Message from the Chair

The New Year is here and the GSC would like to take this opportunity to highlight its exciting initiatives for 2015. For the MAA Annual Meeting at Notre Dame in March (register here), the GSC has organized a theoretical and interdisciplinary book panel centered on the recently published collection of essays *The Oxford Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe*. The panelists will discuss their own work in relation to the book, reflect on the changes that have taken place in medieval historiography over the past few decades, and consider future directions (page 3). We hope you will be able to join us for what will be an exciting and stimulating conversation! If you plan to be at Kalamazoo or Leeds this year make sure to attend the GSC-sponsored roundtables that will address what it means for medievalists to be public intellectuals today, in this ever-changing, technologically-driven world (page 3-4).

In collaboration with the Student Committee of the International Center of Medieval Art (ICMA SC), the GSC is also planning a session at ANZAMEMS this coming summer in which the panelists will discuss various career options for young scholars beyond the tenure-track job (page 5).

At MAA, Kalamazoo, and Leeds, we encourage you all to participate in our Mentorship Program—a popular and practical resource that graduate students at all stages should take advantage of (page 5).

Interested in joining the GSC? Now is the time to apply! Page 2 outlines the mission of our committee and provides information about the self-nomination process. In this issue you will also find upcoming deadlines for fellowships, including those offered through the MAA and CARA, as well as CFPs and conferences that may be of interest. As always, please get in touch with any questions or comments by emailing us at: gsc@themedievalacademy.org.

We wish you all a successful year ahead and all the best wishes!

Sincerely,
Alice Isabella Sullivan
MAA GSC Chair, 2014-2015

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2014-2015 MAA Graduate Student Committee

- Alice Isabella Sullivan (University of Michigan) - Chair
  aisulli@umich.edu
- Richard Barrett (Indiana University)
  rrbarret@indiana.edu
- Stephanie Chapman (University of Missouri)
  smcyb9@mail.missouri.edu
- Vanessa Corcoran (The Catholic University of America)
  corcoranvr@cua.edu
- Christopher Riedel (Boston College)
  riedelc@bc.edu

Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with questions, comments, and concerns. We strive to serve the graduate students of the MAA to the best of our ability and would like to hear from our constituency.

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- Upcoming Conferences
Self-Nominations for the MAA Graduate Student Committee  
Deadline: January 31, 2015

The Medieval Academy of America is currently accepting self-nominations for the three positions opening up on the Graduate Student Committee (GSC) for the 2015-2017 term. The GSC comprises five members appointed for a two-year term on a rotating basis. Self-nominations are open to all graduate students, worldwide, who are members of the MAA and have at least two years remaining in their program of study.

The GSC was founded more than ten years ago to represent and promote the participation of graduate student medievalists within the MAA and the broader academic community. In addition to fostering international and interdisciplinary exchange, the GSC is dedicated to providing guidance on research, teaching, publishing, professionalization, funding, and employment, as well as offering a forum for the expression of the concerns and interests of our colleagues. Our responsibilities, thus, include organizing pre-professionalizing panels and social events annually at ICMS Kalamazoo, the MAA Annual Meeting, IMC Leeds, and biennially at ANZAMEMS. We also run a successful and popular Mentorship Program that pairs graduate students with faculty to discuss any aspect of our profession such as teaching, publishing, finding a successful work/life balance, maneuvering the job market, and more. In addition, we seek to bring together graduate students through virtual communities such as the growing Graduate Student Group on the MAA website, Facebook, Twitter, the med-grad listserv, and this tri-annual newsletter.

GSC members are asked to attend the Committee’s annual business meeting at Kalamazoo for the duration of their term and to communicate regularly with the group via email and Skype. Ideal applicants are expected to work well both independently and as part of a team in a collaborative environment. Previous experience with organizing conference panels and social events, as well as facility with social and digital media are not required, but may be a benefit.

Interested applicants should submit the following by January 31, 2015:
- The Nomination Form
- A brief CV (2 pages maximum), by mail, email, or fax to the Executive Director
- A recommendation letter from the faculty advisor

New members will be selected by the Committee on Committees and confirmed by the Council at the Annual Meeting held this year at the University of Notre Dame in March. If you have any questions, please contact us at gsc@themedievalacademy.org.
The panelists will comment on various aspects of the book, their own work in relation to it, and speak from their disciplinary perspectives on some of the pressing issues that emerge in the wake of this handbook’s publication. With this panel, the GSC seeks to highlight changes in medieval historiography over the last decades and consider future directions in the field, aiming to engage in a discussion relevant to graduate students and young scholars (the future of Medieval Studies), as well as MAA attendees more generally.

Graduate Student Reception
(to follow the opening reception)
Opening reception: 6:00 – 7:30 PM (Jordan Hall of Science); Graduate Student Reception (Medieval Institute & Downtown South Bend)

GSC at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo
May 14-17, 2015

The Public Medievalist: A Roundtable Discussion on the Middle Ages and Public Engagement

Thursday, May 14, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
Panelists: Bruce Holsinger (University of Virginia), David Perry (Dominican University), Susan Morrison (Texas State University), Sandra Sadowski (Medievalists.net), and Paul Sturtevant (The Smithsonian Institution).

Online registration for ICMS at Kalamazoo will open in February.

Come to this GSC-sponsored roundtable, which will explore how current developments in the popularization of the sciences, such as Neil deGrasse-Tyson’s revisitation of Carl Sagan’s TV series Cosmos, have enabled scientists such as deGrasse-Tyson to enjoy some cachet as “public intellectuals.” This has prompted some to ask: “How might the humanities do it?” For our purposes, the question is: “How might medievalists do it?” Popular culture is full of elements that resonate as “medieval,” such as Game of Thrones and The Hobbit—but what is the proper role of a medievalist public intellectual beyond being a film consultant or a respondent to someone like Dan Brown? And how might we define being a public intellectual today? What career opportunities might present themselves along these lines for graduate students and young professionals?
Our speakers are medievalists who model a number of ways of combining scholarship with public engagement. David Perry, Associate Professor of History at Dominican University, is an example of someone who has taken a leadership role as a public medievalist who works with mainstream media outlets, publishing regularly with CNN and The Atlantic, as well as The Chronicle for Higher Education. Susan Morrison, Professor of English at Texas State University, has taken a different approach as a public medievalist; her forthcoming book, Daring Dames of the Middle Ages: Medieval Women of Action, is a young adult non-fiction book about medieval women. Bruce Holsinger, Professor of English at University of Virginia, has published a commercial historical novel, A Burnable Book, which includes as characters Geoffrey Chaucer and John Gower. Sandra Sadowski and Paul Sturtevant both demonstrate how the Internet serves to engage the public; Sandra is one-half of the team that runs the website Medievalists.net, and Paul, in addition to his work with the Smithsonian Institution, contributes regularly to the website PublicMedievalist.com.

Graduate Student Reception
The reception will follow the panel discussion, at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. Everyone is invited to continue the conversation about the Middle Ages and public engagement over drinks and light refreshments.

GSC at the International Medieval Congress at Leeds
July 6-9, 2015

The Public Medievalist: What it Means for Medievalists to be Public Intellectuals Today—A Round Table Discussion

Monday, July 6, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Panelists: Erik Kwakkel (University of Leiden), Andrew James Johnston (Freie Universität Berlin), and Matthew Gabriele (Virginia Tech).

Further information on the location will be made available when the IMC program is released, including our reception open to all graduate students attending the conference.

The GSC’s panel at the IMC, Leeds seeks to address the same issues as our panel at the ICMS, Kalamazoo, as outlined above. Our panelists will talk about their own ways of engaging with medieval topics in a public rather than academic environment, what challenges and opportunities that presents, and how medievalists can become involved in the ever-expanding public media environment while remaining intellectually rigorous, either in tandem with another career or as the basis of one.

Each of our panelists has personal experience of public engagement on an intellectual level. Dr. Erik Kwakkel is a historian of the medieval book who holds a research position at the University of Leiden, where he specializes in paleography and codicology as the Principal Investigator of the five-year project Turning Over a New Leaf: Manuscript Innovation in the Twelfth-Century Renaissance. He also runs a popular weekly blog on the subject of medieval books, medievalbooks.nl, and engages further on Twitter @erik_kwakkel. Professor Andrew James Johnston is the Chair of the Medieval and Renaissance English Literature Department at the Freie Universität Berlin. His research has dealt extensively with the role of the medieval in the modern world, including Performing the Middle Ages from ‘Beowulf’ to ‘Othello’ (Brepols, 2008), and The Medieval Motion Picture: The Politics of Adaptation (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014) edited with Margitta Rouse and Philipp Hinz. Matthew Gabriele is Associate Professor in the Department of Religion and Culture as well as Coordinator of the Medieval & Early Modern Studies Program at Virginia Tech. He also maintains an active and dynamic social media presence centered on his blog, medium.com/@prof_gabriele.
GSC at ANZAMEMS
July 14-18, 2015

Career Options for Graduate Students and Recent PhDs beyond the Tenure-Track Job

Chair: E. Amanda McVitty (Doctoral Candidate, History, Massey University)
Panelists: Jan Pinder (Library, Monash University), Guy Carney (Publishing Manager, Brepols Publishers), and Irena Larking (University of Queensland/St John’s College, University of Queensland).

The GSC is pleased to announce the panel it is organizing in collaboration with the International Center of Medieval Art Student Committee (ICMA SC) at the ANZAMEMS 10th Biennial Conference next summer. The roundtable seeks to reflect on the realities of the current academic job market and consider the range of career options available to graduate students and recent PhDs beyond the permanent academic position. What are some of the alternative career paths for young scholars that bypass the traditional focus on obtaining tenure-track jobs? How should graduate programs structure their standards/principles/values of professionalization to work within the current economic and humanistic realities of the twenty-first century?

GSC Mentorship Program

The GSC is offering again its Mentorship Program at the three major medieval studies conferences in 2015, matching up graduate students with more advanced scholars in person at the MAA Annual Meeting, ICMS Kalamazoo, and IMC Leeds. For the current conference season, the program, organized by GSC members Richard Barrett (Indiana University) and Vanessa Corcoran (The Catholic University of America) is seeing participation from both faculty and students. These exchanges are meant to help students establish professional contacts from which they can receive advice regarding their academic development and career. The primary objective of the exchange is to foster an active relationship during the conference, although mentors and mentees sometimes decide to continue communication after a conference has ended.

The GSC has received feedback both positive and constructive on the mentorship effort: “This is a wonderful program in which I participated last year at Kalamazoo, [and] it was a very valuable experience,” wrote one faculty mentor. Another shared: “I had a good experience last year at Kalamazoo with a high-powered grad student, attended his session, and enjoyed very much talking with him.”

For the Medieval Academy of America meeting (March 12-14 at Notre Dame), the deadline to sign up is Friday, February 6; for ICMS Kalamazoo (May 14-17), the deadline is Friday, April 3; and for IMC Leeds (July 6-9) the deadline for mentorship is Friday, May 8. Due to the organizational demands of the program, it may be necessary to restrict the number of participants, so please sign up early! Mentor shortages have been a reality in past years, so if you know faculty attending these conferences, please encourage them to volunteer.

Sign up online here!

Any questions or concerns regarding the program may be sent to Richard Barrett (rbarret@indiana.edu) or to Vanessa Corcoran (corcoranvr@cua.edu).

GSC Digital Presence

The GSC’s Facebook page has just recently achieved 500 “likes”—what a milestone! If you have not done so already, be sure “like” us on Facebook. We would also like to see more activity from members of the MAA—feel free to post links to relevant news content both in terms of professional development and research.

What would you like to get out of our digital presence? Please feel free to email any of us, but particularly Vanessa Corcoran (corcoranvr@cua.edu) with your suggestions or comments. We would love to make greater use of this resource the MAA has provided for all graduate student members.

Also, please feel free to join and post on our listserv as well (med-grad@groups.sas.upenn.edu) and we will repost your CFPs and other notices on Facebook and our Twitter account @GSC_MAA.
Although I first encountered (and was fascinated by) medieval literature at my Jesuit prep school in the mid-nineties, I did not come to think of myself as a medievalist until much later. In 2009, after a number of years working in the private sector, I made the decision to return to university and complete my undergraduate degree at the University of Washington. At the time, I had vague notions of pursuing a career in marketing or perhaps something in publishing. During a meeting with an adviser in the English department shortly after returning to school, I mentioned my interest in medieval literature. My adviser suggested that I take Paul Remley’s Arthurian Legends course that was being offered the following term. I eagerly enrolled with no inkling of what was to come.

On the first day of class, Paul assigned Winterbottom’s translation of Gildas' De Excidio. When I tackled the text later that evening, I was enthralled. The intellectual enjoyment that accompanied grappling with the complexities of the text was unlike anything I had experienced before. Making an intellectual connection with someone who has been dead and dust for over a millennium brought deep and lasting satisfaction. By the end of the term, I’d arranged an independent study with Paul that we continued each term until I graduated in March of 2012.

The vague notions of going into marketing or perhaps publishing had long since been replaced by the determination to pursue a PhD. With Paul’s encouragement, I successfully applied to the MPhil program in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at the University of Cambridge. After completing my degree at Cambridge in 2013, I returned to UW where I began my PhD. Now, in my second year, I take great delight in introducing my students to medieval texts in the composition course that I teach. By teaching these texts and by sharing my road to Damascus story, I hope to encourage my students to think of different ways of being and to take pleasure in challenging intellectual work.
(Some) Upcoming Deadlines for Fellowships and Grants

**February 15**  
**MAA Schallek Awards:**  
Five $2,000 awards granted towards defraying doctoral research expenses dealing with late-medieval Britain (c. 1350-1500). Applicants must be members of the MAA as of January 15 of the year they apply. Awards help defray research expenses such as the cost of travel to research collections and the cost of photographs, photocopies, microfilms, and other research materials.

**MAA/GSC Grant for Innovation in Community Building and Professionalization:**  
One $2,000 grant will be awarded biennially to an individual or graduate student group from one or more universities for the purpose of stimulating new and innovative efforts that support pre-professionalization, encourage communication and collaboration across diverse groups of graduate students, and build communities amongst graduate student medievalists. All applicants and collaborators must be MAA members in good standing by January 15 of the year they apply.

**MAA Dissertation Grants:**  
Nine $2,000 grants towards defraying research expenses. Applicants must be members of the MAA as of January 15 of the year they apply.

**No Formal Deadline, Review begins April 1**  
**NEH Research Fellowships:**  
$1,750 stipend per five-week period, plus travel costs and accommodation for research at The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Study at St. Louis University. Applicants must possess an earned doctorate or be a Ph.D.-candidate at the dissertation stage. Available for five-, ten-, or fifteen-week periods.

Additional fellowships can be found on these databases:  
Cornell: [http://gradschool.cornell.edu/fellowships](http://gradschool.cornell.edu/fellowships)  
Duke: [https://researchfunding.duke.edu/index.asp](https://researchfunding.duke.edu/index.asp)  
Harvard: [http://gsasgrants.fas.harvard.edu/ggg.cgi](http://gsasgrants.fas.harvard.edu/ggg.cgi)  
H-Net: [http://www.h-net.org/announce/group.cgi?type=Funding](http://www.h-net.org/announce/group.cgi?type=Funding)  
UCLA: [https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/grapes/search.asp](https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/grapes/search.asp)

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(Some) Upcoming Deadlines for Summer Programs

**February 15**  
**2015 Summer Seminars in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Metaphysics and the Soul in Thomas Aquinas**  
Hosted by the School of Philosophy at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross  
June 19-24, 2015

**February 2**  
**Middle French Paleography Workshop:**  
Columbia University, New York  
June 1-19, 2015

**February 15**  
**2015 Summer Seminars in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition: The Thought of John Henry Newman**  
Merton College, University of Oxford  
July 12 – 17, 2015

**March 1**  
**Mellon Summer Institute in French Paleography**  
Newberry Center for Renaissance Studies, Chicago, IL  
June 22 – July 16, 2015

**Mellon Summer Institute in Spanish Paleography**  
The Huntington Library, San Marino, CA  
June 22 – July 10, 2015

**2015 Summer Seminars in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Catholic Social Thought: A Critical Investigation**  
University of California, Berkeley  
August 2-7, 2015

**March 2**  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for College and University Teachers:  
**The Irish Sea Cultural Province: Crossroads of Medieval Literature and Languages**  
Belfast, Northern Ireland; Douglas, Isle of Man; Glasgow, Scotland  
June 8 – July 12, 2015

**The Materiality of Medieval Manuscripts: Interpretation Through Production**  
Iowa City, IA  
June 15 – July 10, 2015
May 10
CARA Summer Scholarships for Medieval Languages or Manuscript Studies
Between four and eight awards will be given yearly, depending upon the number of worthy applicants and the cost of the summer programs. Applications will be judged by the Committee for Professional Development and the Chair of the CARA Committee. The list of eligible summer programs for 2015 can be found at the MAA website, CARA Tuition Scholarships page.

Several other summer programs of interest to medievalists are listed on the NEH website and the MAA blog.

For a forum listing many Latin and Greek summer courses in North America and abroad, visit: www.summer-classics.com

(Some) Upcoming Deadlines for CFPs

January 25
11th Oxford Medieval Graduate Conference Colour
St. Edmund Hall, Oxford
April 17-18, 2015

January 30
International Medieval Society, Paris (IMS-Paris)
12th Annual Symposium: Villes/Cities
Paris, France
June 25-27, 2015

January 31
Musiconis Conference
The Visual Representation of Speech, Sound, and Noise from Antiquity to the Renaissance
Chartres, France
June 11-13, 2015
February 1
**Annual Colloquium of the SIEPM**
*Tolerance and Concepts of Otherness in Medieval Philosophy*
Maynooth University, Ireland
September 9-12, 2015

**The Ninth International Conference of the Taiwan Association of Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies**
*Madness: Sacred and Profane*
National Taiwan University
October 23-24, 2015

February 15
**John Hopkin’s Italian Graduate Conference**
*The Many Forms of the Decameron: Interpretations, Translations, and Adaptations*
John Hopkins University
April 24-26, 2015

February 28
**Cartularies in Medieval Europe: Texts and Contexts**
Lisbon, Torre do Tombo - Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa
June 11-12, 2015

March 1
**42nd Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies**
Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri
October 16-17, 2015

International Association for Anselm Studies and the Institute for Liberal Arts, Boston College
*Reading Anselm: Context and Criticism*
Boston College
July 27-30, 2015

May 1
**91st Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America**
Boston
February 25-27, 2015

Rocky Mountain Medieval & Renaissance Association 2015 Conference
*The Functions and Dysfunctions of the Medieval and Renaissance Family*
Southern Utah University
August 3-5, 2015

Additionally, a thorough list of conferences and CFPs can be found on the Medieval Academy of America’s [conference calendar](http://example.com).

(Some) Upcoming Conferences

January 22-24
**The Newberry’s Center for Renaissance Studies Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference**
The Newberry Library, Chicago

January 23-25
**Medieval Association of the Midwest 30th Annual Conference**
Saint Louis University, Madrid Campus, Spain

February 4-6
**International Arthurian Society**
*Rewriting Arthurian Matter: Homage to Harvey L. Sharrer*
University of Granada
February 5-7
Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies: the 21st Annual ACMRS Conference
Trades, Talents, Guilds, and Specialists: Getting Things Done in the Middle Ages and Renaissance
Scottsdale, Arizona

February 19-21
Vagantes Medieval Graduate Student Conference
University of Florida

February 20-21
Illinois Medieval Association
32nd Annual Conference: Medieval Narratives
Saint Louis University

UC Berkeley Program in Medieval Studies
Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference
Medieval Ethics and Aesthetics: The Good and the Beautiful?
University of California, Berkeley

February 27-28
The 31st Annual Graduate Symposium on the History of Art and Architecture
Creative Conflict
Boston University

February 28
Mid-America Medieval Association 2015 Annual Conference
Collectivity & Exchange
University of Missouri-Kansas City

February 28 – March 1
21st Annual Postgraduate Medieval Studies Conference, University of Bristol
Rule and Recreation
University of Bristol, UK

March 4-7
Munich Symposium
Court Residences as Places of Exchange in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe, 1400–1700
Munich (Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften)

March 6-8
Journeys through the Middle Ages and Renaissance Worlds
University of Victoria

March 7
35th Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University
Reading and Writing in City, Court, and Cloister: Conference in Honor of Mary C. Erler
Fordham University

March 12-14
90th Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America
University of Notre Dame

March 20-23
Othello’s Island: the Third Annual Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Art, Literature, and Cultural History
Nicosia, Cyprus

March 20-21
Graduate Student Conference, The National Museum of Women in the Arts and the Catholic University of America
Picturing Mary: Woman, Mother, Idea
The Catholic University of America

March 21-22
North of England Saints, 600-1500
University of Oxford, UK

March 26-29
11th Biennial Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity Conference
Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity XI: The Transformation of Poverty, Philanthropy, and Healthcare in Late Antiquity
University of Iowa

March 28
32nd Annual New England Medieval Studies Consortium Graduate Student Conference
Travel and Translation in the Middle Ages
Yale University
April 10-11
41st Annual Sewanee Medieval Colloquium
Peace and War
The University of the South

New Perspectives on Gerald of Wales: Texts and Contexts
Harvard University

Medieval Association of the Pacific
Reform and Resistance
University of Nevada-Reno

April 17-18
Princeton University Department of Art & Archaeology Conference
A New Look: Sinai and Its Icons in Light of the Digitization of the Weitzmann Archive
Princeton University

April 24-26
The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH) and the Faculty of History, University of Oxford
Identity, Ethnicity and Nationhood before Modernity: Old Debates and New Perspectives
University of Oxford, UK

John Hopkin’s Italian Graduate Conference
The Many Forms of the Decameron: Interpretations, Translations, and Adaptations
John Hopkins University

Additionally, a thorough list of conferences can be found on the Medieval Academy of America’s conference calendar.