

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE SOCIETY FOR MEDIEVAL FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP (1998-2001)**

Advisory board members come from many disciplines and serve three-year terms. Nominations should include the candidate's field, affiliation, research interests and one sentence statement of goals for the organization. This information will be printed on the mail ballot sent out with the Fall issue of the *Medieval Feminist Newsletter* (volume 24). Please send nominations to Margaret Schleissner, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Rider University, Lawrenceville NJ 08648-3099, or E-mail: schleissner@rider.edu.

## **NEW EDITOR**

The SMFS advisory board members at Kalamazoo this year elected Sarah Stanbury to join the editorial board beginning with volume 24. Sarah is an associate professor of English at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. Welcome, Sarah!

## **NEW OFFICERS FOR THE SOCIETY FOR MEDIEVAL FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP**

At the annual business meeting of the SMFS, which takes place at the International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, the society reelected Anne Clark Bartlett as secretary-treasurer, and elected Ann Marie Rasmussen as Vice President. Gina Psaki automatically becomes President. Officers serve two-year terms.

## **ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION RESULTS**

The announcement of the 1996 advisory board election results was inadvertently omitted from volume 20 (the directory issue). We belatedly congratulate Laurie Finke, Nydia Rivera-Gloeckner, Christine Rose, and Sarah Stanbury. Your terms expire in 1999.

The results of the 1997 election have been tallied. Congratulations to new advisory board members Dyan Elliott, Ruth Evans, Helen Solterer, and Lisa Weston. Your terms expire in the year 2000.

## **BOOKS FOR REVIEW**

Books that you wish to have reviewed in *MFN* should now be sent directly to *MFN* at the University of Oregon. The editors will continue to find qualified reviewers. Please encourage your press to send us your book, as well as other titles relevant to medieval feminist studies. The address to which books should be mailed is: *MFN*, c/o CSWS, 1201 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1201.

## **MFN 24: MOTHERHOOD AND FATHERHOOD**

*MFN* No. 24 will focus on the theme of Motherhood and Fatherhood. We welcome submissions that interpret this theme in a variety of ways. For example, you might address spiritual and metaphorical uses of motherhood and/or fatherhood, or the everyday practice of parenting, or the social construction of genealogy—or any other possibilities you can think of.

DEADLINE: September 15, 1997

SEND submissions to Ruth Mazo Karras, Department of History, Temple University, 913 Gladfelter Hall, 1115 W. Berks Street, Philadelphia PA 19122. Please send hard copy and an IBM-compatible diskette (in Word Perfect, MS Word, or Rich Text Format).

QUESTIONS: Please contact [rkarras@nimbus.ocis.temple.edu](mailto:rkarras@nimbus.ocis.temple.edu)

## **REPORTS FROM KALAMAZOO, 1997**

### **Child Care**

The Medieval Institute, under director Paul E. Szarmach, wishes to accommodate the needs of people with children and has begun making arrangements for child care at the conference. We all noticed an increase in the number of children visible at the conference this year! We now need to let the Institute know how completely their efforts are meeting our child care needs, as well as other requests parents might have. Nydia Rivera-Gloeckner has volunteered on behalf of *MFN* and SMFS to serve as a clearinghouse for this information.

PLEASE write or *E-mail* your responses to Nydia Rivera-Gloeckner by October 1 so that Nydia can report back to SMFS, *MFN*, and Paul Szarmach in a timely fashion and so that suggestions may be implemented before the next Medieval Congress.

Nydia Rivera-Gloeckner  
Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Rider University  
Lawrenceville NJ 08648-3099  
E-mail: gloeckner@genius.rider.edu

### **Reports On Affiliation Status For SMFS**

Clare Lees (English and Comp. Literature, University of Oregon) is currently negotiating a voluntary reciprocal membership option with the American Comparative Literature Association. The ACLA wants to expand their focus historically, and for a small dues increase, SMFS and ACLA members could receive dual membership. The ACLA would like to sponsor SMFS sessions at the MLA and ACLA conventions.

Sarah Stanbury (English, College of the Holy Cross) has been seeking allied status for the SMFS from the Modern Language Association of America. What holds up the completion of this venture is that our current bylaws need to have been in effect for six years (we're now holding at five), and we need to have sponsored two or more MLA sessions prior to requesting allied status (we have held one, so far). Fulfillment of these requirements seems easily attainable, if we maintain our current bylaws for another year and if we begin organizing and promoting SMFS Special Sessions at future MLA meetings.

Mary Suydam (History, Kenyon College) has been working to gain recognition from the American Historical Association. It turns out that there is no formal procedure for gaining sessions on the annual conference program, and that we simply need to generate proposals. It was noted, though, that this past year, an SMFS session request was declined because it comprised only scholars from departments of literature. Historians will need to take the lead on this initiative.

SMFS agreed to help sponsor the "Queer Middle Ages" conference, November 5-7, 1998.

### **Proposals for SMFS-Sponsored Sessions for Kalamazoo, May 7-10, 1998**

SMFS's secretary, Anne Clark Bartlett, has forwarded six session proposals to the Medieval Congress's program committee. These sessions received the most votes at the SMFS business meeting. The MI Program committee normally approves four or five SMFS proposals for special sessions. The approved sessions will be listed in the Medieval Institute general information letter which is mailed at the end of July, 1998.

Influential Female Medievalists (org. Natalie Grinnell)  
Medieval Women and Madness (org. Anne Clark Bartlett)  
Medieval Women and Material Culture (org. Nancy Jones)  
Public Personae vs Private Lives in Medieval Women's Writing (org. James McKeown)

Medieval Women as Mourners (org. Maud McInerny)

Women on the Job Market: A Roundtable (org. Anne Schuchman)

Please remember that the Medieval Institute considers special session proposals from individuals as well as groups. The guidelines are published in the 'blue pages' of this year's program. The deadline for special session proposals is always around May 15 (just a week or so after the conference); this year it was May 15. The conference itself is often the best place to put together a special session proposal, for example on a topic that wasn't a finalist for SMFS. Abstracts for individual papers in general sessions (organized by the Program Committee) are due in the office of the Medieval Institute no later than Sept. 15, 1997.

Quoting from the MI program guidelines: "NOTE that a potential participant may submit to EITHER a Special session OR a General session, but not for BOTH!

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### **FIRST ANNUAL SMFS BANQUET AT KALAMAZOO**

Volunteers are needed to help organize the first annual SMFS banquet at the 1998 Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo. Time and place will be announced; it has been suggested that the banquet be scheduled for Friday, after the SMFS business meeting. If you can help, please contact Anne Clark Bartlett, Department of English, DePaul University, office: (773) 325-7000 ext. 1768; home fax: (773) 588-5663; E-mail: [abartlet@condor.depaul.edu](mailto:abartlet@condor.depaul.edu)

