

MarcoNews

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On the cover: Detail from *Village Fair* by
Flemish artist Gillis Mostaert, 1590.

Top: Leaf from a Hijazi Qur’an, ca. seventh
century. Mingana Islamic Arabic Collection,
University of Birmingham.



Havoc and Madness: Marco Chronicles

THOMAS E. BURMAN, RIGGSBY DIRECTOR

It can feel that way—as Vera Pantanizopoulos-Broux, our astounding program coordinator can tell you—around Marco’s offices almost any day of the week. There may be a distinguished visiting lecturer to get to the right auditorium, doctoral exams going on in the conference room, graduate

students laboring over difficult, centuries-old texts or thick scholarly tomes in the library, Latin reading groups down the hall, publicity to approve, catering to arrange, first- and second-year undergraduates outside Lauren Whitnah’s office door: havoc and madness indeed, day after day, year in, year out.

☞ But a sense of havoc and madness—energetic, creative, visionary havoc and madness, that is—somehow captures the essence of the last year in particular for Marco. Havoc and madness bubbling up from the amazing group of scholars and students who comprise the Marco community and appear to be an eternal fountain of great ideas. Sustained by the generosity of our donors, all that creative energy has been doing great things.

One of the best of those bubbling ideas, one that seemed to be on everyone’s mind this year, was collaboration—with other UT units but also with outside institutions and organizations. As usual, the spring semester’s first event was the tenth annual Manuscript Workshop, organized by Scott Bevill and Teresa Hooper, both senior PhD students in English (p. 7). The last month of the semester saw our first collaborative symposium—“‘Cry havoc!’ War, Diplomacy, and Conspiracy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance,” sponsored jointly by Marco and UT’s Center for the Study of War and Society. It is the first of what I hope will be many collaborations on Marco’s signature event (p. 4). At the end of the semester, Marco joined forces with UT’s new Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES) in hosting the University of Chicago’s Michael A. Sells who lectured on “Love, Loss, and Multiple Personae in the *Translation of Desires* of Ibn al-‘Arabi” (a thirteenth-century Sufi poet) and read from his own renowned translations of those odes.

☞ The summer months brought both visiting Lindsay-Young fellows to Marco as well as students and scholars from off campus—Rutgers, Case-Western, Alabama, Sewanee—to join our graduate students in the Medieval-Latin Institute, and collaboration bubbled up there, too. Sandy Hughes, a Latin teacher at Knoxville’s Bearden High School, was among our summer Latinists, getting himself up to speed with later Latin in preparation for teaching a new curriculum that emphasizes both classical and postclassical Latin. He had the terrific idea of Marco and

BHS working together to enrich high school education, beginning with an annual Medieval and Renaissance Studies Day—what we’re calling Marco Madness—for regional students to be held April 2, 2016 (p. 14).

The fall term featured two outstanding visiting lectures. On September 28, 2015, Jan Ziolkowski, one of the leading scholars of Medieval Latin in the world and director of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library, lectured fascinatingly on the Gilded Age’s intriguing infatuation with medievalia in “The American Middle Ages,” while Paul M. Cobb, professor of medieval Islamic history at the University of Pennsylvania, presented this year’s Riggsby Lecture entitled “Charlemagne’s Muslim Elephant: Kingship, Nature, and Monotheism in the Early Middle Ages” on November 5 (p. 5). But the creative havoc and madness of collaboration continued to fill Marco’s hallways. Alongside our long-standing medieval Latin reading group, Clerk Shaw of the philosophy department launched KNAPSAC, a Greek reading group, and under the guidance of Laura Howes (English) and Lauren Whitnah (medieval and Renaissance studies), Marco sponsored a September Seminar for faculty and graduate students entitled “Place in Medieval Culture.”

☞ Moreover, there is a lot of collaborative medieval-and-Renaissance havoc and madness at UT for which Marco can’t really claim any credit at all but can merely salute: history PhD student Jack Love hosts a weekly Hebrew reading group in the religious studies department, and Charles Sanft (Chinese history) secured funding from the Humanities Center for “Manuscript Cultures,” a monthly research seminar featuring manuscript scholars from UT and elsewhere, focusing on the ancient to early modern periods. And, of course, Christine Shepardson continues to direct UT’s long-standing “Latin Antiquity” seminar, one of our key intellectual communities for premodern scholarship.

Thanks, therefore, to all the makers of creative madness and wreckers of collaborative havoc in Greve Hall and across UT’s campus and into the surrounding community. Visit us online at marco.utk.edu.

“Cry Havoc!”

Twelfth Annual Marco Symposium

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 2015 symposium, “Cry havoc!: War, Diplomacy, and Conspiracy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance,” was held last April and addressed some of our own moment's palpable concerns with the tactics and strategies of contemporary global conflict.

“Cry havoc!,” held in cooperation with the UT Center for the Study of War and Society, was organized by cochairs Heather Hirschfeld (English) and Vejas Liulevicius (history), Randi Marie Addicott (English), Matthew Gillis (history), and Jay Rubenstein (history). Speakers discussed the dangers, intrigue, and violence involved in medieval and early-modern statecraft, including premodern strategies of terror and piracy as well as technologies of surveillance and intelligence gathering.

The keynote speaker was Ted Gup, professor of journalism at Emerson College, who lectured on “The CIA and Intelligence-Gathering Post-9/11: Transformations and Consequences.” In a departure from tradition but very much in keeping with the goals of both Marco and the Center for the Study of War and Society, the keynote, which analyzed the development of CIA strategies over the last several decades, addressed the symposium's concerns from a contemporary perspective. Gup, a Pulitzer Prize finalist for his work on the CIA, is a former reporter for the

Washington Post and *Time* magazine, a MacArthur grantee and Guggenheim fellow, and the author of two trade books on intelligence operations in the United States: *Nation of Secrets: The Threat to Democracy and the American Way of Life* (Doubleday, 2007) and *The Book of Honor: Covert Lives and Classified Deaths at the CIA* (Doubleday, 2000).

Other invited speakers representing a variety of disciplines contributed to a developing intellectual conversation over the course of the weekend, with talks ranging from the concept of the medieval eyewitness of war to the role of captives and renegades in international diplomacy to the multivalent meaning of crusade song.

The symposium ended with a lively roundtable moderated by Professor Liulevicius. Speakers included Marcus Bull (University of North Carolina), Barbara Fuchs (University of California, Los Angeles), Rachel Golden (University of Tennessee), Catharine Gray (University of Illinois), Steven Justice (University of California, Berkeley), Mark Konner (University of Calgary), Helen Nicholson (Cardiff University), Clementine Oliver (California State University, Northridge), (Monash University), Jay Rubenstein (University of Tennessee), and Kate van Orden (Harvard University).

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

Find more information about the symposium and speakers at marco.utk.edu/symposium.



Raymond of Poitiers Welcoming Louis VII in Antioch



Charlemagne's Muslim Elephant

Twelfth Annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture

Perhaps the oddest factoid of Charlemagne's long and momentous rule is that, Latin sources tell us, the Muslim Caliph, Harun al-Rashid, sent him an elephant named Abu Abbas as a diplomatic gift—that vast quadruped apparently journeying all the way to Aachen where it survived German winters for at least a few years.

Paul M. Cobb, professor of medieval Islamic history at the University of Pennsylvania, constructed a learned and thought-provoking (and entertaining) Riggsby Lecture around this strange event entitled "Charlemagne's Muslim Elephant: Kingship, Nature, and Monotheism in the Early Middle Ages."

The author of several books, including *White Banners: Contention in 'Abbasid Syria, 750-880* and *The Race for Paradise: An Islamic History of the Crusades*, Cobb not only clarified some of the historical details of the elephant's

travels—he must have been sent to Charlemagne from North Africa, travelling by sea, for example, and not from Baghdad as scholars have supposed—but he also unpacked the cultural meaning of such a colossal gift.

Elephants, he showed, were understood in Islamic civilization to be the appropriate gift for kings, and in dispatching one north, Harun al-Rashid was effectively recognizing the German upstart Charlemagne as his equal. That the Caliph expected this gift to be understood, on what is now the German-Belgian border, suggests he was conscious of sharing a culture of political symbolism with the Frankish emperor.

The annual Riggsby Lecture is made possible by a generous gift from Stuart and Kate Riggsby. Find more information at marco.utk.edu/riggsby.



FEATURED UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

The Literature of the Conquest

Medieval and Renaissance Studies 403

From the historical Columbus to Gerard Depardieu's interpretation of him, this course, led by Millie Gimmel (modern foreign languages and literatures), examined the impact of the Spanish conquest from multiple perspectives. The group read and discussed original sixteenth-century texts composed by Europeans and indigenous Americans and contextualized these works in light of recent historiography. Once students had a good idea of what actually happened, they dove into more recent artistic adaptations of the conquest in poetry, essay, short story, music, and film.

In many ways, this small class embodied the wide appeal of medieval and Renaissance studies (MRST) and the diversity of experiences available at UT. The class consisted of majors in MRST, chemistry, music, Spanish, and global studies, and students brought a wide range of experiences and backgrounds to the class. Discussions ranged from

questioning our general understanding of the conquest to issues of indigenous rights, cultural appropriation, and misrepresentation and the ongoing nature of cultural conquest.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this class was that everyone was able to find ways in which the sixteenth century is relevant in our daily lives. Since elementary school, the conquest of the Americas has been part of our collective education, but only on rare occasions have we been able to examine it carefully. In addition to Columbus, Cortés, and Cabeza de Vaca, the group encountered Bugs Bunny, Ella Fitzgerald, Procol Harum, and Pablo Neruda.

Medieval and Renaissance studies do not belong solely to the past or to Europe. By the end of the semester, all in the class, instructor included, had a greater appreciation of the continuity of history and the importance of understanding how the past impacts the present.



A Special Tour: The Bodleian Library

In July, Mary Dzon (English) and ten other lucky members attending the Biennial Conference of the Early Book Society were treated to a special tour of the Conservation Department of the Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford in England. There, Book Conservator Arthur Green discussed the rebinding of *Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Tanner 346*, a fifteenth-century manuscript containing Chaucer's *Legend of Good Women* and other works in Middle English.

Adam Bursi

2015–2016 Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow



During his first semester as the Jimmy and Dee Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow, Adam Bursi has been working on research and preparing to teach a class at UT next semester. In October and November, Bursi presented papers at the Third Regional Late Antiquity Consortium (ReLACs) in Knoxville and the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion and the Society for Biblical Literature in Atlanta.

Drawing upon material from his 2015 Cornell University dissertation, these papers examined the interactions and debates between late antique Muslims and Christians regarding the veneration and usage of relics of holy men and prophets. In particular, Bursi has been exploring usages of relics of the Prophet Muhammad as performative signifiers of Islamic identity in the early Islamic period. These topics characterize the research he has been pursuing while a Haslam Fellow and which he plans to publish in the future.

Bursi has submitted the chapter “A Hair’s Breadth: the Prophet Muhammad’s Hair as Relic in Early Islamic Texts” for a peer-reviewed volume to be published in 2016 about competition over religious relics in the late antique period. In spring 2016, he is currently teaching a UT seminar called *Believing Bodies: Performing Religion in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages*. This course will consider religious phenomena

through the lens(es) of bodies, both individual and communal, within late antique and early medieval Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Bursi looks forward to exploring these topics in class and welcomes inquiries from interested students. Find more information at marco.utk.edu/haslam_postdoc.

Performing Texts

Eleventh Annual Marco Manuscript Workshop

This year’s manuscript workshop was held at UT in February and organized by Professors Roy M. Liuzza (English) and Maura Lafferty (classics). Workshop participants enjoyed presentations that explored the idea of “performing texts.”

In a sense, all premodern texts are performative; reading was generally an auditory and often a social experience, unlike modern practices of silent and usually solitary reading. Textual elements such as rubrics, initials, and punctuation all work to ease the passage from visual artifact to living performance. Other manuscripts are sites of performance in their intertextual composition, blending word and image, juxtaposing one text to another, adding meaning at the moment of interaction between a text and reader.

Still other manuscripts are explicitly scripts for vocal performance—examples include texts with musical notation, poems and songs, dramas to be enacted or transcripts of acts already performed, liturgical texts and prayers, medical recipes, and charms. The manuscript is only the silent record of the voices and actions it inspired. How do we interpret and represent this record to recover the performance imbedded in the text? We welcomed presentations on any aspect of this topic, broadly imagined.

The annual 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 is intended to be more like 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. Each year we invite, in particular, the presentation of works in progress, those with unusual manuscript problems or practical difficulties, and new or experimental models for studying or representing manuscript texts.

The workshop is also 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. Find details about the workshop at marco.utk.edu/manuscript.

Faculty News



Thomas E. Burman (history) recently published three articles: "Nicholas of Cusa and Peter the Venerable's Request," a commissioned preface to *Nicholas of Cusa and Islam: Polemic and Dialogue in the Late Middle Ages* (Leiden, E. J. Brill, 2014); "European Qur'ān Translations, 1500-1700," in *Christian-Muslims Relations: A Bibliographical History*, vol. 6, *Western Europe, 1500-1600* (Leiden, E. J. Brill, 2014); and "Two Dominicans, a Lost Manuscript, and Medieval-Christian Thought on Islam," in *Medieval Exegesis and Religious Difference: Essays on Commentary, Conflict, and Community in the Medieval Mediterranean* (Fordham University Press, 2015). In March, he gave the 2015 Town and Gown Lecture sponsored by the Division for Late Medieval and Reformation Studies at the University of Arizona, entitled "On the Edge of Scholastic Europe: Ramon Martí O.P. Confronts Judaism and Islam." In May, he gave conference presentations at Beer Sheva University in Israel and the Universidad de Córdoba in Spain and was a visiting lecturer at an NEH seminar in Barcelona in July.



Mary Dzon (English) participated in a workshop in April on the history of childhood at the University of Oslo, where she talked about children in the *Golden Legend*. In May, she presented a paper at the fiftieth annual International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo. Her talk was titled "The Materiality of the Virgin in Thomas of Hales's *Vita Mariae*." In July, Dzon gave a paper at the Early Book Society (EBS) conference, held at St. Anne's College in Oxford, England. Her talk

was titled "'And euer as sche wexte elder and elder': Mary's Widowhood in Two Late-Medieval Manuscripts." Dzon was one of the few EBS participants who was fortunate to have a tour of the Bodleian Library's Conservation Department. In the 2015-2016 academic year she is a faculty fellow at the UT Humanities Center, working on the project "A Study of Mary's 'Vitae' within the Devotional and Scholastic Culture of the Later Middle Ages."



Matthew Bryan Gillis (history) presented his new research on early medieval horror at two conferences this year. He discussed "'Ego autem sum vermis et non homo': Carolingian Theologies of the Worm" at the fiftieth International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University. At the thirty-fourth International Conference of the Haskins Society, hosted by Carleton College in November, he delivered the paper "Horror and Infidelity in the Stuttgart Psalter."



Heather Hirschfeld (English) completed her term as Riggsby director of the Marco Institute at the end of 2014, but she remained connected to the institute by cochairing the 2015 Marco Symposium, "'Cry havoc!': War, Diplomacy, and Conspiracy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance." She was an invited participant at the annual Shakespeare Association of America Conference, where she presented a paper titled "Playing with Hell: *The Revenger's Tragedy* and the Infernal," part of a developing research project on the rhetorical uses of hell in the early-modern period. That paper, as well as another on the critical background of the play, are at various stages of the publication process. Her "Playwriting in Shakespeare's Time: Authorship, Collaboration, and Attribution," appeared in October in a collection entitled *Shakespeare and Textual Studies* (Cambridge University Press). She is in the advanced stages of editing a thirty-five-chapter volume for Oxford University Press, the *Handbook of Shakespearean Comedy*, and she signed in the spring a contract to edit and supply a new introduction to the *New Cambridge Shakespeare Hamlet*. She was pleased to be promoted to full professor in May and is deeply honored to have been named, in August, to a two-year term as Lindsay Young Professor.



Katie Hodges-Kluck (history) graduated with her PhD from UT in May 2015. In June, her paper, "Helena, Constantine, and the Angevin Desire for Jerusalem," received the Haskins Society's Denis Bethell Prize for outstanding paper given by a junior scholar at the International Conference of the Haskins Society in 2014. The paper is forthcoming in the *Haskins Society Journal* (Vol. 27, 2016). Hodges-Kluck is currently a postdoctoral lecturer in the UT Department of History and serves as coordinator for undergraduate research at the UT Humanities Center.



Laura L. Howes (English) continues her service as associate head of English this year. She has also taught a course in the topic of her ongoing book project, *English 301 Studies in British Culture to 1660: "Nature and the Environment in Pre-modern Britain."* The course enrolled thirty students from several majors and considered a range of texts, including Bernard Silvestris' *Cosmographia*, the Old English "Wanderer" and "Seafarer," *Mandeville's Travels*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, and Spenser's *Shepherd's Calendar*, among others.

Gregor Kalas (architecture) published the book *The Restoration of the Roman Forum in Late Antiquity: Transforming Public Space* (University of Texas Press, 2015). In January 2015, Kalas presented his research at the Archaeological Institute of America conference in New Orleans, titled "Representing the Ritual Space of Honorius' Consular

Celebrations in Rome.” In March, he delivered the paper “The Displaced Identities of the Curia Senatus and the Secretarium Senatus in Rome” at the Renaissance Society of America meeting in Berlin, Germany. In July at the International Medieval Congress at Leeds, England, Kalas presented the paper “Legislation on the Senses from the Council in Trullo (692) and the Polemics of Urban Space in Rome.” He was also invited to deliver the James F. Ruffin Lecture in the Fine Arts at Rhodes College in March, “Exhibiting Greek Sculpture in Early Medieval Rome.” Currently, Kalas is preparing his next book on the church of Santa Maria Antiqua in Rome, a site that is compelling for the early medieval reuse of ancient architecture and the stunning frescoes that cover its walls.

Jacob Latham's (history) first monograph, *Performance, Memory, and Processions in Ancient Rome: The Pompa Circensis from the Late Republic to Late Antiquity* (Cambridge University Press), will appear in 2016. He also published a number of articles: “Inventing Gregory the Great: Memory, Authority, and the Afterlives of the *letania septiformis*,” *Church History* 84, 2015; “Performing Theology: Imagining the Gods in the *Pompa Circensis*,” *History of Religions* 54, 2015; and “Representing Ritual, Christianizing the *Pompa Circensis*: Imperial Spectacle at Rome in a Christianizing Empire,” in *The Art of Empire: Christian Art in its Imperial Context* (Fortress Press, 2015). Latham gave presentations at the Archaeological Institute of American Annual Meeting in New Orleans in January 2015, and the Oxford International Conference on Patristics XVII.

Samantha Murphy (English) presented the paper “Feeding the Polis: Dearth and Abundance in Shakespeare’s Late Roman Plays,” in October 2015 at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference in Vancouver, Canada. Her paper examined the role of male menstruation, lactation, and grace in early Stuart politics.



Jay Rubenstein (history) has continued to research and write about the First Crusade (1096–1099) and its impact on European culture. Most recently, he completed a textbook, *The First Crusade: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford-St. Martin’s, 2015) as well as an article titled “Heavenly and Earthly Jerusalem: The View from Twelfth-Cen-

tury Flanders,” in the volume *Visual Constructs of Jerusalem* (Brepols, 2014). During the past year he has also been an invited lecturer at Bradley University, the Catholic University of America, and the University of Münster in Germany. He is on leave at the UT Humanities Center where he is writing what he hopes to be his final book about the First Crusade, *Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream: History, Crusade, and Prophecy in Twelfth-Century Europe*, under contract with Oxford University Press.

Tina Shepardson (religious studies) is now a full professor. She also received a 2015–2017 Lindsay Young Professorship from the College of Arts and Sciences. Last spring, she had the pleasure of being invited to participate in a seminar at Brown University, and the result is an article titled “Between Polemic and Propaganda: Evoking the Jews of Fourth-Century Antioch” that came out this fall in the *Journal of the Jesus Movement in its Jewish Setting*. Last June she had another article published in an edited volume, and in 2014 and 2015 she gave conference presentations in Switzerland, South Africa, San Diego, and Oxford as well as at Vanderbilt University and Brown University. This coming year she plans to present her research at conferences in Atlanta and Chicago, and has accepted invitations to speak at Indiana University and University of California, Riverside, and to give the annual Vassiliadis Lecture at the University of California, San Diego. She has a busy year ahead that will include chairing a search committee for a new Judaic studies colleague and chairing UT’s new faculty-led Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES). She looks forward to working with her colleagues and new students in what is sure to be another interesting and exciting year.



Alison Vacca's (history) article “*Nisbas* of the North: Muslims from Armenia, Caucasian Albania, and Azerbaijan in Arabic Biographical Dictionaries (4th–7th cent. AH)” recently appeared in the journal *Arabica* (2015). Another article, “The Fires of Naxčawan: in Search of Intercultural Transmission in Arabic, Armenian, Greek, and Syriac,” was accepted for publication in *Le*

Muséon (forthcoming 2016). Her current book project examines the Christian regions of Armenia and Caucasian Albania in the eighth and ninth centuries as provinces of the Islamic Caliphate and the Iranian cultural sphere. She is also revising a critical edition and annotated translation of an eighth-century Armenian history of early Islam. Alison presented a paper “Abbasid Perceptions of Sasanian Rule in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Albania” at the conference of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS) in Istanbul in September 2015, as well as another paper entitled “‘The Year of the Fire’: Muḥammad b. Marwān, the Second *fitna*, and the Churches of Naxčawan and Xram” at the conference of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) in Denver in November 2015.



Lauren Whitnah (medieval and Renaissance studies) gave several talks in 2015, including the conference presentation “Aelred of Rievaulx and the Saints of Hexham” at *North of England Saints, 600–1500* at the University of Oxford in March and a presentation about her research for

the Marco Fellows Evening titled “‘The Holiness of the Place’: Sacred Land and Landscape in Twelfth-Century Northumbria” in April. She gave an invited lecture titled “Hildegard and her World: Power and Reform in the Twelfth Century” at Berry College in Rome, Georgia, in November 2015. Along with Laura Howes (English), she led the first Marco reading group on “Place in Medieval Culture” (September 2015), in which a group of faculty and students from multiple departments met weekly to discuss scholarly works examining place, space, and landscape in the medieval world from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.



Faculty Spotlight: Gregory Kaplan



Gregory Kaplan (modern foreign languages and literatures, Spanish) concluded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship during fall 2015 by completing a project based on a Dutch-Jewish manuscript recovered by World War II's Monuments Men—the men and women from thirteen Allied nations who served in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section, or MFAA. Having worked previously as museum directors, curators, art scholars and educators, artists, architects, and archivists, the task of the Monuments Men was to find and preserve as much as possible of Europe's cultural legacy stolen by the Nazis.

As Professor Kaplan discovered while working on an edition and translation of Saul Levi Morteira's seventeenth-century *Obstáculos y oposiciones contra la religión christiana en Amsterdam* (Arguments against the Christian Religion in Amsterdam), the sole surviving copy of it—MS EH/LM 48D38 [Fuks 206] of the Ets Haim Library of the Portuguese Synagogue, Amsterdam—was fortunate to have survived the war.

When the Germans invaded the Netherlands in 1940, the library was closed and sealed up, and some of the most valuable items were hidden in a bank vault. This precaution did not thwart Nazi looters, though, and the whole collection was eventually stolen and shipped to Germany in 1944 to be given to the library of the Institute for Research on the Jewish Question, which Nazi leader Alfred Rosenberg intended to create in Frankfurt-am-Main. The crates containing the manuscripts were stacked temporarily in a monastery in Offenbach, but, as it happened, never unpacked.

After the war, the crates were found by the MFAA and shipped back to the Netherlands in 1946. The text that Professor Kaplan has translated, therefore, is one of many that would have been lost to history were it not for the heroic efforts of the Monuments Men.

His translation, entitled *Saul Levi Morteira, Spinoza's Enlightened Rabbi: A Critical Edition of Obstáculos y oposiciones contra la religión christiana en Amsterdam*, is under contract for publication by Amsterdam University Press, and is itself of great interest.

Written in about 1650, this treatise encourages Rabbi Morteira's congregants to fully adopt rabbinic Judaism through a prose narrative that might be categorized as a historical novel in dialogue. Morteira depicts an encounter that takes place in 1616 during a voyage by river boat between two conversos (Iberian Jews who had been forcibly converted to Christianity): a "pilgrim" from Portugal and a "friend" who escaped inquisitorial Iberia in order to live in Amsterdam as a practicing Jew. Over the course of a colorful debate that includes several fascinating contemporary vignettes, Morteira's lifelong work as a "rejudaizer" is symbolized by the polemic between the pilgrim's Christian perspective and the friend's theological and philosophical arguments that attempt to convince the pilgrim to leave his Catholicized spirituality and embrace Judaism.



Kaplan's Monuments Men manuscript

Graduate Fellowship Support in Action

2015–2016 Jimmy and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellow and Paul Barrette Prize

Stefan Hodges-Kluck, a PhD candidate in history, was awarded the 2015–2016 Jimmy and Dee Haslam Dissertation Fellowship, for which he is extremely grateful. His dissertation, “Education, the Body, and the Forging of Religious Identity in Late Antiquity,” explores how ancient theories of the body applied to philosophical and theological debates among Greek-speaking intellectuals in the second half of the fourth century CE. The place of education in society factored heavily into major developments of this period, such as the rise of Christian imperial support against traditional “pagan” religion and the attempt to define and defend Christian orthodoxy in ecumenical church councils.

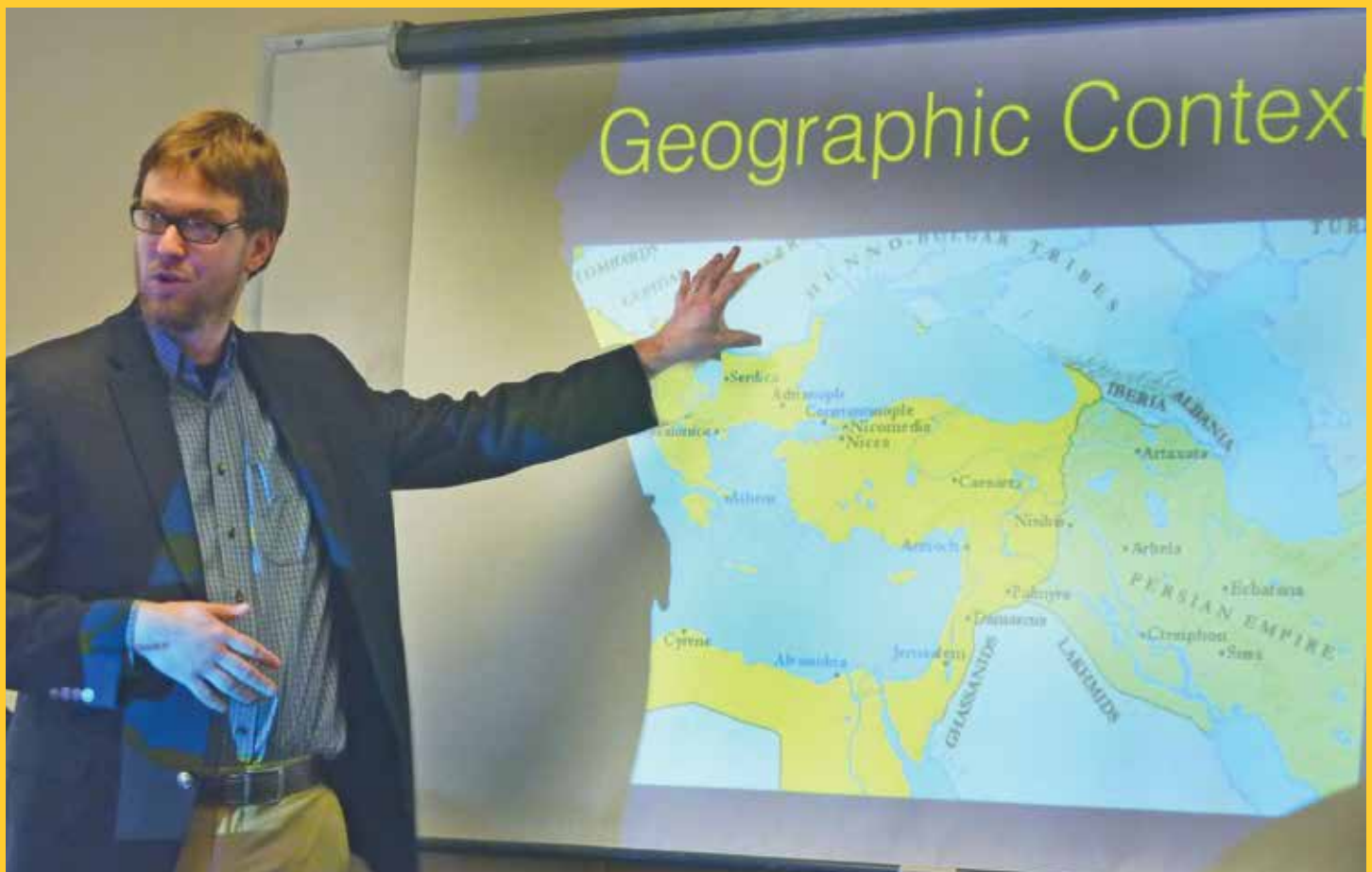
Yet, while studies of these important late ancient developments tend to focus on intellectual disputations over texts (whether “pagan” classics or Christian Scriptures), Hodges-Kluck argues that these developments must be situated in ancient theories about the body that received, absorbed, and produced these texts.

Drawing on recent scholarship on cultural constructions of the body in late antiquity, his dissertation contends that in the second half of the fourth century, intellectuals disputed the value of different types of textual education because of the power they believed that words and images had to mold the body and shape the soul.

Thanks to generous funding from the Paul Barrette Student Travel and Research Prize, Hodges-Kluck presented part of his dissertation research in August 2015 at the International Patristics Conference at Oxford University as part of a panel organized by the Working Group for Religion, Medicine, Disability, and Health in Late Antiquity (ReMeDHe). His presentation, “Molding Religious Piety: Basil of Caesarea and the Emperor Julian on Paideia and Pneuma,” explored how two important fourth-century intellectuals—the Christian Basil and the “pagan” Julian—each drew on ancient concepts of pneuma (loosely translated as “breath,” “air,” or “spirit”) in constructing their ideals of religious education.

Hodges-Kluck has since revised his paper into an article titled “Religious Education and the Health of the Soul according to Basil of Caesarea and the Emperor Julian” (under review with *Studia Patristica*). In this article, he broadens the scope of his original conference paper, showing how Basil and Julian constructed religious communities based on their belief that education through words and images fortified the health of the soul by purifying the bodily channels of sight, sound, and speech.

Find more information about these and other Marco graduate fellowships at marco.utk.edu/grad_fellow.



Hodges-Kluck presenting his research.



Pearson in Sidon, Lebanon, last summer

Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship, Albright Fellowship, and Fulbright Fellowship

In spring 2015, **Jeremy Pearson**, a PhD candidate in history, was awarded the Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Fellowship which enables one graduate student a year to travel abroad for dissertation research. Pearson spent this past August and September in Lebanon, visiting important crusader sites such as the Church of St. John in Byblos and the “Sea Castle” in Sidon. He also examined Arabic, Latin, and Syriac manuscripts at the Université Saint-Joseph’s Bibliothèque Orientale and practiced his conversational Arabic during an exhaustive sampling of Beirut’s shawarma.

Pearson’s dissertation focuses on the life and work of William of Tripoli, a Dominican born (c. 1220) in the Latin County of Tripoli, who spent his career evangelizing Muslims from the priory of St. Dominic in Acre. William served as a papal emissary between the priory and Rome and was asked by the future Pope Gregory X to submit a report on the “Saracens” of the Levant. In response, he composed two works, the *Notitia de Machometo* and *De statu Sarrecennorum*, both of which are unique for their accurate use of the Qur’an, and generally positive portrayal of Islam and its prophet.

Pearson’s research attempts to integrate these two important works into our understanding of the social and

cultural milieu of the Latin East. He argues that William was informed by Arabic sources, and that he adopted Arabic-Christian rhetorical strategies in his approach to Islam.

In addition to Marco’s Van Hook award, Pearson had huge success in securing outside funding for his research, winning not only fellowships at the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem and the American Research Center in Egypt, but also a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship. He is spending the current academic year in Israel dividing his time between Jerusalem and Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba.

In addition to easy access to archives and libraries throughout the region, Pearson has been able to participate in several research seminars, and will be attending a conference in January on “Readings in Islamization,” sponsored by Ben-Gurion University’s Center for the Study of Conversion and Inter-Religious Encounters. Pearson will present his research in a lecture at the University of the Holy Land and at a fellows’ workshop sponsored by the Albright Institute. He will spend this summer conducting further research in Cairo.

Find more information about these and other Marco graduate fellowships at marco.utk.edu/grad_fellow.



James Palmer: Inaugural Lindsay Young Distinguished Visiting Senior Scholar

In March 2016, the Marco Institute welcomed Professor James Palmer of the University of St. Andrews to campus as its first Lindsay Young Distinguished Senior Scholar. Palmer is a specialist in early medieval European history. His early work focused on cultural exchanges in Anglo-Saxon England and Germany and Frisia and led to the publication of the book *Anglo-Saxons in a Frankish World* in 2009. More recently, Palmer has written on apocalyptic and prophetic traditions in the Middle Ages. His most recent book, *The Apocalypse in the Middle Ages* (2015), traces Christian beliefs about the end times from the late Roman Empire to the symbolically charged year 1000. His work is remarkable for being able to treat such combustible, uncomfortable material in a serious, even-handed fashion. *Apocalypse* is almost certain to become a classic of intellectual and cultural history.

At UT, Palmer will be delivering a public lecture on March 10 on the intersection of apocalyptic thought and the environment in the Middle Ages—though it is obviously a theme with much relevance in the modern world. He will

be meeting with Marco graduate students in a variety of settings. Among them, Professor Matthew Gillis (history) will be reconvening his seminar from fall 2015, “Heroes, Monsters, and Horror in the Early Middle Ages,” to discuss with Palmer how his work intersects with seminar research during the previous semester. Palmer will also visit with the fellows at the UT Humanities Center and attend the spring symposium “Rome: Beyond the Discourse of Renewal.”

At the University of St. Andrews, Palmer is codirector of the Institute of Mediaeval Studies, which brings together one of the largest interdisciplinary medieval studies faculties in the world. He was recently promoted there to the prestigious rank of Reader, which requires that a scholar attain “a sustained reputation for innovation and research output of a quality that is internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance, and rigour.”

Marco students and faculty alike are looking forward to the opportunity of getting to know Palmer and his truly outstanding scholarship during his extended visit to our campus.

Marco to Host 2016 Southeastern Medieval Association Conference

The University of Tennessee will host the annual meeting of SEMA in early October, 2016. To coincide with the 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings in 1066, the theme is “Place and Power.” Not only will several sessions be devoted to the Norman Conquest, but the call for papers will seek presentations dealing with places and power in a variety of medieval meanings and contexts.

Lawrence Nees (art history, University of Delaware) and Elizabeth Fowler (English, University of Virginia) have been confirmed as plenary speakers. In addition to keynote lectures, the program committee is highlighting the resources at UT for medievalists by scheduling events at Hodges Library and the McClung Museum, including a box lunch and presentation of a selection of manuscript facsimiles at Special Collections in Hodges Library. The downtown Hilton Hotel, which is close to UT and to numerous restaurants, shops, and other local attractions in downtown Knoxville, is the main

conference site. Multiple departments and institutions across the university are supporting SEMA 2016, including the Marco Institute, the Departments of English, History, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies, the Humanities Center, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of Research, and the Office of the Provost.

The program committee is chaired by Laura Howes (English) and includes Roy Liuzza (English), Anne-Hélène Miller (modern foreign languages and literature), and Lauren Whitnah (Marco) with additional assistance from Thomas Burman (history) and Vera Pantanizopoulos-Broux (Marco). Whitnah presented the plans for the 2016 conference at UT during the business meeting of the 2015 SEMA conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October. There was applause when UT was confirmed as the 2016 conference host, and cheers when the plenary speakers were announced. Medievalists from around the Southeast are looking forward to visiting Knoxville in 2016!

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 spring 2012. In spring 2015, Marco awarded first (\$500) and second (\$300) prizes to the following students:

Allison Gose, a senior majoring in history and political science with a minor in religious studies, won first prize for her essay “Spiritual Eroticism and the Nature of the Soul,” written for Religious Studies 423 with Professor Tina Shepardson.

Hannah Oveerton, a junior majoring in English, won second prize for her essay “Clothing vs. Genitalia: The Flux of Gender,” written for English 405 with Professor Samantha Murphy.



Village Fair by Flemish artist Gillis Mostaert, 1590.

Marco Madness

What do you call Medieval-and-Renaissance-Studies Day for high school students, sponsored by Marco and taking place at Bearden High School on April 2, 2016? Why, Marco Madness, of course!

Featuring quiz bowls, art and costume contests, a calligraphy workshop, lectures by Marco faculty, and maybe even a little jousting, Marco Madness is the creation of a talented, exuberant committee of BHS teachers Sandy Hughes (Latin), Connie Francis (English), and Tracy McKibben (social studies); students Perry Johns and Aimee Lafon; Marco grad students and lecturers Stefan Hodges-Kluck, Brittany Poe, Thomas Lecaue, and Scott Bevill; and Barrie Paulson, the vice president, manager, and entertainment director of Darkhorse Entertainment LLC, which puts on the Tennessee Medieval Faire in Harriman.

Chaired by Hughes and Riggsby Director Thomas Burman, this group met throughout the fall and is grateful for Bearden High's willingness to host what we hope will be the first of many annual iterations of Marco Madness (by the way, would that be *Insania Marconensis* in medieval Latin? or *Mania Marconis*? Maybe *De Marcone Dementia*?). Feel free to contact us at 865-974-1859 if you're interested in participating or just want to know how to buy the T-shirt.

This partnership is already taking on other forms as well. During the fall 2015 semester, Brittany Poe and Brad Phillis (PhD students in history) gave presentations to BHS Latin classes on Abelard and Heloise and on the nature of medieval society, respectively, and in November, Thomas Burman talked to them about al-Andalus and its importance to medieval European culture.



Marco Events, 2015–2016

September 28, 2015

“The American Middles Ages”

Jan Ziolkowski, Arthur Kingsley Porter Professor of Medieval Latin and Director, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Harvard University
UT International House, Great Room, 5:30 p.m.

November 5, 2015

12th Annual Riggsby Lecture on Medieval Mediterranean History and Culture

Paul M. Cobb, Professor of Medieval Islamic History, University of Pennsylvania

“Charlemagne’s Muslim Elephant: Kingship, Nature, and Monotheism in the Early Middle Ages.”

Lindsay Young Auditorium, Hodges Library, 5:30 p.m.

February 5–6, 2016

11th Annual Marco Manuscript Workshop
“Performing Texts”

March 4–5, 2016

13th Annual Marco Symposium
“Rome: Beyond the Discourse of Renewal”

April 21, 2016

5th Annual Marco Fellows Evening

Lectures by **Stefan Hodges-Kluck**, 2015–2016 Haslam Dissertation Prize recipient, and **Jeremy Pearson**, 2015 Anne Marie Van Hook Memorial Travel Prize recipient

Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Recipients

Spring–Summer 2015

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

Aaron Johnson (Lee University) to do research for his project “Bodily Images: Some Difficulties in Porphyry’s Psychology”

Arcea Zapata de Aston (Kentucky Wesleyan University) to do research for her project “Women in Medieval and Renaissance Spain as Hostages of Societal Discourse: Imagery of Eroticism and Prostitution in *El Libro de Buen Amor*, *La Celestina*, and *La Lozana Andaluza*”

Matthew Davis (North Carolina State University) to do research for his project “The Minor Works of John Lydgate: A Virtual Archive”

SUPPORT MARCO

The Marco Institute is grateful for the generosity of all its donors. We hope you will visit us on campus and come to one of our lectures, workshops, or symposia, or tour our space in Greve Hall. The institute exists because of your support, and our intellectual world is enriched many times over as a result.

Marco has several award and scholarship funds to support our mission to promote the research and teaching of the early periods. Your support can help make our program better and stronger. To make a contribution to the Marco Institute, please fill out the form below and mail

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DON'T MISS THE 13TH ANNUAL MARCO SYMPOSIUM



Rome: Beyond the Discourse of Renewal

MARCH 4-5, 2016

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

"Rome Beyond Renewal" takes the city of Rome out of the shadow of its classical past, exploring its continuing transformations and enduring creativity.



Kate Cooper

Professor of Ancient History
University of Manchester

**"City Of Martyrs:
Rome at the End of
Antiquity"**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4
5:30 PM**

Lindsay Young Auditorium,
Hodges Library
Reception to follow

Find information on all symposium speakers and sessions at marco.utk.edu/symposium.
All lectures are free and open to the public. For details, contact **865-974-1859**.