Princeton; and “Medieval Rhetoric Delivers: Pedagogy and Performance in and beyond the Medieval Classroom” at the International conference, Classics in the Classroom, in Sydney.

Anne D. Hedeman (art history) completed a book, *Boccaccio in Context: Early Fifteenth-Century French Manuscripts of Des cas des nobles hommes et femmes*, and had three articles appear: “L’humanisme et les manuscrits

enluminés: Jean Lebègue et le manuscrit de Salluste à Genève (Bibliothèque publique et universitaire, Ms. 54), “*La création artistique en France autour de 1400*. Rencontres de l’École du Louvre, 19 (Paris, 2006), pp. 443-457; “Gothic Manuscript Illustration: The Case of France,” *A Companion to Medieval Art: Romanesque and Gothic in Northern Europe*, ed. Conrad Rudolph, (Oxford, 2006), pp. 421-442; and “Making the Past Present: Visual Translation in Jean Lebègue’s Twin Manuscripts of Sallust,” *Patrons, Artists and Workshops: Books and Book Production in Paris circa 1400*, ed. G. Croenen and P. Ainsworth (Louvain, 2006), 173-96.

Stephen Jaeger (Germanic languages and literatures and comparative and world literature) gave the following invited lectures: “The Sublime Style in the Middle Ages” at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of California, Irvine; “The Twelfth-Century Origins of the University of Paris” at the University of New Mexico; and “Charisma and Aura: A Medievalist Raid on Two Post-Medieval Concepts” at the UCLA German Department and Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Marianne Kalinke (Germanic languages and literatures) published *St. Oswald of Northumbria: Continental Metamorphoses*, with an edition and translation of *Ósvalds saga and Van sunte Oswaldo deme konninghe* in *Medieval & Renaissance Texts & Studies*, 297 (Tucson, 2005); lectured at the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Bergen, Norway, on “The Interplay of Sources, Translators, and Redactors;” and gave a plenary address at the Thirteenth International Saga Conference in Durham, England, in August, entitled “The Genesis of Fiction in the North.”

Ralph Mathisen (history) published “Bishops, Barbarians, and the ‘Dark Ages’: The Fate of Late Roman Educational Institutions in Early Medieval Gaul” in R. Begley, J. Koterski, eds. *Medieval Education (New York, 2005)*, pp.1-27; and “*Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Late Roman Cappadocia*,” *New England Classical Journal* 32 (2005), pp. 230-240. He delivered

papers entitled “Scribal Additions to the Letters of Desiderius of Cahors” at the 41st International Medieval Studies Congress at Kalamazoo; “Duelling Languages: A Component of the Clash between Roman and Barbarian Culture in Late Antiquity” at the International Medieval Studies Congress in Leeds; “An Ounce of Prevention: The Creation of Prosopographical Databases” at the Conference on Prosopography: Approaches and Applications at Jesus College, Oxford; “L’adventus consulaire pendant l’Antiquité tardive” at the Colloque internationale sur les entrées royales et impériales in Paris; and “Consular Ceremony in Late Antiquity” at the Late Antiquity in Illinois II Symposium at U. of I.

Robert Ousterhout (architecture) saw three books published in the last year: *Monuments of Unaging Intellect: Historic Postcards from Byzantine Istanbul* (revised second edition, Istanbul, 2005), with Nezih Basgelen (sponsored by the Mayor of Istanbul on the occasion of the 2005 International Congress of Architecture); *A Byzantine Settlement in Cappadocia*, *Dumbarton Oaks Studies* 42 (Washington, D.C., 2005); and a Russian translation of *Master Builders of Byzantium* (Kiev-Moscow, 2005), jointly sponsored by the Russian Academy of Science Institute of Archaeology and the Ukrainian Academy of Science Institute of Archaeology.

D. Fairchild Ruggles (landscape architecture) gave two papers on Islamic gardens at the Dumbarton Oaks editorial working group meeting in the Escuela de Estudios Arabes in Granada (Spain), and a paper on evidence for gardens in early Islamic manuscripts at Carmona’s historic Alcazar. She published “Waterwheels and Garden Gizmos: Technology and Illusion in Islamic Landscape” in Steven A. Walton, ed. *Wind and Water in the Middle Ages: Fluid Technologies from Antiquity to the Renaissance*, Penn State Science and Technology Studies, forthcoming, and translated the concluding chapter of an archaeological study of the Islamic city of Siyasa in *Historia de Cieza*, II Siyasa, Julio Navarro Palazón and Pedro Jiménez Castillo, Ayuntamiento de Cieza, 2005; to be reprinted in 2006.

continued

Danuta Shanzer (classics) published “Augustine’s Disciplines: Silent diutius Musae Varronis?” in K. Pollmann & M. Vessey, eds., *Augustine and the Disciplines: From Cassiciacum to Confessions* (Oxford 2005), pp. 69-112; “Gregory of Tours and Poetry: Prose into Verse and Verse into Prose,” *Aspects of the Language of Latin Prose*, ed. J.N. Adams, Michael Lapidge, and Tobias Reinhardt, Proceedings of the British Academy 129, forthcoming, pp. 303-319; “Latin Literature, Christianity, and Obscenity in the Later Roman West” in *Medieval Obscenities*, ed. N. MacDonald, (York 2006), pp. 179-202; and “Editions and Editing in the Classroom: A Report from the Mines in America,” in *Vom Nutzen des Edierens: Akten des internationalen Kongresses zum 150-jährigen Bestehen des Instituts für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung*, Mitteilungen des Instituts für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung, Ergänzungsband 47, pp. 355-368. She presented “Latin Writers on Youth and Age, II,” and “Infantumque animae in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages” at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds; “Sainted Women of Dark Ages and

Misbehaving Mérovingiennes: Grappling with Gender in the Early Middle Ages” at Eastern Illinois University; “The Passio Perpetuae” at the University of Illinois at Chicago; “A Library to Live In” at “Over One Hundred Years of Classics at the University of Illinois” at U. of I.; “Ordeal by Oath on the Relics of the Saints” at *Late Antiquity in Illinois* at U. of I.; “Ordeal by Oath: An Augustinian Case Study” (Read by Title) at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo; and “Fire, Bread and Cheese, and the Relics of the Saints in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages” at Trinity College, Dublin.

Carol Symes (history) published an article on “The Lordship of Jongleurs” in *The Experience of Power in Medieval Europe, 950-1350*, ed. Robert F. Berkhofer III, Alan Cooper, and Adam J. Kosto (Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2005). Another, “Manuscript Matrix, Modern Canon,” will appear in the inaugural volume of a new series to be issued by Oxford University Press later this year. Edited by Paul Strohm, it explores *21st-Century Approaches to Literature: Middle English*.

upcoming conferences and events

The new 11th century, fall 2006

“Revolutionary” is a term often applied to the political, economic, social, cultural, and religious changes that occurred between the late 10th and early 12th centuries. Was the 11th century a major turning point in the history of Europe and the Mediterranean world? This conference brings together a group of the most innovative scholars in 11th-century studies—historians, art historians, literary specialists, and musicologists—to reconsider the period and its significance within an interdisciplinary context.

Speakers include: **Gerd Althoff** (history, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität), **Susan Boynton** (music, Columbia University), **Carol Symes** (history, U. of I.), **Eustratios Papaïannou** (classics, Brown University), **Renée Trilling** (English, U. of I.), **Thomas Dale** (art history, University of Wisconsin), **Simon Barton** (School of Modern Languages, University of Exeter), **Marcia Kupfer** (art history, Johns Hopkins), **Megan McLaughlin** (history, U. of I.), **Stephen Jaeger** (Germanic languages and literatures and comparative literature, U. of I.)

We thank the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Program in Medieval Studies, the Department of History, and the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities for their contributions.

Horst Wenzel, professor at Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, will come to campus for eight weeks in fall 2007 as part of the International Short-Term Faculty Line Program funded by International Programs. Medieval Studies, Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Comparative Literature will co-sponsor his visit.

graduate student news

Daniel Abosso (classics) presented “Flavius Valila qui et Theodobius and the Charta Cornutiana” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Lesley Allen (English) presented “Miracle, Image, Belief: Edmund of East Anglia and Morgan M.736” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Charlotte Bauer (art history) gave a paper entitled “Not I, Nor You...But a Multitude: Collective Identity in Illustrated Manuscripts and Seals of the ‘Nations’ at the Medieval University of Paris” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo. Charlotte completed her dissertation on images of corporate identity for the University of Paris between 1200 and 1500. In 2006-07, she will be a visiting assistant professor in art history at U. of I.

Carlee Bradbury (art history) took part in an NEH summer seminar at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies on “Representations of the ‘Other’: Jews in Medieval Christendom.”

Suna Cagaptay-Arikan (architecture) received a Junior Fellowship to Dumbarton Oaks Center for Byzantine Studies (Washington, D.C.) for the 2006-07 academic year.

Carola Dwyer (comparative literature) presented “Writing with Pain: Henry Suso’s Vita” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Jennifer Edwards (history) gave conference papers on “Rade Gund’s Role in the Miracle des Clefs: Asserting Community and Privilege in Poitiers” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo; on “The Spiritual Significance of Serpents in Medieval French Holy Legends” at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies; on “Women Put the

Serpent Before Christ: Community, Identity and Status on Parade in Fifteenth-Century Poitiers” for the session she organized “Shaping Feminine Identity and Medieval Community” at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting; and she participated in the German Historical Institute’s Fourth Medieval Seminar in Venice with a paper: “Choosing Isabelle: A Thirteenth-Century Dispute in the Abbey of Sainte-Croix, Poitiers.”

Amanda Eisemann (history) won a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) grant to begin her dissertation research in Germany.

Shannon Godlove (English) presented a paper entitled “Bodies as Borders on the Christian Frontier: Cannibalism in the Old English ‘Andreas’” at the 30th Annual Mid-America Medieval Association conference. She is currently serving as the Graduate Student Representative to the Medieval Studies Advisory Committee.

Angela M. Kinney (classics) presented “Exile as a Form of Coercion in Late Antique Gaul” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Sarah Long (musicology) won a University of Illinois Dissertation Completion Fellowship.



Marianne Kalinke, Johanna Bradley, and Anne D. Hedeman



Charles Wright, Rebecca Brackmann, and Anne D. Hedeman

graduate student news, cont.



A scene from *Dulcitius* (A Dramatic Tale of Haughtiness Undone and Perseverant Innocence)

Karen Lurkhor (comparative literature) presented “Stolen Masculinity: Gender as an Organizing Principle in *La Fille du Conte de Pontieu*” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Poul Martin Ploug Pedersen (WUN visitor in history) presented “Lest We Become Poor: The Gospel of Matthew and Aristocratic Exploits” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Ryan McConnell (classics) presented “Romans, Nobades, and Blemmyes: Finding an Identity on the Southern Egyptian Frontier” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.

Gretchen Seamons (French) received a grant to study French Renaissance Paleography at the Mellon Summer Institute at the Newberry Library in Chicago.

Jon Sherman (Germanic languages and literatures) won both the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Campus Award for Excellency in Undergraduate

Instruction by a teaching assistant. He is working on his dissertation and has spent last year in Vienna, Austria, where he worked as a TA in the German Department’s Study Abroad Program.

Laura Whatley (art history) presented a paper entitled “The Tomb of Christ in the Late Middle Ages: The Wienhausen Paradigm,” at the Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians and a second on “German Holy Graves” at the Leeds International Congress.

Valerie Wilhite (comparative literature) gave papers on “Memorializing and Perverting Troubadour Lyric and Performance in the Fourteenth Century” at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo and on “The Speculum: Between the Image and the Word in Marguerite D’Oingt” at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies. She had an article, “Language for Lovers: Lessons from the Troubadours and Mystics,” accepted for *Words of Love, Love of Words in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance*, a volume edited by Albrecht Classen. Finally, she was hired as an assistant professor in the foreign languages, literatures, and cultures department at the University of South Carolina-Aiken.

news from graduates

Rebecca Brackmann (English) is now an Assistant Professor of English at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn.

international exchange through worldwide universities network



Alex Hovan, Emily Hutchison, and Valerie Wilhite



Rebecca Brackmann, Paul Martin Ploug Pedersen, and Jennifer Edwards

Worldwide Universities Network's Global Exchange Programme continues to attract a growing number of applications from postgraduate students attracted by the opportunity it offers for international collaboration and consultation. Those who came to the U. of I. from Britain in 2005-06 include:

Emily Hutchison (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York) visited for six weeks in fall 2005 to work on aspects of her dissertation, "*Pour le bien du roy et de son royaume: An analysis of John the Fearless, Duke of Burgundy's Propaganda Campaign, 1405-1419,*" with **Anne D. Hedeman** (art history).

Paul Martin Ploug Pedersen (University of Manchester) came to work with **Ralph Mathisen** (history) and while here took a role in a medieval Latin play and gave a paper at Kalamazoo.

symposia and conferences

Ralph Mathisen (history) and **Danuta Shanzer** (classics) organized the second *Late Antiquity in Illinois* conference, held in the Illini Union Colonial Room and the Levis Center. Fifty participants came from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, Ohio, Tennessee, Colorado, Denmark, and Beijing. U. of I. departments represented included classics, English, history, and religious studies, as well as the University Library and University Press.

D. Fairchild Ruggles (landscape architecture) launched the new *Collaborative for Cultural Heritage and Museum Practices* (CHAMP) with **Helaine Silverman** (anthropology). CHAMP ran a workshop on human rights and cultural heritage in March and is organizing its next workshop for 2007 on the theme of "Intangible Heritage."

Anthony Kimber Cassell

(March 31, 1941 — October 9, 2005)

by Victoria Kirkham

Reprinted from *Modern Language Notes*, vol. 121, number 1, January 2006 with permission.

With this issue of the journal, which publishes posthumously “Wandering Wombs, Physicke & Bed-Tricks,” *MLN* fittingly honors an accomplished alumnus, Anthony K. Cassell. Cassell took his PhD at Johns Hopkins in 1969. His dissertation on Boccaccio’s *Corbaccio*, directed by Charles S. Singleton, with Nathan Edelman, René Girard, and Edoardo Saccone as committee members, was one of several annotated translations of Boccaccio’s so-called minor works—*Ameto* by Judith Powers Serafini-Sauli, my “Questioni d’amore” in the *Filocolo*—that Singleton hoped eventually to publish in a complete series with his own meticulously updated version of John Payne’s Victorian *Decameron* as flagship (Berkeley: U. of California Press, 1982). Meanwhile, *The Corbaccio*, translated and edited by Anthony K. Cassell, had appeared with the presses of the University of Illinois, where after teaching at Ohio State University (1967–71), he joined the Urbana faculty in 1971, becoming associate and then full professor of Italian and Comparative Literature (1976, 1985).

Born in Reading, Berkshire, U.K., Cassell emigrated with his family to Canada as a young man. He attended high school in Toronto and graduated with a bachelor’s degree from the University of Toronto, where he twice won the prize of the Consul General of Italy (1961, 1962). While a graduate student at Hopkins, from 1963 to 1967, he was awarded Italian government scholarships that permitted him to attend the Università degli Studi at Florence.

Cassell’s English *Corbaccio*, which has been reissued with abbreviated notes as *The Corbaccio, or The Labyrinth of Love* (Binghamton, NY: MRTS, 1993), contained in its original edition (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1975) an exceptionally rich and rigorous apparatus. This treasury of learning on antifeminism—primary medieval and classical literary sources, patristics, legal history involving sumptuary laws, and a long, contentious

tradition of western scholarship—firmly anchored Boccaccio’s dream vision to its 14th-century cultural context and enabled Cassell to take a compelling stance in the dating controversy (ca. 1355? or ca. 1365?), arguing for the former, closer in time to the *Decameron*. Cassell’s documentation, assembled with impeccable accuracy and sifted with critical acumen, elevated the *Corbaccio* from its Romantic reputation as the aging Boccaccio’s autobiographical revenge on a widow who had spurned him, to the most sophisticated art, achieved through masterful play with the tropes of misogynistic satire. His skilled research finds its complement in an engaging, fluent, and powerful translation, evidence of his great love for the English language, the relish he took in a well-turned phrase, and his amusing talent for shaping witty, often withering, verbal portraits (sometimes applied to his colleagues). Praised by its journal reviewers, this *Corbaccio* was named “outstanding academic book” in 1976 by the library journal, *Choice*.

Erudition and elegant English, compellingly united, characterize Cassell’s subsequent publications. His second book, *Dante’s Fearful Art of Justice* (U. of Toronto Press, 1984), dealt with the *contrapasso* in *Inferno*. Here he reached fruitfully into medieval visual iconography in European mosaic, marble relief, mural, and manuscript illumination, to corroborate a textual interpretation that along Singletonian lines found its sources in the Church Fathers and Aristotelian-Thomistic philosophy. Supported by a grant from the Aylwin M. Cotton Foundation, it won him the honor of an invitation from the Dante Society of America to author the first volume of a projected series of 100 canto readings, conceived to celebrate the society’s centennial. His *Lectura Dantis Americana: Inferno I* (Philadelphia: U. of Pennsylvania Press, 1989), written with leave time as a Guggenheim Fellow (1984–85), imposes brilliant control on a daunting critical heritage, setting the highest standard for volumes to follow. Its longest chapter, “Three Beasts,” made him an



expert on animal lore, both naturalistic and symbolic, in bestiaries and encyclopedias of the ancient and medieval world.

That knowledge proved valuable for the commentary on his next volume, our collaborative edition and translation, *Diana's Hunt, Caccia di Diana: Boccaccio's First Fiction*, also with the University of Pennsylvania Press (1991). Although Cassell and I had known each other in the profession as fellow Hopkinsonians since the early 1970s, that joint project on the *Caccia* brought us together for consulting visits in Philadelphia and Champaign. I came then to know firsthand his curiosities as a scholar and his endless perfectionism in the pursuit of answers. I discovered, too, his sincerity as a friend, his honesty, his sense of humor, and flair for dramatic recitation in a jolly, rotund baritone resonant with the well enunciated strains of his native British English.

In addition to five books, he published about 30 articles and reviews, not counting reference entries he prepared for the rest of us and our students as a good citizen in the profession: on Pier della Vigna, Dante, and Boccaccio, for *The Holy Roman Empire* (1980); Boccaccio, for the *Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (1983); and Vernani, St. Lucy, Envy, the three Beasts, Veltro, Singleton, *Monarchia* for the *Dante Encyclopedia* (2000). His articles appeared across the gamut of major journals: *MLN*, *Dante Studies*, *Comparative Literature*, *Yale Italian Studies*, *Italica*, *Italian Culture*, *Stanford Italian Review*, *Lecture classensi*, and *Annali d'Italianistica*. Several pieces, including "Charles S. Singleton (21 April 1909 – 10 October 1985)," for the *Yearbook of the American Philosophical Society* (1987), are commemorative tributes to his revered and affectionately remembered Hopkins professor, whom he characterized retrospectively as "a cultivator—of literature, minds, and the soil" (*Italica*, 1986). With his "Metamorphosis of Pier della Vigna: History and Iconography," he participated in the Festschrift *Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio, Studies in the Trecento: Essays in Honor of Charles S. Singleton* (Binghamton, NY: MRTS, 1983). Most recently, he had joined the American Boccaccio Association's ongoing *Lectura Boccaccii* project with the reading here published of *Decameron* III, 9, first presented at the Modern Language Association of America meeting at San Diego in 2003.

While a younger faculty member at Illinois, he received year after year research grants from the Graduate School for research assistants, as well as grants from the Scholars' Travel Fund, and multiple Faculty Summer Grants for research in Italy.

Over the years he taught courses at all levels on medieval and Renaissance civilization, especially Dante, for which the student-run paper, *Daily Illini*, rated him as "excellent." Generous as a member of the professional community, he served on many internal committees and as a reviewer for NEH and university presses. He was a member of the Medieval Academy of America; the Dante Society of America, on the Council of which he served from 1980 to 1983; the American Boccaccio Association, Modern Language Association, American Association of Teachers of Italian, and the American Association of Italian Studies, whose founding conference he organized at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in fall of 1980.

In spite of increasingly difficult personal circumstances, depression, and declining health, Cassell was fortunately able to complete his final book, *The Monarchia Controversy: An Historical Study with Accompanying Translations of Dante Alighieri's Monarchia, Guido Vernani's Refutation of the "Monarchia" Composed by Dante, and Pope John XXII's Bull, Si Fratrum*. Many years in the making, it was published in January 2004 at the Catholic UP. Peter Caravetta's review in *Renaissance Quarterly*, 58.1 (Spr., 2005): 157–58, commends it as "a magisterial edition," with "impeccable scholarship," an "imposing" critical apparatus; he concludes by praising it above other translations and predicting that it "may well become a key text for advanced seminars in political theory at the end of the Middle Ages, the history of the church, the sociology of Institutions, and debates on the rise of empire in Europe, besides throwing more light on the background to the later cantos of the *Commedia*." Cassell lived to experience the joy of this acclaim.

Other work in progress was cut short: a paper on "Ariosto's Ass-Eared Python: *Orlando furioso* 26:30–53," "A Post-Mortem Dialogue Between Dante and Guido Vernani," and the first English translation of Bernardo Accolti's comedy, *Virginia*, which takes its plot from *Decameron* III, 9 and returns as the motif for Shakespeare's *All's Well that Ends Well*.

Cassell, who had suffered two mild heart attacks in his last weeks, died of accidental causes, predeceased by his parents, sister, and a beloved aunt, to whose memory he dedicated *Dante's Fearful Art of Justice*. He was scheduled to retire at the end of the 2005–06 academic year. Contributions in his name may be made to the Building Fund of the Chapel of St. John the Divine, 1011 S. Wright, Champaign, IL 61820, or to St. Luke's Hospitality Center, 330 S. 13th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

program in medieval studies

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
4080 Foreign Languages Building
707 South Mathews Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

Non-profit Org.
US Postage
Paid
Permit #75
Champaign IL



program in medieval studies

if you are interested in learning more about the program in medieval studies at the university of illinois at urbana-champaign, please fill out this form and send it to the following address

Program in Medieval Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
4080 Foreign Languages Building
707 South Mathews Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____