The annual newsletter is designed to inform the Medieval and Renaissance Studies faculty and students about the activities of the Center and our colleagues. Any comments or suggestions about the newsletter are very welcome.

Executive Committee
David Aers, who has led the Center in exemplary fashion for three years, has been appointed to another three-year term as Director. Helen Solterer continues as Director of Graduate Studies for fall 1999, and we thank her for her good service over the past couple years. Leigh DeNeef will take over as DGS in spring 2000. We thank Ron Witt for his able service as Director of Undergraduate Studies the past couple years. Tom Robisheaux is the new Director of Undergraduate Studies. The rest of the Executive Committee includes Sarah Beckwith, Michael Cornett, Kalman Bland, Cynthia Herrup, Ann Marie Rasmussen, Catherine Peyroux, Ron Witt, David Steinmetz, and Annabel Wharton.

Updated email lists and web site
The faculty, graduate, and undergraduate e-mail lists and the faculty profiles of the website have been thoroughly updated. If any mistakes or oversights are spotted, please forward these to Michael Cornett. Announcements of conferences, seminars, colloquia, lectures, performances, and other events at Duke and the University of North Carolina, as well as at other nearby institutions, are sent out to the e-mail lists. Normally, announcements are made once, and afterward they are added to the Center’s website calendar: www.duke.edu/~jmems/cmrs. Bookmark this useful site. Please consult the website calendar before scheduling events to avoid potential scheduling conflicts. All announcements should be sent to
Quilligan to chair English Dept

Maureen Quilligan will join the English Dept. as its new department head this January. Quilligan, an early modernist, comes from the University of Pennsylvania, where she has been the Catherine Bryson Professor of English. Her field of interest is the Renaissance, with special attention to women and literature. She has published three books: The Language of Allegory: Defining the Genre (1979), Milton's Spenser: The Politics of Reading (1983), and The Allegory of Female Authority: Christine de Pizan's Cité des Dames (1991). She has also co-edited two volumes of essays, Rewriting the Renaissance: The Discourses of Sexual Difference in Early Modern Europe (1986), and Subject and Object in Renaissance Culture (1996). She is currently working on female political authority in the sixteenth century, incest and female agency, and slavery in the Renaissance epic.

Sponsored events and activities

The Center sponsored the following lectures and activities in the 1998-99 year:

Graduate student roundtable discussion, “Approaches to Teaching the Middle Ages and the Renaissance” (1998-99), organized by Dorsey Armstrong;
Jacqueline Cerquiglini-Toulet, Université de Paris-Sorbonne, workshop discussion of The Color of Melancholy: The Uses of Books in the Fourteenth Century, and lecture, “L’esthétique de testament dans la littérature de la fin du Moyen Age” (Oct. 1998), organized by Helen Solterer;

Fall Reception for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (Oct. 1998), organized by Michael Cornett;

Undergraduate luncheon for Medieval and Renaissance majors (Oct. 1998), organized by Michael Cornett;

Sequentia, performance of Hildegard of Bingen’s Ordo virtutum in Duke Chapel (Nov. 1998), organized by Kathy Silbiger, Institute of the Arts;

Undergraduate luncheon for Medieval and Renaissance majors (Feb. 1999), organized by Michael Cornett;

“Music by Josquin Desprez: A Symposium and Two Concerts” (Feb. 1999), organized by Tom Brothers;

Daniel Javitch, New York University, lecture, “Ariosto and the Poetics of Variatio,” and visit to Aspects 115 course (Mar. 1999), organized by Valeria Finucci;

German Dept. forum, “Does the Past Have a Future? Premodern German Studies and Cultural Studies” (Apr. 1999), organized by Ann Marie Rasmussen;

Retirement Luncheon in honor of Francis Newton with CMRS Executive Committee (Apr. 1999), organized by Michael Cornett; Medieval and Renaissance graduate student Dissertation Reading Group and luncheons (Apr. 1999), organized by Ron Witt;

Cynthia Herrup, meeting of the Folger Institute Central Executive Committee (May 1999);

Graduation buffet luncheon for Medieval and Renaissance students (May 1999), organized by Michael Cornett.

Sacrifice lecture series

The major sponsored event of the Center for the 1999-2000 year is the lecture series “Sacrifice: Medieval and Early Modern,” organized by David Aers and Sarah Beckwith with Michael Cornett. Four guest speakers have been invited to give lectures, two in the fall and two in the spring: Allen Frantzen (Loyola University, Chicago), Lee Patterson (Yale University), Michael Schoenfeldt (University of Michigan), and William Cavanaugh (University of St. Thomas). The lectures will explore sacrifice within the context of medieval cultures (Christian, pre-Christian, Judaic, Islamic, and/or their interactions), and as part of an
exploration of the way in which medieval culture and its transformations have been perceived. Examples of the kinds of questions to be considered include the following: questions of soteriology and atonement, the role of sacrifice in ritual and theater (in which an actor stands in for another), its role in formations of subjectivity and in the self-understanding of social groups, in exegesis, in the poetics of sacrifice in literary texts, and in the relation of modernity to premodernity. Are there antisacrificial understandings of atonement in the Middle Ages? What are the social and psychic consequences for political and cultural forms of the Reformed rejection of the Mass as a sacrifice? The four invited lectures will be revised for publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* (fall 2001), to be combined with other articles solicited from an open call for submissions.

### Undergraduate program

Last year’s revision of the undergraduate curriculum has given the program much more visibility within the University. Beginning with the fall 1999 term, all Medieval and Renaissance courses now appear in ACES under our own section (MED), making it possible for our students to see in one location what can be taken toward their major or minor. Other students looking for electives will also be able to take notice of Medieval and Renaissance course offerings. Thirty courses are offered this fall, and their home departments typically have given us three to five spaces in them. In this first semester under the new arrangement, fifty-four undergraduates have registered for fifteen courses as Medieval and Renaissance courses.

In fall 1998, a Medieval and Renaissance strand, “Medieval Spaces: Cities, Bodies, Monuments, and Spirits,” was offered in the FOCUS Program. Three courses were taught in the strand: “Theatre, Ritual, and Social Space in Late Medieval England” (Sarah Beckwith), “The Lived Spaces of Medieval Art: Forms and Their Cultural Context” (Ben Fullalove), and “Medieval Cities: Walls, Wealth,
and Welfare” (Monica Green). No strand has been scheduled for fall 1999, but Kalman Bland is organizing one for fall 2000. This program has been extremely successful in attracting students to Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and the Center plans to remain involved with FOCUS.

In May the Center sponsored an elegant Commencement buffet luncheon for majors and minors and their families. Together with Ron Witt, Michael Cornett, Cynthia Herrup, Norman Keul, and Ann Marie Rasmussen, we hosted around forty people. Graduating majors (3) included Phuong Doan, Christopher Scott, and Heather Wasserstrom. Graduating minors (5) included Lindsay Cohn, Joann Kleinneiur, John Rohrs, Jonathan Spanier, and Alexandra Vidas.

This year’s undergraduates in the program (11, before this year’s new declarations of majors) include 7 majors: Rabia Geha, Erin Gilson, Michelle Kalas, John Lasalle, Joo Young Lee, Eva Sayre, and Catherine Signorile; and 4 minors: Adam Decker, David Evans, Justin Fishkin, and Erin McNamara. Maggie Thompson and Michelle Kalas gave outstanding help last year as assistants at the Center. This year Michelle Kalas, Erin Gilson, and Eva Sayre are assistants.

Graduate program
The following students have completed their Ph.D. in 1998-99 and/or have begun new teaching positions: Dorsey Armstrong (English), Asst. Prof., Centenary College; Anthony Cashman (History), Instructor, Valparaiso University; Danny DeCillis (Romance Studies), currently caring full-time for his new baby son; Fernando Gomez (Romance Studies), Asst. Prof., Stanford University; Hugh Halman (Religion, ABD), Visiting Lecturer, Miami University of Ohio; Heather Hirschfeld (English), Visiting Asst. Prof., Case Western Reserve University; Charlotte Houghton (Art History), Asst. Prof., Pennsylvania State University; Akira Ishii (Music), Asst. Prof., Keio University in Japan; John Lamoreaux (Religion), Asst. Prof., Southern Methodist University; Emma Lipton (English), Asst. Prof., San Francisco State University; Katie Little (English), Asst. Prof., Vassar College; Mary Jane Morrow (History), Lecturer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Janet Pollack (Music, ABD), Asst. Prof., University of Puget Sound; Omid Safi (Religion, ABD), Asst. Prof., Colgate University.

There are 54 current graduate students working in Medieval and Renaissance Studies in nine departments at Duke.

The following students have a 1999-2000 Medieval and Renaissance Studies Fellowship: Aric Anderson
(Philosophy), Paul Gaziano (History), Paul Graeve (English), and Andrew Sparling (History). Beth Kreitzer (Religion) has been awarded the first Medieval and Renaissance Studies Dissertation Fellowship.

The following students have won other nondepartmental scholarships and fellowships for the 1999-2000 year: James Bloom (Art History), Fulbright Fellowship; Charles Del Dotto (English), Duke Endowment Fellowship; Giuseppe Gerbino (Music), American Musicological Society AMS 50 Fellowship; Dana Goldblatt (English), James B. Duke Scholarship; Brooke Heidenreich Findley (Romance Studies), Graduate School International Fellowship; Scott Kugle (Religion), Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship; Ben Saunders (English), Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship; Sumi Song (German Studies), Duke-Berlin Exchange Fellowship; Olga Trokhimenko (German Studies), James B. Duke Scholarship.

Incoming graduate students planning to work in Medieval and Renaissance Studies include the following: Dan Breen (English), Charles Del Dotto (English), Dana Goldblatt (English), Cara Hersh (English), Deborah Marcuse (Religion), Liz Rothenberg (History), William Ryan (History), Jeremy Schott (Religion), Olga Trokhimenko (German Studies).

**Faculty and staff news**


**Sarah Beckwith**, English. Prof. Beckwith published “Absent Presences: Resurrection Theatre in Medieval York,” in a festschrift for Derek Pearsall. She continues as co-editor of JMEMS, and was special-issue editor of “The Cultural Work of Medieval Theater” (JMEMS 29, winter 1999), and co-editor of “Body, Matter, Spirit” (JMEMS 28, fall 1998). Prof. Beckwith is teaching a new course this fall entitled “Vagrant Writings.”

**Elizabeth Clark**, Religion. Prof. Clark published Reading


**Monica Green**, History. Prof. Green was invited to deliver the Kate Campbell Hurd-Mead Memorial Lecture at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia in April 1999. She also joined the editorial board of the journal Social History of Medicine. She published “In Search of an ‘Authentic’ Women’s Medicine: The Strange Fates of Trota of Salerno and Hildegard of Bingen,” Dynamis: Acta Hispamica ad medicinae scientiarumque historiam illustrandam 19 (1999): 25-54.

**Margaret Greer**, Romance Studies. Prof. Greer was appointed the Acting Chair of the Department of Romance Studies for the academic year 1999-2000. She was also given a grant in 1999 by the Program for Cultural Cooperation between Spain’s Ministry of Culture and U.S. Universities. Publications: “Who’s Telling This Story Anyhow? Framing Tales, Boccaccio to Zayas,” in Barbara Simerka and Christopher B. Weimer, eds., *Echoes and Inscriptions: Comparative Approaches to Early Modern Hispanic Literature* (Bucknell University Press, 1999), and also in vol. 1, no. 1 of the on-line journal Laberinto (www.utsa.ed/laberinto/); “La consolidación de la comunidad: El Nuevo Historicismo y los autos de Calderón,” in Antonio Penedo and Gonzalo Pontón, eds., *El Nuevo Historicismo* (Arco/Libros, 1998), 339-70; “Imágenes de la caza,

**Cynthia Herrup,** History. Prof. Herrup was named Visiting Professor of History by Birkbeck College, University of London, and was named Associate Chair of the Department of History at Duke. She published “Finding the Bodies,” *GLQ* 5.3 (1999). Herrup will be teaching two new courses this year, in the fall “Anglo-American Legal Traditions, 1600-1900” (team taught with Ed Balleisen), and in the spring “Murder on the Mind: Law and Culture.”


**Catherine Peyroux,** History. Prof. Peyroux was named an Andrew W. Mellon Assistant Professor for the academic year 1998-99, and was given a Duke ASRC grant to travel to the Index of Christian Art to research images of saints embracing lepers. Publications: “Lands of Women: Writing the History of Women in Early Medieval Ireland and Europe,” *Early Medieval Europe* 7 (1998): 217-27 (review essay). This fall, she will be teaching two new courses, “Poverty and Sanctity in Medieval Society” and “Special Topics in Early Medieval History: Christianization.”

**Joseph Porter,** English. Prof. Porter has been appointed DGS of the English Department for the 1999-2000 academic year. Beginning in June 1999, for two years he will serve as a mentor for Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellow Joanne Gonzales, who will work with Porter on his edition of the *New Variorum Othello.* He is also mentoring
Teaching Apprentice David Mayer in English 143, Shakespeare before 1600. His biography has been selected for inclusion in *Who’s Who in America*, beginning with the 2000 edition.

**Tom Robisheaux**, History. Prof. Robisheaux was appointed DUS for Medieval and Rennaissance Studies for the 1999-2000 academic year. Publications: “Zur Rezeption Benedict Carpzov im 17ten. Jahrhundert,” in Franz Isnigler and Gunther Franz, eds., *Hexenprozesse und Gerichtspraxis, Trierer Hexenprozesse*, vol. 5 (Trier, 1999); “Forensic Medicine and Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Germany,” in Stuart Clark, ed., *Reading Witchcraft: Texts, Idioms, Vocabulary* (London, 1999). Prof. Robisheaux was also invited to give a lecture, “Magic and Witchcraft,” at the Rhine Research Center in Durham. He, Ann Marie Rasmussen, and other scholars in the Triangle area with an interest in late medieval and early modern German culture have started a group, “Medieval and Early Modern German Studies,” which met three times in 1998-99 at Duke and at the National Humanities Center. Papers were presented, and a symposium was held in the spring on “German Cultural Studies.”


**Hans Van Miegroet**, Art and Art History. Prof. Van Miegroet was a co-recipient (with Neil De Marchi, Craufurd Goodwin, and Annabel Wharton) of a three-year institutional grant for an Art and Markets project, awarded by the Luce Foundation. He co-authored with Neil De Marchi “Ingenuity, Preference, and the Pricing of Pictures: The Smith-Reynolds Connection,” *Journal of Political Economy* 31 (1999). This fall Van Miegroet is co-teaching a new course with De Marchi for advanced art history and economics students entitled “Art and Markets.”

**Faculty on leave**