

Pamplona Bible, Amiens, Bibliothèque municipale, ms. 108, fol. 254r

24th Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies

**April 3 - 5, 2025
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina**

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to the 24th Annual Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies and to Durham, North Carolina, home of Duke University and neighbor to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. We hope to share the vibrancy and warmth of our home with you, including a list of local favorites on page 9 in the program.

The papers presented at the 24th Vagantes Conference represent the dedicated work of new and upcoming voices in the field of Medieval Studies. Our programming also includes a publishing roundtable with journal editors, a graduate student roundtable on pedagogy and post-graduate possibilities, a tour of the Nasher Museum of Art, and a showcase of Rare Books and Manuscripts housed at Duke and UNC. Finally, we have the pleasure of introducing Dr. Martin Eisner and Dr. Laura Smoller as our keynote lecturers.

We want to extend our gratitude to all participants, volunteers, board members, and our University communities. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and grace humbles us.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at vagantesboard@gmail.com or speak with one of our organizers.

Thank you

Emily Gebhardt, Brogan Hannon, Izzy Howard and Emily Youree

Thursday April 3 2025

All events to take place in **Rubenstein Library Room 153/Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly Room** unless otherwise stated.

8:00am-8:45am: Registration begins; Coffee, tea, and breakfast available

8:45am-9:00am: Opening remarks, Brogan Hannon (Duke) and Izzy Howard (UNC)

9:00am-10:45am:

Session 1: Manuscripts and Monastic Communities

Session Chair: Emily Gebhardt

Ann Chapman Price

"Mit Gode te Verenigen: Union with God in the Writings of the Sisters of the Common Life"

Lauren Cole

*"Medical Knowledge and Practice in Late Medieval Europe: The Manuscript Tradition of Hildegard of Bingen's *Liber subtilitatum*"*

Julia Balakrishnan

"Crusading Holy Women: How the Beguine Movement Survived in an Antiheretical Europe"

10:45am-11:00am: Break

11:00am-12:15pm:

Session 2: Geographies and Ecologies

Session Chair: Kara Rush

Haili Burak Iri

"Between Earth and Ink: Byzantine Historians as Climate Witnesses"

Marzie Naderi

*"Not All Islands are Islands: Metaphor and the Visionary Voyage in *Navigatio Sancti Brendani*"*

Clay Capra

*"From Pilgrim to Crusader -- Religious Militancy, Maritime Suffering, and the Crusading Ethos in the *Relatio de situ Ierusalem*"*

12:15pm-1:45pm: Lunch Break; Peer Mentoring Lunch meets on the patio outside the Garden Level of the Brodhead Center

Move to **Rubenstein 249** after lunch

1:45pm-3:00pm: Publishing Roundtable with Michael Cornett (Duke) *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, Erik Maloney (UNC) *Studies in Philology*, and Taylor McCall (Medieval Academy of America) *Speculum*

3:00pm-3:15pm: Break

3:15pm-4:30pm:

Session 3: Sacred Spaces

Session Chair: Clay Capra

Isabelle M. Ostertag

“Wood, Word, Stone, and Alabaster: The Multimedia Vocabulary of Lay Marian Devotion within the Lady Chapel at Long Melford”

Vivian Lewis

"Stronger Than Lions: Meaning-Making in a Medieval Jewish Aquamanile"

Kristina Kummerer

“Commemoration of the Dead at Unterlinden Dominican Convent: A Prosopography”

4:30pm-4:45pm: Break

4:45pm-6:00pm:

Keynote Lecture, Dr. Martin Eisner (Duke), “Beatrice’s Smile in a Secular Age: Modern Misunderstandings of Love, Theology, and Politics in Dante’s Paradiso”

6:15pm-7:30pm: Reception in Rubenstein Library Room 153

Friday April 4 2025

All events to take place in **Rubenstein Library Room 153/Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly Room** unless otherwise stated.

8:00am-9:00am: Coffee, tea, and breakfast available

9:00am-10:15am:

Session 4: Medieval Exegetical Traditions

Session Chair: Erica Ridderman

Ciara J. Mulcahy

“The Reception of the Apocryphal Acts in Medieval Hagiographical Literature: A Case Study of the *Memorial of John*”

Molly Nichols

“Instrue Si Poteris”: The Capacity and Obligation to “Lere” in *The Lay Folk’s Catechism*”

Diana Davis

“Already One: The Search for Pre-Existent Unity in Medieval Christian Mysticism”

11:00am-12:30pm: Tour of the Nasher Museum of Art

12:30pm-1:30pm: Social Lunch at the Nasher Museum of Art, lunch provided by the Nasher Museum Cafe

2:00pm-3:15pm:

Session 5: Material Objects and Haptics

Session Chair: Matthew Melgoza

Kris Racaniello

“Bloody Silver: Coins, Contact, and Conversion, 1073-1250”

Erin Yother

“‘Let Thy Heart Keep My Commandments:’ Mimetic Flesh and Portable Ivory Booklets”

Kristina Potuckova

The Woman's Touch: The Quedlinburg Altar Carpet and the Making of a Liturgical Sensorium

3:15pm-3:30pm: Break

3:30pm-4:45pm:

Session 6: Medieval Drama and Literary Performance

Session Chair: Emma Bradford

Lexi Toufas

“Hell as a Social Space in Chester's Harrowing of Hell”

Derek Witten

“Labouring Bodies and the Corpus Christi: Measurement in York's Crucifixio Pageant”

Margarita Buitrago

“Mapping Boccaccian Literary Geographies in Lope de Rueda's ‘La Tierra de Jauja: The Hispanicization of the Cockaigne Legend through the Calandrino Novellas”

4:45pm-5:00pm: Break

5:00pm-6:00pm: Roundtable, “Reflections after the Centennial: Towards a Future of Medieval Studies” with Clara Poteet (Yale), Phoenix Gonzales (Northwestern), and Alex Brock (Princeton)

Saturday April 5 2025

All events to take place in **Rubenstein Library Room 153/Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly Room** unless otherwise stated.

10:00am: Coffee, tea, and breakfast available

10:00am-11:15am:

Session 7: Sovereignty Across Medieval Hemispheres

Session Chair: Emily Youree

Tianyi Yuan

“School of Nisibis: God, Genealogy, and Geography”

Max Salata

“The ‘Lycanthropic Machine’: Metamorphosis, Animality, and Political Violence in Medieval French Literature”

Emily Gebhardt

“‘Mannys Mysgournaunce’: English Political Prayer and Re-founding the King's Body”

11:15-11:30am: Break

11:30am-12:30pm: Archives At UNC and Duke with Eileen Dewitya, Interim Curator of Rare Books at Wilson Library (UNC) and Dr. Andrew Griebeler, Professor of Art, Art History & Visual Studies (Duke)

12:30pm-2:00pm: Lunch break

2:00pm-3:15pm:

Session 8: Women and Writing in Old and Middle English

Session Chair: Izzy Howard

Jesse Blake

“‘Ne bið swylce cwenlic þeaw / idese to efnanne...’: The Temporal Role of the Peace-Weaver in Beowulf

Krista Telford

“Explorations of the Plaintive Mode: Ovid's Heroides and Chaucer's *Legend of Good Women*”

Erica Ridderman

“The Four Daughters Allegory & Competing Visions of God”

3:15pm-3:30pm: Break

3:30pm-4:20pm:

Session 9: Painting Across the Italian Renaissance

Session Chair: Brogan Hannon

Anthony Del Aversano

“School of Nisibis: God, Genealogy, and Geography”

Leonardo Umberto Conti Marchetti

In Transition: Bono da Ferrara, Stylistic Coherence and Expressive Plurality
between the Middle Ages and the Renaissance

4:20-4:45pm: Break

4:45pm-6:00pm: Closing Keynote, Dr. Laura Ackerman Smoller
(University of Rochester), “My Life with Pierre d’Ailly: Astrology and
Apocalypse, 1985-2025”

7:00pm: Banquet at Geer Street Garden (with thanks to Chef Andrew
Magowan)

Thank You!

Save the Date:

**We are pleased to announce
the 25th Annual Vagantes Conference on Medieval
Studies will be held at the University of Rochester,
April 9-11, 2026**

Local Guide

Food and Drink:

Coffee:

- Cocoa Cinnamon
- Mad Hatter's Cafe and Bakeshop

Breakfast:

- Isaac's Bagels
- Monuts

Lunch and Dinner:

- Queeny's
- Goorsha
- Rose's Noodles, Dumplings and Sweets
- Szechuan Mansion Hotpot

Travel to Campus

Plane: Durham and Chapel Hill are served by Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU), which is about a 20-25 minute drive to Duke's West Campus. A variety of taxi options are available from Terminals 1 and 2, including Uber and Lyft.

By Train: Durham (DNC) is accessible by Amtrak Rail Service. The station is located in the City Center. The quickest way from the rail-line to Duke's West Campus or The Lodge is by taxi, Uber, or Lyft. Bus is another option between the station and Duke and takes about 20-30 minutes. The 400, 6, and 11B--11 buses all run between DNC rail station and The Lodge.

By Car: Duke's The Lodge and West Campus are accessible by car. From the north via I-85, the south by I-40 and US 15/501, east and west via I-885 and I-85.

Travel within Campus

By Car: When coming to West Campus, park in the Bryan Center Parking Garage, Durham, NC. Parking is \$2/hour in the garage and surface lot. Campus Drive is currently inaccessible to unauthorized vehicles.

Many Duke Graduate Students park on public streets surrounding East Campus (following any posted-parking regulations by the City of Durham) and take the C1 bus from East Campus to West Campus.

No direct campus transportation is available between The Lodge and West Campus. Attendees may choose to Uber, Lyft, or drive their own vehicle to West Campus from the Lodge (carpool with other attendees!).

By Bus: The H2 bus runs between The Lodge and West Campus roughly every 7-15 minutes from 5:30am-9:00pm Mon-Fri. **The Elf St. at Elder St.** is the closest stop to the Lodge. Ride the H2 until the Duke Medical Pavilion stop. From the Medical Pavilion stop you can walk to the center of West Campus either along Flowers Road or on the Duke University Medical Center Greenspace.

On Foot: The walk from the Lodge to West Campus is .9 miles and takes between 20-30 minutes. We recommend walking either along Flowers Road or Research Drive.

Duke Campus Map:



MapQuest Durham:



West Campus Map:



Sponsors

UNC:

Program in Medieval and Early Modern Studies
 Wilson Library
 Department of English and Comparative Literature
 Department of Religious Studies
 Department of German and Slavic Languages and
 Literatures
 Department of Classics

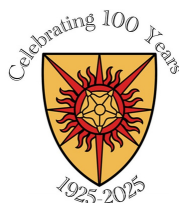
Duke:

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
 The Rubenstein Library
 The Nasher Museum of Art
 Department of Art History
 Department of History

The Medieval Academy of America Centennial Grant

Catering and Food

Saladelia
 Geer Street Garden
 The Nasher Museum Cafe



Notes

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