

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the International Marie de France Society  
Fifty-First International Congress on Medieval Studies  
Western Michigan University, May 14, 2016**

**Welcome, Ann McCollough, Outgoing President**—The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by the Outgoing President. The first order of business was for the Outgoing President to step down; Ann McCollough is now the Immediate Past President. The incoming President Tamara Bentley Caudill then began presiding over the meeting. The next order of business was to thank the Outgoing President for her service to the Society. The minutes from the 2015 meeting were presented and approved.

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

- In the IMFS account, we currently have \$5785.16.
- Ed Ouellette moved the Society's bank account from IberiaBank, a regional bank serving the Southeastern region of the US, to Bank of America, a national bank. He consolidated all the moneys in both the checking and savings at Iberia into a single no-fee checking account at Bank of America.
- Ed Ouellette will continue to serve for the next year as the Secretary-Treasurer.

**Le Cygne Report, Glyn S. Burgess, Editor**

- Two issues have appeared since Glyn Burgess took over as editor: in December 2014 and December 2015.
- Goal is to achieve balance between articles submitted on Marie's Lais and her other works as well when possible a contribution on the anonymous lays.
- Aim is to include a book review in each volume.
- He invites submissions, comments, or queries via email at [af02@live.ac.uk](mailto:af02@live.ac.uk) or [editor@mariedefrance.org](mailto:editor@mariedefrance.org).

**Webmaster's Report, Tamara Bentley Caudill**

- The website is fully functional at [mariedefrance.org](http://mariedefrance.org). David Merchant (Louisiana Tech) renewed our domain name so that it would not lapse, but it has since been officially transferred to the society. The Executive Board extended a year's membership to Mr. Merchant in thanks for his generosity.
- A reminder that you may pay your dues via PayPal using the **Join IMFS** link.
- We also post news items on the website. We encourage you to submit items of note (including pertinent publications or calls for papers) at [webmaster@mariedefrance.org](mailto:webmaster@mariedefrance.org).
- Tamara Bentley Caudill stepped down from this position since she is assuming the presidency. Election of a new Webmaster will be held with the officer elections by email.

**IMFS at ICLS, Lexington, July 2016**

IMFS is sponsoring three sessions at the Triennial Congress of the ICLS:

- Ludics, Leisure, and Life-Changing Linens in the Lays
- Marie de France: Reception and Performance
- Performance of Old French Narrative Lays

There will also be a dinner on Tuesday evening for IMFS members following the performances. Tamara Bentley Caudill has requested that the meal be sponsored in part by the Society.

**Sessions for Next Year's Congress**—The following sessions were approved for submission:

- Performances of Marie de France, lai to be determined by performers.
- Roundtable: Teaching Marie de France, designed to reinvigorate the *Le Cygne* volume on teaching Marie de France planned in 2012.
- Paper Session: The Versatile Marie de France, designed to be as open as possible

### **Proposals Approved for IMFS Business**

The president proposed using some of the Society's surplus financial assets to help subsidize graduate student and international members' participation in Society-sponsored sessions by paying the cost of registration to the conference on their behalf. The proposal was approved unanimously by those members in attendance. It will move to an email vote by the full Society.

The president also proposed making the following changes to the by-laws:

- Removal of references to Listserv owner
- Reduction of the graduate student representative's term to two years instead of three
- Renaming of the Webmaster to Webmaster and Social Media Coordinator, in order to incorporate greater outreach to potential members via the website, Facebook, and Twitter

All proposals were unanimously approved by those members present. Statutory agent Monica L. Wright recommended making all changes to the by-laws officially at once due to the cost and effort of updating them with the State in accordance with Federal law and incorporation regulations. It was agreed that the items approved above would go to an email vote to the full Society and that changes from the past few years and these would be incorporated all at once.

### **Elections**

The floor was opened to nominations for Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Graduate Student Representative, Webmaster, and a new member of the Advisory Committee (to replace Timmie Vitz).

- Vice-President: Simonetta Cochis
- Secretary-Treasurer: Ed Ouellette, who continues
- Graduate Student Representative: Angela Warner
- Advisory Board: Les Brook
- Webmaster and Social Media Coordinator: Brittany Claytor

All were unanimously approved by the members present and the slate will go forward for an email vote by the full Society.

**Adjournment**—Tamara Bentley Caudill adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monica L. Wright, Statutory Agent, IMFS,  
standing in for Ed Ouellette, Secretary-Treasurer, IMFS