

International Medieval Congress

August 2009
Newsletter



IMC 2009 13-16 July

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

The IMC 2009 took place between 13-16 July at the University of Leeds, UK. 1540 medievalists attended, from no fewer than 40 different countries, making this the largest IMC to date.

The Congress continues to draw in international participants with more than half of participants coming from outside of the UK, 20% coming from outside Europe. This year attracted delegates from as far a field as New Zealand, Turkey, and South Africa. Some 360 sessions and roundtable discussions explored all aspects of the European Middle Ages, with papers on subjects as diverse as 'Heretic, Sinner, or Both?':

William of Rubruck's Use of Heresy and Sin in Describing Rivals and Other Faiths at the Mongol Court', 'The Glossing Fool in Medieval Theatre: The Ultimate Drama Critic', 'Abélard et Jean de Meun: Une lecture du Roman de la Rose en clé universitaire', 'Der fromme Ketzler Dietrich/Theoderich: Zur 'Deutungshoheit' über eine literarisch-historische Gestalt aus arianischer bzw. katholischer Sicht', and 'El Catarismo en España a través de sus fuentes originales'.

The Congress was host to a wide spread in ages and backgrounds, ranging from the seasoned professional to the postgraduate giving their first paper. As well as those working in higher education around the world, we were also joined by those working in heritage management, offering an insight into existing and sometimes rediscovered collections that are increasingly being opened to the public for research.

We received plenty of feedback and are already looking at ways to improve the Congress for next year. Amongst many positive comments about the Congress, participants said that IMC 2009 'was an interesting and amazing experience' and that 'the range of speakers was excellent'. This year's special thematic strand, Heresy and Orthodoxy, generated both interest and enthusiasm, with more than 180 sessions presented under the auspices of the strand, including keynote addresses by John H. Arnold, (School of History, Classics & Archaeology, Birkbeck College, University of London) and Jeffrey J. Cohen, (Department of English, George Washington University). The Heresy and Orthodoxy strand was co-ordinated by Andrew P. Roach (Department of History, University of Glasgow) and James R. Simpson, (Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, University of Glasgow) and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their work this past year.





EVENTS & EXCURSIONS

As in previous years, IMC 2009 offered a full programme of events and excursions, as well as practical workshops as an accompaniment to the academic programme.

Sunday, 12 July, opened with an excursion to the varied palaces of the Archbishops of York, as well as a trip to Skipton Castle, one of the best preserved castles in England. Sunday events included the opening of our annual two-day Antiquarian and Second-hand Book Fair, a voice workshop focusing on polyphonic pilgrim and processional songs (directed by Vivien Ellis and jointly sponsored by the IMC and the North

East Early Music Forum), and a hands-on look at Anglo-Saxon and Viking textile production, as well as a fascinating rendition of the Welsh tale Rhiannon performed by storyteller Katy Cawkwell.

Other event highlights included workshops on medieval cosmetics, fingerloop braiding, and dance, as well as a concert of early Tudor music by Quodlibet and a performance of monophonic sacred music by Salzburger Virgilschola (sponsored by the Oswald von Wolkenstein-Gesellschaft). Working in collaboration with the Instituto Cervantes, the IMC concert series concluded with a performance of Sephardic music by Sirma. All concerts took place within the beautiful Norman Church of St John the Baptist in Adel. Weetwood Hall also hosted a medieval feast, complete with decorated boar's head and live music by the Leeds Waits.



Returning for the second time this year were the Craft Fair and Historical and Archaeological Societies Fair, both of which continue to generate positive interest and showcase the diversity of creative and historical activities associated with the Middle Ages.

Other excursions included trips to the Royal Armouries Museum at Leeds, Kirkstall Abbey, Fountains Abbey, Medieval Pontefract, Beverley Minster, and Conisbrough Castle.

SANTANDER UNIVERSITIES CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Santander Universities is contributing to the International Medieval Congress (IMC) at the University of Leeds, UK in 2010 by providing £10,000 worth of bursaries. These bursaries are designed to enable participants from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, Venezuela, Spain, and Portugal to attend the Congress in 2010.

The bursaries will range in value from £200 to £1000 and may cover all or parts of the Registration and Programming Fee, accommodation, and meals, as well as travel expenses. This scheme operates in addition to the existing, on-going IMC Bursary scheme.

Applicants are requested to apply via the IMC Bursary application form, stating that they are applying for the Santander Universities Congress

Scholarship Scheme at the start of their supporting statement and including their approximate travel expenses at:

<http://imc.leeds.ac.uk/imcapp/Submit/BursaryApplicationForm.jsp>

The IMC bursary application form closes on 16 October 2009, so all applications should be submitted by midnight (GMT) on 15 October 2009.

The Bursary Committee will reach a decision during November and all applicants will be notified of the results by the end of November. Further information can be found on our website:

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/santander.html>

CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: imc@leeds.ac.uk;

<<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc>>



We prefer proposals to be completed online - a quick, easy, and secure method. To submit a proposal, go to <<http://imc.leeds.ac.uk/imcapp/>>

Paper proposals must be submitted by 31 August 2009, session and roundtable proposals by 30 September 2009.

IMC 2010: 12-15 JULY 2010

Plans for next year's Congress are well underway. As in previous years, papers and sessions on all aspects of the study of the European Middle Ages are most welcome, in any major European language.

One of the focuses for 2010 will be the special thematic strand on 'Travel and Exploration'. IMC 2010 commemorates the 550th anniversary of the death of Prince Henry 'the Navigator' by making 'Travel and Exploration' a special thematic focus. The voyages undertaken in the name of Henry exemplify many of the motives that had long driven people to travel and explore: the prospect of wealth, trade, and territory, knowledge and curiosity, piety and religious zeal, legends and external salvation.

The IMC seeks to provide a forum for debates on the motives, processes, and effects of travel and exploration, not only by Latin Christians in the so-called 'Age of Discovery', but across cultures, and throughout the medieval period and beyond. The full call for papers is available on our website at:

http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2010_call.html

The IMC Core Strands are:

- Anglo-Saxon Studies
- Archaeology
- Art and Architecture
- Byzantine Studies
- Celtic Studies
- Central and Eastern European Studies
- Church History and Canon Law
- Crusades and Latin East
- Culture and Society
- Daily Life
- Drama
- Gender Studies/Women's Studies
- Geography and Settlement Studies
- Government and Institutions
- Hagiography and Religious Writing
- Historiography (Medieval and Modern)
- Jewish Studies
- Language and Literature - Comparative
- Language and Literature - Germanic
- Language and Literature - Middle English
- Language and Literature - Romance Vernacular
- Late Antique and Early Medieval Studies
- Latin Writing
- Literacy and Communication
- Material Culture
- Medievalism and Reception of the Middle Ages
- Mediterranean and Islamic Studies
- Monasticism and Religious Life
- Music and Liturgy
- Philosophy and Political Thought
- Scandinavian Studies
- Science, Technology and Military History
- Social and Economic History
- Sources and Resources
- Theology and Bible Studies



Part of the Catalan World Map, by courtesy of Biblioteca Estense Universitaria, Modena.



Remember to order your equipment for 2010 on your proposal form! Check our webpage for more details:

<<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/equipment.html>>

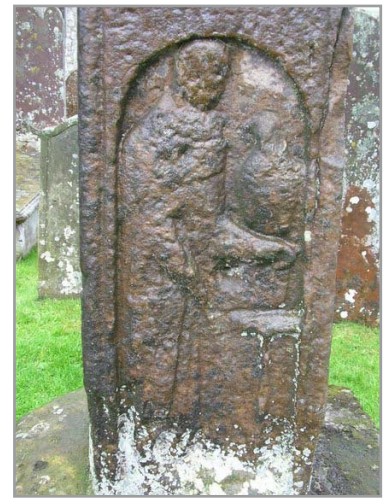
FUTURE IMC DATES

- IMC 2010 Paper Proposals Deadline: 31 August 2009
- IMC 2010 Session Proposals Deadline: 30 September 2009
- IMC 2010: Special Thematic Strand: 'Travel and Exploration', 12-15 July 2010
- IMC 2011: Special Thematic Strand: 'Poor-Rich', 11-14 July 2011
- IMC 2012: 9-12 July 2012
- IMC 2013: 8-11 July 2013
- IMC 2014: 7-10 July 2014

About the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of Leeds

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Leeds is one of the world's centres for interdisciplinary research into the Middle Ages. The MA in Medieval Studies provides an introduction to the advanced study of European culture. Teaching draws from a large and diverse community of scholars. Medieval languages and their associated literatures are a special strength. Leeds's University Library is one of the largest research libraries in the UK, with over 2.7 million books, a fine journal collection, and extensive holdings in all areas of medieval studies, with a rich and expanding store of manuscripts and rare books. Within walking distance are the archives and libraries of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society and Royal Armouries, both of which have large medieval holdings.



Areas that are well supported for PhD research include: liturgy and music; material culture; the Mediterranean and Islam; Crusades, medieval warfare, and battlefield archaeology; late antiquity; early medieval art, architecture, and culture; mission, monasticism, ecclesiastical history, and church archaeology; historical topography and settlement; manuscript studies and codicology; art and architectural history and critical theory.

The presence within the Institute of the International Medieval Congress and International Medieval Bibliography enables postgraduates to gain practical as well as academic experience, whilst links with publishers, museums, and research projects provide opportunities for internships and work experience. Collaboration with the Royal Armouries enriches teaching and

research on chivalry, arms, armour, tournaments, and medieval warfare. For students and lovers of landscape and architecture, Yorkshire's countryside, medieval castles, churches, and abbeys are near to hand.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL BIBLIOGRAPHY: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The International Medieval Bibliography (IMB), based at Leeds since 1967, is a multi-disciplinary database of Medieval Studies which helps underpin the work of the IMC. Now, after the implementation of the IMB Online, the bibliography is working to greatly expand its coverage of publications. To this end, the editorial team is looking for individuals or organisations to become contributors to join its existing range of partners throughout the world. Contributors take responsibility for identifying and cataloguing publications relating to specific subject or geographical areas, and are rewarded with free subscriptions to IMB (online or print), other free publications and other benefits. Contributors are sought who are based in the USA, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Russia, Portugal, Israel, Lithuania, Greece, Cyprus, Latvia, Romania, and the Arab world, particularly with interests in archaeology, art, regional and local history, and vernacular languages. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, contact the editor, Dr Alan V. Murray, at A.V.Murray@leeds.ac.uk.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE INSTITUTE

Membership of the IMS offers medievalists priority access to IMC information and bookings and discounts on IMC registration and titles produced by Brepols academic publishers. Members also receive one free book per year from the Brepols back catalogue. There are two levels of membership: Affiliate and Associate. Associate members will gain access to the IMB Online. For full details and how to join, visit

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/about/join.html>

IMS LECTURE SERIES

The IMS Lecture Series for 2009/10 is taking shape. All lectures are free of charge and open to all. Lectures will take place on selected Tuesdays of each month between 17.30 - 18.30, in Lecture Room 1.08, Parkinson Building, University of Leeds.

Current confirmed speakers include: Godfried Croenen (University of Liverpool), Constant Mews (Monash University, Victoria), Felicitas Schmieder (FernUniversität Hagen), and Steven A. Walton (Pennsylvania State University).

For further information on the images in this newsletter, please contact us.