



newsletter Boccaccio



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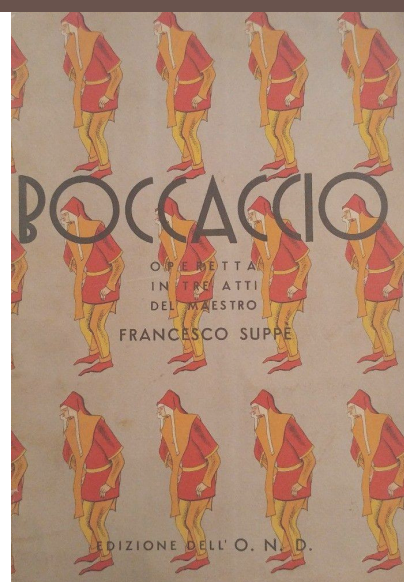
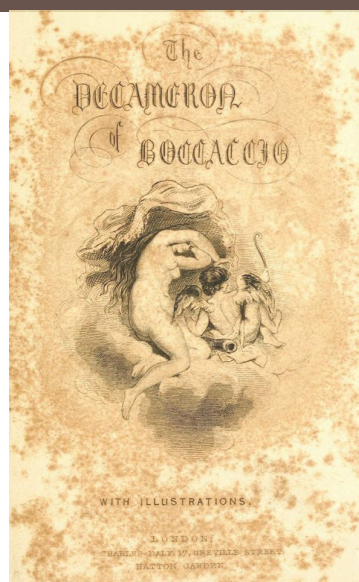
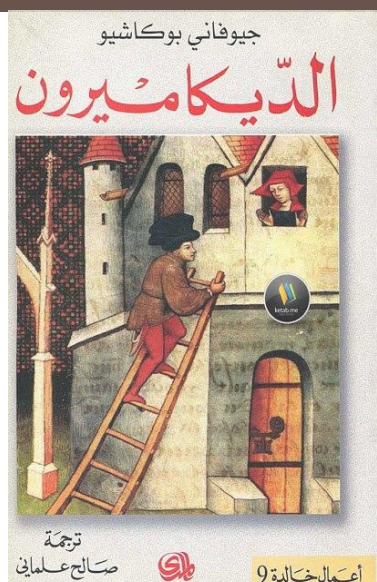
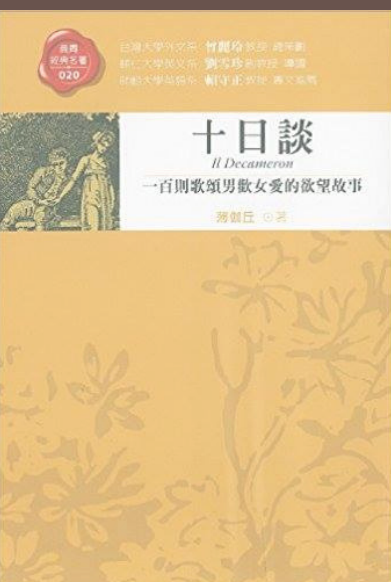
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ABA Officers:

Simone Marchesi, Princeton University, President
Kristina Olson, George Mason University, Vice President
Valerio Cappozzo, University of Mississippi, Secretary
Fabian Alfie, University of Arizona, Treasurer



Message from the President

SIMONE MARCHESI

Dear Friends in Boccaccio,
I hope this finds you all well at the start of 2018. I am writing to express again my gratitude and enthusiasm for the opportunity I have been given to serve the Association as President. I also have a few updates about our activities that may be of interest to you. I will start with an introduction of the Association's new slate of officers elected in the June round of voting. They do not need an introduction, of course, but I would not miss an opportunity to express my appreciation for them and thank them for their volunteer work on behalf of the Association. As you know, **Kristina Olson** of George Mason University is continuing her service in the Association as Vice President. Many of us are familiar with and have benefited from her work on Boccaccio, which has culminated in her 2014 book *Courtesy Lost: Dante, Boccaccio and the Literature of History*.



Valerio Cappozzo of the University of Mississippi, who has been elected as Secretary, is known for his research on medieval dream interpretation manuals (his *Dizionario dei sogni nel Medioevo. Il Somniare Danielis in manoscritti letterari* is now in press), and their impact on the mobilization of dreams in literature.

Fabian Alfie from the University of Arizona has taken up the role of Treasurer. His expertise on medieval comic literature, from Cecco Angiolieri to Rustico Filippi through Dante and Boccaccio himself, is known to all. I am thankful to be working with them; they are the real engine of the Association, not only maintaining it on a steady course, but also promoting new initiatives and bringing them to fruition.

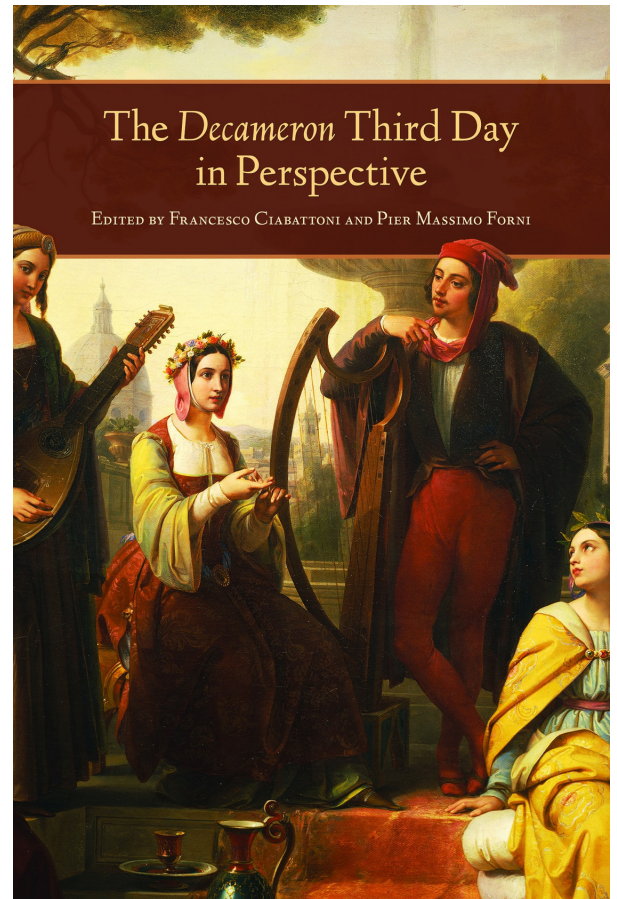
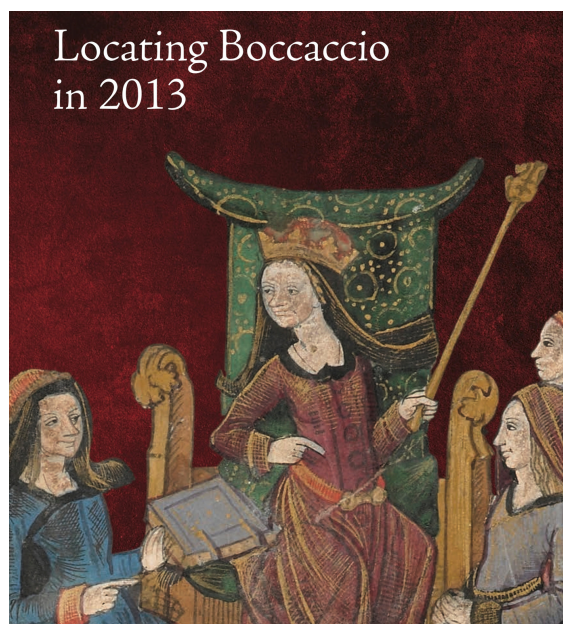
A case in point is the organization of the 2019 edition of the Triennial Conference, which is being developed in collaboration with Jelena Todorović at the University of Wisconsin Madison. More details about this event will be shared as they become available.

The best way to keep abreast of all ABA initiatives is our website available at <http://www.abaonline.us>. There we publish in real time all relevant information about upcoming events, the Association prizes, and provide links to external projects and events relating to Boccaccio. Among these, I am happy to note the release of Volume 14 (2017) of «*Heliotropia*», the journal of our Association published under the editorial aegis of Michael Papio. You can find this year's rich issue, which collects the proceedings of the Manchester conference devoted to *Locating Boccaccio*, at the address <http://www.heliotropia.org>.

The Association presence on the web has also been enriched, thanks to the passion and valiant efforts of Valerio Cappozzo, by a new presence on social media. If you are on Facebook, I hope you may consider joining the group devoted to the Association:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/796853600461573/>

Cross-dissemination through the members' social media profiles has proved an important means for reaching out to potential new members.



In the body of this Newsletter, you will also find announcements related to the organized Boccaccio sessions at the major professional conferences for 2018. As I thank you for renewing your membership for the year, I would like to reassert my commitment to have the Association put your dues to good use, especially by sponsoring travel fellowships for graduate students and contingent faculty members presenting on Boccaccio at these conferences.

Thank you also for your continuing support of the *Lectura Boccaccii* Series. All editors are hard at work steering their respective volumes toward their finish line. Your contributions, both scholarly and monetary, to this collective effort truly mean a lot for this hallmark project of which the American Boccaccio Association is proud.

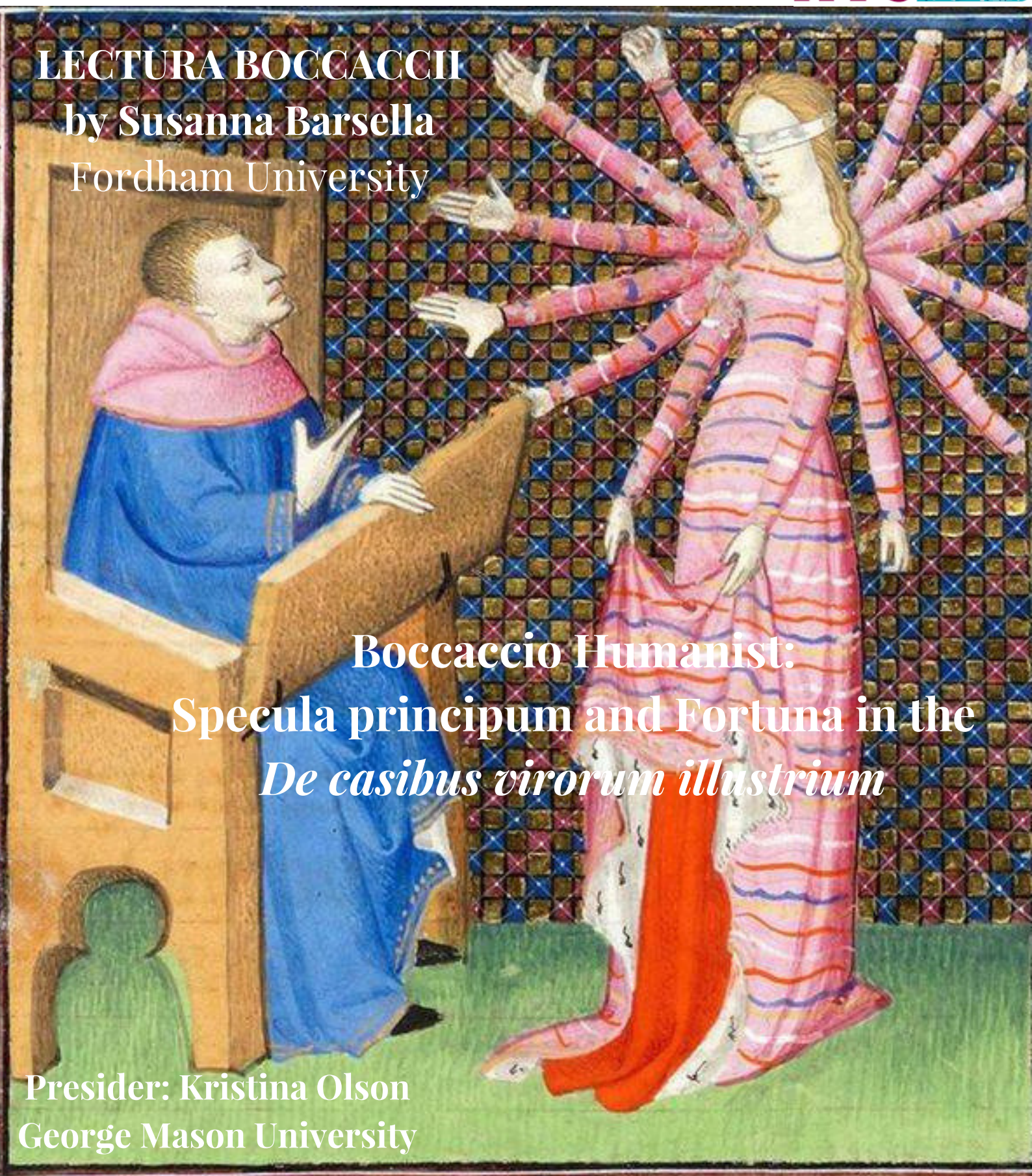
Modern Language Association
NYC, January 6, 2018:



LECTURA BOCCACCII
by Susanna Barsella
Fordham University

Boccaccio Humanist:
Specula principum and Fortuna in the
De casibus virorum illustrium

Presider: Kristina Olson
George Mason University



**Sessions Organized by the American Boccaccio Association
at the Renaissance Society of America
New Orleans (March 22-24, 2018)**

The Texts and Contexts of the Decameron

Organizers: Kristina Olson, George Mason University; Timothy Kircher, Guilford College

Chair: Kristina Olson, George Mason University

Fri, March 23, 9:00 to 10:30am, Harrah's Hotel, 2nd Level - Satchmo Room

The Decameron and the Missing Commentary Tradition

Rhiannon Daniels, University of Bristol

Visions of Cimone and the "Other Voice" of the Decameron

Martin Eisner, Duke University

Travels of the Buddha: Boccaccio and the Legend of St. Joseph

Olivia Holmes, Binghamton University, SUNY

Obscene Exchanges: Economic and Social Promiscuity in Decameron 8.2

Maggie Fritz-Morkin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Identity and Tradition in Boccaccio

Organizers: Timothy Kircher, Guilford College; Kristina Olson, George Mason University

Chair: Martin Eisner, Duke University

Fri, March 23, 11:00am to 12:30pm, Harrah's Hotel, 2nd Level - Satchmo Room

Conspirators in the Decameron

Elsa Filosa, Vanderbilt University

Constructing a Woman Philosopher: Giovanni Boccaccio's De mulieribus claris

Alyssa Madeline Granacki, Duke University

Dante's Epistle XII in Boccaccio's First and Second Redaction of the Life of Dante

Samantha Mattocci, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Boccaccio's Notes on Meditation

Anna Marra, Yale University

Dioneo and the Tradition of the Comic

Organizers: Timothy Kircher, Guilford College; Susanna Barsella, Fordham University

Chair: Valerio Cappozzo, University of Mississippi

Fri, March 23, 2:00 to 3:30pm, Harrah's Hotel, 2nd Level - Satchmo Room

Dioneo Reading Dante (Dec. IV 10)

Laura Banella, Duke University

The Decameronian Laughter: Dioneo as the Foremost Comedic Theorist

Dino S. Cervigni, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dioneo and the Multiplicity of Desire: A Reading of Decameron V, 10

Eugenio L. Giusti, Vassar College



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

LECTURAE BOCCACCII

Organizer and chair: Elsa Filosa, Vanderbilt University

Elisa Curti, Università di Bologna, *La novella di Arriguccio e monna Sismonda (Dec. VII.8): il velo della finzione*

Brenda Deen Schildgen, University of California - Davis, *Women triumph over men: Decameron VII.9 and its sources and analogues*

Elisabetta Menetti, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, *Le fantastiche avventure di messer Torello (Dec. X.9)*

BOCCACCIO

Organizer and Chair: Jason Houston, Gonzaga University

Maddalena Signorini, Università di Roma- Tor Vergata, *Decoration in Boccaccio's Books*

Elsa Filosa, Vanderbilt University, *Il Duca d'Atene a Firenze: una rivisitazione*

Justin Steinberg, University of Chicago, *The sovereign and the widow: Decameron 8.7*

BOCCACCIO LATINO

Organizer: Jason Houston, Gonzaga University

Chair, Dino Cervigni, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Simona Lorenzini, Yale University, *Infanda Silva or Misera Silva? The Neapolitan Kingdom in the Aftermath of Robert of Anjou's Death and Boccaccio's Minor Works*

Teresa Caligiure, University of Hamburg, *Ut huic epistole, Boccaccio a Petrarca. Stratagemmi retorici e accuse di avarizia*

Francisco José Rodríguez Mesa, Università di Cordova, *Tisbe Come Eroina Boccacesca (DMC, XIII)*

BOCCACCIO VERNACOLARE

Organizer: Jason Houston, Gonzaga University

Chair: Francisco José Rodríguez Mesa, Università di Cordova

Teresa Nocita, Università degli Studi dell'Aquila, *Madonna Oretta (I 5). A new reading according to the handwritten manuscript of the Decameron (Ms. Hamilton 90)*

Dino S. Cervigni, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *The Decameron Unknown to Boccaccio's Scholars: The Evening Lyrical Ballads*

Carmen F. Blanco Valdés, Università di Cordova, *Vita di Dante /vs/ Trattatello in laude di Dante: Biografia o laudatio?*

**The American Boccaccio Association announces
The 2018 Giuseppe Velli Prize
for the best Graduate Student essay on Boccaccio
and a New Undergraduate Prize for best essay, creative
work, or performance on Boccaccio.**

Thanks to the support of an anonymous donor, this year (2018) the American Boccaccio Association can continue the annual prize competition for the best graduate student essay on a subject related to the life or works of Giovanni Boccaccio. The Giuseppe Velli Prize of three hundred dollars will be awarded to the best essay submitted by a graduate student in any American or Canadian University or by anyone not currently enrolled as a graduate student, provided that he or she has received the degree of M.A. or Ph.D. within one year of submission. The winning essay will also be automatically considered for publication in «Heliotropia». Thanks to the support of another anonymous donor, this year (2018) the American Boccaccio Association is happy to add a second category to the Velli Prize. The Giuseppe Velli Undergraduate Prize of two hundred dollars will be awarded to the best essay, creative project, or performance submitted by an undergraduate student in any American or Canadian University, or by anyone not currently enrolled as an undergraduate student, provided that the work was completed as an undergraduate and that he or she has received an undergraduate degree within one year of submission.

The American Boccaccio Association established this annual award in commemoration of the scholarship of Giuseppe Velli. Professor Velli (1928–2013), was a remarkable Boccaccio scholar whose work remains fundamental in Italy and North America to this day. As a young man, he studied at the Scuola Normale di Pisa and elsewhere with the likes of Giorgio Pasquali, Luigi Russo, Alessandro Perosa, Paul Oskar Kristeller, Augusto Campana and Reto Bezzola. Upon the completion of his studies, he spent several years teaching abroad, first holding appointments in Paris and New York before taking an assistant professorship at the University of California Los Angeles and later a post as full professor at Smith College. Afterwards, he returned to Italy where he taught Letteratura umanistica at the Università di Macerata, Letteratura italiana e filologia dantesca at the Università di Venezia and lastly as professor of Italian literature at the Università degli Studi di Milano. Beginning in the 1980s, he maintained an important presence in the United States as a visiting scholar at UCLA, Johns Hopkins University, the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and Indiana University. Professor Velli's studies ranged widely, but the ABA is particularly appreciative of his work on Boccaccio. His work, including the edition of the *Carmina* for Mondadori's "Tutte le opere" series and his famous volume entitled *Petrarca e Boccaccio. Tradizione · memoria · scrittura* (1995), helped enhance our understanding: the patterns of intertextuality between Boccaccio's works and classical literature; the relationship between Boccaccio American Boccaccio Association Newsletter, Fall/Winter 2016/17 7 and Petrarch; and the *modus operandi* of Boccaccio at his scriptorium. Essays on these topics are particularly welcome.



Treasurer's Report

This year I was excited to be elected Treasurer for the American Boccaccio Association, a role handled admirably by my predecessor, Kristina Olson. Because of her diligence, the budgetary state of the Association is strong, with just over \$10,000 in our account from dues and support. This amount will fund the activities of the ABA, which are laid out elsewhere in this newsletter.

I would like to remind all members that we have a PayPal button. If you wish to renew your regular, student, or sustaining membership, please visit <http://abaonline.us/membership.html> to submit your 2018 dues, as well as to make a donation to the *Lectura Boccaccii series*.

Membership in the American Boccaccio Association costs \$25 per year (\$15 for students). Sustaining memberships of \$40 provide additional resources for the association's activities. Scholars who reside most of the year outside the United States are currently exempt from association dues. Your membership dues enable the Association to support initiatives based upon the ABA's core mission to promote the work of il nostro and more generally Trecento studies. To this end, the ABA is a society of collaborative international scholarship through its web presence, scholarly journal, bibliographic efforts, conference panels, and not least its own triennial conference, which will take place again in 2016. These funds enable the Association to maintain and enhance these activities, and contribute to future endeavors to support research and outreach in Boccaccio studies.

Please contact **Fabian Alfie** (alfie@email.arizona.edu) with any questions about your membership or to suggest potential members of ABA.



You can reach the Virtual Brigata

on the

ABA WebPage:

<http://www.abaonline.us/index.html>

or joining the

ABA Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/796853600461573/>

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