

THE THIRD ANNUAL QUADRIVIUM SYMPOSIUM SCOTT ANDERSON



The third annual Quadrivium Symposium, which ran at the University of Birmingham on the 8th and 9th of November, 2007, was a great success. A training event for doctoral students working in the field of medieval textual cultures, the symposium was organised by Prof. Wendy Scase of the UK Medieval Manuscripts Research Consortium, and funded by the University of Birmingham Graduate School. Eleven facilitators from Birmingham and other universities ran five

interactive workshop sessions with around forty students. Students were first invited to exchange information about their own Ph.D. projects and raise issues they wanted to discuss at the symposium. Subsequent sessions explored the material culture of medieval texts, the recovery of the visual from non-manuscript medieval sources (wall painting, glass and panel painting), and the use of paper evidence in codicological and bibliographical research. Finally, a session run by recent Ph.D. graduates and post-docs addressed the practical issue of living life after the Ph.D. The symposium also provided a great opportunity for students and lecturers from over a dozen different universities to meet, share ideas and, not least, enjoy themselves in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere at the wine reception and meals.



The website for the 2007 symposium remains online at http://www.english.bham.ac.uk/Quadrivium/quadrivium_web/prog.html. The Quadrivium Programme, which was established with UK Arts and Humanities Research Council funding, will continue to provide training for Ph.D. students who are registered in UK universities on doctorates in medieval English textual cultures. For further information, see <http://www.arts.gla.ac.uk/quadrivium/index.htm>. We all look forward to next years fourth annual Quadrivium Symposium.

For more about Medieval English Studies at Birmingham, visit
<http://www.medievalenglish.bham.ac.uk/>