

# Queen's University

## *Ruth Wehlau*

### **The situation in the departments:**

Art History, Classics, English, French, German and Russian, History, Music, Spanish and Italian, and Philosophy all offer medieval courses, but the frequency with which these are offered varies. As a result of retirements, many of the smaller departments either have no medievalist or are unable regularly to offer courses in the medieval field.

**Art History:** Art History has two medievalists, John Osborne, whose specialties are the material culture (art history and archaeology) of early medieval Europe and Byzantium, later medieval Italy, and manuscript illustration; and Cathleen Hoeniger (Italian late medieval and Renaissance). In the last five years, the program has offered courses on Renaissance art and architecture, early Netherlandish painting, Gothic sculpture and medieval English painting. John Osborne, who moved to Queen's as Head of Department in 2001, has recently added a course on early medieval Europe to the undergraduate curriculum, and he hopes to teach it for the first time in the fall of 2003.

**Classics:** Bernie Kavanagh is the Roman historian, Michael Cummings the Latin poetry specialist. Rob Moody offers tutorials in medieval Latin on an unpaid basis. Classics offers courses on Roman history, late Antiquity and Latin poetry. Michael Cummings is teaching the credit course on medieval Latin this year, but how often it will be taught in the future is unclear. Richard Greenfield is teaching a World of Late Antiquity half-course this year and probably in the future, which will venture into the early Middle Ages.

English has two full-time medievalists, Phil Rogers (Middle English and comparative literature), who retires this year, and Scott Straker, as well as several early

modern specialists. Straker's field is gender, historiography, and propaganda in Middle English poetry. The department has just finished hiring a new medievalist, Margaret Pappano, a Middle English drama specialist. George Clark retired several years ago, but has been teaching Old English and occasionally Old Norse. I am a specialist in Old English with a secondary interest in Middle English drama, and have been teaching a Middle English course. Next year the department will teach Middle English courses at the second and third year levels, and plans are in the works to revise the medieval curriculum. A course on Arthurian romance spanning the Middle Ages and the Victorian period will be added, and other new or previously untaught courses will be introduced.

French has a full-time specialist in medieval and Renaissance literature, François Rouget. The French department offers courses on medieval subjects but not on a yearly basis, and has one graduate student doing a medieval thesis.

German, now a part of the German and Russian Department, has six members. The discipline lost its full-time medievalist several years ago and decided not to replace her. Until recently, a course on medieval German has been taught by a contractual instructor.

History has had, until recently, three medievalists: Monica Sandor (social, intellectual, religious history, women's spirituality), Richard Greenfield (Byzantine History), Bill McCready (cultural and intellectual history), and also two Renaissance specialists, James Stayer and Anthony D'Elia. The department has consequently offered several medieval and Renaissance courses, including courses on the Crusades, on the early Middle Ages to the twelfth-century Renaissance, and on late medieval England. Now, however, McCready is about to retire and Greenfield is on longterm reduced teaching. Greenfield does, however, teach on a rotating basis the full-year upper-level undergrad seminar on the Medieval Crusades against Islam and the full year undergrad/grad combined seminar on Byzantine society. He also has one M.A. student working on Byzantine and Western medieval sanctity and the body, and hopes to have at least one other next year. Sandor has a number of ongoing M.A. students and probably a couple of new ones next year. Sandor has been on leave of absence for two years, but is expected to return next year and to resume her teaching and supervising in the department.

Music: The department has recently offered a course on medieval music, as well as one on the paleography of medieval and Renaissance notation. Olga Malysenko

conducts the Collegium Musicum, a course/ensemble that puts on an annual concert of medieval music for the Queen's community.

Spanish and Italian: Donato Santeramo teaches medieval Italian. Because of the small size of the department, Spanish and Italian medieval courses are offered irregularly.

Philosophy has one specialist in classical and medieval philosophy, Steven Leighton.

**b) Interdisciplinary program:**

Queen's has an interdisciplinary undergraduate Medieval Studies program, sponsored by Classics, English, History, and Philosophy. Right now there are only two students enrolled. One major problem is that many of the courses theoretically offered by the departments are not available on a regular basis.

Lecture Series: François Rouget of French is the founder of the Medieval and Renaissance Association that offers a series of three or four lectures every year by visiting or local speakers. The association is currently coordinated by Donato Santeramo, of Italian, who is on leave this year. The series is expected to resume next year.