

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the International Marie de France Society
Forty-third International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University, May 2008**

Welcome, Rupert Pickens, President—The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Rupert Pickens. He thanked this year's speakers and performers. He explained that he had not received a treasurer's report for this year because the outgoing secretary-treasurer was not in attendance at the meeting, nor would there be a report on membership at this meeting. The Minutes of the 2007 were approved.

2008 *Le Cygne* Report, Regula Meyer Evitt, Editor

- Volume 5.0 (sixth volume in new series) has a revised publication date of August 2008, the delay due to low response to call for submissions.
- Reviewers are needed for three volumes that recently appeared.
- Colorado College's graphic artist who deals with *Le Cygne*'s formatting has been approved to waive the normal \$650 cost of his services, which will reduce the cost of publishing the journal.
- We have the opportunity to put out two volumes at the same time: a regular volume whose call for papers has already gone out once to list serves (vol. 6 new series), and a special volume containing papers presented at the ICLS conference in Switzerland in summer 2007 (vol. 6.1 new series). Due to low funds, it might be necessary to publish only one volume this year (probably the ICLS papers), but if our collection of annual dues is more efficient and our funds become sufficient, we can consider publishing the two volumes.

Online *Le Cygne*: home page for the online edition of the journal put forth to membership. Sherron Lux recommended putting in a tag for *Le Cygne*. Rupert Pickens noticed the absence of a subscription form and suggested putting one in.

- Discussion ensued concerning an appropriate fee for online access to the journal. Regula pointed out that Colorado College can more easily assign fees for access to a volume rather than for individual articles. Various possibilities were discussed concerning the fee for individuals; a cost of \$5.00 was proposed for non-members. Membership would include access to the archives. Collin Davey recommended making the fee higher in order to encourage membership in the society, but it was decided that this might discourage students at non-member institutions from accessing the article. Simonetta Cochis recommended open access. Regula suggested trying one way for a year then deciding what would work best. Beth Poe moved that the online journal be free for a year, and the motion passed.
- Sherron Lux suggested documenting the hits on the website.
- Regula once again called for help with old volumes of *Le Cygne* (the Bulletin) so that she can have them transformed into PDF files for the archives.

Secretary-Treasurer's Election—The nominating committee (composed of Rupert Pickens, Beth Poe, Logan Whalen, and Sarah-Jane Murray), after eliciting nominations from the membership, advanced the names of two individuals for election to the position

of Secretary-Treasurer of the Society. Rupert explained that there had been a third candidate who had made the deadline, but due to a glitch in her e-mail program, her information did not reach the committee in time to place her on the ballot. Monica Wright was elected to the position, and Rupert thanked her for taking it on.

Appointment to the Advisory Board of Le Cygne—Logan Whalen was nominated to replace Judith Barban as she rotated off the Advisory Board. His nomination was unanimously approved by the membership.

New Business

Editorship of Le Cygne—The By-Laws state that the Editorship should be a six year tenure of two three-year terms, but Rupert Pickens proposed suspending the by-laws in the case of Regula Meyer Evitt since her work has been so wonderful and her institution so generous and allowing her a third term as Editor. Regula assured the membership that she was setting up for Colorado College to continue its support of the journal by housing it there. The membership approved Rupert's proposal unanimously. Regula was enthusiastically applauded.

Office of Vice-President opening (2009-2010): Election April-May 2009—Rupert Pickens will resign his term as President the day after the meeting 2009. Beth Poe will then take over as President, leaving the position of Vice-President open. The membership must nominate a new Vice-President before the next meeting.

Sessions for Next Year's Congress—IMFS members decided that the two proposed Marie de France sessions be "Marie de France and Saints' Lives" and a roundtable "What is a Lai?" This last would incorporate the anonymous lais as well, and Rupert will write to Glenn Burgess and Leslie Brooke immediately to encourage their participation.

Other New Business

- Beth Poe suggested and the membership decided that it was time to revisit its By-Laws and would form an ad hoc committee to do so before the next meeting in 2009. The committee will have the Secretary-Treasurer distribute its recommended amendments before the next meeting.
- Sherron Lux brought up that the dues categories did not include one for unemployed, underemployed, or part-time scholars. The membership agreed that members fitting into these categories should fall into the same dues category as student and retirees.

There were no further announcements.

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica L. Wright