



Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies

Victoria College in the University of Toronto
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Newsletter
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CRRS Welcomes Spring with a Festival of Special Events!



This issue of the CRRS Newsletter comes to you with a brochure outlining the events of our second annual Renaissance Spring Festival. Each year, Victoria College hosts undergraduate courses on Renaissance themes, which the CRRS supports with a dazzling array of special events. This summer, the students in six courses from the departments of English, Italian Studies, Fine Art, and History will have the opportunity to attend free concerts, lectures, documentaries, and workshops to enhance their experience of the Renaissance. All events are open to the public, and nearly all are free. We hope that you'll join us. Our thanks go to the Festival's Coordinator, Dr. **Manuela Scarci**.

New Endowment for Renaissance Studies

On 20 April 2007, Olga and Guido Pugliese met with President Paul Gooch in the presence of Nick Terpstra, to sign the donor agreement to establish **The Olga and Guido Pugliese Scholarship in Italian Renaissance Studies** with the following terms: awarded annually to students to travel to Italy in order to undertake formal university-level studies in the Italian Renaissance. First priority will be given to Victoria College Students registered in the Renaissance Studies Program. Priority is also given to those students planning on studying in Italy for a full academic year or a semester.

Matching funds from the James Morrow Regents Matching Fund are available for this and other in-course scholarships or scholarships for international study.

Applications for support from the new endowment will be accepted for the 2009–2010 academic year.



Olga Pugliese is the Director of the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, and a faculty member of the Italian Studies department. **Guido Pugliese** is a faculty member of the Department of French, German, and Italian at the University of Toronto, Mississauga.

Renaissance Studies: The Year in Review and The Year Ahead -- Virginia Strain

Since 2002, enrolment in the Renaissance Studies Program has doubled. "It is a tribute to the excellent faculty that we have teaching and the exciting new courses that were added in the past few years," explains Professor **Nicholas Terpstra**, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Renaissance Studies Program.

This year, the Specialist Program was launched, which adds two language courses and an independent studies research course to the existing Major. One new specialist is already hard at work with Professor Terpstra: "**Colin Rose** is conducting primary source research on the rituals surrounding executions in Italy." Two others will be conducting research on Italian literature (and women writers in particular) this summer with Professor **Konrad Eisenbichler**. "The Research course offers students an excellent and exciting opportunity to get deeply involved in research with faculty members, and gives them the kinds of tools that they will need in graduate work," Professor Terpstra concluded.

In 2007–2008, the Renaissance Studies Program will add a new course, VIC342H "Women and Writing in the Renaissance," taught by Professor **Manuela Scarci** (Italian Studies). "For the first time in the Renaissance women were writing in significant numbers," explains Professor Scarci, who hopes "that students, both male and female, will flock to this course; here they will learn that progress toward gender equality started long ago." She concluded, "I think students will be surprised to find out how 'fresh' these texts are, how relevant they still are, and that, through the ages, they still speak directly to us."

In the past year the Renaissance Students' Association played an instrumental role in developing events to enhance the undergraduate academic experience. The executive committee, **Priscilla McAuliffe** and **Elizabeth Pulickeel**, organized seminars that subjected pop culture to academic investigation. To follow up on last year's popular seminar 'Decoding The Da Vinci Code,' this spring they hosted 'Florence CSI: The Medici Bones,' in which expert panelists inspected forensic evidence to determine

whether Duke Cosimo di Medici murdered two of his children. For several years, the RSA has fostered an enthusiastic undergraduate culture, including its own newsletter. It not only provides opportunities for socialization in an otherwise formidably-sized university, but it also introduces undergraduates to the methodologies and contributions of active and renowned scholars outside the traditional classroom setting.

Toronto and the Medici Archive Project

With the recent appointment of **Timothy McGee** as Senior Scholar for the Medici Archive Project, the ties between the University of Toronto and the Project grow ever stronger. In 2006, on the retirement of Project founder **Edward Goldberg**, **Ippolita Morgese** assumed the presidency of the Project, and in January, McGee, retired from the U of T Faculty of Music, was appointed to oversee the scholarly aspect.

From its beginning, the Project has been closely associated with the web designers at the U of T Library's Information Technology Services (**Sian Meikle**) and with the Iter bibliography (**William Bowen**). One of the first Fellows at the Project was a U of T History graduate (**Antonio Ricci**). In November 2006, Morgese visited the CRRS in order to establish even closer relations between the two institutions.

The Medici Archive Project has as its objective to put summaries of the roughly three million documents in the Mediceo del Principato files in the Archivio di Stato of Florence, covering the years of the Medici Grandukes (1537–1743) online in a searchable database.

In April 2006, the Project achieved a significant milestone by launching an online test version of Documentary Sources for the Arts & Humanities in the Medici Granducal Archive, 1537–1743, at <http://documents.medici.org/>. You are invited to explore the site and to follow its progress as new documents are uploaded each month. For more information on the project and its fellowships see: www.medici.org



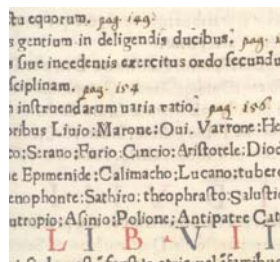
Facsimile Editions at the CRRS Virginia Strain and Elizabeth Pulickeel

Among the rare books, editions, and critical studies of the CRRS collection are a number of beautifully produced facsimiles of texts that span the Renaissance and Reformation. The development of the facsimile as a research tool in the last half century can be charted by looking at the Centre's rich examples.

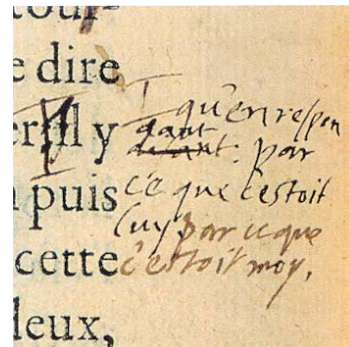
Series such as *The English Experience*, which began publishing in the 1970s, reproduced textual facsimiles of titles from the early modern period, preserving the original typeface. **David Galbraith**, Director of the Book History Program and Associate Professor of English explains, "When *The English Experience* came out, its impact was extensive. It made accessible a comprehensive number of titles from the period that stretched far beyond the literary texts." Then came the Early English Books Online project – available at <http://eebo.chadwyck.com/home>

One disadvantage of EEBO is the fact that its collection is comprised of digitized microfilms which limits the extent of bibliographic investigations that can be accomplished. "But these kinds of advancements," continues Professor Galbraith, "still force researchers today to investigate the individuality of texts more rigorously and to take into consideration the impact of material production on the transmission and reception of titles."

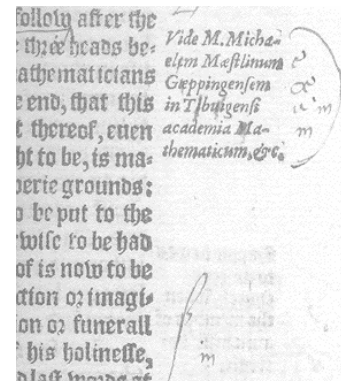
Facsimiles produced in recent years have taken advantage of technological advances to reproduce as many of those textual singularities as possible, such as paper transparency, damages, (dis)colouration, misprints, and even binding. One of the newest additions to the Centre's collection, a facsimile edition of the sixteenth-century printing of Roberto Valturio's *De Re Militari* (2006) reflects these advancements.



Philippe Desan's facsimile edition of the *Essais de Montaigne* (2002) reproduces the author's own copy including his extensive marginalia.



Cyndia Susan Clegg's facsimile of Holinshed's *Chronicles* (2005), with textual commentary by Randall McLeod, goes beyond the limits of the single text experience. It provides perspectives on multiple copies of the 1587 edition that demonstrate together the variations caused by the censorship processes that the text was subjected to during Elizabeth's reign.



"The materiality of the book is essential to its being," explains **Scott Schofield**, PhD candidate in English, CRRS Fellow, and creator of the Centre's copy-specific annotated bibliography of the rare book collection's English STC titles. "One main difference between EEBO and, for instance, the collection's new facsimile editions of Holinshed's *Chronicles* and the *Essais de Montaigne* is that the facsimiles reproduce the proportions of the publication, suggesting original reading conditions. Obviously these two folios were not portable pocketbooks. Facsimile editions like these, like the rare books themselves, enable investigations into the kind of reading that the texts were designed for."

Exciting Acquisitions for the Collection

The Centre's library was fortunate enough to purchase two rare books from the Italian dealer Alberto Govi this year. The first is a sammelband of five tracts from the 1530s by the reformer Johannes Cochlaeus [BR338 .A663]; the second is a short pamphlet by Erasmus, *De civilitate morum puerilium* (Paris: Simon de Colines, 1537) [BJ2007 .D81 E6].

We have also augmented our microfilm holdings of the Complete State Papers Domestic by adding another 230 reels that cover the years of the reign of King Charles I of England. The new reels are currently in cataloguing and should be available for consultation by 1 June 2007.

New Professorship in Renaissance Studies

A new fundraising campaign by the Office of Alumni Advancement at Victoria University is underway. The goal is an endowment of \$500,000 for a rotating professorship in Renaissance Studies.

Natalie Zemon Davis Prize Announcement

Renaissance and Reformation/Renaissance et Réforme is pleased to announce that Professor **Richard Hillman** (Centre d'Études Supérieures de la Renaissance) was awarded the 2007 Natalie Zemon Davis Prize for his essay "De-Centring the Countess' Circle: Mary Sidney Herbert and Cleopatra", which appears in issue 28:1.

CRRS Alumni News

Konrad Eisenbichler, Past Director

Travis DeCook (Graduate Fellow, 2005–2006) has accepted a tenure-track position at Carleton University in the Department of English Language and Literature.

Mary Alice Elcock (Corbet Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2006–2007) has been accepted into UBC's MA Publishing program.

Dennis Ngien (CRRS Fellow) has published a new monograph, *Luther as a Spiritual Advisor: the Interface of Theology and Piety in Luther's Devotional Writings* (UK: Paternoster Press, 2007).

Elizabeth Pulickeel (Corbet Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2006–2007) has accepted a full-time staff position with the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto.

Margaret Reeves (Curator, 2001–2002) has accepted a tenure-track position teaching Milton and seventeenth-century English literature in the Critical Studies department at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan in Kelowna, BC.

Alan Shepard (CRRS Fellow and Editor, *Renaissance and Reformation/Renaissance et Réforme*) has been appointed Provost and Vice-President, Academic at Ryerson University.

Jamie Smith (Graduate Fellow, 2004–2005) has had her adjunct teaching position in History converted to tenure-track status at Alma College in Michigan.

Michael Ulyot (Graduate Fellow and Webmaster, 2004–2006) has accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Calgary teaching early seventeenth-century poetry and non-Shakespearian drama.

Do you have news? We'd love to hear from you: konrad.eisenbichler@utoronto.ca