

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the International Marie de France Society
Forty-Ninth International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University, May 10, 2014**

Welcome, Matthieu Boyd, President—The meeting was called to order at 12:25 p.m. by Matthieu Boyd. The minutes from the 2013 meeting were presented and approved.

Editorship and Problems with *Le Cygne*, Matthieu Boyd

- The editor Sarah-Jane Murray did not submit a report to the membership. She is no longer a member of the Society and therefore needs to be replaced as editor-in-chief. Glyn Burgess was suggested. We will contact him to see if he is willing to do so. If he is not willing, the Executive Committee will consider other options.
- The last volume to appear was the volume 6 dated 2008, which appeared in 2010, with Regula Myer Evitt as editor.
- The president discussed problems with low volume of submissions and issues with selectivity for the journal. It was again suggested that the journal be published on an occasional basis when enough articles are in hand to assure quality. The Marie de France teaching volume is an example of an occasional volume.
- Ron Cook expressed his frustration that the journal has been holding his article for several years.
- Matthieu Boyd suggested that since the Society has no problems filling sessions at Kalamazoo and other conferences, we should encourage presenters to submit their papers for publication in the journal.
- Matthieu Boyd and Monica Wright are editing a special issue of the journal on Teaching Marie de France. The five articles were due in April 2014.
- Monica Wright suggested that the Society will need to update its bylaws if the publication schedule is no longer annual. She also suggested revisiting the dues schedule since dues collected in the past years have not gone toward publication costs of the journal.
- Publication on the website, which needs to be reactivated, was again discussed, and the importance of obtaining and scanning all back issues of the journal was again stressed. Matthieu Boyd will contact Regula Myers Evitt about getting those copies sent to the Society.
- Until issues of publication of the journal are resolved, the Advisory Board will remain intact and new elections will be suspended.

Elections

Matthieu Boyd's term as president is ending, as is Monica Wright's term as Secretary-Treasurer. The floor was opened to nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and a new member of the Advisory Committee (to replace Glyn Burgess).

President: Ann McCollough (current VP)

Vice-President: Tamara Bentley-Caudill

Secretary-Treasurer: Ed Ouellette

Advisory Board: Rupert Pickens

In addition to these officers, it is necessary to address the issue of no officer of the society residing in Louisiana, where the Society is incorporated. Ron Cook, a lawyer, suggested that we establish a Statutory Agent who can maintain an address in Louisiana and file any paperwork with the state necessary to maintain corporate residence and tax-exempt status with the IRS. The members were unanimously in favor of this, and it was decided that the Executive Committee would make the appointment. For 2014-15, Monica Wright, who is familiar with the processes involved, agreed to be appointed. She will also explore options for appointment of a law firm to be designated as Statutory Agent in the future. The establishment of the Statutory Agent will need to be ratified by vote by the membership, and the By-Laws will need to be updated and filed with the appropriate state and federal agencies.

The number of members in attendance was so low that it was decided a vote via email would follow.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- In the IMFS account, we currently have \$5324.13.
- Monica Wright successfully filed the Society's first IRS Form 990 for tax-exempt organizations in 2014. She will continue to file as Statutory Agent until another entity in Louisiana can be identified.
- The Secretary-Treasurer will step down upon completion of the elections. The members in attendance applauded Monica Wright for all her hard work for the last six years.

IMFS Website

The IMFS website has been temporarily deactivated. The webmaster Tamara Bentley-Caudill explained two possibilities available for reactivation and domain names: lecygne.org will become available as a domain name in October, and we can explore options for obtaining the domain name mariedefrance.org. Monica Wright suggested buying both domain names and having lecygne.org redirect to mariedefrance.org. Wendy Pfeffer stressed the importance of having Marie de France in the domain name.

Tamara Bentley-Caudill has set up hosting with Dream Host and the content with Word Press. The latter offers the possibility of a variety of people with access who can log on and make changes and load documents and information.

Sessions for Next Year's Congress—The following sessions were approved:

- Performances of Marie de France, *Guigemar*
- Roundtable: Graduate Student Perspective on Marie de France
- Fables and Other Works of Marie de France
- Marie de France and the Anonymous Lais

Adjournment—Matthieu Boyd adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m. The members thanked Matthieu for his service.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica L. Wright

The Joseph P. Montiel Associate Professor of French, University of Louisiana, Lafayette

Secretary-Treasurer, IMFS