

MINUTES

MRSC Board, 8-22-14

The Board of the Medieval and Renaissance Studies Center (MRSC) met at 1:00 pm on Friday, August 22 at Barnes & Noble Café in the University Center. Present were Carole Edwards, Janice Elliott, John Howe, Brian McFadden, Angela Marianni Smith, Connie Scarborough, and Abby Swingen.

I INTRODUCTIONS

II. TTU PARTICIPATION IN TEMA (October 3-4 at University of North Texas, Denton):

There will be many TTU presenters and attendees at the Texas Medieval Association Annual Meeting which will meet at University of North Texas on Friday and Saturday, October 3-4. The deadline for paper submission is September 1 but in the past this conference has considered late submissions. Penalties for late registration apply after September 1. (There is also a North Texas Medieval Graduate Symposium on October 2, but the deadline for paper submission is past). See <http://texasmedieval.org/node/116>.

To support this conference the directors have made the following decisions: 1) the MRSC will reimburse the regular registration fees of students who attend; and 2) the MRSC will try to acquire information on who is driving and help set up carpools to handle the transportation.

MRSC affiliated faculty should announce these opportunities ASAP to students who might want to attend, either to give a paper (official deadline September 1) or just to go and learn what other medieval and renaissance scholars in Texas are doing.

III STUDENT CONFERENCE SUBSIDIES CONTINUED

The Board voted to continue its program of providing \$200/student reimbursement subsidies to graduate students who want to attend approved medieval and renaissance studies conferences. The Renaissance society of America Meeting and the International Congress of Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo) are automatically approved. Requests for other interdisciplinary medieval and renaissance conferences will be considered by the Board on an ad hoc basis.

A major advantage of this small subsidy is that it can sometimes be enhanced by matching funds from students' home departments and from the Graduate School. Given that the Graduate School has sometimes run out of student travel funds by mid year, students planning to attend medieval and renaissance studies conferences should get their requests in to the Board as soon as possible.

IV. WEB CHANGES

As part of the general migration of the TTU Web over to new editorial and support systems the MRSC Web, which currently lodges in CMLL, was shifted to the new format. Some access by the former editors has been affected. New editorial volunteers have been recruited from the board and new approvals for these editors will be sought. In the interval please send announcements and special requests for Web notices to Connie Scarborough who will get them posted through CMLL.

V. 'NAME THAT FUND'

A "MRSC Fund for Excellence" account is being established in order to handle soft money and receive donations. Neither the directors nor the board have managed to come up with a better name. Suggestions are welcome.

VI. SUPPORT FOR A UNIVERSITY VISITOR AND SPEAKER.

Janis Elliott requested help for the financing needed to bring in Cordelia Warr, senior lecturer of the University of Manchester, to speak at Texas Tech on October 30 and to participate in an undergraduate class lecture. Warr is the author of *Dressing for Heaven: Religious Clothing in Italy, 1215-1545* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2010). Because the Board is still negotiating its budget with the new Arts & Sciences administration it offered the minimal sum of \$175 toward this good cause, as well as lots of suggestions for where additional moneys might be found.

The meeting concluded at 2:00.

--John Howe, acting scribe