MARCO CHRONICLES
Heather Hirschfeld, Riggsby Director

After welcoming a traveling troupe of players to the castle at Elsinore, Prince Hamlet instructs Polonius to provide carefully for their lodgings. “Good my lord, will you see the players well bestowed? Do you hear, let them be well used, for they are the abstracts and brief chronicles of the time” (Hamlet, 2.2).

Hamlet’s concern for the players is also a concern for chronicles, the scribal or printed register of dates, events, and people which provide the ground for much of what we study here at Marco. Since Shakespeare depended on such texts for his dramatic material, there is a special charm in Hamlet’s claim that the theater itself offers an account of history.

Written or staged, chronicle accounts are guided by a larger design or purpose: the demonstration of the place of providence in the shape of human affairs, for instance, or the identification of the role of individuals in a nation’s success or failure. The design behind my “Marco Chronicles” is to highlight and celebrate the various accomplishments of our individual faculty and students, as well as the institute as a whole, during the 2011 academic year. These accomplishments, buttressed by the extraordinary generosity of our donors, contribute to our various goals: of cultivating and consolidating our resources to enable faculty and student scholarship and teaching; of encouraging interdisciplinary connections on campus and outreach to the community; and of achieving national and international recognition as a leading center for the study of the early periods. Such goals, growing out of Marco’s earliest mandates, are consonant with the university’s current Top 25 initiative.

Highlights of our spring semester included the Sixth Annual Marco Manuscript Workshop, “Editions and E-ditions: New Media and Old Texts,” which was organized by professors Roy Liuzza (English) and Maura Lafferty (Classics) and which examined the effects of changing technology on editorial practices. Another highlight was our annual symposium, Marco’s signature event, on “Gardens: Real and Imagined,” a vibrantly interdisciplinary topic which brought together scholars from an array of departments...
Chronicles are meant to record the past, but I take the liberty here to do a little forecasting of upcoming events: our manuscript workshop on “Readers” in February; our symposium, “Grounding the Book: Readers, Writers, and Places in the Pre-Modern World”; our second undergraduate conference in March; and our first Graduate Fellows Evening in April, which will feature lectures by the current holders of the Jimmy and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship and the Anne Marie van Hook Travel Award. Keeping the r in Marco, we will also be home to the annual Southeastern Renaissance Conference in fall 2012. See p. 4 for a complete schedule. We hope to see you at some or all of these events!

Marco is more than just a host and sponsor of lectures and conferences. Thanks to our donors, we are able to fund and support various forms of faculty and student scholarship, including the prized Haslam Dissertation and Van Hook Travel awards (see p. 10). Dedicated as we are to cultures of the book and the archive, we are hard at work in organizing the new Riggsby Marco Library, funded with great foresight by Stuart and Kate Riggsby. Our current book holdings were catalogued over the summer by intrepid graduate student Elizabeth Wilson (History), who is now assisting our Library Committee (Anne Bridges, Library; Tom Burman, History; and Jane Bellamy, English) in designing a reference collection of about 3,000 volumes for our new space in Greve Hall, where we are set to move during the spring. We also are engaged in a sweeping curricular overhaul, transforming the current undergraduate major in medieval studies to a major in medieval and Renaissance studies. Thanks go to committee chair Rachel Golden (Music) and colleagues Bob Bast (History), Nicole Hamonic (Medieval Studies), Gregor Kalas (Architecture), and Samantha Murphy (English) for their efforts here. The change is meant to attract majors, to expose our students to a broader range of courses, and to reflect more accurately the research and teaching of our faculty. Finally, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Keith Taylor (PhD, ’98), we will be able to award for the first time special undergraduate and graduate student prizes. Taylor, who earned his doctorate in medieval literature with a dissertation on Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, has made his mark on the philanthropic world by founding Modest Needs, an award-winning public charity that provides emergency assistance to individuals and families with the hope of maintaining their self-sufficiency. His donation will fuel various Marco enterprises as well as two awards that especially reflect his interest in teaching and outreach: the first, for undergraduate essays on a Marco topic, and the second—a $10,000 top-off prize—for an incoming PhD student who demonstrates exceptional promise. The former will allow us to reward our undergraduates for their unique achievements, and the latter will help us recruit especially strong doctoral candidates to the program. We will be granting the first round of awards this spring, and we look forward to featuring our winners and Taylor in next year’s chronicles.

It is unfortunate but appropriate at the end of our chronicles to recognize that the Marco community sustained painful losses over the past months. Anita Bergeson (PhD, ’06), one of the first Marco Project Scholars and a lecturer in the English department, passed away in June, and one of our talented graduate students, Gina Cash (History), lost her battle with leukemia in July. We want also to acknowledge the passing of Mary Marshburn in Creative Communications, who has been a true guide and friend to the Marco enterprise. Our thoughts go out to their families and friends, and we miss them all.

(Archaeology, Art, English, History, Landscape Architecture) and allowed us to feature Deirdre Larkin, horticulturalist at the Cloisters Museum in New York City, as the keynote speaker. Thanks go to committee chair Laura Howes (English) and colleagues Amy Neff (Art), Anthony Welch (English), and Joshua Westgard (Medieval Studies) for their work in designing this event. In April Marco hosted its first Undergraduate Conference, “Mysticism, Heresy, and Witchcraft,” run by the indefatigable Jenny Bledsoe (’11), then a senior in religious studies and now a graduate student at Harvard University (see p. 5).

Over the summer, we said a fond farewell to Josh Westgard, our first Jimmy and Dee Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow, who had worked with us for two years, and we welcomed our second fellow, Winston Black, a University of Toronto PhD and a specialist in medieval religious and medical history. Thanks go to Selection Committee members Mary Dzon (English), Roy Liuzza, and Jay Rubenstein (History) for their efforts in choosing Winston from a pool of more than eighty applicants. You can read more about Winston’s exceptional scholarship—which committee members praised for its ambition and depth as well as freshness and forcefulness—on page 10.

The fall semester saw a flurry of Marco activities. We hosted the Medieval Academy Programming Committee, consisting of UT Knoxville and regional faculty members, which, under the direction of Jay Rubenstein, planned the shape of the 2013 Medieval Academy Meeting. We then turned our attention to sponsoring the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy’s Committee on Centers and Regional Associations (CARA), which focuses on pedagogical and administrative issues (see p. 4). Marco’s annual Riggsby Lecture on the Medieval Mediterranean, a fall semester focal point, was given by Paul Freedman, Chester D. Tripp Professor of History at Yale University (see p. 4).

The former will allow us to reward our graduates for their unique achievements, and the latter will help us recruit especially strong doctoral candidates to the program. We will be granting the first round of awards this spring, and we look forward to featuring our winners and Taylor in next year’s chronicles.

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Jay Rubenstein Publishes Two Books in 2011

In July 1099, several thousand European warriors climbed over Jerusalem’s walls, sacked the city, and massacred its Muslim defenders. As the fighting raged on, many of the soldiers broke away from the mayhem and the crowds and walked penitently barefoot through the ancient city’s blood-stained streets, aiming to pray before Christ’s tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

For the last ten years, Marco’s Jay Rubenstein, associate professor of history and John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellow, has been working to reconstruct the military and imaginative worlds that surrounded these transformative and terrifying events. In October his research attained important milestones with the publication of two books. First, he completed a new narrative history of the First Crusade titled Armies of Heaven: The First Crusade and the Quest for Apocalypse (Basic Books, 2011). Aimed at both popular and scholarly audiences, Armies of Heaven retells the events of the First Crusade through the prism of medieval apocalyptic theory.

“When I began this project,” Rubenstein says, “I intended to write two or three articles at the most, mainly with the goal of showing how little impact apocalyptic thought had on the First Crusade. The evidence forced me to change my mind.”

Working mainly with twelfth-century Latin chronicles—but also with letters, sermons, biblical commentaries, travel logs, and one encyclopedia—Rubenstein was surprised to see how often medieval commentators used prophetic ideas and language to explain the conquest of Jerusalem. Manuscript archives also shaped his conclusions.

“It was remarkable,” he says, “how often medieval scribes would attach prophecies about Antichrist and Armageddon to crusade narratives.” Warriors fought not just to save their own souls, but also to fulfill God’s plans for salvation history.

Preliminary reaction to the book has been positive, garnering praise from crusade historians like Jonathan Phillips and Robert Chazan, as well as from writer, director, and former Monty Python member Terry Jones. It has also received a “starred review” from Publishers Weekly.

At the same time he was working on Armies of Heaven, Rubenstein was collaborating with Joseph McAlhany, a professor of classics at Carthage College, on a translation of two books by the twelfth-century monk Guibert of Nogent. Guibert (c. 1060-c. 1125), who was the subject of Rubenstein’s first book, Guibert of Nogent: Portrait of a Medieval Mind (Routledge, 2002), wrote the first fully realized autobiography in the medieval world. He also famously wrote a lengthy and extremely unusual treatise criticizing abuses associated with the veneration of saints’ bones. McAlhany and Rubenstein together translated both of these works, now published by Penguin Classics and titled Monodies and On the Relics of Saints: the Autobiography and a Manifesto of a French Monk from the Time of the Crusades.

Again, preliminary reaction to this new translation has been extremely positive. Literary critic Harold Bloom has described the book as “a revelation,” while historian Diarmaid MacCulloch says that Rubenstein and McAlhany show Guibert to be “one of the twelfth century’s most idiosyncratic, confessional, and engaging writers.”

Rubenstein is beginning work on a textbook for Bedford-St. Martin’s on the First Crusade and is putting together a scholarly companion to Armies of Heaven.
MARCO EVENTS, 2011–12
As part of its mission, the Marco Institute sponsors and supports a number of campus and outreach events.

FALL 2011

September 30—October 1
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON CENTERS AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (CARA), MEDIEVAL ACADEMY OF AMERICA; MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY
Presentations by Marco faculty members Aleydis Van de Moortel (Classics), Gregor Kalas (Architecture), and Gregory Kaplan (Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures)

October 13
ANNUAL RIGGSBY LECTURE
“A Phantom Spanish Archive: The Past Slips Through Our Fingers”
Paul Freedman
(Chester D. Tripp Professor of History, Yale University)

SPRING 2011

February 3–4
Marco Manuscript Workshop: “Readers”

March 1–3
10TH ANNUAL MARCO SYMPOSIUM
“Grounding the Book: Readers, Writers, and Places in the Pre-modern World”
Lindsay Young Auditorium, Hodges Library

March 30
ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE
“Ab Urbe Recondita: The Reception of the Roman Classics in the Middle Ages and Renaissance”

April 19
GRADUATE FELLOWS EVENING
Lectures by Meghan Holmes Worth, 2011 Haslam Dissertation Prize recipient, and Leah Giamalva, 2011 Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship recipient

RIGGSBY LECTURE ON MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, YEAR 8
The Marco Institute was pleased to sponsor in October the eighth annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture, which featured guest lecturer Paul Freedman (Yale University). Freedman, the Chester D. Tripp Professor of History, presented “A Phantom Spanish Archive: The Past Slips through Our Fingers,” a tour de force lecture that explored the contents and significance of recently recovered documents from the monastery of Bellpuig de les Avellanes, which was founded in the twelfth century and dissolved by the Spanish state in 1835. A reception followed with lively conversation and refreshments for attendees.

Freedman is a specialist in medieval social history, the history of Spain, comparative studies of the peasantry, trade in luxury products, and the history of cuisine. His books include Origins of Peasant Servitude in Medieval Catalonia, Images of the Medieval Peasant, and Out of the East: Spices and the Medieval Imagination. He is also the editor of several collections, including Food: The History of Taste, Last Things: Death and the Apocalypse in the Middle Ages (with Caroline Walker Bynum), and Forms of Servitude in Northern and Central Europe (with Monique Bourin).

PALEOGRAPHY COURSE WITH MAURA LAFFERTY AND TOM BURMAN
Medieval Latin Paleography and Book Culture is a two-semester seminar combining the study of Latin paleography (the technical skills needed to work with medieval manuscripts or documents) with the larger multi-disciplinary study of literacy, reading, and the book in the Middle Ages. Students learn to read medieval texts in their original form, while reading a wide range of modern scholarly work showing how researchers use their paleographical skills in sophisticated and path-breaking research. That is, it combines the “how to” of working with manuscripts with the “why bother.”

2011 ANNUAL MEETING OF CARA AT MARCO
The annual meeting of the Medieval Academy’s Committee on Centers and Regional Associations (CARA) was held at UT in October 2011, sponsored by the Marco Institute. Dedicated to pedagogy at all levels, the committee serves as a “forum for those who are concerned with teaching; with the administration of institutes, graduate centers, undergraduate programs and committees, and research libraries; and with the organization of regional and local groups of medievalists.”

This year, more than twenty members gathered—from the University of Toronto, Fordham University, Ohio State University, Arizona State, the University of Arizona, the Claremont Graduate University (California), the Newberry Library, and elsewhere—to discuss medieval education and resources across North America. A workshop on medieval archaeology in the classroom featured three Marco faculty: Professors Greg Kaplan (MFLl), Aleydis van de Mortel (Classics), and Gregor Kalas (Architecture). Several conferees also visited the Museum of Appalachia near Norris, Tennessee, as a local cultural excursion.
This is not an easy course, as past students can tell you. Good Latin is a must. Reading medieval Latin in its manuscript form is a challenge: some manuscripts have no word spacing at all; none are punctuated like a modern text. Many are highly abbreviated, requiring readers to use their Latin to supply the missing endings (or beginnings or middles). Many scripts, especially ones used in glosses, are often very difficult to make out, and the confusion of minims (the short, vertical strokes in letters such as ő) is rampant in Gothic manuscripts copied in the high middle ages. Reading medieval manuscripts gives you plenty of respect for medieval scribes and readers.

Former students describe the seminar as one of the most important of their graduate career. Having taken it, they are ready to carry out rigorous, original research using medieval manuscripts. Indeed, they have done just that. Five students have presented their research at scholarly conferences. One session at the Southeastern Medieval Association meeting in 2009 featured the papers of three of our students: Leah Giamalva (History), “Islam and History in a Fourteenth-Century Parisian Anthology;” Geoff Martin (History), “Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana MS 4074: A Polemical Primer for Joachim of Fiore’s Third Status;” and Anthony Minnema (History), “A Twelfth-Century Astronomical Textbook: Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum, MS McClean 165 and its Pedagogical Value and Evidence.”

Teresa Hooper (English) organized a session at the International Congress at Kalamazoo in 2010, sponsored by Marco, including papers by Sean Williams, “Rethinking the Textual Tradition of the Itinerarium peregrinorum” and Leah Giamalva, “Rethinking a Fourteenth-Century ‘Miscellany’ on the Church’s Internal and External Enemies,” and presented her own “The Making of a Monastery: Fashioning the Legacy of Bury Saint Edmunds in Oxford, Corpus Christi College MS 197” at a session sponsored by the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists.

Two past seminar students received prestigious grants to do original manuscript research in American and European libraries. Leah Giamalva won a Mellon grant to go to the Vatican Film Library in St. Louis as well as a UT Knoxville American Academy in Rome Affiliated Fellowship. Tony Minnema won a fellowship from the Council for European Studies to do research in France and a McClure Scholarship from the UT Knoxville Center for International Education to do research in Italy and Austria.

Finally, Geoff Martin’s MA thesis on anti-Judaic polemic and apocalyptic thought in the Disputation of Majorca grew out of his seminar paper. Leah, Tony, Geoff, and Teresa are all working on PhD dissertations that involve working with medieval manuscripts.

INAUGURAL AND SECOND ANNUAL MARCO UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCES
On April 8, the Marco Institute hosted its first Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Organized by senior undergraduate in religious studies Jenny Bledsoe, the conference, entitled “Mysticism, Heresy, and Witchcraft,” featured thirty student presentations. Eight were given by UT students, while the majority of the other students traveled from schools in the Southeast. Universities represented included Northwestern University, Ohio State University, the University of Virginia, the University of Miami, and Harvard University. The conference was a huge success. The undergraduate speakers engaged their audiences, and question-and-answer sessions generated intellectually stimulating conversations.

Nine UT professors acted as session chairs for the conference. Dyan Elliott, the John Evans Professor of History at Northwestern University, delivered the plenary lecture “Women and Demons in the Middle Ages: Not a Love Story.” Like the student presentations, Elliott’s talk also drew a large crowd and sparked an animated discussion.

The conference was supported by departments and programs across UT’s campus. Sponsors included Marco, the Office of Research, the Chancellor’s Honors Program, the departments of History, English, Religious Studies, Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures, and Classics, the College of Architecture and Design, and the School of Art. These contributors helped make the conference a success and allowed us to award seven student travel grants.

Marco is excited to continue the nascent tradition again this year, thanks to undergraduate co-organizers Tyler Denton (Classics, Medieval Studies) and Matthew Ylitalo (Classics, Medieval Studies). The second Marco Undergraduate Conference, “Ab Urbe Recondita: the Reception of the Roman Classics in the Middle Ages and Renaissance,” is scheduled for March 30, and it will address the special sensitivity of medieval and Renaissance cultures to the influence of the ancient past. It will feature papers from all disciplines of medieval and Renaissance Studies, including archaeology, architecture, art, history, literature, music, philology, philosophy, and theatre.
SEVENTH ANNUAL MANUSCRIPT WORKSHOP: “READERS”
February 3–4

This year's workshop, organized by Professors Roy Liuzza (English) and Maura Lafferty (Classics), involves presentations that focus on evidence for reading, interpretation, and use in manuscripts. The relationship between a text and its readers is often reciprocal; the text speaks to readers, readers in turn talk back to the text, and meaning emerges through this series of encounters between readers and texts and negotiations among different readers. Readers sometimes create new texts to answer the ones they read—literary practices such as commentary, quotation, or reference. But they also leave traces of their reading in material ways: physical wear and tear, annotations and corrections, interpolations and excisions, glosses and marginalia, the purposeful grouping or arrangement of texts in a codex or books in a library. How is such evidence recognized and understood? How is it presented to modern readers? What does it tell us about the history of the text? Presentations that seek to answer these and other related questions are featured during the workshop.

The workshop is open to scholars and students at any rank and in any field who are engaged in textual editing, manuscript studies, or epigraphy. Lafferty and Liuzza received more than twenty-five applications from around the world for the eight presentation openings. Individual seventy-five-minute sessions are devoted to each project; participants are asked to introduce their text and its context, discuss their approach to working with their material, and exchange ideas and information with other participants. As in previous years, the workshop is intended to be more a class than a conference; participants are encouraged to share new discoveries and unfinished work, to discuss both their successes and frustrations, to offer both practical advice and theoretical insights, and to work together towards developing better professional skills for textual and codicological work. We particularly embrace the presentation of works in progress, unusual manuscript problems, practical difficulties, and new or experimental models for studying or representing manuscript texts.

SUM OF OUR PARTS
Marco faculty & student achievements

FACULTY NEWS
MARY DZON (ENGLISH)
Mary Dzon published the essay “Boys Will Be Boys: The Physiology of Childhood and the Apocryphal Christ Child in the Later Middle Ages” in Viator 42.1 (2011). She also organized a session on the cult of the Holy Tunic in the Middle Ages for the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America in Tempe, Arizona, in April 2011; there she spoke about “The Legend of the Christ Child’s Seamless Tunic.” At the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo in May 2011, Professor Dzon delivered a paper on “Performing the Liber de Infantia salvatoris.” In October 2011, she spoke about “The Depiction of Mary Clothing Jesus in Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Canon. Misc. 476” at the Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies.

NICOLE HAMONIC (MEDIEVAL STUDIES)
In the 2010–2011 academic year, Nicole Hamonic’s article “Pro Amore Dei: Diplomatic Evidence of Social Conflict During the Reign of King John” (co-authored with Michael Gervers) was published in Law as Profession and Practice in Medieval Europe: Essays in Honor of James A. Brundage, K. Pennington and Melodie Harris Eichbauer, eds. (Ashgate, 2011). She presented “Saints, Suffragans and Templars? Authority of Irish Bishops in English Episcopal Indulgences Issued to New Temple, London, in the 12th and 13th centuries: A Case Study” at the international conference Seeing, Hearing, Reading, and Believing: Authorities in the Middle Ages, Helsinki, Finland (September 2010), and has had a version of this paper accepted for publication (forthcoming in 2012). She has also published two book reviews and continues to teach basic and advanced Latin in the Marco Summer Latin Program.

HEATHER HIRSCHFELD (ENGLISH)

LAURA HOWES (ENGLISH)
Laura L. Howes's edition of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, co-edited with Marie Boroff, is now out in the Norton Critical
Edition series (W.W. Norton, 2010). This fall, she was invited to speak at Colgate University on “Ecocriticism, Chaucer, and Kinesthetic Landscapes.”

GREGORY KAPLAN (MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, SPANISH)

Gregory Kaplan, interim head of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, spent part of the summer filming two television shows in Spain. On each occasion, he explained his theory about the origins of the Spanish language in Cantabria (a province in northern Spain). Kaplan also had an article published in the Revista de Estudios Hispánicos and his co-edited volume, Marginal Voices: Studies in Converso Literature of Early Modern Spain, was accepted for publication by Brill. He presented papers at the annual MLA conference, which took place in Los Angeles in January, and at the CARA Meeting held at the Marco Institute in September.

KATHERINE KONG (MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, FRENCH)

Katherine Kong was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. Her article, “Writing Love in the Thirteenth Nouvelle: Marguerite de Navarre’s Epistolary Fictions,” appeared in Romance Quarterly 58.2 (2011). She delivered a paper on “Repeating Oneself in Christine de Pizan” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo (May 2011), and she organized and chaired a session on “Renaissance Translations” at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference (April 2011). She was awarded a Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, and she was a core member of the Medieval Studies Research Workshop. In November 2010, she was a UT Quest Scholar of the Week.

MAURA LAFFERTY (CLASSICS)

Maura Lafferty has had a busy year. In November 2010, she presented papers on “Word Order in the Letters at Abelard and Heloise” at the Convegno dell’Internationales Mittelalterliche Komitee, Auctor et Auctoris in Latinis Medii Aevi litteris, in Benevento, and on “The Evolution of Pattern from Indoctus Rusticus to Saintly Scribe in the Book of Armagh” in May 2011 at the Celtic Studies Association of North America at Ohio State University. She published a book chapter on the “Alexandries of Gautier de Châtillon,” in A Companion to Alexander Literature in the Middle Ages (Brill, 2011). In addition, she began work toward a Pontifical Institute for Medieval Studies diploma in manuscript studies with courses in paleography and the Vatican Secret Archives at the American Academy in Rome during the summer of 2011.

SAMANTHA MURPHY (ENGLISH)


AMY NEFF (ART)

Amy Neff’s highlight of last year was an invitation to speak at the Courtauld Institute at the University of London—the premier art history program in the UK. Neff gave two public lectures at the Courtauld in May. The first was based on her article, “The Humble Man’s Wedding: Two Franciscan Images of the Miracle at Cana,” published in Gothic: Art and Thought in the Middle Ages (Princeton, 2011). The article and the lecture focus on several thirteenth-century Franciscan images of the Wedding at Cana in order to clarify the broad character and pastoral goals of Franciscan art. Neff’s second talk at the Courtauld discussed her current research-in-progress on symbolic aspects of landscape painting in thirteenth-century Italian art. In particular, the rocky cave setting of the Stigmatisation of Saint Francis suggests symbolic and topographical links to Old Testament figures and sites of pilgrimage in Sinai and the Holy Land. Professor Neff was honored to receive a Lindsay Young Professorship for 2011 to 2013.

TINA SHEPARDSON (RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

Last year was particularly busy for Tina Shepardson, with the time-consuming but very rewarding task of searching for new colleagues, including chairing two religious studies searches and participating in a history search. Shepardson is very excited about her new colleagues and looks forward to their contributions through the Marco Institute and elsewhere. In terms of her own research, she was honored to receive a 2011 Chancellor’s Award for Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement. She continues to make good progress on her second book manuscript, is considering an offer to edit a book on Syriac Christianity, and saw the publication of her article “Interpreting the Ninevites’ Repentance: Jewish and Christian Exegetes in Late Antique Mesopotamia.” Shepardson continues to chair the Faculty Research Seminar on “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.” She presented her research at the XVI International Oxford Patristics Conference in England and at the VI North American Syriac Symposium in Durham, North Carolina. She regularly gives local talks, including talks during last year’s Pregame Showcase, for the Dean’s Advisory Council, and numerous community organizations.
GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

MELISSA RACK (ENGLISH)
Melissa, a fourth-year PhD student in early modern poetry, successfully completed her comprehensive exams this year and has achieved ABD status. In addition, she received the award for “Best Essay Submitted by a Graduate Student” for her paper “I nam no divinistre: Heterodoxy and Disjunction in Chaucer’s Knight’s Tale” in Medieval Perspectives 25. Her paper, “A Formal Signature: Reclaiming the “privileged sphere of individuality” in Thomas Wyatt’s “Who so list to hounte,” has been accepted for publication in the second issue of Fons Luminis, a new interdisciplinary journal of Medieval studies published by the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto.

JAMES STEWART (ENGLISH)
James presented at the graduate student conference “Desire: From Eros to Eroticism” at the City University of New York Graduate Center in November 2011. He contributed his paper, titled “Arthurian Appraisal in Thomas Chreste’s Sir Launfal,” as part of a panel on “Desire in Medieval Romance.”

KATIE THOMPSON NEWELL (HISTORY)
In November 2010, Katie presented the paper “Jousts of War and the Borderlands of 14th-Century Court Culture” at the Southeastern Medieval Association’s (SEMA) annual meeting in Roanoke, Virginia. She was also elected Graduate Student Council member for the SEMA Executive Council. In spring 2011 Katie completed her PhD coursework and was awarded the history department’s Susan Becker Award for Excellence in Teaching. She passed her comprehensive exams in September 2011 and is now ABD. In October she gave a paper, “Intellectual Traditions in the Books of Chivalry of Ramon Llull and Geoffroi de Charny,” at the 2011 SEMA conference in Decatur, Georgia. She is currently serving as graduate student coordinator for UT’s Medieval Frontiers Faculty–Graduate Seminar, in addition to serving as a teaching assistant in the history department. Her dissertation research focuses on Angevin court culture and Jerusalem (c. 1200 CE).

STUDENTS ON THE MOVE

JOSHUA DURBIN (HISTORY)
In May and June of 2011, I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the seminar, “In Praise of Scribes: Early Modern English Manuscript Culture,” directed by Peter Beal at the Folger Shakespeare Library. During my stay for the seminar, I was also able to conduct archival research at the Folger. Located only blocks from the US Capitol, the Folger is in the heart of Washington, DC. In this fundamentally American setting, the library houses one of the one of the best repositories of materials on Renaissance England on this side of the Atlantic.

During the seminar, I met scholars at all stages in their careers, from graduate students to senior scholars. The librarians and scholars working at the Folger were always helpful, friendly, and accessible. Beal’s seminar was immensely helpful in various ways, and the archival research that I conducted—on models of masculinity and the court cultures of Elizabethan and Jacobean England—has moved my dissertation forward considerably. The time I spent there proved to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my academic career.

IN MEMORIAM

ANITA BERGESON (ENGLISH)
Anita K. Bergeson (PhD, ’06) passed away during a June vacation trip to South Carolina, the result of head injuries sustained in an accident there. Knoxville friends and family from North Dakota gathered in the UT Gardens on Sunday, June 12, to celebrate her life. Born March 29, 1974, Anita was the daughter of Melvyn and Lucile Bergeson of North Dakota. She graduated from North Shore High School in 1992, having been active in choir and jazz band on the saxophone and winning numerous awards for her musical talent. Anita earned her BA from Jamestown College (Jamestown, North Dakota), followed by her graduate education at UT.

She was one of the first Marco Project Scholars, an honor awarded to high achieving graduate students in medieval studies. Anita taught the literature and music she loved both as a lecturer in 2009. In the last few years, Anita developed and taught a popular course in writing about music, titled “Music and American Identities,” for incoming students. Her attentiveness, her thoughtfulness, and her creativity will be greatly missed, both here as well as at Lincoln Memorial University’s new law school in Knoxville, where she had also been teaching and tutoring English.—Laura Howes, English

GINA CASH (HISTORY)
The Marco community lost one of its promising doctoral students, Gina Cash, to leukemia in July 2011. Gina’s dissertation, under the direction of Jeri McIntosh, concerned elite women and legal culture in early modern Scotland. In 2010, Gina was the recipient of the Anne Marie van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship. With her award, Gina was able to spend six weeks in England and Scotland, conducting research for her dissertation. She spent two consecutive years as a teaching assistant for the medieval studies survey courses.
under the supervision of Brian Carniello, lecturer of history. During Marco’s early years, Gina was an active participant in the institute’s activities, attending symposiums, guest lectures, and hosting “movie night” for graduate and undergraduate students of medieval studies.

Gina was a beloved mother, sister, daughter, and friend to many people. She was also a wonderful teacher. In spring 2011, I had the opportunity to teach some of Gina’s classes when she had doctors’ appointments. Her students loved her. They were bright, committed, engaged, and regularly asked about her, sending messages of hope and care. Her commitments to her students were—above all else—to help them succeed and to inspire them with her love of history and spirited debate.

It is perhaps these two factors that attracted the rest of us to Gina as well. I am not alone in my enjoyment of having been in a graduate class with Gina. Her insights were keen and thoughtful, showing her dedication to history and mastery of the material under discussion. She asked questions prompting debate and often much laughter. She was not afraid to challenge someone’s point of view or have her own view challenged by her colleagues, and she remained open to different perspectives. Her professors thought highly of her work and the analyses she brought to class each week. Gina’s personality as a teacher, as a student, and as a colleague was not limited to the classroom. As she was to her undergraduate students, she was a mentor to incoming graduate students, introducing them to the culture of Marco and UT. She was also a dear friend.

Perhaps the thing we miss most about Gina is her honesty, her matter-of-fact outlook, her commitment to scholarship, and her sharp wit. I miss her willingness to listen, her sound advice, and the way she made me laugh during some stressful times. I miss our discussions over lunch about Tudor England, medieval material culture, gender studies, modern national politics, and the graduate school process. I speak on behalf of the Marco community when I say that I miss my friend.—Allison Jaines Elledge, PhD Candidate, History

MARCO STUDENTS ABROAD

ANDREW EICHEL
PhD student in medieval literature and critical theory

This past summer, I was awarded a State Department-funded Critical Language Scholarship that allowed me to study Turkish in Ankara, Turkey. The scholarship is designed to encourage American students to pursue studies in non-traditional languages that the government has deemed important for various economic or geopolitical reasons. Along with nineteen other American students, ranging in age from 18 to 45, I traveled to the Turkish capital and undertook language study at TOMER, a language institute connected with the prestigious Ankara University and famous for its focus on instructing non-native speakers in Turkish. We spent twenty hours per week in the classroom, covering the core skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Along with formal instruction, we had several field trips to other parts of the country and folk dance lessons. One of the most educational aspects of the program was the home-stay: every student was placed in a Turkish household and required to use only Turkish. Living in such close proximity to Turkish people enabled us to access the minutiae of Turkish daily life, something often overlooked in more traditional academic atmospheres. While the majority of the other scholarship recipients intended on using their language experience in federal jobs, this trip helped me locate two Turkish translations of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. I am currently using those resources and my improved Turkish skills to conduct research on the specific representation of Sir Gawain in Turkish.
ENABLING EXCELLENCE
Advancement news & notes

NEW HASLAM POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW: WINSTON BLACK

Winston Black is excited to join the Marco Institute this fall as the new Jimmy and Dee Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow. He is joined by his wife, Emily Reiner, a scholar of Old French literature and a lecturer in the English department, and their seventeen-month-old son, Gabriel Alexander. A native of Wisconsin and a graduate of the Centre for Medieval Studies in the University of Toronto, Winston will use his time at Marco to pursue research on the relationship of medicine and religion in medieval Europe. His research project is “The Priest as Doctor and Doctor as Priest: The Medicalization of Religion in Europe ca. 1100–1350.” Winston has taught as a visiting professor of medieval history at Shippensburg University and Binghamton University, and he will be teaching one seminar each term on topics such as the Black Death.

His edition, translation, and commentary of Henry of Huntingdon’s Anglicanus Ortus: A Verse Herbal of the Twelfth Century (Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies and Bodleian Library, 2011) was published in December, and two essays will soon see publication: “‘I will add what the Arab once taught’: Constantine the African in Northern European Medical Verse,” in Herbs and Healers from the Ancient Mediterranean through the Medieval West: Essays in Honor of John M. Riddle, eds. Anne Van Arsddall and Timothy Graham (Ashgate, 2012), and “Teaching the Mnemonic Bishop in the Medieval Canon Law Classroom,” in Envisioning the Medieval Bishop, eds. Evan Gatti and Sigrid Danielson (Brepols, 2012).

In spring 2011 Winston presented two papers on medieval medicine; he is scheduled to present three more in 2012. When not busy as a medievalist, Winston enjoys chasing his son Gabriel around their yard in Fountain City, cooking with his wife Emily, hiking, and playing the piano.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT IN ACTION

MEGHAN HOLMES WORTH, PhD student in history

Since receiving the Haslam Fellowship, Meghan has been busy drafting chapters of her dissertation, “‘To Write about Kings’: The Creation of Kingship in Outremer.” Her project examines the intersection between medieval kingship and crusading; how the crusaders who settled in Jerusalem created, depicted, and understood secular monarchy; and how they were active participants in the development of the kingdom. This was a kingdom built from the ground up, surviving less than one century, but because it was centered in Jerusalem (the geographic source of European ideologies of kingship), it provides a valuable snapshot into broader medieval conceptions of government and secular rulership.

Thanks to the support of the fellowship, Meghan has a service-free year in which she can research and write her dissertation full-time. In the spring, she plans a one-month-to-six-week research trip to archives in England, France, and Belgium in order to complete her dissertation manuscript. She looks forward to presenting the results of her year’s work at the Marco Graduate Fellows Evening in April 2012.

LEAH GIAMALVA, PhD student in history
Recipient of the Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship for 2011

Receiving the Van Hook award enabled Leah Giamalva to spend June and July in England, where she conducted manuscript research for her dissertation, “Islam and Sacred History in Latin Manuscript Culture, 1291-1460,” which examines Latin Christian intellectuals’ ideas about the historical role of Islam and especially about the expansion of Islam at the expense of Christendom in the period after the loss of the last crusader territory in the Holy Land. Her research focuses primarily on fourteenth-century manuscripts, and she examined many of these manuscripts in the British Library, Cambridge’s Gonville and Caius Library and University Library, and Oxford’s Bodleian Library this summer.

She expects that the manuscripts’ often unexpected groupings of sources will shed new light on how and why late medieval Christians read about Islam. Their patronage and production also affords valuable insight into the social networks that were engaged with the vexing question of why Islam prospered while Christendom seemed to be in decline.

She would like to express her profound gratitude to Mar-co’s donors and community for granting her this invaluable opportunity to consult the sources central to her dissertation.

Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Recipients, 2011–2012

Thanks to the generosity of the Asian Foundation, these nonteaching fellowships bring scholars from Tennessee and the neighboring region to UT.

ROBERT SAWYER, EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
Research focus: “Shakespeare and Marlowe: Rewriting the Relationship”

CHAD SCHROCK, LEE UNIVERSITY
Research focus: “The Consolation of Narrative: Studies in the Augustinian Figurality of the Middle Ages”
ALUMNI Q&A
Interviews with Marco alumni

ERIC SETTENLUND (MEDIATE STUDIES, ’07)
By Mary Dzon

D. Eric Setterlund graduated from UT with a major in medieval studies in 2007. Last spring he graduated magna cum laude from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, where he served as editor-in-chief of The University of Memphis Law Review. Setterlund’s research on vote dilution in Memphis, which was published in the Law Review as “Two Claims, Two Keys—Overcoming Tennessee’s Dual Majority Voting Mechanism to Facilitate Consolidation between Memphis City and Shelby County,” has attracted a lot of attention, as noted recently in Memphis Lawyer. Setterlund is currently clerking for Magistrate Judge Diane Vescovo of the US District Court for the Western District of Tennessee.

How did you decide upon your major of medieval studies? This choice was an easy one for me. My parents were both teachers, and they took groups of students to Europe every year, sometimes several times a year. They always brought me along. As a kid, I loved to run around the castles and old Roman walls. As I grew older, these trips became incredible learning experiences. So, it just seemed like a natural choice for me. I really did not have a plan for my future when I came to UT, so I decided to follow my interests.

What features of your undergraduate education do you appreciate most? I truly appreciate all the research and writing opportunities. My writing vastly improved while pursuing my degree. The classes I took were often smaller, which increased the opportunity for back-and-forth dialogue between students and professors. I was rarely just one among 200 relentlessly lectured at. Participation was encouraged and expected, especially by Brian Carniello (History). At such a large university, it was nice to be involved with a smaller unit. The focus and attention I received truly allowed me to grow and mature academically, which has paid off dividends professionally. I really would not have changed anything about it.

What undergraduate readings do you remember most vividly? It would have to be Boethius’s Consolation of Philosophy, a work discussed in most medieval literature classes. It is something that I have read several times, and I will likely come back to it again. It is incredibly inspirational and poignant.

What aspects of your undergraduate education seemed to have particularly encouraged being “Ready for the World”? I spent my entire time at UT learning about other civilizations. The lens and focus in the classroom was always objective, not distorted by emotion or personal bias. Maintaining objectivity is crucial to becoming a more open-minded individual.

The article in Memphis Lawyer that discussed your research underlined the remarkable way in which your work as a law student bridged academia and local legal issues. Do you think you were just lucky, or were there certain intellectual habits you had acquired over the course of your education that pushed you in that direction? I think it may have been both luck and habit. The article I published tackled a timely voting rights issue for Shelby County residents. But I also wanted to pursue something I believed to be important and interesting while creating something useful for others. To me, that should be the goal of any academic endeavor.

Does your research on Tennessee voting mechanisms have broader implications? The legal issues concerning vote dilution are exclusively local, but I believe the social implications are widely applicable. The article demonstrates that we are still reeling from past legislative decisions and racial inequality. What’s tragic to me is that we can look back and objectively say, “Wow, we really blew it.” But we continually make decisions today that are just as irrational, showing no concern for the future.

Do you have any suggestions for undergraduates who are majoring in the humanities and considering a legal career? For faculty who advise students who are thinking about such a course of action? For students who feel undecided but wish to have a fulfilling career? I would say that students need to do their homework before pursuing a legal career. It is an incredibly tough job market. This decision should not be made upon a whim or solely upon the advice of law school admission staff. I would recommend that students reach out to practicing attorneys or try to get some experience in a legal setting before enrolling. For those majoring in the humanities, courses with a strong focus on research and writing will pay off. To those who are undecided, follow your interests. You can never go wrong going down that path. And if you haven’t found your niche, keep looking!

What are your future aspirations? I’m not the kind of person to have a five- or ten-year plan. But I know I want to continue to take time to serve my community. I’d also like to get back in the classroom and teach as an adjunct professor.
Don’t miss the 10th Annual Marco Symposium!

GROUNDING THE BOOK
Readers, Writers, & Places in the Pre-Modern World
March 1–3, Lindsay Young Auditorium, Hodges Library

How have the physical sites of reading and writing interacted with the material form of books to shape how books are read and written? How have spaces such as the monk’s cell, the scholastic’s lecture hall, or the humanist’s study left their marks on books, allowing us to gain insight into the reading practices of those who studied them? What role have books played in giving meaning to the rooms in which they were kept?

Our tenth annual symposium will bring together scholars from a range of disciplines to answer these questions and more. Please join us as our speakers explore the complex interaction between pre-modern writers and readers, their books, and the places—libraries, museums, monasteries, university classrooms, the courts of patrons—where they wrote and read them. The layout of a copied or printed page, the other works with which a text appears in a book, the marginalia that so frequently appear in margins—all these and many other aspects of the “material text” open valuable windows through which we can catch glimpses of writers and readers at work.

All lectures are free and open to the public. In honor of the keynote, Hodges Library Special Collections will be open after hours. Please stop by before (5:30–6:45 p.m.) or after (8:15–9:00 p.m.) the keynote lecture to view the exhibit The Pre-Modern Book: Framing the word, framing the world.

Please contact the Marco offices at 865-974-1859 for information on parking.

Anthony Grafton, Henry Putnam Professor of History at Princeton University, will deliver the keynote address, “Reading Across Borders in Renaissance Europe,” on March 1 at 7:00 p.m.