

Boccaccio Newsletter

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the American Boccaccio Association was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on December 30, 1993, in the Jasper Room of the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, with President Christopher Kleinhenz presiding.

President Kleinhenz made a number of brief announcements about 1) the need to increase the membership of the Association, 2) the desirability of voluntary contributions toward the publication of volume 1 of *Lectura Boccaccii*, and 3) the status of the *Lectura Boccaccii* series. With regard to item two, he noted that the Association will contribute \$200 toward the publication of the first volume.

Volume 1 of *Lectura Boccaccii*, edited by Elissa Weaver, is being prepared for publication by the Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, and volume 2, edited by Victoria Kirkham, is under consideration at the same press. Pier Massimo Forni (Johns Hopkins Univ.), the coordinator of the *lecturae* for the *terza giornata*, announced the Paolo Valesio (Yale Univ.) would be presenting the inaugural reading for Day Three later the same afternoon (3:30) on the seventh *novella*. Anthony Cassell (Univ. of Illinois) will be presenting the ninth *novella* of Day Three at the annual meeting of the American Association for Italian Studies in Madison (Wisconsin), April 7-10, 1994. Louise Clubb (Univ. of California, Berkeley) has also agreed to do a reading. Prof. Forni welcomes proposals for readings of other stories for the third day.

Pres. Kleinhenz reminded those in attendance of the mid-March deadline for submission of proposals for the 1994 MLA meeting in San Diego. The 1994 MLA meeting will feature two sessions sponsored by the Association: one open session with three papers one session featuring a *lectura*. He also noted that the ballot for Vice-President included in the Fall Newsletter must be returned to Michael Sherberg by January 15, 1994.

Following these announcements, the following three speakers presented their papers:

Marga Cottino-Jones (Univ. of California, Los Angeles): "Medieval Fantasies: Other Worlds and the Representation of the Other in the *Decameron*."

Eugenio Giusti (Vassar Coll.): "Boccaccio, Pasolini, Busi: La riscrittura del testo e la sua funzione anti-istituzionale."

Regina Psaki (Univ. of Oregon): "Boccaccio and Female Sexuality: Gendered and Eroticized Landscapes."

Following a short question period and in the absence of any other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Members Report Activities

Shirley S. Allen's article on the Griselda tale, originally published in *Philological Quarterly* 58 (1977): 1-12, has been reprinted in the reference series *Short Story Criticism* 10 (1992), published by Gale Research.

Marga Cottino-Jones has published "Desire and the Fantastic in the *Decameron*," *Italica* 70 (1993): 1-18. Her book, *Il dir novellando: Modello e deviazione*, a study of the post-*Decameron* novella, has appeared with Salerno Editrice (Rome).

Christopher Nissen's book, *Ethics of Retribution in the Decameron and the Later Medieval Italian Novella*, has appeared with the Edwin Mellen Univ. Press.

Jeffrey Schnapp has published "A Commentary on Commentary in Boccaccio," *South Atlantic Quarterly* 91.4 (Nov. 1992): 813-834.

Diane Vacca is at work on a book manuscript, *Captive Women*, which will offer a gendered reading of the *Decameron* and explore Boccaccio's association of women and interpretation.

Call for Essays

Regina Psaki seeks essays for a volume tentatively entitled *Feminist Criticism and Boccaccio*. Contributions may address metadisciplinary issues, specific textual analyses, reception, etc. Please address inquiries to: Regina Psaki, Romance Languages, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403.

Recent Conference Papers

(Editor's Note: This longstanding feature of the Boccaccio Newsletter seeks to inform readers of the ongoing direction of Boccaccio (and related) studies in North America. Since many conference papers only find their way into print long after their delivery, while still others are never published at all, our conference papers section seeks to bridge both time and space, getting the news to you faster. However, given the multitude of conferences that clutter our academic landscape, it is not always possible to keep track of every relevant paper. Therefore, please let the editor know if you are delivering a paper, and your talk will be included here.)

American Association of Teachers of Italian, San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 20-22, 1993

Adriano Comollo, Brigham Young Univ.: "Fratelli, suore ed ecclesiastici vari nel *Decameron* del Boccaccio."

American Association for Italian Studies, Madison, Wisconsin, April 7-10, 1994

Rose Antosiewicz, Univ. of New Hampshire: "The *Filocolo*: Boccaccio as *Volgarizzatore* and the Metamorphosis of a Genre."

David Bénéteau, Seton Hall Univ.: "Il peggior uomo che mai nascesse."

Nancy Canepa, Dartmouth Coll.: "G.B. Basile's *Lo cunto de li cunti* and the Birth of the Literary Fairy Tale."

Joseph Consoli, Rutgers Univ.: "The Female Narrative Voice in Boccaccio's *Fiammetta*."