Indiana University is fortunate to be able to add two new faculty members to its Medieval Studies community: Professor Hildegard Keller and Professor Rega Wood.

Professor Hildegard Keller
Professor Keller is no stranger to Indiana: in the Fall of 2005, she was the Max Kade Distinguished Visiting Professor in Germanic Studies and presented a lecture at the Lilly Library on Thuring von Ringoltingen’s 1456 novel Melusine. Born in St-Gallen, Switzerland, a town that dates to the seventh century and is home to the eighth-century Abbey of St. Gall, Professor Keller is also no stranger to Medieval Studies.

One might say that her latest projects have been exercises in resurrecting the medieval. The Hour of the Hound (Die Stunde des Hundes) (2007), an audio book based on the Exemplar of Henry Suso, a Dominican friar and mystic who was among the most important followers of Meister Eckhart, recreates the dialogues and dramatizations present within Suso’s writing. The audio book features Professor Keller and two actors performing in both modern and Middle High German, as well as musicians singing and playing the Tirolian dulcimer. A performance was even staged (complete with eponymous hound!) in the church at what used to be the Inselkloster, Suso’s own monastery, and today a first-class hotel, which still boasts the same murals that Suso himself would have seen daily.

Performance is an important aspect of Professor Keller’s work and of her teaching. As she says: “Performance is an excellent method of conveying knowledge, and a good way of finding dormant skills in students. It is a productive approach to literature, in the literal sense, bringing something out of us, the moderns who have to deal with these whole texts. Lending the texts your living body, your voice, requires a different quality of involvement that affects further scholarship.”

“Violence, Conflict, & Humor”: Indiana’s 20th Annual Medieval Symposium

On March 28-29, the Medieval Studies Institute will host the 20th Annual Medieval Symposium, with Dr. Warren C. Brown of the California Institute of Technology as keynote speaker. The theme this year is “Violence, Conflict, and Humor,” bringing together three facets of life that are opposed, juxtaposed, and intertwined in any era, and which resonate throughout the medieval period.

13 presenters, representing 4 universities and 9 departments, will read papers covering a wide array of topics from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. To give just a sampling: Margot Behrend, from the Department of Comparative Literature, will be addressing an Old Yiddish adaptation of the German romance Wigalois, which, in its use of humor, demonstrates an interaction between the Jewish author and the wider Christian culture that was “both critical and subversive.” Melis Taner, of the Faculty of Arts and Science, will be addressing an Old Yiddish adaptation of the German romance Wigalois, which, in its use of humor, demonstrates an interaction between the Jewish author and the wider Christian culture that was “both critical and subversive.”

Her other recently completed project is about Jakob Ruf, a sixteenth-century self-made man, a town surgeon, scientist, author, and playwright living in Zurich, about whom hardly anything had been published previously. Completing this project involved “digging a person out of the archives” of ten towns, trying to find records of his life and works (for more information on Jacob Ruf and Professor Keller’s project, see article, page 2).

Having just completed two major projects, Professor Keller does not know what the future holds, but she is happy to be at Indiana. “I was thrilled in 2005, biking through campus and seeing all the institutes and schools, the humanities and sciences, the music and theatre school, the professional schools, all together. It is a microcosm of the world of scholarship and art that very much appeals to me. When I came here I found in a calendar an announcement from President McRobbie: ‘This University belongs to all of us, the artist, the scholar, the scientist, the dreamer’. I feel like I am something of all of them, I feel like matching McRobbie’s boldest promise.”

Professor Rega Wood
Professor Rega Wood, formerly of the Department of Philosophy at Stanford University, will also be joining Indiana’s medieval community.

She visited Bloomington earlier this year, in September, and presented a paper titled, “How Islamic Philosophy Shaped Western Physics,” in which she argued against those who would minimize the Arabic influence on the scholastic tradition. While the scholastics did indeed look directly at (Continued on page 3)
New Faculty (Continued from Page 1)

the Greek texts of Aristotle and not all of their exposure was through the Arabic lens, Wood argues that the Greek would not have been as accessible without the Arabic tradition. As Wood says, “though scholastics did not comment of Arabic translations of Aristotle, without these translations and more importantly without the interpretive tradition that accompanied them, the scholastic tradition would have been much poorer; indeed, it may not have arisen.”

Professor Wood’s evidence for her argument comes in part from the work of Richard Rufus, a 13th century English scholastic whose work she has been engaged with extensively. She is the General Editor of the Richard Rufus Project, which seeks to produce critical editions of all his extant works and hosts an array of online resources for studying Rufus and scholasticism more generally. The Project can be found at: http://rrp.stanford.edu/index.html.

The Richard Rufus Project is not Professor Wood’s only online undertaking. She is also one of the creators of “Bartholomew’s World,” a web resource for teaching medieval scholasticism. The website (http://bartholomew.stanford.edu/toc.html) contains a student sourcebook as well as a teacher’s guide and lessons on three sets of scholastic concerns: divine science, human science, and natural science. In addition to being a resource for scholasticism, it is also a resource for medieval Latin, with Latin exercises and etymology quizzes available for students. The goal of Bartholomew’s World is to reinvigorate the subject at all levels of education, and more specifically to get Latin teachers interested enough in the time period and in palaeography to share it with their students.

Professor Wood has a passion for Medieval Latin, and for teaching it. While she enjoys teaching classes on Medieval Philosophy, and hopes to hold seminars for undergraduates and graduates in Medieval Physics, Metaphysics, and Epistemology, she most enjoys teaching Latin palaeography, because you begin by “holding students hands, and then watch them develop from absolute novices to proficient over the course of a year.”

Director’s Notes

One of the most important activities in which the Medieval Studies Institute is engaged is its annual Medieval Symposium. This event, organized by the Graduate Student Organization of Medieval Studies and partially funded as well by their efforts, represents not only the intellectual core of our dedication to the development of graduate students in our fields, but also a wonderful occasion to renew friendships and make new friends and professional acquaintances. While I will not repeat the information on the Symposium contained in this newsletter, I will make a special plea to faculty, especially the core faculty of MEST, and student alike to be supportive of this year’s Symposium. While we all do our best to make it to those panels and papers that seem most relevant to our own fields, I would ask this year that we all make the additional effort to go to an additional panel or two, if not the entire Symposium! This is our chance to learn as well from our students and colleagues, who conduct research in fields we might not know as well.

-Wayne Storey
Director, Medieval Studies Institute

Jakob Ruf: Leben, Werk und Studien

The five volumes currently being printed by NZZ Libro are the first five works to appear in print by or about Jakob Ruf, a truly remarkable individual. Born in Constance in 1505, he trained as a surgeon in Constance and Lindau before moving to Zurich, where he became a prominent figure in the day-to-day and intellectual life of the city. With no university education, he nonetheless became the town surgeon, serving, in this as in other capacities, in a position that the city usually reserved for the university-trained.

His location between the world of learned academic medicine and the world of commoners was typical of Ruf’s life. In addition to books on medicine (including the first-ever treatise on ophthalmology), astrology, astronomy, and the history of science, he also wrote a book for the instruction of midwives, the first educational handbook for professional women, which was published in 1554 in a German and a Latin version with many woodcuts. In addition to writing in German, he also mastered Latin. Moreover, he was a playwright and director, writing and staging plays on political and biblical topics, including a Zurich’s first production of William Tell and a reenactment, in Zurich’s open-air theatre, of the story of Creation.

After his death in 1558, many of his works remained, but he himself was all-but forgotten. The five volumes edited by Professor Keller seek to remedy this oversight by providing the first biography of Ruf, as well as a collection of interdisciplinary scholarly studies, and the first critical edition of his German and Latin works. Professor Keller, who directed the interdisciplinary team of historians, philologists, theater scholars, and theologians that retrieved Ruf from the mists of history, likened the process to archaeology, “digging a person out of archives.” The volumes and the CDs with recordings of portions of Ruf’s work, will be published in German in May, 2008.
ences at Sabanci University, examines under what circumstances violence is considered “just” in 15th century Ottoman histories, while David Maldonado Rivera, of the Religious Studies Department here at IU, looks at the circumstances under which art was acceptable to the 4th-century theologian Eusebius of Caesarea, placing him on the side of the Iconoclast controversy to which he is traditionally seen to be opposed. Kalani Craig, from the Department of History, looks at the role of divine intervention in Abbot Suger’s biography of Louis VI; the hand of God emerges as a key to maintaining the balance of power in medieval France, on the page and in political life.

In beautiful Beck Chapel on Saturday morning, Brooke Green, vielle player from the Early Music Institute, will be presenting a performance of medieval music along with singers Thea Smith, Angelique Zuluaga, Antonio Santos and Mary Roosma. The program will include the first performance of two contrafacta settings by Brooke Green: a thirteenth-century canso Na Maria, pretz e fina valores by the disputed trobaritz Na Bietris de Roman and a musical setting of De bel pechie n’est pas merveille, a condemnation of ladies’ immoral behavior by the twelfth-century bishop Etienne de Forêtrès. A nun’s complaint, unwilling young brides, conflicts in earthly and spiritual love: these are some of the themes that are featured in thirteenth-century polyphonic motets and late fourteenth-century Ars Subtilior ballades that make up the rest of the program.

The Symposium will culminate in a keynote address by Professor Warren C. Brown, “Is there Humor in Medieval Violence?” We are thrilled to have Professor Brown participating in this event, especially since his work is so apropos to our theme. Professor Brown’s work is particularly exciting because he integrates several tracks of research on conflict in order to paint a more complete picture of the ways in which medieval people solved their conflicts. Brown’s own research focuses on the interpersonal kinship and patronage relationships recorded in Carolingian formula collections, relationships which governed the-scenes conflict resolution and had significant impact on more formal methods of conflict resolution. Brown’s synthesis of that interpersonal network with previously isolated methodologies of conflict resolution—normative research into law codes and royal legislation, narrative research highlighting rituals and violence, and charter research describing mediated negotiations—brings personal agency back into the world of conflict resolution and helps us understand the social and cultural norms of conflict and violence on which more formal legislation was based. His first monograph, Unjust Seizure: Conflict, Interest, and Authority in an Early Medieval Society (Cornell University Press, 2001), tackled the subject of interpersonal relationships and conflict resolution through the relationships in newly-Carolingian Bavaria. He also co-edited a collection of essays on extra-judicial conflict resolution, Conflict in Medieval Europe: Changing Perspectives on Society and Culture (Ashgate Publishing, 2003), with Piotr Gorecki. Brown’s current project expands his theories on conflict resolution from the Carolingian period to the entirety of the Middle Ages.

The Institute is looking forward to an excellent Symposium, and we hope you will join us! For a full schedule of events, including paper titles and more information on the keynote address, please see the Medieval Studies Institute website: http://www.indiana.edu/~medieval/

(Thanks to Kalani Craig, Deborah Deliyannis, and Brooke Green for their help on this article)

“**A Corpse Without a Corpus**”
A Lecture by Elizabeth W. Poe

On Thursday, March 6th, Elizabeth Wilson Poe presented an exciting paper to an audience of 40 students and faculty members. In “A Corpse without a Corpus: The Troubadour Peire de Maensac” Professor Poe presented her research, to date, to locate potential works by a troubadour well-known by fourteenth-century Italian humanists, but to whom scholars are now, for the most part, unwilling to attribute a single poem (thanks in part to complex problems of attribution in extant manuscripts). Professor Poe’s lecture ranged from discussion of Occitan court culture in Auvergne to the popularity of Occitan troubadour lyric in Italy, from textual practices among humanists and their secretaries to the tricks of the trade which allowed troubadours to engage their audiences. Professor Poe identified one song that she thinks may safely be attributed to Peire de Maensac, “Longa sazon ai estat vas Amor.” Not only does this poem immediately follow Peire de Maensac’s vida in multiple manuscripts, but it also bears striking similarities to other pieces composed at the court of Auvergne, where Peire participated in a coterie of court poets and singers. By examining the textual transmission of this song, Poe demonstrated many likely ways in which “Longa sazon” may have been mistakenly ascribed to others.
Faculty & Student News

Professor Judith Anderson's latest book, Reading the Allegorical Intertext: Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, New York: Fordham University Press, 2008, is scheduled to be published in May. “Reading the Allegorical Intertext” focuses on narrative (including drama) from Chaucer through Spenser to Shakespeare and Milton. The intertext encompasses Kristevaian intertextuality and traditional relationships of influence, imitation, allusion, and citation. Its expressions range from deliberate emulation to linguistic free play and enable examination of individual agency and determinism. My intertext is allegorical both because Spenser's Faerie Queene is pivotal to it and because allegory encapsulates (and magnifies) the process of making meaning.

Beatrice Arduini, whose Ph.D. defense will be March 24, 2008, in Italian, has been appointed as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian at Tulane University, in New Orleans, 2008-2009.

Gina Brandolino, who received her doctorate in English this past Fall, has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of English at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana.

Ph.D. student Valerio Cappozzo (French and Italian) found the earliest witness in vernacular Italian of the dreambook “Somniale Danielis” (end of XII century first two quarters of XIV century) in the codex Martelli 12 at the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana in Florence, in the summer of 2007. He is working on its transcription for his dissertation with professor H. Wayne Storey. In this manuscript the Dreambook of Daniel, in both vernacular Italian and Latin versions, frames very important literary texts such as the rhymes of Dante, Guido Cavalcanti and the first known transcription of the entire “Vita Nova” in two different versions. He presented this research at the MLA annual conference in Chicago, December 2007, with a paper entitled: “Dreambooks and Literature: the Somniale Danielis’ manuscript tradition in Medieval Mediterranean Italy.”

Professor Robert Fullk of the English Department, along with his co-editors Robert E. Bjork (Arizona State University) and John D. Niles (University of Wisconsin, Madison), would like to announce the publication of Klaeber’s Beowulf and the Fight at Finnsburg, which was be published by the University of Toronto Press in early March. This is the fourth edition of the standard scholarly edition of Beowulf, by Frederick Klaeber (1863-1954), which was last revised in 1936, though it was re-issued in 1941 and 1950 with supplements. For further information on the book, see the press’s Web site: http://www.uttpublishing.com/pubstore/merchant.html?pid=9023&step=4.

Robert Hackett, who will receive his MA in Italian this spring, will be studying in the Europe-Erasmus program for the next two years, the first year in Bologna and the second in France. Robert has specialized at IU in Old Occitan and early Italian and medieval studies.

Emily Houllik-Ritchey was chosen as the medieval section prize winner for the 2007 Graduate Student Essay contest sponsored by Blackwell Publishing. Her essay, “Troubled Conversions: the Difference Gender Makes in The Sultan of Babylon,” will be published in Blackwell’s on-line journal, Literature Compass, later this year.

Ellen Muehberger, a Religious Studies PhD candidate who will be defending her dissertation on April 16, has accepted a position as part-time Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at DePauw University. She will also be presenting a paper, “Seeing the Light: A Re-Evaluation of Life of Antony 10,” at the annual meeting of the North American Patristics Society in May.

Professor Emanuel Mickel will be giving a paper titled, “Marie de France, quel fond culturel?” at the Sorbonne in Paris in early March 2008.

Grant Leyton Simpson is giving two papers in May: “Document Engineering & Medieval Electronic Editions” at the 43rd International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo, and “Part of Speech Ratios in Old English” at the 14th Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference.

Giovanni Spani, who received a PhD in Italian this past December, has been appointed as Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian at Bowdoin College (Maine) for 2008-2009.


Professor Wayne Storey and Teodolinda Barolini’s Petrarch and the Textual Origins of Interpretation (Brill 2007) appeared in December. December 1, Wayne Storey presented “The Materials of Literary History: anthologies, editions, and other forms of imperfect cultural recollection” at the conference “Inventing History: Italian Literature between Philology and Theory”, held at the University of Pennsylvania. And later that month, he presented his work in progress on Old Occitan manuscripts produced in Italy, “Troubadour Song and Lyric at Italian Courts and Comuni”, at the MLA in Chicago. March 15 he gave “The Cultural Weight of the Textual Icon: Authentic vs. Accepted Readings” at the 2008 meeting of the Society for Textual Scholarship, held this year at Boston University’s Editorial Institute. Issue 2.2 (2007) of Textual Cultures, of which he is the Editor-in-Chief, appeared in mid-January 2008.
Fall 2008 Course Description:  
MEST M200  
Medieval Italy: Cultural Identity in Medieval Italy

This class investigates the role of identity in the cultural, political, and artistic formation of medieval Italy from Rome’s third-century revision of the definition of citizenship (225 A.C.E.) to Boccaccio’s and the early humanists’ stories about corruption, sexual betrayal, and the nature of royalty and of humankind. Do medieval Italians identify themselves according to their family ties, the State, their political party, the Church? (and at what level? allegiance to the bishop or to the local priest who protects their land claims against papal interests?) And how do financial interests, class, language, education, and gender alter these traditional identities that are anything other than monolithic? We will examine the formation of identity across the peninsula, from Milan and Venice to Arabic and Norman Sicily, to understand also the foundations of modern Italian identity. Readings will include selections from Boethius’s Consolation of Philosophy, Polybius’s History of Rome, Boccaccio’s Decameron, Dante’s Divine Comedy, Paul the Deacon’s History of the Lombards, as well as Christian and Arabic chronicles from Florence, Sicily, and Venice, crusade songs, inquisition narratives, personal letters, and the art and philosophies that marked the development of Italian medieval cultures. Credits: 3; Instructor: Wayne Storey. MEST M200 is a ‘List A’ Culture Studies course and counts for the A & H requirement. FRIT M222 counts for the A & H requirement as well.

Look for the rest of our course descriptions, as well as Medieval Studies course-listings in our April Newsletter

Nick Havely To Speak At Indiana

Professor Nick Havely, a professor in the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York, will be visiting Indiana University on April 17 to present a paper entitled, “Dante in the Raj: Elphinstone’s Commedia Manuscript and the Literary Society of Bombay.”

The fourteenth-century illuminated manuscript of Dante’s Commedia (Mumbai, Town Hall MS 19) is one of the most valuable items in the Asiatic Society’s collection. It was donated by the Governor of the Bombay Presidency, the Honourable Mountsåart Elphinstone, along with about 180 other items, on 29 February 1820. Using evidence from the Society’s Minute-books and from Elphinstone’s own papers (in the India Office collection at the British Library and the National Archives of Scotland), this paper sets out to construct a cultural context for that donation and to raise some questions about the manuscript’s provenance and history. Issues to be discussed will include: Elphinstone’s activities as a scholar administrator with the East India Company; the genesis and nature of his Italian interests (including his allusions to Dante); and the acquisition, donation, and valuation of this text of the Commedia.

Professor Havely specializes in late medieval literature, focusing on Dante, Boccaccio and Chaucer. He has written much on Dante and his reception, and his most recent book was a monograph on Dante and the Franciscans: Poverty and the Papacy in the ‘Commedia’ (2004).

Exploring the Inns of Court

Thanks to a faculty research grant from West European Studies, Professor Rosemarie McGerr had the opportunity to travel to London last summer to study medieval manuscripts at the British Library and at the libraries of two of London’s Inns of Court. The Inns of Court were organized by groups of lawyers during the late Middle Ages to provide education and certification for practicing lawyers in England. Several of the Inns of Court have libraries with major collections of medieval manuscripts relating to English law.

McGerr’s research took her to the libraries at The Honorable Society of Lincoln’s Inn and The Honorable Society of the Inner Temple. “Although I had worked at the British Library, London Guildhall Library, and some of the individual guild libraries in London, I had never before worked at the libraries of the Inns of Court, so it was a great pleasure to explore these wonderful resources. The libraries at Lincoln’s Inn and Inner Temple have many copies of the fifteenth-century collections of parliamentary statutes called the Nova statuta Angliae. I needed to examine these in order to compare their scripts and illustrations with those in the Yale Law School copy that I’m writing about. I was also able to give the librarians there information about the owners of the Yale manuscript who were members of the Inns of Court. The Nova statuta manuscripts at the Inns of Court, along with the ones at the British Library, gave me greater insight into the various forms in which information about English law circulated among readers in the fifteenth century.”

Medieval Studies Graduate Circle Call-Out Meeting

Interested in planning or helping out with next year’s Symposium? Got ideas for speakers to bring to campus? Want to have a say in movie-choice for Movie Nights? Want to organize events or reading-groups for medievalists?

Come to the Vid (At the corner of 7th and Walnut) Wednesday, April 23, 8.30 pm
UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday and Saturday, March 28-29
Medieval Studies Symposium

Panels

❖ Panel 1: “Humor in Conflict” ❖
   3.30pm, Friday
   Wylie Hall 015

❖ Panel 2: “Heresy and Imagery” ❖
   9.15am, Saturday
   Wylie Hall 015

❖ Panel 3: “Mediating Conflict” ❖
   1.15 Saturday
   Wylie Hall 015

❖ Panel 4: “Violence, Justice, and Religion” ❖
   3.30, Saturday
   Wylie Hall 015

Events

❖ Reader’s Circle and Reception ❖
   7pm Friday
   Woodburn House
   519 N. College Avenue

❖ Concert/Lecture ❖
   by Brooke Green of the Early Music Institute
   11am, Saturday
   Beck Chapel, Indiana University

❖ Keynote Lecture ❖
   “Is There Humor in Medieval Violence?”
   Professor Warren C. Brown, CalTech
   5.30pm
   Wylie Hall 015

Refreshments will be served at all events (except the concert)

Monday, March 31
Medieval Studies Movie Night: “The Lion in Winter”
   6pm
   Location TBA: Please RSVP to mest@indiana.edu

Thursday, April 10
Lecture by Professor Anne Berthelot, University of Connecticut,
   “Merlin”
   (cosponsored with the Department of French and Italian)
   4pm, Federal Room, IMU

Thursday, April 17
Lecture by Professor Nick Havely, University of York, UK,
   “Dante in the Raj: Elphinstone’s Commedia Manuscript and the Literary Society of Bombay”
   4pm, Federal Room, IMU

Thursday, September 18
Lecture by Professor Neslihan Senocak, Columbia University
   “Franciscan Book-keeping and the Problem of Spirituals”
   time and place to be announced
   (lecture postponed from February 2008)

October
   (date to be confirmed)
Professor Theodore Cachey, University of Notre Dame, topic: medieval maps and medieval travel (exact title forthcoming)