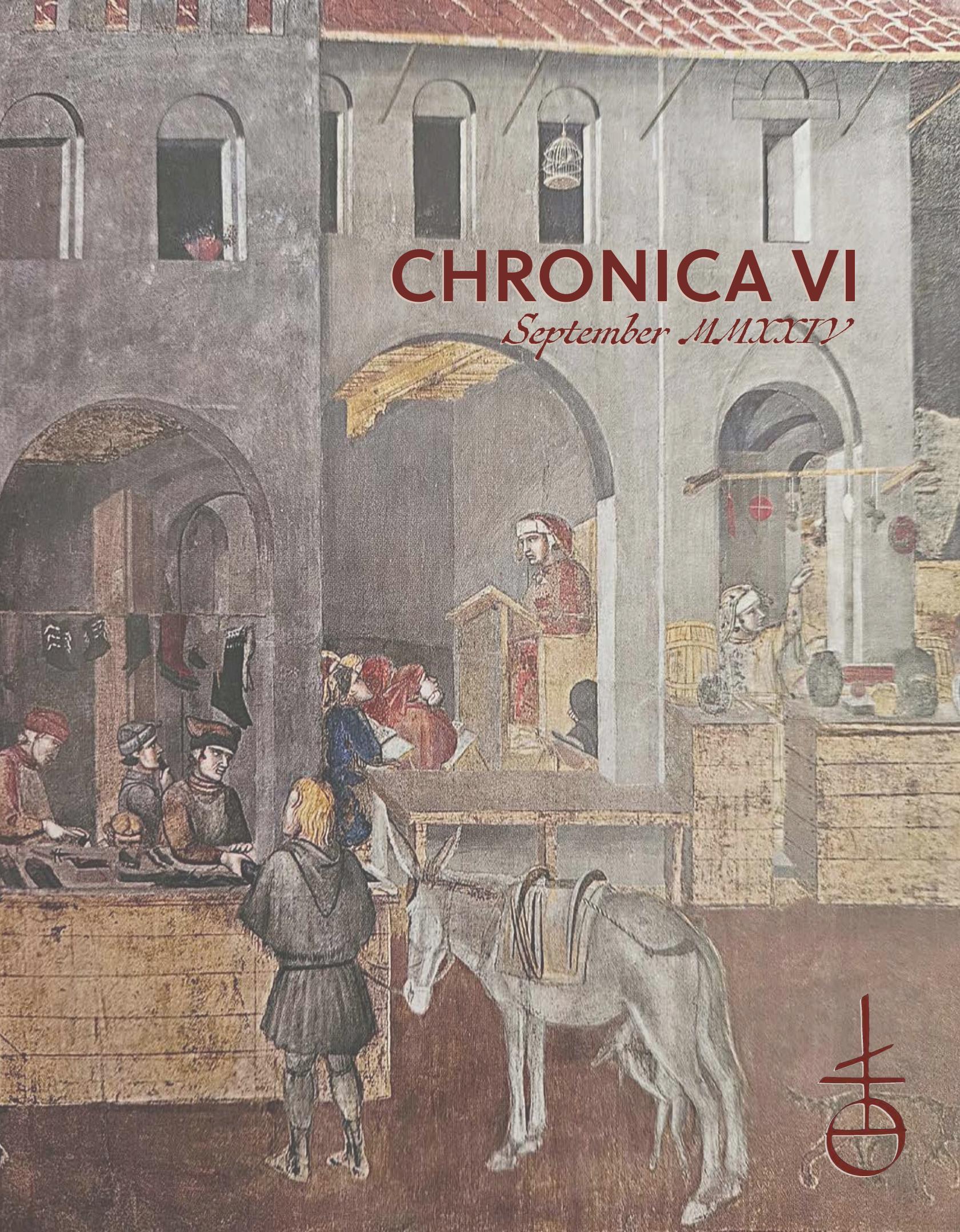


# CHRONICA VI

*September M.MXXXIV*



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

During a recent stay in Siena, I ran into an old love. The Sala dei Nove in the Palazzo Pubblico is undergoing restoration, but over the last few days, the opportunity to climb the scaffolding suddenly appeared. I was having breakfast when I found out, booked an immediate tour, and in less than an hour later, I was face to face with the Allegory of Good Government, the rope of “ben fare,” an iconographic invention born from the para-etymology of “concordia,” and above all, Tyranny.

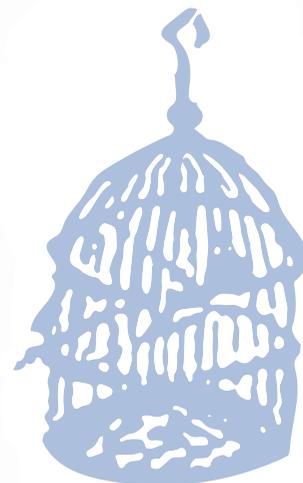
If Lorenzetti is dear to me, it is less for Good Government itself, but rather for his Bad Government. While working on my doctoral thesis on the cultural paradigm of the *civitas diaboli* in medieval Western thought – from Tyconius to Augustine and up to the dawn of modern times – I cherished the idea, megalomaniac as it was, of including Lorenzetti. I was eager to show that despite all the extraordinary innovations owed to communal culture and the Aristotelian-Ciceronianism of his time, the architectural structure of that cycle, so to speak, came from elsewhere: from the tradition of the theological-political paradigm of the two cities. At least, that was my “plan” as a debutant PhD student.

Five years later, I had studied various texts, exegetical, theological, and literary, as well as all the iconographic cycles in the manuscripts of *De civitate* and its French and Italian translations and put together hundreds of pages (as is customary for French-style theses). These included not a single word on Lorenzetti. A few years later, Patrick Boucheron’s *Conjurer la peur: Sienne 1338* came out, along with the important works of Rosa Maria Dessì, and that idea of mine was definitively shelved.

So, finding myself face to face with the Good Government in full-scale grandeur felt like unintentionally stepping through the looking glass into one life of research that could have been but never was. With the taste of coffee still in my mouth, there it was—a small nostalgia, a brief discomfort. Then I got distracted. Unexpected, unforeseen, or better seen a thousand times and never noticed, a birdcage was dangling in front of me, on the second floor of a building where classes were held on the ground floor. As I now know, it was only in the late Middle Ages that the trade in birds kept in cages as pets for purely entertainment purposes developed. Lorenzetti included it, like the exotic fabrics and all the merchandise of this imaginary Siena, as a status symbol of a peaceful, well-run, educated, and trendy city. As I discovered from reading Gabriella Picinni in her *Operazione Buon Governo* that afternoon, the cage has a board game drawn at the bottom, so it could be used in many ways.

With no birdcage but a few boardgames, classrooms are about to be populated once again in CMS “city.” As usual, the *Chronica* updates us on research projects, new faces, publications, and other recent achievements of our community of medievalists here in Toronto. To the new and returning students who are about to enter our classrooms, I wish this: to nurture ambitious, and perhaps even impossible projects with the serenity of knowing that, along the way, something may be set aside and perhaps forgotten, but it will not be lost – and that is not always a bad thing. One day, finding yourself face to face with what you were pursuing, you will likely discover details you would not have possibly seen before and realize that what you have truly learned through your degree is how to look and continue seeking.

Elisa Brill, PhD



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## SHARING THE RIDDLES OF AVICENNA

CMS proudly welcomes **Jon McGinnis**, who, this summer, joined the Centre and the Department of Philosophy as Professor of Classical Islamic Philosophy.

Professor McGinnis recounts his scholarly journey from graduate student to professor, and describes how filling an academic void fused into a love of interpreting the riddles of medieval Arabic philosophy.

Early in my career, I often found myself in conversation being asked, “So, what do you do?” When I inevitably replied, “I work on Avicenna’s natural philosophy,” I was either met with a blank stare and the occasional, “Who the hell is Avicenna?” or from certain academics, “Why are you wasting your career on that?!” My reason is, I admit, somewhat ignoble; I’m a bit of a mercenary. When I applied to Penn’s graduate program in philosophy, I declared an interest in late medieval-Renaissance natural philosophy. To be sure, I have had a long love of medieval intellectual history, but, as an undergraduate, I had toyed with the idea of getting a degree in physics. Ultimately, I did not pursue it, as one needs to be good at math, and, alas, my relation to mathematics is one of unrequited love.

I was accepted into Penn’s philosophy program on the presumption that I would work on late medieval-Renaissance natural philosophy, and thus thought it wise to familiarize myself with the discipline. I read all the secondary sources on this area that I could find, admittedly not much at the time. In these readings, I kept coming across unfamiliar names, like Averroes (Ibn Rushd) and Avicenna (Ibn Sīnā), and thought it prudent to learn more about their natural philosophy. My initial search for secondary sources came up empty. I went to my professors in the philosophy department, and they too could offer no leads. They suggested that I ask colleagues in Penn’s

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies department, which returned the same result. No one was working on medieval Arabic natural philosophy, at least not in the area that interested me, namely, what would evolve into physics. I realized that here was an empty niche in the great chain of academic being that I could fill.

I did not know Arabic at that time, so I applied for a Foreign Language Area Study scholarship, which allowed for four years of training. The next years were a crash course in Arabic, taking courses at Penn during the academic year and attending Middlebury College’s Arabic submergence program in the summers. I also received a Harvard Graduate Fellowship in their History of Science department to work with A. I. Sabra, followed by a Fulbright scholarship to study Arabic in Cairo.

Upon returning to Penn, I began my dissertation. I wanted to write on Aristotle and a medieval Arabic thinker’s accounts of time. Initially, I had thought of comparing Aristotle and Averroes, however, Averroes’ *Physics* commentary is not extant in Arabic. Moreover, there is no critical edition of the Latin translation, only a reprint of a Renaissance edition, replete with all the fiddly Latin abbreviations, which require a solid knowledge of Latin paleography. In contrast, a few years prior, a critical Arabic edition of Avicenna’s *Physics* had come out. Avicenna it was.



Jon McGinnis

As it turns out, I could not have settled on a better topic. I had chosen ‘time’ as my subject because, while it is squarely a subject of natural philosophy, it is sufficiently metaphysical that I could market myself as one with a competence in both Ancient and medieval metaphysics, which I hoped would have a broader appeal when seeking a job. What I learned as I began writing my dissertation, however, is that to understand Avicenna’s theory of time, one must know not only other elements in his natural philosophy, but also aspects of his logic, philosophy of science, psychology and metaphysics. In effect, in writing on Avicenna’s theory of time, I had to acquire a general knowledge of his philosophical system. Moreover, I had to unravel many of the issues I encountered myself, as there were no other researchers in the field. I had here, the making of a long-term research program, and an historical figure whom I found, well, just philosophically cool. I thought, “I could spend my life figuring this guy out!” and I have.

I freely confess that at that time my Arabic was not strong enough to simultaneously understand Avicenna's temporal theory and to do so solely in Arabic. Thus, I undertook several rough translations – both of Avicenna's works and other Arabic thinkers – useful for my dissertation, and then used those translations to think about the philosophy. These translations were in what I would call 'Arabish,' neither Arabic nor English, but somewhere in the middle. While some of these were cleaned up into proper English and became part of my dissertation, a score of others remained saved on my computer.

When I came to the University of Missouri, St. Louis, I was asked to teach a course on Islamic philosophy, but at that time, there was no suitable anthology of Arabic / Islamic philosophy. I collected some of the available English translations of Arabic philosophical texts, edited some of my earlier translations, and created a reader for the class. That same semester, I gave a paper at an American Academy of Religion conference, and was after asked by a Professor and one of his students for the recommendation of a good anthology of Arabic philosophy. When I said that there was none, they asked, "Why not? There should be one!" Again, I thought that I could corner this market. Ever since, I have worked to make readable translations of medieval Arabic thought available to non-Arabic readers.

While I confess that pivotal moments in my career resulted from a mercenary instinct, that instinct is no longer my incentive. I simply love medieval Arabic-Islamic philosophy, theology and science, and one of my greatest pleasures is unravelling some riddle I find in Avicenna. Because I love medieval Arabic philosophy, I also want to share it; translations do that. I am happy to say that while I am still occasionally met with a "Who the hell is Avicenna?" when I tell people what I do (especially when visiting family in Texas), no academic asks me why I have wasted my career.

Jon McGinnis

Jon McGinnis will present *Just Justification: Justifying Religious Beliefs in Classical Islam* at the Collaborative Specialization in Ancient Medieval Philosophy Proseminar on **September 9**. For more information about CSAMP Proseminars and events visit [csamp.utoronto.ca/event](https://csamp.utoronto.ca/event).

## TORONTO COLLOQUIUM IN MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, the Collaborative Specialization in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, the Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, and the Centre for Medieval Studies, the **2024 Toronto Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy** is free and open to the public.

**Friday, September 20 - Saturday, September 21**

Room 100, Jackman Humanities Building  
(170 St. George Street)

[medieval.utoronto.ca/events/2024-toronto-colloquium-medieval-philosophy](https://medieval.utoronto.ca/events/2024-toronto-colloquium-medieval-philosophy)

**Friday, September 20**

• Session I (4:30 - 6:30) •

Chair: Giorgio Pini (Fordham University)

Can Laurens Löwe (Saint Louis University): *William Crathorn on the Relation between a Power and Its Manifestation*

Commentator: Susan Brower-Toland (Saint Louis University)

**Saturday, September 21**

• Session II (10:00 - 12:00) •

Chair: Jon McGinnis (U of T)

Cristina Cerami (CNRS, Paris): *Al-Fārābī and the Kalām on the Divine Attributes*

Commentator: Rosabel Ansari (Stony Brook University)

• Session III (2:00 - 4:00) •

Chair: Simona Vuc

Vikram Kumar (Cornell University): *Augustine's Proof of the Existence of God in 'De Libero Arbitrio 2'*

Muhammad Fariddudin Attar (Carleton University): *Efficient Causality and the Divine Mind in Avicenna's Deduction of the Cosmic Order*  
Rebecca Hicks (Saint Louis University): *Thomas Aquinas on the Range of Plato's Forms*

• Session IV (4:15 - 6:15) •

Chair: Jeffrey Brower (Purdue University)

Juhana Toivanen (University of Jyväskylä): *Peter Olivi on Moral Vices and Self-Love*

Commentator: Michael Szlachta (St. Francis Xavier University)

## COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

In addition to the Collaborative Specialization in Ancient Medieval Philosophy (CSAMP), CMS students have the opportunity to participate in one of six collaborative programs:

- **Book History and Print Culture**
- **Food Studies**
- **Jewish Studies**
- **Sexual Diversity Studies**
- **Women and Gender Studies**

For more information visit [medieval.utoronto.ca/graduate/prospective-graduate-students/collaborative-programs](https://medieval.utoronto.ca/graduate/prospective-graduate-students/collaborative-programs).

## FROM STEM TO THE LEONARD BOYLE DISSERTATION PRIZE

CMS Alumna **Alessia Berardi**, now Assistant Professor of History at Christendom College, received this year's Leonard Boyle Dissertation Prize for her exceptional thesis, "*Vita, scientia, doctrina*: Stephen Langton and the biblical model of the 'good master' in the twelfth-century schools." Professor Berardi tells us how her experiences at CMS have influenced her new scholarly life.



Alessia Berardi

### What led you to your scholarly career in Medieval Studies?

My academic background is somewhat unorthodox. I originally graduated from what we call in Italy a *Liceo Scientifico*, a high school focused on STEM. Thanks to my Latin professor, Stefano Bertani, I became so passionate about Latin Literature that I decided to study Classics for my BA. By taking some courses in philology and Medieval Latin, I became particularly interested in biblical exegesis and manuscript studies, and I produced a partial edition of a commentary on the Song of Songs as my MA thesis.

After visiting Canada and hearing about CMS, and after noticing that I missed researching very much, I decided to pursue a PhD in Medieval Studies in Toronto with Alexander Andrée. In particular, a Medieval Latin seminar about Stephen Langton, a theology professor in Paris in the twelfth century, and later archbishop of Canterbury at the

time of the Magna Carta, influenced my decision to write my dissertation about Langton's lectures on the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Lamentations. I was fascinated by what was happening in the medieval classroom, and in particular about Langton's idea of a 'good' teacher.

### How do you reflect on your time at the Centre now that you have graduated?

At CMS I found an engaging scholarly community, incredible mentors, and true friends. Thanks to Professors Andrée and William Robins, I was afforded the possibility of engaging in different SSHRC projects and learning how to research. I also had the opportunity to teach in the departments of Classics and Historical Studies at UTM. At Mississauga I was a TA for various professors, in particular Boris Chrubasik, who helped me develop teaching skills. I found incredible mentors in Professors Andrée, who gave me ample opportunities for collaborative readings, Giulio Silano, and the late Joseph Goering. Goering gently accompanied me when I was stuck in my research, and always encouraged me to 'waste time in the library' and take frequent showers (it works, ideas actually come!), while Silano asked me the most challenging and thought-provoking questions. I also found a real support preparing for the job market in Professors Shami Ghosh and Elisa Brillì, who read countless drafts of my applications.

I will be forever grateful to my closest friends at CMS for the mutual support in writing and researching, and for everything we learned together while organizing the 2018

Vagantes Conference in Toronto. So, as a piece of advice for current and future CMS students, find good friends to spend your time with, and challenging and humorous mentors to guide you.

### What has been your experience evolving from student to teacher?

Though I was still finishing my dissertation, I applied to Christendom College, a small Catholic liberal arts college, which has been a good fit for me. I teach Medieval and Ancient History, I supervise senior theses – which I immensely enjoy – and I have the time to pursue my research. Thanks to my experiences at CMS, I am well equipped to both teach, and to direct and do research. I am part of a new initiative, *Rethinking Early Scholasticism*, which focuses on editing and studying neglected texts from the early twelfth to the thirteenth centuries, led by Professors Boyd Coolman at Boston College, Kevin Hughes at Villanova, and Mark Clark at Catholic University of America. Now, as a professor, I am more aware than I was as a student of how many things there are still to be learned in our study of the Middle Ages, and I am more able than before to pursue original and innovative research.

The Leonard Boyle Dissertation Prize, which honours the memory of Fr. Leonard E. Boyle, an Irish Dominican friar and teacher at CMS and PIMS from 1961 to 1984, is awarded yearly by the Canadian Society of Medievalists. Any student from a Canadian institution who has successfully defended an outstanding dissertation in any field of medieval studies is eligible.

For more information on Fr. Leonard Boyle, the Prize, and a list of current and past winners, visit [www.canadianmedievalists.org/Leonard-Boyle-Dissertation-Prize](http://www.canadianmedievalists.org/Leonard-Boyle-Dissertation-Prize).

## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

**Landon Reitz** joins CMS this fall as Faculty of Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellow with his project, *Looking Up from the Page: Imaginative Medieval Reading Practices* under the supervision of Markus Stock (Principal, University College / Professor, German Studies / CMS). In this research, Dr. Reitz examines the historical role of the fictional reader in the interpretive, media-technological, and aesthetic developments of medieval German literature.

### What sparked your interest in medieval German literature, and how does it continue to develop?

My interest in medieval literature began with undergraduate courses on Dante and Chaucer, which introduced me to the complexity, humour, and alterity of medieval textual culture. When I began to seriously study medieval German literature in graduate school, I questioned how we know the manner in which to read these manuscripts that were created in a textual culture very different from ours. Modernists and medievalists, North American and German academics all seemed to have different opinions on what constituted proper and productive reading practices. I came to realize that the texts, their composers, scribes, and material forms expressed a similar complexity, proposing and encouraging different reading practices through nascent concepts of fiction, religious devotional practice, and satirical cultural commentary.

My mentors in graduate school encouraged me; Niklaus Largier inspired me to look at the big picture across genres and eras, while Anton Kaes introduced me to the trope of the 'scenes of reading' moments in texts, where fictional figures are depicted reading books. This trope allowed me to analyze similar questions across genres and eras, focusing on issues of religious devotion, the development of fiction, and the evolution of the cultural image of reading in my dissertation. Lilla Balint, my advisor on contemporary German literature, challenged me to bring the medieval into conversation with the modern. Now, in my book project, *Looking Up from the Page: Imaginative Medieval Reading Practices*, I focus on medieval textual culture to highlight the multitude of practiced reading methods and cultural images of reading.

I continue to be inspired by modern preoccupations and anxieties surrounding reading, specifically the depiction of reality, interruptions, distractions, and focused attention. Part of this research includes an examination and critique of modern critical reading practices, frameworks that both offer insights into medieval textual culture and obscure its potential. I hope my project will contribute to the current discourses on alternative academic and popular reading practices by highlighting another moment in time when established textual practices were disrupted and reimaged.



Postdoctoral Fellow **Landon Reitz**

### How did this project bring you to CMS, and what do you anticipate during your time here?

Markus Stock has seen my projects develop over the last few years through a colloquium that he co-organizes with several other medieval Germanists in North America for graduate student work. At the most recent meeting of Professor Stock's group, he encouraged me to pursue a postdoctoral fellowship at CMS. I jumped at the opportunity to develop my research projects in a multidisciplinary centre for the study of medieval culture in the middle of a large research institution. Medieval reading cultures is a transdisciplinary research topic that defies linguistic and national boundaries.

I hope, therefore, that my time at CMS will provide a broader perspective on this topic and will challenge me to sharpen my analysis. I also believe this will be an occasion to join a strong community that can help shape a new project on the concepts and images of medieval futures that I am developing. I look forward to engaging with the CMS community members and their work, while keeping an eye open for possible collaborative projects.

The Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellowship Program provides recent doctoral graduates with advance training in their field of study. Open to both domestic and international post-graduates, the yearly nomination deadline is December 1. For more information visit [artsci.utoronto.ca/faculty-staff/research-supports-services/find-funding](https://artsci.utoronto.ca/faculty-staff/research-supports-services/find-funding).

Find additional Postdoctoral Fellowship opportunities at [medieval.utoronto.ca/about-us/employment-opportunities/postdoctoral-fellow-positions](https://medieval.utoronto.ca/about-us/employment-opportunities/postdoctoral-fellow-positions).

## CONVIVIUM & CO-SPONSORED

Each *Convivium* takes place on Friday from 2:30-4:30. Attend in person, and join us for lunch at 1 pm in the Great Hall, or participate virtually via Zoom. Visit [medieval.utoronto.ca/events](http://medieval.utoronto.ca/events) for the most up-to-date information.

CMS co-sponsors a number of events relevant to the medieval community. Find out complete details such as a list of speakers, times and locations, and changes or updates, by visiting the home department's event page.

### SEPTEMBER 2024

**20-21** University of Toronto Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy 2024  
[csamp.utoronto.ca/event/university-of-toronto-colloquium-in-medieval-philosophy-2024](http://csamp.utoronto.ca/event/university-of-toronto-colloquium-in-medieval-philosophy-2024)

**26-28** Toronto Renaissance & Reformation Colloquium *Communities of Print: Authors, Readers, and Printers in the Early Modern World*, A Conference in Memory of Natalie Zemon Davis and James K. McConica on the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Colloquium  
[www.trrc.ca/conferences/2024-conference-communities-of-print](http://www.trrc.ca/conferences/2024-conference-communities-of-print)

### OCTOBER

**11** Latin Town Hall  
**25** James Ginther (CMS / St. Mike's) *Anselm the Fool: Meditation and the Joy of Unbelief in the Prosligion*

### NOVEMBER

**8** James Robson (Harvard), *title TBA* with the Practices of Commentary SSHRC Group  
**22** Alex Bermúdez Manjarrés (CMS PhD Candidate), *title TBA*  
Martha Culshaw (CMS PhD Candidate), *A Reformer's Dilemma: Collette of Corbie and Clare of Assisi's Rule of Life*  
**29** Peter Jeffrey (Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame), *title TBA*  
[pims.ca/events-list/calendar-of-events](http://pims.ca/events-list/calendar-of-events)

### DECEMBER

**6** Annual Bennett Lecture  
W. John Bennett Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Margot Fassler (Notre Dame) *Women's Voices in the Mass Liturgy: Sequence Repertories within Various Female Communities*

### JANUARY 2025

**10** Jack McCart (CMS PhD Candidate), *The Patronage of John de Pulteney (d. 1349): Commerce, Commemoration, and Corruption in Fourteenth-Century London*  
Matthew Reid (CMS PhD Candidate), *A Dialogic Approach to an Old English Boethian Metre*  
**24** Landon Reitz (Faculty of Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellow), *'Wer hât mich guoter ûf getân?' Imagining the Reader in German Medieval Literature*  
**31** PIMS Medieval Women Workshop  
[pims.ca/events-list/calendar-of-events](http://pims.ca/events-list/calendar-of-events)

### FEBRUARY

**7** Chris Nighman (CMS / Wilfrid Laurier) *Digital addenda/corrigenda for printed critical editions of Latin texts: Auxiliary resources for the Electronic 'Manipulus florum' Project*  
**14** Colloquium on John Philoponus  
Organized by John Magee and Tommaso De Robertis (Marie Sklodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Global Fellow)  
*(stay tuned for further details)*

### MARCH

**7** Jane Tylus (Yale)  
co-organized with the Goggio Visiting Professorship Programme in Italian Studies

### APRIL

**4** Annual Alumni Lecture  
Anna Wilson (Harvard), *title TBA*  
**11** Annual O'Donnell Lecture  
Stella Panayotova (Cambridge / Fitzwilliam Museum) *Latin Texts as Image Generators, Tenth-Sixteenth Century*  
**17** Toronto Old English Colloquium  
**25-26** Annual Toronto Workshop in Ancient Philosophy (ATWAP)  
[csamp.utoronto.ca/event/atwap2025](http://csamp.utoronto.ca/event/atwap2025)

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## MEMORABILIA



**Andrew Hicks** (Cornell) delivered the Annual Alumni Lecture, *Listening Otherwise in Classical Persian Literature*.



**John Magee** celebrated his retirement with **Mark Meyerson** (L) and **Peter King** (R).  
(photos by Greti Dinkova-Bruun)



Following the O'Donnell Lecture, visiting speaker, **Carmen Cardelle de Hartmann** (L) (University of Zurich) posed with friend and colleague **Greti Dinkova-Bruun** (PIMS / CMS).



**Renée Trilling** (L) and **Fabienne Michelet** (R) of CMS / English hosted Yale's **Tarren Andrews** at the Toronto Old English Colloquium for a Graduate Student seminar and lecture on *Legacies of Surveillance: Data, the Domesday Book, and the Dawes Act*.

ANDREW CRABTREE



Andrew Malcolm Crabtree was a poet, a teacher, a scholar, and a loving father, husband, and friend. He was born in Toronto in 1979 and spent his early years in the Annex, a neighbourhood in which his family had deep roots. His maternal grandmother, Lea Hindley-Smith, was the founder of Therafields, a psychoanalytic community with close ties to St. Michael's College, which, in its heyday, filled thirty-five houses in the area and influenced the culture of the city. Andrew delighted in telling the story of a Canadian author visiting his family home when he was a toddler, an anecdote he usually began with, "Have I told you about the time Margaret Atwood saw me naked?"

Andrew grew up in Richmond Hill and returned downtown to study English and Classics at the University of Toronto. Already widely read in literature, philosophy, and religion, he discovered a particular love of Old English in David Klausner's introductory course. For a time, Andrew had a habit of quoting the class text of Ælfric's *Colloquy* when asked how he was doing: "La leof, þearle ic swince!" (Oh, dear one, I work so hard!) A member of Trinity College, he was active in its cultural life. He served as president of the Dramatic Society, worked at the George Ignatieff Theatre, founded the Society for Macaronic Recreation, and was involved in countless plays as a cast or crew member. He also co-directed *Love's Labour's Lost* in his fourth year, a perfect undergrad closing act for a man who adored the texture and play of language.

After Trinity, Andrew moved across Queen's Park to the Centre for Medieval Studies. There, he found a group of young scholars who matched his lively wit and endless curiosity, and whose friendship accompanied him for the decades that followed. He delighted in his studies, but also in the social life of the Centre, participating in Latin Scrabble and the Poculi Ludique Societas. In PLS, he again took on roles onstage and behind the curtains, producing the Christmas plays in 2004.

During his graduate studies, Andrew returned to Trinity College, this time in the role of an academic don, which allowed him to mentor a new generation of students. After earning his MA in Medieval Studies, Andrew followed a calling to teach and earned a Bachelors in Education from OISE.

Work took Andrew and his partner, Loretta Choi to Winnipeg, Whitehorse, and Kenora, before they returned to Toronto. He taught at private high schools and was, for many years, an English instructor at George Brown College. Throughout this time he wrote poetry, and published in various journals.

In February 2021, Andrew was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer. Loretta gave birth to their daughter Lily a few weeks later. Clear-eyed about his prognosis, Andrew was nevertheless determined to be with his family as long as he could, to keep making art, and to leave his mark on the world. Though often burdened by the side effects of his chemotherapy treatments, he published two chapbooks of poetry, *ungarden* (2021) and *the sunlit room* (2023), both with the Toronto imprint *espresso*. He also became a serious photographer, recording his daughter's first years in thoughtful, chiaroscuro portraits. In December of 2023, he wed Loretta, the love of his life. On March 31, 2024, he passed away peacefully in the presence of his brother Matt.

At the end of *Love's Labour's Lost*, after the Princess' father has died and the love plot is broken up, Rosaline tasks Berowne to turn his wit to good, and use it to amuse the sick. "To move wild laughter in the throat of death?" replies Berowne, "It cannot be; it is impossible. Mirth cannot move a soul in agony." Berowne was wrong – Andrew proved it. To the end, he maintained his wicked sense of humour, his sharp intelligence, his love for his family and his many friends, and, despite the odds, his hope.



Andrew Crabtree in *The Second Shepherds' Play*, PLS, 2004

salt

today i am  
an open barrel of  
seawater.

all i can do is  
fall more in love  
with a life

that now can  
no longer be  
mine, and fall

in love again  
with the girl  
i must leave, and

all of this, even  
love, maybe even  
love, is like salt –

crystal, precious,  
blooming out of the dry  
bed of the waves

and  
melting back  
to where it came from.

from the *sunlit room*  
**Andrew Crabtree**  
*espresso*, 2023

Irina Dumitrescu  
(University of Bonn)

## CONGRATULATIONS CMS STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ALUMNI

**Alexandra Bauer** successfully defended her dissertation, “Female Transgression in Old English Literature.”

**Samuel Cardwell** (Alumnus, 2023) has been awarded a Postdoctoral Fellowship with the British Academy for “The Beginnings of Biblical Interpretation in Northumbria, c.650-800.” Samuel has also been shortlisted for the 2024 CAGS / ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, and has received a prize for having one of the top two dissertations in this competition at U of T.

**James P. Carley** (CMS Faculty, Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus, York University) received an honorary doctor of letters degree from the University of Victoria.

**Brian A. Catlos** (Alumnus, 2000) was awarded a 2024 Guggenheim Fellowship in the field of Medieval & Early Modern Studies.

**Amy Conwell** successfully defended her dissertation, “Mental Disease in Late Medieval England.”

**Ann Dooley** (CMS Professor Emerita and Alumna, 1978) was named the inaugural recipient of the Ireland Funds Canada Distinguished Leadership Award.

**Abigail Firey** (PhD, 1995) received an Igniting Research Collaborations Program Award from the University of Kentucky for “Large Language Models for Understanding Medieval Manuscripts.”

**Roberta Frank** (Professor Emerita, CMS, Yale University, CMS Director, 1994-1999) was appointed to the Medieval Academy of America’s Van Courlandt Elliott Prize Committee.

**Ryan Hall** successfully defended his dissertation, “The Shepherd King: Gregory the Great and the Philosophy of the Alfredian Translations.”

**Laura Ingallinella** (Faculty, Italian Studies / CMS) was awarded the Connaught New Researcher Award for her project, “Networks of Gendered Forgery in Early Modern Europe.”

**Michaela Jacques** (Postdoctoral Fellow, 2020-2022) gained a new position as Editor at McGill-Queen’s University Press.

**Stephanie Lahey** (Postdoctoral Fellow, 2021-2023) received a Mark Andrews Fellowship in Book Science.

**Cameron Laird** (Alumnus, 2021) was appointed Research Associate at the Dictionary of Old English.

**Laura Moncion** successfully defended her dissertation “*Closen leben das ist nut ein kleines ding*: Women Recluses in Alsace, c.1200–1500.” Laura was also awarded a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study / Institute for Ethics and the Common Good.

**Franco Pierno** (Faculty, Italian Studies / CMS) was named a member of the Scientific Council of the Italian Scientists and Scholars in North America Foundation (ISSNAF).

**Cillian O’Hogan** (CMS Faculty) was awarded a Supervision Award from the School of Graduate Studies.

**Jonathan Newman** (CMS Alumnus, 2008) was named Director of Graduate Studies at Missouri State University.

**Andrew Reeves** (CMS Alumnus, 2009) was promoted to full Professor at Middle Georgia State University.

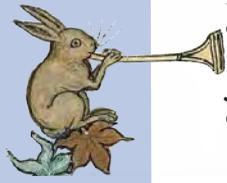
**Andrew Seeley** (CMS Alumnus, 1995) was awarded The Russell Kirk Paideia Prize For Lifetime Contribution to Classical Education from the Circe Institute, and was named Director and Contributor to the Augustine Institute’s new Certificate Series in Integrated Learning and the Seven Liberal Arts.

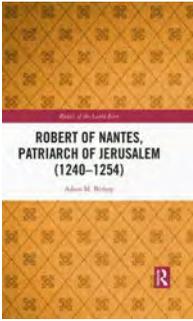
**Sebastian Sobecki** (Faculty, English / CMS) was appointed to the Medieval Academy of America’s Schallek Committee.

**David Sylvester** Faculty, USMC President and Vice-Chancellor / CMS) received the International Dante Alighieri Society Award of Merit.

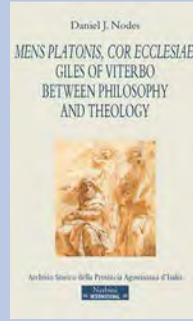
**Nicholas Terpstra** (Faculty, History / CMS) was named Trinity College Provost & Vice-Chancellor.

**Elza C. Tiner** (CMS Alumna 1987) received The Honorary Alumni Award from the University of Lynchburg.





*Robert of Nantes, Patriarch of Jerusalem (1240-1254)* • **Adam M. Bishop** (PhD, 2001) • Routledge

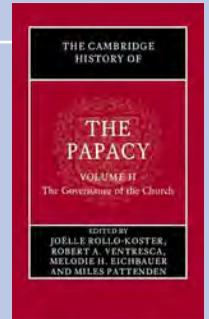


*Mens Platonis, cor Ecclesiae: Giles of Viterbo between Philosophy and Theology* • **Daniel J. Nodes** (PhD, 1981) • Nerbini

*Gender in Scotland, 1200-1800 Place, Faith and Politics* • Edited by Janay Nugent, Cathryn Spence, **Mairi Cowan** (PhD, 2003) • Edinburgh University Press



*The Cambridge History of the Papacy Volume II The Governance of the Church* • Edited by: Joëlle Rollo-Koster, Robert A. Ventresca, Melodie H. Eichbauer, **Miles Pattenden** (MA, 2005) • Cambridge University Press



*Bound and Free Voices of Mortal and Otherworld Women in Medieval Irish Literature* • **Joanne Findon** (PhD, 1994) • PIMS

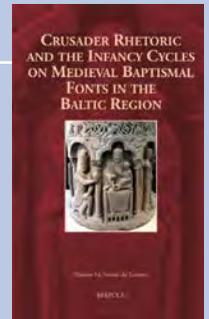


*Medieval Diet and Medicine Occitan Health Advice for the Layperson* • Edited by **Wendy Pfeffer** (PhD, 1979) • De Gruyter

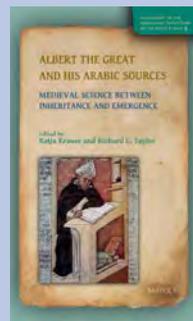
*L'oro dei santi. Percorsi della «Legenda aurea» in volgare* • Edited by Speranza Cerullo and **Laura Ingallinella** (Italian Studies / CMS) • Sismel



*Crusader Rhetoric and the Infancy Cycles on Medieval Baptismal Fonts in the Baltic Region* • **Harriet M. Sonne De Torrens** (CMS Associate Scholar) • Brepols

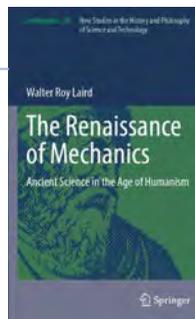


*Seismographen der Krise: Vertrauen und Misstrauen in frühneuezeitlichen Flugblättern* • Edited by Pia Fuschlberger, **Romana Kaske** (Postdoctoral Fellow, 2023), Susanne Reichlin • Franz Steiner Verlag



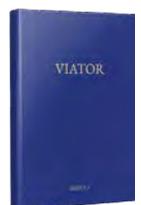
*Albert the Great and his Arabic Sources Medieval Science between Inheritance and Emergence* • Edited by Katja Krause, **Richard C. Taylor** (PhD, 1981) • Brepols

*The Renaissance of Mechanics: Ancient Science in the Age of Humanism* • **Walter Roy Laird** (PhD, 1983) • Springer Cham



## STUDENT ARTICLE

**Lisa V. Cruikshank** • “‘May she endure as worthy and chosen’: Queenship and Gender in the Medieval English Coronation Order” • *Viator* 54:1





*Sailing Without Ahab: Ecopoetic Travels* • Steve Mentz, Foreward by **Suzanne Conklin Akbari** • Fordham University Press



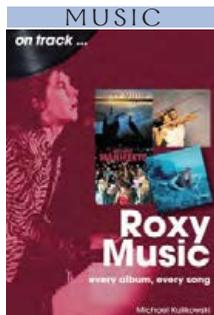
*Bear Gardens / Hope Playhouse* • Edited by Stephanie Hovland, **Sally-Beth MacLean** • Records of Early English Drama



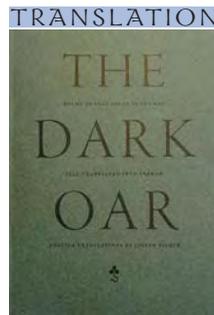
*Playing with Old English: A Playful Pedagogy Resource* • **Megan Cavell, Renée Trilling** • IDEALS



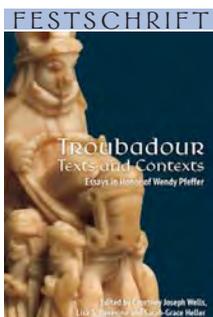
*I Sing of Love and Fury* • **Kirsty Campbell** • Independent



*Roxy Music On Track* • **Michael Kulikowski** • Burning Shed



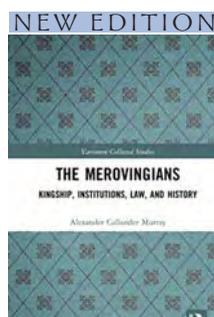
*The Dark Oar* • English Translations by **Jaclyn Piudik** • Beautiful Outlaw



*Troubadour Texts and Contexts: Essays in Honor of Wendy Pfeffer* • Edited by Courtney Joseph Wells, Lisa Shugert Bevevino and Sarah-Grace Heller • Boydell & Brewer



*Il teatro tra Quattrocento e Seicento: studi in onore di Konrad Eisenbichler* • Edited by Pasquale Sabbatino • Federico II University Press



*The Merovingians: Kingship, Institutions, Law, and History* • **Alexander Callander Murray** • Routledge

## MST 1003

CMS offers MST 1003, *Professional Development for Medieval Studies PhDs*, a course that prepares students for the job market and beyond, with a special focus on the specific challenges faced by medievalists. Providing a resumé of non-scholarly skills needed for the professional career search as well as options alternative to academia, the course features guest lecturers from Faculty, Alumni, and specialists from specialists in various units at U of T.

We would like to thank this year's Alumni who have agreed to participate as guest speakers. We know that our students will benefit greatly from learning about their successful experiences.

**Alessia Berardi** (PhD, 2023), Assistant Professor of Medieval History, Christendom College

**Samuel Cardwell** (PhD, 2023), Teaching Associate in Early Medieval English History, University of Nottingham

**Andrew Hicks** (PhD, 2011), Associate Professor of Music, Classics, and Medieval Studies, and Director of Medieval Studies Program, Cornell University

**Patrick McBride** (PhD, 2008) Associate Professor, English, Bishop's University

**Laura Moncion** (PhD, 2024) Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study / Institute for Ethics and the Common Good

**Andrew T. Seeley** (PhD, 1995) Director of Advanced Formation for Educators, The Augustine Institute

**Jessie Sherwood** (PhD, 2005) Associate Librarian, Robbins Collection and Research Center, Berkeley Law

**Marianna Stell** (MA, 2014) Librarian, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress

## ALUMNI PROGRAMME

The CMS Alumni Programme offers a range of options that allow Alumni to connect with and contribute to the vibrant community of the Centre. Alumni working either in or outside of academia can inspire and encourage by sharing their own explorations and strengths with the next generation of medievalists, and in turn, can foster new relationships, discover fresh ideas and support, and form thriving connections in their field.

The Alumni Programme will open again Spring 2025. Until then, make sure to share your accomplishments, publications, and events with [medieval.communications@utoronto.ca](mailto:medieval.communications@utoronto.ca). You can update your contact information, list your current position alongside your dissertation on our website, and learn about upcoming events and Alumni news. Visit [medieval.utoronto.ca/alumni-friends/resources-alumni-friends/cms-alumni-programme](https://medieval.utoronto.ca/alumni-friends/resources-alumni-friends/cms-alumni-programme) for all the details.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SEPTEMBER

- 6 Meet & Greet / General Assembly
- 9 courses begin
- 13 SSHRC Application Workshop
- 13 summer session grades available / thesis submission deadline to avoid fees / fall registration deadline
- 29 fall convocation doctoral thesis submission deadline
- 30 fall session tuition payment deadline

### OCTOBER

- 4 Special Field Workshop
- 9 Thanksgiving Day, University closed
- 30 In-person Open House

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Reading Week
- 1 Virtual Open House
- 6 fall session drop deadline
- 15 Bursary Application Workshop
- 29 Writing Retreat
- 30 winter session tuition payment deadline

### DECEMBER

- 5 Holiday Get-Together
- 21 University winter closure begins

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## CMS EXECUTIVE



ELISA BRILLI  
CMS Director



JAMES GINTHER  
Associate Director



KARA GASTON  
PhD Coordinator

In this third year, the cardinal points of my tenure are academic excellence, interdisciplinarity, and inclusivity. I look forward to working together.

I share in the responsibility of the Centre's daily management of academic programming and personnel, serving on several CMS committees.

I advise PhD students about their progress through the program, as well as lead our Professional Development course, MST 1003. Feel free to reach out any time!

For a complete list of Student and Standing Committees visit [medieval.utoronto.ca/about-us/groups-committees](http://medieval.utoronto.ca/about-us/groups-committees).

## CMS ADMINISTRATION



LIZ LOURENCO  
CMS Manager



TERRY LOUISY  
Graduate Administrator



CORA ENDEAN  
Communications / Research

With the start of a new year, I hope to bring a collaborative and meaningful approach, while facilitating the day-to-day operations and long-term planning of the Centre.

With years of experience at U of T, an MA in Education, and a love of history and literature, I help with policy and procedure, registration, enrolment, appeals, and graduation.

I help inform, promote, and celebrate CMS Students, Faculty, and Alumni, connecting the Centre with the wider medieval community, receptively, and inclusively.

Visit us online at [medieval.utoronto.ca](http://medieval.utoronto.ca), and follow us on social media!

/UofTCMS    @UofTCMS    uoft-cms

Share your news, events, and new publications with [medieval.communications@utoronto.ca](mailto:medieval.communications@utoronto.ca).

## STUDENT EXECUTIVE

Meet the 2024-25 Student Executive Committee representatives.



CLAIRE DAVIS  
Chair

Claire is a third-year PhD Student at the Centre studying Old English poetry and its association with weaving as a craft.



JOHN SCHECHTMAN  
Marko Treasurer

John is a second-year PhD Student at CMS studying the history of the secular clergy in France in the eleventh and twelfth centuries.



ROYĀ EINYPOURFAZLI  
Secretary

Royā is a second-year PhD Student studying the political and constitutional history of early medieval Europe with focus on tenth-century Germany.