

Hagiography Society Newsletter

Volume XXV, no. 3, December 2015

Executive Committee Elections

Elections for two executive committee positions will be held this coming year. We are soliciting nominations for the positions of: **President** (currently filled by Alison Frazier), and **Secretary-Treasurer** (currently filled by Amy Ogden). The terms are three years.

If you are interested in these positions, or wish to nominate someone, please email our current Nominations Chair, Nikolas Hoel, at n-hoel@neiu.edu by **February 1**. Elections will take place shortly thereafter. For a description of the positions, please see our website: http://www.hagiographysociety.org/?page_id=97



Thomas Head's Hagiography Pages on ORB

This spring the Hagiography Society will be embarking on a project to make Thomas Head's hagiographic essays, formerly available on the website ORB, accessible through our website. We are not reproducing the ORB website but will include stripped-down versions (e.g. without hyperlinks) of Head's essays as linked PDF files.

Please stay tuned for more information!



CFP: Hagiography Panels at the SCSC

The Hagiography Society is sponsoring sessions at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference (to which we are affiliated). The SCSC will be held in Bruges 18-20 August. Please send an inquiry to Sara Ritchey (ritchey@louisiana.edu) by **January 25**. We can then consider themes that work together and compile official abstracts before the conference's Feb. 15 deadline.

Possible thematic panels might fall under the following topics:

Hagiographic Ephemera
Saints and Economies
Global & Local in Early Modern Sanctity
Blowback: Reception of Indigenous Saints in Europe
Material Miracles: How Saints Mend Things



Book Series: Sanctity in Global Perspective

Taylor and Francis recently acquired Ashgate, the publisher of the Hagiography Society book series. All existing contracts will be honored and the series will continue as usual. The series is dedicated to exploring the concept of sanctity in ideational, literary, artistic, and sociohistorical dimensions. "Sanctity in Global Perspective" publishes monographs and edited volumes that illuminate the lives of saintly figures, the communities dedicated to those figures, and the material evidence of their cults. Our aim is to foster critical scholarship that offers novel conceptualizations and the possibility of crosspollination of ideas across traditions, geographical regions, and academic disciplines. The series is open to all areas of scholarship, without restriction as to religious traditions or time periods. The editors are Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski, University of Pittsburgh; Shahzad Bashir, Stanford University; and John Stratton Hawley, Barnard College.

Proposals should take the form of either
1) a preliminary letter of inquiry, briefly describing the project; or
2) a formal prospectus including: abstract; brief statement of critical methodology, table of contents; sample chapter; estimate of length; estimate of the number and type of illustrations to be included; a c.v.

Please email your letter or proposal to the Taylor and Francis contact for this book series: Thomas Gray, tom.gray@tandf.co.uk



The Sherry L. Reames Graduate Student Travel Award Recipients for 2014-2015

Once again, the Hagiography Society executive committee received a number of outstanding applications for the Sherry L. Reames Graduate Student Travel Awards: a testimony to the vibrant state of the field and the great promise of the new generation of scholars. We are very happy to announce the award recipients:

David A Heayn, City University of New York: "Byzantine Monasticism in Two Anatolian Provinces, ca. 500-700"

Véronique Olivier, Université de Montréal and Université Nice-Sophia-Antipolis: "Saint Lambert in Vence: Plurisecular Fortune of a Local Cult"



The Hagiography Society at the RSA

We will be sponsoring five sessions at the Renaissance Society of America's annual meeting, to be held in Boston, 31 March-2 April 2016.

Session #1: Redefining Female Sanctity: Clare of Assisi and Francesca Romana in Early Modern Italy

Chair: Barbara Wisch, SUNY Cortland
Organizer: Pamela M. Jones, UMass-Boston
Nirit Ben-Aryeh Debby (Ben-Gurion University): "Remodeling Female Saints in Early Modern Art and Preaching: The Case of Clare of Assisi"
Eunice D. Howe (USC): "Charting Santa Francesca Romana's Exceptional Pathway to Heaven"
Suzanne Scanlan (Rhode Island School of Design): "Holy Recovery: Reclaiming the Body of Santa Francesca Romana at Tor de' Specchi"

Session #2: Material Hagiography I

Chair and Organizer: Ruth S. Noyes, OSU
Austin Thomas Powell (CUA): "Dominican Epistolary and Saints' Cult in Late Medieval Italy"

Dominic E. Delarue (Universität Heidelberg): "The Hagiographic *Libelli* of Philip the Good between Personal Devotion and Political Claims"
Stephen F.H. Stowell (Concordia Univ.): "The Materiality of Prayer in Early Italian Marian Miracles"

Session #3: Material Hagiography II

Chair: Fredrika Herman Jacobs, Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
Organizer: Ruth S. Noyes, OSU
Ruben Suykerbuyk (Universiteit Gent): "Drawing Devotees to an Absent Saint. The Cult of St Leonard at Zoutleeuw (c. 1450-1585)"
Jetze Touber (Univ. of Groningen): "Christian antiquities in the hands of the Calvinist erudite Gijsbert Cuper, 1670-1710"
Anne Louise Williams (Univ. of Virginia): "Saint Joseph's Hosen and the Laughter of Veneration"
Ruth S. Noyes (OSU): "Engendering Sanctity. Counter-Reformation Hagiographic Printing Economies and the Material Authentication of Would-Be Saints"



Calls for Papers

Ghent and Bruges, 24-25 November 2016.

"Bishops in the 'Century of Iron': Episcopal Authorities in France and in Lotharingia, 900-1050" is a joint organization of Steven Vanderputten (Ghent University) and Brigitte Meijns (Catholic University of Leuven), with support from the Research-Foundation Flanders (FWO) and in association with Episcopus (www.episcopus.org). Keynote lectures will be delivered by John Ott (Portland University), Charles West (University of Sheffield), and Julia Barrow (University of Leeds).

Paper proposals are now being solicited. The objective is to understand bishops' identities and agency in the context of their own time – an age marked by close entanglement of the ecclesiastical and secular spheres – instead of contrasting them with their 'Gregorian' successors. The aim of this conference is to present state-of-the-art scholarship on tenth- and early- eleventh century bishops in France and Lotharingia, to consider the above developments, and to explore new paths for future research on episcopal authorities in the Post-Carolingian world. It situates itself at the intersection of different fields of medieval scholarship, including

the study of institutions, reform, discourse, ritual and symbolic modes of (self-representation, historiographical production, iconography, and material culture. Conference papers may be presented in English or French and should not exceed 20 minutes in length. To submit a proposal, please send an abstract of maximum 400 words (PhD students also include a brief curriculum vitae) by email to Brigitte.Meijns@arts.kuleuven.be and Steven.Vanderputten@UGent.be before **15 February 2016**.

Chester, UK, 24 June 2016. “Pilgrimage, Shrines and Healing in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe” is a one-day colloquium at the University of Chester, hosted in collaboration with Plymouth University. The aim is to explore continuity and change in material and spiritual pilgrimage across the late medieval and early modern period. We are seeking contributions from scholars whose research speaks to these themes in the pre- and post-Reformation eras. We invite proposals for 20-minute papers on themes that might include (but are not restricted to): Pilgrimage: local, regional, international; Sacred landscapes and architecture of pilgrimage; Pardons and indulgences; Shrines and the cult of saints; Healing and miracles; Relics, paintings, ex-votos and the material culture of pilgrimage; Confraternities and collective pilgrimage; Pilgrims and their representation; Mental pilgrimage and meditation; and Spiritual journeys. Plenary speakers are Anthony Bale (Birkbeck) & Elizabeth Tingle (Plymouth). Please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words to Jennifer Hillman at j.hillman@chester.ac.uk by **11 March 2016**.

Tours, 12-14 October 2016. “Saint Martin, expansion and revivals in his popularity from the origins to the present day” is a conference celebrating the 1700 anniversary of his birth. The international symposium organized in Tours in 2016 aims to address the “Martinian Figure” in all its breadth and all its influence. Several scientific fields, History, Archeology, Art History, Literary Studies, Ethnology and Anthropology, Theology, Economics, are called to focus on some fundamental issues that may arise in the following way: How to locate the cult of St. Martin in this perspective in Italy, in the British Isles, Spain, in the Germanic area, in the Scandinavian area, in the Slavic area, in Hungary; In a broad periodization: Origins, Carolingian, Central Middle

Ages, late Middle Ages, modern era, the nineteenth century, the twentieth century; Finally, the historiographical question, especially in the nineteenth century, should not be forgotten.

Proposals should be formulated in one page and may be submitted in English, French, German or Italian. The deadline for submitting proposals is **30 April 2016**.



Other Upcoming Conferences

Manchester, UK, 5-6 February 2016.

“Transverberations: Iberian Mysticism in a Global Context” aims to reassess the influence of Iberian mysticism on global cultures. The academic conference will be accompanied by a public reading by Espido Freire of her book, *Para vos nací: un mes con Teresa de Jesús*, at the Instituto Cervantes, Manchester. This conference will explore how mysticism has transgressed theological orthodoxy to become a cultural force across and beyond disciplines, genres, and cultures. The legacy of the mystical tradition has held traction not only across geographical spans but temporal ones; the mystic spirit reverberates through modern and contemporary art and literature. Indeed, mysticism impacted the overseas empires of the Iberian Peninsula, fusing together local beliefs with imported Catholic tradition, a fusion which still reverberates today in the prevailing spiritual and artistic practices of Latin America and the Lusophone world. For further information, please see our website at <https://transverberations.wordpress.com/> or email transverberations@gmail.com

Ghent, 18-20 February 2016. The ERC research group *Novel Saints* (Ghent University) hosts an international conference on “Holy Hero(in)es: Literary Constructions of Heroism in Late Antique and Early Medieval Hagiography” in the Koninklijke Academie voor Nederlandse Taal en Letterkunde (KANTL), Koningstraat 18, 9000 Ghent (Belgium). The keynote lecture is by Prof. Stephanos Efthymiadis (Open University of Cyprus), “Saints and second heroes: cases and forms of an extended narrative in Byzantine hagiography.” The full program is available on <http://www.novelsaints.ugent.be/holy-heroines/programme>. Information about transport, accommodation, and practicalities can be found on

<http://www.novelsaints.ugent.be/holy-heroines/>.

Online registration is now open. To register, please visit our booking page:

<https://www.congres.ugent.be/holyheroines2016/>.

University of Zürich, Switzerland, 30 March-1 April 2016. “Crusading Masculinities: International Workshop” aims to bring together scholars from the fields of gender history and crusader studies, in order to examine and highlight the variety of masculinities which were represented in the context of the crusades. Confirmed speakers include: Anthony Bale (Birbeck, University of London); Niall Christie (Langara College, Vancouver); Paul M. Cobb (University of Pennsylvania); Susan Edgington (Queen Mary University, London); Yvonne Friedman (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan); Natasha Hodgson (Nottingham Trent University); Linda G. Jones (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona); Ruth Mazo Karras (University of Minnesota); Katherine J. Lewis (University of Huddersfield); Christoph Maier (University of Zürich); Matthew M. Mesley (University of Zürich); Alan V. Murray (University of Leeds); Helen Nicholson (Cardiff University); and Dion C. Smythe (Queen’s University Belfast). Questions can be directed to matthew.mesley@uzh.ch

Oxford, UK, 4-6 April 2016. The British Archaeological Association will hold the fourth in its biennial International Romanesque conference series in Oxford on 4-6 April, 2016. The theme is “Romanesque: Saints, Shrines and Pilgrimage,” and the aim is to examine the material culture of sanctity over the period c.950-c.1200. The Conference will be held at Rewley House in Oxford from 4-6 April, 2016, with the opportunity to stay on for two days of visits to Romanesque buildings on 7-8 April.

St. Bonaventure, NY, 12-15 July 2016. “Franciscan Women: Medieval & Beyond,” will be hosted by the Franciscan Institute at Saint Bonaventure University. The conference dedicated to women and the Franciscan Tradition, ranging from the Middle Ages to the contemporary world. The organizers seek to bring together women and men who are living the Franciscan tradition in various ways -- as members or associates of the three Franciscan orders, coworkers in Franciscan institutions, etc. -- with academic

scholars who want to bring their research into a mutually enriching conversation with a broader audience.



Book and Other Announcements

Mediterranea is a new international journal focusing on various areas of knowledge transfer from Late Antiquity to the Early Modern period, covering the Middle East and the Mediterranean basin, and paying special attention to philological, philosophical, scientific, cultural and religious fields of research: <http://www.uco.es/servicios/publicaciones/ojs/index.php/mediterranea> *Mediterranea* publishes original papers relating to all aspects of the knowledge transfer from Late Antiquity to the Early Modern period. All submissions from Arts and Humanities, Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences and Experimental Sciences are welcome. Participating and promoting Institutions:; Catholic University of Leuven; The Hebrew University, Jerusalem; The Warburg Institute, London; University of Córdoba; University of Porto.

Scott G. Bruce, *Chuny and the Muslims of La Garde-Freinet: Hagiography and the Problem of Islam in Medieval Europe*, has been published by Cornell University Press.

The Saint Between Manuscript and Print: Italy 1400-1600, edited by Alison Frazier and published by CRRS, is now available for order.

A new monograph on Catherine of Siena, by Katerina Cadková, *Caterina da Siena e le sue guide spirituali* has been published in cooperation with the Czech Cultural Institute in Rome.

Bishops, Authority, and Community in Northwestern Europe, c. 1050-1150, by John S. Ott, has been published by Cambridge University Press.

Boydell & Brewer is pleased to offer a 30% discount on these new books by members of the Hagiography Society:

The Cult of St Edmund in Medieval East Anglia by Rebecca Pinner

Anglo-Saxon Saints' Lives as History Writing in Late Medieval England by Cynthia Turner Camp

Sacred Fictions of Medieval France: Narrative Theology in the Lives of Christ and the Virgin, 1150-1500 by Maureen Barry McCann Boulton

To receive your discount, please use promo code 15547 when ordering at www.boydellandbrewer.com.



Subscription to the Listserve

Members can subscribe or unsubscribe to the Hagiography Society email listserv by sending either the message "SUBSCRIBE HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY" or "SIGNOFF HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY" in the body and subject line to LISTSERVE@VM.MARIST.EDU

Please also visit and join our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/102633289878011/>



Registration on the New Website

Register on the new website!

An important part of membership renewal is registration on the website. Your registration allows us to keep in contact with you and gives you access to member benefits (like the member directory). If you prefer not to be listed in the directory, just add a

quick note to the "message" box on the form.

If you have not already registered on the new website, please fill out the short, 3-blank Membership Request Form at

http://www.hagiographysociety.org/?page_id=112



Selected Saints' Feast Days



JANUARY 27TH:

ST. ANGELA
MERICI

Angela Merici (d. 1540) is a well-known figure as the founder of the Order of St. Ursula. Born c. 1470, Angela joined the Franciscan Third Order and went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, during which she lost her sight on the way. It was miraculously restored on her return journey after she had nevertheless continued on her pilgrimage. Upon her return she continued her work giving religious instruction to the poor and attracted other women who had similar ideals. They were formed into a "company" of lay women who lived under a rule of her own composing (later approved in 1544). Similar communities spread with the goal of living in the world and teaching young girls. She was beatified in 1768 and canonized in 1807.