The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Marilynn Desmond, Director
DGS, Medieval/Early Modern Studies Graduate Certificate Program
Distinguished Professor, English and Comparative Literature
On leave, 2014-2015

Dana Stewart, Acting Director (until Sept. 1, 2015)
Associate Professor, Italian and Medieval Studies

I. MAJOR CEMERS ACTIVITIES: 2014
The major activities of 2014 revolved around our research initiative in the History of the Book. To that end we successfully secured a TAE Grant from Material and Visual Worlds to purchase two medieval Latin manuscripts. We used these manuscripts as the focus of a colloquium to which students were invited. In addition, we undertook planning for the 2016 (50th anniversary year) conference on the “History of the Book.” We also submitted a proposal for an NEH matching grant in Spring 2014, though this proposal was not successful this round.

II. FUTURE DIRECTIONS
a. Plans. We are embarking on a three-year initiative dedicated to the history of the pre-modern book. Research on the history of the book has recently been invigorated by DNA analysis on parchment which allows for significant advances in material analysis of the pre-modern book. Our 2013 TAE grant is the first step in this initiative, and we have scheduled a large, international conference in October, 2016 as part of our 50th anniversary celebrations. We have received a TAE grant for a symposium for Spring 2015. We applied for an NEH matching grant on this topic (see below); it was unsuccessful, so we will re-apply next year.

In addition, 2016 will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of CEMERS: this anniversary will offer a unique opportunity for fundraising, and we have begun to work with John Koch, major gifts officer in Harpur College, to set fundraising goals for the next few years.

b. CEMERS does not currently have any requests for non-budgetary resources.

c. CEMERS conducted an external review of its operation in 2012; the next scheduled review is 2022
ATTACHMENTS

Center Personnel

Marilynn Desmond, Director Distinguished Professor, English and Comparative Literature. On leave, 2014-2015 (title F and sabbatical)

Dana Stewart, Acting Director (until Sept. 1, 2015), Associate Professor, Italian and Medieval Studies

Erin Stanley, Secretary I

Kara Maloney, CEMERS Graduate Assistant, Fall 2014
Erika Maikish, CEMERS Graduate Assistant, Spring 2015
Deirdre Riley, CEMERS Graduate Assistant, A/Y 2013-14

Executive Council

Marilynn Desmond, Chair
Elizabeth Casteen, History
Tina Chronopoulos, Classics and Medieval Studies
Barbara Abou-El-Haj, Art History
Richard Mackenney, History
Olivia Holmes, English and Medieval Studies
Rosemarie Morewedge, German and Russian
Dora Polachek, French and Women’s Studies
Andrew Scholtz, Classics
Dana Stewart, Italian and Medieval Studies; and Editor, Mediaevalia

Deirdre Riley, English (Graduate Representative)

CEMERS Publications Advisory Board

Marilynn Desmond, ex officio
Olivia Holmes
Dora Polachek
Dana Stewart, Editor of Publications
Graduate Student Association
The Medieval & Early Modern Society

President: Kara Maloney, English
Treasurer: Meisha Lohmann, English
Vice President: Michael Bottiggi, History
Rep. to GSO: Erika Maikish, English
Rep. to CEMERS Faculty, Meisha Lohmann, English

Binghamton Faculty Associated with Center

54 faculty from 14 departments and programs across campus, including 12 emeriti:

Barbara Abou-El-Haj (Art History) emerita
Allan Arkush (Judaic Studies)
Anne Bailey (Africana Studies and History)
Karen-edis Barzman (Art History)
Edith Borroff (Music, emerita)
Moulay Ali Bouanani (Africana Studies)
Howard Brown (History)
Elizabeth Casteen (History)
John Chaffee (History, Asian & Asian American Studies)
Zu Yan Chen (AAAS)
Tina Chronopoulos (Classics and Medieval Studies)
Peter Cocozzella (Romance Languages, emeritus)
Marilynn Desmond (English and Comparative Literature)
Mario Di Cesare (English, emeritus)
Dunwoody, Sean (Medieval Studies)
Salvatore Fajardo (Romance Languages)
Omid Ghaemmaghami (Classics and Near Eastern Studies)
Olivia Holmes (English and Medieval Studies)
Douglas Jones (Judaic Studies)
Shin Yi Hsu (Geography)
Gerald Kadish (History, emeritus)
Jonathan Karp (History and Judaic Studies)
Saul Levin (Classics and Near Eastern Studies, emeritus)
Harry P. Lincoln (Music, emeritus)
Richard Mackenney (History)
Jerzy Mazur (Judaic Studies)
Samuel Morell (Judaic Studies)
Rosemarie Morewedge (German)
Francis X. Newman (English, emeritus)
Thomas O’Connor (Romance Languages)
Robin S. Oggins (History, emeritus)
Elizabeth Robinson (Classics)
Zoja Pavlovskis-Petit (Classics and Comparative Literature)
Michael Pettid (AAAS Studies)
Anthony L. Pellegrini (Romance Languages, emeritus)
Dora Polacheck (Romance Languages)
Anthony Preus (Philosophy)
Lawrence Roberts (Philosophy, emeritus)
Paul Schleuse (Music)
Andrew Scholtz (Classics and Near Eastern Studies)
Kent Schull (History)
Khalil Semaan (Near Eastern Studies, emeritus)
Dana Stewart (Romance Languages and Medieval Studies)
Edward Shephard (Bartle Library, Head of Special Collections)
John Starks (Classics and Near Eastern Studies)
Robert Strippoli (Asian & Asian American Studies)
Sandro Sticca (Romance Languages)
Albert H. Tricomi, (English, emeritus)
Elizabeth C. Tucker (English)
Nancy Um (Art History)
Alvin P. Vos (English)
Andrew Walkling (Art History, English, and Theater)
Gayle Whittier (English)
Daniel Williman (Classics and Near Eastern Studies, emeritus)

Binghamton Graduate Students Associated with the Center, 2013

25 in total (enrolled in programs across 8 departments): *students pursuing a certificate in Medieval/Early Studies

Erin Annis (Ph.D. program, History)
Michael Bottiggi (Ph.D. program, History)
David Casagrande (Ph.D. program, History)
Ilana Ben-Ezra (MA History)
Laurel Anne Braun (MA/Ph.D. program, Art History)

Christopher Byrum (MA History)

Hye Yun Chin (Ph.D. program, Art History)

*Denis Chuvilkin (Ph.D. program, Comparative Literature)

Ryan Cooley (MA History)

Lauren Drlicka (MA History)

Melissa Fitzmaurice (MA/Ph.D. program, Art History)

  *Vanessa Jaeger (Ph.D. program, English)

  *Laura Kipfer (MA-Ph.D. program, History)

  *Lalaine Little (Ph.D. program, Art History)

    *Meisha Lohmann (Ph.D., 2014)

Erika Maikish (Ph.D. program, English)

*Kara Maloney (Ph.D. program, English)

Megan McKinney (Ph.D. program, History)

Bryce Perles (MA English)

*Deirdre Riley (Ph.D. program, English)

Christopher Scripter (Ph.D. program, History)

John Varacilli (MA History)

Nicole Wagner (Ph.D. program, Art History)

Jeffrey Youn (Ph.D. History)

Siyin Zhao (Ph.D. program, History)
2. CENTER PRODUCTIVITY IN 2014

a. PUBLICATIONS

*Mediaevalia* 34 (2013) Special issue. Co-edited by Dana Stewart and Olivia Holmes, “Boccaccio at 700: Tales and Afterlives” Published. (Revised plenary essays from CEMERS 2013 conference; a landmark publication, given the originality of the conference focus and the quality of the scholars included)

*Mediaevalia* 35 (2014). In press. Edited by Dana Stewart

**Olivia Holmes and Dana Stewart**, ed., *Reconsidering Boccaccio: Medieval Contexts and Global Intertexts*. Volume of essays drawn from CEMERS 2013 conference, currently in preparation, to be submitted to University of Toronto Press. (revised essays from CEMERS 2013 conference: this will also be a landmark publication, given the originality of the conference focus)


**Bernardo Lecture Series Volume**: currently being re-edited by Dana Stewart for publication in 2106 (50th anniversary of CEMERS)

A. Major CEMERS Presentations

24th Annual Bernardo Lecture: Edward W. Muir, Jr., "To Trust is Good, But Not to Trust is Better: The Italian Paradox". Nov. 13, 2014. This talk attracted an audience of 120, including members of the local community.

Fall 2013, Spring 2014 and Fall 2014 CEMERS Speaker Series

See Attached posters
CEMERS Faculty Honors/Awards/Fellowships

2014/15

Tina Chronopoulou
Virginia Brown Fellowship 2014-15
One month residential fellowship at Ohio State University
3-month research fellowship, Notre Dame University

Marilynn Desmond
Rome Prize in Medieval Studies 2014-15
(six-month residential fellowship at the American Academy in Rome—NEH funded)

Paul Schleuse
American Musicological Society: Margarita Hanson Endowment and AMS 75 PAYS Endowment (both funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation), subventions for Singing Games in Early Modern Italy totaling $4,152.

Material and Visual Worlds: Binghamton University Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence grant ($10,000) for the conference “Authority and Materiality in the Italian Songbook: From the Medieval Lyric to the Early Modern Madrigal,” May 1-2, 2015, co-organized with Prof. Olivia Holmes, Department of English.

SUNY Conversations in the Disciplines grant ($5,000) for the conference “Authority and Materiality in the Italian Songbook,”

Kent Schull
TAE Grant: Citizenship, Rights, and Cultural Belonging Grant (AY 2014-15) as PI for “Accessing the Late Ottoman Empire: Transliteration and Translation of Ottoman Legal Codes Dealing with Citizenship, Rights, and Cultural Belonging.” - $10,000


John Starks
Winner of Women’s Classical Caucus, 2015 Barbara McManus Award for Best Published Article on Gender or Women’s Studies in Antiquity, anonymously refereed for award consideration
CEMERS Faculty Publications 2014


Schull, Kent. Prisons in the Late Ottoman Empire: Microcosms of Modernity (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2014).

Schull. Editor of Journal Issues:
Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, Special Section in Honor of Donald Quataert, vol. 34/1 (January 2014).

Schull. “Comparative Criminal Justice in the Era of Modernity: A Template for Inquiry and the Ottoman Empire as Case Study” in the Turkish Studies (December 2014), (Online: http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/UJisz5jVYhbahtCRCB5Py/full).

Schull. “The Impact of Donald Quataert’s ‘history from below’ on Ottoman and Turkish Studies” Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, the Middle East, 34/1 (January 2014), pp. 126-28.


Starks, John. Actresses in the Greek and Roman Worlds: An Analytical Register. Cambridge University Press. (monograph under contract)


Um, Nancy. "Foreign Doctors at the Imam’s Court: Medical Diplomacy in Yemen’s Coffee Era,” in Transcultural Networks in the Indian Ocean, 15th-18th centuries: Europeans and Indian Ocean Societies in Interaction, a special issue of Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture (in press)


3. SOURCES OF SUPPORT/SPACE

a. CEMERS has successfully pursued internal support: in the Fall of 2013, Marilynn Desmond (director) and Tina Chronopoulos and Edward Shepherd received a $10,000. **grant from the steering committee of the Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence on Materiality and Visual Cultures**; this grant allowed us to purchase two medieval manuscripts for Special Collections in the Bartle Library.

In 2014 CEMERS received a **$5000. Conversations in the Disciplines Grant** from SUNY central in support of the May 2015 conference, "Authority and Materiality in the Vernacular Songbook: From the Medieval Lyric to the Early-Modern Madrigal", directed by Olivia Holmes and Paul Schleuse.

The Medieval Studies program also received a **$3000. Dean’s speakers’ series stipend** from Harpur College Dean’s office which underwrote some of our speaker’s series.

CEMERS continues to receive gifts from individual donors designated for the Bernardo Fund, which received a sizeable gift ($5000.) from Reta Bernardo in 2014.

*Mediaevalia* earned **$1,200.** in royalties.

In The Center continues to pursue external sources of support: in Spring 2014, Marilynn Desmond prepared and submitted an NEH Challenge Grant for $120,000; it was not successful, so we will apply again next year.

b. The TAE grant was the result of collaborative research undertaken by center Faculty involved in research on medieval manuscripts. The same is true of the NEH Challenge Grant.

c. Annual Operating Budget.

*Current funds from the Research Foundation were allocated as follows:*

**$38,156. for the salary of the Secretary I position**

**$4,500 for basic operating expenses** (office expenses as well as travel and lodging for some of our off-campus speakers, basic catering, advertising, and publicity for conferences and lectures).
d. CEMERS occupies a suite of four offices and a conference room on the ground floor of Library North. The space is allocated as follows:

LN 1133: Director’s office

LN 1129: office of the CEMERS secretary (office is staffed during normal, campus working hours)

LN 1122: office for a faculty member with a line in Medieval Studies (Sean Dunwoody)

LN 1124: office for Mediaevalia activities: this office houses the CEMERS Graduate Assistant, the interns, and the editor of Mediaevalia

LN 1128: conference room and library. This space houses our extensive research library (approx. 2000 volumes), as well as copies of all CEMERS publications (approx. 500 volumes)
4. ITEMIZED BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2015-2016

We request 1) continued coverage of the annual salary for ($38,156-40,145) for our the Secretary I position 2) an office budget of $6,500; 3) an equipment budget of $3000. and 4) carpet tiles for office: $1,400.

Breakdown of the Budget:

1. CEMERS Secretary 1:

Cost: $38,156 (increasing to $40,145 in October 2015)

2. Office Budget: The need for an increase in our office budget is driven by unavoidable rising costs for office supplies (including xeroxing), printing, general maintenance of the front office, and sky-rocketing travel expenses for speakers.

Cost: $6,500

3. Equipment:

Cost of mounting data projector on ceiling—a one-time expense
   hardware for ceiling mount: $250.
   cabling and input plate: $350.
   Labor: $1400.

Cost: $2,000.

4. Carpet tiles for LN 1129—a one-time expense (justification below):

Cost: $1,400.

Budget request for 2015-6:

Sec I salary, $ 40,145
office budget, $6,500;
equipment: $2000;
carpet tiles for LN 1129: $1,400.

**TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST 2015-16: $50,045**
**Equipment:** We are extremely grateful to Sponsored Funds for the generous furniture allocation two years ago that allowed us to purchase new furniture for our conference room. The furniture is wonderful—it is flexible, attractive and fully functional. It has transformed the space. Now that the space is so conducive to various forms of presentations, we have identified another critical need: we urgently need to mount our data projector overhead. Every time we have a presentation we need to get out our projector and set it up, then put it away afterwards. In addition to this being a time-consuming process, a projector that is not permanently mounted is too easy to steal.

**Carpeting for Secretary’s office:** We were able to save enough out of our 2013-4 budget to purchase some new furniture for LN 1129, the office of the CEMERS secretary. This was necessary since the furniture was 40 years old, and when the offices in Library Tower were refurbished in 2008 and all the furniture replaced, the initiative started at the top of the building and then stopped at the second floor of the library tower so that the CEMERS offices were not re-furnished. However, in re-arranging the furniture in LN 1129, it became apparent that the floor needs to have carpet tiles put down—the linoleum tiles are uneven and beginning to tear in places, and if left untouched the situation will soon present an asbestos hazard. So our budget this year includes the quote we requested from Physical Facilities for that expense. Anyone from the Office of Sponsored Funds is welcome to come and inspect this unsightly and soon to-be hazardous floor in LN 1129. This is a one-time, but very necessary, expenditure: $1,400.
The Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies
Binghamton University
presents
The Annual CEMERS Workshop Lecture Series
and Calendar of Events

Fall 2014

Thursday, September 18 at 3:00 PM in LN 1106
Co-sponsored by the History Department
Barbara Rosenwein
Professor of History, Loyola University Chicago
“Jean Gerson’s Musical Theory of the Emotions”

Wednesday, October 1 at 3:00 PM in LN 1106
Susanna Throop
Assistant Professor of History, Ursinus College
“Words and Deeds: Vengeance, Emotion, and the Crusades”

Wednesday, October 8 at 5:00 PM in LN 1106
Co-sponsored by the Art History Department
Elina Gertsman
Associate Professor of Art History and Art, Case Western Reserve University
“Supra mensuram: Hieronymus Bosch and Systems of Feelings”

*** VizCult Lecture (Art History Department) ***
Wednesday, October 15 at 5:15 PM in the University Art Museum (FA 213)
Co-sponsored by Romance Languages, German Studies, History, CEMERS, and the Alumni Office
Kim Sexton
Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Arkansas
“Street Life: The Portico in Renaissance Italy”

Wednesday, October 22 at 3:00 PM in LN 1106
Maureen Flynn
Professor of History, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
“Night-Flights and Medieval Emotions”

Wednesday, November 5 at 3:00 PM in LN 1106
Co-sponsored by the History Department and the Religious Studies Minor
Susan Karant-Nunn
Regents’ Professor of History and Religious Studies, University of Arizona
“Grieving over the Elector of Saxony: An Emotion Ritual in Early Modern Germany”

*** 24th Annual Bernardo Lecture ***
Thursday, November 13 at 5:30 PM in the Casadesus Recital Hall (FA 117)
Edward W. Muir, Jr.
Clarence L. Ver Steeg Professor in the Arts and Sciences,
and Professor of History and Italian, Northwestern University
“To Trust is Good, but Not to Trust is Better: ‘The Italian Paradox’”

CEMERS, an interdisciplinary research unit established in 1966, promotes innovative research and scholarly exchange in medieval, Renaissance, and early modern studies.

For additional information, please email us (cemers@binghamton.edu), call (607-777-2730), or visit our website (cemers.binghamton.edu).
THE CENTER FOR
MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE STUDIES
BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
presents
THE ANNUAL CEMERS WORKSHOP LECTURE SERIES
AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring 2014
Wednesday, January 29 at 12:00 PM, LN 1106
Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH) Lecture

Olivia Holmes
Associate Professor, English and Medieval Studies, Binghamton University
“Ducks and Demons: the Buddha's Travels in Medieval Italy.”
Wednesday, February 5 at 12:00 PM, LN 1106
Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH) Lecture

Tina Chronopoulos
Assistant Professor, CNES and Medieval Studies, Binghamton University
Tuesday, February 18 at 5:00 PM, LN 1106

Roberta Strippoli
Assistant Professor, AAAS, Binghamton University
Wednesday, March 5 at 4:30 PM, LN 1106
Co-sponsored with the Department of History

Sean Dunwoody
Visiting Assistant Professor, Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Binghamton University
Wednesday, March 19 at 5:00 PM, LN 1106

Peggy McCracken
Professor, French, University of Michigan
“The Humanity of the Wild Man.”
Tuesday, March 25 at 5:30 PM, LN 1106

Mark Cruse
Associate Professor, French, Arizona State University
“Marco Polo and the Dream of Crusade in Late Medieval France.”
Tuesday, April 22 at 4:30 PM, LN 1128

Meisha Lohmann
Ph.D., English, Binghamton University
“The place that sche most desyre: Dramatic Spaces and Mystic Identity in The Book of Margery Kempe.”

CEMERS, an interdisciplinary research unit established in 1966, promotes innovative research and scholarly exchange in medieval, Renaissance, and early modern studies.

For additional information, please email us (cemers@binghamton.edu), call (607 777 2730), or visit our website (cemers.binghamton.edu).
Fall 2013

Wednesday, September 18 at 2:30 pm in LN 1106
Dyan H. Elliott
Professor of History, Northwestern University
““All in the Line of Duty: Sex and the Medieval Clerk”

Wednesday, September 25 at 2:30 pm in LN 1106
Co-sponsored by the Fernand Braudel Center
Eric Dursteler
Associate Professor of History, Brigham Young University
““The Sultan’s Whore’: Slavery and Sexual Peril in the Early Modern Mediterranean”

Wednesday, October 9 at 2:30 pm in LN 1106
Leah DeVun
Associate Professor of History, Rutgers University
“Jews, Hermaphrodites, and Other Animals: On the Boundaries of the Human in the Middle Ages”

**23rd Annual Bernardo Lecture**

Thursday, October 17 at 5:30 pm in the Casadesus Recital Hall, Fine Arts Building
Zygmunt Baranski
Notre Dame Professor of Dante and Italian Studies, University of Notre Dame
and Serena Professor of Italian, Emeritus, University of Cambridge
“Inferno XVIII: Language as Sin and Salvation”

Wednesday, October 30 at 2:30 pm in LN 1106
Theresa Coletti
Professor and Distinguished Scholar-Teacher, English, University of Maryland
“Sex and the City: Sacred and Social Epistemologies in the Chester Slaughter of the Innocents”

Wednesday, November 13 at 2:30 pm in LN 1106
Elizabeth Casteen
Assistant Professor of History, Binghamton University
“The Political Uses of Friendship: Gender, Self-Presentation, and Reputation in the Fourteenth Century”