The Director's annual letter is a serious task because it conveys a commitment to the project of the coming academic year and to a vision of a long-term future. But as I set to writing it this summer — the summer which never really came — the task is a radically altered one. How is one to present the programming, outline the goals, chart a course in the middle of the biggest upheaval — racial, social, political — and collapse — health, economic — that we have ever known? How is one to set the compass — moral and intellectual — when nothing is certain? What can be said about an annual "plan" when, from one day to the next, we all have thought and will may get renewed again? What center is there to a Center?

The daily contingency of the future is commensurate to the experience of sameness and un-change, each day and night blending into the next. This (protracted, infinite) moment — of a health crisis, of racial and social injustice, of democratic erosion from within — has made us definitively global. The entire world shares and lives in a pandemic. After 9/11, we witnessed Black Lives Matter become a global movement. Iliberal democracies follow the same p(l)ygony no matter their location on the globe. Our crises have brought us a truly borderless world. And a limitless, undefined time of an eternal present — because we are in a time without a certain future perspective, in an open-ended temporality, adrift, decentered, dispersed.

When more than ten years ago, I advocated for CMRS to take the temporal span under its purview to the whole globe, I hardly could have imagined that our scholarly enterprise would collide with the global pandemic that is now our daily experience and our position by default. Perhaps one way to relate to and grasp the involuntary globality of our experience is to seize this opportunity to embrace the globe while recentering on what gives us a sense of community in these rudderless times, to find the axis to the globe when the center has been burst open. The CMRS 2020-2021 program that our faculty, associates, and graduate students have proposed, with some events rescheduled from the canceled Spring 2020 program, imagines ways both to relate to this ever-present lived globality and to connect in our community.

Globally, CMRS 2020-2021 program reflects changes that we enacted before the events of this past spring, but whose significance has been reinforced by them. In Fall 2020, Sarah Beckmann (Classics) will teach a LAWS 197.1-CMRS Research Methodology Seminar on "The Late Antique World: Transitions and Transformations between Classical and Medieval (CL 250)" that will cover scholarship on enslaved persons in the late antique Christian Empire. Two important one-day workshops are planned for 2021: in Winter 2021, "1515: Making the World While Breaking the World" will connect Germany, Philippines, Mexico, and Ethiopia, and in Spring 2021, "Sherry’s Archive in the Global Middle Ages." We will also host Susan Embryer who will examine Jewish sources on the plague in early modern Italy and Andrea M. Achi will talk about libraries produced in Christian communities in medieval Africa for the History of the Book Lecture.

One of the events scheduled for next year, on medieval studies and Indian classical dance in the medieval period, will feature a conversation between Anurima Banerji (World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA) and Serta Chaganti (English, UC Davis) has been postponed, as a way to draw our attention to the systemic connection between economic and racial injustice. Before any of the global events, we witnessed the UC-wide movement for COLA for graduate students. This major movement has repercussions for our intellectual community as the UC speaker boycott continues until demands are fully met and all students are reinstated and disciplinary charges dropped. We witnessed how those who are disadvantaged are disadvantaged yet again in visibility and place for their scholarship, because they are taking action.

I have made it a priority for the Center, for the coming year of our borderless, virtual existence, to provide "safe" spaces for our community — and for the new members joining us as UCAL's new hires and incoming graduate students. Please come meet them at the CMRS Open House on October 15. Our research, but also our thriving community connections, have been so tenuous and frail that CMRS-specific events are one way of caring for ourselves and keeping us connected and restored. We will be offering a twice-monthly Works-in-Progress Happy Hour throughout Fall and Winter, as well as the New Book Salon featuring latest publications of faculty.

I also wish to shore up the support for those who are our future: CMRS will be offering this year an additional CMRS Dissertation Research Fellowship, as well as a number of Supplemental Recruitment Fellowships, and other smaller grants.

As we seek to steady the needle on the compass, to resistuate our center, CMRS will continue to pursue systemic changes and grow into the 21st century looking forward. Because we, scholars of the past, know this: that the open-endlessness of time is filled with potential even when changes take a long time, too often beyond one or more generations. We have proposed, with some events rescheduled from the canceled Spring 2020 program, imagines ways both to relate to this ever-present lived globality and to connect in our community.

In solidarity,
Zrinka Stahuljak, CMRS Director
New Book Salons are opportunities for CMRS faculty to discuss their latest publications. All dates link to the website registration. All times are 5-6 pm PDT/PST

**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**

Erica Weaver, Assistant Professor of English, and co-editor Daniel C. Remein, Associate Professor of English, University of Massachusetts Boston, discuss *Dating Beowulf: Studies in Intimacy*.

*Dating Beowulf* playfully redeploys the word ‘dating’, which usually heralds some of the most divisive critical impasses in the field, to provocatively phrase a set of new relationships with an Old English poem. The volume argues for the relevance of the early Middle Ages to affect studies and vice-versa, offering a riposte to antifeminist discourse and opening avenues for future work by specialists in the history of emotions, literary theorists, students of Old English literature and medieval scholars alike. To this end, the essays embody a range of critical approaches from queer theory to animal studies and ecocriticism to actor-network theory.

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

Andrea Moudarres, Associate Professor of Italian, discusses his recent book, *The Enemy in Italian Renaissance Epic*.

*The Enemy in Italian Renaissance Epic* follows the same narrative of internal strife, exploring enmity within the self, the state, and the world through the prism of prominent works of the Italian literary canon: Dante’s *Commedia*, Luigi Pulci’s *Morgante*, Ludovico Ariosto’s *Orlando Furioso*, and Torquato Tasso’s *Gerusalemme Liberata*. The book’s central argument is that early modern Italian literature conceived of all forms of hostility — even those conventionally considered external, such as the conflicts between Christian and Islamic forces in the Middle Ages and Renaissance — as predominantly internal. In other words, these poems’ often critical engagement with the political dynamics of their time shows enmity arising ultimately from within political or religious entities.

Beginning this fall, CMRS will be hosting twice-monthly “Works-in-Progress Happy Hours” to promote intellectual exchange and collegiality, while most of us will be continuing to work and learn remotely.

The Happy Hours are scheduled from 5 to 6 pm PDT/PST via Zoom and are open to UCLA faculty and graduate students. They will start with a short informal presentation, perhaps only five minutes but no more than fifteen, followed by open discussion.

Keep connected to CMRS colleagues with our new programs providing collegial formats during the campus closure.

**Wednesday, October 7, 2020**

Kersti Francia, Graduate Student, English "Magic and Gender in the Medieval Romances Partenopeu de Blois/Partenope of Blois"

**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**

Carla Neus, Graduate Student, Theater "South African Medievalism"

**Thursday, November 18, 2020**

Stella Nair, Graduate Student, Spanish & Portuguese "Valencia, All a Riot: Lope de Vega’s (Re)Creation of the Valencian Cityscape"

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

Stephanie Matahanga, Graduate Student, Comparative Literature "Nationalism and the Middle Ages Outside of Europe: the 'Medieval' Foundation of Filipino Identity"

**Wednesday, January 27, 2021**

Professor Peter Cowe, Near Eastern Languages & Culture "Armenian Integration into Sequential Hemispheric Cultural Norms as Illustrated by the Alexander Romance"

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

Professor Adriana Vasquez, Classics "The Influence of Vergil’s Epic Program on Gabriel Pereira de Castro’s Poem Ulisseia ou Lisboa Edificada (1636)"

**Wednesday, February 24, 2021**

Professor Stella Nair, Art History "The Gendered Landscapes of Inca Architecture"
CMRS Annual Open House
Thursday, October 15, 2021 | 5:00–6:00 pm via Zoom

CMRS Symposium
“The Holy Mountains of the Western Italian Alps: Pilgrimage, Art, and Society in the Sixteenth Century”
Organized by Geoffrey Symcox, Professor of History, UCLA
Thursday, October 29, 2020 | 9–10:15 am & 10:30 am–12 pm | via Zoom
Friday, October 30, 2020 | 9–10:15 am & 10:30 am–12 pm | via Zoom

“Writing Plague: Jewish Sources on the Great Italian Plague (1630)”
Susan Einbinder, Professor of Hebrew & Judaic Studies and Comparative Literature, University of Connecticut
Monday, November 9, 2020 | 12-1 pm | via Zoom

Click the date of the event you want to register for to go to the CMRS website.
All times indicated are US Pacific Time Zone.

Annual Richard & Mary Rouse History of the Book Lecture
“A Library of Memories: Textual Preservation at the Monastery of St. Michael in Egypt”
Andrea M. Achi, Assistant Curator, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Monday, March 1, 2021 | 5–6 pm | via Zoom

Annual Hammer Art History Lecture | “Spatial Grammars: The Union of Art and Writing in the Painted Books of Aztec Mexico”
Elizabeth Hill Boone, Professor of Art History, Tulane University
Thursday, April 15, 2021 | 5–6 pm | Location To Be Announced

CMRS Conference | “Law and Disorder: Fools, Outlaws, and Justice in the Middle Ages”
Organized by Sharon D. King, Independent Scholar and CMRS Associate
Saturday, April 24, 2021 | Time & Location To Be Announced

CMRS Workshop | “Slavery’s Archive in the Global Middle Ages”
Organized by Lamia Balafrej, Assistant Professor of Art History, UCLA
Friday, May 7, 2021 | Time & Location To Be Announced

CMRS Conference | “The Signs of Sex: The Semiotics of the Erotic Body from Late Antiquity to Early-Modern Anatomy”
Organized by Giulia Sissa, Professor of Political Science and Classics, UCLA
Friday-Saturday, May 14-15, 2021 | Time & Location To Be Announced

“1521: Making the World While Breaking the World”
Symposia/Workshops/Dialogues
Organized by Stefania Tutino, Professor of History, UCLA, and Devin Fitzgerald, Curator of Rare Books and History of Printing, UCLA Library
Friday, January 22, 2021 | Time TBA | via Zoom

Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 events will be presented remotely. Spring 2021 may be on campus or it may be remote — we’re planning for either eventually!
Due to the pandemic there will be no William and Lois Matthews Samuel Pepys Lecture and Feast this year.
This year, a CMRS Dissertation Research Fellowship of $27,000 will be awarded for the first time to a UCLA doctoral student focusing on any aspect of Late Antique, Medieval, Renaissance, or Early Modern Studies. The fellowship supports prospectus and dissertation research and writing.

CMRS will also make available Supplemental Recruitment Fellowships to departments to assist in the process of bringing new graduate students to UCLA. The awards, consisting of up to $5,000 a year for two years, will help support newly admitted graduate students for the 2021-22 academic year. The student must have expressed a commitment to pursue studies in some aspect of the late antique, medieval, or Renaissance studies and plan to study under the mentorship of a CMRS faculty member.

Travel Grants

Although travel will undoubtedly be limited this year due to the pandemic, CMRS will continue to offer funding to support travel when it is possible. When not, students may apply for grants to cover certain costs associated with remotely presented events, such as conference and program registration fees.

CMRS Conference Travel Grants enable UCLA graduate students to attend conferences, symposia, or professional meetings to present research or scholarly papers on any topic in the field of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

CMRS Research and Study Travel Grants provide funding for UCLA graduate students for travel within the US or abroad for the purpose of research in any area of Medieval and Renaissance Studies or to attend an educational program or class directly related to the student’s academic training in Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

California Medieval History Seminar

The California Medieval History Seminar fosters intercampus networking and intellectual exchange by acquainting participants with historical research in medieval studies currently underway in California. Its primary mission is to sustain the quality of scholarship in medieval history at the University of California at a time when program and funding reductions are making it increasingly difficult to maintain a full cadre of outstanding medieval historians on each campus. Since 2010, CMRS has been the exclusive source of funding for the program.

The Seminar will meet quarterly on November 14, 2020, February 20, 2021, and April 17, 2021, to discuss pre-distributed research papers (two by faculty members, two by graduate students). Presentations are organized by Professor Piotr Górecki (History, UC Riverside/CMRS Associate), who is the Seminar’s Director. This year, due to the pandemic, seminar meetings will be via Zoom until the campus reopens.

Medieval and Early Modern Student Association (MEMSA)

CMRS provides support for MEMSA, an interdisciplinary student organization that aims to foster connections among diverse graduate students from various departments studying late antiquity through the end of the seventeenth century. MEMSA hosts panels and workshops on professional development, a range of scholarly topics, and research methods. MEMSA also organizes extracurricular activities for UCLA’s medieval and early-modern grad students. This year, MEMSA is especially committed to fostering community as we navigate the current pandemic. This will include organizing a virtual conference and maintaining connections through social media outlets. Our mission as an organization is to provide a space to support each other’s professional and personal well-being. For 2020-21, Richard Ibarra (History), Patrick Morgan (History), Stefanie Matabang (Comparative Literature), and Patrick Morgan (History) are the MEMSA officers and are looking forward to serving the MEMSA graduate student community this year. To be added to the MEMSA email announcement list, please write to memsa.ucla@gmail.com.

Fellowships

The Lynn and Maudy White, Jr. Fellowship, named for its donors, CMRS's founding director Professor Lynn White, Jr. and his wife, provides a $20,000 stipend to support dissertation research and travel. It is awarded to an outstanding UCLA graduate student who has advanced to PhD candidacy.

The George T. and Margaret W. Romani Fellowship is awarded to an outstanding UCLA graduate student who has expressed a commitment to pursue studies in some aspect of the Middle Ages or Renaissance and who is studying under the mentorship of a CMRS faculty member. The fellowship provides a $20,000 stipend. Candidates for the award must be nominated by their department chair.

The Chippell Memorial Fellowship will be offered for 2021-22. The fellowship provides a $20,000 stipend to support research any aspect of medieval, Renaissance, or early modern Italian studies.

The Ahmanson Research Fellowships for the Study of Medieval and Renaissance Books and Manuscripts support the use of the medieval and Renaissance monographic and manuscript holdings in UCLA Library Special Collections. The fellowships are awarded to graduate students or postdoctoral scholars who need to access these collections for graduate-level or postdoctoral independent research. Recipients receive a stipend of $2,500/month for up to three months. The fellowships are made possible by a gift from the Ahmanson Foundation. They are jointly supported and administered by CMRS and UCLA Library Special Collections.

CMRS Summer Research Fellowships provide UCLA graduate students working in the areas of Late Antique, Medieval, Renaissance, or Early Modern Studies with up to $5,000 to support research or study during the summer months.

New Fellowships for 2021-22

This year, a CMRS Dissertation Research Fellowship of $27,000 will be awarded for the first time to a UCLA doctoral student focusing on any aspect of Late Antique, Medieval, Renaissance, or Early Modern Studies. The fellowship supports prospectus and dissertation research and writing.

CMRS will also make available Supplemental Recruitment Fellowships to departments to assist in the process of bringing new graduate students to UCLA. The awards, consisting of up to $5,000 a year for two years, will help support newly admitted graduate students for the 2021-22 academic year. The student must have expressed a commitment to pursue studies in some aspect of the late antique, medieval, or Renaissance studies and plan to study under the mentorship of a CMRS faculty member.

In 2019-20, CMRS provided $155,770 to support the academic and research activities of undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral scholars. When the pandemic struck in early 2020 and forced the sudden cessation of on-campus classes, programs, and events, CMRS re-directed funding from campus-based Spring events to special fellowships for graduate students to provide urgently needed financial support for the summer. In total, twenty summer fellowships were awarded.

This academic year, in light of the ongoing pandemic and special needs associated with it, the Center will be offering some new student fellowships and sources of student support, in addition to those offered in the past—all of which are briefly described below.
CMRS-Funded Classes

As an organized research unit (ORU) of the University of California, CMRS does not offer classes of its own. Instead, the Center provides funding to support classes relevant to medieval and Renaissance studies which are presented by CMRS faculty members through their home departments.

CMRS-LAMAR Seminars

LAMAR Consortium, directed by CMRS Director Professor Zrinka Stahuljak, is made up of faculty members specializing in the study of Late Antiquity, the Middle Ages, or the Renaissance, hence its name. Each Fall Quarter, the Consortium offers a seminar focusing on research methodologies as applied to LAMAR Studies. These CMRS-funded seminars bring scholars to UCLA to teach students in the field of Medieval & Renaissance Studies.

For Fall 2020, Professor Sarah Beckmann (Classics) presents the CMRS/LAMAR Seminar “The Late Antique World: Transitions and Transformations Between Classical and Medieval” (CLASSIC 250), an interdisciplinary seminar focusing on late antiquity as an historical period and scholarly construct. Using primary evidence (art, artifact, literature), modern scholarship, and varied methodological approaches, this course examines the origins and consequences of late antique transformations in the Mediterranean world, ca. 3rd–7th c. CE. To synthesize and problematize how late antique phenomena respond and react to the classical and prefigure and provoke the medieval, we will consider late antique texts and material culture in dialogue with earlier and later historical witnesses. Each seminar meeting focuses on a particular late antique theme or problem. Topoi include but are not limited to: the decline of the Roman Empire, the division of East and West, the rise of the Christian church, paideia and the persistence of Greco-Roman intellectual traditions; the advent of new late antique aesthetics; and, demographic change precipitated by the arrival of social minorities and ethnic and cultural outsiders in Roman institutions and territories. Taught in English with a selection of texts available in the primary language.

The outside speakers will be:

- “Early Christian Storyworlds”
  C. Michael Chinn, Associate Professor of Classics, UC Davis
  Monday, October 19, 2020 | Open to the Public | 3-6 pm | via Zoom

- “Augustinian Diviijak Letters 10* and 24*: Slavery, Captivity, Status and Original Sin”
  Susanna Elm, Sidney H. Ehrman Professor of European History, UC Berkeley
  Monday, November 9, 2020 | Open to the Public | 9:00 am | via Zoom

- Rita Copeland, Shell Z. and Burton X. Rosenberg Professor of the Humanities, Professor of Classics, English, and Comparative Literature, University of Pennsylvania
  Monday, November 23, 2020

CMRS Research Seminars

These classes receive funding from CMRS to bring distinguished scholars to UCLA to participate in seminars and symposia, to present lectures, and to have informal discussions with students and faculty. UCLA students get an opportunity to meet and interact with prominent authorities in the fields of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

In Spring 2021, Professor Kristopher Kersey (Art History) will teach a CMRS Research Seminar, “Recycling, Fragmentation, and Decay in Premodern Japan” (ART HIS 202). This seminar will address several intersecting artistic strategies and sensibilities in Japan, ca. 1000-1650 CE: the reuse and recycling of elements of the past; the attendant aesthetics and sensibilities in Japan, ca. 1000-1650 CE; the attendant

Several guest speakers will enrich the seminar discussion. Should conditions permit, the seminar will also include visits to examine objects in local and regional collections.

CMRS Research and Study Travel Grants

Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Naveen Kanalu Ramamurthy (History)
Carla Neuss (Theater)
Rhonda Sharrah (English)

CMRS Conference Travel Grants

Kersti Francis (English)

Six more grants were awarded but travel was cancelled due to the pandemic.

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)

CMRS Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS-Funded Classes

Lynn and Maude White Fellowship

Ahmanson Research Fellowships for the Study of Medieval & Renaissance Books and Manuscripts

David Bardeen
Art History

Kate Driscoll
PhD Candidate
Italian Studies
UC Berkeley

Eric Dursteler
PhD, Brown
Professor of History
Brigham Young University

Stacie Vos
PhD Candidate
Literatures in English
UC San Diego

See more information about their research on the CMRS website

2019-20 AwArdees

LAMAR Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)

CMRS-Funded Classes

Lynn and Maude White Fellowship

Ahmanson Research Fellowships for the Study of Medieval & Renaissance Books and Manuscripts

David Bardeen
Art History

Kate Driscoll
PhD Candidate
Italian Studies
UC Berkeley

Eric Dursteler
PhD, Brown
Professor of History
Brigham Young University

Stacie Vos
PhD Candidate
Literatures in English
UC San Diego

See more information about their research on the CMRS website

2019-20 AwArdees

LAMAR Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)

CMRS Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)

CMRS Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)

CMRS Summer Fellowships

Nicolyn Enriques (Art History)
Isabella Gallagher (Comparative Literature)
Misko Ishikawa (English)
Rebecca King (English)
Karime Parodi Ambel (Spanish & Portuguese)
Stanley Wu (English)

CMRS Graduate Student Summer Fellowships

Shane Black (Comparative Literature)
Tania Bride (History)
Sarah Cantor (Italian)
Alberto Daniel Diaz (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Jeffrey Dymond (History)
Dyuse Elliott-Newton (English)
Julie Ershadi (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures)
Cynthia Fung (Art History)
Franka Horvat (Art History)
Laura Hutchingame (Art History)
Valentina Lunitard (Program in Indo-European Studies)
Leah Marangos (Art History)
Patrick Morgan (History)
Sofia Pitoiuli (Art History)
Reginald Pecock (ca. 1390–1459) was the cause of a great scandal for the late alum Jennifer A. T. Smith (forthcoming 2020). Reginald Pecock’s *Book of Faith*, translated by CMRS Associate and UCLA the globe by Project MUSE. Announcing the inaugural volume in the series: seventeenth century. The series will be distributed digitally to libraries across primary texts from around the world, spanning late antiquity to the mid- twentieth century. The series will be distributed digitally to libraries across the globe by Project MUSE. Announcing the inaugural volume in the series: Reginald Pecock's *Book of Faith*, translated by CMRS Associate and UCLA alum Jennifer A. T. Smith (forthcoming 2020).

Reginald Pecock (ca. 1390–1459) was the cause of a great scandal for the late medieval Church. In the autumn of 1457, the bishop of Chichester confessed, and along with him, the drama of religious dissent in the pre-Reformation English Church. And with him, the passion and earnestness of a critical laity with a conservative Church. In the only modern English translation of his work, the impassioned, earnest, and often exasperated bishop comes to life, in anticipation of an assault that he already saw being set in motion against him, or whether it unintentionally foreshadowed what the highest levels of clerical dissent could look like, this book nonetheless represents a unique attempt to reconcile the Church itself could err in matters of faith. On the eve of the Protestant Reformation, however, a high-ranking cleric making such a claim was both embarrassing and a big liability. *The Book of Faith*, finished just months before Pecock’s disgrace, is the only record of this claim. Whether Pecock wrote portions of the treatise in anticipation of an assault that he already saw being set in motion against him, or whether it unintentionally foreshadowed what the highest levels of clerical dissent could look like, this book nonetheless represents a unique attempt to reconcile a critical laity with a conservative Church. In the only modern English translation of Pecock’s work, the impassioned, earnest, and often exasperated bishop comes to life, and along with him, the drama of religious dissent in the pre-Reformation English Church.

**Comitatus: Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies**

*Comitatus* is the CMRS-sponsored journal for and by UCLA graduate students and recent PhDs. Articles are published in any field of the Middle Ages or Renaissance. The annual journal is distributed internationally to libraries and individuals and is part of the Project MUSE online collection.

Editor: Anne Le (French & Francophone Studies)
Editorial Board: Robert Latoffa (History); Richard Ibarra (History); Mihoko Ishikawa (English); Rhonda Sharrab (English); Rachel Daphne Weiss (Art History); Stanley Wu (English)
Managing Editor: Allison McCann (UCLA-CMRS)

*See more information about Comitatus on our website.*

**Cursor Mundi**

In an appointment that marks Cursor Mundi’s commitment to publishing far-reaching and engaging scholarship in medieval and early modern studies, Chris Chism, Professor of English at UCLA, has been named series General Director. Chris joined the faculty of UCLA in 2009, after holding positions at Rutgers University and Allegheny College. His research and teaching aim to broaden the conception of the medieval period and globalize treatments of its culture and literature by encompassing Mediterranean, Asian, and African circuits of encounter, violence, and transmission. Trained in the literature, drama, and culture of British Middle Ages, in 2009 he received a Mellon New Directions Grant to study Arabic and the history of Islamic cultures to which it opens doors. Her work contests the polarized view of European and Islamic cultural traditions, investigating questions not only of transculturation but also of periodization in order to question how Western so-called Western society has ever been. Current projects include medieval friendship, Arabic and European travel narratives, and the Middle English and Arabic Alexander romances. Since completing her first book, *Alliterative Revivals* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2002), she has edited the second volume of the five-volume Wiley Blackwell Companion to World Literature, CE 600-1500 (2019).

Cursor Mundi is a book series consisting of inter- and multidisciplinary studies of the medieval and early modern world, viewed broadly as the period from late antiquity into the Enlightenment. Cursor Mundi brings together outstanding work by scholars of the medieval, Renaissance, and early modern periods from a wide range of disciplines, emphasizing studies that focus on such processes as cultural exchange or the course of an idea through the centuries. Volumes are generally single-authored books of at least 90,000 words or multi-authored collections such as groups of articles on a well-defined topic. The series also includes shorter studies of about 40,000 words by distinguished scholars on topics of broad interest.

*See the Cursor Mundi titles on our website.*

**Viator: Medieval and Renaissance Studies**

Viator’s landmark volume 50 will contain the last issues assembled under the towering editorship of Henry Ansgar Kelly. Starting with volume 51, Matthew Fisher will take over as Editor. Matthew is Associate Professor of English at the UCLA. His first book, *Scribal Authorship and the Writing of History in Medieval England* (2012), examines the entangled work of medieval scribes and the writers of history. He is currently at work on a book about library fires and the afterlife of medieval manuscripts from the Dissolution to the 18th Century. He is grateful to have thousands of pictures of medieval manuscripts to tide him over until he can return to working in Special Collections here and abroad.

Viator is expertly steered by its newly reconstituted editorial board: Javier Patiño Loira (Spanish & Portuguese, UCLA); Peter Stacey (History, UCLA); Erica Weaver (English, UCLA); Bronwen Wilson (Art History, UCLA); and Luke Yarbrough (Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, UCLA).

Viator offers a space for renewed attention to the global long Middle Ages, viewed broadly as the period from late antiquity into early modernity, while continuing its long-standing tradition of publishing articles of distinction in the established fields of medieval and Renaissance studies. In keeping with its title, *Viator* “travels”: the journal gives special consideration to articles that cross frontiers, focusing on meetings between cultures, pursuing an idea through the centuries, or employing methods of different disciplines simultaneously, while remaining accessible to the non-specialist reader. We particularly welcome articles that look beyond western Eurasia and North Africa and consider the history, literature, art, and thought of the medieval and Renaissance periods from a global perspective.

*See more information about Viator on our website.*
Thanks to the support of our generous friends and benefactors, the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CMRS) continues to be one of the most prominent and influential transdisciplinary institutes of its kind in North America. Our ability to continue to serve as a nexus for scholarly discussion and support for the work of faculty, students, and scholars relies on you! You can make your gift to support the activities of the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies by credit card online at cmrs.ucla.edu/giving. You can also make a contribution by check made out to the UCLA Foundation and mailed to CMRS at UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Box 951485, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1485.

Contributors who make an annual gift of $1,000 or more are invited to join the CMRS Council and receive the benefits that come with membership.

CMRS COUNCIL 2019-20
Matthew Brosamer and Bianca Ryan
Christopher Coombs and Charlotte Hughes
Ming and Eva Hsieh
Andy and Marea Kelly
V. A. Kolve and Lawrence Lucetef
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Larson
Frank Lutz III and Linda Albertano
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Petit
Mary and Thomas V. Pilla
Richard and Mary Rouse
Bett Sigdoff
Emma Lewis Thomas
Patricia and Richard Waldron

HISTORY OF THE BOOK LECTURE FUND

CONTRIBUTORS 2019-20
Barbara L. Braunstein
Thomas Coots and Stephanie Rose
John and Anna DeVore
Warren and Jean Ford
Maryanne C. Horowitz
Emma Lewis Thomas
Richard and Mary Rouse
Betty Sigdoff

INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTORS & OTHER SUPPORT

The Ahmanson Foundation
A. S. Thomas Memorial Fund, Inc.
Beverly Hills Porsche
Caltech
Celtic Colloquium
Fulgent Genetics
The Huntington Library

The Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles
Kairos Venture Investments, LLC
Prewoznik Foundation
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
UCI Shakespeare Center

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS
Jean and Warren Ford
Dr. and Mrs. Stewart Malkin
Sharon F. Marcus
Constance J. Moffatt

CMRS FACULTY members represent twenty-four different academic departments and interdepartmental programs at UCLA. UCLA faculty specializing in any aspect of the period from late antiquity to the mid-seventeenth century may request to be added to the Center’s faculty roster. Such requests are directed to the Center Director and approved by the Center’s Faculty Advisory Committee. A list of CMRS Faculty members along with a description of their research interests and specialties is on our website at cmrs.ucla.edu/about-us/faculty/.

CMRS ASSOCIATES hold positions at UC or other educational or research institutions in the area (e.g., the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Huntington Library) or are well-established independent scholars. Associates participate in the Center’s programs and activities and help to build and maintain alliances with other academic and research institutions. A list of CMRS Associates can be found at cmrs.ucla.edu/about-us/associates/.

CMRS AFFILIATES are scholars who have recently received a PhD degree and have actively participated in CMRS student programs, and for whom an affiliation with the Center will promote professional growth. CMRS Affiliates are appointed for a finite period of time, usually not exceeding three years. A list of CMRS Affiliates can be found at cmrs.ucla.edu/about-us/affiliates/.

CMRS PROGRAMS IN 2019-20

Art | Sci Center + Lab
Campus Programs Committee of the Program Activities Board
Cardiac Arrhythmia Center
Center for African Studies
Center for Jewish Studies
Center for Near Eastern Studies
Center for 17th-18th Century Studies
William Andrews Clark Memorial Library
Dean of Humanities
Dean of Social Sciences
Division of Humanities, College of Letters and Science
Franklin D. Murphy Chair in Italian Renaissance Studies
Herb Alpert School of Music, Department of Musicology
Library Special Collections
Program in Indo-European Studies
Program on Central Asia
Departments of Art History, Classics, Comparative Literature, English, European Languages and Transcultural Studies, History, Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, Philosophy, Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Languages & Cultures, and Spanish & Portuguese

DIRECTOR
Zrinka Stahuljak, PhD – Comparative Literature and French & Francophone Studies

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Lama Balafrej, PhD – Art History
Benrez Kohari, PhD – Art History
Toqial Aldhufi, PhD – Asian Languages & Cultures
Cesar Pavil, PhD – Musicology
Matthew Fishay, PhD – English
Kristopher Kersey, PhD – Art History
Kathryn Morgan, PhD – Classics
Andrea Mousdoukis, PhD – Italian
Steffis Nage, PhD – Art History
Calvin Normann, PhD – Philosophy
Peter Stacey, PhD – History
Stefania Tutino, PhD, Committee Chair – History

STAFF
Karen E. Burgess, PhD – Assistant Director
Benay Furton – Financial Analyst
Brett Landenberger – Webmaster/Publicist
Allison McCann, PhD – Publications Manager
Erin Romo – Program Coordinator

O UR SUPPORTERS

To reduce UCLA’s impact on the environment and printing costs, and provide prospective donors with the most up-to-date disclosure statements, UCLA has posted this information online.