

Scientific Annual Report 2014

Centre for Medieval Literature (SDU / York)

CENTRE FOR

medieval  literature

Four Highlights of 2014

• Interfaces workshop at Les Treilles, Provence, April 21-25

The Interfaces meeting at Les Treilles offered an opportunity for developing new types of interaction, and for including new research areas within the Interfaces group and the CML. While downsizing presentations, the focus was instead on two major sessions (on French outside France and on the Mediterranean, respectively), headed by researchers within these fields and on two 'walk and talks', the first making participants present the other's work plans at a subsequent plenary session; a second 'walk and talk' asking new pairs to come up with ideas for a collaborative work. Most important, however, was the inclusion of a number of new colleagues working in mostly new fields (Byzantine, Hebrew, Iberian, French, Slavonic, and Irish studies). This meant a major extension of our field of interest, and into literatures and histories that the CML is deeply engaged in, and led to several further activities, not least a seminar in November 2014 in Cambridge, on Biblical Epic, with presentations on poetic traditions in all major languages from Europe and the Middle East.

• Imperial languages - research agenda

We unfolded, together with colleagues in Ghent, a basic idea broached by Høgel already in 2013, of a new approach the linguistic hierarchies of medieval Europe. The rise of English as a global language today raises profound questions about the interconnections of language, power and culture. These questions are urgent for how scholars interpret the past and how society mobilizes the past to understand the present with global English being but the most recent example of a wider phenomenon stretching back to Antiquity. The idea of Imperial Languages aims to advance diachronic research on language by developing the model of imperial languages as a powerful analytical framework to shed light on and reframe major on-going debates about the languages of medieval Europe. Historical scholarship has strongly underestimated imperial legacies of schooling and standardized language and seen Latin, Greek and Arabic as an artificial layer on top of real languages. In contrast, we aim to theorize imperial languages as the very substance underpinning the multifaceted development of written languages across Europe, in the medieval period.

• Interfaces conference at Fordham University, NYC, October 25-26

In collaboration with Interfaces colleague, Thomas O'Donnell, we organized a workshop at Fordham University's Lincoln Center campus in NYC. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the CML, and its trans-European approaches to medieval literature to key academics on the East Coast. The workshop was particularly interesting to our North American colleagues who must increasingly explain the value of studying Europe in the context of the globalization of literary study. We, in turn, gained much from American perspectives on medieval literary study, which tends to be less nationally defined than in Europe. All three PIs and postdoctoral fellows Rosello-Martinez and Younge attended. The workshop was also useful opportunity to consolidating participation of Fordham and Penn in the ITN application.

• Four peer-reviewed postdoc publications

The year 2014 saw the appearance of four important scholarly contributions from CML: In her article on *Memorial de Agravios*, Sacramento Roselló-Martínez discusses a series of letters of complaint or "grievances" addressed to king Juan II of Castille (1406-1454) by a group of rebellious noblemen, looking into how such material informs and shapes the fictitious tendencies of historiography. In "Monks, Money and the End of Old English" George Younge asks why Old English remained in use after the Norman Conquest and considers some of the possible reasons for its disappearance at the end of the twelfth century, shifting the focus of investigation away from ethnicity and identity, and onto economic and institutional considerations. Venetia Bridges' *NMS* article considers the relationships between Latin and French Alexander texts, suggesting that the Latin *Alexandreis* is a hostile reaction to the habits of vivid and sensuous description seen particularly clearly in vernacular romances. Réka Forrai contributed to *Dante and the Greeks* (ed. by Jan Ziolkowski) with an article on investigating Dante's ties to Greek culture, ancient and medieval, specifically looking at the negative evidence of Dante's acquaintance with the language itself.

Fire højdepunkter fra 2014

• Interfaces workshop i Les Treilles, Provence, 21.-25. april

Interfaces-seminaret i Les Treilles gav centeret mulighed for at udvikle nye typer af interaktion og for at inkludere nye forskningsområder inden for Interfaces-gruppen og CML. Almindelige præsentationer blev holdt på et minimum og i stedet var fokus lagt på to længere sessioner (om hhv. fransk uden for Frankrig og Middelhavsområdet) under ledelse af forskere inden for disse områder, samt på to 'walk and talks', hvor deltagerne først blev bedt om at præsentere hinandens arbejde på et efterfølgende plenarmøde, samt senere med nye par at fremkomme med en ide til et samarbejdsprojekt. Vigtigst var dog inddragelsen af nye kolleger inden for hovedsageligt nye sprogområder (byzantinsk græsk, hebraisk, iberisk, fransk, slavisk og irsk). Dette betød en klar forøgelse af vores interessefelt, inden for litterære og historiske felter, som CML er dybt engageret i. Dette medførte en række yderligere aktiviteter, ikke mindst et seminar i Cambridge i november om Bibel-epik, med oplæg om de poetiske traditioner inden for alle større europæiske og mellemøstlige sprog.

• Imperiale sprog – forskningsområde

Sammen med kolleger fra universitetet i Gent udbyggede vi yderligere en ide – først formuleret af Høgel i 2013 – for hvordan man kan anskue de sproglige hierarkier i Europa på en ny måde. Engelsk som globalt sprog har i særlig grad sat fokus på forholdet mellem sprog, magt og kultur. Dette forhold er afgørende for hvordan forskere tolker fortiden, og for hvordan samfundet iscenesætter denne i forsøget på at forstå den aktuelle situation. Og her er engelsk blot det klareste eksempel på en sproglig særstatus, som kan genfindes helt tilbage til antikken. Ideen med 'Imperiale sprog' er at anspore til en undersøgelse af sprog gennem tiden ud fra forestillingen om imperiale sprog som en klar og effektiv kategori, der kan kaste nyt lys over aktuelle diskussioner om middelalderens sprog. Forskningen har hidtil undervurderet betydningen af den imperiale arv for uddannelsessystemer og standardiserede sprog og har mest set sprog som latin, græsk og arabisk som kunstige lag uden på 'rigtige' sprog. I modsætning hertil ønsker vi at gøre 'imperiale sprog' til selve den teoretiske underbygning for den mangfoldige udvikling af nye skriftsprog i middelalderens Europa.

• Interfaces konference ved Fordham University, New York, 25.-26. oktober

I samarbejde med Interfaces-kollegaen Thomas O'Donnell organiserede vi en workshop på Lincoln Center Campus ved Fordham University i New York. Formålet med workshoppen var at præsentere CML og vores trans-europæiske tilgange til middelalderlitteratur for centrale akademiske aktører på USAs østkyst. Workshoppen var af særlig interesse for vores amerikanske kolleger, der i stadig højere grad må begrunde værdien af at studere Europa i sammenhæng med globaliseringen af litteraturstudierne. Vi for vores vedkommende fik stort udbytte af den amerikanske tilgang til studiet af middelalderlitteratur, som har en tendens til at være mindre nationalt orienteret end i Europa. Alle tre PI'er og postdoc'erne Roselló-Martínez og Younge deltog. Workshoppen bidrog også til at sikre Fordhams og Pennsylvanias deltagelse i ITN ansøgningen.

• Fire peer-reviewed publikationer fra CML postdocs

I 2014 kom fire vigtige videnskabelige publikationer fra CML: I sin artikel om *Memorial de Agravios* diskuterer Sacramento Roselló-Martínez en række klagebreve eller "jammerskrifter" rettet til kong Juan II af Castilien (1406-1454) skrevet af en række oprørske adelsmænd, og hun ser på hvordan denne type skrifter formede og påvirkede den efterfølgende historieskrivning og fiktive tendenser inden for den. I "Monks, Money and the End of Old English" undersøger George Younge hvorfor oldengelsk stadig blev brugt efter normannernes erobring og ser på årsager til dets forsvinden i slutningen af tolvte århundrede, med vægt på økonomiske og institutionelle forhold snarere end etnicitet og identitet. Venetia Bridges' *NMS* artikel ser på forholdet mellem latinske og franske Alexander-tekster og taler for at den latinske *Alexandreis* var en kritisk reaktion mod levende og sanselige beskrivelser, sådan som man især kender det fra folkesprogsromancer. Réka Forrai bidrog til *Dante and the Greeks* (ed. by Jan Ziolkowski) med en artikel om Dantes forbindelse til græsk kultur, klassisk såvel som middelalderlig, med særlig fokus på den manglende evidens for at Dante kunne græsk.

Organization

In 2014 CML almost doubled its number of core researchers, in line with the initial plan. As the first batch of 3-year postdocs and PhDs went into their last year (ending Sept/Oct 2015), 3 new postdocs and 4 PhD students began in the autumn (though 1 postdoc (Pizzone) had maternity leave and began March 1 2015). This overlapping has been very important for knowledge transfer, team spirit and mutually expanding networks. All, including Pizzone, came together at our annual gathering in September in Sicily, got to know each other and began making plans together. This was also important for our follow-up for the 5 young researchers who are leaving us in 2015 (Christensen, Wittig, Roselló-Martinez, Bridges, Younge). We were able to gain one more year for Forrai (for her research and editorial work) due to extra funding from SDU (see below).

Our international collaborations were further consolidated and expanded through our new researchers, through our advisory board, our new journal (and its advisory board), the group Interfaces, and the consortium we set up with the University of Ghent for an ITN bid (for all of these see research and collaboration below).

Adjustments to the contracted list of staff

- It was announced in the last annual report that Prof. Rita Copeland (Penn) had been awarded an H. C. Andersen guest professorship by SDU, but during the hiring process we had to renounce the offer due to excessive red tape for a non-EU citizen. We did however, attach Prof. Copeland for some (and also future) visits on a more flexible basis with CML funding.
- During 2014 Helen Fulton (York) and Kurt Villads Jensen (SDU) took up chairs in Bristol and Stockholm respectively and thus left the CML as well.
- Thomas Pettitt retired during 2014 but continues as Adjunct Professor and is active in CML.
- Christian Høgel was promoted to Professor MSO in Byzantine studies.

SDU

In 2014 the CML expanded quite substantially by the arrival of four new phd's and two postdocs's. At SDU CML has managed to stay in one physical unit even during the expansion, with meeting facilities conveniently placed next door. Høgel and Mortensen continue to be engaged in teaching in the Classics programme.

We further developed our collaboration with Comparative Literature at SDU (at the Department for the Study of Culture). Shazia Jagot, our new postdoc partly financed by Comparative Literature SDU, planned her teaching schedule with them. And Sofie Kluge, associate professor at the same department, became new associate member of the CML (to begin in 2015). We value this new and direct tie with comparative literature dearly, as the other obvious partner in the CML's position between literature and history. The closer tie led, among other things, to a commonly organized seminar on Athurian literature, in November.

Due to the partly financing of one postdoc position by Comparative Literature, it was made possible to extend the employment of Réka Forrai yet another year (into 2016).

The appointment of Jagot (postdoc) and Etheridge (PhD) has emphatically added the dimension of the history of medieval science to CML and they are engaging with colleagues in this field in DK, UK and beyond (including conference planning for 2015).

York

At York the activities of the CML have intensified and we have had an increasing impact on the intellectual environment of the Centre for Medieval Studies (CMS), where we are located. CML supported two MA students with scholarships and we have opened our joint Odense-York video seminars to colleagues and graduate students.

This year has seen considerable success with the British Academy supporting CML scholars. Michele Campopiano ran two workshops on universal chronicles with participants from across Europe. A volume arising from the conference will be published in the new series edited by Bainton and Mortensen. Tyler, along with Ormrod (Dean of Arts, York) and Story (Professor) Leicester, were awarded a prestigious BA Conference, on the topic of 'Aliens, Foreigners and Strangers in Medieval England'. Venetia Bridges and George Younge (along a colleague at Cambridge) made a successful application for a British Academy Rising Stars grant, which will fund a workshop on studying medieval multilingualism, aimed at PhD and postdoctoral stage scholars, and outreach activities. The latter two activities will take place in 2015.

Dale Kedwards, a CML affiliated PhD student, successfully submitted his thesis, on the intersection of cartography and literature in Old Norse manuscripts in the autumn.

The York Department of English was ranked 2nd nationally in the UK Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014). CML collaboration, which is part of the English Department's European research strategy, contributed to that success. The submission was coordinated and written by CML PI Tyler.

Rowbotham (PhD) and Etheridge (PhD at SDU) has added a strong presence of Old Norse studies, and the appointment of Rosa Rodriguez Porto as a postdoctoral fellow at York has brought the art historical dimension of book history firmly into the CML.

Integration of the two nodes

Internode activities in 2014 followed the pattern developed in 2013 with regular video conferences organized by the postdocs, reading groups, short- and longer term mobility and regular meetings between the three PIs. The internode relationships expanded in new ways due to the enlargement of staff, including more spontaneous criss-cross collaboration and supervision, e.g. between Høgel and Campopiano, Mortensen and Bainton, Rosello-Martinez and Rodriguez Porto, Bainton plus Tyler and Wittig and more.

Rosellò-Martinez, Forrai, Christensen all had shorter stays in York, while Wittig spent a whole semester there. Tyler spent a week in Odense and Younge and Bridges approximately two months each.

The second annual CML meeting was held in Sicily in September 22-26 in which 15 from Odense and 9 from York participated. The main focus was to introduce and integrate the new PhDs and Postdocs and their projects and to make them acquainted with CML's research profile and plans. A second focus was Sicilian medieval culture which was discussed both through prepared readings and site visits. A common tour like this was invaluable, especially for bridging the gap between the first and the second batch of young scholars at CML.

The CML, as an integrated unit, was again highly visible at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds in July. We sponsored one session (organised by Rosellò-Martinez) and CML researchers gave 9 session or panel talks. Like in 2013 we made ourselves known through a very well attended reception (150+).

Research

Languages

The major focus of the languages strand in 2014 has been the development of the area of Imperial Languages. Initiated and developed by Høgel, the approaches of Imperial Languages has shaped the thinking of researchers across CML and Interfaces. The November conference on Imperial Languages opened the topic beyond CML. The ITN application (see above, highlights, and below, collaboration) represents a major consolidation, integration and acceleration of CML research in the area of languages.

The other major common research activity was a workshop in Cambridge on ‘Biblical Epic’ in Middle Eastern and European languages from late Antiquity to the twelfth century. The topic arose from discussions at the Les Treilles Interfaces meeting and was co-organized by Interfaces colleagues Ní Mhaonaigh and Rand, with Tyler.

Etheridge initiated his PhD project on the import of science into the North by reviewing and organizing material in Latin, Old Norse, Danish and Swedish - so far mainly focused on learned centres in Iceland and Sweden.

The multilingual reading group continued to meet across York and Odense and during Wittig’s extended stay in York, she led a Middle High German reading group, joined by Tyler and Campopiano.

Interaction of languages in Europe continues to engage, in various degrees, the work of most colleagues within the CML. Of particular note are Younge, Wittig and Campopiano. Younge’s postdoctoral work on Old and Middle English has made distinctive contributions to these fields by virtue of its multilingual perspective (see highlight above). Wittig’s PhD works across Latin, German, French and also considers Middle English. Campopiano’s work on Alexander the Great, which saw the publication of his contribution to a major international publication, has also enriched the languages strand as has his work, much in collaboration with Høgel, on *translatio imperii*.

Fictionality

Fictionality was a central theme in various activities and publications in 2014. The importance of how fictionality was perceived and included into the life of a steadily growing book and literature production takes up many discussions at the centre and not least in the fictionality reading group. This reading group continued its activities, with readings of primarily Jean-Claude Schmidt’s *The Conversion of Herman the Jew. Autobiography, History and Fiction in the 12th Century*.

In December 2014 the members of the fictionality reading group met under the title of ‘diplomatic literature’, a term that Venetia Bridges had found useful to her observations on the nature of Walther of Chatillon’s *Alexandreis*, but which seemed applicable to many of the texts and questions that others in the group were dealing with. Presentations were on Petrista female networks (Sacra Roselló-Martínez), Nikephoros Blemmydes and other Byzantine hagiographers (Jonas Christensen), the exchange of letters in the papal court (Réka Forrai), and Niketas Magistros and the Life of Theoktiste (Christian Høgel).

A number of reviews of the Agapitos-Mortensen 2012 book on fictionality were highly appraising e.g. Koen de Temmermann (*Byzantion*): “This is a rich, attractive and multifaceted volume on conceptualizations of history and fiction in medieval narrative literature. It covers a wide range of texts that blur borderlines between these two categories in interesting ways. [...] In short: both authors and editors have done a nice job in addressing key concepts about fiction and history in subtle and persuasive readings of highly interesting texts and uniting them into a consistent and balanced volume. This book will undoubtedly be of interest and profit to anyone even remotely interested in medieval (fictional and/or historical) narrative.”

Jonas Christensen continued work on his thesis *The Use of Autobiography in Nikephoros Blemmydes' Diegesis Merike*. The work focuses on the emergence of autobiography in the Byzantine empire and the related question of genre. Among the results so far is the abandonment of the term 'autohagiography', since it disregards the necessary preconditions - first and foremost intention - for such a phenomenon to exist. Another is the realisation that autobiography fulfils a role in the monastic context that is less isolated than most modern treatments allow. It is one of the central tenets of the thesis that autobiography in 13th c. Byzantium is far more instrumental and has less affinity with modern notions of self expression than has hitherto been acknowledged.

Venetia Bridges published an article in *Nottingham Medieval Studies*, which considers the relationships between Latin and French Alexander texts, suggesting that the Latin *Alexandreis* is a hostile reaction to the habits of vivid and sensuous description seen particularly clearly in vernacular romances. It claims (following Francine Mora) that there is a debate at the end of the twelfth century about how to re-write classical material and for whom this should be done. The study draws strongly on CML's developing ideas about European medieval literatures, as it insists on looking beyond the boundaries of language, canon and nation imposed by modern scholarship.

Also in 2014, she wrote two essays (not yet published) and two book chapters that consider the 'internationalism' of medieval texts narrating the story of Alexander the Great. For Latin texts, this is a straightforward claim to make, but the same phenomenon seems to appear in English-language texts, which, despite their more local linguistic status, will still take an interest in international issues (for example concerning *translatio studii*). This insight was fostered by the Les Treilles meeting in particular, where we learnt that similar issues arise in widely different languages and contexts.

Rosellò-Martinez published an article on letters of grievances concerning Alvaro de Luna (see highlight) and began planning an early modern Iberian project at the intersection of history and fiction with Kluge at SDU.

Fictionality is also central to the research of Tim Rowbotham, who commenced his PhD project investigating the relationship between historiography and fictionality in the Icelandic *foraldarsögur*, and the ways in which fictional narratives were used as a means of remembering and imagining the past.

Canonization

The main common activity in the canon strand in 2014 was the Spring School in May in Helsinki, co-arranged and co-financed by the University of Helsinki. As the receiver of the 2013 Jarl Gallén prize Mortensen arranged the course together with Forrai (CML, Odense) and Clarke (CML, York).

The course was attended by eleven PhD students coming from Italy, Germany, UK, USA, Brazil, and Sweden. It consisted of a combination of lectures with prepared readings sent out beforehand, student presentations and discussions. The central term of canon gave focus to the lectures in which a part of CMLs research programme was presented (Mortensen) and canonical authors such as Abelard and Heloise (Forrai), Chaucer, Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio and their medieval and modern canonicity was introduced and discussed (Clarke).

The students' topics differed widely in languages (Spanish, English, Old Norse, German, Latin) and periods stretching from early medieval to early modern, and the talks took up relations to the main topic in different ways and in varying degree. According to student feedback in class, the combination of broad and specialized discussions was very fruitful, and the interdisciplinarity between different literatures and between literature and history was especially emphasized.

The canonization book ed. by Mortensen and Lehtonen (*The Performance of Christian and Pagan Storyworlds*, one of the highlights of 2012) got a very favourable review in a leading journal by Bradford Lee Eden (*The Medieval Review* 2014): “Overall, I found this to be a very insightful and groundbreaking book. Examining the lesser-known literatures of Old Norse, including sermons, various surviving intertextual and interreligious prose and poetic sources, liturgical performative texts and the interplay between pagan and Christian influences, along with various social and cultural influences has provided the foundation for more research in this area in the future. I found the extensive framing of the research within the book by the editors in the introduction quite refreshing and illuminating. A must-read for anyone whose scholarship touches on the medieval North and its influences and sources.”

In her project “Looting Letters: The Latin Canon of Greek Literature in the Middle Ages” Forrai has carried out archival work looking at manuscripts in the Vatican Library in Rome and the Laurenziana in Florence and worked on the overall concept and layout of the research project and the ways it eventually will take the shape of a book. She benefited to a high degree from conversations with CML guest Professor Copeland. The canon in this project is a canon-within-a-canon, the Greek reading list of medieval western Europe, a canon built exclusively of translations, of ‘foreign’ texts, complementing the various Latin and vernacular sets of authoritative texts of the Middle Ages.

Campopiano has been involved in two projects run outside the CML which also impacts on the CML canon strand: one is his major contribution to the 4-volumes history of Alexander the Great Literature, the other the continuation of my project *Cultural memory and identity in the Late Middle Ages: the Franciscans of Mount Zion in Jerusalem and the representation of the Holy Land (1333-1516)*.

Clarke has concentrated his research on the most canonical medieval author of all, Dante and his equally canonical reader, Boccaccio: one is an essay on the rubrics in a celebrated early manuscript of the *Comedy*, arguing that the rubrics are an important and neglected point of mediation between reader and poem. Another is a study of a manuscript of the *Comedy* copied by Giovanni Boccaccio in which Boccaccio devises a set of his own rubrics for Dante’s poem. Clarke’s specialization in canonical copying and reading practices are important for emerging ideas in CML about the ‘pleasure of reading’.

Jagot initiated her project by beginning work on Chaucer’s attitude and knowledge of Islam and Arabic science and on a book proposal, with material drawn from her PhD thesis, with the working title, *Distilling Chaucer: Arabic Learning in his Works*. Her work will inform our thinking about canon both by bringing in the second most canonical author of the Middle Ages and exploring the canon of Arabic knowledge available, by indirect routes, to Chaucer.

Powles opened his project on the enormous chronicle of Orderic Vitalis (12th century) my getting to grips with the main materials and devising a research plan which seeks to reshape our understanding of Orderic’s text, taking it out of the canon of Anglo-Norman historians and situating it in a broader, continental context of religious reform.

The new Phd project by Hope was also initiated by studying of central material on one of the main hagiographies involved, that of St Olaf of Norway; Hope also drafted an article in which he proposes a distinction between high and low canonicity of hagiographical material which may evolve into a guiding principle for his PhD.

As can be seen from the above range of individual projects, the canon strand continues to involve both analyses of medieval textual canonicity and modern canonicity of medieval texts as well as the connections and disconnections between the two. Mortensen gave presentations in Les Treilles and Helsinki on ways in which the connections or lack of them can be historicized and theorized.

PI Research (all situated across the three main themes)

Two seminars, organized in cooperation with colleagues at other universities, were central to Høgel's work and research in 2014. On 30 September-1 October the CML hosted a seminar on early Qur'anic material (in cooperation with prof. Matthias M. Tischler, Barcelona), at which specialists were invited to look at the evidence of the Qur'an in other languages than Arabic in the first three centuries after its appearance. As with the early Greek translation of the Qur'an, one of my central research topics, early evidence of the Qur'an in other languages has been overlooked, not least due to the common – but wrong – assumption that early Muslim authorities opposed such translation. Another seminar, on Imperial and Ecumenic Languages: Empires and their Linguistic Imprint, was held 27-28 November (together with Peter Fibiger Bang, KU). The idea of imperial languages being a useful concept in describing the interrelation between medieval – and modern – languages, which Høgel presented at various occasions within the CML and which has now become central to our ITN application, was discussed and developed during the seminar. We expect further collaboration with the people involved, working towards the publication of a full-scale volume on the topic.

A few of Høgel's presentations at conferences and workshops during the year indicate new research projects. A paper on 'Euthymios the Iberian, A Greek-Georgian Translator as Innovator of Byzantine Literature' in Leeds points in the direction of a larger investigation into Byzantine – and other – hagiographical romances. A paper on 'Cassius Dio and the Need for Roman Republican History in Byzantium' is the beginning of a project on a more moderate scale on how Roman Republican history was viewed in Byzantium. Other presentations (in Uppsala, New York, Leeds, Cambridge, Copenhagen) reflect work on these topics or on literary approaches to Byzantine literature. This is also the case of the chapter on Symeon Metaphrastes, which Høgel wrote for the *The Ashgate Research Companion to Byzantine Hagiography. Volume II: Genres and Contexts* and the Bryn Mawr review article (in collaboration with J. Christensen, CML) on "Frederick Lauritzen, The Depiction of Character in the Chronographia of Michael Psellos".

In May Høgel did a short presentation of CML for the new vice-chancellor of SDU, Henrik Dam. The presentation was brief, but the response was engaged and positive. In October Høgel gave his inaugural lecture as Professor wso, on Byzantine literature for a quite full auditorium.

Mortensen's research in 2014 focused on three themes: (1) William of Tyre's chronicle and its French translation *Éraclès*, (2) The impact of classical Roman literature on biography in the medieval west, (3) The rise of prose in a comparison between Greek, Latin, French, and Old Norse,

The first topic was addressed in a Fordham conference (The French of Outremer) paper in March entitled 'What Makes a Man? – in Latin and in French: Eracles' Rendering of William of Tyre's Ruler Portraits'. This material was partly used for the second theme for an invited article for the new Oxford Handbook of Ancient Biography (ed. Temmermann) and began to be developed into a chapter in a book project about meritocratic values in medieval literature (in which William of Tyre represents meritocratic ideas and the French translation aristocratic ones).

The third theme led to a submission of an article about 'librarization' of texts, a neglected media aspect of literary culture. This article will be supplemented by one on the sudden success of prose which was approximately half completed in 2014.

Mortensen received Fyns Stifttidendes research prize research in April. He was a principal editor of the first issue of *Interfaces* (see below) and one of three of the initiators and coordinators of the ITN bid on imperial languages (with Tyler, CML and Deploige, Ghent).

Tyler submitted the full-typescript (170,000 words) of a monograph, *England in Europe: English Royal Women and Literary Patronage*, c. 1000- c.1150 to the University of Toronto Press; reader's reports were positive and the book will be published in early 2016 (which marks the 1000th anniversary of Cnut's conquest England). The volume looks at how the literary culture of Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Danish and Anglo-Norman royal women created continuities across the Danish (1016) and Norman (1066) conquests of England and contributed to the emergence of a shared western European literature in the high middle ages, marked by classicism and use of written vernacular languages. This book cuts across our Canon, Fictionality and also Languages strands.

Tyler continued to develop, with Thomas O'Donnell (Fordham – Interfaces) a substantial article on the interaction of Romance, Germanic and Latin in an area between the Severn (in the west of England) and the Rhine in the High Middle Ages. Versions of this paper were given at Leeds and Cambridge. In addition, Tyler and O'Donnell, have drafted a further article, on Valenciennes MS 150, which includes two of the earliest poems in the vernacular, one in French and one in German, and considers how interaction between these two languages is integral to Early Medieval vernacular literary culture. Versions of this paper were given at Interfaces Meeting in NYC and at the Imperial Languages conference in SDU.

Tyler worked on her contribution to Campopiano's volume on universal chronicles *Making History Universal: The Old English Orosius and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* in London, British Library, Cotton Tiberius B.i.

She also co-organised the Biblical Epic in Cambridge with interfacers NíMhaonaigh and Rand and she was one of three initiators and coordinators of the ITN bid (see below). She is on the editorial board (Old English series) of *Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library*, and has stepped down as general editor of the *Brepols Series*, 'Studies in the Early Middle Ages' which she founded in 1999.

Collaboration – Dissemination

In May CML at SDU hosted a Marie Curie seminar for a group of potential applicants with the help of SDU's EU funding advisor Lone Ladegaard Laursen. In September 7 young scholars applied to come to Odense, and in February 2015 we were notified that one had been successful (Alastair Matthews, Oxford who will begin his project on northern rhymed chronicles in Sept. 2015). Others got very good scores and will probably try again in 2015. The process furthermore disseminated knowledge about CML and made young scholars think through their projects within a European CML frame.

The Interfaces group held two meetings, an intensive workshop for 20 scholars in Les Treilles in April (including postdocs Rosellò-Martinez, Forrai and Bridges), and a conference at Fordham – both were highlights of 2014 (see above).

Work on *Interfaces – A Journal of Medieval European Literatures* continued as preparation for its launch in the summer 2015 with a theme issue on *Histories of Medieval European Literature: New Patterns of Representation and Explanation* featuring articles by 13 leading scholars in the field. Layout, typography, website, procedures, and editorial policies were worked out in detail with the co-editor Paolo Borsa and the publisher, the University of Milan. Postdocs Bridges and Forrai were attached as editorial assistants and our networks were both used and expanded in search for suitable peer-reviewers.

Our development of the idea of Imperial Languages (another highlight, see above) gave us new collaborators. First at the university of Copenhagen (Peter Fibiger Bang) with whom Høgel arranged a joint conference. Secondly, on a bigger scale, our bid for an International Training Network under Horizon 2020, for which we, together with colleagues in Ghent, gathered a consortium of 9 beneficiaries and 7 partners. The consortium was consolidated and the bid was

worked out from September to January (submitted January 11, 2015). We employed David Napolitano as coordinator in this period, funded partly by a Danish ministerial 'EU-opstart' grant.

Finally we have been active on our Facebook-pages both for CML and the Interfaces Journal where we now have many hundreds of followers.

CML policy on good conduct

We practice co-supervision of Phds and co-mentorship for postdocs across the two nodes. For Phd student Wittig we have engaged an external co-supervisor, Norbert Kössinger (Konstanz). The younger scholars publish, as usual in the humanities, in their own name only. See also the declaration by the centre leader in the accounts sheet.

Signature

I hereby confirm the correctness of the information concerning annual accounts, including itemizations. Also, I confirm that the compiled annual reporting, including the appendices, is correct, i.e. it is free of material misstatement or omissions, and that the administration of the funds has been secure and sound, and in accordance with the conditions of the center agreement.

Odense, March 27, 2015

Center leader
Prof. Lars Boje Mortensen

Publication list 2012-2014

The list comprises all publications by CML staff and associate members. The publications in ordinary black typeface contribute directly to the three research themes of CML. Those shaded in grey deal with related areas in medieval (and classical) studies and are the results of other collaborative or individual projects by the associate CML members.

Monographs

- GAULLIER-BOUGASSAS, CATHERINE (project leader); ARIZALETA, AMAIA; BELLON-MÉGUALLE, H.; BIZZARRI, HUGO; BRIDGES, MARGARET; CAMPOPIANO, MICHELE ; CIZEK, ALEXANDRU et alii: *La fascination pour Alexandre le Grand dans les littératures européennes (XIe-XVIe siècle). Réinventions d'un mythe : domaine italien*, 4 voll., Turnhout, Brepols, 2014 [pages authored c. 150]. **PR**
- HØGEL, CHRISTIAN; CHRISTIDES, VASSILIOS and MONFERRER SALAS, JUAN Pedro: *The Martyrdom of Athanasius of Klyasma. A Saint from the Egyptian Desert: Study, edition and translation of the Greek and Arabic texts*, Athens, The Institute for Graeco-Oriental and African Studies, 2012, vii+199 pp. **PR**
- JENSEN, KURT VILLADS; BYSTED, ANE, JENSEN; CARSTEN SELCH and LIND, JOHN: *Jerusalem in the North. Denmark and the Baltic Crusades, 1100-1522*. Turnhout, Brepols, 2012. 393 pp. [Revised translation of *Danske Korstog - krig og mission i Østersøen*, 2. ed., København, Høst and Søn, 2006]. **PR**
- JENSEN, KURT VILLADS: *For de tørster nemlig uophørligt efter de kristnes blod: Kristne middelalderlige skrifter om islam*. Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2013. 292 pp. **PR**
- JENSEN, KURT VILLADS and BRAMMING, TORBEN: *Radulfs skrift om den åndelige kalk eller hellige gral*, Taarnborg, 2014. 128 pp. **PR**
- TOWNEND, MATTHEW: *Viking Age Yorkshire*, Pickering, Blackthorn Press, 2014. 336 pp. **PR**

Edited Books

- AGAPITOS, PANAGIOTIS A. and MORTENSEN, LARS BOJE (eds): *Medieval Narratives between History and Fiction: From the Centre to the Periphery of Europe, c. 1100-1400*, Copenhagen, Museum Tusulanum Press, 2012. viii + 389 pp. **PR**
- BISGAARD, LARS; ENGBRO, SIGGA; JENSEN, KURT VILLADS and NYBERG, TORE (eds.): *Monastic Culture, The Long 13th Century. Essays in Honour of Brian Patrick McGuire*, Odense, University Press of Southern Denmark, 2014. 328 pp. **PR**
- BISGAARD, LARS and JENSEN, M. KRAGSIG (eds): *Danmarks Adels Aarbog 2009-11*, Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2012, 811 pp.
- BISGAARD, LARS; MORTENSEN, LARS BOJE and PETTITT, TOM (eds): *Guilds, Towns, and Cultural Transmission in the North, 1300-1500*, Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2013. 301 p. **PR**
- BISGAARD, LARS and BRUUS, METTE (eds): *Vikinger og Normanner. Toogtredivte tværfaglige Vikingsymposium*, Aarhus, Forlaget Wormianum 2013. 84 pp.
- CAMPOPIANO, MICHELE: Co-edited the special issue *De klassieke oudheid in de islamitische wereld of Lampas*. *Tijdschrift voor classici* 46, 2013.
- JENSEN, KURT VILLADS; SALONEN, KIRSI and VOGT, HELLE (eds): *Cultural Encounters during the Crusades*, Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2013. 329 pp. **PR**
- MADSEN, JESPER MAJBOM and REES, ROGER: *Roman Rule in Greek and Latin Writing. Double Vision*, Leiden, Brill 2014. viii, 303 pp. **PR**
- MORTENSEN, LARS BOJE and LEHTONEN, TUOMAS M. S. (eds): *The Performance of Christian and Pagan Storyworlds. Non-Canonical Chapters of the History of Nordic Medieval Literature*, Turnhout, Brepols, 2013. 448 pp. **PR**

SALONEN, KIRSI; JENSEN; KURT VILLADS and JØRGENSEN, TORSTEIN (eds): *Medieval Christianity in the North. New Studies*, Turnhout, Brepols 2013. xii+276 pp. **PR**

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BISGAARD, LARS: 'Wine and Beer in Medieval Scandinavia', in Kirsi Salonen, Kurt Villads Jensen and Torstein Jørgensen (eds), *Medieval Christianity in the North*, Turnhout, Brepols, 2013, pp. 67-87. **PR**

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- MADSEN, JESPER MAJBOM: 'The Loser's Prize: Roman Triumphs and Political Strategies during the Mithridatic Wars' in Carsten Hjort Lange and Frederik Juliaan Vervaeke (eds.), *The Roman Republican Triumph: Beyond the Spectacle*, Analecta Romana Instituti Danici, Supplementum 45, Rome, Quasar, 2014, pp. 117-129. **PR**
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- BISGAARD, LARS: 'The Transformation of St. Canute Guilds in the Late Middle Ages', *Quellen und Studien zur Baltischen Geschichte*, 20, 2012, 77-92. **PR**
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