

New England Medieval Consortium 2022 Conference

Medieval Ecologies

Saturday, October 8, 2022

Colby College Room TBA Waterville, ME 04901

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome
9:15 – 10:45	<p>Session 1: Elements</p> <p>Sarah Harlan-Haughey (U of Maine), “Catching Fire: Lawman’s Arthur” Max Wade (Boston C), “Relation and Resemblance: Gersonides and Crescas on the Sun’s Heating of the Air” Andrew Richmond (Southern Connecticut State U), “Beach Read(ing)s: Navigating Seaside Environments via Romance Models in <i>Sir Eglamour of Artois</i> and <i>Torrent of Portyngale</i>” Nancy Thebaut (Skidmore C), “Ideologies of Plumbing: The Canterbury Waterworks Drawings”</p>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Session 2: Human and Nonhuman Agencies</p> <p>Benjamin Tilghman (Washington C), “Sanctified Stillness in a Dynamic World” Joseph Taylor (U of Alabama Huntsville), “‘Roynyshe were þe resones’: <i>St. Erkenwald</i> and the Politics of Ruins” Mikaela LaFave (U of Georgia), “Between Life and Death: Graveyards, Decay and Lydgate’s <i>Danse Macabre</i>” J. Alden (Boston C), “On the Inner Worlds, Agency, and Ecologies of Bulls and Fairies”</p>
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 3:00	<p>Session 3: Fauna</p> <p>Myra Wright (Bates C), “As the Crow Sings: Corvid Voice in the Domestic Sphere of the ‘Manciple’s Tale’”</p>

	<p>John Kee (Harvard U), “Snakes in Medieval Greek Aesthetics: Toward a Conceptual Ecology”</p> <p>Áine Palmer (Yale U), “Human Voices, Animal Eyes, Divine Ears: Understanding the Experience of Medieval Devotion through a Thirteenth-Century Lyric”</p> <p>Eric Weiskott (Boston C), “Recognizing Nature, Recognizing the Human: Literary Disguise and Social Meaning in <i>William of Palerne</i> (1336–1361)”</p>
3:00 – 3:15	Coffee
3:15 – 4:45	<p>Session 4: Flora</p> <p>Sarah Breckenridge-Wright (Duquesne U), “‘The rain of passing time’: Arboreal Identities in Sei Shonagon’s <i>Makura no Sōshi</i>”</p> <p>Patrick Meehan (Dartmouth C), “When the Tilting Tree Fell: Negotiating Boundaries in a Late Medieval Settler Society”</p> <p>Cat Brassell-Mills (U of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), “Forests, Fields, Wastelands, and Climate Change in the <i>Tale of Gamelyn</i>”</p>
4:45 – 5:00	Coffee
5:00 – 6:15	<p>Keynote Address</p> <p>Jeffrey J. Cohen (Arizona State U), “Beginning to Begin Again”</p> <p>Dr. Cohen’s keynote address deals with the sorting and preserving that must be done in the face of catastrophe, using medieval Noah’s ark stories as the archive.</p>
6:15 – 7:00	Reception (Davis Building Atrium, a two-minute walk from the SSWAC)

Logistics and Particulars:

Location: Our conference will take place at the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center at Colby College in Waterville, ME. Visitor parking is available immediately behind the building, and in other lots nearby. For a map of Colby’s campus, see

Registration: we regret that remote participation will not be possible. To register, please go to <https://forms.gle/6JyMqx1KwqQaPusUA>. While there is no charge for registration, we do ask that all attendees register in advance before October 3..

Getting to Colby: Colby College is located in Waterville, ME. The campus is serviced by coach via Concord Coach Lines. The closest airport is Augusta (25 minutes from Waterville), but Portland (75 minutes) and

Bangor (1 hour) airports offer more options. For directions to campus, and further advice for those traveling by bus or plane, please see: <https://www.colby.edu/visitors/directions/>

Staying in Waterville: There are a number of hotels in and around Waterville. Note that fall in central Maine is a popular destination and that rates may be higher and availability may be lower than at other times of the year. For a non-exhaustive list of local options, please see: <https://www.colby.edu/visitors/accommodations-around-colby-college/>

Dining: Breakfast and lunch will be provided for registered participants, along with an afternoon reception. Attendees who plan on staying in the area for dinner may want to consult this list of local restaurants maintained by the college: <https://www.colby.edu/visitors/accommodations-around-colby-college/>

Contact: If you have questions, please contact organizers Megan Cook (mlcook@colby.edu) and Antia Savo (asavo@bu.edu). We look forward to you joining us!

Thanks to our sponsors:

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