

ELLY R. TRUITT
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EMPLOYMENT

- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Associate Professor, Department of the History and Sociology of Science 2020–
 - Affiliated Faculty, Middle East Center
 - Graduate group faculty in English; French, Italian, and German Studies; History
- Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA
- Associate Professor, Department of History 2015–20
 - Assistant Professor, Department of History 2008–15
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Lecturer, Department of the History of Science 2007–08
 - Lecturer, Committee on Degrees in History and Literature 2007–08

EDUCATION

- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Ph.D., History of Science 2007
 - A.M., History of Science 2003
- Rare Book School, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- Islamic manuscripts, Philadelphia Free Library, Philadelphia, PA 2018
 - Medieval manuscripts, Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD 2004
- University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- M.Phil., Mediaeval History 1998
- Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA
- A.B., English Literature & Medieval/Renaissance Studies (Honors) 1997
Magna cum laude, ΦBK
- Oxford University, United Kingdom
- Visiting Scholar, Joint Schools in English & Modern History 1995–96

RESEARCH, PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING

MONOGRAPH

Medieval Robots: Mechanism, Magic, Nature, and Art (Philadelphia: Press of the University of Pennsylvania, 2015; paperback ed., 2016; audiobook, 2019).

- Croatian translation, 2020.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS (PEER-REVIEWED)

“When Technology Talks: Speaking Statues in Premodernity,” in *The Cambridge History of Technology*, eds. Francesca Bray, Shadreck Chirikure, Tiago Saraiva, Dagmar Schäfer, and Matteo Valleriani (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, accepted and expected 2025).

“Scientific People and Places,” in *Bloomsbury History and Philosophy of Science*, eds. Robert Goulding and Liba Taub, vol. 1 (London: Bloomsbury, accepted and expected 2025).

“Making English Scientific: Chaucer, Translation, and the Astrolabe,” *Isis* (in press for December 2024).

- "Knowledge and Power: Courtly Science and Political Utility in the Work of Roger Bacon," *Revista Española de Filosofía Medieval* 28 (2021): 99-123.
- "Made, Not Born: AI from Myth to Materiality," in *The Love-Makers*, ed. Aifric Campbell (Goldsmiths/MIT Press, 2021), 217-24.
- "Demons and Devices: Augmented and Artificial Intelligence before AI" in *AI Narratives: A History of Imaginative Thinking about Intelligent Machines*, eds. Stephen Cave, Kanta Dihal, and Sarah Dillon (Oxford University Press, 2020), 49-71.
- "Marvelous History: Authority and Credibility in Medieval Histories of Troy," in *Literary Forgery in Early Modern Europe*, eds. Earle Havens and Walter Stephens, assisted by Janet E. Gomez (Baltimore, MD: The Press of the Johns Hopkins University, 2018), 99-117.
- "The Incarnation of Time," in *L'automate, modèle, métaphore, machine, merveille*, eds. Aurélia Galliard, Jean-Yves Goffi, Bernard Roukhomovsky, & Sophie Roux (Presses universitaires de Bordeaux, 2013), 365-78.
- "Celestial Divination and Arabic Science in Twelfth-Century England: The History of Gerbert of Aurillac's Talking Head," *The Journal for the History of Ideas* 73 (2012): 201-22.
- "The Garden of Earthly Delights: Mahaut of Artois and the Automata at Hesdin," *Medieval Feminist Forum* 46 (2010): 74-79.
- "Fictions of Life and Death: Tomb Automata in Medieval Romance," *postmedieval: a journal of medieval cultural studies* 1 (2010): 194-98.
- "The Virtues of Balm in the Late Medieval Period," *Early Science and Medicine* 14 (2009): 711-36.
- Awarded the Jerry Stannard Memorial Prize, 2009.
- "'Trei poëte, sages dotors, qui mout sorent di nigromance': Knowledge and Automata in Twelfth-Century French Literature," *Configurations* 12 (2005 for 2004): 167-93.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS (EDITED, NOT PEER-REVIEWED)

- "'And of all these things the Polar Bear was the symbol:' Charisma, Wilderness, and Whiteness" in *American/Medieval: Earth & Water in Transit*, eds. Gillian Overing and Ulrike Wiethaus (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2019), 51-66.
- "In Whose Image?" in *You, Robot*, ed. Ben Russell (Scala Arts & Heritage, 2016).
- "Fantasy North," *Aeon*, February 2016 (translated into French and Hungarian).
- Response to J. Cohen, "Automata in Myth and Science," *History Today*, July 2015.
- "Preternatural Machines," *Aeon*, March 2015 (translated into French and Hebrew).
- Included in *More-than-Human: Perspectives on Interspecies Alliances*, ed. André Jacque, Marina Otero Verzier, and Lucia Pietroiusti (Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam & Serpentine Galleries, 2020).
- "Thinking with Robots: The Secret History of Early Automata," in *Our Work Here Is Done: The Future of a Robot Economy*, ed. Stian Westlake (Nesta, 2014).
- "Tips for Conquering the Archive," *Medieval Feminist Forum* 40 (2005): 27-33.

RESEARCH, IN PROGRESS

MONOGRAPH

Necessary Inventions: Roger Bacon, the Middle Ages, and the Making of Modern Science (under contract with the University of Pennsylvania Press, revised and under review).

Using Nature: Courtly Science in the Medieval World, 750-1300.

ARTICLES

"Visualizing Universality: The Codex, the Mechanical Clock, and the Late-Medieval Christian Worldview."

"What the Hag Knows," short contribution to themed special issue of *postmedieval* on experience, eds. Jessica Rosenberg and Jennifer Jahner.

"Afterword," in *Digital Magic*, special issue of the *Journal of Ritual, Witchcraft, and Magic*, ed. Lionel Obadia. In progress.

"Powerful Physic: Medicine at Court, 800-1350," in *Medieval Medicine, The Cambridge History of Medicine*, vol. 2, eds. Zubin Mistry and Ahmed Ragab (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, expected 2028).

COLLABORATIONS

"Leonardo's Madrid Codex: Thought Experiments." Co-author, with Pamela O. Long, independent scholar. In progress.

"Historical Perspectives on AI," Symposium in *Social Science Computer Review*. Organizer. In progress.

"Medieval Robots." External consultant, Michal Luria (PI), doctoral candidate, Department of Human-Robot Interaction, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. 2018.
<https://www.michalluria.com/index.php/portfolio/medieval-robots/>

REVIEWS

Nexus, Yuval Noah Harari, in *The Times Literary Supplement* (forthcoming).

The Diagram as Paradigm: Cross-Cultural Approaches, eds. Jeffrey F. Hamburger, David J. Roxburgh, and Linda Safran, in *The Medieval Review* (<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/37001/39613>). Co-authored with Dani S. Bassett.

Making Marvels: Science and Splendor at the Courts of Europe, ed. Wolfram Koeppe, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 75 (2022) 627-29.

The Astronomical Clock of Strasbourg: Function and Significance, by Günther Oestmann, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 74 (2021): 963-64.

What is North? Imagining the North from Ancient Times to the Present Day, edited by Oisín Plumb, Alexandra Sanmark, and Donna Heddle, in *The Medieval Review* 21.08.29 (<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/33239>).

The Routledge History of Medieval Magic, ed. Sophie Page and Catherine Rider, in *The Journal of Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft* 15:3 (2020): 452-54.

Middle English Marvels: Magic, Spectacle, and Morality in the Fourteenth Century, by Tara Williams, in *Speculum* 94.1 (2019): 299-300.

Nature Speaks: Aristotelian Philosophy and Late Medieval Literature, by Kellie Robertson, in *Early Science and Medicine* 22 (2017): 375-77.

The Voynich Manuscript, edited by Raymond Clemens, with an Introduction by Deborah Harkness, in *The Medieval Review* 17.07.10 (<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/23801>).

New Romantic Cyborgs, Romanticism, Information Technology, and the End of the Machine, by Mark Coeckelbergh, in *The Times Literary Supplement*, June 30 (2017).

- La nature comme source de la morale au Moyen Âge*, ed. Maaïke van der Lugt, in *Aestimatio: Critical Reviews in the History of Science* 12 (2017 for 2015): 110-13.
- Roger Bacon's *Communia Naturalium: A 13th Century Philosopher's Workshop*, eds. Paola Bernardini and Anna Rodolfi in *The Medieval Review* 16.02.32 (<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/21378/27347>).
- Androids and Intelligent Networks: Artificial Slaves* by Kevin LaGrandeur, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 67 (2014): 371-72.
- Androids in the Enlightenment* by Adelheid Voskuhl, in *Centaurus* 56 (2014): 68-70.
- Histoires prodigieuses* by Pierre Boastiau, edited by Stephen Bamforth, in *Isis* 103 (2012): 572-73.
- Sublime Dreams of Living Machines: The Automaton in the European Imagination* by Minsoo Kang, in *Centaurus* 54 (2012): 199-200.
- The Natural and the Supernatural in the Middle Ages* by Robert Bartlett in *Isis* 100 (2009): 390-91.
- The Providence of God Regarding the Universe* by William of Auvergne, translated by Roland J. Teske in *The Journal for the History of Philosophy* 47 (2009): 468-69.
- "Every Valley Shall Be Exalted" by Constance Bouchard in *Medieval Feminist Forum* 43 (2007): 133-35.
- Discerning Spirits* by Nancy Caciola in *Medieval Feminist Forum* 38 (2004): 1-4.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

| | |
|---|---------|
| Penn Fellow, University of Pennsylvania. | 2024–25 |
| Villa I Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Fiesole. Wallace Term Fellowship. | 2023–24 |
| Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. Short-term Dibner Fellowship (declined). | 2023–24 |
| Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. Visiting Fellowship. | 2018–19 |
| Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, Berlin. Short-term visiting fellowship. | 2017 |
| Bibliotheca Fictiva Forgery Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. | 2017 |
| Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New Directions Fellowship (for Arabic coursework and manuscript study). | 2016–19 |
| Science History Institute (fmr. Chemical Heritage Foundation), Philadelphia, PA. Short-term fellowship. | 2015 |
| Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. Short-term Dibner Fellowship. | 2013 |
| National Science Foundation, Scholar's Award. | 2010–11 |
| Wolf Humanities Center, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. Regional Faculty Fellowship. | 2009–10 |
| Jerry Stannard Memorial Prize (article prize in the history of pharmacology, botany, or <i>materia medica</i> before 1800 in French, German, or English). | 2009 |
| Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA | |
| • Faculty research grant | 2017 |
| • Publication subvention award | 2014 |
| • Center for International Studies | 2009 |

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| The Folger Library, Washington, DC. Seminar grant for “Writing and Wonder: Books, Memory, and Imagination in Early Modern Europe.” | 2008 |
| Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, at MIT Dissertation Completion Fellowship. | 2005–06 |
| Embassy of France in the U.S., Chateaubriand Fellowship. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA | 2004–05 |
| • Frederick Sheldon Fellowship | 2004–05 |
| • Lurcy Fellowship | 2004–05 |
| • Scholarly Merit/Term-Time Research Award | 2002–04 |
| • Matthew Strominger Memorial Prize (for excellence in the History of Medicine) | 2001 |
| Edna V. Moffett Graduate Fellowship, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. | 2000–01 |
| HRH The Prince of Wales Trust, Prince’s Trust Scholar, Cambridge, UK. | 1997–98 |

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

2025

Invited discussant for manuscript workshop, Prof. Lamia Balafrej, History of Art, UCLA. Los Angeles, CA. February.

“Bell, Book, Candle, Clock” presentation at “Beauty in the Machine Workshop” at the California Institute of Technology, organized by Cristiano Zanetti. Zoom. January.

2024

“100 Years of HSS,” Plenary, History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Mérida, Mexico. November.

“Intelligent Artifice: Ancient and Medieval AI,” Honors College, Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ. October.

“A Thirteenth-Century Perspective on Optics and Experiment: The Case of Roger Bacon,” Lyne Starling Trimble Lecture, American Institute of Physics, Washington, DC. May.

“Early Mechanical Clocks and Automata, 1300-1600,” Galileo Museum for the History of Science, Florence, Italy. March.

“The Structure of Scientific Progress: The Case of Roger Bacon,” Department of the History and Sociology of Science Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. February.

2023

“Marvelous Inventions: Roger Bacon, the Middle Ages, and Modern Science,” Villa I Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Florence, Italy. October.

“Servants of Power: Ancient and Medieval Automata,” Ancient and Medieval Middle East Seminar, Center in Ancient and Near Eastern Empires, University of Helsinki. April.

Discussant for publication panel on *Wonders and Rarities: The Marvelous Book That Traveled the World and Mapped the Cosmos* (Harvard, 2023), Department of Religious Studies, Yale University. April.

“Speculative Technology: Time, Tense, and Roger Bacon’s Machines,” Janson-La Palme Conference: The Lure of the Machine in Medieval and Early Modern Europe, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University. April.

Respondent for pre-circulated paper by Eric Gurevitch (NSF postdoc, Vanderbilt University) and Shireen Hamza (doctoral candidate, History of Science, Harvard), "The Promise of Medieval Science, the Perils of Global History," Early Sciences Working Group & Modern Sciences Working Group, History of Science Department, Harvard University. March.

2022

"*Translatio Scientiae*: Chaucer, the Astrolabe, and Making English Scientific," keynote presentation for "Translating Science," Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies Symposium, University of Pennsylvania. November.

"Why Are Clocks?" The Seminar on Material Texts, University of Pennsylvania. October.

"Before AI: The Ancient History of Artificial Intelligence," keynote presentation for "Life in the Age of Artificial Intelligence," Humanities Institute, SUNY–Buffalo. April.

"The Structure of Scientific Progress," NYC History of Science Lecture Series. February.

"Medievalism and Modern Science: The Case of Roger Bacon," Science and Technology Studies Departmental Research Seminar, University College London. January.

2021

"Periodization and Science: Roger Bacon, Medievalism, and the Circulation of Invention," History of Science and Technology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MA. October.

"The Invention of Time: Mechanical Clocks and the Age of the Manuscript," Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA. October.

"Visualizing Universality: The Codex, the Clock, and the Late-Medieval Christian Worldview," History of Art Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. April.

"Translating Experience into Science in the Middle Ages," SIMS/GMS, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. March.

2020

Keynote roundtable, "Automation and Agency," Association for Computer-Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA) Annual Meeting, Online. October.

"Who Has Science? Roger Bacon, Technology, and Scientific Progress," Keynote address, Medievalists @ Penn Graduate Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. April. *Cancelled due to COVID-19.

2019

"Demons and Divination: Artificial Intelligence in the Latin Middle Ages," Plenary address, Moravian College Undergraduate Conference on Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Bethlehem, PA. December.

"Timelines: The Codex, the Clock, and the Representation of Temporal Narratives," 12th Annual Symposium at the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania & the Free Library, Philadelphia, PA. November.

"Secrets, *Scientia*, and Statecraft in Thirteenth-Century Latin Christendom," Medieval & Renaissance Colloquium, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. October.

"Registers of Experience in Roger Bacon," at "Premodern Experience of the Natural World in Translation," Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, Berlin. June.

2018

- “Medieval Automata: In Whose Image?” at “Origin Myths of Artificial Intelligence: Histories of Technology and Power: Workshop on the 60th Anniversary of the Teddington Conference,” Leverhulme Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. November.
- “Experience, Utility, and the Inventions of Roger Bacon,” History and Sociology of Science Workshop, University of Pennsylvania. October.
- “Demons and Devices: Artificial Intelligence before AI,” Leverhulme Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. July.
- “Instruments for Certainty in the Middle Ages,” Preindustrial Technology Workshop, Yale University, New Haven, CT. April.
- “Speculative Mechanisms: Roger Bacon and the Technology of Knowledge,” Marshall Grossman Lecture Series, University of Maryland–College Park, College Park, MD. April.
- Keynote address at “Marvelous Fabrications,” Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities event on robots in design, engineering, and history, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL. March.
- “Ingenious Inventions and the Secrets of Nature: The Marvels of Alexander the Great and Roger Bacon in Thirteenth-Century Natural Philosophy,” Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY. March.
- “Future Perfect, Future Past: Roger Bacon’s Instruments,” Medieval and Early Modern History Seminar, Brown University, Providence, RI. February.

2017

- “Reading Time in the Middle Ages” Annual Schwoerer Memorial Lecture, Smith College, Northampton, MA. November.
- “The Codex and the Clock: Instruments for Time and Narrative in Late Antiquity and the Latin Middle Ages,” Medieval/Early Modern Studies, Departments of French; English; and History and Philosophy of Science, Indiana University–Bloomington, Bloomington, IN. October.
- “Brazen Heads and Talking Statues: Stories of Artificial Oracles,” “AI Narratives” workshop, Royal Society/Leverhulme Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. May.
- “The Invention of Roger Bacon,” Group II Colloquium, Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany. March.

2016

- “Thinking with Machines in the Middle Ages,” Program in the History of Science, Yale University, New Haven, CT. December.
- “What Are Medieval Robots?” Provost Distinguished Lecture, University of Delaware, Wilmington, DE. November.
- “Fantastic Inventions: Mechanical Marvels in Medieval Histories of Troy,” Borghesi-Mellon Humanities Interdisciplinary Workshop, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI. September.
- “Medieval Scientific Manuscripts,” Medieval/Renaissance Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. September.

"What Are Medieval Robots?" Digital Cultures Seminar/English Department, UC–Davis, Davis, CA. November.

2015

"Translating Time, Transforming Technology," presented at "No End of Wonders: A Workshop in Honor of Katharine Park," Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. June.

"Fabrication and Imitation: Natural Philosophy, Mimesis, and Automata in the Latin Middle Ages," Graduate Student Association for Visual Culture, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA. April.

"Natural Philosophy and Magic in the Latin Middle Ages," St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. April.

2014

"Thinking with Robots," Keynote address at "Humanising the Robot Society," National Endowment for Science, Technology, and the Arts (Nesta), London, UK. June.

"The Quick and the Dead: Corpses, Memorial Statues, and Automata," Art History & Medieval Studies, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. April.

"Rare Devices: Geography, Technology, and Automata," Medieval Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. February.

2013

"Text and Technology: Automata in Liturgical and Courtly Pageantry," Department of the History of Science and Technology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. September.

"Talking Heads: Astral Science, Divination, and Legends of Medieval Philosophers," Department of the History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. April.

2012

"Technology and Text: The Automata at Hesdin," The Warburg Institute, London, UK. June.

"Between Science and Art: Automaton-Making in Medieval Romance," presented at "Think Romance! Re-Conceptualizing A Medieval Genre," Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University, Bronx, NY. March.

2011

"History and Invention in the Middle Ages," presented at "Ingenious Acts: The Nature of Invention in Early Modern Europe," The Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. April.

2010

"Moving Images and Talking Statues: Definitions of Medieval Automata," History Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. November.

"Translating Technology: Automata in the Medieval World," History and Philosophy of Science Department, Indiana University–Bloomington, Bloomington, IN. March.

"The Uses of Automata in Medieval Literature," Seminar on Material Texts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. February.

2009

"The Dramatization of Time" presented at "L'automate: Modèle, machine, merveille," Université Grenoble II et III, Grenoble, France. March.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

2025

"Bell, Book, Candle, Clock," Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. March.

2024

"The Exception That Proves the Rule: Roger Bacon and the History of Science," History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Mérida, Mexico. November.

2021

"Afterlives of Medieval Forgeries," Roundtable, Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. April. *Postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19.

2019

"Experience, Utility, and Discovery: Roger Bacon in the Age of Francis," History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Utrecht, The Netherlands. July.

"The Invention of Modern Science," Medieval Academy of American Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. March.

2017

"Roger Bacon's Speculative Technologies," History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON. November.

"The Necessity of Invention: Roger Bacon on Technology," Rare Book School Conference, "Bibliography among the Disciplines," Philadelphia, PA. October.

Commentator and session chair, "Embodying Science: Female Representations of Knowledge in European Culture, 12th-18th Centuries," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women and Genders, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY. June.

"*Translatio scientiae*: Chaucer's Translations of the Astrolabe," XI Cardiff Conference on the Theory and Practice of Translation in the Middle Ages, Institute for Medieval Research/Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, Austria. March.

2016

"Technologies of Time: Astronomical Clocks as Universal History," New Chaucer Society Biennial Meeting, London, UK. July.

"The Limits of the Human," International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK. July.

2015

"The Media of History," History of Science Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. November.

"'I n'am but a lewd compiler: *Translatio* and Scientific Knowledge in Chaucer's *Treatise on the Astrolabe*," London Chaucer Society Biennial Meeting, London, UK. July.

"Not That Bacon, the Other One: Roger Bacon's Experimental Science in Elizabethan England," Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Berlin, Germany. March.

2013

"An Irrational Fear of Magic," History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Panel organizer: "Re-Thinking Medieval and Early Modern Science." November.

“Natural Philosophy in LJS 384: William of Conches’ *De philosophia mundi*,” Delaware Valley Medieval Association Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. September.

2012

“The Marvelous History of Troy,” New Chaucer Society Biennial Conference, Portland, OR. July.

2010

“What Do We Mean When We Talk about Medieval Automata,” presented at “Images at Work: Image and Efficacy from Antiquity to the Rise of Modernity,” Kunsthistorisches-Institut, Florence, Italy. October.

DOCTORAL EXAMINATION AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

- Savita Anathan, South Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania.
- Priya Nambrath, South Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania.
- Claire Conklin Sabel, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania (Ph.D. 2024).
- Kersti Francis, Comparative Literature and Medieval Studies, University of California–Los Angeles (Ph.D. 2023).
- Joseph Snyder, History and History of Science, Princeton University (Ph.D. 2021).
- Qinyan Wu, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania.

GENERAL AND QUALIFYING EXAM FIELDS

Medieval science; Historiography of science; Global Middle Ages; Historical periodization; “Occult” sciences/esoterica; Medieval technology; History of the body (ancient, medieval, early modern); History of gender (medieval and early modern); Medieval and early modern medicine.

GUEST TEACHING & EXAMINATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, Computer & Information Science course on computer vision (Kostas Daniilidis & Will Schmenner). 2021.

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, Introduction to STS class (Mary X. Mitchell) for engineering and STEM students. 2019.

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, History of Art Department, doctoral seminar on experiment and observation (Sarah Guérin). 2018.

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, English Department, doctoral seminar on Troy literature (Patricia Ingham). 2017.

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, Departments of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature, doctoral seminar presentation (Walter Stephens). 2017.

Bates College, Lewiston, ME, Women & Gender Studies/English, Senior Thesis External Examiner. 2017.

University of California–Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, doctoral seminar on Roger Bacon and texts on experiment (Chris Chism). 2016.

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, History of Art Department, guest professor, doctoral seminar on late medieval automata (Laura Weigert). 2014.

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, English Department, guest professor, undergraduate seminar on science and technology in *Canterbury Tales* (Andrew Cole). 2013.

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, Honors Program Examiner, Medieval History. 2012.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

University of Pennsylvania

- Faculty Editorial Board, Press of the University of Pennsylvania. Beginning 2025
- Executive Committee, Department of the History and Sociology of Science. 2023–25
- Undergraduate Chair, STSC major, Department of the History and Sociology of Science. 2021–23
- Undergraduate Chair (Interim), HSOC major, Department of the History and Sociology of Science. 2022–2023
- Humanities and Social Sciences Sector Committee, School of Arts and Sciences. 2022–2023
- History and Sociology of Science Search Committee (Race and Medicine), Department of the History and Sociology of Science. 2022–23
- History and Sociology of Science Search Committee (Modern Japan), Department of the History and Sociology of Science. 2021–2022
- Social Science Inclusion Committee, School of Arts and Sciences. 2021–2023
- Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University Library, Advisory Council member. 2016–25

Bryn Mawr College

- Michael Powell Memorial Lecture organizer. 2012, 2017.
- History Department, major/minor advisor. 2012–15, 2017–18, 2019–20.
- International Working Group (Curriculum). 2014.
- Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum. 2013–16.
- Junior Faculty Group, co-convener. 2013–15.
- Chief Information Officer Search Committee. 2013.
- History Department Search Committee. 2013–14.
- Faculty Representative to Seven Sisters Conference. 2012–14.
- Flexner Lecture Series faculty respondent. 2011.
- Middle Eastern Studies Steering Committee. 2011–20.
- History of Art Department Search Committee. 2009–10.
- Gender and Sexuality Studies Steering Committee. 2008–13.

SCHOLARLY ORGANIZATIONS

History of Science Society

- Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. 2020–24
- Committee on Honors and Prizes (Chair). 2020–23
- Committee on Academic Integrity. 2020–23
- Pandemic Fund Committee (Chair). 2020
- Council. 2018–20
- Committee on Honors and Prizes (member). 2018–20

Social Science Computer Review: Editorial board member. 2024–2027

Journal of Manuscript Studies: Editorial board member. 2019–2023

Exemplaria: Advisory board member. 2019–2023

Encyclopedia of the History of Science (ETHOS): Carnegie Mellon University and Mellon Foundation, Advisory board member. 2019–

Medieval Academy of America: Program Committee for 2019 Annual Meeting. 2017–19

Delaware Valley Medieval Association: Executive Council. 2016–20

Berkshire Conference on the History of Women and Genders: Program Committee Co-chair, “Science and Gender” thread. 2015–17

Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine: Early Sciences Working Group, co-convenor. 2010–15

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

Art History, Centaurus, Exemplaria, Isis, Journal of Early Modern History, Journal of the History of Ideas, Preternature, Renaissance Quarterly, Romanic Review, Viator, Routledge, Johns Hopkins University Press, Getty Publications.

FELLOWSHIP REVIEW

NEH; Andrew J. Mellon Foundation; Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine; Science History Institute; Harvard Villa I Tatti; Paris Institute for Advanced Studies; Professor Van Winter Fonds (Netherlands); Israel Science Foundation; Wellesley College.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2024

- History Channel, “The UneXplained with William Shatner,” episode on robots (forthcoming).
- “Belief in the Future” podcast, “Does AI Need History?”
- Presentation on early mechanical clocks, Sarum Medieval Seminar, Stanford.

2022

- “Many Minds” podcast, “The History of AI.”
- NPR, Colin McEnroe Show, “Robots.”

2021

- Morbid Anatomy, NY, “Ensouled Statues.”

2018

- BBC Radio Four, “In Our Time: Automata.”

2017

- BBC Radio Four, “In Our Time: Roger Bacon.”
- BBC Radio Four, “Rise of the Robots.”

2014

- Morbid Anatomy, NY, “The Dark Arts in the Dark Ages.”
- Philadelphia Science Festival, “It Sounds Made Up.”

2013

- Morbid Anatomy, NY, “Medieval Robots: Automata Since the First Millennium.”
- London Science Museum, London, UK: Consultant for “You, Robot” exhibit of 2017
- Philadelphia Science Festival, “It Sounds Made Up.”

2012

- The Wagner Free Institute, Philadelphia, PA, “The Dark Arts in The Dark Ages.”
- Philadelphia Science Festival, “It Sounds Made Up.”

2011

- Philadelphia Science Festival, “It Sounds Made Up.”

2003-04

- Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Harvard University: Consultant and translator for exhibit entitled “Bringing Nature Inside,” by Rosamond Purcell, based on the seventeenth-century natural history collection of Ole Worm.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association; Berkshire Conference on the History of Women and Gender; History of Science Society; Medieval Academy of America; New Chaucer Society; Renaissance Society of America; Society for Feminist Medieval Studies; Society for the History of Technology; Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts; Middle Eastern Studies Association.

LANGUAGES

Middle English, Latin, Old French, Anglo-Norman, French, German, Italian, Spanish, & Arabic (Classical & MSA).