



INSTITUTE FOR MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Greetings from Michael A. Ryan, the Director of UNM's Institute for Medieval Studies:

It is my honor and delight as the fourth Director of UNM's IMS to welcome each and every one of you to the 2024-25 academic year. I am also excited to welcome you all as you peruse our brand-new, state-of-the-art IMS website! My deepest thanks go to my assistant, Ms. Emily Heimerman, who spent many hours redesigning and updating the entirety of the website you see before you. As you peruse our materials, be sure to spend extra time on our resources page, where you can get access to all sorts of resources on the Middle Ages, as well as our events page, to keep apprised of all developments that we have planned.

And what an array of events does the Institute for Medieval Studies have planned for the people of New Mexico! In addition to having guest medievalists come this academic year to share their research, we also hope to offer another Medieval Faire, as last year's held in the heart of the UNM campus, supporting and celebrating all things medieval, was an enormous success. Of course, this coming spring we will also continue our enduring tradition of community outreach by holding the 39th annual Helen Damico Memorial Lecture Series on the UNM campus, the theme of which will be "The Interconnected Middle Ages."

We continue to see white supremacists drawing upon the upheaval generated by plague and moments of political unrest to disseminate misinformation and disinformation about the Middle Ages in order to sow dissension and generate confusion. I remain heartened by the actions of IMS-affiliated colleagues and students who, with their innovative scholarship, dedicated teaching, and direct engagement with the community, fight against those who would seek to discount the Middle Ages. The IMS will continue to support our students and faculty and Friends in their scholarship and teaching of the Middle Ages. We are always searching for ways to bring interesting new content through new platforms to our entire medievalist community. If you want to get involved with the IMS, please do not hesitate to write us at medinst@unm.edu and ask to be put on the mailing list. Just a reminder, please do let us know if you're an undergraduate student, a graduate student, a member of the faculty or staff, or a Friend of Medieval Studies, so we ensure you get on the right mailing list. Also, be sure to check this website frequently for all updated information about various events, lectures, and other film screenings.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and graduate students and undergraduate students of the IMS, we look forward to continuing the IMS' mission of outreach, education and scholarship in the rich heritage of the ancient, medieval, and early modern periods. We couldn't do it without you and your support, so thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Ryan

Associate Professor of History and Director