

VISCOM SESSIONS

at the

INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL CONGRESS

Wednesday 6 July 2016

Session 1037 – Leeds University Union, Room 5, Kirkstall Abbey

09:00-10:30
Visions of Community I
What's in a Name? – *Ethnonyms and Identity in Early Medieval Eurasia*

Session 1137 – Leeds University Union, Room 5, Kirkstall Abbey

11:15-12:45
Visions of Community II
Perceptions of the 'Self' and the 'Other' in Medieval Iberia and Yemen

Session 1218 – Leeds University Union, Room 5, Kirkstall Abbey

14:15-15:45
Visions of Community III
Where Food Connects Communities:
Rural-Urban Interdependencies in Food Supplies During the Middle Ages

Session 1318 – Leeds University Union, Room 5, Kirkstall Abbey

16:30-18:00
Visions of Community IV
Ritual Aspects of Food in Urban Communities and Beyond

Leeds 2016

Session 1037

Visions of Community I

What's in a Name? Ethnonyms and Identity in Early Medieval Eurasia

Salvatore LICCARDO • Institut für Mittelalterforschung, ÖAW, Wien

Setting Boundaries: 'Barbaric' Ethnonyms between Geography and Imperial Ideology

Robert FLIERMAN • Afdeling Geschiedenis, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen

Label or Libel? The Ethnonym 'Saxo' in the Latin Textual Record, 300-900

Zsuzsanna ZSIDA • Institute of History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest

From State Soldiers to Rebel Tribes: Kurds in Late Medieval South Arabia

Moderator/Chair: Helmut REIMITZ • Department of History, Princeton University

Organisers: Odile KOMMER, Salvatore LICCARDO

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 09:00-10:30

Abstract: Ethnonyms – i.e. names applied to ethnic groups – contain a plethora of meanings that go far beyond the seemingly neutral appellation of 'Franks', 'Goths', or even 'Romans' and 'Arabs'. Drawing upon case studies from the Late Roman period until the 10th century and from both Latin and Arabic perspectives the session's speakers will address ethnonyms as conceptual tools which have been used to adapt, shape or enforce particular ideas of communities and specific political agendas. SALVATORE LICCARDO will approach the subject by interpreting ethnonyms as elements of Late Roman and Early Medieval 'senses of place'. ROBERT FLIERMAN and ZSUZSANNA ZSIDAI will concentrate on literary and political implications of two specific ethnonyms: 'Saxons' and 'Turks'.

Session 1137

Visions of Community II

Perceptions of the 'Self' and the 'Other' in Medieval Iberia and Yemen

Patrick MARSCHNER • Institut für Mittelalterforschung, ÖAW, Wien

'Nomen est adimpletio': The Typological Meaning of Ethnic Naming in Post-Visigothic Historical Writing

Odile KOMMER • Institut für Sozialanthropologie, ÖAW, Wien

Dynamics of Inclusion and Exclusion: Linguistic and Religious Conceptions in 10th Century Yemen

Andrea NOWAK • Institut für Orientalistik, Universität Wien

In the Background of Narrative Discourse: Stereotyping of Ethnic Groups in Ibn al-Mujawir's Account of a Journey through 13th-Century Arabia

Moderator/Chair: Walter POHL • Institut für Mittelalterforschung, ÖAW, Wien

Organisers: Odile KOMMER, Salvatore LICCARDO

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 11:15-12:45

Abstract: This session focuses on perceptions of the 'Self' and the 'Other' through the discussion of early medieval ethnic terminologies and narratives. Taking into account Latin and Arabic sources, the speakers will highlight the shaping, modifications and overall value of categories of inclusion and exclusion in a few selected early medieval narratives. PATRICK MARSCHNER will examine the terminology used in post-Visigothic chronicles to describe the Islamic invaders, whose appearance was interpreted according to Biblical precedents. ODILE KOMMER will analyze 10th-century sources which nurture a sense of belonging and otherness in medieval Yemen. ANDREA NOWAK will focus on anecdotes and side-notes from a 13th-century travel account which contain ethnic stereotypes applied to the populations of the Arabic peninsula.

Session 1218

Visions of Community III

Where Food Connects Communities:

Rural-Urban Interdependencies in Food Supplies During the Middle Ages

Fabian KÜMMELER • Institut für Osteuropäische Geschichte, Universität Wien

Balancing an Island Community's Food Supply: Rural-Urban Interdependencies and Intra-Communal Conflict on Korčula (15th Century)

Johann HEISS • Institut für Sozialanthropologie, ÖAW, Wien

Ša'da, a Yemeni Town between the 9th and 12th Centuries

Moderator/Chair: Hugh Kennedy • Department of the Languages & Cultures of the Near & Middle East, School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London

Organiser: Elisabeth Gruber

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 14:15-15:45

Abstract: When looking at food supply for medieval cities, the special role of their immediate hinterland is often underestimated. This panel takes a comparative perspective on the relationships between city and hinterlands by examining rural food supply chains in Upper Yemen and Late Medieval Dalmatia. FABIAN KÜMMELER will first present his investigation on the mechanisms balancing rural and urban interests in the food supply on late medieval Korčula, as well as the intra-communal conflicts that ensued in the course of this balancing act. JOHANN HEISS will then examine Ša'da's economic position as a marketplace situated on important pilgrim and trading routes, connecting fertile valleys to the Red Sea-harbor Sharja in the period between the 9th and the 12th centuries.

Session 1318

Visions of Community IV

Ritual Aspects of Food in Urban Communities and Beyond

Judit MAJOROSSY • Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung, Universität Wien

The Common Meal as a Sign of Honour in Fifteenth-Century Urban Communities

Elisabeth Gruber • Institut für Realienkunde des Mittelalters und der frühen Neuzeit, Universität Salzburg

Food Donations for the Poor in Central Europe and its Impact on Stabilizing Urban Communities

Response: Felicitas Schmieder • Lehrgebiet Geschichte und Gegenwart Alteuropas, Historisches Institut der Fernuniversität Hagen

Moderator/Chair: Anu Mänd • School of Humanities, Tallinn University

Organiser: Elisabeth Gruber

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 16:30-18:00

Abstract: Taking an interdisciplinary approach to urban communities in late medieval Central Europe, the papers in this session will concentrate on the control and organization of food distribution, charitable endowments and ritual aspects of food in order to illustrate how food was used in the construction of urban communities that also reached beyond the city walls. First, ELISABETH GRUBER will focus on the practice of food donations to the poor as an important part of social stability in the Central European urban context. Next, JUDIT MAJOROSSY will demonstrate the role of common meals for the urban guests as part of an urban ritual in medieval Pressburg/Bratislava for community-building processes. Finally, FELICITAS SCHMIEDER will tie together observations from these two sessions, highlighting the importance of food as a means of community-building.

Sessions with papers by VISCOM project investigators

Session 107 – Leeds University Union, Room 6, Roundhay

Monday 4 July 2016 • 11:15-12:45

Debating Relics: *Reflections on Relics in the Middle Ages and Problems of Methodology I – Relics and Doubt*

Diarmuid Ó RIAIN

Sessions 111, 211, 311 – Parkinson Building, Room 1.08

Monday 4 July 2016 • 11:15-18:00

The Separation of Church and Church in the Carolingian Era, 8th-10th Centuries I-III

Cinzia GRIFONI, Graeme WARD, Veronika WIESER

Session 406 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.19

Monday 4 July 2016 • 19:00-20:00

Doing the Global Middle Ages: *A Round Table Discussion*

Walter POHL

Session 539 - Emmanuel Centre, Room 11

Tuesday 5 July 2016 • 09:00-10:30

Poor and Rich in Frankish Christianity

Jelle WASSENAAR

Session 611 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.15

Tuesday 5 July 2016 • 11:15-12:45

Mastering Knowledge and Power II: *Episcopal Sets of Duties and Skills*

Giorgia VOCINO

Session 911 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.19

Tuesday 5 July 2016 • 19:00-20:00

The Carolingians and the Written Word Revisited: *A Round Table Discussion*

Gerda HEYDEMANN

Session 1334 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.15

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 16:30-18:00

Biblical Exegesis and Its Carolingian Contexts

Gerda HEYDEMANN

Session 1430 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.19

Wednesday 6 July 2016 • 19:00-20:00

'Are you tweeting this?' *Best Practices and Possible Guidelines for Social Media in the Academy – A Round Table Discussion*

Rutger KRAMER

Session 1430 – Michael Sadler Building, Room LG.19

Thursday 7 July 2016 • 09:00-10:30

Medieval Prosopography I:

Professions and Offices in Medieval Europe

Jonathan LYON

Session 1534 – Stage@leeds, Stage 2

Thursday 7 July 2016 • 09:00-10:30

The Art of Succession I: *Ideals in the Carolingian Empire*

Rutger KRAMER

Session 1612 – Stage@leeds, Stage 1

Thursday 7 July 2016 • 11:15-12:45

The Transformation of the Carolingian World II

Walter POHL

Session 1718 – Baines Wing, Room 2.13

Thursday 7 July 2016 • 14:15-15:45

Urban Feasting and Fasting in Central Europe

Kateřina HORNÍČKOVÁ