CARMEN Annual Meeting, Prato 2007

Minutes of a meeting held on Friday-Sunday, 28-30 September 2007 at the Monash University Centre, Prato.

Present:

Constant Mews	ARC Network for Early European Research / Monash University
Bronwyn Stocks	ARC Network for Early European Research / Monash University
Philippa Maddern	ARC Network for Early European Research / Univ. of Western Australia
Anne Scott	ARC Network for Early European Research / Univ. of Western Australia
Claire McIlroy	ARC Network for Early European Research / Univ. of Western Australia
Toby Burrows	ARC Network for Early European Research / Univ. of Western Australia
Brian M. Jensen	Avdelningen för klassiska språk, Stockholms universitet
Simon Forde	CARMEN
Nils Holger Petersen	Center for Studiet af Kulturarven fra Middelalderens Ritualer, det Teologiske Fakultet, Københavns Universitet
Mette Birkedal Bruun	Center for Studiet af Kulturarven fra Middelalderens Ritualer, det Teologiske Fakultet, Københavns Universitet
Stephen Morrison	Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale, Université de Poitiers
Giles Gasper	Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Durham University
Helen Fulton	Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Research (MEMO), University of Wales at Swansea / Prifysgol Cymru Abertawe
Pamela King	Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bristol
Anne Marie D'Arcy	Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Leicester
Raluca Radulescu	Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Wales, Bangor
Lars Boje Mortensen	Center for Middelalderstudier, Syddansk Universitet & Nordic Centre for Medieval Studies
Elizabeth Tyler	Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York
Tracy Adams	Centre for Medieval and Early Modern European Studies (MEDEM), University of Auckland
Liesbeth Oskamp	Consortium of European Reserch Libraries (CERL)
Orietta Da Rold	Department of English, University of Leicester
Balázs Nagy	Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest
Gerhard Jaritz	Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest / Institut für Realienkunde, Österreichische Akademie der Wissen-schaften, Krems
Ivan Boserup	Det Kongelige Bibliotek, København / Royal Library, Copenhagen
Francesco Stella	DIGIMED (portale del programma di ricerca nazionale sulla Filologia digitale dei testi mediolatini), Dipartimento di Teoria e Documentazione delle Tradizioni Culturali, Università degli Studi di Siena - Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Arezzo
Cecilia Panti	Dipartimento di Archeologia e Storia delle Arti, Università degli Studi di Siena
Marilena Maniaci	Dipartimento di filologia e storia, Università degli studi di Cassino
Marcello Fantoni	Dipartimento di Scienze della comunicazione, Università degli studi di Teramo
Marie-Anne Polo de Beaulieu	EHESS - Groupe d'anthropologie historique de l'Occident Médiéval (GAHOM)

Earl Jeffrey Richards	Fachber. Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften - Romanistik, Univ. Wuppertal
Irene Zavattero	Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università degli Studi di Siena (sede di Arezzo)
Fabrizio Ricciardelli	Georgetown University, Villa Le Balze, Fiesole
Bruno Wanrooij	Georgetown University, Villa Le Balze, Fiesole
Wendy Scase	Hilton Shepherd Postgrad. Centre for Medieval Studies, Univ. of Birmingham
Riccardo Quinto	Interdipartimentale per Ricerche di Filosofia, Università degli studi di Padova
Monique Goullet	Laboratoire de Médiévistique Occidentale de Paris / UMR 8589 (LAMOP), CNRS / Université Paris 1 - Panthéon-Sorbonne
Gerhard Krieger	Mediävistenverband e.V.
Paul E. Szarmach	Medieval Academy of America
Robert Bjork	Medieval Academy of America - CARA (Committee on Centers and Regional Associations) / Arizona Center for Medieval and Rennaissance Studies, Arizona State University
Christopher Kleinhenz	Medieval Academy of America / University of Wisconsin, Madison
Neven Budak	Medieval History Programme, Filozofski fakultet, Sveucilište u Zagrebu
Ann Buckley	National University of Ireland, Maynooth
Dick de Boer	Onderzoekschool Mediëvistiek / Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
Isabel Alfonso Antón	'Quaestio', Departamento de Historia Medieval, Instituto de Historia (CSIS), Madrid
Cristina Jular Pérez-Alfaro	'Quaestio', Departamento de Historia Medieval, Instituto de Historia (CSIS), Madrid
Julio Escalona Monge	'Quaestio', Departamento de Historia Medieval, Instituto de Historia (CSIS), Madrid
Ian Johnson	School of English - Medieval Studies, St Andrews
Pietro Corrao	Società italiana degli storici medievisti (SISMED) / Dipartimento di Studi Storici e Artistici, Università degli Studi di Palermo

Apologies for absence:

James Weldon	Canadian Society of Medievalists/Société canadienne des médiévistes
Sarah Alyn Stacey	Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Trinity College Dublin
Gerald Morgan	Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Trinity College Dublin
Adrian Tudor	Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Hull
Kurt Villads Jensen	Center for Middelalderstudier, Syddansk Universitet & Nordic Centre for Medieval Studies
Graham Caie	Department of English Language, University of Glasgow / Glasgow Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Glasgow
Kenneth Rooney	Department of English, University College of Cork
Celia Chazelle	Department of History, The College of New Jersey
Gábor Klaniczay	Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest
József Laszlovsky	Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest
René van Horik	Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH)
Christina D'Ancona	Dipartimento di Filosofia, Università degli Studi di Padova
Arnoud-Jan Bijsterveld	Faculteit Sociale Wetenschappen, Universiteit van Tilburg
José Meirinhos	Fédération Internationale des Instituts d'Études Médiévales (FIDEM)
Anne Lawrence	Graduate Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Reading
Axel Müller	Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Leeds

Bryan Deschamp	Institutum Carmelitanum and the Titus Brandsma Instituut, Nijmegen
Marco Mostert	Instituut Geschiedenis / Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies
Paul Wacker	Instituut Geschiedenis / Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies
Geertrui van Synghel	Instituut voor Nederlandse Geschiedenis, 's-Gravenhage
Kathryn Rudy	Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Afdeling HKC Bijz. Collecties, 's-Gravenhage
Andreas Laubinger	Mediaevum.de
Antonio Castro Henriques	Medieval History reflexion group, Portugal
Torstein Jørgensen	Nordic Centre for Medieval Studies (Bergen)
Henrike Laehnemann	School of Modern Languages, University of Newcastle
Paolo Delogu	Società italiana degli storici medievisti (SISMED)
François Menant	Société des Historiens Médiévistes de l'Enseignement Supérieur Public (SHMESP)
Régine Le Jan	Société des Historiens Médiévistes de l'Enseignement Supérieur Public (SHMESP)
Barbara Stollberg-Rilinger	Sonderforschungsbereich 'Symbolische Kommunikation und gesellschaftliche Wertesysteme', Münster
Gert Althoff	Sonderforschungsbereich 'Symbolische Kommunikation und gesellschaftliche Wertesysteme', Münster
Christian Krötzl	Trivium: Tampere Centre for Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Tampereen Yliopisto
Yann Pitchal	Word Pro - Pondicherry

There was a closed, preparatory meeting on Friday at 14.30 to prepare material for the Sunday Business Meeting. Those who had been invited and attended were Gerhard Jaritz, Balázs Nagy, Riccardo Quinto, Julio Escalona, Bob Bjork and Raluca Radulescu; Simon Forde, Dick de Boer, Mette Bruun and Claire McIlroy; apologies were sent by Neven Budak and François Menant. The propositions to be presented to the Business Meeting were discussed, modified and agreed.

The meeting opened on Friday at 17.00 and the following matters were discussed:

1. **Introductions**
   Dick de Boer introduced the opening session explaining that CARMEN wanted to hold a September meeting in order to allow more time for groups to form into research projects, prior to the deadlines in May for many funding-applications; and that by holding a meeting in Italy CARMEN hoped to develop more intensive links with Italian institutions. The choice of the Monash Centre at Prato had been made for two reasons: (i) to assist NEER, which needed to demonstrate to the Australian Government that it had 'internationalised' if it were to be successful in a possible new funding application in 2008/2009; and (ii) NEER had generously agreed to underwrite the costs of hosting the event at Prato, together with the hospitality and support of Monash University's base in Italy.
   a. Annamaria Pagliaro (Director of the Monash University Prato Centre) introduced the Prato campus as one of several overseas campuses of Monash University (Melbourne, Australia), and described its aspirations to house a Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies at Prato.
   b. Anne Scott (Convenor of the Australian Research Council Network for Early European Research) presented the work of the Australian medieval network, which had received A$1.6m (€1.1m) over 5 years from the Australian Research Council as part of an attempt to establish major research networks in Australia. She described the original five large themes that the Network planned to study, but how researchers had come to work within more focused clusters. She also explained the postgraduate training and work-experience projects (for professional development) supported by NEER.

c. Pietro Corrao (Dipartimento di Studi Storici e Artistici, Università di Palermo), summarised the features and challenges of Medieval Studies in Italy today, with a presentation entitled *Gli studi storici medievali in Italia fra tradizione e innovazione*. He made the following observations:

1. there are approx. 250 professors and researchers in Medieval History, spread across 80 Italian universities
2. these departments comprise historians, palaeographers and art historians; but there are very strong disciplinary divisions which separate historians from philologists and from medievalists in other departments
3. there are about ten doctoral schools with programmes in medieval history
4. the most important research centres are the Istituto Storico Italiano per il Medioevo (Roma), the Centro Studi sull'Alto Medioevo (Spoleto) and the Centro Studi sulla Civiltà del Tardo Medioevo (S. Miniato, Pisa). A more comprehensive survey is found in *Le strutture della ricerca in Italia* in Reti medievali at www.rm.unina.it/repertorio/strutturita . The professional association for medieval historians is SISMED (Società Italiana dei Medievisti)
5. the key periodicals are *Bullettino dell'Istitutio Storico Italiano per il Medioevo* and *Studi Medievali*; unfortunately *Quaderni medievali* has ceased to be published
6. research groups are promoted by the Ministry for Universities through grants for about five medieval history research projects each year. These projects are carried out by teams from 3-5 different universities, under formal collaborative agreements
7. individual research is normally funded by the scholar's own university.

d. Simon Forde summarised some of the features of CARMEN and outlined the aims of the weekend, primarily to encourage the creation of worthwhile areas of common research which would be international and ambitious and, over time, could lead to large-scale funding applications.

2. **Market-Place**

Participants were introduced to the concept of a 'market-place session', a way to encourage informal exchange between institutions. About fifteen institutions and national associations, plus several absent parties, presented themselves at 'market-stalls'. These included:

1. Various projects – Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York
2. *Interfaces: Vernacular Voices and Latin Narratives, c. 900-1200*. The cross-fertilisation between Latin and Vernacular story-worlds has rarely been thematised – Elizabeth Tyler, York & Lars Boje Mortensen, Bergen & Southern Denmark
3. The Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)
4. *UK Medieval Manuscripts Research Consortium – various projects* ('Geographies of orthodoxy'; 'Identification of scribes responsible for copying major ME works'; 'Production and use of English MSS,1060-1220'; 'The Vernon MS project')
5. *Une histoire des cultures latines en Europe médiéval* / *A History of Latin Cultures in Medieval Europe* – LAMOP, CNRS / Université Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne
6. *Data and Image Archiving* – Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH)
7. *Multilingual Data-Capture, from incunabula onwards* – Word Pro, Pondicherry
8. *Biblical Cultures* (pursued through individual 'medieval studies' components in various disciplines as well as overarching historiographical components). Key focus: biblical reception and cultural perceptions of the

Bible - *Centre for the Study of the Cultural Heritage of Medieval Rituals*, University of Copenhagen

9. *Cuius Regio* (European regions which cross modernday political boundaries) – Onderzoekschool Mediëvistiek & Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, plus Bochum
10. Various projects – Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bristol
11. Various projects – Central European University, Budapest
12. Medieval Academy of America
13. Mediävistenverband
14. Australian Research Council Network for Early European Research (NEER)

This event proved extremely popular and successful. A number of new connections were made, and formed the basis for new 'research lines' which met later on the Saturday during two sessions.

3. **Presentations of Associations, Institutions and/or Service Providers**
   a. Toby Burrows (Digital Services Director, NEER; Principal Librarian, Scholars' Centre, University Library, University of Western Australia) presented a collaborative site that has been designed for use among dispersed Australasian scholars, but which could be made available to groups within CARMEN. His presentation was entitled: *'Confluence' and Other Platforms for Web-based Collaboration, Designed for Medievalists*.

4. **Funding Possibilities**

   After the inaugural meeting in Budapest three Research Lines had been formed, two of which had submitted proposals for FP7 funding in May. A third ('*Cuius regio*') will be submitted for the November 2007 deadline.

   Participants were shown the evaluation document for the project 'Holy War' submitted by Kurt Villads Jensen; the positive points being the excellent assessment of the scholarly content; the negatives points being those which the group already recognised – the lack of modern historical partners, social-scientific input, and the ability to disseminate the information in a way that would influence public policy.

   A second proposal had been submitted, and copies of this submission were distributed to participants. This submission had benefited from being written by an experienced, professional body which had a 95% success-rate with such bids. Unfortunately, an embarrassing error in going above the maximum grant that could be applied for had meant the bid had been auto-matically rejected. Notwithstanding, there were other important lessons that could be drawn.

   Neven Budak (Filozofskog fakulteta, Sveučilište u Zagrebu) described the submission process and the lessons learned. His talk was entitled, 'Submitting "FIRA" [*Formation of Identities in the Region between the Adriatic, the Black Sea, and the Baltic*] for SSH-2007-5.2.1 on "Histories and Identities – articulating national and European identities"'. This was followed by a question-and-answer session.

   An analysis of the steps that are required in producing such a proposal, and the ideal timetable for such a grant-application were distributed to participants.

   Proposals made by participants to raise the chances of future success include:

   1. To identify medievalists who can serve on assessment panels, so that medievalists can better understand the process from the inside.

2. To identify ways in which medievalists can influence policy-makers at Brussels at the stage when FP7 criteria are being established, so that research subjects of interest to medievalists can come more to the fore.
3. To establish a web-space where people can post details of other medieval or related research projects, to assist finding collaborators, and to prevent overlaps.

5. **Research Lines**
There were no formal meetings of the three existing Research Lines:

a) *Formation of Identities in the Region between the Adriatic, the Black Sea, and the Baltic*
The line leader, Neven Budak, envisages resubmitting the bid to FP7 at the first possible occasion, with modifications only as required by changed specifications in the FP7 programme.

b) *Contested Spaces, Holy War, and Cultural Interchange in Medieval Europe*
The line leader, Kurt Villads Jensen, reported that he expected that this Line will be reworked, with, possibly, a modified group of partner institutions, and the content narrowed somewhat, but also taking into account the criticisms from Brussels on the May 2007 application.

c) *Cuius Regio: The Shaping and Functioning of Regional Cohesion in a Changing European World (1250-present)*
The line leader, Dick de Boer, envisages submitting this bid to the FP7 in November 2007. The list of partners was agreed in spring 2007 and is not currently open to further expansion.

The following four groups met in two 90-minute sessions on Saturday afternoon:

d) *The Reception of Scriptures* - the earlier group on Creative Arts and Artists under the leadership of Nils Holger Petersen mutated its subject-matter, by joining with the WUN (Worldwide Universities Network) project on 'Looking Medieval', which was planning to examine issues of perception and reception. Participants included representatives from København, Bristol and Krems/Budapest. It was proposed that the CARMEN Annual Meeting in 2008 should allocate several sessions to allow this (and other) research lines to invite speakers, so that this workshop could allow this project to develop further.

e) *Citizenship* – exploratory talks were held on this subject with representatives from Groningen, Madrid and elsewhere. A 2-3 day, structured, workshop will be organised to explore this subject further. The organisers of this workshop will be Dick de Boer and Julio Escalona.

f) *Local versus Global: Latin and Vernacular Cultures* – where four different 'constellations' of interests met. It is not clear what level of overlap is envisaged:
   - *Interfaces: Vernacular Voices and Latin Narratives, c. 900-1200* – led by Elizabeth Tyler, York & Lars Boje Mortensen, Bergen & Southern Denmark
   - *Une histoire des cultures latines en Europe médiéval / A History of Latin Cultures in Medieval Europe* – led by Monique Goullet, LAMOP, CNRS / Université Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne
   - DIGIMED – led by Francesco Stella, Siena
   - *Communities of Learning* – led by Constant Mews, Monash University but with collaboration from Durham, Padova, Wuppertal and elsewhere.

g) A large group met and as a result established a research line to be entitled *Medieval Manuscript Research and the Semantic Web*. Toby Burrows produced an outline:

One of the greatest treasures in the cultural heritage of Europe are its medieval manuscripts. Many thousands still survive today, in collections around the world, where they are intensively studied by researchers and admired by visitors to libraries and art galleries. While there are numerous Web sites and projects devoted to medieval manuscripts, these suffer from several major limitations: there is a lack of integration between the many different sites; it is difficult to find out what research and digitisation are being undertaken; the use of terminology and standards is inconsistent and unsatisfactory, especially across different languages and cultures; and there is often a gap between the descriptions of the manuscripts and the reports of the research which is being based on them.

This Research Line aims to develop projects which will improve access to medieval manuscripts for researchers and the general community alike. Areas of particular interest include the following:

* Improving interoperability and interconnection between the many manuscript-related Web sites;

* Identifying, developing, promoting and applying consistent terminologies, ontologies and data standards relating to manuscripts in a multilingual and multicultural environment;

* Building and testing Web-based frameworks for linking more closely the manuscript descriptions and catalogues produced by cultural institutions and the continually developing apparatus of scholarly annotation, editing, study and commentary derived from those manuscripts.

Use of the latest Semantic Web technologies will be integral to realising these aims. The Semantic Web encompasses a range of emerging technologies and standards designed to make digital content available for processing by Web software in a more intelligent way. The primary purpose of these developments is to enable information to be found, shared and integrated more easily. The value of Semantic Web technologies for medieval manuscript research is potentially very significant indeed.

The institutional partners in this Research Line are envisaged to include:
- ARC Network for Early European Research
- Ars edendi project (Stockholm University)
- Consortium of European Research Libraries
- Medieval Academy of America
- UK Medieval Manuscripts Research Consortium (comprising Belfast, Birmingham, Glasgow, London, St Andrews, Oxford and York universities)
- Università degli Studi di Cassino
- Université de Poitiers, Centre d'Études Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale (CESCM)
- University of Wales at Bangor, Centre for Medieval Studies
- University of Wales at Swansea, Centre for Medieval and Modern Studies

- Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Institut für Buchwissenschaft & Textforschung

Additional partners are welcome, particularly from Central and Eastern Europe, or those with a special interest in manuscript terminology, bibliography, or digital applications.

h) During discussions over the weekend and shortly thereafter it was also agreed that a Research Line would be set up on *Princely and Royal Courts*, with Marcello Fantoni as the leader and in association with the Centro studi "Europa delle Corti" in Florence. The research line would focus on medieval courts, which are far less studied than Renaissance and Baroque ones, and would be of interest in their own right and as a new context for the later periods.

6. **Business Meeting**

The meeting was chaired by Mette Bruun who explained that this Business Meeting was the sole assembly with authority to decide policy for CARMEN. The proposals discussed had arisen from problems or suggestions that had arisen since the Budapest meeting. The following nine <u>issues</u> had been identified:

1. Some groups have argued that CARMEN should be limited to a restricted number of delegates per country, perhaps nominated by each country's national association.
2. Participation in CARMEN, given the 'open access' policy is not yet properly balanced between regions of the world. There is a particular problem for some countries, where there are some enthusiastic partners but lack of finance prevents them from attending meetings.
3. Decision-making in CARMEN's early days has been too centralised. There has been an informal Standing Committee till now (Dick de Boer, Régine Le Jan, Gábor Klaniczay and Bob Bjork), acting when asked to provide advice. But CARMEN needs some sort of more representative, consultative body to advise the Standing Committee; all of this without creating a bureaucratic structure that goes against CARMEN's light ethos.
4. CARMEN's declared policy is not to organise its own conferences but to meet where possible alongside existing ones, and avoid duplication. Till now we have identified locations and dates in a rush, based on willingness and adaptability of possible hosts. We need to plan further ahead, with greater consultation.
5. The light, informal network structure of CARMEN is welcomed by many; but certain key groups, particularly in under-represented countries, have expressed reservations (about status, legitimacy, lack of structure), while others have urged CARMEN to take on additional roles (as an advocacy group, or in promoting best practice in teaching).
6. Given that CARMEN participants are bidding for large amounts of public money, we should ensure that we operate ethically and without any perceived or real conflicts-of-interest.
7. CARMEN's aim is to facilitate the success of medieval institutions. CARMEN should try to minimise potential for in-fighting amongst medievalists.
8. It is important to broaden the decision-making process, ensure that policy-making is shared and can react collectively at any moment, and is not overly-centralised. This ought to be done in the context of a broadly representative and consultative group, but a Standing Committee is needed to act quickly and in a workmanlike way to push CARMEN forward.
9. The current organisation of CARMEN places a great deal of financial and other burdens on volunteers working outside their normal 'day-job'. To put CARMEN onto a more sustainable footing, allow it to grow faster, and to help development in less rich areas, it

might be preferable to create some central infrastructure supported by medium-term funding.

Preliminary discussions had involved:
- A closed Round-Table of invited participants at SHMESP annual meeting, Paris, May 2007
- A promotional and advisory Round-Table at Leeds IMC, July 2007
- Invited consultative group (one per region) on Friday afternoon, 28 September, at Prato (see list above).

These discussions had led to a series of proposals, which were circulated to participants in advance. Each proposal was discussed in turn, modified in light of the discussions, and the following Resolutions were passed by a consensus of all those present at the Business Meeting.

Re: Participation

Resolution 2007/1:

> That CARMEN promote increasing participation across Europe and the rest of the world among institutions that are eligible to receive funding from public bodies.

Resolution 2007/2:

> That CARMEN explore methods of assisting participation from countries where finance is restricted.

Re: Consultation

Resolution 2007/3:

> That a General Secretary of CARMEN be appointed and mandated to discuss the issues below with all interested parties and report to the next CARMEN annual meeting with proposals or options.
>
> > The issues to be examined by the General Secretary under this Resolution include:
> >
> > a. Is the role of national associations limited to dissemination of information downwards to individual institutions? Do they have additional roles – in general or on a country-by-country basis?
> > b. Can national associations be permitted to represent all institutions in their country (in other words, individual institutions would not be represented in their own right – e.g. Mediävistenverband, NEER, OsM, MAA)? Do we have a general policy or country-by-country?
> > c. What do we do when there is more than one relevant national associations (e.g. which represent only one medieval discipline; or where there are competing bodies, such as in Poland)?
> > d. How can we identify, appoint or elect people to represent regions in a consultative layer between the executive and individual participants in the network?
> > e. What regions do we identify as being able to contribute one or more representatives onto some consultative group?
> > f. Does CARMEN have any formal relationship to international academic societies which focus on single-disciplinary interests (e.g. sermons, drama, philosophy, particular authors)?
> > g. Should we institute an 'Observer Status' category for organisations which request it, such as FIDEM, who do not wish to be formally associated with CARMEN nor play an active role in it.

Resolution 2007/4:

That the General Secretary create a consultative, representative body <u>in embryo</u> for approval at the next annual meeting of CARMEN.

Re: Future meetings

Resolution 2007/5:

> That a Conference Manager be appointed by CARMEN and mandated to identify dates and locations for annual or biennial <u>working meetings</u> for the coming three years and to present proposals at each meeting of CARMEN on a rolling basis.

Resolution 2007/6:

> That the Conference Manager ensure that CARMEN organises <u>informative or promotional meetings</u> or round-tables each year at Kalamazoo and Leeds (that is, with no policy-making function), and also that suitable representatives from CARMEN attend meetings organised by key national associations (e.g. CARA, Mediävistenverband, SHMESP, etc.).

Re: Aims, status, authority etc.

Resolution 2007/7:

> That the General Secretary address reservations about status, legitimacy, and lack of structure and include this within the tasks outlined in Resolution 3 above.

Resolution 2007/8:

> That the Executive Director establish by the end of 2007, in consultation with key people in the network, a list of <u>realisable aims for 2007-2009 (including the means and required resourcing)</u>, focusing primarily on supporting multinational, ambitious collaborative research projects.
>
> > In the short-term the focus is on supporting research consortia. Further consideration will be given to the desirability of creating (i) an advocacy group to represent medieval studies with governments and international bodies; and (ii) a teaching-and-learning group to identify and promote best practice in teaching, learning, curriculum design and the development and use of teaching resources.

Re: Miscellaneous

Resolution 2007/9:

> That the General Secretary draw up guidelines to address ethical and legal practices, in particular in relation to subcontracting to publishers, commercial parties and other 'service providers', and gender issues, and any positions within CARMEN which have access to finance.

Resolution 2007/10:

> That the Academic Director be mandated to 'foster good relations with other research-oriented academic associations or societies'.

Re: Responsibilities of a Standing Committee (Comité de suivi / Segreteria organizzativa)**, and nominations for positions**

Resolution 2007/11:

> That CARMEN establish a Standing Committee comprising an Executive Director, Academic Director, Conference Manager and General Secretary, for a two-year period from September 2007 to the CARMEN annual meeting in (September) 2009.

Resolution 2007/12:

> That the office-holders shall do whatever is required to fulfil their tasks.

Resolution 2007/13:

> That the initial Standing Committee of CARMEN shall comprise Simon Forde as Executive Director, Dick de Boer as Academic Director, Claire McIlroy as Conference Manager and Mette Bruun as General Secretary.

Re: Funding for central functions of CARMEN
Resolution 2007/14:

>That CARMEN explore the possibilities of providing administrative and financial support for itself, in order to facilitate the more rapid growth of the network. It specifically excludes the option of raising finance by instituting a membership subscription. But it will explore possible support from European funds, or from having money voluntarily donated back to CARMEN by projects which receive funding, or from individual institutional support.
>
>In practice this is likely to mean:
>- An office address and support, email account and computing support
>- A part-time officer (e.g. 20%FTE)
>- Budget for travel to represent CARMEN to national or other groups
>- Financial support to groups or countries that cannot afford to participate in CARMEN meetings.
>
>Apart from assistance-in-kind, it is estimated that this would cost €25k-30k per year.
>
>Further, no decision on implementing this resolution will be undertaken until separate approval by the Annual Meeting of CARMEN.

7. **Round-Table and Close**

The following institutions who had not previously made a presentation of their activities gave a brief outline of their current activities:

- Arizona Center for Medieval and Rennaissance Studies, Arizona State University
- Ars Edendi project, Avdelningen för klassiska språk, Stockholms universitet
- CARA (Committee on Centers and Regional Associations, Medieval Academy)
- Center for Studiet af Kulturarven fra Middelalderens Ritualer, det Teologiske Fakultet, Københavns Universitet
- Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale, Université de Poitiers
- Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Durham University
- Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Research (MEMO), University of Wales at Swansea / Prifysgol Cymru Abertawe
- Centre for Medieval and Early Modern European Studies (MEDEM), University of Auckland
- Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)
- Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest
- Fachbereich Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften - Romanistik, Universität Wuppertal
- Laboratoire de Médiévistique Occidentale de Paris / UMR 8589 (LAMOP), CNRS / Université Paris 1 - Panthéon-Sorbonne
- Mediävistenverband
- Medieval Academy of America
- National University of Ireland, Maynooth
- Onderzoekschool Mediëvistiek
- 'Quaestio', Departamento de Historia Medieval, Instituto de Historia (CSIS), Madrid
- Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
- UK Medieval Manuscripts Research Consortium
- Worldwide Universities Network – Medieval Studies Programme.

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The meeting closed on Saturday at 12.10, and was followed after lunch by an optional tour of Prato.

Simon Forde, Dick de Boer, Mette Bruun and Claire McIlroy
13 October 2007