



February Newsletter

Distinguished Historian of Jews in the Middle Ages to Lecture on Muslim-Jewish Relations in the Medieval Middle East

Professor **Mark Cohen** of Princeton University will deliver a lecture drawing from a lifetime of study on the history of Jews in the Muslim Middle East. The lecture, entitled "The Myth of Muslim Anti-Semitism," will take place on **Tuesday, January 30** at 3:30 p.m. in the Pere Marquette Gallery of DuBourgh Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.



Cohen is the Khedouri A. Zildha Emeritus Professor of Jewish Civilization in the Near East at Princeton University. His ground-breaking work with the Cairo Geniza documents has made him one of the most important scholars in the field of medieval Jewish history in the Muslim Middle East. His numerous publications include *Under Crescent and Cross: The Jews in the Middle Ages* (Princeton, 2008), *The Voice of the Poor in the Middle Ages* (Princeton, 2005), and *Jewish Self-Government in Medieval Egypt* (Princeton, 1980).

Visiting Cambridge Scholar to Examine the Effects of the *Romance of the Rose* on English Literature



Dr. **Philip Knox** of Trinity College, Cambridge, will deliver a lecture on his current research, which explores the effects of the popular French poem, *The Romance of the Rose*, on English writers such as Geoffrey Chaucer, John Gower, and William Langland. The lecture, entitled, "Heresies Against Love: The *Romance of the Rose* in Fourteenth-Century England," will take place on **Monday, March 5** at 3:30 p.m. in Adorjan Hall 142.

Dr. Knox is a University Lecturer and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. His publications include *Medieval Thought Experiments: Poetry, Hypothesis, and Experience in the European Middle Ages* (Brepols, 2018).

News from the Sixth Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies



With the deadline now passed, we can report a significant increase in the number of proposals for this year's **Sixth Annual Symposium on Medieval and**

Renaissance Studies, which will take place on campus **June 18-20, 2018**. With several mini-conferences to report, proposals have already doubled over their numbers last year. This is very good news, as our goal has always been to make the Symposium one of the most important annual conferences for medieval and early modern studies in the world. It is safe to say that we have reached that goal!

The phenomenal growth of the Symposium over the past five years is in no small part due to the efforts of numerous faculty and graduate students at SLU in medieval and early modern studies, as well as our colleagues worldwide. Thank you!

The SMRS Advisory Board will soon begin evaluating the submitted proposals. Nevertheless, it is still possible to propose a paper or session through the website at <http://smrs.slu.edu>. We will do our best to accommodate late arrivals. As always, registration for the conference for SLU students and faculty is **free**. Links for waived fees registration will be available soon. And, as always, we ask that graduate students who receive waived fees offer a bit of volunteer time to help the conference run smoothly.



The plenary speakers for this year's conference are **Geoffrey Parker** of The Ohio State University and **Carole Hillenbrand** of the University of St. Andrews. Additional information on the Symposium, including events, activities, and exhibitions, can be found at <http://smrs.slu.edu>.

Other Upcoming Events at the Center

- On **January 19** a Welcome Reception will be held for incoming NEH Research Fellow, Bradley Phillis of the University of Tennessee. The reception will take place at 4:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Common Area of Adorjan Hall.
- On **January 26** Dr. Joan Hart-Hasler of Saint Louis University will deliver a lecture entitled "Bede as Textual Critic." The lecture will take place At 3:15 p.m. in Adorjan Hall I42.
- On **February 2** NEH Research Fellow, Bradley Phillis, will deliver a lecture entitled "When the Devil Drives the Dance: An Eleventh-Century Miracle Story and the Memory of the Second Crusade." The lecture will take place at 3:15 p.m. in Adorjan Hall I42. A reception will follow.
- On **February 16** a Welcome Reception will be held for incoming NEH Research Fellow, Jessica Walker of Johns Hopkins University. The reception will take place at 4:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Common Area of Adorjan Hall..

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