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

We are now in our eighth year and moving toward some new ground. Bryon Grigsby has finished his extended term as our first Medica president; Carol Everest has served for one year as president; and Linda Keyser will take over as president at the Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo in May.

We have decided to set aside our online journal, Medica, for the time being and look for other venues for our energies, including Leeds and the Medieval Academy.

Medica’s purpose has always been to establish and maintain a friendly network of scholars interested in the varieties of healing in the Middle Ages. Medica invites new members. Please use the form at the end of this newsletter to become a member.

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

Contact Information

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Medica Listserve
medica@lists.maine.edu
To subscribe, please visit the web site.

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Forty-First International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan, 4-7 May 2006

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**

**Thursday, May 4, 10:00**
Session 37
Bernhard 204

*Wonder Drugs of the Middle Ages*
Organizer: Linda Ehrsam Voigts, Univ. of Missouri–Kansas City
Presider: Linda Ehrsam Voigts
Wonder Drugs in German Medico-Pharmaceutical Treatises of the Thirteenth through Sixteenth Century: Did They Really Work?
Francis B. Brévart, Univ. of Pennsylvania

The Mandrake: Medicine or Magic in Medieval Europe
Anne Van Arsdall, Univ. of New Mexico

The Search for Miracle Drugs in the Late Middle Ages and the Reason for It
John Riddle, North Carolina State Univ.

**Thursday, May 4, 12:00 noon**
Luncheon and Business Meeting
Bernhard Center, Room 205
Cost: $9

**Saturday, May 6, 10:00**
Session 399
Valley II Garneau Lounge

*Performing Medicine on the Early Page and Stage*
Co-Sponsored by The Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society (MRDS)

Organizer: Gerard NeCastro, U Maine–Machias
Presider: Gerard NeCastro [Peter Greefield]

Self-Medicating Women: Performing the Fasting Wife in Early Modern Drama
Hillary Nunn, Univ. of Akron

Genuflect and Rattle the Gourd: Performance and Medical Procedures in Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca’s La relación
Sandra L. Dahlberg, Univ. of Houston–Downtown

The Shrew as Faith Healer: The Dialogue between Natural and “Superstitious” Treatment in The Winter’s Tale
Joe Ricke, Taylor Univ.

**Saturday, May 6, 1:30**
Session 481
Bernhard 204

*Magic, Conception, and Childbirth*
Co-Sponsored by Societas Magica

Organizer: Claire Fanger, Independent Scholar

An Overview of Charms, Herbs, and Amulets in Medieval Women’s Birthing Practices
Ginger Guardiola, Colorado State Univ.–Fort Collins

How Æðelhild Expected When She Was Expecting: Prognostication and Self-Help in Anglo-Saxon England
John A. Geck, Univ. of Toronto

Magical Intervention in High Medieval Conception and Birth
Fiona Harris-Stoertz, Trent Univ.

Please Feel Free To Suggest Other Topics, Either at the Business Meeting or Any Other Time You Think of Them
Other Sessions of Interest

Unfortunately, the first of these is in direct conflict with our own Session 399.

Saturday, May 6, 10:00
Session 429
Bernhard 215
Potions and Charms: Artifice and Manipulation

Sponsor: Medieval Research Consortium, Univ. of California–Davis

Sexual Healing: Charms, Potions, and Female Healers Managing the Sexual Body in The Romance of Tristan and Yseut
Jennifer Wynne Hellwarth, Allegheny College

The English Trotula and the Magic Potion of Law
Teresa P. Reed, Jacksonville State Univ.

Betraying the Seal: The Promise and Failure of the Divine Name in the Byzantine Jewish Chronicle Megilat Ahimaatz
Julia Watts Belser, Univ. of California–Berkeley/Graduate Theological Union

Saturday, May 6, 3:30 p.m.
Session 524
Valley I 106
Health and Healing in Medieval Romance

Sponsor: Medieval Romance Society

Virginity Is the Cure: Lepers and Virgins in Hartmann von Aue’s Der arme Heinrich
Alissandra Paschkowiak, Univ. of Massachusetts–Amherst

In Relation with the Woman Healer: The Woman Healing Practitioner Questioning Gender Roles in Marie de France’s Eliduc and Lai des deus amans
Shahrzad Zahedi, Brown Univ.

Marie’s Alchemical Code: Deciphering Alchemical Elements of Healing and Harmony in Marie de France’s Lai de Lanval
Kit Wong, Simon Fraser Univ.

Other Papers of Interest

Briefly Noted

Only papers of related materials are included. Full listings of the sessions, of course, are in the official program.

Thursday, May 4, 1:30
Session 110
Sangren 2207

French Drama

Medical Moralities and Realities in Nicolas de La Chesnaye’s La Condamnation de banquet
Timothy J. Tomasik, Valparaiso Univ.

Thursday, May 4, 7:30
Session 186
Valley II LeFevre Lounge

Avignon in the Fourteenth Century
Sponsor: 14th Century Society

Petrarch versus the Doctors: Medical and Poetic Authority in the Avignon Curia
Julie Singer, Duke Univ.

Physicians and the Practice of Medicine in Fourteenth-Century Avignon
Daniel LeBlevec, Univ. of Montpellier

Friday, May 5, 1:30
Session 300
Fetzer 2020

Codicological Contexts for Works of Magic I
Sponsor: Societas Magica and the Research Group on Manuscript Evidence

The Healer and the Book: Rituals in Late Medieval Remedy Books
Lea Olsan, Univ. of Louisiana–Monroe

Continued On Next Page
Other Papers of Interest
Briefly Noted
(Continued)

Friday, May 5, 3:30 p.m.
Session 373
Bernhard 215
Black Death III: Responses to the Plague
Sponsor: 14th Century Society
Organizer: David C. Mengel, Xavier Univ.
The Plague and Chaucer’s Spiritual Healers: The Pardoner, the Parson, and the Diseased Soul
Jake Walsh Morrissey, McGill Univ.

Saturday, May 6, 1:30
Session 486
Bernhard 212
The Influence of Classical Arabic/Islamic Religious Philosophical Thought
Sponsor: Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science (SSIPS)
Medicine and the Saints: Healing as Politics in Pre-Protectorate Morocco
Ellen Amster, Univ. of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Saturday, May 6, 1:30
Session 490
Bernhard Faculty Lounge
Devotional Manuscripts
A “Medicyne of Wordes”: Healing through the Book of Hours
Stephanie L. Volf, Arizona State Univ.
Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Graduate Student Prize Winner

Saturday, May 6, 1:30
Session 512
Valley III Stinson Lounge
The Abbey of Saint-Victor, Paris: Life and Thought
Medicines for All Our Sins: Hugh of Saint Victor’s Theology of the Holy Spirit
Juliet Mousseau, St. Louis Univ.

Special Thanks
To Bryon Grigsby

As the friends and members of Medica well know, Bryon Grigsby was one of the founding members of Medica and has always played a major part in shaping the organization and its direction.

He served Medica for no less than five years, helping to get our fledgling organization off the ground, recruiting new members, and looking for new opportunities. Though the online journal Medica, did not succeed in its first attempt, we all agree it was a wonderful idea. His enthusiasm for all things Medica has helped to make the organization a success.

Bryon’s dedication to Centenary College has drawn much of his energy away from Medieval Studies and toward administration. We hope, nonetheless, that he will always be a part of our organization.

From all of us to you, Bryon, we extend a hardy Thank You. May the spirits of Cosmos and Damien be with you!
Calls for Papers

International Medieval Congress

IMC 2007 call for papers
The fourteenth International Medieval Congress will take place in Leeds, from 9-12 July 2007.

Medieval Cities
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
9-12 July 2007

Medieval towns and cities shaped the world in which we live today. Many had ancient predecessors, but their distinctive evolution in post-Roman times underlies the cultural and political structures of modern Europe. Few regions were highly-urbanised, but everywhere was to some degree influenced by networks of cities and lesser centres – as sites of marketing and manufacture, and as symbols and instruments of power and belief. Cities gave identities to territories, shaped landscapes and states, facilitated movement, and promoted new social, cultural, intellectual, and ideological forms. As icons of order they were influential channels of communication, both with the past and with ideas of heaven and the future. They also offered fertile ground for the elaboration of myth. Cities linked Europe to the wider world, through exchanges with counterparts in Africa and Asia.

The Leeds IMC has selected this theme to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the foundation of the borough of Leeds by its manorial lord, an event which established the physical framework of the later town as it is still visible in the commercial city of today. The Congress will include sessions devoted to Leeds but is also an ideal venue for bringing together the wide variety of recent scholarship in many disciplines which has had a bearing on cities in medieval Europe and neighbouring territories. We specially invite papers that cross traditional boundaries of discipline and topic.

Aspects of this thematic strand may include:

- The impact of cities on territories
- The symbolic landscape of cities
- The representation of cities in graphic art
- Medieval cities in the modern world: conservation, museums, historiography, tourism

The IMC seeks to provide an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of all aspects of Medieval Studies. At the IMC 2007, sessions and papers on the special thematic strand ‘Medieval Cities’ are particularly encouraged. However, as in previous years, papers and sessions on all aspects of the study of the European Middle Ages are most welcome.

We prefer proposals to be completed online www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc – a quick, easy, and secure method. Paper proposals must be submitted by 31 August 2006; session proposals must be submitted by 30 September 2006. The IMC welcomes session and paper proposals submitted in all major European languages.

For a Proposal Form and further details please contact:

Axel E. W. Müller
International Medieval Congress
Institute for Medieval Studies
Parkinson 1.03
University of Leeds
LEEDS, LS2 9JT
UK
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3614
Fax: +44 (0)113 343 3616
Email: IMC@leeds.ac.uk
www.leeds.ac.uk/ims

Medica at Leeds

Interested in organizing a Medica session for Leeds? Have a good session topic? The deadline is August 31.
Calls for Papers

Society For The Social History Of Medicine
2006 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize Competition

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions to its 2006 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 at http://www.sshm.org/prize/prize.html

Dr Lutz Sauerteig
Centre for the History of Medicine and Disease
Durham University
Queen’s Campus
Wolfson Research Institute
University Boulevard
Stockton on Tees TS17 6BH
United Kingdom.

The deadline for entries is: 31 December 2006

Looking for further Calls or Papers?

The best source to find the majority of Calls for Papers is at the University of Pennsylvania Calls for Papers site, which can easily be found at http://cfp.english.upenn.edu/

New Medica Officers

As you will learn in the business meeting, we are preparing for elections of a new Vice President. We will take nominations at this year’s meeting. If the membership feels that we are ready for a vote, there shall be a vote. If the membership feels that more time is needed for gathering candidates, the vote will take place at next year’s Medica meeting.

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.

Publishing Opportunities

Journal of Medical Humanities

Journal of Medical Humanities is seeking manuscripts that reflect its enlarged focus on interdisciplinary inquiry in medicine and medical education.

Therese Jones, Ph.D.
Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, MSC 7730
San Antonio TX 78229-3900

e-mail: jonest2@uthscsa.edu
telephone: 210.567.0810
fax: 210.567.0805

Bulletin of the History of Medicine

The leading journal in its field for more than three quarters of a century, the Bulletin is the official publication of the American Association for the History of Medicine and the Johns Hopkins Institute of the History of Medicine. Each issue spans the social, cultural, and scientific aspects of the history of medicine worldwide and includes reviews of recent books on medical history.

Submissions should be addressed to:
The Editors
Bulletin of the History of Medicine
1900 East Monument Street
Baltimore, MD 21205
USA
Tel.: 410-955-3179
FAX: 410-502-6819
e-mail: bhm@jhmi.edu
Forthcoming Conferences

Disease And Disability In Northern Europe, 400-1200
Professional Development Centre The Medical School University of Birmingham (UK)
8 – 9 July 2006

The conference aims to be a forum for scholars working on the topic in a variety of disciplines and regions of Northern Europe, including all aspects of disease and disability in early medieval Europe. The conference will explore sickness and the status of the afflicted from a range of different angles, such as archaeology, palaeopathology, as well as linguistic and historical evidence.

Organising Committee

Dr Sally Crawford
(Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham)

Dr Christina Lee
(School of English Studies, University of Nottingham)

Robert Arnott
(Centre for the History of Medicine, University of Birmingham Medical School)

(The full program, including the registration form, will be made available until July 9 at www.umm.maine.edu/medica/birmingham.doc)

40th Congress of the International Society for the History of Medicine

The 40th Congress of the International Society for the History of Medicine (ISHM) on August 26-30, 2006 will be hosted by The Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Hungarian Society for History of Medicine.

See the website at http://www.ishm2006.hu

Main Topics
History of medical education and medical schools
History of education of pharmacy at medical universities
History of social medicine

Influence of Hungary and of Central Europe upon the development of medicine

Varia

Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Office for International Cooperation
Ms Klara Papp
1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 7.
Hungary

E-mail: info@ishm2006.hu
Tel: 36-1-327-3000/2538
Fax: 36-1-411-6370

Emotion and Gesture
International Medieval Congress, Leeds 10-13 July 2006

www.leeds.ac.uk/ims

Graduate Student Award?

Various members of Medica ve long talked about the possibility of giving a prize or travel grant to graduate students who present papers in Medica sessions at Kalamazoo.

What do you think about this possibility? What would the criteria be? How would we go about judging?

As you can see, this is one of our topics under New Business. Any thoughts?
**Business Meeting and Luncheon**  
**Thursday, Noon**  
**Bernhard 205**

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 2005-06 Activities
IV. New Business
   A. Kalamazoo 2007
      Up to three sessions. Organizers needed.
   B. Leeds 2007
      Any interested parties?
   C. Medieval Academy 2007
      Any interested parties?
   D. V-P Nominations
      Vote, if appropriate.
   E. Graduate Student Prize?
   F. Committee Membership
      Are any necessary?
   G. Other
V. Adjournment

**********

**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 first 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.

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**The Medica Listserv**

The good news is that the Medica Listserv is up and running again. The bad news is that not everyone has been re-added. If you have not received any messages lately, you are not on the listserv.

Whether you are a new member or old, if you want to be added to the listserv, please follow the instructions below. If all else fails, simply email Gerard NeCastro at necastro@maine.edu.

Medica's Listserv is operated via the University of Maine at Machias.

To subscribe to Medica, please send a message to listserv@lists.maine.edu. The message you send should read "subscribe medica firstname lastname". Of course, do not include the quotation marks, and you should include your own first and last names. There is no need to include anything in the subject heading.

Within forty-eight hours you will receive a confirmation that you have been added to the list, and you will be free to communicate with others in the group.

**Important:** When writing to other members on the list, please be sure to mail your messages to medica@lists.maine.edu. To send a message to the list owner (if you need to change anything about your subscription), please send a message to listserv@lists.maine.edu.

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**Medica Web Site**

http://www.umm.maine.edu/medica
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 all the items below. If you are a renewing member with all the same information, please simply fill in items 1, 13, and 14.

1. Name _________________________________________________________________________________

2. Mailing Address __________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

3. City _____________________   4. State/Province _____________________


7. E-Mail ________________________________________________________________________________

8. Affiliation (if not noted above) ____________________________________________________________________

9. Office Phone _____________________________ 10. Home Phone (optional) ___________________________

11. Fax  __________________________________________________________________________________

12. Areas of Interest: __________________________________________________________________________

13. If you do not already part of it, would you like to be added to the Medica listserv?  (The Medica listserv is a rather quiet listserv, but is helpful at least a couple weeks each year.) ___ Yes     ___ No

14. Medica sometimes is asked by non-profit/scholarly organizations for a list of its members and friends. Would you like to be included on such mailings? ___ Yes     ___ No

Please send this form 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