

# 41<sup>st</sup> New England Medieval Conference

Saturday 3 October 2015

Northeastern University

Raytheon Amphitheatre (440 Egan Engineering/Science Research Center)



## *Slow Catastrophe*

### Program

8:30-9:00

Registration

Coffee and Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:00

*Plenary Address*

Michael McCormick (Harvard University), "Climate Change: Slow, Fast, and the Fall of Rome"

Presider: Kathleen Kelly (Northeastern University)

10:00-10:15 Coffee break

10:15-11:30

*Session I: Confronting Nature*

Presider: Kathleen Kelly (Northeastern University)

1. Randy Schiff (University of Buffalo), "Romantic Distancing: Ritualized Chivalry and Medieval Slow Violence"
2. Jeffrey Hartman (Framingham State University), "Volcanoes, Sea Ice, Famines, and Interfering Bureaucrats: Problems for Survival in Late Medieval Iceland"
3. Adam Franklin-Lyons (Marlboro College), "Preparing for Food Shortage: Early Warnings in a Slow Disaster"

11:30-12:30 Lunch

12:30-1:45

*Session II: Imagining Nature*

Presider: Amy Appleford (Boston University)

1. Ling Zhang (Boston College), "Visualizing the Sacred Landscape of Yu in Northern-Song China"
2. Jeremy DeAngelo (Rutgers University), "Temporalities of Place in the Fens"
3. Andrew Richmond (The Ohio State University), "'He Thought on His Lands that Lay Unsowe': Lamenting and Avenging Landscape Change in the Middle English *Tale of Gamelyn*"

1:45-2:00

Coffee Break

2:00-3:15

*Session III: The Politics of Catastrophe*

Presider: Sean Gilsdorf (Harvard University)

1. Jonathan Conant (Brown University), "Slow Violence and the Early Medieval Frontier"
2. Jesse Izzo (University of Minnesota), "The Fall of Acre: Frankish Noble Culture and Society and the End of the Kingdom of Jerusalem"
3. Irit Kleiman (Boston University), "A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again: On Joinville's *Memoirs*"

3:15-3:30

Coffee Break

3:30-5:15

*Session IV: The Poetics of Catastrophe*

Presider: Alex Mueller (University of Massachusetts/Boston)

1. Karen Overbey (Tufts University), "The Long, Slow Life and Death of the Staffordshire Hoard"
2. Eric Weiskott (Boston College), "The English Alliterative Tradition: A Cultural Formation in Slow Motion"
3. Candace Barrington (Central Connecticut State University), "Material Witness: Things and Deteriorating Truth in Legal and Literary Discourse."
4. Taylor Cowdery (Harvard University), "Catastrophe and Form in Lydgate's *Fall of Princes*"

5:15-5:30

*Coffee Break*

5:30-6:30

*Plenary Address*

Kathleen Davis (University of Rhode Island), “Humanity and a Secular World: The Slow Entrenchment of ‘the Middle Ages’ and Why It Matters”

Presider: Irit Kleiman (Boston University)

6:30-8:00

Closing Reception (cash bar)