

Scientific Annual Report 2013

Centre for Medieval Literature (SDU / York)

CENTRE FOR

medieval  literature

Four Highlights of 2013

1. Siena Conference on Letters between Fiction and Document

On September 9-11, the CML, the Università di Siena, and the Università Sour Orsola Benincasa Napoli held a jointly organized conference under the heading of 'Medieval Letters between Fiction and Document'. The organizing committee comprised Edoardo d'Angelo (Naples), Høgel and Mortensen, and Francesco Stella (Siena and Interfaces). The theme of the conference, which addressed the various processes and conceptual frames that guided the writing of medieval letters, was closely connected to all three strands of the CML, especially fictionality and canonization. Comparing Latin, Greek, and vernacular letter production and circulation through more than eight centuries, the conference focussed on questions of literary use and documentary value, as well as the importance of courts and their letter manuals. This focus opened up a much clearer approach to a literary form that has often fallen between the private and the public, the miscellaneous and the unique. The very international make-up of both organizers and contributors enabled the establishment of new networks, while the publication of the contributions (Brepols) will engender new approaches to the fields of epistolography, which has in many ways fallen out of genre discussions.

2. *The Performance of Christian and Pagan Storyworlds*

A new book in the Brepols series 'Medieval Identities: Socio-Cultural Spaces' was edited by Mortensen & Tuomas Lehtonen (Finnish Literature Society, Helsinki). Subtitled *Non-Canonical Chapters of the History of Nordic Medieval Literature*, it maps a body of Nordic medieval literature that traditional language-based histories of literature overlook, but that was crucial in shaping social and religious identities. The volume collects interdisciplinary studies on liturgy, sermons, songs, crusading narratives and more, and crosses most languages of the North, with special emphasis on Latin, Old Norse and Finnish. The introduction discusses links between literature and social identities in the Nordic realm, and sketches a new chronological and conceptual framework for future non-national literary histories of the area.

3. Summer School - Crossing the Languages of Medieval Europe

Together with the Henri Pirenne Institute (Ghent), CML ran a summer school in the Belgian Academy in Rome on June 3-8. The programme drew together twenty-five PhD candidates (from across Europe and the States) and nine tutors from different disciplinary, chronological and geographical specialisms for six days of intensive study. In addition to the CML PIs, the tutors included Jeroen Deploige and Wim Verbaal (Ghent and Interfaces), Panagiotis Agapitos (Cyprus), Robert Bartlett (St Andrews), Karla Mallette (Michigan) and David Wallace (Penn). The PhDs worked together to explore and conceptualize the linguistic diversity of medieval Europe. During the week, horizons were widened as discussion ranged from Chaucer to low German in medieval Finland, from Petrarch to Slavonic in the Balkans, from the impact of Sanskrit literature on Europe to European multilingual courts. Each student found their perspectives on their own specialist research enriched and established international networks early in his or her careers. Although the work was intensive, the atmosphere was informal, and included a day's excursion to Subiaco and Villa Adriana, enabling PhDs and tutors to get to know each other's work well. The students have stayed in touch with each other and with tutors, and we are looking forward to some of them applying for postdoctoral fellowships in 2014. Agapitos, Mallette and Wallace have since joined the Interfaces group.

4. Book proposal accepted by Oxford University Press

Jocelyn Wogan-Browne (Fordham) and Tyler's proposal for *High Medieval: Literary Cultures in England* was accepted by Oxford University Press's 21st-Century Approaches Series. Including 35 contributors, *High Medieval*, aims to map a field, which has long seemed hard to see and unteachable because so polyglot. With its inclusion of historians and art historians, the volume also addresses the way modern notions of literature often obscure the nature of medieval textuality. The volume presents the literary culture of England from c.1000 - c.1300 as fully European, even before the Norman Conquest. It will argue that England's long experience of the written vernacular was a critical model as other European vernaculars came to be used as book languages in the twelfth century. Given the distinctive linguistic and chronological range, many of the chapters will be co-written, drawing on the CML experience of collaboration. Other CML and Interfaces members contributing to the volume include: Bainton, Jane Gilbert, Francine Mora-LeBrun and Thomas O'Donnell.

Fire højdepunkter i 2013

1. Siena-konferencen 'Letters between Fiction and Document'

D. 9.-11. september afholdt CML, Università di Siena, og Università Sour Orsola Benincasa Napoli en konference, organiseret i fællesskab, under overskriften 'Medieval Letters between Fiction and Document'. I planlægningskomiteen sad Edoardo d'Angelo (Napoli), Høgel and Mortensen (CML), og Francesco Stella (Siena og Interfaces). Konferencens tema var den praksis og de begrebsdannelser der formede middelalderlig brevskrivning, og var dermed nært forbundet med hvert af CMLs tre 'strands', især fiktion og kanonisering. Ved at sammenligne produktion og cirkulation af latinske, græske og folkesproglige breve gennem mere end otte århundreder blev der sat fokus på centrale områder som litterære virkemidler, status som dokumenter, såvel som visse ledende hoffers og deres brevmanualers grundlæggende betydning. Dette åbnede op for en langt mere afklaret tilgang til en type litteratur, der ofte er havnet upåagtet midt imellem studier af det offentlige og det private, mellem blandede skrifter og det unikke pragtværk. Den stærkt internationale profil hos både organisatorer og bidragsydere var medvirkende til at skabe nye netværk, mens den kommendeudgivelse af bidragene (på Brepols) vil medvirke til at skabe nye tilgange til brev-genren, som ofte er blevet forsømt i studiet af middelalderens litteratur.

2. Kristne og hedenske fortælleuniverser: *The Performance of Christian and Pagan Storyworlds*

En ny bog 'Medieval Identities: Socio-Cultural Spaces' udkom på Brepols med Mortensen & Tuomas Lehtonen (Det finske Litteraturselskab, Helsinki) som udgivere. Med undertitlen *Non-Canonical Chapters of the History of Nordic Medieval Literature* giver bogen en sammenhængende præsentation af en mængde nordisk middelalderlitteratur der traditionelt er faldet uden for interessefeltet i traditionelle, sprogligt-orienterede litteraturhistorier, men som i virkeligheden var afgørende for skabelsen af social og religiøs identitet. Bogen består af en række tværfaglige studier i liturgi, prædikener, sange, korsfarerberetninger m.m. og beskæftiger sig med de fleste af Nordens sprog, med særlig vægt på latin, norrønt og finsk. I introduktionen diskuteres forskellige forbindelsesled mellem litteratur og social identitet i Norden, og der gives bud på en ny kronologisk og begrebsmæssig ramme for fremtidige, ikke-nationale litteraturhistorier for området.

3. Sommerskolen 'Crossing the Languages of Medieval Europe'

I samarbejde med Henri Pirenne-instituttet (Ghent) organiserede og gennemførte CML en sommerskole på det belgiske akademi i Rom i dagene 3.-8. juni. I de seks intensive dage samlede sommerskolen femogtyve phd-studerende (fra hele Europe og USA) og ni tutorer fra forskellige fagområder med hver deres metodiske, kronologiske og geografiske specialist-kompetencer. Ud over de tre seniorforskere fra CML var tutorerne Jeroen Deploige og Wim Verbaal (Ghent og Interfaces), Panagiotis Agapitos (Cypern), Robert Bartlett (St Andrews), Karla Mallette (Michigan) og David Wallace (Penn). En meget åben arbejdsform gav de phd-studerende mulighed for at undersøge og reflektere over den sproglige mangfoldighed i middelalderen og at tilføje deres forskellige ekspertiser til en produktiv og kreativ dialog. I løbet af ugen blev horisonter udvidet, efterhånden som diskussionen gik fra Chaucer til plattysk i middelalderens Finland, fra Petrarca til slavisk i Balkan-landene, fra indflydelsen af Sanskrit-tekster i Europa til europæiske flersproglige hoffer. Hver studerende fandt blikket på eget specialist-område beriget, og de fik muligheden for at etablere internationale kontakter tidligt i deres karriere. Selvom der blev arbejdet hårdt, var stemningen uformel, og ugen bød på en række fællesmåltider og ekskursion til Subiaco og Hadrians Villa, hvad der gav studerende og tutorer yderligere mulighed for at lære hinandens arbejde at kende. De studerende har efterfølgende opretholdt kontakt, og vi ser frem til at en del af dem vil søge postdoc-stipendier hos os i 2014. Agapitos, Mallette og Wallace er siden blevet medlemmer af Interfaces-gruppen.

4. Bog-forslag antaget ved Oxford University Press

Jocelyn Wogan-Browne (Fordham) og Tylers bog-forslag *High Medieval: Literary Cultures in England* blev antaget af Oxford University Press til deres '21st-Century Approaches'-serie. Med 35 bidragsydere søger *High Medieval* at kortlægge et område, der er blevet anset for svært at danne sig et overblik over og umuligt at undervise i pga. den sproglige mangfoldighed som det indbefatter. Bogen inkluderer bidrag fra historikere og kunsthistorikere og vil bl.a. beskæftige sig med hvordan moderne forestillinger om litteratur ofte har gjort det vanskeligere at forstå middelalderens verden af tekster. Bogen vil præsentere litterær kultur i England fra ca. 1000 – ca. 1300 som europæisk i ordets fulde betydning, allerede fra tiden inden normannernes erobring. Bogen vil også argumentere for at Englands lange erfaring med folkesproglig litteratur var et afgørende forbillede i de øvrige europæiske folkesprogs vej til at blive litterære sprog i det tolvte århundrede. Pga. den store sproglige og kronologiske bredde vil mange af kapitlerne blive skrevet i samarbejde mellem flere forskere, med udgangspunkt i CMLs erfaring for denne arbejdsform. Blandt CML- og Interfaces-medlemmer vil følgende bidrage til bogen: Bainton, Jane Gilbert, Francine Mora-LeBrun and Thomas O'Donnell.

Organization

On the organizational level, CML focussed in 2013 on (1) consolidating our position within the Humanities faculties in SDU and in York, (2) facilitating the work of our post-doctoral fellows and PhDs, (3) continuing and intensifying the systems of exchange and community between the two nodes that we set up in the fall of 2012, and (4) disseminating our intellectual agenda in international fora and extending our networks (see Research and Collaboration below).

Adjustments to the contracted list of staff

- In 2013 CML was awarded one of the H.C. Andersen guest professorships by the SDU Vice Chancellor's office. The position is filled (from 2014 to 2016) by Prof. Rita Copeland (Penn), who will spend time in Odense and York.
- Beginning in 2014 two associate members (Bisgaard, Lysgaard Lech) will withdraw from their 10% and 20 % commitment to CML due to other obligations and Villads Jensen will reduce his share from 25% to 10%. They will all still take part in some CML activities.
- Prof. Helen Fulton (York) has been added to the associate members with a 10% share.

SDU

At SDU CML is physically well situated within the Dept. of History close to the main local stakeholders (Classics, Centre for Medieval Studies). Steps have been taken to ensure new offices in the same area when we expand our staff in 2014. Høgel, Mortensen, Christensen, and Forrai have all been teaching in the Classics undergraduate programme in 2013, and Wittig in History. Coordination with activities in Ancient and Medieval History was secured by the presence of Bisgaard, Madsen, and Jensen, and within Classics through Lysgaard Lech, Høgel and Mortensen. The Michael Mann reading group became a good interdisciplinary forum for literature and history. CML supported the national Viking symposium in May on the Normans; organized by Bisgaard, it included a paper by Høgel on Sicily. Christensen gave a talk on Byzantine hagiography at the Department's annual 'Dies Medievalis'. Collaboration has now been established with the Dept. of Culture, whose students and colleagues from the fields of comparative literature had been more difficult to reach. One of the new CML 2014 postdocs will be 1/3 financed by the Dept. of Culture in return for regular teaching and for coordinating activities with CML. Roselló-Martinez and Wittig have been lecturing in the Dept. of Culture's Spanish and German programmes respectively.

York

CML is based in the Centre for Medieval Studies (CMS) in the historic King's Manor in the city centre. In 2013, we worked to create links with modern colleagues on the main campus in the English Department as well as with the interdisciplinary community of medievalists in King's Manor. Fulton as Head of English and Tyler as Director of Research in English worked to strengthen the position of the Middle Ages in the Department. In preparing the Department for the 'Research Excellence Framework' national assessment, Tyler, in collaboration with colleagues across all periods, situated diachronic (from Antiquity to the 21st Century), interdisciplinary and multilingual work at the centre of the Department's research programme for the next six years. These approaches fully integrate CML into the Department. CML also encouraged the expansion of the Department's Writers at York programme, which brings contemporary fiction and poetry writers to York. This expansion specifically included modern poets engaged with medieval poetry; in 2013 Bernard O'Donoghue and Seamus Heaney spoke, the later to an audience of over 750 (in conjunction with the university's Festival of Ideas). We also co-sponsored, with the Tennyson Society, a conference on 'Tennyson and the Ancients' which looked at this 19th-century poet's reception of classical and medieval poetry. Bainton, Bridges, Kedwards, Townend and Younge all taught undergraduates in the Department. In King's Manor, CML video seminars were opened up for all in CMS to attend. With a colleague from medieval history, Tyler co-organized a conference 'Storytelling in Court and Cloister', which was attended by more than 100 and which was co-sponsored by the journal *Medium Ævum*. Bainton, Campopiano, Fulton, Kedwards, Townend and Tyler all taught master's level modules at the CMS.

Integration of the two nodes

2013 saw the close integration of the three research strands across both Odense and York. In the spring and autumn terms regular videoconferences and visits between York and Odense took place. The three PI's regularly met via Skype to discuss research and management. In both nodes text reading groups have been arranged (Old English, Old French, Middle High German, historical sociology (Michael Mann), fictionality), which often involved participation from members of the other node.

A number of short inter-node visits were made, and Bainton spent his full autumn sabbatical in Odense. In addition to his research, Bainton set up an Old French reading group, co-supervised Wittig, and collaborated with Høgel and Mortensen. Bainton and Mortensen have established a new publications series, on medieval historiography, with York Medieval Press. CML members from both York and Odense participated in Campopiano's 'Universal Chronicles in the High Middle Ages' workshop, which was sponsored jointly by the British Academy and CML and held at York.

The first annual CML meeting to include postdoctoral fellows and PhDs (total of 19 participants, 7 from York) was held at a retreat in Fyn in connection with the annual Symposium in November in Odense. While the group was well acquainted from conferences or video-seminars, this opportunity for sustained intellectual exchange within the whole group was very productive. The two days centred around discussions of historical and theoretical articles (on empires and more) and enabled participants to connect and develop plans for further exchange. The younger scholars have continuously (both before and at the meeting) benefitted from mentoring from both nodes. All the York participants also attended the Symposium in Odense (see below), further extending the time for close collaboration.

The CML, as an integrated unit, was highly visible at the International Medieval Congress at Leeds in July. We sponsored three sessions (Mortensen/Tyler, Campopiano/Høgel and Jensen) and Campopiano, Forrai, Høgel, Mortensen, Tyler, Younge and Jensen all spoke. We organized a very well attended reception (150+) where we announced our plans for the journal *Interfaces*.

Research

Individual research projects are reported under each of our three main strands, however, most of them also cut across two or all three of them. The PI's are all active in all three strands but each coordinates one (Tyler: Languages; Høgel: Fictionality; Mortensen: Canonization). The international CML environment and our extensive networks have already had an impact on the horizon of materials and approaches chosen by the younger scholars, which would not have been possible in monodisciplinary or monolingual setup. This impact is so far most striking in the case of Younge (seeking new explanations for changes in English Sermons by looking at contemporary discussions in the Empire), Wittig (juxtaposing unexpected Anglo-Norman didactic poetry with her German material), Christensen (comparing Byzantine monastic foundation texts with similar writings in Latin West and Syriac East), Mortensen and Tyler (new approaches to French) and Høgel (Imperial languages) but all scholars are getting a constant comparative and connective input. The connections between our strands and our external collaborations are detailed further in the final section.

Languages

The Languages strand integrated work from both Odense and York in 2013, including contributions from all three PIs. Two focal points, one on imperial languages and one on interaction of Latin, Romance and Germanic languages cross-fertilized each other and together ranged from the Middle East to England. Høgel is developing a strong research project on Imperial languages; this collaboration draws together colleagues at York (Campopiano, Tyler) and Odense (Madsen, Mortensen), in the Advisory Group (Agapitos) and in *Interfaces* (Verbaal, Mallette), and many more (including Ingela Nilsson, Uppsala, and Peter Fibiger Bang, Copenhagen). The major focus of the project is Latin, Greek and Arabic, within a Eurasian perspective. The paper given at the January board meeting by Høgel on Imperial languages will be published soon, and a seminar on 'Imperial Languages', organized by Høgel and Bang, will be held in November 2014. Campopiano's

work, on Latin, French, Spanish and Greek, as part of the international Alexander the Great project (Lille), and Høgel's work on the Qu'ran has intersected with and enriched the imperial languages project. A major activity of the Language Strand, the Summer School, was focused on encouraging a wider community of young scholars to think across the languages of Europe (see highlights).

At York, the focus of language strand developments lay with looking at the interaction of Germanic, French and Latin across an area including England, Northern France, Flanders and the western German Empire in the early and high Middle Ages. Tyler and Thomas O'Donnell (Interfaces and Fordham, NYC) have given a series of papers and are writing an article entitled 'From the Thames to the Rhine: Geographies and Social Networks of English Literary Culture, c.850-c.1150'. A major focus of this work has been the multilingual contexts in which French was developed as a book language. This work has found connections with Mortensen's paper on 'Latin as Vernacular – Critical Mass and the 'Librarization' of New Book Languages' (given at a Vienna conference in February), in which he suggests that 'librarization' could be used as a concept for the point of no return of written vernaculars (including Latin in Antiquity and French in the period 1150-1250). This model critiques the notion of the slow gradual rise of vernaculars normally assumed in literary history and leads to a distinct role for prose texts in the development of long-lived written vernaculars (see canonization below).

CML work on French has created links with both the British ARHC-funded project 'Medieval Francophone Literary Culture Outside France' (MFLCOF) and Fordham University, which has a strong history of the study of medieval French. MFLCOP's PI (Simon Gaunt, King's College London) is contributing to our journal's first issue and its CI (Jane Gilbert, University College London) has joined the Interfaces group and the board of the journal. The OUP volume (see highlights) edited by Tyler and Wogan-Browne (Fordham) is developing a multilingual paradigm for the study of high medieval England. Mortensen has had a paper for the Fordham French of Outremer (March 2014) accepted. The conference flags up the European nature of medieval French language and literature (marginalized in Old French scholarship). CML is emerging as an important context for non-nationalizing approaches to the development of French as a cosmopolitan language and as a book language in the Middle Ages and we aim to make a major contribution in that area.

Moving East, a further area of multilingual research is Greek-Arabic contacts. Høgel continued to publish on the early Greek translation of the Qur'an and initiated a collaborative project with Anne Regourd (CNRS) on Greek-Arabic protocols (papyrus fragments from the Umayyad period). Contacts have been made with several libraries and future collaborations with Matthias M. Tischler (Barcelona) Roberta Mazza (Manchester) have been explored. Høgel submitted (to *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*) an article arguing for a case of Arabicization in the *Life of Theoktiste* (the use of Arabic literary features in a saint's life describing a voyage into an Arab-occupied Aegean).

The Multilingual Reading Group continued to meet at York, with Odense participation via video link. In 2013, this group has especially benefited from the new participation of Fulton, bringing Welsh and Irish. York also brings the study of Old Norse into the CML, and this has been strengthened by the addition of Kedwards (affiliated PhD student). 'Latin Learning and Norse Culture', this year's Norse in the North conference (a joint project of the universities of Durham, Leeds and York), was organized by Townend and held at York where it was co-sponsored by CML. Speakers at Odense, linked to York via video, brought a more Mediterranean dimension to the languages strand; in particular Cesar Domínguez (Santiago de Compostela) and David Wacks (Oregon and Interfaces).

Canonization

Across York and Odense, research within the canon strand has addressed both canonical choices in the Middle Ages and the modern engagement with medieval texts. Concerning the first, Forrai has written chapters for her book on the role of the papacy in translating texts from Greek into Latin (9th-13th centuries). She has found a complex relationship between the individual and the institution where initiatives shifted from translator to patron to readers and back, just as authority was transferred from author to translator to patron. Clarke has been editing a collection of essays on Chaucer's engagement with the Italian canonical authors of the 14th century. Mortensen has given various versions of a paper on 'The Rise of Prose – A Comparative View' which examines Greek,

Latin, Old French and Old Norse. He argues that a case can be made for a short and crucial period of the rise of prose in all cases which coincides with the ‘librarization’ of each language and that the poetic works which had been taken down in writing long before the rise of prose (Homer, Plautus, Roland, etc.) only became part of a library after prose had created it. In other words, older poetic works, which happened to exist in writing, were only canonized when books in prose suddenly proliferated. These findings will be substantiated by further research in 2014, partly contributing to Mortensen’s book project on meritocratic and aristocratic values. Media-historical approaches to the status of texts were discussed by Norbert Kössinger (Vienna and Interfaces) in a guest-lecture on rolls, and has been pursued in a separate, but related project by Pettitt (the ‘Guthenberg parenthesis’).

The modern engagement with medieval (and ancient) literature was highlighted and illustrated by the Writers at York (Heaney and O’Donoghue) and the Tennyson conference. Clarke contributed to several events, including at the British Library, celebrating the 700th anniversary of the birth of Boccaccio. Concrete challenges to traditional canons of medieval literature has been given in the *Performance* volume (highlight 2) and will be a major concern of the OUP volume (highlight 4) which sets out to question a canon of high medieval English literature centred around Early Middle English. Tyler’s chapter (for a collection on Latinity in Anglo-Saxon England) on the *Cambridge Songs* and the Exeter Book, meanwhile, argues for the importance of German Imperial literary culture to that of late Anglo-Saxon England. On a theoretical note Mortensen has submitted an article ‘Nordic Medieval Texts – Beyond ‘Literature’ and ‘Sources’: Explorations in an Interdisciplinary Borderland’ which discusses how our hierarchization of medieval texts have been strongly, but invisibly guided by some basic discipline-bound categorisations.

The annual medieval Symposium in Odense was organized by CML in 2013 (Mortensen and Forrai) on the theme ‘Surprises from the Past?’ – The Impact of Modern Discoveries of Ancient and Medieval texts (CML papers by Forrai, Mortensen, Lysgaard Lech, Tyler). Through the common theme of modern discoveries of classical and medieval texts, the conference displayed a range of modern, unsuspected encounters with premodern texts from all of Eurasia (including Buddhist and Manichaean texts). The conference both showed entire library finds which have virtually created new disciplines and smaller textual discoveries where the lesson was often one of extreme conservatism in the field – holding on to the given canon. On a theoretical level, the symposium opened a space for thinking about the hermeneutic questions that arise when newly found texts enter into a field which is already ordered and hierarchized by modern disciplines. The conference thus gave both very concrete and theoretical ideas for the continued work of the Canon strand.

In the canonization group the feasibility of a four-tiered model of the medieval canon was discussed especially between Forrai, Clarke and Mortensen, based on Aleida Assmann’s binary model of canon and archive (of cultural memory in general). On the basis of objective criteria it should be possible to distinguish between a high and a broad canon on the one hand, and an open and a closed archive on the other. These criteria and this model will be tested and discussed further by the three who will jointly be teaching at the Helsinki Spring School ‘Canonizing Medieval Literatures’ – organized by the University of Helsinki together with CML in May 2014. A later possible publication of this model could serve as a good way of bringing together meta-level reflections on all medieval European literatures and their modern constituencies on a tractable scale.

Fictionality

The fictionality strand was a central aspect of several activities within the CML in 2013. Fictionality, both as a modern concept and as notion of contention in the Middle Ages, became the focal point in various meetings and discussions, with a core group of CML members in new dialogue with shifting participants in discussions, seminars, graduate course and conferences.

In March a seminar in Odense, organized by Høgel, on ‘Living Literature in the Holy Languages’ explored the imaginative and flexible literatures in languages generally approached as primarily holy: Latin, Greek, Arabic. Papers focused on the impact of fictionality in a variety of text types: Latin Arthurian texts (Verbaal), the Roland material (Peter Madsen, Copenhagen), Byzantine travel poems (Nilsson), Byzantine translations back and forth between Greek and Georgian (Høgel), and Arabic pleasure manuals (Perho, Copenhagen).

Fictionality became a significant aspect of the summer school in Rome (highlight 3), where e.g. the surprising concurrence in the 12th-century rise of the novel in the Latin, the Greek and the Arabic worlds became a major theme (through the talk of Agapitos).

The Siena conference in September had fictionality in letter writing as focus point, viewing it especially in contrast to the documentary use and value of letters. (see highlight 1)

The CML fictionality group had monthly meetings throughout most of 2013, blending engagement with theory (Ricoeur, White, Spiegel and more) with readings of medieval texts, in particular historiography (especially of a highly literary nature – Geoffrey of Monmouth and Psellos). The discussions were fruitful, not least since participants joined in with observations from their particular fields, revealing new similarities and differences across literatures. One difference in particular, to which attention will be paid in the future, regards the medieval stance towards fictional writing. In the West, a long dispute employing scholastic arguments rises around 1100, following on the translation of Aristotle's *Poetics* from Arabic into Latin. Though the *Poetics* was also available in the Greek and Arabic worlds, and novels were becoming equally widespread, no comparable argument ever arose in these realms. It seems that the new narratives in these areas fitted less problematically into well-known generic categories. Tyler's book, which examines the importance of court-based history-writing in the development of theories of fiction before 1100, contributes further to the work of the fiction strand, as does her chapter, 'Fiction', in the OUP volume.

Roselló-Martínez and Høgel organized and held the graduate seminar, 'The Gendered Fictions of Medieval Iberia', held in October with Prof. Emily Francomano (Georgetown) as invited speaker and Roselló-Martínez presenting on new approaches to chivalric literature. The seminar discussed concepts such as chivalrous ideals and autobiographic legal writing from various theoretical perspectives. A day in the Royal Library (Copenhagen) made it possible to include a presentation (by Høgel) on material studies (the library being in possession of various Spanish manuscripts and incunabula) as an important avenue to the medieval context.

Conclusion

After the initiating phase of CML, the three main themes have kept holding up productive guideposts combining the right levels of abstraction and communicability. They all connect to key concerns in wider fields of cultural, historical and literary debates without prejudicing attitudes or research results. The comparative method, which we stressed in the original application, has already been partly supplemented, partly substituted with a more connective or integrating approach. We are still looking at the blind spots in previous research which comparison can often bring out (the rise of prose is an example), but we have realized that the initial units of comparison need to be broken further down and reconfigured (as in highlight 4) and specific connections between literary cultures in different European regions and polities need to be considered before we can start to contemplate an integrated story of European medieval literatures.

Further conceptual developments are in the making and need more empirical input to be tested: using 'imperial' or 'cosmopolitan' (and also vernacular) for languages like Latin, Arabic and Greek (instead of only 'sacred') opens up new possibilities, while using 'cosmopolitan' for French questions the traditional concept of vernacular. Research across all three strands, has moved towards a stricter definition of literature as 'texts in books' (and the concomitant idea of 'librarization'). At the same time, the letter volume (highlight 1) opens another approach which leads to further reflections on the relationship between the archive and the library in pre-print history.

Conceptual work, important for CML as a whole, was done in 2013 by the PIs and Borsa (Milan) in the process of producing the parameters for the *Interfaces* journal. While acknowledging fully that there will continue to be strong national agendas and institutions, we emphasize that Europe – and not only nations, regions or the global – is a tractable unit for our field, and that a European level needs to be articulated in a broad manner in coming comparisons with India, China, etc. Furthermore the parameters articulate an approach to literary history which engages with both 'representation' and 'explanation', thus makes dialogue with historians more direct.

Collaboration – Dissemination

Across all three strands, collaboration shapes not only work within the CML but also our work with other scholars. Several collaborations were especially developed in 2013, these include the

expanding Interfaces group. Interfaces, a network set up by Mortensen and Tyler in 2009, was the initial seedbed of the CML which now acts as its hub. In 2013, Interfaces was again invited by the French Fondation des Treilles to hold a week-long workshop in Provence (April 2014). Interfaces has used this opportunity to expand its membership especially in the area of Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Slavonic and French. CML's three research strands come together in a volume, written by members of the group Interfaces and currently being edited by the three PIs and Jeff Rider (Wesleyan). A meeting of the Interfaces group in Prague in June finalized the planning of the book (*Rethinking Western Medieval Literatures*), which will be submitted in 2014 and considered future activities. Interfaces members have been central to key activities throughout 2013, including the Summer School (co-run with our Interfaces colleagues at Ghent) and both developments (French and Imperial) in the languages strand.

Tyler and O'Donnell's work on the contexts of early written French has been picked up by the MFCOF project, which has led to collaborations with Gilbert (now Interfaces) and Tyler has been invited to MFCOF 2014 conference.

Substantial preparatory work for the open-access Journal *Interfaces – Medieval European Literatures (IMEL)* was carried out in 2013, and this promises to become a major forum for CML's international collaboration. In close contact with the University of Milan the editors (the three PI's and Paolo Borsa) set out the technical design specifications, the policies, and the intellectual parameters. A number of high profile contributors to the first issue were secured.

In terms of dissemination our Facebook page has proved a valuable tool with now almost 400 regular followers.

Finally, we continue to publish in main stream scholarly channels for the humanities such as monographs and collective volumes edited by ourselves and others ('edited books' and 'book chapters' in the publication list) as well as international journals. All categories are usually peer-reviewed.

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 (Vienna). The younger scholars publish, as usual in the humanities, in their own name only (or occasionally with one or two colleagues listed on equal footing and in alphabetical order).

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 20, 2014



Center leader

Prof. Lars Boje Mortensen

CENTRE FOR

medieval  literature

Publication list 2012-2013

The list comprises all publications by CML staff and associate members. The publications in ordinary black typeface contribute directly to the three research strands 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

- HØGEL, C., CHRISTIDES, V. and MONFERRER SALAS, J.P.: *The Martyrdom of Athanasius of Klysma: 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. [Revised translation of *Danske Korstog*, 2nd. ed. 2006], xiv+393 pp. **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**

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, 389 pp. **PR**
- BISGAARD, LARS AND JENSEN, M. K (eds): *Danmarks Adels Aarbog 2009-11*, Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 2012, 811 pp.
- BISGAARD, LARS and BRUUS, METTE (eds): *Vikinger og Normanner: Toogtredivte tværfaglige Vikingsymposium*, Aarhus, Forlaget Wormianum, 2013, 84 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 pp. **PR**
- CAMPOPIANO, MICHELE and ROLF STROOTMAN (eds): *De klassieke oudheid in de islamitische wereld*, special issue of *Lampas: Tijdschrift voor classici*, 46, 2013.
- JENSEN, KURT VILLADS; SALONEN, KIRSI and VOGT, HELLE (eds): *Cultural Encounters during the Crusades*, Odense, Syddansk Universitetsforlag, 329 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, x+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**
- TYLER, ELIZABETH M. (ed.): *Conceptualizing Multilingualism in England, c. 800-c. 1250*, Turnhout, Brepols, 2012 [has 2011 as publication date but appeared in 2012]. xi+368 pp. **PR**

Edited Website

- MORTENSEN, LARS BOJE; FRIIS-JENSEN, KARSTEN; BORGHAMMAR, STEPHAN and OMMUNDSEN, ÅSLAUG (eds), *Medieval Nordic Literature in Latin: A Website of Authors and Anonymous Works c. 1100-1530*, [wikihost.uib.no/medieval/index.php/Medieval_Nordic_Literature_in_Latin].

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- BISGAARD, LARS: 'Skt. Knuds gildet og andre gilder i Holbæk og Kalundborg', in N. Wickman (ed.), *Middelalderens nordvestsjællandske købstæder*, Kalundborg, 2012, pp. 85-105.
- 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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