SEMA held its 55th meeting in October. Hosted by the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the conference drew over 260 participants and featured seventy-four sessions, making it the largest gathering in the history of the organization. The conference theme was “Place and Power” and featured plenary addresses by Elizabeth Fowler, of the Department of English at the University of Virginia; and art historian Lawrence Nees, H. Fletcher Brown Chair of Humanities at the University of Delaware.

At the business luncheon, several new board members were elected to 3-year terms: Aeilya Barnes (Coastal Carolina University), Laine Doggett (St. Mary’s College of Maryland), Anne-Héléne Miller (University of Tennessee — Knoxville), and Lauren Whitnah (University of Tennessee — Knoxville). See our web site (southeasternmedieval.wordpress.com) for a complete list of officers and board members.

SEMA also passed a resolution not to hold our annual meeting in states where laws — such as North Carolina’s HB2, the so-called “bathroom” bill, or Mississippi’s “religious freedom” bill — infringe on the rights of Association members.

The final order of business was the annual announcement of SEMA prizes. This year’s First Book Award went to Joanna Kramer (University of Missouri) for Between Earth and Heaven: Liminality and the Ascension of Christ in Anglo-Saxon Literature (Manchester UP, 2014), which will come out in paperback this year. Trish Ward (College of Charleston) received the Award for Teaching Excellence. For more information on these awards, including how to nominate members for next year’s awards, please see the organization’s web site.

Some of the planning committee, L to R: Lauren Whitnah, Laura Howes, Katie

2016 FALL MEETING

The Citadel and the College of Charleston, co-sponsors of SEMA’s 2017 annual conference, look forward to welcoming you to Charleston! Our beautiful and historic city is known by many names, but we have selected one—The Holy City—as the organizing theme of the conference. Our plenary speakers will be Constance Berman, Professor Emerita of the University of Iowa, and Barbara Drake Boehm and Melanie Holcomb, curators of the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s exhibition “Jerusalem 1000-1400: Every People Under Heaven.” We will meet at the elegant Francis Marion Hotel, which overlooks Charleston’s Marion Square and lies at a stone’s throw from local shopping and dining. We, the conference organizers (Kurt Boughan, The Citadel; Phyllis Jestice, College of Charleston; Melanie Madox, The Citadel; and Jessica Streit, College of Charleston) hope to see you there! CFP to follow soon.
Albrecht Classen (University of Arizona) became a member of the PEN-Zentrum deutschsprachiger Autoren im Ausland (the PEN-Center of German-Speaking Authors Abroad) and was elected Post-Secondary Representation on the AATG (American Association of Teachers of German) Executive Council for the Southwest Region.

Mary D. Edwards (Pratt Institute) has endowed a lectureship in memory of her parents for a distinguished scholar to speak each year on the reception of the Classics in the Middle Ages at the annual International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, beginning in 2018. Mary notes that it is possible to make endowments such as this if one tithes into a charitable account bit by bit, year after year.

Shannon Godlove (Columbus State University, GA) shares the happy news that she and long-time partner Adam Doskey were married on November 20 in Monticello, IL.
Melissa Ridley Elmes began a new job as Assistant Professor of English at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO. She was also elected to a 3-yr. term on the Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship Advisory Board and a 5-yr. term on the MLA CLCS Celtic Studies forum executive committee.

Melanie Maddox (The Citadel) received the All-Southern Conference Faculty Award, for service to the university and contributions to campus life and the local community. She was recognized in February during one of her university’s home basketball games.

Kristina Watkins Mormino (Georgia Gwinnett College) has been promoted to Full Professor of French effective fall 2017.

John Plummer has retired from Vanderbilt University and attained Emeritus status after 45 years of service there. He has not, however, retired from scholarship and plans to continue his Chaucerian and other research.

Beth Rambo (Campbell University) attended the New Chaucer Society at Queen Mary University in London over the summer (her first time!) and was able to extend her time in England with a trip to York where she saw the last performance of the York Mystery Plays in York Minster, which she says “were beautiful and much more memorable than the conference, truth be told.” Here she is dwarfed by the minster.

Albrecht Classen (University of Arizona) has published widely in the past year. His works include the following:

Multilingualism in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Age: Communication and Miscommunication in the Premodern World, ed. Albrecht Classen. Fundamentals of Medieval and Early Modern Culture, 17 (Berlin and Boston: Walter de Gruyter, 2016), VI.
—. “‘Der Wald war sein Schicksal . . .’ An Ecocritical Reading of the Nibelungenlied,” Amsterdamer Beiträge zur älteren Germanistik 76 (2016): 270-89.
—. “The Innovative Perception of Space (Europe) in Late Medieval German Literature The Spatial Turn in Light of Eleonore of Austria’s Pontus und Sidonia (ca. 1450-1460),” Neohelicon 43.2 (2016): 543-57.

Nicole Discenza (University of South Florida), Inhabited Spaces: Anglo-Saxon Constructions of Place (University of Toronto Press, 2017).

Emily Leverett (Methodist University) and Sarah Adams (Azusa Pacific University). Changeling’s Fall (Falstaff Books, 2016). This is the first novel in the 5 part fantasy series The Eistefodd Chronicles and is available in paperback and e-book.


Nicole Nolan Sidhu (East Carolina University). Indecent Exposure: Gender, Politics, and Obscene Comedy in Middle English Literature (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016).

**C a l l s  f o r  P a p e r s**

**Southern Outlaws**
The Eleventh Biennial Conference of the International Association for Robin Hood Studies

The theme for this two-day international conference is “Southern Outlaws,” and proposals are welcome on any aspect of “southern” outlawry, banditry, piracy, and other transgressive activities and movements. Such topics spanning the fields of outlaws of the Southern United States, Australia, and South America are particularly welcome. Papers are also invited that explore the metaphorical and spatial conceptions of a “southern” outlaw, especially bad outlaws and trickster figures, and the ways in which geographical and topographical features create and foster outlawy. Papers on the Robin Hood tradition are also welcome. Conference participants will enjoy a variety of peer-reviewed papers from a number of academic fields: literature, history, folklore, theatre, music, anthropology, sociology, geography, art history, and media studies.

**June 16-17, 2017**
The conference will take place on Friday, June 16, 2017, to Saturday, June 17, 2017. More details regarding registration will be posted soon.

**Open Call for Papers and Fully Formed Sessions**
We are now accepting paper proposals as well as proposals for fully formed paper sessions and round table sessions. Please download the appropriate form at http://www.cas.aum.edu/community-resources/southern-outlaws-conference, complete it, and submit it by March 1, 2017, to Alex Kaufman: akaufman@aum.edu.

**SPECIAL NOTE: Alex has extended the deadline for SEMA members until March 10th!!!**
The Mediterranean between Land and Sea, jointly organized by the ICSR Mediterranean Knowledge and the Consortium Mediterranea Worlds, aims to collect contributions that address the most important questions related to the Mediterranean Basin from the point of view of different social and human sciences. The Mediterranean is a sea of cultures, as its shore witnessed the dawn of knowledge: from historiography to philosophy, from natural sciences to political sciences. The Mediterranean, furthermore, is a nexus of civilizations and ethnicities, which have constantly interacted through clashes and peaceful encounters. Indeed, the Mediterranean has always been a meeting place between East and West; this is even more true today as the Mediterranean seems to have become more fragmented and divided between different “worlds”: the secular Western Europe, the Arab-Islamic North Africa and Middle East, the orthodox Christianity of Greece and other Balkan countries, the Jewish culture of Israel, to mention only the most important. However, one should consider that each of these “worlds” reveals in its internal ethnic, territorial, and social tensions, which adds up to the richness and the peculiarity of the «Mare nostrum». The Mediterranean, furthermore, is also a sea of hopes: the hopes of hundreds of thousands of migrants who desperately try to cross the sea, on the run from hunger and conflicts; the hope of a fair and lasting peace for those who live in countries affected by civil wars and ethnoreligious clashes.

The Conference is open to papers that address the broader questions concerning the Mediterranean. More specifically, we aim to develop a reflection on the following topics:
- The migratory phenomena, which have historically characterized the Mediterranean since antiquity to modern era, as approached from the point of view of both the countries of origin and destination;
- Encounters and clashes among different civilizations and cultures in the Mediterranean world from the so-called Fall of the Roman empire to the present day;
- The Mediterranean and its relations with non-Mediterranean worlds, in terms of diplomatic, cultural and economic relations (with attention to the recent phenomenon of globalization);
- The political upheavals that have affected the Arab world in recent years;
- The phenomenon of terrorism within the relations between East and West;
- The political, economic and social impact of the great Recession on different Mediterranean countries;
- The impact of knowledge on the development of the Mediterranean area and the modes of its dissemination from ancient times to contemporary era.

Insofar as the contribution proposes an original and innovative analytical approach, they can focus on individual topics, understood as case-studies, or more general interpretations. The panels of the Conference will be crafted based on the accepted abstracts.

If you are interested in giving a paper you are required to send an abstract in English or Italian of your proposed contribution (maximum length 350 words) and a short biographical note summarizing your scientific activity (maximum length 150 worlds) to the following e-mail address: info@mediterraneanknowledge.org, with the tag [ICSR Mediterranean Knowledge / MedWorlds Conference 2017]. Each participant will be allowed to deliver only one paper. All papers must be delivered in English or Italian and in person by the author of the paper. We cannot accommodate speakers wishing to present using Skype (or similar), or proxy presentations.

**Deadline for abstracts:** 31 March 2017  
**Communication on the acceptance of contributions:** 20 April 2017  
**Final program:** May 2017
The Southeastern Medieval Association seeks editor for its annual journal, *Medieval Perspectives*.

The journal publishes work presented SEMA’s annual conference or at a SEMA-sponsored panel at another conference. The editor must be a member in good standing of the Association.

Currently, *Medieval Perspectives* has one associate and one assistant editor, who serve at the pleasure and direction of the editor. Together, the editorial staff performs these functions:

1. gathering of submissions and assigning them to evaluators;
2. collecting reader reports and sending them on to authors;
3. making editorial decisions about acceptance where the reader reports disagree;
4. overseeing the book review section;
5. corresponding with accepted authors for editing and proofing of articles and reviews;
6. arranging for printing of the edited volume;
7. publishing both hard copy for distribution and digital copy with EBSCO;
8. distribution of paper copies to dues-paying members of the Association; and
9. maintaining and updating a style sheet.

The newly appointed editor will work with the outgoing editor and assume full operational control of the journal at the 2017 meeting of the Association in Charleston, SC, being completely responsible for Volume 33 (2018).

No salary attaches to the position of editor, associate editor, or assistant editor. The typical term of appointment is five years with the possibility of renewal.

Applicants should send a letter detailing their interest and qualifications for the position. A candidate’s ability to describe a clear process for printing hard copies of the journal will be an asset. Please send the letter and a current CV to the President of SEMA, Thomas J. Farrell, at tom.farrell@stetson.edu. The application deadline is May 31, 2017. The new editor will be chosen by the Executive Committee of the Association and the new editor will be named as soon as practicable after the deadline for applications.
And finally... Please send items to be included in the fall, 2017 newsletter to me, Alison Gulley, at guleyeya@appstate.edu no later than August 15. Forthcoming publications will be listed after they appear in print. If I have inadvertently left out information that you sent me, I apologize and ask that you resend it for inclusion in the next issue. If you have announcements or CFPs that you'd like the membership to receive before the next newsletter, please consider posting on our Facebook page or on our listserv. I won’t be attending the Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo this year, and I’ll miss seeing many of you there. For those of you who are attending, enjoy your time, and don’t forget to take lots of pictures. — Alison

In Ston and gras vertu ther is,
Bot yit the bokes tellen this,
That word above alle erthli thinges
Is vertuous in his doinges,
Wher so it be to evele or goode.
— Gower