

**International Courtly Literature Society-NAB, Annual Business Meeting,  
Kalamazoo MI,  
7 May, 2009  
Meeting Minutes**

**President Maureen Boulton convened the meeting and called it to order at 9:04 P.M.**

1. The revised **minutes from 2008** (i.e. the revised minutes from last year's meeting, sent out last summer) were unanimously approved.

2. Nominations invited for one opening on **Advisory Board:**

Lisa Cooper's term expired this May, and she stepped down in favor of another nominee. We thank Lisa for her willingness to serve and for all her help and advice during the last three years.

Susann Samples, Mount St. Mary's University [German], was nominated from the floor and unanimously elected to a three-year term.

Note: Chris Callahan, Illinois Wesleyan University [French], was elected last year to fill out the rest of Joe Sullivan's term and to serve a full regular term, which will expire in 2012.

3. **Report on MLA (08) & Kalamazoo (09) sessions:**

A. We had two sessions at the MLA in San Francisco:

- (1) "Courtly Heavens & Courtly Hells," organized by Wendy Pfeffer
- (2) "Romance and Hypertext," organized by Dan O'Sullivan

Wendy and Dan report that the first session was well attended, but the second rather less so.

Because of the restriction on the number of events we may participate in, we did not co-sponsor the cash bar with the International Arthurian Society (NAB), as that would have replaced one of our sessions.

**Question: Do we want to continue to sponsor two sessions at MLA?**

It was decided to continue sponsoring two sessions for the time being, as long as the MLA permits us to do so.

B. We have organized two sessions for the **2009 MLA Convention in Philadelphia:**

- (1) "Transgression at Court," organized by Albrecht Classen
- (2) "Courtly Display," organized by Maureen Boulton

We encourage you heartily to attend both!

C. As happens (apparently) every seven years, we have justified our existence to the MLA, which involved reporting our purpose, history, size, past & ongoing activities, publications, dues structure and membership application process. Maureen Boulton also submitted our constitution and by-laws. A copy of the report was circulated to the members.

D. We have sponsored **three sessions for this year's Kalamazoo (2009):**

- (1) "Courtly Encyclopedias," Michelle Bolduc: Sunday 10:30
- (2) "Chivalry & Courtliness," Carol Dover: Sunday 8:30
- (3) "Translation & Adaptation of Courtly Literature," Chris Callahan: Thurs, 3:30

4. The following three sessions were voted on and will be submitted for inclusion in the **45<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies 2010:**

(1) "The Art and Practice of Music in Medieval Occitania, France, and Beyond: II," organized by Elizabeth Aubrey. (Société Guilhem IX will sponsor the companion session, i.e. "The Art and Practice of Music in Medieval Occitania, France, and Beyond: I.") Our session will follow a roundtable format.

Details: Literary scholars, historians, liturgists, art historians, and other medievalists whose work intersects with music often express a need for greater interdisciplinary connections and better understanding of the often arcane world of musicology. This will be one of two panel discussions featuring senior musicologists who will address general issues of music in the Middle Ages, with a target audience mainly of scholars in fields other than musicology who would like to understand musical matters better. The participants will speak to such issues as musical structure and style, notation, medieval theory, mode, counterpoint, and performance practices, with a goal of explaining and clarifying difficult ideas and laying out the state of research. The session will follow a roundtable format followed by questions and general discussion at the end.

- (2) "Courtly Translations," organized by Chris Callahan
- (3) "Courts in History – History at Court," organized by Jonathan Boulton

5. The following two sessions were approved for submission to the **MLA convention** for the year after next, i.e. **Los Angeles, January 2011:**

- (1) "Translations and Adaptations at Medieval Courts," organized by Joe Sullivan
- (2) "Courtly Religion," organized by Maureen Boulton

6. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report:** Our branch is in good condition financially, taking in annually about as much as it spends annually and maintaining a healthy bank balance. We are also doing well in terms of our membership numbers.

A. ICLS-NAB began May 2008 with \$19,810.19. As of this meeting, ICLS-NAB has a balance of \$12,611.51.

B. Income from membership dues since our last meeting was \$4,871.19. Dues collected for the previous year (07-08) were \$4,994.03, for the year before that (06-07) \$3,857.00, and for the year before that (05-06) \$4,571.50. — The amount taken in annually over the two last years, of about \$4,900.00, is in line with the projected cost of future annual volumes of *Encomia*, which we expect to run about \$4,800 per volume.

C. Expenses included: postage and supplies \$163.87; *Encomia* vol. 28, \$5,890.50; and *Encomia* vol. 29/30, \$6,015.50.

D. To date, 148 members have paid 2009 dues. For our last full year, i.e. 2008, we had a membership of 182, which represents a significant gain over the 2007 membership of 153. — Membership numbers for previous years are: 2006 (180), 2005 (176), and 2004 (190).

E. The members approved the suggestion from the floor to include on the dues notice for 2010 the one-time possibility to pay dues for the next three years (i.e. 2010, 2011, and 2012) in a single payment. The move is intended to capitalize on the fact that many more members generally pay their dues in the years of our triennial congresses. The three-year dues payment will also include a nominal dues reduction of a dollar or two for those choosing the option.

7. **Encomia Report:** Sam Rosenberg reported that *Encomia* is now up to date, with the publication of the double issue for 2007-08 (vol. 29/30). He expects that the 2009 issue (vol. 31) will actually appear before the end of 2009. He called attention to the book-review section (20-30 reviews annually) and invited suggestions for books that the members would like to see reviewed.

Sam also announced that 2009 will be the last volume that he will edit, since he will step down at the end of the year. His replacement will be announced by the international Executive Committee of the ICLS. He also announced the appointment of a new Chief Bibliographer (Tania van Hemelryck from the Belgian branch).

8. **Other Business:** Francis Gingras and Isabelle Arseneau (representing the organizers) talked about the plans for the 13<sup>th</sup> Triennial Congress, to be held in Montreal 25-31 July 2010. The Call for Papers on the theme “Courtly Cultures on the Move” has been circulated and posted on the website [www.icls2010.ca]. For queries, use the following address: icls2010@listes.umontreal.ca

The deadline for submission of proposals is 15 December 2009. Proposals relating to transmission and reception of courtliness, books and courtly culture, and languages of courtliness are encouraged.

**President Boulton adjourned the meeting at 9:45 P.M.**

---

**Officers: 2007-2010:**

President: Maureen Boulton [French], mboulton@nd.edu  
Secretary/Treasurer: Joe Sullivan [German], jsullivan@ou.edu  
Vice President: Janina Traxler [French], jptraxler@manchester.edu

**Advisory Board:**

**2007-10:**

Katherine Kong [French], kkong@utk.edu  
Juliann Vitullo [Italian], juliann.vitullo@asu.edu

**2008-2011:**

Paul Rockwell [French], pvrockwell@amherst.edu  
Kristin Burr [French], klburr@sju.edu

**2009-2012:**

Chris Callahan [French], callahan@iwu.edu

Susann Samples [German], [samples@msmary.edu](mailto:samples@msmary.edu)