

2008 Congress: Swansea, July 18–22, 2008

Letter from the Executive Director

The Swansea congress promises to be a fine one. We'll be thanking Helen Fulton and the local committee properly there; they have done a remarkable job, in difficult economic circumstances. The program committee has now all but finished its work: it is the fullest program we have ever had, and Ruth Evans has been a wonderful and hard-working chair. Many of us will meet up before Swansea at the Gower society conference, where NCS will host one of the receptions.

Registration costs

The dollar has not helped North American members with their summer plans. It is fortunate for some of us that the pound too is now weakening, though not to the same extent as the greenback. At NCS we have worked hard with the local organizers to keep Swansea costs as low as possible. For the first time, the registration fee includes a sandwich lunch on each day of the congress. (The advice from local organizers was that there is no available alternative on or close by campus, so special catering is necessary). This makes registration a decent bargain, all the more so for graduate students – as we have maintained the NCS Trustees' policy of keeping concessional registration at 50% of the full rate. Finally, there is no charge for accompanying family members who come to receptions. All are welcome.

New participants

This year's congress will mark the highest level of assistance NCS has given through our regular application process to participating graduate students and recent Ph.Ds who have little or no other support. As well as, we hope, an influx of new members, we look forward to welcoming a good number of high school teachers of Chaucer. This is an initiative we are keen to see succeed. Please be proactive in facilitating their full participation.

Call to host 2012 congress

It's all the more important in these tighter economic times to look for future congress venues that can offer NCS a high level of support and sponsorship, and do not treat us as a commercial opportunity. We are lucky indeed with our hosts in Siena in 2010, where, in spite of the

Euro's strength, generous institutional partnership should give us our lowest congress costs in recent years.

The Trustees have decided that the 2012 congress should take place in North America. I am therefore now calling for expressions of interest in hosting NCS in July 2012. Please contact me by email, dalawton@wustl.edu, for more information about the shape of an eventual bid. The Trustees will consider bids received in July, but will not make a final determination until after receiving a subsequent report from the executive director, probably based on a follow-up visit. Institutional readiness to offer a level of sponsorship and support, at least in kind, will be a key factor.

David Lawton

David Lawton has recently been reappointed by the Trustees for a second term as Executive Director of NCS (until 2012).



Congress registration is now open:

Registration for the NCS Conference at Swansea University, July 18 to 21, is open at this web site: <http://www.chaucer.swan.ac.uk/>

Swansea Update

The Local Arrangements Committee has plenty to do between now and July. At the moment our thoughts are turning to the conference social life and we are fine-tuning the various events which we have planned for you. Those arriving on Thursday 17th, the day before the conference, will find the registration desk open and tea and coffee being served in the afternoon. You can check in to your campus room and have a walk on the beach before dinner.

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Friday the 18th is the first full day of the conference, starting with parallel sessions and then the opening plenary, the Biennial Lecture, given by Dr. Ardis Butterfield. The book display is on all day Friday and Saturday, with major publishers of medieval texts setting up their stalls in the upstairs foyer of the campus Arts Centre (Taliesin), where refreshments will be served. Friday evening gets off to a festive start with a drinks reception, and I am pleased to announce that the Vice-Chancellor of Swansea University, Professor Richard Davies, will be on hand to welcome you all to the campus. After dinner (included in your registration fee) there will be a poetry reading in the student bar. Very nostalgic for some of us...

On Saturday, following a brisk day of papers, we are taking advantage of the long light evenings to bus as many of you as possible out to the Gower peninsula to enjoy the local countryside, culminating in a relaxed dinner at the Oxwich Bay Hotel. Oxwich is one of the most beautiful beaches on the Gower. Those who are young at heart should bring their swimsuits, or even their surfboards. Book early for this one — families and friends are also welcome.

Sunday is a half day of papers, followed by optional coach tours in the afternoon. One tour heads off in an easterly direction, taking in Caerphilly Castle and the medieval village at Cosmeston, near Cardiff. The other tour goes west, as far as Manorbier, the childhood home of Gerald of Wales, returning via Laugharne, whose ruined castle provided inspiration for Dylan Thomas in his boathouse just around the headland. Families and friends are welcome on these excursions.

Monday is the last day of papers, closing with Professor John Ganim's Presidential Address. We then proceed to Brangwyn Hall for a civic reception provided by the Lord Mayor of Swansea. A bus will be provided but energetic people can walk by road or beach to the hall. Brangwyn Hall, actually a series of reception rooms including the Guildhall, is a fine example of modernist architecture. The walls of the Guildhall are decorated with murals painted by Frank Brangwyn, son of a Welsh architect, who was trained by William Morris. The murals were originally commissioned for the House of Lords in 1930 but on completion were rejected. Swansea was the beneficiary of this churlish decision.

At the reception, we will be entertained by the Morrision Orpheus Choir. This is a local Swansea choir which is perhaps the most renowned male-voice choir in the world. They perform all round Wales and the rest of Britain and are frequently invited abroad as well. I defy anyone to remain dry-eyed by the end of Men of Harlech.

Finally, we will progress up the road to Miah's restaurant, one of Swansea's finest Indian restaurants

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located in a converted church. The conference dinner will, we hope, provide a memorable end to the conference—and there will be buses provided to take you back to the campus.

But there's more – don't forget that there is an all-day coach trip to Aberystwyth on Tuesday 22nd, featuring an exhibition of manuscripts at the National Library of Wales (including, of course, the Hengwrt Chaucer), a hands-on manuscript workshop, and a specially-prepared lecture by the Manuscripts Librarian, Dr. Maredudd ap Huw. Morning and afternoon tea and lunch are included in the price of the day trip, and once the visit to the library is complete, you can spend the evening wandering around the old town of Aberystwyth, with yet another ruined castle. There are many restaurants and pubs along the sea front (I can recommend the Bellevue) and elsewhere in the town, where you can get enjoy the views and unwind before taking the coach back to Swansea. It will be a late night, but well worth it.

Please do email me if you need further information about the practicalities of the conference. I've already had email exchanges with some of you, and I'm looking forward to meeting you all in person.

Helen Fulton

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Provisional Program for the 2008 Congress at Swansea

Thursday, 17 July 2008

13:00–19:00: Registration

14:00-15:30: Graduate Workshops 1 and 2

Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Daniel Wakelin (Christ's College, Cambridge) "Introduction to MS Description"

Orietta Da Rold (University of Leicester)
"MS Materials"

15:00–18:00: Trustees' meeting**15:45-16:30: Graduate Workshop 3**

Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Linne Mooney (University of York)
“Scribal Hands”

16:30-17:00: Afternoon Tea**17:00-18:30: Graduate Workshops 4 and 5**

Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Alison Wiggins (University of Glasgow)
“Scribal Dialect”

Toshiyuki Takamiya (Keio University, Japan)
“The Use of Digital Technologies for Studying Manuscripts”

19:00-20:00: Dinner**Friday, 18 July 2008****8:30-9:00: Registration****Concurrent Sessions (1-7)****9:00-10:30****Session 1: ROMANCES AND THEIR READERS: THE MANUSCRIPT CONTEXT**

Session Organizer: Andrew Taylor (University of Ottawa)

Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Michael Johnston (University of North Texas)
“The meaning is in the use’: The Irelands and Their Romances”

Myra Seaman (College of Charleston)
“Reading Closely to Disclose and Disperse, or, Greatness Scattered”

Michael Foster (University of Nottingham)
“The Variant Text and the Variant Reader”

Session 2: MEDIEVAL PATHOLOGIES

Session Organizer and Chair: Tom Prendergast (College of Wooster)

Frances Beer (York University, Toronto)
“Chaucer’s Canon’s Yeoman: A Study in Pathology”

Sealy Gilles (Long Island University, Brooklyn)

“Chaucerian Immunity and Inherited Pathologies”

Stephanie Trigg (University of Melbourne)
“Court Ritual and the Pathologies of the Past”

Session 3: CHAUCER AND THE CRUSADES (1)

Session Organizer and Chair: John Bowers (University of Nevada-Las Vegas)

Victoria L. Weiss (Oglethorpe University)
“Tale of Two Diplomats: Chaucer and Ibn Khaldun at the Court of Pedro the Cruel of Castile in the 1360s”

Patricia DeMarco (Ohio Wesleyan University)
“Chaucer, Chivalric Nostalgia, and the Despenser Crusade”

Jamie Friedman (Cornell University)
“Traversing Somatic Limits: The Function of Violence in *The Siege of Jerusalem*”

David Watt (University of Manitoba)
“‘Of Mescreantz’ in John Gower’s *In Praise of Peace*”

Session 4: THE NATURAL WORLD: ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE IN LATE MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

Session Organizer and Chair: Lisa Kiser (Ohio State University)

Gillian Rudd (University of Liverpool)
“Chaucer’s Daisy”

Nancy Mason Bradbury (Smith College)
“Animals and the Animal Body in the Middle English *Dialogue of Solomon and Marcolf*”

Susan Crane (Columbia University)
“Nature’s Hierarchy in *The Parlement of Foules*”

Brenda Deen Schildgen (University of California-Davis)
“The ‘Knight’s Tale’’s Trees”

Session 5: GOWER’S GEOGRAPHY

Session Organizer and Chair: Lynn Arner (Brock University)

Tamara F. O’Callaghan (Northern Kentucky University)
“Mapping the Trojan World in Gower’s Poetry”

Yoshiko Kobayashi (University of Tokyo)
“London as a Widowed City in John Gower’s *Vox Clamantis*”

Jamie Taylor (Bryn Mawr College)
“Gower and the Matter of Spain”

Session 6: READING LUCAN’S *BELLUM CIVILE* IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Session Organizer: Cathy Sanok (University of Michigan)

Chair: Chris Baswell (Columbia University)

Timothy D. Arner (Pennsylvania State University)
 “‘That Sonne That Roos as Red as Rose’: Republican Poetics in the *Legend of Good Women*”

Steele Nowlin (Hampden-Sydney College, VA)
 “Using Lucan to Undo Gower: The *Bellum Civile* and Chaucer’s ‘Man of Law’s Tale’”

Alfred Hiatt (University of Leeds)
 “The Late Medieval Reception of Lucan’s Geography”

Session 7: CHAUCER: MIDDLE ENGLISH SOURCES AND MODELS

Session Organizer and Chair: John Hines (Cardiff University)

Sarah Dawson (University of Notre Dame)
 “Chaucer’s Minstrel Disguise: ‘The Tale of Sir Thopas’ and the Romances of the Auchinleck Manuscript”

James Wade (Magdalene College, Cambridge)
 “Chaucer’s Fairies”

Gyongyi Werthmüller (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
 “A Comparison of Rhyme and Metre in Chaucer’s and Gower’s English”

R.F. Yeager (University of West Florida)
 “Custance and the Church Boys: Chaucer on Conversion, True or False”

10:30-11:00: Morning Tea

11:00-11:30: Session 8: Welcome and General Meeting

11:30-12:30: Session 9: Biennial Lecture

Chair: John Ganim (University of California, Riverside)

Ardis Butterfield (Reader in English, University College London)
 “Chaucerian Vernaculars”

12:30-14:00: Lunch

Concurrent Sessions (10-16)

14:00-15:30

Session 10: WRITING OUTSIDE THE BOOK

Session Organizer and Chair: Alfred Hiatt (University of Leeds)

Marion Turner (Jesus College, Oxford)
 “Clerks, Books, and Ephemera in the 1380s”

Alyssa Meyers (Columbia University)
 “Interrupting the Past: Yorkist Insertions in John Hardyng’s *Chronicle*”

Victoria Louise Gibbons (Cardiff University)
 “Reading the Premodern Title: Materiality, Concept, Theory”

Sarah Noonan (Washington University, St Louis)
 “Scribal Uncertainty: An Examination of the *Charters of Christ*”

Session 11: DEVOTIONAL AESTHETICS

Session Organizer and Chair: Tara Williams (Oregon State University)

Robert Meyer-Lee (Goshen College)
 “The Devotional Literary: Lydgate’s *Life of Our Lady*”

Rosemary O’Neill (University of Pennsylvania)
 “Balances and Books: Penitential Accountancy in Thomas Wimbeldon’s ‘*Redde Rationem Villicationis Tue*’”

Kathleen Smith (Columbia University)
 “Vision and Revision in Julian of Norwich’s *Showings*”

Session 12: HAUNTED CHAUCER

Session Organizers and Chairs: George Edmondson (Dartmouth College) and Robert Stein (Purchase College)

Brooke Hunter (University of Texas at Austin)
 “The Ghostly Hand of Fate: Spectral Futurity in Chaucer’s ‘Knight’s Tale’”

Jamie C. Fumo (McGill University)
 “‘I am but ded’: Elegiac Chaucer / Elegizing Chaucer”

Patricia Clare Ingham (Indiana University)
 “Chaucer’s Spectral Objects”

Respondent: D. Vance Smith (Princeton)

Session 13: APPROPRIATING CHAUCER: MEDIEVALISMS

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
 Chair: David Matthews (University of Manchester)

Betsy Bowden (Rutgers Camden)
 “Blake in/and/or/as Medievalism”

Mark Sherman (Rhode Island School of Design)
 “Th’Apostel and the Wyf: Militant Poet-Thinkers and the Perils/Potential of Medievalism

Arthur Lindley (University of Birmingham)

“The Naked Pitchman and the Desperate Housewife of Bath: Relocating Gender in Films of the Middle Ages”

Ebbe Klitgård (Roskilde University)

“Polishing Chaucer: Dryden, Pope and the Danish translator Thomas Christopher Bruun”

Session 14: EXPANDING THE SYLLABUS

Session Organizer and Chair: Tom Hahn (University of Rochester)

Eve Salisbury (Western Michigan University)

“Chaucer and Literary Pilgrimage”

Alan Baragona (Virginia Military Institute)

“Chaucer Lost in Translation – and Found”

Session 15: IN PRAISE OF THE MIDDLE ENGLISH VARIANT

Session Organizer: Andrew Taylor (University of Ottawa)

Chair: Robert Hanning (Columbia University)

Barbara Bordalejo (Institute for Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing, University of Birmingham)

“The (Relative) Importance of Variants in *The Canterbury Tales*”

Susan Yager (Iowa State University)

“Essence and Variance”

Derek Pearsall (Harvard; University of York)

“Move over, *mouvance*”

Session 16: INTERPRETATION OF DREAMS, DREAM VISION POETICS

Session Organizer and Chair: Erin Felicia Labbie (Bowling Green State University)

Douglas Brooks (Texas A&M University)

“Getting Started: Authorial Self-Fashioning in Chaucer’s *The Book of the Duchess*”

Dolores Warwick Frese (University of Notre Dame)

“Before Freud: Lyric Condensation/Narrative Displacement in Chaucer’s *Book of the Duchess*, *House of Fame* and *Parliament of Fowls*”

Gila Aloni (Lynn University)

“Chaucer’s Dream of Good Women: Oneiric Poetics and/as Oneiric Ontology”

Andrew Galloway (Cornell University)

“Iconophilia: Uncanny Responses to Tradition in Chaucer’s and Freud’s Dream-Visions and Visions of Dreams”

Steven Kruger (CUNY)

“The Affective/Somatic Postures of Medieval Dream Poetry”

Stefania D’Agata D’Ottavi (Università per Stranieri–Siena)

“Condensation and Displacement in Chaucer’s Dream Poems”

15:30-16:00: Afternoon Tea

16:00-17:30: Session 17: Plenary Session: “Chaucer Beside Himself”

Chair: Helen Fulton (University of Wales Swansea)

Catherine Belsey (Research Professor in English at the University of Wales Swansea)

“The Poverty of Historicism”

Colin McCabe (Professor of English and Humanities, Birkbeck London)

Title TBA

18:00-19:00: Drinks Reception

19:00-20:00: Dinner

20:00-21:00: Poetry Reading (Cynthia Kraman, Carter Revard, Dafydd Johnston, Jessica Harkins; Andrew McNeillie)

Saturday, 19 July 2008

8:30-9:00: Registration

Concurrent Sessions (18-23)

9:00-10:30

Session 18: FORM

Session Organizer and Chair: Christopher Cannon (Girton College, Cambridge)

William Quinn (University of Arkansas)

“Authorial Recitation as an Informing Principle: Chaucer’s *pronuntiatio* as *enarratio*”

Mark Rasmussen (Centre College)

“Antiformalism and Complaint”

Elizabeth Robertson (University of Colorado, Boulder)

“Formal Subjectivity: Rhyme Royal, Gender and Religion in Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*”

Suzanne Conklin Akbari (University of Toronto)

“Form, Metaphor, and Metamorphosis in *Troilus*”

Amanda Holton (St Hilda’s College, Oxford)

“Formalism and Narrative”

Ingrid Nelson (Harvard)
 “Chaucer and the Penance of Form: Lyric in the Prologues to the *Legends of Good Women*”

Judith Tschann (University of Redlands)
 “Nicholas of Lyra’s Model of Close Reading”

Session 19: THE VALUE OF MEDIEVALISM
 Session Organizer and Chair: Jenna Mead (University of Tasmania)

David Matthews (University of Manchester)
 “The Middle Ages: Practical Applications”

Erin Labbie (Bowling Green State University)
 “What Do the Middle Ages Want?”

Larry Scanlon (Rutgers University)
 “The Show That Never Ends: Chaucer’s Invention of the Literary”

Ruth Evans (University of Stirling)
 “Medievalism and the University”

Session 20: CHAUCER AND THE CRUSADES (2)
 Session Organizer: John Bowers (University of Nevada-Las Vegas)
 Chair: Helen Cooper (Magdalene College, Cambridge)

Andrew James Johnston (Freie Universität Berlin)
 “A Crusade Not Told: Knight, Squire, and the Family Drama of the Exotic”

Jennifer Summit (Stanford University)
 “Crusader ‘Femenye’: or, Why Does the Knight Tell ‘The Knight’s Tale’?”

Cord Whitaker (Duke University)
 “Mixed Blood: Understanding Baptism by Blood in ‘The Man of Law’s Tale’”

Session 21: AGE AND GROWING OLD IN CHAUCER
 Session Organizer and Chair: Sue Niebrzydowski (University of Wales, Bangor)

Matthias Galler (Munich University)
 “The Old Man in ‘The Pardoner’s Tale’”

Randy P. Schiff (SUNY Buffalo)
 “Masks of Old Age: The Pardoner, Morgan le Fay, and Sublime Decrepitude”

Huriye Reis (Hacettepe University, Ankara)
 “‘Old Men Losing Out’: Chaucer’s Representation of Old Age in *The Canterbury Tales*”

Michelle Wright (University of Glamorgan)
 “‘The Body and Time in ‘The Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale’ and *The Book of the Duchesse*”

Session 22: NON-ENGLISH BOOKS: READING AND WRITING

Session Organizer and Chair: Helen Fulton (University of Wales Swansea)

Carolynn Van Dyke (Lafayette College)
 “Glosses, Rubrics, and the Circulation of Authorship”

Elisabeth Salter (University of Wales Aberystwyth)
 “‘... the grease of a black cat’: Some Evidence for Late Medieval Reading Practices in Manuscripts from the National Library of Wales”

Jonathan Hsy (University of Pennsylvania)
 “London Guilds and English/French Bilingualisms: A Literary Methodology?”

Alessandra Petrina (University of Padua)
 “Reading at the Margins: John Lydgate as Translator”

Session 23: GENDERED SPACES AND SEXUALIZED SPACES

Session Organizer and Chair: Michelle M. Sauer (University of North Dakota)

Jean E. Jost (Bradley University)
 “Time and Space in Chaucerian Fabliaux: The Miller’s and Reeve’s Tales”

Alcuin Blamires (Goldsmith’s College London)
 “Genealogical Space in ‘The Merchant’s Tale’ and Elsewhere: Whose Trees?”

Robert Stretter (Providence College, RI)
 “The Chaucerian Garden as Place and Space”

Michelle M. Sauer (University of North Dakota)
 “Heteronormatizing the Chaucerian Bedroom: Sexual Empowerment and Gendering Space”

10:30-11:00: Morning Tea

Concurrent Sessions (24-31)

11:00-12:30

Session 24: TECHNOLOGY

Session Organizer and Chair: D. Vance Smith (Princeton)

Robert Epstein (Fairfield University)
 “‘For myn entente is nat but for to wynne’: The Technology of Money and the Pardoner’s Intentions”

Cara Hersh (University of Portland)
 “Facts and Fictions: Technologies of Rhetoric and Accounting in the Production of Fact in ‘The Manciple’s Tale’”

Julie Ormanskı (Harvard University)
 “Physiognomy’s Pragmatic Pleasure”

Kellie Robertson (University of Pittsburgh)
 “A Very Material Poetics: Chaucerian Bureaucracy Meets Aristotelian Natural Philosophy”

Session 25: CROSSING BOUNDARIES: THE DRAMATIC TRADITIONS OF MEDIEVAL BRITAIN

Session Organizer and Chair: John T. Sebastian (Loyola University, New Orleans)

Gloria J. Betcher (Iowa State University)
 “Subtle Subversion and the Benefits of Barriers: The Development of Cornish Drama in England”

David N. Klausner (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto)
 “Playing the Crucifixion in Medieval Wales”

Matthew Sergi (University of California Berkeley)
 “May we see þe same/Euen in oure pase puruayed’: Tourism and Spectacle Along England’s Western Border”

Theresa Coletti (University of Maryland) and Gail McMurray Gibson (Davidson College)
 “The Early Modern Origins of Medieval Drama”

Session 26: BORDERS, LANDSCAPES, REGIONS, NATIONS

Session Organizer and Chair: Patricia Ingham (Indiana University)

Morgan Davies (Colgate University)
 “London in Late Medieval Welsh Poetry”

Joseph Taylor (University of Texas at Austin)
 “‘Fer in the North, I cannot tell where’: Collapsing Spaces and the Extimate North in Chaucer’s *Reeve’s Tale*”

Rebecca Fields (Exeter College, Oxford)
 “Negotiating Linguistic Domains: Register-switching in Chaucer and Usk”

David W. Marshall (California State University, San Bernardino)

“Turning England Inside Out in Gower’s *Vox Clamantis*, Book I”

Arthur W. Bahr (MIT)
 “Locating the Humor of ‘Sir Thopas’: Flanders, London, and Beyond”

Session 27: GENDER IN THE FIFTEENTH-CENTURY

Session Organizer and Chair: Nicole Sidhu (East Carolina University)

Holly Crocker (University of South Carolina)
 “‘How-to’ Masculinity in Hoccleve’s *Series*”

Nicole Nolan Sidhu (East Carolina University)
 “All in the Family: Comedy, Domesticity and Royal Authority in John Lydgate’s *Mumming at Hertford*”

Rebecca Perederin (University of Virginia)
 “The Marriages of Margery Kempe”

Katherine Heavey (University of Durham)
 “Managing Medea: Representations of a Troublesome Woman in Fifteenth Century Literature”

Session 28: RELIGION AND AFFECT (1)

Session Organizer and Chair: Fiona Somerset (Duke University)

Amy Appleford (Harvard University)
 “Timor Mortis”

Anthony Bale (Birkbeck College London)
 “Terror, Pleasure and Judaism: Affective Passions in Late Medieval English Culture”

Christopher Bradley (Balliol College, Oxford)
 “Governing Affect: Textual, Legal, and Social Controls on Devotion in Late Medieval England”

Moira Fitzgibbons (Marist College)
 “‘Drede’ and the Popular Intellect in *The Pricke of Conscience*”

Session 29: RETHINKING THE CONTEXTS AND SOURCES OF CHAUCER’S POETRY

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
 Chair: Jerome Mandel (Tel Aviv University)

Jenna Mead (University of Tasmania)
 “Chaucer and Numbers”

Amy W. Goodwin (Randolph-Macon College)
 “Deliberative Chaucer: Aristotle in *The Canterbury Tales*”

Jessica Harkins (College of Saint Benedict-Saint John's University)

"Apuleius, Boccaccio, and Chaucer: Reconsidering the Gaps"

Karen Gross (Lewis & Clark College)

"Not as Glorious as It Seems: Authorial Self-Glossing by Italian and English Writers"

J. Justin Brent (Presbyterian College)

"Visions of the Afterlife and 'The Summoner's Tale'"

Session 30: SCENES OF WRITING

Session Organizer and Chair: Nicholas Perkins (St Hugh's College, Oxford)

David Coley (University of Maryland)

"Withyn a temple ymad of glas': Writing, Glazing and Patronage in *The House of Fame*"

Deborah Strickland (Indiana University)

"A 'dooly sesoun' for a 'cairfull dyte': Ambivalence, Anxiety, and Desire in Henryson's Scenes of Writing"

Margaret Bridges (University of Berne)

"Embedding Literature"

Chloë Morgan (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York)

"Writing and Memory in John Metham's *Amoryus and Cleope*?"

12:30-14:00: Lunch

14:00-15:30: Plenary (Session 31): "Before Chaucer"

Chair: David Lawton (Washington University, St Louis)

Valerie Allen (Professor of English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY)

"Gems of Literature"

Clare Lees (Professor of Medieval Literature, King's College London)

"Not Before Time: Anglo-Saxon Studies Before, After and Beyond Chaucer"

Jocelyn Wogan-Browne (Professor of English, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York, UK)

"Before, During, and After Chaucer: The French of England"

Chris Baswell (Olin Chair of English at Barnard College and Professor of English at Columbia University)

"Before the Pardoner, Before the Cook: Eccentric Body Cultures Prior to Chaucer"

15:30-16:00: Afternoon Tea

Concurrent Sessions (32-38)

16:00-17:30

Session 32: (ROUNDTABLE): TEACHING CHAUCER (I)

Session Organizer: Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester)
Chair: Helen Phillips (Cardiff University)

Peter Beidler (Lehigh University)

Ken Bleeth (Connecticut College)

Warren Ginsberg (University of Oregon)

Tom Hanks (Baylor University)

Teresa Harings (BASIS Tucson Upper School, Tucson, Arizona)

Cynthia Kraman (College of New Rochelle)

Atilla Starcevic (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)

Session 33: THE POLITICS OF MEMORY

Session Organizer and Chair: Ruth Evans (University of Stirling)

Krista Twu (University of Minnesota Duluth)

"Remembrance of Things Future: Memory and Contrition in 'The Parson's Tale'"

Betsy McCormick (Mt San Antonio College)

"Fragments Shored Against Our Ruin: the *Habitus* of Memory in *The Legend of Good Women*"

John Plummer (Vanderbilt University)

"'They held hem paied of the fructes þat þey ete': Moral Choices and Memory in *Former Age*"

Ruth Summar McIntyre (Georgia State University)

"The Wife of Bath and the Politics of Memory"

Jeffrey Jerome Cohen (George Washington University)

"Forgotten Realms"

Roger Nicholson (University of Auckland)

"Bodies That Will Not Rest: Chaucer on Death"

Session 34: NEW WORK IN TEXTUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee

Chair: Satoko Tokunaga (Keio University)

Peter Robinson (Institute for Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing, University of Birmingham)

"Does it Matter What Text of Chaucer We Read?"

Murray McGillivray (University of Calgary)

"Hg BD: An Experimental Restoration of Chaucer's

Damaged Masterpiece”

Helen Marshall (Centre for Medieval Studies, Toronto)
 “‘Olde Books’ and ‘Drasty Rymyng’: The Structuring of
 Early Vernacular *Compilatio*-Texts”

Yoshiyuki Nakao, Akiyuki Jimura, and Masatsugu
 Matsuo (Hiroshima University)
 “A Project for a Comprehensive Collation of the Two
 Manuscripts (Hengwrt and Ellesmere) and the Two
 Editions (Blake (1980) and Benson (1987)) of *The
 Canterbury Tales*”

Session 35: *Troilus and Criseyde*

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
 Chair: Sarah Stanbury (College of the Holy Cross)

Rebecca Beal (University of Scranton)
 “Pandarus’ ‘Brother’: Calkas as Rhetorician of Troy’s
 End”

Setsuko Haruta (Shirayuri College, Tokyo)
 “I am myn owene womman, wel at ese’: Criseyde and
 the Wife of Bath”

Amy N. Vines (University of North Carolina–
 Greensboro)
 “Rereading Criseyde: Cassandra as Prophetess and
 Patron”

Teresa P. Reed (Jacksonville State University, Alabama)
 “In Thrall to History: A Reading of *Troilus and Criseyde*”

Session 36: WALES AND ENGLAND

Session Organizer and Chair: Helen Fulton (University
 of Wales Swansea)

Jon Kenneth Williams (Columbia University)
 “Comparative Political Poetics: Iolo Goch and
 Geoffrey Chaucer”

Simon Meecham-Jones (University of Cambridge and
 Swansea University)
 “Making Chaucer Welsh: Early Modern Readings of
 Chaucer in Wales”

Geraint Evans (University of Wales Swansea)
 “Early Printed Copies of Chaucer in Welsh
 Collections”

Session 37: NEW FEMINIST APPROACHES TO CHAUCER AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

Session Organizer and Chair: Liz Herbert McAvoy
 (University of Wales Swansea)

Susannah Chewning (Union County College)

“Chaucer and the Irish Witch: Re-Reading the Wife of Bath”

Drew J. Scheler (University of Virginia),
 “Whom Shall We Say is Speaking? Women’s Legends and
 Chaucer’s ‘Man of Law’s Tale’”

Jed Chandler (Swansea University)
 “A Gelding or a Mare?: Chaucer’s Pardoner and Constructions
 of Gender in Middle English Literature”

Victoria Bludd (King’s College, University of London)
 “‘... as it had been a thonder-dent’: Speaking of the
 Unspeakable in *The Canterbury Tales*”

Session 38: IN PRAISE OF THE MIDDLE ENGLISH VARIANT: TEXTUAL INTEGRITY

Session Organizer: Andrew Taylor (University of Ottawa)
 Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Erick Kelemen (University of Kentucky)
 “Close Reading the Zero Text”

Daniel Wakelin (University of Cambridge)
 “Scribal Correction and the Close Reading of Variants”

Matthew Giancarlo (University of Kentucky)
 “Some Assembly Required: Following the *Instructions* for (Re)
 Constructing the Work of Peter Idley”

19:00-onwards: Optional Outing to Oxwich Bay Hotel

Sunday, 20 July 2008

8:30-9:00: Registration

Concurrent Sessions (39-45)

9:00-10:30

Session 39: QUEER TIMES AND PLACES

Session Organizer and Chair: Robert Mills (King’s College
 London)

Carolyn Dinshaw (New York University)
 “Out of Sync: Feeling Time in the Body?”

Kathy Lavezzo (University of Iowa)
 “Queer Typology and St. Erkenwald”

Ingrid Abreu-Scherer (Emmanuel College, Cambridge)
 “The Queer Itinerary of the Medieval Flâneuse: A Reading of
 Margery Kempe and the Wife of Bath”

Session 40: CHAUCER’S MANUSCRIPTS

Session Organizer and Chair: Estelle Stubbs (University of Sheffield)

Linne Mooney (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York) and Estelle Stubbs (University of Sheffield)
“Middle English Scribes in the London Letter Books”

Simon Horobin (Magdalen College, Oxford)
“The Scribe of Bodley 619 and the Early Readership of Chaucer’s *Treatise on the Astrolabe*”

Dan Mosser (Virginia Tech)
“Alphabetic Scribes in Hengwrt and Trinity R.3.2”

Alexander Vaughan Ames (Georgia Institute of Technology)
“Teaching Textual *authoritee* in the Christ Church *Canterbury Tales*”

Session 41: CHAUCERIAN “SCIENCES”: MEDICINE, OPTICS AND MUSIC

Session Organizer: Nicolette Zeeman (University of Cambridge)
Chair: Elizabeth Edwards (Dalhousie, Canada)

Michael J. Huxtable (University of Durham)
“An Introduction to Colour, Seeing and Seeing Colour in Chaucer”

Katie Walter (University of Bochum)
“Chaucer’s Medical Poetic”

Elizabeth Leach (Royal Holloway, University of London)
“Chaucer’s Bird Singers”

Session 42: RELIGION AND AFFECT (2)

Session Organizer and Chair: Fiona Somerset (Duke University)

Shannon Gayk (Indiana University)
“Mediating Affect in the Fifteenth Century”

Jim Knowles (Duke University)
“You Comes Into the Picture: Passionate Speech and Liturgical Space in *Troilus and Criseyde*”

Sarah McNamer (Georgetown University)
“Beholding: Middle English Meets Affective Neuroscience”

John Pitcher (University College of the Fraser Valley, BC)
“Affect, Group Identity, and Medieval Women’s Spiritual Autobiography: Psychoanalytic Theory as Social Theory”

Session 43: ADAPTING CHAUCER FOR

DIFFERING READERSHIPS

Session Organizer: Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester)
Chair: Sylvia Tomasch (Hunter College/CUNY Honors College)

Mary Flowers Braswell (University of Alabama, Birmingham)
“The First Chaucer Elementary School Textbook: Mary Eliza Haweis”

David Raybin (Eastern Illinois University)
“Canterbury in the Cornfields”

Candace Barrington (Central Connecticut State University)
“Close Reading, Middle English, and the Indifferent Student”

Session 44: THE BODY AND EMBODIMENT

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
Chair: Liz Herbert McAvoy (University of Wales Swansea)

Sarah Breckenridge (Pennsylvania State University)
“Subordinating the Sublime: Devotional Affect and Aesthetics in Chaucer’s ‘The Prioress’s Tale’”

Miriamne Ara Krummel (University of Dayton)
“Fifteenth-Century Manuscript Redactions of ‘The Prioress’s Tale’ and the Horror of Antisemitism”

Session 45: LATE MEDIEVAL READERS AND READING

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
Chair: Lynn Staley (Colgate University)

Neil Cartlidge (University of Durham)
“Chaucer and the *jeux-partis*”

Katherine Zieman (University of Notre Dame)
“Amateur Readers and Devotional Performance”

Kathryn McKinley (Florida International University)
“Reading and Seeing in Late Medieval England”

Elon Lang (Washington University in St. Louis)
“The Newberry Library *Regiment of Princes* and Bibliographic Multivocality”

Nicholas Perkins (St Hugh’s College Oxford)
“‘Romyngte to and fro’: *The Knight’s Tale* and Reading Narratives”

10:30-11:00: Morning Tea

11:00-12:30: Plenary (Session 46): “Book History”

Chair: Alexandra Gillespie (University of Toronto)

Peter McDonald (Fellow of St Hugh's College and Lecturer in English, University of Oxford)
"Reading in Space"

James Raven (Professor of History, University of Essex)
"Book History and the Copyright Question"

Siân Echard (Professor of English, University of British Columbia)
"Making Like a Manuscript: Facsimiles, Auras, Impulses"

12:30-14:00: Lunch

14:00-onwards: Free Afternoon and Optional Outings

Tenby – Delegates will be taken to visit the fishing town of Tenby, west of Swansea, and Manorbier, childhood home of Gerald of Wales. The bus will depart Swansea University at 14:00, arriving in Tenby at 15:00 and Manorbier at 17:00. The bus will return to the University at around 19:00.

Caerphilly – Delegates will be taken to visit Caerphilly Castle, Neath Abbey and other scenic places to the east of Swansea. The bus will return to the University at around 19:00.

Monday, 21 July 2008

8:30-9:00: Registration

Concurrent Sessions (47-53)

9:00-10:30

Session 47: AESTHETICS

Session Organizer and Chair: Maura Nolan (University of California, Berkeley)

Bruce W. Holsinger (University of Virginia)
"Tropics of Glory"

Eleanor Johnson (University of California, Berkeley)
"Sensing the Sentence: Boethius, Boece, and the Aesthetics of Prose"

James Knapp (University of Pittsburgh)
"Aesthetics and Things"

Peggy Knapp (Carnegie Mellon)
"Aesthetics and Genre"

Session 48: THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION, GENDER AND *GENTILESSE* IN GOWER

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee

Chair: Malte Urban (Queen's University, Belfast)

Georgiana Donavin (Westminster College)
"Marian Meditations in the *Mirour de l'Ommé*"

Lynn Shuttles (Idaho State University)
"Pagans Past and Pagans Present in Gower's *Confessio Amantis*"

Matthew Irvin (Duke University)
"Profit and Repose: Gower's 'Alconomie' of Poetry"

Session 49: MANUSCRIPTS BEFORE CHAUCER

Session Organizer and Chair: Elaine Treharne (Florida State University)

Orietta Da Rold (University of Leicester)
"Dismantling the Paradigms of Manuscript Production, 1200-1400"

William Robins (University of Toronto)
"Early Manuscripts of the *South English Legendary* and the Emergence of a Vernacular Literary Community"

Carter Revard (Washington University, St Louis)
"A General Prologue for the Ludlow Scribe's Chaucerian Book, MS Harley 2253 and its 'Pilgrim' Audience"

Session 50: TEXTUAL DIASPORAS

Session Organizer and Chair: Jessica Brantley (Yale University)

Mary Agnes Edsall (Bowdoin College)
"Monks, Mercers, and the Spiritual Life: HM 744 and the Long Arm of the Twelfth-Century Monastic Reform"

Jennifer N. Brown (University of Hartford)
"Catherine of Siena: From the Charterhouse to Caxton"

Michael G. Sargent (Queen's College, CUNY)
"Walter Hilton's *Scale of Perfection*: Different Texts, Different Audiences"

Session 51: NATURE AND MAGIC

Session Organizer and Chair: Corinne Saunders (Durham University)

Glending Olson (Cleveland State University)
"Demonism and Intellect in the Summoner's Tale"

Richard F. Green (Ohio State University)
"Chaucer's Use of *Incubus* in the Wife of Bath's Tale"

Brendan O'Connell (Trinity College Dublin)
"A foul confusion?: Alchemy and the Decay of Language in

Dante and Chaucer”

Shane Collins (Durham University)

“‘Wise wordes’: The Vocabulary of Natural Philosophy and ‘magyk naturel’ in the Works of Chaucer”

Session 52: TECHNIQUE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Session Organizer: Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester)

Chair: Theresa Coletti (University of Maryland)

Martha Driver (Pace University)

“Filming Chaucer in the Classroom and Other Multimedia Approaches”

Alex Mueller (SUNY Plattsburgh)

“‘Quiting’ Your Classmates: Digitizing Chaucerian Debate”

Kurt Haas (Mesa State College)

“Game Theory and the Teaching of *The Canterbury Tales*”

Session 53: FORM AND CLOSE READING: A DEBATE

Session Organizer and Chair: Christopher Cannon (Girton College, Cambridge)

James Simpson (Harvard)

“What’s Wrong with Formalism?”

Jill Mann (University of Notre Dame)

“The Inevitability of Form”/“The Inescapability of Form”

Respondents: Christopher Cannon and Ethan Knapp

10:30-11:00: Morning Tea

Concurrent Sessions (54-59)

11:00-12:30

Session 54: BORDERS, LANDSCAPES, REGIONS, NATIONS

Session Organizer and Chair: Patricia Ingham (Indiana University)

Daniel Birkholz (University of Texas at Austin)

“Ye goon to ... Hereford?: British Library MS Harley 2253, Regional Devotion, and England’s *Other Saint Thomas*”

Robert W. Barrett, Jr. (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

“Mongols in the Marches: A Postcolonial / Archipelagic Reading of *Mum and the Sothsegger*”

Elliot Kendall (University of Exeter)

“Communities Without Buildings in Medieval Romance”

Session 55: ASSIMILATION AND DISSIMULATION

Session Organizer and Chair: Christine Chism (Rutgers University)

Siobhain Bly Calkin (Carleton University)

“Relics and their Textual Re-Performances”

Ruth Nissé (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

“‘The Bands of Kittim’: Gerald of Wales’s Circle and the Martyrs of Jerusalem”

Sylvia Tomasch (Hunter College/CUNY Honors College)

“Aquinas, Averroës, Augustine, and Archisynagogus”

Session 56: GOWER AND REPOSE

Session Organizer: Elizabeth Allen (University of California, Irvine)

Chair: Lynn Arner (Brock University)

Karla Taylor (University of Michigan)

“Ovid and Repose”

Jeremy Dimmick (St. Catherine’s College, Oxford)

“*Studiosus plurima scripsi*: Gower’s Effortful Otium”

Matthew McCabe (University of Toronto)

“Translating *Stabilitas*: The Theological Basis of Public and Private Peace in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”

Elizabeth Allen (University of California, Irvine)

“Sanctuary and Status in the *Miroir de L’Ommé*”

Session 57: TEACHING CHAUCER (II)

Session Organizer: Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester)

Chair: Helen Cooper (Magdalene College, Cambridge)

Kara Crawford (The Bishop’s School, La Jolla, California)

Tom Farrell (Stetson University)

Susanna Fein (Kent State University)

Sandy Feinstein (Penn State, Berks)

Laury Isenberg (The Bishop’s School, La Jolla, California)

Roger Ladd (University of North Carolina, Pembroke)

Jim Rhodes (Southern Connecticut State University)

David Wallace (University of Pennsylvania)

Session 58: NEW WORK ON ‘THE PRIORESS’S TALE’

Session Organizers and Chairs: Kathy Lavezzo (University of Iowa) and Geraldine Heng (University of Texas at Austin)

Daniel Kline (University of Alaska, Anchorage)
 “Reading the ‘Prioress’s Tale’ and the ‘Physician’s Tale’ Together”

Shayne Aaron Legassie (Columbia University)
 “Forensicphiles: ‘The Prioress’s Tale’ and Medieval Murder Investigations”

Roger Dahood (University of Arizona)
 “English Historical Narratives of Mock-Crucifixion as Sources of ‘The Prioress’s Tale’”

Response: Debra Higgs Strickland (Glasgow Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies)

Session 59: LYDGATE AND THE POETRY OF WAR

Session Organizer and Chair: Cathy Sanok (University of Michigan)

William Sweet (Oxford University)
 “War Propaganda and Lancastrianism in the *Troy Book* and *Siege of Thebes*”

Jennifer Sisk (Yale University)
 “Lydgate’s Problematic Commission: *The Legend of St. Edmund* in a Time of War”

Andrew Lynch (University of Western Australia)
 “Manhood and Melancholy in Lydgate’s War”

12:30-14:00: Lunch

Concurrent Sessions (60-66)

14:00-15:30

Session 60: GENDER VERSUS SEXUALITY

Session Organizer and Chair: Karma Lochrie (Indiana University)

Robert Mills (King’s College London)
 “Back to the Future, or, Temporal Drag”

Catherine Sanok (University of Michigan)
 “Temporal Virgins”

Glenn Burger (CUNY)
 “Becoming Undone”

Diane Watt (Aberystwyth) and Clare Lees (King’s College London)
 “Queer Talking: Sex, Gender and Collaboration”

Isabel Davis (University of London)
 “Gender, Sexuality and the Medieval Family Portrait”

Session 61: PERIODIZATION AND THE ARCHIVE

Session Organizer: Kathleen Davis (University of Rhode Island)

Chair: Sarah Stanbury (College of the Holy Cross)

Christine Chism (Rutgers University)
 “Other Times, Other Archives: Strange Knowledge in Chaucer’s *Treatise on the Astrolabe*”

Sara S. Poor (Princeton University)
 “Reformation, Secularization, and the Survival of Medieval Vernacular Books”

Thomas Hahn (University of Rochester)
 “Novelty, Fact, and the Recycled Archive: Visual Culture around 1500”

Respondent: Jennifer Summit (Stanford University)

Session 62: AESTHETICS

Session Organizer and Chair: Maura Nolan (University of California, Berkeley)

Carroll Balot (University of Toronto), “‘What a poet I will flay myself into’: Chaucer’s Aesthetics of Negation”

Tara Williams (Oregon State University), “Chaucer’s Magical Aesthetics”

R. James Goldstein (Auburn University), “Field of Power, Literary Field, Poetic Dispositions: The Relative Autonomy of Chaucerian Aesthetics”

Session 63: HERMENEUTICS AND DIFFERENCE

Session Organizer and Chair: Lisa Lampert-Weissig (University of California, San Diego)

Katherine Little (Fordham University)
 “Radical Exegetics”

Sebastian Sobiecki (McGill University)
 “The Language of the Law and the Rise of a Vernacular Hermeneutic of Englishness”

Stephanie A.V.G. Kamath (University of Massachusetts-Boston)
 “The Queer Rose of Guillaume de Deguileville and Jean Molinet”

Session 64: LATE MEDIEVAL READING

Session Organizer and Chair: James Simpson (Harvard University)

Kirsty Campbell (University of Toronto)
 “Revolutionary Reading: Reginald Pecock’s Books”

Kathleen Tonry (University of Connecticut)
 “‘The Redynge of Histories’: Caxton’s *Polychronicon*”

Jessica Brantley (Yale University)
 “Late Medieval Plays for Reading: *The Book of Brome*”

Session 65: CHAUCER’S PARDONER

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
 Chair: Lynn Staley (Colgate University)

Martin Camargo (University of Illinois)
 “How (Not) to Preach: Thomas Waleys and Chaucer’s Pardoner”

Niamh Pattwell (University College Dublin)
 “Chaucer, The Pardoner and the Eucharist: The Influence of Vernacular Religious Writing of the Late Middle Ages on ‘The Pardoner’s Prologue’ and ‘Tale’”

Robyn Malo (Purdue University)
 “The Pardoner’s Relics and the Aesthetics of Denial”

José R. Nebres (University of Connecticut)
 “When a Kiss is Not Just a Kiss: The Pardoner’s Kiss and the Technics of Peace”

Session 66: MISCELLANEOUS

Session Organizer: NCS Program Committee
 Chair: Ruth Evans (University of Stirling)

Gregory Heyworth (University of Mississippi at Oxford)
 “The Aporetic Allegory: Chess and the Limits of Meaning in the *Esches Amoureux*, *Reson and Sensuallyte*, and *The Book of the Duchess*”

Laura Kendrick (Université de Versailles)
 “A Gothic Aesthetics of the Variant”

Christina M. Fitzgerald (University of Toledo)
 “Mercantile Miscellanies and Fungible Couplets”

George Edmondson (Dartmouth College)
 “Neighbors, Natural and Otherwise, in the Middle English Version of ‘The Fox and the Wolf’”

Roberta Magnani (Cardiff University)
 “Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century Portraits of Chaucer as Social Mapping”

Brandon Tilley (Harvard)
 “‘Nat for to knowe oure wyl’: Writing, ‘Execucion’ and Eschatology in ‘The Clerk’s Tale’”

15:30-16:00: Afternoon Tea

16:00-17:00: (Session 67): Presidential Lecture

Chair: TBA

John Ganim (University of California, Riverside)

Panel Discussion

17:00-17:30: Conference Close David Lawton, Executive Director NCS

18:00-19:30: Civic Reception

19:30-onwards: Conference Dinner

Tuesday, 22 July 2008

9:00-23:30: Optional Day Trip to National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth

9:00-11:30: Coach to Aberystwyth via Talley Abbey

11:30-13:00: Lecture: Robert Vaughan and the Hengwrt
 Chaucer: Maredudd ap Huw
 Viewing of Hengwrt and other MSS

13:00-14:00: Lunch

14:00-15:30: ‘Hands-on’ workshops: 2 parallel sessions:
 Diane Watt and Elisabeth Salter

15:30-16:00: Afternoon Tea

16:00-21:30: Free time and dinner

21:30-23:30: Return coach to Swansea

Conference Announcements

Announcing the first annual Canada Chaucer Seminar

University of Toronto, Saturday, 26 April, 2008

April 26th, 2008, will see the inaugural Canada Chaucer Seminar. The aim of the seminar is to provide a focus in the form of an annual meeting for scholars working on Chaucer and on late medieval literature and culture in general. We invite scholars and students from nearby and from further afield to join us in order to meet, converse, and share ideas.

This one-day gathering will include plenary papers by D. Vance Smith (Princeton), Lynn Staley (Colgate), and Nicholas Watson (Harvard), as well as a roundtable led by Andrew Taylor (Ottawa), and two concurrent paper

sessions on “Genre in the Canterbury Tales” and “Chaucerian Textuality.”

All sessions will take place at the Centre for Medieval Studies of the University of Toronto, 3rd Floor of the Lillian Massey Building, 125 Queen’s Park, Toronto.

For more information, please contact william.robins@utoronto.ca.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE
ASSOCIATION

2008 CONFERENCE AND 40 ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 25 – 26, 2008

HOSTED BY: UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER

**HISTORICAL ENGINES: TEXTS, TECHNOLOGY &
INNOVATION IN THE MIDDLE AGES &
RENAISSANCE**

FEATURED SPEAKER: Pamela O. Long, Ph D, author of *Openness, Secrecy, Authorship: Technical Arts and the Culture of Knowledge from Antiquity to the Renaissance*, speaking on “Machines in Books: Technology as Cultural Artifact in the Early Renaissance” **Saturday, April 26, 11-12pm**

The Rocky Mountain Medieval And Renaissance Association will present papers exploring the relationship between technology and history from scholars in all disciplines on any aspect of technological or intellectual innovation during the Middle Ages and Renaissance

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Reception: Friday, April 25, 5:00-6:30 pm

Luncheon: Saturday, April 26, 12:15-1:45 pm

Exhibit of Medieval & Renaissance manuscripts, books and facsimiles from the Libraries’ Special Collections Department on Saturday, April 26, 12:00 – 2:00 pm

CONFERENCE LOCATION:

The Conference will be held at the University Memorial Center (UMC), University of Colorado, Boulder

STUDIES IN THE AUCHINLECK MANUSCRIPT

Friday and Saturday June 20 and 21

Senate House, University of London

Keynote speakers: Ralph Hanna and Derek Pearsall
Other speakers include Tony Davenport, Anthony Edwards, Susanna Fein, Rosalind Field, Maldwyn Mills, Helen Phillips, Timothy Shonk, Miceal Vaughan.
Contact: jon.millington@sas.ac.uk

The 6th Lawman/Layamon Conference takes place at Gregynog, Powys, from July 1st to 6th. Those in the UK early for Chaucer and Gower (July 12-17) Conferences may be interested.

Our website: www.layamon.org. Booking now!

Other News

**The International *Piers Plowman* Society
invites new members to join.**

Members receive *The Yearbook of Langland Studies*, access to an electronic, searchable version of the Annual Bibliography at www.piersplowman.org, early information about YLS conferences and Langland-related calls for papers through email announcement. The Society has recently elected its first board, with Professor Robert Adams as Director, and YLS is about to publish its 22nd volume (2008) with our new publisher, Brepols. All 21 published volumes are now available electronically by subscription at <http://journals.brepols.net>. For membership information visit the website or send an email to piersplowmansociety@gmail.com.

Chaucer Bibliography

The NCS bibliographers are at present in the process of compiling the annual bibliography of Chaucer materials published in 2007. Items from 2005 have recently been uploaded to the Chaucer Bibliography Online (<http://uchaucer.utsa.edu/>); those from 2006 are being processed for inclusion in *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 30 (2008) and subsequently in the Online version. If you know of items overlooked, or if you would like to contribute to the Chaucer Bibliography, please contact Mark Allen, Department of English, One UTSA Circle. The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, 78249 (mark.allen@utsa.edu).

New Website on Pilgrimage

The Christianity and Culture Project (Centre for Medieval Studies, York) has launched a new website, *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage*, at www.york.ac.uk/projects/pilgrimage/

This is linked to the recently published CD-ROM *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage: Journey, Spirituality & Daily Life through the Centuries* (£15). For more information see www.york.ac.uk/projects/christianityandculture/ or email candc@york.ac.uk.

Dee Dyas

Mr. Francis Tobienne, Jr. announces that his new book is coming out titled: *The Position of Magic In Selected Medieval Spanish Texts* by Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 1 April 2008.

The information can be found here:<http://www.c-s-p.org/Flyers/The-Position-of-Magic-in-Selected-Medieval-Spanish-Texts1-84718-496-0.htm>

Geoffrey Chaucer & Co., the intrepid professional non-profit theatre company specializing in the works of Chaucer, has been presenting performances of the Canterbury Tales since 1996. Unlike most theatrical productions of the Tales, Chaucer & Co. gives each story a full treatment rather than piecing together bits of the bawdier tales. The company is now beginning to book performances for a U.S./U.K. tour in 2009-2010. Their last U.S./U.K. tour was in October 2003, when they toured the Clerk's & Merchant's Tales in a musical entitled "Paradise Unzipped." This time they will be offering another double feature with the Sailor's Tale (as a medieval musical bedroom farce entitled "A Pleasure Doing Business") billed with the Wife of Bath's prologue and tale. The tour will focus predominantly on university presenters for the U.S. shows, and will also offer single tale performances in high schools and retirement communities in the surrounding area of each presenter. If you are interested in learning more about bringing a performance to your university or other venue, contact Executive Director Becky Parker Geist at 415-491-0818 or info@chaucertheatre.org. There is some info available on the website, but they are currently seeking a board member or volunteer to rennovate the site and bring it current.

Becky Geist (Executive Director, Geoffrey Chaucer & Co., Entertainment in EPIC proportions!, www.chaucertheatre.org, 415-491-0818)

From Graham Caie:

Medieval Texts in Context

Edited by Graham D Caie, Denis Renevey. Routledge, 2008, 272 pages. ISBN: 978-0-415-36025-8

This collection of essays by leading experts in manuscript studies sheds new light on ways to approach medieval texts in their manuscript context. Each contribution provides groundbreaking insight into the field of medieval textual culture, demonstrating the various interconnections between medieval material and literary traditions. The contributors' work aids reconstruction of the period's writing practices, as contextual factors surrounding the texts provide clues to the 'manuscript experience'. Topics such as scribal practice and textual

providence, glosses, rubrics, page lay-out, and even page ruling, are addressed in a manner illustrative and suggestive of textual practice of the time, while the volume further considers the interface between the manuscript and early textual communities.

Looking at medieval inventories of books no longer extant, and addressing questions such as ownership, reading practices and textual production, *Medieval Texts in Context* addresses the fundamental interpretative issue of how scribe-editors worked with an eye to their intended audience. An understanding of the world inhabited by the scribal community is made use of to illuminate the rationale behind the manufacture of devotional texts. The combination of approaches to the medieval vernacular manuscript presented in this volume is unique, marking a major, innovative contribution to manuscript studies.

Contributions by Richard Beadle, Julia Boffey, Graham D Caie, Marleen Cré, A.S. G. Edwards, Vincent Gillespie, Ralph Hanna, Simon Horobin, Matti Peikola, Denis Renevey and Jeremy J. Smith.

The New Chaucer Society

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