

October 2000

Scrinium



## SCRINIUM

October 2000

NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MEDIEVALISTS/  
NOUVELLES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES MÉDIÉVISTES

Octobre 2000

### DE LA PART DE LA RÉDACTION

Vous trouverez ci-inclus une lettre de notre président, Andrew Taylor, et des nouvelles de nos membres. On vous invite également à proposer des candidats pour deux prix: le prix Margaret Wade Labarge, pour le meilleur livre de l'année, et le prix Leonard E. Boyle, pour la meilleure thèse de doctorat.

### A WORD FROM THE EDITORS

In this copy of the newsletter, you will find a letter from our President, Andrew Taylor, and news about some of our members, as well as calls for nominations for the Margaret Wade Labarge Prize for the best book of the year and the Leonard E. Boyle Prize for the best dissertation of the year.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Le prochain colloque de la Société  
Canadienne des Médiévistes à  
l'Université Laval, 24-26 mai, 2001.**

**The Canadian Society of Medievalists  
will meet at Laval University, 24-26  
May, 2001.**

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

For Canadian medievalists these are exciting, sometimes alarming, times. The last few months have seen extensive public discussion over the interpretation of Canadian history and a renewed call for university education in the humanities. The debate between social and political historians has become the subject of newspaper editorials. Last April, the CEOs from various high tech companies banded together to defend the traditional liberal arts education. The organizers of the roundtable held recently in Ottawa to discuss the possible establishment of a National Academy for Science wanted humanists to be represented (and Roy Laird attended on behalf of our society). But this interest and support has yet to make itself felt in many of our universities, where the research agenda continues to favour big science. Nor have we made much impression on the general public, many of whom still look on the Middle Ages as a period of darkness before the great light bulb of the Renaissance was switched on. Our struggle is just beginning.

Our society exists to bring together medievalists from across the country, to keep each other informed of what we are doing, and to represent our interests and our perspectives to government, government agencies, and the general public. To do this, the executive needs your continued support and engagement. Send us your suggestions. Come to Laval in May. Nominate books for the Polly and dissertations for the Leonard E. Boyle prize. Let Carol Harvey and myself know of your activities so we can report them in *Scrinium* and on the website.

I hope to hear from you.

Andrew Taylor  
President

## MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

C'est une période mouvementée et parfois troublante que nous traversons actuellement, nous autres médiévistes du Canada. Ces derniers mois, de grands débats publics se sont fait entendre sur l'interprétation de l'histoire canadienne ainsi qu'une demande renouvelée en faveur de l'enseignement des arts à l'université. La discussion entre historiens politiques et historiens sociaux a même retenu l'attention des éditorialistes. En avril dernier, les PDG de plusieurs grandes compagnies technologiques se sont regroupés pour défendre l'enseignement traditionnel des humanités. Les organisateurs de la table ronde qui a eu lieu récemment à Ottawa pour discuter de la formation éventuelle d'une Académie des sciences voulaient que les humanistes soient représentés (Roy Laird y a assisté de la part de notre Société). Mais cet intérêt et cet appui ne se font pas encore sentir dans nos établissements universitaires, qui continuent de favoriser les recherches en sciences. Nous n'avons pas non plus influencé le grand public, qui persiste à croire que le Moyen Âge était une période plongée dans les ténèbres avant les lumières de la Renaissance. La lutte continue.

Notre Société sert comme point de rencontre pour les médiévistes du Canada entier; elle existe pour nous tenir au courant des activités de nos membres, pour défendre nos intérêts et représenter nos opinions auprès du gouvernement et ses agences ainsi qu'auprès du grand public. Pour réaliser ce mandat, notre conseil d'administration a besoin de votre appui et de votre engagement continu. Envoyez-nous vos suggestions. Venez à l'Université Laval au mois de mai. Nommez des livres pour le prix Labarge et des dissertations pour le prix Boyle. Envoyez un mot au sujet de vos activités à Carol Harvey ou à moi-même: nous nous ferons un plaisir de les annoncer dans *Scrinium* ou sur notre site web.

En attendant de vos nouvelles,

Andrew Taylor,  
Président

**LE PRIX  
MARGARET WADE LABARGE  
PRIZE**

Présenté chaque année par la Société Canadienne des Médiévistes

Presented Annually by the Canadian Society of Medievalists

**Eligibility:** Any book in the field of medieval studies (including monographs, editions, translations, and other categories as determined by the Prize Committee), authored or co-authored, translated or co-translated, edited or co-edited, etc. (the test being at least 50% participation) by a Canadian or someone resident in Canada.

**Conditions:** Tout livre dans le domaine des études du moyen âge (y compris monographes, éditions, traductions, et autres catégories selon la décision des juges), est éligible, dont au moins la moitié des auteurs, rédacteurs, ou traducteurs soient canadiens ou résidents permanents.

Three copies of the nominated work must be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Society of Medievalists by 1 February for consideration in the competition. Only books bearing a publication date of 1999 or 2000 will be considered in the Spring adjudication by the Prize Committee.

Trois exemplaires de l'oeuvre en question doivent parvenir à la Secrétaire-trésorière avant le 2 février, date limite pour la compétition de ce printemps. Seuls des livres portant la date de publication des années 1999 ou 2000 pourront être considérés.

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**No Labarge prize was awarded in 2000.  
Le prix Labarge n'a pas été décerné  
en 2000.**

**LE PRIX LEONARD E. BOYLE  
POUR LA MEILLEURE THÈSE DU DOCTORAT  
DANS LES ÉTUDES DU MOYEN ÂGE  
THE LEONARD E. BOYLE PRIZE  
FOR THE BEST DOCTORAL  
THESIS IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES**

**Conditions:** Toute thèse de doctorat dans le domaine des études du moyen âge qui a été rédigée par un Canadien ou Canadienne qui détenait la citoyenneté ou la résidence permanente lors de l'achèvement du travail est éligible. On ne peut soumettre la thèse pour le prix qu'à condition de l'avoir soutenue avec succès il y a moins d'un an. Quatre exemplaires de la thèse en forme électronique (de préférence sur disquette), une lettre du directeur de la thèse et le rapport de l'examineur externe, doivent être envoyés à la Secrétaire-trésorière par le 15 décembre.

**Eligibility:** Any doctoral dissertation in the field of medieval studies produced by a Canadian or someone resident in Canada (at the time of its completion). The dissertation must be submitted within one year of a successful defence. Four copies of the thesis in electronic form (preferably on diskette), a letter or report from the supervisor and the external report, should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society by 15 December for consideration in the competition.

Écrivez à/write to: **Mary-Ann Stouck,  
Secretary-Treasurer, Canadian Society of  
Medievalists, English Department, Simon  
Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6.**

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**See page 4 for 2000 Boyle Prize Winner.  
Voir page 4 pour le gagnant du Prix Boyle  
2000.**

**Brian Catlos**  
is the first winner of the  
**Leonard E. Boyle Dissertation Prize,**  
presented by the Canadian Society of Medievalists for the  
best doctoral dissertation in the field of Medieval Studies.  
Following is the citation presented with the Prize.


Brian Catlos's *The Victors and the Vanquished: Christians and Muslims of the Ebro Valley, Eleventh to Thirteenth Centuries* (University of Toronto, Centre for Medieval Studies, 1999) is a rich and detailed study of Andalusian society in the Ebro Valley undergoing transition from Muslim to Christian dominance. He examines in great depth the adjustments that were being made in Muslim society as it adjusted its institutions, taxation, and law to accommodate changed and changing circumstances. He challenges established views on the nature of this transformation as stark and unilateral and instead uncovers richer patterns of interpenetration and survival. Dr. Catlos presents Islamic society in the Ebro Valley as one that was more flexible and enduring than normally supposed. The final chapter of the dissertation takes us down to individual case histories that are at once rich and nuanced and which reinforce the earlier chapters of the dissertation.


The great strength of the thesis is its expert exploration of archival resources in a host of medieval languages – Latin, Spanish, and Arabic – and its firm control and awareness of all the relevant and best work on its topic. As one of the adjudicators wrote, “The thesis boasts all the qualities of a doctoral dissertation of the highest quality: a rigorous use of archival materials (many previously unexplored), a firm command of the historical and historiographical context in which to fit his study, and an elegant writing style.”


The committee is convinced that Brian Catlos's *The Victors and the Vanquished* is eminently worthy to receive the very first Leonard E. Boyle Dissertation Prize.




## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS NOUVELLES DE NOS MEMBRES


 **Frank T. Coulson & Bruno Roy** have just published *Incipitarium Ovidianum. A Finding Guide for Texts Related to the Study of Ovid in the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (Publications of the Journal of Medieval Latin, 3). Turnhout: Brepols, 2000. 208p. Ce livre (qui répertorie 864 manuscrits et éditions anciennes) est un catalogue des commentaires d'Ovide au Moyen Âge et à la Renaissance (de 400 à 1600). Il rassemble selon l'ordre alphabétique de leurs premiers mots (*incipits*) les textes des maîtres et des intellectuels qui cherchaient à comprendre et à interpréter le corpus ovidien.

 **Carol Harvey** is this year's recipient of the University of Winnipeg's Erica and Arnold Rogers Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship, presented at the Fall 2000 Convocation. Her recent publications on French literature are "Time and Space in *La Manekine*" in *Essays on the Literary and Legal Writings of Philippe de Remi and Philippe de Beaumanoir*, Sarah-Grace Heller & Michelle Reichert, eds. Lewiston, NY: Mellen Press, 2000 and "*La Manekine* et ses avatars: La fille du Roy de Hongrie" in *Le moyen français*. Montreal: Ceres, 2000.


 **Derrick Higginbotham**, who completed his M.A. at Simon Fraser University under the supervision of Sheila Delany in 1999, has won a large scholarship from Columbia University to continue his medieval studies in Columbia's Ph.D. programme. Derrick works on late medieval drama.

 **R. Andrew McDonald** (Department of History, University College of Cape Breton), is pleased to announce the publication, in April, of a volume of essays entitled *Alba: Celtic Scotland in the Medieval Era*. East Linton, Scotland: Tuckwell Press ([www.tuckwellpress.co.uk](http://www.tuckwellpress.co.uk)). The volume is co-edited with Professor Edward J. Cowan of Glasgow University.


Andrew's current projects include editing a volume of essays on medieval Scottish history, literature and music. Work continues on a monograph on the Canmore Dynasty and the emergence of Scotland (1055-1135).

 **John H. Munro** has been awarded a Connaught Research Fellowship in the Social Sciences (University of Toronto) for the academic year 2000-2001 for his project "Monetary Policies, Wage Policies and Urban Industrial Conflicts in the later-medieval and early-modern Low Countries, 1250-1600: The Reactions of Organized Labour to Inflationary and Deflationary Price Movements".


His recent articles include: "The Low Countries Export Trade in Textiles with the Mediterranean Basin, 1200-1600: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Comparative Advantages in Overland and Maritime Trade Routes" in the *International Journal of Maritime History*, 11:2 (December 1999), pp. 1-30; "English 'Backwardness' and Financial Innovations in Commerce with the Low Countries, 14th-16th Centuries" in *Internationale Handel in de Nederlanden (14de-16de eeuw): Kooplieden, Organisatie en Infrastructuur / International trade in the Low Countries (14th-16th Centuries): Merchants, Organisation and Infrastructure*, ed. Peter Stabel, Colloque Universiteit Gent-Universiteit Antwerpen, IUAP - Stedelijke Samenlevingen in de Laatmiddeleeuwse Nederlanden (Ghent 2000), pp. 105-67. He also presented a paper on "The 'New Institutional Economics' and the Changing Fortunes of Fairs in Medieval and Early Modern Europe: Transaction Costs, Warfare and Textiles" at the annual meeting of the Instituto Internazionale de Stori Economica 'Francesco Datini' in Prato, Italy.

 **Maria Bendinelli Predelli** (McGill University) has recently published *Cantari e distorni*. Rome: Euroma, 1999. The book contains a collection of essays about the tradition of Italian "cantari" of the 14th & 15th centuries and related questions.


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 **David Williams** of Carleton University has a number of recent and forthcoming publications, including: "L'Alexandre textuel: le héros inachevé et le texte non-clos", in *Alexandre, figure de l'inachèvement* (Mélanges de l'École de Rome, 2, 1999); "Sing me frumsceaft: le rôle de l'ange dans l'inspiration poétique" (Sorbonne, Paris, 2000). Together with Robert Myles, David has also co-edited *Chaucer and Language: Essays in Honour of Douglas Wurtele*, to be published by McGill-Queen's University Press in February 2001. The festschrift includes his own tribute to Douglas Wurtele, "Low how I vanysche: the Pardoner's War on Signs".


### ***Nouvelles de la Société des études médiévales du Québec***

 **Élisabeth Schulze-Busacker**, présidente de la Société des études médiévales du Québec et professeure au Département de linguistique et traduction de l'Université de Montréal, a été reçue à la Société royale de Canada. Madame Schulze-Busacker prononcera son allocution en décembre 2000.


***La Société canadienne des médiévistes tient à exprimer ses félicitations à Madame Schulze-Busacker pour cette distinction bien méritée.***

 **Marc Potter** vient de publier son mémoire de maîtrise (Université du Québec à Montréal, Département d'histoire, 1998). *Le gouvernement d'un village en Provence: Tourves, 1379-1397* a été publié dans le Cahier de l'Association d'Histoire Populaire Tourvaine (septembre 2000), 134 pages.

### **CONFERENCES / CONFÉRENCES**

 **The 17th Barnard College Medieval and Renaissance Conference; Saturday, December 2, 2000; "Public Performance / Public Ritual"**. A conference exploring the meaning and impact of public performance, ritual, and display from the Middle Ages to the Early Modern period. Possible sessions include: theatre, liturgy, religious and secular processions, entries, sermons, university disputations, public trials, executions, dance, music, and the oral presentation of literature.

Laurie Postlewaite, Barnard College, Department of French, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027.

 **"Shell Games: Scams, Frauds and Deceits (1300-1650)"; 28-29 April, 2001 at Victoria University in the University of Toronto.** This multi-disciplinary conference will explore the practice of deception in late medieval and early modern cultures and ask how those who study the past can use such schemes as a vehicle to advance our understanding of the intellectual, economic, social and political climate of the period.

Contact Richard Raiswell and Mark Crane, c/o Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies at e-mail: [crs\\_toronto@hotmail.com](mailto:crs_toronto@hotmail.com)



## JOB / POSTES

*Readers should also consult the job and fellowship listings posted by the*

*Medieval Academy under the section*

*"Calendar of Events."*

<http://www.medievalacademy.org/>

✠ The Department of English of the University of Ottawa announces the opening of a full-time, tenure track position in Medieval Literature, at the Assistant Professor level, starting July 1st 2001. Qualifications will include a completed Ph.D. and demonstrated strength in teaching and publication. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience, and in accordance with the University's Collective Agreement. Equity is a University policy. The University strongly encourages applications from women. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Send c.v., transcripts, one writing sample, and have three letters of reference forwarded before **November 30th, 2000** to Keith Wilson, Chair, Department of English, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1N 6N5.

✠ The Department of English Literature at Carleton University invites applications for a tenure track position at the assistant professor level, effective July 1, 2001. We are seeking candidates with expertise in any of the following areas; Medieval, 17th-century, and Victorian. Departmental assignments will include teaching core courses at the undergraduate level and both teaching and supervising in the M.A. program. Department members with a demonstrated interest in Cultural Theory may also participate in a new inter-disciplinary doctoral program.

Applicants will have completed the Ph.D. Teaching experience and a strong record of research and publication are desirable. **Applications received after December 1st may not be considered.** Completed applications should include a letter of application, a c.v., academic transcripts, three letters from referees,

and samples of writing or published work. Please arrange to have these materials forwarded to: Larry McDonald, Chair, Department of English, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5B6. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Carleton University is committed to equality of employment for women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. Persons from these groups are encouraged to apply.

✠ University of Colorado at Boulder, Assistant Professor, Medieval Europe. We seek applications for a tenure-track assistant professor of medieval European history. Demonstrated commitment to teaching, research, and publication required. Appointment begins 18 August 2001, by which time applicants are expected to have completed their Ph.D. programs. Please send letter of application, including a statement of teaching and research interests, c.v., three letters of reference, publications of fewer than 50 pages, and sample course outlines by **30 November 2000** to Thomas Zeiler, Chair, Dept. of History, University of Colorado, Campus Box 234, Boulder, CO 80309-0234. The University of Colorado at Boulder is committed to diversity and equality in education and employment

✠ University of Evansville, Indiana. Art History, Assistant Professor, tenure track. Start date, August 2001; Ph.D. required by the time of appointment. Generalist with speciality within Medieval to 19th century, strong commitment to undergraduate teaching and advising; college teaching experience preferred. Teaching assignment seven courses per year: both introductory surveys, upper-level classes in Medieval, 20th century, and freshman humanities courses. Ability to teach a non-western area and/or contribute to a Women's Studies program a positive. On-going research, service required. Send letter of application, vita, short statement of teaching philosophy, teaching evaluations if

*continued....*

**JOBS / POSTES** *continued....*

available, and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Patrick M. Thomas, Chair, Department of Archaeology/Art History, University of Evansville, Evansville, Indiana, 47722.

**Saint Francis College, Loretto, PA.**

Tenure-track appointment in Philosophy. Saint Francis College seeks candidates for a tenure-track faculty appointment in philosophy at the assistant professor rank. Primary teaching responsibilities include Discovering Philosophy, Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Human Nature, Logic, and Business Ethics; ability to teach Health Care Ethics a plus.

Qualifications include the Ph.D. degree; demonstrated commitment to teaching excellence and student advising; willingness to participate in the College's General Education Program, including teaching a freshman colloquium on a regular basis. Scholarship and service involvement will be expected, as will involvement with the College's Ethics Institute. Send letter of application, c.v., a statement of teaching philosophy, and names/addresses/phone numbers of three references to: Philosophy Search Committee, c/o Director of Human Resources, P.O. Box 600, Saint Francis College, Loretto, PA 15940.



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