

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the International Marie de France Society
Forty-fourth International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University, May 9, 2009**

Welcome, Rupert Pickens, President—The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Rupert Pickens. He asked all those present to introduce themselves, since many in attendance were new to IMFS. After amending two misspelled names, the Minutes of the 2008 were approved.

Announcement—Glyn Burgess made an announcement concerning a new English translation of the *Lais, Knights of Love*, by Jane Tozer.

Vice-President's Election—The Nominating Committee (consisting of Rupert Pickens, Beth Poe, Monica Wright, and Regula Meyer Evitt) advanced the name of Matthieu Boyd for the election to the position of Vice-President of the Society. No other nominations were advanced by the membership, and Beth Poe moved to close the nominations at that time. The Secretary-Treasurer will elicit other nominations from the membership by e-mail, and once nominations are closed, an election will be held over e-mail.

Appointment to the Advisory Board of Le Cygne—Glyn Burgess was nominated to replace Monica Wright as she rotated off the Advisory Board. His nomination was unanimously approved by the membership.

IMFS Website—The website will be moving and be redesigned. Colorado College will host the website, and Monica Wright's graduate student with web experience is in the process of redesigning the site. Monica Wright has agreed to be the new webmaster. The reason for the move is that the previous webmaster, Chantal Maréchal, is retired and no longer available for updates to the website within a reasonable timeframe. The membership was asked for recommendations for improvements. Sarah-Jane Murray suggested the use of standard web loading protocols and screen shot loads.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: In the IMFS account, we currently have \$2682.25. In the Colorado College publication account, we currently have \$2133.40, which is \$116.60 short of the projected publication cost for the 2009 volume of the journal. Out of 75 members, 58 are paid up in dues through the current academic year.

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

- Volume 5.0 (sixth volume in new series) has a revised publication date of June 2009, the delay due to economic issues and the early retirement of the formatter.
- We currently have the funds to pay for two issues, 6.0 and the ICLS papers. The question is whether we will be able to pay for next year's issue with the dues.
- Reviewers are needed for two volumes that recently appeared. Simonetta Cochis agreed to review Carla Rossi's book in Italian on Marie's identity. Carol Dover agreed to review Miriam White's book in French.
- In light of the paucity of submissions for the journal, Glyn Burgess recommended printing translations of older, seminal articles, such as Spitzer's article in German.

- This suggestion was met with enthusiasm by the membership. Regula will translate Spitzer's article, and Walt will translate an article in Italian.
- The special volume containing papers presented at the ICLS conference in Switzerland in summer 2007 (vol. 7.0 new series) is still planned but may not come out until 2010.
 - Keith Emmons, the formatter for the journal, has taken early retirement from Colorado College, but Regula has been able to work out a private deal with him to continue work on the journal.
 - Regula posed the question to the membership of how to increase the number of articles submitted. One possibility would be to open submission up to non-members, which would perhaps create broader interest in the journal. Sherron Lux recommended that submissions be accepted from non-members, but that if their work was accepted, they would have to become members. Sarah-Jane Murray pointed out that many universities do not currently consider *Le Cygne* for tenure cases, and she suggested that the journal be marketed in such a way that it could be used in tenure dossiers.
 - Glyn Burgess asked about library subscriptions. We currently only have three. This needs to be increased, and the online version is likely to help.

Online *Le Cygne*—the online version of the journal has also been delayed due to financial crisis. Headway is expected to be made during summer 2009.

- Regula once again called for help with old volumes of *Le Cygne* (the Bulletin) and the newsletters so that she can have them transformed into PDF files for the archives.
- Concerning fee structures: Sherron Lux proposed that the current issue of the journal could be available for free, along with either the Table of Contents of previous volumes, or the Table and the abstracts of articles. Logan Whalen pointed out that *Arthuriana* offers the Table of Contents for free, but that articles must be paid for.

Sessions for Next Year's Congress—IMFS members decided that, based on the success of this year's three rather than two sessions, the three proposed Marie de France sessions be "Marie de France in the Classroom," "Open Topic" and "Performance." This last elicited discussion of whether, as Walt Blue suggested, three people could perform different sections of a single, longer lai, or whether the disadvantage, pointed out by Rupert Pickens, of not having an English version would be outweighed by the interest in expanding the possible repertoire of lais performed in sessions.

Sessions for ICLS, 2010 in Montreal—Carol Dover has agreed to organize the two open topic sessions for the conference.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Monica L. Wright