Greetings to All Members and Friends of Medica, The Society for the Study of Healing in the Middle Ages.

We are now in our sixth year and beginning to blossom. We are expanding our field of activity to include sessions at the upcoming Medieval Academy meeting in Miami, and we are about to begin a big push for our online journal. As always, we invite your participation.

Medica’s purpose is to establish and maintain a friendly network of scholars interested in the varieties of healing in the Middle Ages. We are now regulars at Kalamazoo and will have a number of sessions this year at Leeds. We also maintain a website and listserve. This year we also have begun in earnest our journal, which is called, of course, Medica.

If you have items to add for the next issue, please contact one of the officers.

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http://www.umm.maine.edu/medica
http://faculty.centenarycollege.edu/medica/

Medica Listserve
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Contact Bryon Grigsby

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Thirty-Eighth International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan, 6-9 May 2004

Medica will sponsor three sessions at Kalamazoo this year as well as our annual business meeting and luncheon.

Also, please see related sessions listed on the following pages.

Medica Sessions

Session 40
Bernhard 105
Thursday, 6 May, 10:00 a.m.

Stars and Scalpels: Astronomy and Medicine in the Middle Ages I

Organizer: Linda M. Keyser, Georgetown Univ.
Presider: Linda M. Keyser

Temperament, Gender, and the Stars: Masculine and Feminine Types in Medical and Astrological Theory
Elspeth Whitney, Univ. of Nevada–Las Vegas

Thinking Diagrams: Medicine and the Mathematical Arts in Early Printed Books
Rebecca Zorach, Univ. of Chicago

The Sky and the Still: A Fourteenth-Century Cure for the Apocalypse
Leah DeVun, Sarah Lawrence College

Session 118
Sangren 2303
Thursday, 6 May, 1:30 p.m.

Fertility and Failure: Perspectives on Sexuality and Reproduction

Organizer: Candace Robb, Independent Scholar
Presider: Candace Robb

Medieval Maternity through Modern Eyes
Dawn Marie Hayes, Montclair State Univ.

Medicine and Necromancy: Theory and Practice in the Taxonomy of Science
E. R. Truitt, Harvard Univ.

Session 180
Sangren 2303
Thursday, 6 May, 3:30 p.m.

Stars and Scalpels: Astronomy and Medicine in the Middle Ages II

Astral Malefics and Ill-Humored Painters: Vasari on the Unhealthy Lives of the Artists
Piers Britton, Univ. of Redlands

Health and Heavens in the Regimens of Maino de Maineri
Caroline Proctor, Univ. of St. Andrews

Astrology in the Late Medieval Crown of Aragon: Heterodoxy, Proto-Humanism, and the Quest for the Divine Order
Mike Ryan, Univ. of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Medica Web Site

http://www.umm.maine.edu/medica

Yerdes in Bloom: Sexual Dysfunction in the Middle Ages
Carol Everest, King's Univ. College

Medica Business Meeting And Luncheon
Thursday, 6 May, Noon
Bernhard President's Dining Room

Please see Page 4 for more information on this.
Other Sessions of Interest

Session 218
Schneider 1220
Friday, 7 May, 10:00 a.m.

Medicine as Magic, Magic as Medicine: Image and Transformation

Organizer: Elisabeth Carnell, Western Michigan Univ.
Presider: Francis B. Brévart, Univ. of Pennsylvania

The Ymage of Ypocras and Galien: An Unsuccessful Bloodletting Aid
Winston E. Black, Univ. of Toronto

The Whore and Her Cup: Visions of Magical Transformation in Medieval Apocalypse Manuscripts
Heather R. Diehl, Western Michigan Univ.

Dylan and Lleu: The Art of Survival by Transformation in the Fourth Branch of the Mabinogi
Samantha J. Cairo, Western Michigan Univ.

Briefly Noted

The papers on medicine or healing are parts of sessions not specifically focused on healing.

Session 37
Schneider 1345
Thursday, 6 May, 10:00 a.m.

Then and Now

Bon Appétit: Nutrition and Its Relationship to Medicine Then and Now
Marjory Lange, Western Oregon Univ.

Session 167
Bernhard 105
Thursday, 6 May, 3:30 p.m.

Greco-Roman and Thraco-Dacian Cultural Symbiosis and Its Byzantine Impact

Sacerdotal Medicine in the Thraco-Dacian Tradition
Anna Maria Marandici, Wayne State Univ.

Session 339
Schneider 1220
Friday, 7 May, 3:30 p.m.

Medieval History II

On Proper Diet: Medicine and History in Crescas Caylar’s Esther (1327)
Susan L. Einbinder, Hebrew Union College

The Cultural Effects of the Seventh-Century Plague in Northumbria
Sally Shockro, Boston College

(More Sessions of Interest on Page 4)
Session 375
Valley III, Fox Lounge
Saturday, 8 May, 10:00 a.m.
Ritual Theory and Ritual Practice in Magic
The Appropriation of Liturgy for Healing Charms and Amulets
Lea Olsan, Univ. of Louisiana–Monroe

Session 605
Bernhard 157
Sunday, 9 May, 10:30 a.m.
Women’s Healing Magic and the Efficacy of Ritual
Martha Rampton, Pacific Univ.

Session 73
Valley III, Stinson Lounge
Thursday, 6 May, 1:30 p.m.
Flesh and Spirit: The Bodily in Mystical Writing
Julian of Norwich: The Physicality of Spiritual Despair and the Healing Power of Prayer
Stephanie Volf, Arizona State Univ.

Session 165
Schneider 2345
Thursday, 6 May, 3:30 p.m.
Archetypal Approaches to Medieval Literature and Culture
The Conjuncio Oppositorum: Occitan Saints Heal the Split Psyche
Marie-Madeleine Stey, Capital Univ.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities
Medica: The Journal for the Study of Health and Healing in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period
Our Journal is up and running. Please visit us at http://faculty.centenarycollege.edu/medica/

Our Original and Ongoing Call for Papers.
Submissions may be on any subject matter of medieval medicine, health, or healing as well as the interrelationships between disciplines, such as medieval medicine and literature, law, politics, or religion. Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts either via email as Microsoft Word attachments or via U.S. mail on disk. Endnotes should appear in a separate file from the text, and the author should also include a vita. If submitting manuscripts on disk, the author should include a SASE for the return of the disk. Manuscripts can be either emailed or mailed to:
Bryon Grigsby, President of Medica
English Department
Centenary College
400 Jefferson Street
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
Email: grigsbyb@centenarycollege.edu

Most manuscripts should be between 15 and 30 pages in length. Manuscripts should follow the MLA Handbook, 5th edition. The author's name, address, phone number, email, and institutional affiliation should only appear on the title page, and all other references to the author should be omitted so that the manuscript can be reviewed anonymously. Medica accepts only unpublished works that are not under review at other journals.
CALL FOR PAPERS

Medicine Across Cultures: 600-1600
The Nineteenth Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference
Saturday, December 4, 2004

Call for papers centered on medieval and renaissance medical theory and practice from around the world.

Possible topics include: theories of the body and its workings; signs and cures of sickness; definitions of health; ideas on the circulation of fluids; notions of equilibrium; pharmacological theory; connections between medicine and empirical science; the relationship of medicine to theology and psychology; medical education and practitioners; medicine and literature; medicine and the plastic arts; medicine and music.

Papers centered on a comparative analysis of two or more cultures/traditions are particularly welcome.

Plenary speakers: Monica Green, Arizona State University; Michael R. McVaugh, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Send abstracts to jkaye@barnard.edu or Joel Kaye, Dept. of History, Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10027.


CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

Society For The Social History Of Medicine
2004 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize Competition

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions to its 2004 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize Competition. This prize will be awarded to the best original, unpublished essay in the social history of medicine submitted to the competition as judged by the SSHM's assessment panel. It is named in honour of the late Professor Roy Porter, a great teacher and a generous scholar.

The competition is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students in full or part-time education. The winner will be awarded £500.00, and his or her entry may also be published in the journal, Social History of Medicine.

Further details and entry forms can be downloaded from the SSHM's website http://www.sshm.org

David Cantor
Division of Cancer Prevention
National Cancer Institute
Executive Plaza North, Suite 2025
6130 Executive Boulevard
Bethesda MD 20892-7309
U.S.A.

Email: competition@sshm.org
The deadline for entries is: 31 December 2004

CALL FOR PAPERS

Cultural History Of Health And Beyond

History of Medicine and Health and the Society for the Social History of Medicine
September 7-10, 2005
Paris, France

Any proposal of papers or posters should be accompanied by an abstract clearly describing the contents, one A4 page, no more. The abstract will be submitted as an e-mail attachment. It should be prepared very carefully, as it will be circulated among the organisers and serve as the basis for acceptance, inclusion in a relevant session, suggestions for amendments, etc.

The abstract should clearly state the problem or questions that will be addressed in the study, the material on which it relies, the methods used, the results emerging, and there should be some lines discussing the originality and scientific relevance.

Sessions which foster cross-national themes and perspectives are being encouraged. Research networks of the EAHMH and Erasmus Networks, are also welcome to propose sessions. The official languages of the international sessions are English and French.

All correspondence dealing with scientific presentations (papers or posters) should be directed to the organizer of the conference Prof Patrice Bourdelais, Email Patrice.Bourdelais@ehess.fr to whom the abstracts also should be submitted.

(Continued on Page 6)
Cultural History Of Health And Beyond (Cont.)

Diverse cultural representations of the healthy body, behaviour, and practices of care are deeply intertwined with social relations in Europe today. It is not a new configuration. As far back as you care to look, and especially since the early modern period, processes such as the acculturation of new immigrants from countryside to city, or from a foreign to a familiar culture, as well as resistance to assimilation, have been among the main issues of the process of medicalization. The topic of the conference therefore includes different agents and scenarios, diverse representations, whether lay or expert, and conflicting interests that structured this domain of life. For at least three centuries, the body and its preservation and health have become more and more integrated into a new European manner of governance which promoted health as a social and cultural value.

We invite participants to consider various aspects of such historical processes. Behind the visible culture of health lie many different cultures, such as professional cultures, cultures of the market place, and cultures specific to the interaction of social classes or minority groups. For instance, what are the explanations for the itinerary of a patient in the health care system? What are the cultural aspects behind the definition of what is efficient delivery of health care? We hope that proposed papers will also deal with the dynamics of cultural change in the perception of body and health, including the role of the media and of the new imaging technologies. Moreover, historiographical issues may be raised about the ways in which cultural approaches have modified our knowledge about the history of health and what has changed in recent interactions between social and cultural perspectives. All the domains of medicine and health are concerned: mental health, professional versus lay medical cultures, health services and administration, as well as individual preventive behavior or scientific theories.

We invite proposals for any contribution on the history of medicine, whether a talk or a poster, but especially proposals that address questions within the broad framework of the cultural history of health and beyond. Sessions which foster cross-national comparative themes or perspectives are particularly welcome.

Deadline for abstracts: November 15, 2004

Publications

Though this is a meager start, it is a start. Now that we have begun to update our bibliography, we are on our way. Please send additions to the secretary.


New Medica Officers

As you will learn in the business meeting, we are preparing for elections of officers. We will take nominations at this year’s meeting, and we will likely wait for a sufficient period for nominations to cease.

More details will be available at the time of the meeting. At this time we may also think creatively about our governance structure.

This notice, however, is to ask you to think about the possibility of serving as an officer. There are many able people in this organization, and we want to see as many involved as possible.
Business Meeting and Luncheon
Thursday, Noon
Bernhard President's Dining Room

Lunch is usually a selection of sandwiches, fruit, vegetables, cookies and drinks (soft drinks). Cost: $9.00.

If you have not already done so, please email Gerard NeCastro at necastro@maine.edu to save a space at the table. They serve us boxed lunches, so there will be a limited number of lunches. Whether you wish to eat lunch or not, please join us.

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Business Meeting Agenda

I. Announcements
II. Treasurer’s Report
III. Reports on 2003-04 Activities
IV. New Business
   A. Kalamazoo 2005
   B. Leeds 2005
   C. Medieval Academy 2005
   D. Medica: The Journal for the Study of Health and Healing in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period
   E. Officer Nomination Process
   F. Committee Membership
   G. medica.info, biz, or us?
V. Adjournment

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Planning For Next Year

If you would like to propose a session for Kalamazoo or Leeds next year, please do.

If your session is accepted, you will automatically be the organizer and chair of the session (unless other arrangements are made). Your fist step is to write a short rationale for the secretary to submit to the Medieval Congress organizers.

If your session is not accepted, we will gladly revisit it the following year.

Other History of Medicine Listserves

Though Medica seems to be the only listserves dedicated solely to Medieval (and Early Modern) medicine, there are several others dedicated to the history of medicine in general.

CADUCEUS History of Medicine Mailing List

To subscribe, send an email to ListProc@list.umaryland.edu with the command:

"SUBSCRIBE CADUCEUS-L Firstname Lastname" (without the quotes) in the body of the email.

The Medieval Science List

You may subscribe by sending the message:

"SUBSCRIBE" to medsci@kant.ch.umkc.edu.

History of Science: Med-Tech List

To join, send the following message to listserv@h-net.msu.edu:

subscribe name institution

A Few Noteworthy Online Resources

Jonathon Erlen (erlen@pitt.edu) maintains a monthly updated database of doctoral dissertations, world coverage, in the medical humanities, including pre-1800 history of medicine. The URL for this database is: http://www.hs1.pitt.edu/guides/ histmed/researchresources/dissertations/

The UCLA Index of Medieval Medical Images
http://digital.library.ucla.edu/immi/. (Click on Search)

The Society For The History Of Medieval Technology And Science

A society to promote, popularise and contribute to the study of European, Islamic, and Asian technology and science of the Middle Ages.

http://www.shmts.org/


http://medhist.ac.uk/
MEDICA
The Society For The Study Of Healing In The Middle Ages

Membership Form

Medica, The Society For The Study Of Healing In The Middle Ages, invites you to become a member or to renew your membership. The dues are $20 per year for tenured or tenure-track faculty. The dues for students, retired professors, and part-time faculty are $10 per year. You may pay ahead if you like. Membership runs from January to December.

If you are a new member or have new information, please fill in the form below. If you are a renewing member with all the same information, please simply fill in your name.

Name _________________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address ________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
City ______________________ State/Province _____________________ Area______________________
Country ______________________
E-Mail ________________________________________________________________________________
Affiliation (if not noted above) _____________________________________________________________
Office Phone ___________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone (optional) ___________________________________________________________________
Fax  __________________________________________________________________________________
Areas of Interest: ______________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(For Our Membership Listing, Mailed Only To Members)

Please send this sheet with your updated information, (if applicable), to:

  Gerard NeCastro
  Department of English
  9 O’Brien Avenue
  University of Maine at Machias
  Machias, ME 04654

Please make checks payable in US Dollars. (For those outside the US, it may be easiest to pay at the Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo at our yearly business meeting. If this is your preference, but would like to be on our mailing list, simply return this form indicating such.)

If you know anyone else who might be interested in joining, please pass this information along