MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the American Boccaccio Association was convened by President Victoria Kirkham on Saturday, December 28, 1991, in the Sierra Conference Room 5C of the San Francisco Marriott. Approximately 40 members and guests were in attendance. Following brief announcements, four papers were delivered: "Converting Alibech: Rustico's Hellish Paradise Reconsidered," Diane Vacca, Yale Univ.; "La lingua conosce la storia," Pier Massimo Forni, Johns Hopkins Univ.; "La presenza del Boccaccio nelle novelle dell'Innamorato, del Mambrino, e del Furioso," Antonio Franceschetti, Univ. of Toronto, Scarborough; "In Sickness and in Health: Women and Comic Society in Boccaccio and Shakespeare," Kay Stanton, California State Univ., Fullerton.

Other Boccaccio Association events at the MLA convention included a Lectura Boccaccii by Prof. Susan Noakes, Univ. of Minnesota, on Decameron 2.8, and a cash bar held in conjunction with the Dante Society of America.

LECTURAE BOCCACCII

Here's an updated schedule of the Lecturae Boccaccii for Day 2 of the Decameron. Look for the upcoming Lecturae at the following conferences (an asterisk denotes a Lectura that has already been given):

2.1 Kevin Brownlee, Univ. of Pennsylvania AAIS, 1993
Please note that, in order to keep to our plan to complete the Day 2 Lecturae in a three-year cycle, we have scheduled two readings for the 1992 MLA in New York. As a result, we will not be soliciting papers for our annual meeting section, as has been traditional. We will return to the regular annual meeting format in 1993.

UPDATE ON PENNTIP AND THE PENN BOCCACCIO PROJECT

Penntip, the Penn Text-Image Project to create a database of images centering around the works of Giovanni Boccaccio, has completed its first phase of investigation. Penntip was conceived in 1988 by Victoria Kirkham and Ivy Codis of the Department of Romance Languages at the Univ. of Pennsylvania. It has proceeding in conjunction with Penn Boccaccio, a continuing team project directed by Kirkham that will computer-link full texts of Boccaccio's works with their Renaissance illustrations.

Penntip, which has been funded by the University Research Foundation and developed in conjunction with the Dean's office for computing, has three tasks: data collection, on-line image cataloguing, and catalogue-image linking and retrieval. For this initial phase of the project, 400 black and white reproductions of manuscript illustrations of Boccaccio's Decameron and Teseida were assembled from museums and libraries in the United States and Europe. These images were digitized using a desk-top computer and catalogued in a database.

The catalog currently resides in Superbase 4, a Microsoft Windows database. It presents information about manuscripts containing the images and also about each single image. Catalogue information on the manuscripts (e.g., where they are housed by city and library and call number, medium, date) is based on Vittore Branca, "Boccaccio visualizzato - Primo elenco di codici illustrati," Studi sul Boccaccio 15 (1985-86). For each image, information includes the textual passage it illustrates, a brief descriptive caption, and an index of key words identifying objects depicted.

Eventually, the images with their textual information will be computer-linked to the full texts of the Decameron and the Teseida, which are already available in electronic form. For now, images can be retrieved from the database based on criteria supplied by the researcher. They can be viewed on screen or printed in hard copy.

BOCCACCIO'S DECAMERON: TOWARD A CRITICAL LEXICON

AUTHOR'S QUERY

Margie Burns seeks information on copies of Apollonius of Tyre bound together with the Griselda story. Members knowing of any such examples should address her at 6113 Lombard St., Cheverly, MD 20785. For more information on her research, see "Oedipus and Apollonius," International Journal of Moral and Social Studies 7.1 (1992) 3-17.

MEMBERS REPORT ACTIVITIES

Nora M. Beck is currently finishing her dissertation entitled The Aesthetics of Music in the Tuscan Trecento, which relies on an examination of music in the Decameron. She would very much like to share her findings with members of the Association.


Janet Smarr's study, "Boccaccio and Renaissance Women Writers," is forthcoming in Studi sul Boccaccio.

RECENT CONFERENCES

12th Annual Conference of the American Association for Italian Studies, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, April 9-12, 1992

Boccaccio and the Classical Heritage

"Boccaccio's Elegia and the Uses of Classics," Janet Smarr, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana

"Elements of Attic and Roman Law in Decameron 10.8," Rose T. Antosiewicz, Univ. of New Hampshire

"Ovide démoralisé: The Making of a Genealogia," James L. Fuchs, Univ. of Rhode Island

Literature and Authority in the Trecento


Italian Linguistics: The Languages of the Renaissance

"The Evolving Lie: Rhetoric, Gender, and Indirection in Boccaccio and Castiglione," Teresa A. Kennedy, Mary Washington College
The Decameron and Its Influence

"Per una lettura ludica del Decameron," Michelangelo Picone, Universität Zürich

"In forma della donna: An Analysis of Decameron 3.5," Olivia Holmes, Northwestern Univ.

"Boccaccio in Marguerite de Navarre's Heptameron: The Muted Confronts the Dominant," Silvia R. Fiore, Univ. of South Florida

IMPORTANT: DUES NEWS

A hearty thanks, as always, to all members who have recently paid their dues. Those of you who have not yet paid ($5 regular member/$15 sustaining member): please send your check or money order (Canadian members: US funds, please), together with your name and mailing address. We've provided our convenient form, and you may now pay for one year ($5) or two ($10).

If you haven't noticed our new address labels, please take a look now. You'll see a date in the upper right-hand corner of label. That's the expiration date of your Boccaccio Association membership. We hope this added feature will help you keep track of when your dues are due. Naturally, a date earlier than this month reflects an expired membership.

Now that the ABA sponsors the Lecturae Boccaccii, followed by receptions for the participants, our expenses have increased significantly. We ask those of you who can to support our projects financially by becoming sustaining members of the Association.
AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

Name __________________________________________ Institution _______________________

Mailing Address ________________________________________________________________

Membership: Regular $5.00 - 1 year ______ New
$10.00 - 2 years
Sustaining $15/year ______ Renewal

Membership nominee _____________________________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________

Send this form along with your dues to Michael Sherberg, Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University, Campus Box 1077, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++ CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Name __________________________________________ Institution _______________________

1. Work in progress:

2. Announcements:

3. Boccaccio bibliography:

4. Other:

Mail to: Boccaccio Newsletter, c/o Michael Sherberg, Romance Languages and Literatures,
Washington University, Campus Box 1077, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

NOTA BENE: Christopher Kleinhenz, editor of the BOCCACCIO BIBLIOGRAPHY that appears annually in
the Fall ABA Newsletter, would appreciate any special information you might have on publications that he could
integrate with his own findings.