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Nicole Hamonic, who after six years of dedicated service
University, and another to our medieval studies lecturer,
a prestigious four-year research position at Cambridge
Swann, who had been with us in 2013–2014 but left for
farewells: one to our Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow, Lizzie
Antique Cappadocia.” And we bid two sad but proud
Speare and Ireland,” and “Textual Pleasures in Late
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and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship, the Anne Marie
as the awarding of student prizes, including the Jimmy
our third annual Graduate Fellows Evening (p. 13) as well
(rhymes with “piazza”). For the administrative and
organizations and our faculty. I am especially excited about
the present and future of Marco as we welcome History Professor Thomas E. Bur-
man as the incoming Riggsby director. Professor Burman, who was just named to a Distinguished Professorship in
the Humanities, is a decorated medievalist who specializes in intellectual and religious history with a focus on inter-
actions between Latin Christendom and Arab Islam. The
author of two acclaimed monographs (his 2007 Reading the Qur’an in Latin Christendom, 1140–1560 won the
Jacques Barzun Prize in Cultural History) and the recipi-
ent of two NEH Fellowships, Professor Burman will bring
 scholarly luster to the institute. He has been involved in
Marco since its inception, serving on a variety of commit-
tees and organizing the extremely successful 2012 sym-
posium, “Grounding the Book.” He is also an experienced
administrator and a great champion of undergraduate and
graduate education in the humanities. I am certain he will
continue to advance Marco’s agenda as a leading center
for the study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

I also am very pleased with Marco’s accomplishments
this past year. Enabled by the generosity of our donors,
the institute continued to emphasize the importance of the humanities at UT by pursuing new historical and cultural
knowledge, devising new pedagogical approaches to our
subject matter, supporting interdisciplinary connections
on and off campus, and forging scholarly alliances at the
regional as well as international levels.

Spring semester got off to a terrific start with the Ninth
Annual Marco Manuscript Workshop, organized by Roy
Liuzza (English). It was followed by our very successful
annual symposium, “Reconceiving Pre-Modern Spaces”
(p. 5). The symposium was organized by committee chair
Rachel Golden (Musicology) along with Laura Howes
(English), Gregor Kalas (Art and Architecture), and Saman-
tha Murphy (English). The final weeks of the semester saw
our third annual Graduate Fellows Evening (p. 13) as well
as the awarding of student prizes, including the Jimmy
and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship, the Anne Marie
Van Hook Travel Award, and four Keith Taylor undergradu-
atе essay prizes (p. 14).

During the summer we enjoyed the company of a
large and exciting group of Lindsay Young Visiting Fac-
ulty Fellows, who came to pursue a variety of projects
such as “Anglo-Saxon Constructions of Space,” “Shake-
speare and Ireland,” and “Textual Pleasures in Late
Antique Cappadocia.” And we bid two sad but proud
farewells: one to our Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow, Lizzie
Swann, who had been with us in 2013–2014 but left for
a prestigious four-year research position at Cambridge
University, and another to our medieval studies lecturer,
Nicole Hamonic, who after six years of dedicated service
to our undergraduates left for a tenure-track position at
the University of South Dakota.

In the fall we focused attention first on a presentation
on medieval music given by Professor Golden as part of
a developing colloquium for graduate students and then
on the eleventh annual Riggsby Lecture, featuring Jon-
athan Phillips of the University of London (p. 6), who gave
a tremendous talk on the Sultan Saladin to an overflowing
crowd in Hodges Auditorium. We also welcomed a new
medieval studies lecturer, Lauren Whitnah, who is a recently
minted PhD from the University of Notre Dame and is flour-
ishing in her new position. Thanks go to Tom Burman, Mat-
thew Gillis (History), and Rachel Golden for working with
me on the search committee for Lauren’s position.

In addition to these specific events, Marco continues to
support reading groups, to co-sponsor other humanities
initiatives, and to fund the research and teaching projects
of our faculty and students. For the administrative and
organizational foundations for all these efforts we are
extremely grateful to Program Coordinator Vera Pantan-
zipoulos-Broux, who works tirelessly to ensure Marco
runs smoothly and effectively. As you can see, we are
tremendously busy in our offices in Greve Hall and around
campus, and we hope you will join us for one of our many
upcoming events (p. 15).

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the
Riggsby director of Marco for the past four years. I am
grateful for the support of Marco faculty, students, friends,
and donors, thanks to whom the institute can boast a wide
range of scholarly and pedagogical accomplishments—
from hosting an extremely successful meeting of the Medi-
eval Academy of America in 2013 and initiating a Graduate
Fellows Evening to hosting important symposia and con-
tinuing to offer new and established fellowships, scholar-
ships and other awards to students and faculty. I know that
Professor Burman will continue to enhance this tradition.
Director’s Letter
THOMAS E. BURMAN, INCOMING RIGGSBY DIRECTOR

After a little more than a month as Riggsby Director of Marco, I keep finding myself thinking about the institute’s success, but also about what great opportunities for growth lie before us. That success, which is well beyond what we imagined when the MARCO Initiative was founded more than a decade ago, has been the result of the terrific leadership of Robert Bast, Michael Kulikowski, Laura Howes, and most recently Heather Hirschfeld, who have built and guided Marco with consistent industry and insight.

It is also the result of remarkable faculty who have thrown themselves into organizing more than a decade of terrific symposia, research seminars, invited lecturers, remarkable graduate courses, undergrad research conferences, and a host of other activities.

Graduate students also have been key contributors. I recently had the great pleasure of attending the tenth annual Manuscript Workshop, organized by advanced PhD students in English, Scott Bevill and Teresa Hooper, who came up with the theme “Mind the Gaps” and did most of the heavy organizational lifting.

Marco has never been one of those many university centers or institutes which exist almost entirely on a website and are little more than a collection of CVs. The institute’s success is also a consequence of exceptional staff work. Elizabeth Burman (if you’ll permit some family bragging), Erin Read, and now Vera Pantanizopoulos-Broux have each brought amazing competence, energy, and vision to the hard job of making Marco work.

Indeed, it’s worth reflecting briefly on Marco’s contributions to the study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance at UT. For starters, the institute’s existence has played a key role in preserving and adding to the number of faculty positions in medieval and Renaissance studies across the college and university. Not only are there medievalist positions in classics, English, and history that were a direct consequence of the establishment of Marco, but also our resources played a key role in recruiting and retaining the excellent scholars who occupy them.

We can likewise thank Marco for the ability to attract amazing graduate students. Just this year, and just in my department, we had premodern applicants with top GRE scores from Notre Dame, York University, and Duke, and the same story can be told in other departments as well. It is this that accounts for the fact that this semester Professor Maura Lafferty and I have the rare pleasure of teaching a graduate seminar on Latin paleography and medieval book culture to five ambitious graduate students, each with excellent command of Latin and great research ideas.

Marco’s delicious success could easily keep us, though, from thinking about the opportunities for—and indeed the necessity of—further growth. There is much more Marco could be doing to support our graduate students and faculty. The academic market has been fiercely competitive for well more than a generation, and the recession of 2008, which led to the permanent cutting of countless academic positions across the country, made it even more so. Marco, which has been so successful in recruiting fine graduate students, must do a better job of getting them placed in good jobs in universities and other cultural institutions.

Stipends for graduate students have stagnated at state universities for much of the last decade, and continuing success in recruiting will depend on making competitive offers to incoming students. Marco needs to help cash-strapped departments by topping up grad stipends. Faculty members in today’s universities are all busier than they were a generation ago, and the standards for tenure and promotion have risen dramatically. Yet outside funding for humanities research has fallen (and continues to fall) precipitately. Marco needs to take better care of the faculty members who have taken such good care of it.

All of this will cost a lot of money, yet no one anywhere in higher education thinks substantial new resources are ever going to be available for higher education from the states. Quite the contrary. Therefore, as director of the institute, I see my central task over the coming years to be finding new funding resources—talking up how fine a thing Marco is to potential donors, foundation officers, and federal agencies. And I encourage all Marco faculty, students, and friends to begin thinking in a similarly entrepreneurial way. We’ve come a very long way in the last fifteen years, but we still have plenty of work to do.
Eleventh Annual Marco Symposium

“Reconceiving Pre-Modern Spaces,” March 6–8, 2014

The Marco Institute’s signature event is its annual symposium, which brings together internationally recognized scholars to present their research and promote multidisciplinary conversation. Symposium topics are organized around pressing issues in medieval and Renaissance scholarship, which also have relevance and currency for the broader community. The 2014 symposium, “Reconceiving Pre-Modern Spaces,” addressed some of our own moment’s most pressing concerns about the built and natural environment, the role of geography in shaping politics and culture, and the material as well as phenomenological meaning of global interaction.

Organized by Committee Chair Rachel Golden, Laura Howes, Gregor Kalas, and Samantha Murphy, the symposium focused on the rich ways in which pre-modern peoples conceived of space: as physical reality, philosophical idea, and topic of artistic expression. It engaged with recent scholarship on landscape, urbanism, geography, cartography, soundscape, and ecocriticism, which all variously acknowledge how realities and readings of space fundamentally shaped the lands, populations, and cultures of late
antique, medieval, and Renaissance peoples. Scholars were asked to consider a range of questions such as: How did premodern peoples interact with the physical lands they inhabited? How did they map and represent the spaces of their world? How did they define their identities, express culture, and experience their daily lives within the confines and possibilities of their environments, both natural and built? How did they create spaces, both real and in the imagination?

The symposium’s keynote speaker was Diane Favro, professor of architecture and design at UCLA, who has special interests in Roman architecture and urbanism and digital humanities. She is director of the UCLA Experiential Technologies Center and was recently the co-recipient of an NEH grant, “Digital Cultural Mapping.” Her keynote address, “Bricks into Marble: Reverse Engineering Augustan Rome,” was a tour de force of humanistic scholarship and technological prowess, as she presented a digital reconstruction of the architectural features of Augustan Rome over several decades.

Other invited speakers represented a variety of disciplines and contributed to a developing intellectual conversation over the course of the weekend, with talks ranging from Iranian cosmology in late antiquity to the experience of sound in St. Paul’s Cathedral. The symposium ended with a lively roundtable discussion moderated by Professor Golden. Speakers included Benjamin Anderson (Cornell University), Ellen Arnold (Ohio Wesleyan University), Matthew Canepa (University of Minnesota), Megan Cassidy-Welch (Monash University), Margot Fassler (University of Notre Dame), Gregor A. Kalas (University of Tennessee), Louisa Mackenzie (University of Washington), Craig A. Monson (Washington University in St. Louis), Ricardo Padrón (University of Virginia), and John Wall (North Carolina State University).

The Institute is grateful to sponsors of the event: the Department of History, the Hodges Better English Fund, Ready for the World, and the School of Music.

Eleventh Annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture

In November 2014, Marco hosted renowned Crusades scholar Jonathan Phillips of the University of London to give the eleventh annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture.


Phillips’s lecture, “Saladin: Life and Legend,” drew a standing-room-only crowd to the Lindsay Young Auditorium in Hodges Library. His talk traced the figure of the Sultan Saladin from the late twelfth century, when he became the hero of Sunni Islam as the man who recovered Jerusalem from the crusaders, into the twenty-first century as he continues to be an immensely potent symbol of religious and military resistance to the West. Phillips’s review of Saladin’s career and reputation over the centuries appealed both to specialists of the Middle Ages as well as to students of modern world religions and conflict.

Before the lecture, Phillips met with graduate students to discuss their projects as well as his own experiences as an archivist and contributor to projects for the History Channel and other popular media outlets.

The annual Riggsby Lecture is made possible by a gift from Stuart and Kate Riggsby.
“Mind the Gaps,” February 6–7, 2015

The tenth annual Marco Manuscript Workshop was held Friday and Saturday, February 6–7, at the University of Tennessee. Professor Thomas Burman and PhD candidates Scott Bevill and Teresa Hooper organized this year’s event.

The workshop took up the question posed by William Sherman in his 2008 *Used Books: Marking Readers in Renaissance England*: “Are books from the past precious relics, in which marginalia are dirt or desecration, or are they inanimate objects (like pots or arrowheads) that are only brought to life by traces of the human hands and minds that used them?”

This year’s workshop sought to address this question by highlighting not only studies of marginalia but also erasures, lacunae, palimpsests, and the transformative processes of rebounding and repurposing. After fires, water, rats, cats, early modern editors, contemporary censors, later bookbinders, and other disasters have damaged manuscripts, we nevertheless discover that we can learn much from what is missing from or added to a manuscript. The life of these books may be found not only through the text written on the page, but also scribbled in the margins, erased between the lines, pasted within the bindings, glossed on the endpapers, or folded into the quires. What do we see when we look in the gaps? How can we develop new ways to explore the rich textual interplay of imperfect manuscripts? What meaning and value can we recover from cases of dirt and desecration?

Each year, the manuscript workshop is open to scholars and students at any rank and in any field who are engaged in textual editing, manuscript studies, or epigraphy. 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 was 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 toward developing better professional skills for textual and codicological work. We welcomed the presentation of works in progress, unusual manuscript problems, practical difficulties, and new or experimental models for studying or representing manuscript texts.

The workshop is open at no cost to scholars and students who do not wish to present their own work but are interested in sharing a lively weekend of discussion and ideas about manuscript studies.
Marco-Sponsored Session at Kalamazoo in Honor of the Manuscript Workshop’s Tenth Anniversary

The Marco Institute is sponsoring a special session and reception at the fiftieth International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Marco Manuscript Workshop and its commitment to gathering scholars to share their work on manuscripts and codicology in an informal collaborative setting.

The session, “Celebrating Ten Years of the Marco Manuscript Workshop: Mind the Gaps,” has been designed to reinforce the guiding principle of the workshop—that scholars of all levels can better work through the thorny issues of textual scholarship with an engaged scholarly community, which can also open up new avenues of research for projects in development. “Mind the Gaps” will focus on understanding how readers interact with the physical layout of the page, script choice, or text-image interaction. It will feature papers covering topics like erasures, marginalia, missing portions, possible cases of censorship, or the disassembly and rebinding of manuscripts in the early modern period. Thanks go to Mary Dzon (English) as well as Scott Bevill (English) and Teresa Hooper (English) for their work in organizing the session and reception.

Riggsby Marco Reading Room

The Riggsby Marco Reading Room continues to blossom as a space for Marco’s library and computerized catalogue and an attractive place for faculty and students to read and write. During the summer, and with the guidance of Hodges librarian Anne Bridges, we carefully added to our existing book collection with reference materials and select monographs, including faculty books as well as publications by our past Riggsby lecturers and symposium keynote speakers. History graduate student Sam Gleason has been hard at work cataloguing and shelving these new acquisitions. Specially selected desks and chairs arrived over the summer, and their arts-and-crafts sensibility creates a warm environment.

The reading room is made possible by a gift from Stuart and Kate Riggsby.
Faculty News

Mary Dzon (English) presented the paper, “White, Brown, and Beautiful: The Color(s) of Christ’s Skin,” in July 2014 at the New Chaucer Society conference in Reykjavik, Iceland. In May, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, she gave the paper “Demythologizing the Golden Gate Kiss in Two Late Medieval Manuscripts.” In April, she delivered a commentary for the session on “Marian Emotions” at the annual Sewanee Medieval Colloquium. Dzon’s essay “Out of Egypt, Into England: Tales of the Good Thief for Medieval English Audiences” was recently published in Devotional Culture in Late Medieval England and Europe: Diverse Imaginations of Christ’s Life (Brepols, 2014).

Matthew Bryan Gillis (History) joined the history department as an assistant professor in fall 2014. His article, “Heresy in the Flesh: Gottschalk of Orbais and the Predestination Controversy in the Archdiocese of Rheims,” is in press for the volume Hincmar of Rheims: Life and Work (Manchester University Press). In January 2014, he presented his paper, “Songs of Subversion and Grace: A Ninth-Century Spirituality of Dissent,” at the American Historical Association and American Society of Church History in Washington, DC. He also presented his research in Einsiedeln, Switzerland, giving the paper “Headless and on the Road: Troublesome Monks in the Carolingian World” at the conference Nach Rom gehen—Monastische Reisekultur im Mittelalter, Internationales Kolloquium am Stiftsarchiv St. Gallen in September 2014. He was on leave during the fall 2014 semester and spoke on “What was the Worm for in a Dark Age?” in a workshop at the American Academy in Berlin in December 2014.

Brandon W. Hawk (English) joined UT as a teaching postdoc in August 2014. He has two articles forthcoming: “A Handwritten Prayer in the Folger Shakespeare Library’s Copy of Richard Hynde’s Instruction of a Christen Woman,” in Notes and Queries (2015), and “Old English Apocrypha,” in The Encyclopedia of Medieval British Literature (Wiley-Blackwell). He also has written two book reviews for Christianity and Literature and the Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha.


Also in May, Hawk was named director of the Digital Research Center for the Collaborative Sources of Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture project in partnership with Amsterdam University Press. In this role he is at work with a team of scholars and publishers to establish an online, open-access database for completed project entries, a repository of resources for research and teaching, and a community for collaborative work on subjects related to the aims of SASLC.

Heather Hirschfeld (English) published her second book, The End of Satisfaction: Drama and Repentance in the Age of Shakespeare, with Cornell University Press in May 2014. She attended the Shakespeare Association of America Conference as an invited participant in a seminar on theater and judgment in April, where she presented a paper on the Caroline dramatist Richard Brome’s The Antipodes and legal and political improvisation. She gave a talk on The Merchant of Venice at the Knoxville Jewish Community Center in May and has been contracted as the editor of a thirty-five-volume collection for Oxford University Press—The Oxford Handbook of Shakespearean Comedy.

Laura L. Howes (English) has seen one article into print recently, with a second forthcoming. Her “Chaucer’s Forests, Parks, and Groves” appeared in The Chaucer Review (2014), and her “Romancing the City: Margery Kempe in Rome” is forthcoming in the journal Studies in Philology (2014). A trip with her family to Spain in early 2014 heightened her interest in medieval Islamic gardens.

Gregor Kalas (Architecture) received a grant to participate in a National Endowment summer seminar, “Reform and Renewal in Medieval Rome,” hosted by the American Academy in Rome. The research he conducted in Rome concerned the church of Santa Maria Antiqua and he presented some of the results of his investigations at conferences, including the annual meeting of the College Art Association, the Marco annual symposium, and the International Medieval Congress at the University of Leeds. In fall 2014, he delivered two public talks on the late antique architecture and outdoor statues of the Roman Forum—one presented at Duke University and the other at Vanderbilt University.

Jacob Latham (History) was a Fellow at the University of Tennessee Humanities Center (2013–2014), during which time he completed a monograph (under review) and a couple of journal articles (in press). In addition, he published the article “Battling Bishops, the Roman Aristocracy, and the Contestation of Space in Late Antique Rome,” in Religious Competition in the Third Century CE: Jews, Christians, and the Greco-Roman World (Vandenhoock and Ruprecht, 2014). He also delivered papers at several conferences: “The Ritual Rhythms of the pompa circensis: Gravity, Levity, Spectacle, and Ritual Failure;” Cultures of Late Antiquity (University of Tennessee, November 2013); “Performative...”
Faculty News

Theology and Roman Ritual: Religious ‘Thinking’ in the pompa circensis,” Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting (Baltimore, Maryland, November 2013); and “Rolling Out the Red Carpet Roman Style: adventus, occursus and the Christianization of Rome,” North American Patristics Society annual meeting (Chicago, Illinois, May 2014).


She also presented “Teaching Literature and Humanities in Fourteenth-Century Cultural Contexts” at the Southeastern Medieval Association Conference (SEMA) on Conflicts and Conquests in Atlanta, Georgia (October 2014).

Samantha Murphy (English) presented a paper at the South Central Renaissance Conference’s annual meeting in April 2014 on “Reproducing the Commonwealth: Incestuous Economies in John Ford and John Milton.” This talk examined Ford’s incest drama ‘Tis Pity She’s a Whore, Milton’s Eikonoklastes, and the English Civil War. In November 2014, Murphy co-organized a panel on “Strategies for Teaching British Drama and Culture” for the Midwest Modern Language Association’s annual conference. Her paper for the panel, “Performing Culture: Teaching Early Modern British Culture Through Drama,” focused on teaching The Taming of the Shrew.

Anthony Minnema’s (History) article, “Algazel Latinus: The Audience of the Summa theoricæ philosophiæ, 1150–1600,” was accepted for publication by Traditio, an internationally peer-reviewed journal of ancient and medieval history (December 2014). He participated in a week-long summer workshop on medieval manuscripts in Yale’s Beinecke Library with a Directors’ Scholarship from the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia and support of the Marco Institute.

Aleydis Van de Moortel (Classics) spent 2013-2014 on an NEH-funded research leave at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece, working on the publication of the Mitrou Archaeological Project. She focuses on the stratigraphy and architecture of this prehistoric site. She published two co-written peer-reviewed articles: “Micromorphological Analysis of Sediments at the Bronze Age Site of Mitrou, Central Greece: Patterns of Floor Construction and Maintenance,” Journal of Archaeological Science; and “A Horse Bridle Piece with Carpatho-Danubian Connections from Late Helladic I Mitrou and the Emergence of a Warlike Elite in Greece During the Shaft-Grave Period,” American Journal of Archaeology.

Aleydis also gave eight invited lectures about Mitrou: a lecture in the Director’s series at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens; three more invited lectures at the Aegaeus Society, the Italian School at Athens, and the Open University of Lokris; two conference papers; and two invited papers at the University of Uppsala in Sweden, where she presented the inaugural Axel W. Person Lecture on Aegean Prehistory. In summer 2014, Aleydis co-directed the sixth study season of the Mitrou Archaeological Project in Greece.

This year, Aleydis is back at UT and teaching an upper-division class on Aegean prehistory and a graduate seminar focused on Mitrou. Aleydis continues to serve as secretary-treasurer of the AIA’s East Tennessee Society.

Amy Neff’s (School of Art) work this past year has focused on the editing of her book, A Soul’s Journey into God: Image, Text, and Devotion in the Supplicationes variae, accepted for publication by the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto. Its publication has been substantially supported by the Lila Acheson Wallace-Reader’s Digest Publications Grant, administered by the Harvard University Center for Renaissance Studies at Villa I Tatti. Neff has also gratefully received smaller grants from the Marco Institute and the Tennessee Center for the Humanities.

Another publication is in the exhibition catalogue Sanctity Pictured: The Art of the Dominican and Franciscan Orders in Renaissance Italy. Her essay “Painting, Devotion, and the Franciscans: An Introduction” is intended to guide the general public as well as a scholarly audience to appreciate and understand the spectacular exhibition of paintings and manuscript illumination that is on display at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, October 30, 2014 through January 25, 2015.

In May, Neff was invited to travel to London to participate in a symposium on medieval mendicant art, sponsored by the Courtauld Institute of Art. Her talk was titled “The Embodied Illuminated Manuscript: the Supplicationes variae and Pacino di Bonaguida’s Life of Christ.” It was a wonderful
opportunity to share research with other scholars and to see some of the splendid illuminated manuscripts in the collections of the British Library and the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Neff continues to hold a Lindsay Young Professorship in Art History and was promoted to full professor.

Tina Shepardson’s (Religious Studies) big news of this past year is that the University of California Press released her second book, Controlling Contested Places: Late Antique Antioch and the Spatial Politics of Religious Controversy, in April. She is very excited to see it in print and is honored that it will be the subject of a session at this year’s AAR/SBL conference in San Diego, California—the biggest national religious studies conference of the year. In the meantime, she has been enjoying getting started on her next big project, which will be on Christianity in Syria and Mesopotamia from the fifth through the eighth centuries. She had one essay published this fall, two other articles submitted to edited volumes, and a co-authored chapter in an edited volume that was recently published.

In 2014, Shepardson also accepted invitations to talk about her research to a seminar at Brown University and at conferences in Switzerland and South Africa. She also has presented her research in Finland, Chicago, at Vanderbilt University, and several places around Knoxville. She has been very excited to become better connected with the international scholarly community in her field and is very happy to be an international research partner in the project “Religious Conflict and the Stages of Radicalisation,” based in the Early Christian Studies research concentration in the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry at Australian Catholic University.

Shepardson has accepted some new national service commitments, including becoming a board member of the North American Patristics Society and a member of the prize committee for the American Society of Church History, while continuing to co-chair the Early Jewish/Christian Relations Session for the national Society of Biblical Literature. On campus, she continues to chair the faculty research seminar on “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity” and the university’s research council. She also remains active on several curriculum committees and the Marco Institute.

It has been her pleasure to welcome more graduate students in Late Antiquity to UT, which has created opportunities for her to teach recent graduate seminars.

Anthony Welch (English) presented papers at three conferences in 2013–2014, including “Anthropology and Anthropophagy in The Faerie Queene” at the South-eastern Renaissance Conference (November 2013) and an invited paper, “English Mock Heroic from Milton to Pope,” for the symposium Milton in the Long Restoration at Stanford University (April 2014). He was awarded a Faculty Fellowship at UT’s Humanities Center for 2014–2015, where he is working on his book From Troy to Tenochtitlan: Colonial Epic and World History.

Graduate Fellowship Support in Action

Paul Barrette Student Travel and Research Prize
Lydia Walker, a PhD student in history, was the recipient of the 2014 Paul Barrette Travel Prize, which funds travel for graduate students to do archival research or to participate in scholarly conferences. The award, generously endowed in 2013 by Stuart and Kate Riggsby, honors Emeritus Professor of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures Paul Barrette, a beacon in medieval scholarship and teaching at UT. Walker used her $1,000 award to travel to the 2014 International Medieval Congress at the University of Leeds, where she presented the paper “Competing Exegeses in James of Vitry’s Crusade Preaching.”
Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship
Katie Hodges-Kluck, a PhD candidate in history, was honored to be the recipient of the 2014 Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship. She spent a month in England doing research for her dissertation, “The Matter of Jerusalem: The Holy Land in Angevin Court Culture and Identity, ca. 1154–1216”—a project that tracks the development of English identity during the reigns of the Angevin kings Henry II, Richard I, and John. In April 2014, she gave a talk about her dissertation at the third annual Marco Graduate Fellows Night. During academic year 2014–2015 Hodges-Kluck is a Graduate Fellow at the UT Humanities Center. In November 2014, she presented the paper, “Helena, Constantine, and the Angevin Desire for Jerusalem” at the Haskins Society Conference in Northfield, Minnesota.

Jimmy and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship
Thomas Lecaque, a PhD candidate in history, earned the 2014–2015 Jimmy and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship. He is extremely grateful for the fellowship year, which he will use to complete his dissertation, “The Count of Saint-Gilles and the Saints of the Apocalypse: Occitanian Culture and Piety in the Time of the First Crusade.” His project is under contract with Ashgate Press for their new series Rulers of the East, under the tentative title of Raymond of Saint-Gilles: The Lord of Occitania, the Saints of the Apocalypse, and the Making of a Mediterranean Principality. He presented at the International Medieval Conference at Leeds in July 2014, and the article-version of the paper “Reading Raymond: The Bible of Le Puy, the Cathedral Library and the Literary Background of the Liber of Raymond d’Aguilera” is under contract to be published in the edited volume The Use of the Bible in Crusading Sources, forthcoming from Brill.

Lecaque examines an archival manuscript.

His book review of Charity Urbanski’s Writing History for the King appeared in Comitatus 45 (2014), and his conference paper “Beautiful Lands, Barbarous People: Crusade Chronicles and the Crown of Ioannitsa” was published in the Proceedings of the Third National Conference “Bulgaria in the World Cultural Heritage.”

Lecaque also presented a paper at SEMA in October 2014. The paper, “Pray for the Soul of Arvedus Tudebodus: Crusade Necrology and the Remembrance of Friends Lost in the Chronicles of the First Crusade,” was presented in the session “Conflict, Memory, and Loss in the Medieval Mediterranean,” sponsored by the Malta Study Center at the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library. Lecaque also was extremely fortunate to have received the W.K. McClure Scholarship for the Study of World Affairs and the Medieval Academy’s Etienne Gilson Dissertation Grant, which he used for archival research in France, the UK, and Switzerland.
Anne Breyer (English) presented the paper “The Clerk’s School for Aristocratic Wives: Grisilde’s Failure as a Public Figure” in June 2014 at the second annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Saint Louis University.

Andrew Eichel (English) received funding from the Marco Institute and the English department to continue archival research in England and Scotland during summer 2014. He also has been awarded the English department’s Joseph Trahern Medieval/Renaissance Literature Dissertation Fellowship and the Owens-Keenan Medieval, Southern, and Children’s Literature Dissertation Award. Additionally, the BABEL Working Group gave Eichel a travel grant to attend the forty-ninth International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University. In January 2015, he presented his paper “Translation and the Mediation of Anglo-Saxon Conceptions of Nature” at the MLA conference in Vancouver, Canada.

In May 2015, he will present “Taboo & Scandal: Translation Anxiety in Anglo-Saxon Literature” at the fiftieth International Congress on Medieval Studies. In spring 2015, his essay “Augustinian Memory and Place” will appear in a collection from McFarland, entitled Neil Gaiman in the 21st Century: Essays on the Novels, Children’s Stories, Online Writings, Comics, and Other Works. Finally, his review of Andrew Cole’s recent book The Birth of Theory can be found in the upcoming winter issue of College Literature.

Stefan Hodges-Kluck (History) passed his comprehensive exams in December 2013 and defended his prospectus in May 2014. His dissertation, “Educating the Body, Educating the Soul: The Cappadocian Fathers and the Late Antique East,” explores the intersection of education and religion in the works of Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Gregory of Nyssa (the Cappadocian Fathers) and their contemporaries in the Roman Empire of the fourth century CE. In July 2014, he presented a conference paper, “Ascesis and the Construction of Sacred Space” in Cambridge, as part of the Network for the Study of Late Antiquity panel. The paper included substantial portions of the first chapter of his dissertation.

Graduate Student News

Third Annual Graduate Fellows Evening

Marco’s spring 2014 programming concluded with public lectures to Marco faculty, students, and friends by graduate student fellowship winners. Scott Bevill, the winner of the 2013 Anne Marie Van Hook Travel Award, described the rewards of his archival work in England and Europe in the presentation “Old English Dictionaries in Early Modern England: An Aelf Story.” A PhD candidate in English, Bevill’s doctoral dissertation, “The Lost Books of Antiquity,” focuses on the recovery and study of Anglo-Saxon language and literature in the later Middle Ages and Renaissance.


The Haslam Dissertation Fellowship provides a $15,000 stipend for the academic year as well as tuition and benefits. The Van Hook Travel Award provides $5,000 for research at international archives. The Marco Institute is very grateful to their benefactors.

Marco will host another Fellows Evening this year, as part of an effort to provide professionalizing experience for Marco students and to give the public an opportunity to learn about their extraordinary and unique scholarship. The 2015 Graduate Fellows Evening will be held on campus on April 23.
ENGL 207: Honors British Literature I

Professor Mary Dzon’s fall 2014 Honors British Literature class, which covered material from the Anglo-Saxon period to Jonathan Swift, had a segment on medieval drama. During this part of the semester, groups of students performed biblical plays of their choice, in some cases reciting their lines in the original Middle English.

The performance voted as the best by the class was that of Noah’s Flood from the Chester Cycle, which included the sacrificial offering of stuffed animals after the deluge. Second place went to N-Town’s The Taking of the Woman in Adultery, which involved a young man fleeing the “crime scene” and what many students characterized as a “sassy” Jesus wearing sunglasses. Here, Jesus (played by Matt Scott) can be seen writing the sins of the scribes and Pharisees in the sand. Many students remarked that they appreciated the plays a lot more by enacting them.

Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Recipients, Spring–Summer 2014

Thanks to the generosity of the Aslan Foundation, these nonservice fellowships bring scholars from Tennessee and the neighboring region to UT. They allow faculty members to conduct research for their projects.

Edward Christie (Georgia State University), “Anglo-Saxon Epistemologies: Knowledge and Secrecy in English Literature”

Laura Cochrane (Middle Tennessee State University), “Time and Eternity in the Prefatory Image Cycle of the Tiberius Psalter (British Library, Cotton, Tiberius C. VI)”

Nicole Discenza (University of South Florida), “Inhabited Spaces: Anglo-Saxon Constructions of Place” and “What’s a heofon for?”

Ana Grinberg (East Tennessee State University), “Differ- ence on the Edges: Clothing, Armor, and Language as Disguise in Medieval Romances”

Thomas Herron (East Carolina University), “Shakespeare and Ireland”

Nathan Howard (UT Martin), “Textual Pleasures in Late Antique Cappadocia”

Brian Maxson (East Tennessee State University), “Thieves and Traitors: A History of Corruption in Renaissance Florence”

Brendan Prawdzik (Christian Brothers University), “Milton on Stage: Theatricality and the Spiritual Body”

Lynn Ramey (Vanderbilt University), “Jean Bodel”

Kimberly Reigle (Mars Hill University), “Defensive Virginity in Early Modern English Literature”

Chad Schrock (Lee University), “Chaucer’s Bible Stories: Invention, Interpretation, Agency”


Undergraduate Excellence

Keith Taylor Undergraduate Essay Prize

Thanks to the generosity of Keith Taylor, who holds a PhD in English from UT and is now the president and executive director of the charitable agency Modest Needs, the Marco Institute is able to give awards to exceptional undergraduate essays. The essays, on any topic pertaining to medieval and Renaissance studies, are drawn from classes taught during the year. A committee of Marco faculty evaluates submissions on the basis of scholarly significance, quality of research, clarity of argument, creativity and independence of thought, and effectiveness of writing style.

The institute has been sponsoring the competition since 2012. In 2014, first ($500), second ($300), third ($200), and fourth ($100) prizes were awarded to the following students:

Allison Gose, a senior majoring in history and political science, won first prize for her essay “Ethics of Heloise,” written for History 429 with Professor Matthew Gillis.

Taylor Holmes, a senior majoring in history, won second prize for his essay “Reichsstadt: Representations of Imperial Power and Civic Pride in Nuremberg, c. 1100–1500,” written for MRST 403 with Professor Laura Howes.

Megan Faust, a sophomore majoring in psychology, won third prize for her essay “Paganism in Medieval Christendom: The Effects of Classical Learning on Abelard and Heloise,” written for MRST 202 with Professor Nicole Hamonic.

The Southeastern Medieval Association met in downtown Atlanta in October 2014, co-hosted by Clayton State University and the University of West Georgia. The Marco Institute once again sponsored a session, which featured papers by graduate students from a UT seminar. Presenting on the general theme of “Chaucerian Conflicts,” English PhD students Kendra Slayton, Andrew Todd, and Ben McClendon shared their work on Chaucer’s Tale of Melibee, The Franklin’s Tale, and The Miller’s Tale, work that was first researched in Laura Howes’s Chaucer seminar. Other Marco doctoral students who presented at the conference included Thomas Lecaque, Teresa Hooper, James Stewart, and Scott Bevill. New Marco faculty member Anne-Helene Miller also presented on “Teaching Literature and Humanities in Fourteenth-Century Cultural Contexts.”

Marco Events, 2014-2015

November 20, 2014
11th Annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture
Jonathan Phillips, Professor of History, University of London
“Saladin: From the Middle Ages to the Modern Day”
Lindsay Young Auditorium, Hodges Library, 5:30 p.m.

February 6–7, 2015
10th Annual Marco Manuscript Workshop
“Mind the Gaps”

April 9–11, 2015
12th Annual Marco Symposium
“Cry Havoc!: War, Diplomacy and Conspiracy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance”

April 23, 2015
4th Annual Marco Fellows Evening
Lectures by Thomas Lecaque, 2014–2015 Haslam Dissertation Prize recipient, and Lauren Whitnah, lecturer in Medieval and Renaissance Studies

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For more information on how to make a gift or a pledge, contact Marco at 865-974-1859 or the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Development at 865-974-2365.

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DON’T MISS THE 12TH ANNUAL MARCO SYMPOSIUM! APRIL 9–11, 2015

“CRY ‘HAVOC!’”: War, Diplomacy, and Conspiracy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance

Keynote speaker
TED GUP
Professor of Journalism, Emerson College

“The CIA and US Intelligence-Gathering, Post 9/11: Transformation and Consequences”

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 6:00 P.M.
Lindsay Young Auditorium, Hodges Library

The Marco Institute is pleased to present the symposium in collaboration with the Center for the Study of War and Society. Cosponsorship is provided by the Department of History, School of Music, School of Journalism, Hodges Better English Fund, and the Ready for the World Initiative. Find information on all symposium sessions and speakers at marco.utk.edu/symposium.