Letter from the Co-Directors

It has been another productive year at CMEMS. Weekly lunchtime seminars continue to draw faculty and students for engaging lectures and lively discussion. In addition to Faculty-sponsored research groups and collaborative projects (see descriptions below), and our annual Primary Source Symposium, CMEMS members engage in a variety of medieval and early modern workshops: the Speculum reading group, the Kantorowicz reading group, Paleo Slam, and the Renaissances Graduate Research Series. These diverse activities provide opportunities for in-depth and sustained scholarly exploration. The Undergraduate Minor is flourishing, allowing students to pursue their own coursework across disciplines within a framework of core courses. Graduate study thrives as students present and publish their work at Stanford and beyond: students participated this year in projects such as the Global Medieval Sourcebook, which offers practical training in digital humanities and translation, and also hosted a graduate conference in partnership with the Program in Medieval Studies at UC Berkeley, fostering a stimulating exchange of works-in-progress. CMEMS continued its sponsorship of sessions at the International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo), this year focusing on digital editions and medieval sensory experience. Several new projects represent exciting collaborations across the university and important pedagogical initiatives, such as Rowan Dorin’s project with Stanford Libraries and the Cantor Arts Center to make Stanford’s collections of medieval objects accessible through inventories and an online exhibition, and Elaine Treharne and Benjamin Albritton’s course on archives. We look forward to another stimulating year ahead, rich in medieval and early modern exchanges.

Marisa Galvez and Fiona Griffiths

Primary Source Symposium

The 2017 Primary Source Symposium, “Movements of Objects and Textual Mobilities,” kicked off on November 2 with a keynote lecture by Sharon Farmer (UC Santa Barbara) on social networks, exchange and identity in thirteenth- and fourteenth-century France. Anthony Cutler (Penn State University) gave the second keynote at the end of the following day on the movement of ivory throughout medieval Europe. Our final keynote was delivered by Daniel Lord Smail (Harvard University) who discussed “(Medieval) Things in Motion” via the fifteenth-century inventory of Guilhem de Cavalhon. The two days of the conference featured presentations by Ali Yaycioglu, Shirin Fozi, Anne Lester, Therese Martin, Tuna Artun, Alexander Key, Valerie Hansen, John Kieschnick, and Sanjay Subrahmanym.

The 2018 Primary Source Symposium, “Translating Cultures: Multilingualism and Identity in the Medieval and Early Modern World,” will address questions of multilingualism and translation in the medieval and early modern world, with the goal of understanding how notions of identity, community, and culture were shaped in multilingual settings or through the agency of multilingual individuals.

Lora Webb

Wednesday Workshops

The CMEMS weekly workshops have become a jour fixe for many members of Stanford’s medieval and early modern community. In these lunchtime talks, scholars from all over the world, and from within the Stanford community, present their research. As such the workshops serve as a forum to discuss ongoing developments in the fields of medieval and early modern studies. This year, in keeping with the tradition of the workshop, CMEMS hosted speakers from across disciplines including History, English, Art History, Italian, French German, Iberian and Latin-American Studies, Religious Studies, and the Cantor Arts Center. The topics ranged from modern receptions of Anglo-Saxon literature to female rulership in Medieval Iberia, from teaching Machiavelli to prisoners in U.S. correctional facilities to ideas of individual freedom in the High Middle Ages, and from Dürer and his paintings to the narrative role of textiles in Middle High German literature. We’d like to thank the speakers for sharing their work with us and the participants for their engagement in the scholarly discussions over the course of the year. The workshop will continue to meet on Wednesdays from 12:00-1:15 pm in building 260 room 252 during the academic year 2018-2019.

Mareike Reisch

Renaissances Graduate Research Series

The Renaissances Graduate Research Series completed a third year in its current format, a workshop series that features advanced graduate students in conversation with invited scholars from outside Stanford’s community. The goal is to have the presenters and the Renaissances community engage with works in progress, both by the graduate student and by the invited scholar. Essays are circulated beforehand, so that everyone who attends the event may provide their feedback to the presenters. This winter, Cécile Tresfels (PhD candidate in French and Italian) invited Professor Andrea Frisch (Professor of French, University of Maryland) for a conversation about Cécile’s project, “Apprehension, Imagination, Memory: Re-Thinking Early Modern Cognition.” In the spring, Dan Kim (PhD candidate in English) invited Professor Marjorie Rubright (Associate Professor of English, University of Massachusetts, Amherst) to discuss Dan’s project, “Conversions, Trans*versions & Metamorphoses.” Renaissances is committed to interdisciplinary research and community-wide conversation, and plans to continue this format in the upcoming academic year.

Leonardo Grão Velloso Damato Oliveira

Medieval Matters

This was the 11th season of our “Medieval Matters” public lecture series, co-sponsored by CMEMS, Stanford’s Continuing Studies Program, and a local group “The Sarum Seminar”. This year we heard from Elaine Treharne, who described how modern audiences use medieval books and manuscripts for research, but also abuse them for their own vanity and for profit. Then Michael McCormick of Harvard discussed his group’s cutting-edge work bringing new scientific tools such as DNA analysis and ice core samples to learn about historical events of the Roman and medieval worlds. The Medieval Matters series taps into the great fascination in the community at large for all aspects of medieval history and culture, demonstrates the continuing relevance of the medieval period today, and brings greater public visibility to the work of medieval scholars and medieval studies programs.

Julia Fremon

Paleo Slam

The graduate paleography group (“Paleo Slam”) has been meeting over lunch this year to work on and discuss documents from the early Middle Ages through to the 17th Century. In addition to regular practice with exemplary hands from throughout the period, we’ve worked collaboratively on the sometimes vexatious documents that students have encountered in our own research. Highlights have included a 17th Century Devonshire charter from our own special collections, the new digitization of the Hereford Mappa Mundi, notarial documents from the Venetian couriers’ archives and works by Dominic of Prussia, the latter two under the respective guidance of Rachel Midura and Björn Buschbeck. Particular thanks to our organizing faculty member and expert paleographer Rowan Dorin, and to all the graduate students who presented. Anyone interested in joining the group is welcome to get in touch with me at mattgw@stanford.edu.

Matt Warner

Speculum Reading Group

Speculum, published quarterly on behalf of the Medieval Academy of America since 1926, is the most well-known and prestigious English-language journal in medieval studies. Organized by Rowan Dorin and Fiona Griffiths, an open group of faculty members and graduate students from the CMEMS community meets once each quarter to speak about the most recent issue. The general idea of this reading group, which will continue to meet in the coming academic year, is to critically read and discuss important contributions to the field which are of interest to an interdisciplinary audience, as well as to reflect on current trends in medieval research, academic writing, and methodology. Discussions have touched on the newest insights into medieval history and culture, and on questions of good scholarly practice. Meetings take place shortly after a new issue of Speculum has been published, and interested participants are always welcome. If you would like to participate, please contact Rowan Dorin (dorin@stanford.edu).

Björn Buschbeck

Last will and testament, 1108 June, of Bernard de Paders before his departure for the Holy Land. Department of Special Collections Manuscript Collection, Misc. 2011.
Trauma and History Workshop
The Trauma and History Workshop took an early modern focus beginning in 2018. Graylin Harrison (Stanford Art History) coordinated the series and opened with a talk on representations of the Neapolitan revolt of 1647-48. Professor Sigrun Haude (Cincinnati) gave a talk on her research on surviving the Thirty Years’ War, focusing on stories of mutual support and shared conversation in the immediate aftermath of mass trauma. Professor Kevin Terraciano (UCLA) offered a reading of the *Florentine Codex* as an indigenous narrative of Spanish betrayals and violence. Mackenzie Cooley (Stanford History) spoke on the “Rape of the New World” as an entanglement of metaphor, fecundity, and empire. The workshop ended with a modern perspective from Professor Molly Todd (Montana State) on Salvadoran civil war refugees and the recovery of ‘disappeared’ histories. The Trauma and History Workshop will continue its early modern focus in 2018-2019. Please contact Laura Stokes (lpstokes@stanford.edu) if you are interested in presenting on early modern trauma in the coming year. Laura Stokes

Kantorowicz Reading Group
2017 marked the 60th anniversary of the publication of *The King’s Two Bodies*, Ernst Kantorowicz’s seminal study of mediaeval political theology. Led by Professors Ali Yaycioglu and Rowan Dorin, a group of faculty and graduate students gathered monthly over the course of the year, discussing each time a single chapter of this monumental and multifaceted work. Inspired by Kantorowicz’s own wide-ranging ruminations (not to mention the 1413 footnotes), few areas of medieval studies went undiscussed over the course of these meetings - though as with most great books, it left us with far more questions than answers! For the last session, we were joined by Prof. Robert Lerner, emeritus professor of medieval history at Northwestern University and author of a recent biography of Kantorowicz, who regaled us with those stories of EK’a’s life that had been deemed unfit for publication!
Rowan Dorin

Stanford-Berkeley Graduate Conference: “Medieval Meetings”
CMEMS collaborated with the UC Berkeley Program in Medieval Studies to hold a joint one-day conference for our graduate students on February 2nd, hosted at Stanford. Nine students gave stimulating presentations on the theme of “medieval meetings.” The speakers put on exhibit an array of literal and abstract meetings in medieval art, literature, and history; papers examined how a king’s ingloriously fatal encounter with a dragon entails the Middle High German Ortnit’s confrontation with the tropes of its own heroic tradition, how Emperor Frederick II used a rhetoric of political intimacy in diplomas exchanged with local ecclesiastical leaders to shore up support for his central authority, and how a manuscript image showing Christ meeting the gaze of the eunuch Leo Sakkelarios is rare visual evidence of the existential ambiguity of Byzantine eunuchs, who were considered uniquely equipped to mediate across the border between the mundane and the divine. The conference was concluded by the insightful closing remarks of Rowan Dorin, who saw the event as evidence of a sea change in medieval scholarship: instead of giving papers on the expected ecumenical councils, synods, or gemot, these nine young scholars embraced a broader definition of “meeting” to examine various frontiers of tradition, ambition, voice, gender, and mimesis in the European middle ages. Max Ashton

“Southern France and the Latin East in the 13th Century: Crusade, Networks, and Exchanges”
Building on the success of the Primary Source Symposium on “Movements of Objects and Textual Mobilities,” this conference, held April 19-20, 2018, focused on thirteenth-century networks between southern France and the Latin East. The papers investigated how various intellectual, physical, and cultural exchanges shaped literary and artistic production in France and abroad, including songbooks, crusading iconography, military architecture and epigraphy. With the support of the France Stanford Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (FSCIS) the principle aim of this conference and the one next year at Poitiers is to establish a relationship between Stanford CMEMS and the Centre d’Études Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale (CESCM) at the University of Poitiers.
The two-day event featured specialists from Poitiers, various American institutions, and Stanford colleagues from a wide variety of disciplines. Graduate students from UCLA and Stanford presented their pre-circulated work in a lunch workshop and received feedback from conference participants. Library curators John Mustain and Kathleen Smith from Stanford Libraries generously organized a Special Collection visit for the conference, where a selection of manuscripts and objects related to crusade were on display. Marisa Galvez
Notes from the Library: New Acquisitions

Our biannual Open Houses feature recent acquisitions in medieval and early modern manuscripts and rare books. The most recent Open House on May 31, 2018, featured a number of works dealing with traditions of textual transmission and the role of religion in the community - below are just a few examples! Mark your calendars for the next Open House in Fall 2018!

Kathleen Smith, Curator, Germanic Collections and Medieval Studies

This is a copy of the only printed translation of Boethius’ monumental Consolation of Philosophy in Castilian from the Golden Age of Spanish literature. The translator, Augustín López de Reta (d. 1614), was a Cistercian monk. Boethius’ text is written as a conversation between Lady Philosophy and Boethius himself, who is imprisoned and awaiting execution, and this translation adds treatises on fortitude and ambition not found in the original text.

Boecio [Boethius]. De Consolacion [...]. Dirigia al Rey Don Philippe III nostra sehor. Impreso en Valladolid por Iuan de Bostillo, en la calle de Samano, 1604. Department of Special Collections Rare Book Collection (in process). Image: Kathleen Smith.

In 1615 Galileo wrote his “Letter to Christina,” in which he asserts that science should not be subject to theological criticism. This controversial and dangerous work, addressed to Christina of Lorraine (1565-1637), the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, circulated widely in manuscript versions such as this one. Such manuscripts contain textual variants distinguishing them from the edition that was finally printed in Strasbourg in 1636.


This 17th-century manuscript contains a chronicle of the German city of Augsburg from its earliest origins to 1368 by Adam Claus; it features descriptions of the bishops of Augsburg since 590, the origins of the guilds, the history and founding stories of churches, monasteries, and cloisters, and closely intertwines mythical aspects of the Roman past and the more modern customs and traditions of the city.


This 1502 work describing Franciscan ecclesiastical privileges was printed by the Florentine publisher Lucantonio Giunta and is bound in an earlier manuscript of a text by Boethius. Facing the title page is a full-page woodcut of Saint Francis receiving the stigmata with a castle in the background and Saint Michael in the sky.


The Rule of St. Clare is the earliest known example of a rule for nuns written by a woman, and this late-15th-century manuscript may have been copied for one of the three communities of Poor Clares known to have existed in fifteenth-century Milan. Religious communities adopting a reformed way of life often marked this transition by preparing a manuscript that contained the applicable rule and statutes.

Rule of St. Clare of Assisi and statutes of the province of Milan. [Milan, after 1463]. Department of Special Collections Rare Book Collection (in process). Image: Kathleen Smith.
A Year at the Cantor Arts Center

In 2017-2018 the Cantor Arts Center sponsored a wide range of activity related to the medieval and early modern worlds. Two exhibitions curated by post-doctoral fellow Ellen Huang focused on Asian objects: “Earthly Hollows: Cave and Kiln Transformations” featured Chinese, Japanese, and Korean ceramics, and “The Buddha’s Word @ Stanford,” co-organized with Paul Harrison (Religious Studies), examined Buddhist manuscripts and prints from the 11th through 20th centuries CE.

The Cantor also collaborated with Stanford faculty to integrate the museum’s collections into their teaching. Anna Cellinese’s Italian literature students viewed Renaissance and early modern artworks in order to better understand the cultural contexts of the works they studied in class. Fiona Griffths’ and Rowan Dorin’s (both History) students examined objects as disparate as a 5th-century throwing ax collected, 14th-century polychrome wood sculptures, and prints by Albrecht Dürer. Melanie Lamotte (CSRE) and Dayo Mitchell (SIS) brought their classes to the museum to view prints and ceramics that bore witness to the Atlantic slave trade. Students in Shawon Kinew’s (Art & Art History) class on the California Missions examined New Mexican santos as well as baskets made by Native American artists.

Finally, Cantor staff members Susan Dackerman and Jessica Stewart presented papers at the CMEMS Workshop. The Cantor hopes to continue building relationships and collaborating with the medieval and early modern community at Stanford in the coming year. 

Kate E. Holohan, Assistant Curator for Academic Engagement

Bringing the Archives to Life in the Classroom

During the winter quarter of 2018, Elaine Treharne (English) and Benjamin Albritton (Digital Medieval Projects Manager) trained students in the basic skills required for the transcription, editing, analysis, and publication of primary texts in manuscript, print, and digital forms in a class entitled “Bringing the Archives to Life.” Composed of both graduates and undergraduates, the class drew students from the English, German Studies, History, and Art and Art History Departments. Students were given the flexibility to pursue their own interests with individual archival research projects as well as many rich opportunities to tackle challenging archival material together. Utilizing sources diverse in both genre and chronology, the class exposed us to a range of Stanford’s holdings from medieval charters to early modern printed books to the array of collections documenting modern war, revolution, and peace in the Hoover Institution Library and Archives. Some memorable items we encountered as we worked to better understand and interpret archival sources included an x-ray of Hitler’s skull, a Gestapo arrest book, an Edison phonograph, an early twentieth-century mechanical piano, a number of intricately illuminated books of hours, and a pristine manuscript of the Life of Saint Catherine of Siena.

Lauren Judd

CMEMS at Kalamazoo

The CMEMS community had a large and lively presence at this year’s International Congress on Medieval Studies. CMEMS sponsored two sessions: “Thinking Long Term about Digital Editions” and “Medieval Sensory Experience.” The first was organized by Benjamin Albritton, presided by Georgia Henley and featured a presentation by Mae Lyons-Penner on the Global Medieval Sourcebook. Mae also moderated “Medieval Sensory Experience”, which was organized by Fiona Griffths and featured presentations by four Stanford graduate students: Danny Smith presented on surveillance in the Sala dei Nove in Siena; Bjorn Buschbeck’s paper was about how Henry Suso’s Booklet of Eternal Wisdom asks its readers to imagine the events of Christ’s life through vibrant sensory directions; Erik Yingling investigated the Bardaisan connections of a late-7th- or 8th-century bronze censer. Students examine items from Special Collections in the Barchas Room of Green Library. Image: Fiona Griffiths.

In addition to the Digital Editions panel, Benjamin Albritton presented “The Non-Musical Afterlife of a Musical Lai,” and organized two workshops on IIIF – a “Gentle Introduction” and “Beyond the Basics” – and “Parker on the Web 2.0”. Other CMEMS members participated in numerous panels throughout the congress. Marisa Galvez gave a paper entitled “Unthought Medievalisms and the Survival of Lyric Forms: The Case of Alba and Sestina.” William Mahrt presented on the difference between sacred space and sacred place and the music written for each. Mae Lyons-Penner shared her work on wounded and healing knights in the Old French Lancelot Grail in the panel “Vulnerablity in the Middle Ages.” Sabrina Papazian presented on the competing contemporary powers involved in the preservation of the 9th-14th-century Armenian Monastery of Noravank in a roundtable about medieval cultural heritage. Mareike Reisch discussed a fifteenth-century German’s perspective on the Pyramids of Giza and the bakeries of Cairo in a paper entitled “Been There, Seen That: Arnold von Harff’s Literary Portrayals of Foreign Cultural Spaces.” Finally, Emma Grover presented her paper comparing the Joy of Cooking and a late medieval cookbook. You can read more about her experience on page 7. Lora Webb
Online Medieval Spotlight Exhibition

Thanks to a new online Spotlight exhibition (https://exhibits.stanford.edu/medieval), it’s easier than ever for faculty and students to navigate Stanford’s holdings of medieval objects. Over the past year, Rowan Dorin (History), doctoral candidate Lora Webb (Art History), and undergraduate Rebecca Smalbach worked with library staff and museum curators to assemble a virtual display of artifacts and manuscript facsimiles in Stanford Collections that illuminate the history and culture of the medieval world, especially in Europe and the Mediterranean from 300-1600 CE. The site includes inventories of major collections and categories, including a much-needed list of the library’s manuscript facsimiles, the Cesnola Collection of Cypriot artifacts, and the Cantor’s extensive collection of late antique textiles. New objects are being added regularly and we welcome suggestions for further development. Lora Webb

Egyptian (Coptic) cloth fragment, dated 300-399CE. Cantor Accession No. JLS.14711. Included in Spotlight Exhibition online.

Parker on the Web 2.0

In January 2018, Stanford University Libraries and Cambridge University released Parker on the Web 2.0, a free and open-access digital repository of the medieval and early modern manuscripts from Matthew Parker’s library housed at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Since then, the medieval studies community at Stanford has twice celebrated this remarkable collaboration. First, the fourth annual Text Technologies Collegium at the Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis (CESTA) took place March 25-28, focusing on the impact of releasing this manuscript collection in its digital form. Invited guests presented detailed analyses of specific manuscripts within the collection and discussed how to navigate the relationship between physical object and digital representation. More recently, Stanford University Libraries co-sponsored a panel at the 2018 International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo called “Parker on the Web 2.0: Re-opening the Library.” Panelists included Anne McLaughlin, a sub-librarian at the Parker Library at Corpus Christi College, and Alexandra Gillespie, professor of English at the University of Toronto; our respondent was Colleen Curran, a research fellow at the University of Oxford. In my own paper, I discussed how the new site will support the teaching of medieval culture and aid my own research on the movement of books.

Jonathan Quick

Above image: Detail from Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, MS 002i: The Bury Bible, f.1v. Available online at Parker on the Web (parker.stanford.edu).

Digital Analysis of Syriac Scripts

The Automated Scribal Identification Project began in 2010 as a collaboration between a then Mount Holyoke professor of religious studies (who has recently joined the Stanford faculty), a Smith College professor of computer science, and a Smith engineering major in search of a senior thesis. In the last eight years, it has expanded to also include a Smith professor of data science, professors from Duke, UC Davis, Notre Dame, and a post-doc in Belgium as consultants, and an additional 27 undergraduate and graduate research assistants. This digital paleography project uses ancient manuscripts written in the Aramaic dialect of Syriac as a case study for exploring how recent advances in the digital analysis of handwriting can help scholars better ascertain a manuscript’s provenance, identify manuscripts written by the same scribe, and trace out the chronological development of ancient scripts. Initial project results include showing that how scholars have classified Syriac script for the last thousand years is simply dead wrong, that the earliest scripts developed in a completely different trajectory than has commonly been imagined, that the timing of when certain letter forms first developed is substantially different from what has previously been published, that several “securely dated” manuscripts aren’t, that the chronological estimates in library catalogues upon which most modern scholarship depends are often in error, and that Syriac script style has a robust (but previously unacknowledged) relationship to the genre of the document being copied. In the coming year, the project team will finalize a public platform enabling other scholars to use project data for their own research. We are always looking for additional undergraduate RAs to hire or for graduate students who might be interested in working toward jointly authored publications. Michael Penn

The Global Medieval Sourcebook Expands

Two years after the creation of the Global Medieval Sourcebook was first announced in these pages, we are delighted to share news of our receipt of an Advancement Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This grant will allow us to continue developing the functionality of our open-access online platform, notably through curation features to enable instructors to create a personalised online teaching environment, and through a submission interface which will considerably speed up our processing of contributed texts. We are currently gearing up for a busy summer as we work on expanding our corpus to better reflect medieval text production (in particular, adding more Arabic, Chinese and Latin material), but we continue to welcome proposals for translations of short texts from any language and region between 600 and 1600 CE. You can visit the current iteration of our site at www.sourcebook.stanford.edu! Mae Lyons-Penner
Sensuous Objects and Irish Monasticism
I hope to understand the central tension of early medieval Ireland: early Irish monks rejected the material world, especially their bodies, while simultaneously making rich sensuous objects like the Book of Kells. Supported by the Chappell-Lougee Scholarship, I spent last summer teasing out this paradox. I traveled throughout Ireland and the United Kingdom to better understand how the body informed early material culture in the region. Working with the national museums of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland, I conducted lighting experiments that simulate flickering candlelight rather than the steady light of museum exhibitions. For example, I remember turning off the lights of the Ulster Museum and shining unsteady, flickering light onto its treasured Clonmore Shrine. The eighth-century reliquary, which usually appears matte and inanimate in its display case, changed radically with the position and intensity of the light. I also visited remote monastic sites like Skellig Michael to better understand the austere conditions of early Irish monasticism. I continue to work towards a resolution of asceticism and materialism but, in the meantime, I would like to thank my mentors, Bissera Pentcheva and Fiona Griffiths!

Reilly Clark (‘19)

Walking the Camino de Santiago
In the fall of 2016 I took a course with Professor Fiona Griffiths (History) called “Saints and Sinners: Women and Religion in the Medieval World.” My final paper for the course focused on the experience of medieval female pilgrims. My particular interest was the Camino de Santiago, a network of pilgrimage routes across the north of Spain. The pilgrimage ends at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, where the relics of St. James are housed. I applied for a Chappell Lougee Scholarship to continue my research and that summer I hiked over 500 miles from Saint-Jean Pied-de-Port, France to the west coast of Spain. Along the way I passed by the ruins of medieval buildings, met hundreds of fellow pilgrims, and acquired many blisters. I wrote every day as I hiked and ultimately completed a Levinthal Tutorial in the English Department to begin building a series of essays about my own pilgrimage experience. Reed Canaan (‘19)

Presenting at Kalamazoo: The Undergraduate Perspective!
Attending Kalamazoo as an undergraduate was nothing short of exhilarating. The research I presented at Kalamazoo had its start in the course on medieval feasting I took my freshman year, taught by Professors Marisa Galvez and Jesse Rodin. My research examined the development of a new form of cookbook writing in late medieval Europe. With Professor Galvez’s encouragement, I submitted my paper to the organizer of the undergraduate sessions at Kalamazoo. At Kalamazoo, I was surrounded by conversation about the most pressing questions in the field of medieval studies. Every session I attended offered me the opportunity – rare for undergraduates – of hearing the latest research and being confronted at every turn with as-yet-unanswered questions. The experience drove home to me my own inexperience, but inspired me with the thought of how much I still have the opportunity to learn. Emma Grover (‘20)
Graduate Student News and Achievements

Max Ashton (graduate, English) won a Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellowship for his dissertation on “Signs of War in Beowulf”.

Jessica Beckman (graduate, English) will be one of two Postdoctoral Fellows in Stanford’s Department of English in 2018-19.

Richard Bell (PhD ’17, History) received a four-year postdoctoral fellowship in Renaissance Studies at Keble College, Oxford.

Mackenzie Cooley (PhD ’18, History) recently began a postdoctoral fellowship at Cornell University and will start a tenure-track position at Hamilton College in fall 2018.

Georgia Henley, currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, will be Assistant Professor of English at Saint Anselm College in the fall, and a Junior Fellow in the Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography at the Rare Book School, University of Virginia.

Juan Lamata (graduate, English) was named both a Ric Weiland Graduate Fellow and a DARE (Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence) Doctoral Fellow.

Mae Lyons-Penner (graduate, Comparative Literature) will spend next year as a Visiting Research Fellow at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris.

Padraic Rohan (graduate, History) will head to Genoa for the 2018-2019 year on a Fulbright Grant to study the transformation of the late medieval Genoese maritime empire in the eastern Mediterranean into a financial empire based in Spain and the Atlantic.

Danny Smith (graduate, Art and Art History) received a Europe Center Graduate Student Grant to continue his dissertation research on painted depictions of space in trecento Siena, Italy.

Hannah Smith-Drelich (graduate, English) was honored as a Ric Weiland Graduate Fellow in Humanities and Sciences.

Alex Statman (PhD ’17, History), a postdoctoral fellow at the Freie Universität in Berlin, won a Huntington Fellowship for 2018-19 to complete his book on the enlightenment between France and China in the eighteenth century.

Suzanne Sutherland (PhD ’12, History), now teaching at Middle Tennessee State, received a summer NEH fellowship to finish her book on the rise of military entrepreneurs.

Charlotte Thun-Hohenstein (graduate, History) was awarded one of the Frankenstein@200 grants by Stanford’s Medicine and the Muse Program to construct an outdoor art installation exploring the intersection of art and science.

Lora Webb (graduate, Art and Art History) received a Kress Institutional Fellowship in the History of European Art at the Bibliotheca Hertziana in Rome. She will be there for the next two years to do research on her dissertation: “Kosmos Embodied: Eunuchs and Byzantine Art from the Ninth through Twelfth Centuries”.

Recent Publications by Faculty and Alumni