

# Boccaccio newsletter

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Spring 1991

Victoria Kirkham, University of Pennsylvania, President  
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Vice President

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Angelo Mazzocco, Mount Holyoke College  
Madison Sowell, Brigham Young University

### Canada

Antonio Franceschetti, University of Toronto

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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The American Boccaccio Association held its annual meeting during the Modern Language Association convention in Chicago, on December 30, 1990. President Victoria Kirkham opened with a brief business meeting. She called upon the members to volunteer to serve as regional representatives or to nominate individuals who might be willing to serve. Regional representatives are primarily responsible for organizing Boccaccio sessions at relevant nearby conferences. Regarding the *Lectura Boccaccii* series, she announced that volume 1 is under consideration at a university press. Day 2 readings have already been offered by Professors David Wallace (2, 3) and Michael Sherberg (2, 6). Upcoming readings will include Christopher Kleinhenz (2, 5) at the 1991 Kalamazoo conference, and Susan Noakes (2, 8) at the 1992 Kalamazoo conference. Finally, President Kirkham announced that Professors Vittore Branca and Francesco Mazzoni have been named honorary members of the organization. Professor Branca is widely known for his extensive work on Boccaccio; Professor Mazzoni is president of the Ente Nazionale Giovanni Boccaccio in Rome.

Three speakers delivered papers as part of the annual meeting. Professor Michelangelo Picone, of the University of Zurich, spoke on "Lo sfondo di una novella di Boccaccio: *Decameron* 4, 1." Professor Patricia Grieve of Columbia University then spoke on "From Pagan Court to Christian Kingdom: The Relation of Il Filocolo and the *Crónica de Flores y Blancaflor*." Finally, Professor Eric Nicholson of the State University College of New York at Purchase gave a talk entitled "The Theater, the Plague, and the *Decameron*."

## RECENT CONFERENCES

### American Association of Italian Studies

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 11-13, 1991

"Francesco da Barberino, Giovanni Boccaccio e la rappresentazione della donna," Gabriella Sommers, The Johns Hopkins Univ.

### Literature and History in the Italian Trecento

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, May 17-18, 1991

"Boccaccio's *Teseida* and the City," Ronald Martinez, Univ. of Minnesota

"Literature of Discovery and Exploration in the Italian Trecento: Boccaccio's *De Canaria*," Theodore Cachey, Univ. of Notre Dame

"Boccaccio and the History of Costume," Elissa Weaver, Univ. of Chicago

"Boccaccio, Sercambi, and the Poor," Riccardo Brusciagli, Univ. di Firenze

## MEMBERS REPORT ACTIVITIES

**Anthony K. Cassell** and **Victoria Kirkham** have published their Italian edition and English translation of *Diana's Hunt: Caccia di Diana: Boccaccio's First Fiction*, with the Univ. of Pennsylvania Press.

**William Coleman** is preparing an edition of recently discovered earlier versions of Boccaccio's commentary on *Il Teseida*. See "Chaucer's MS and Boccaccio's Commentaries on *Il Teseida*," *Chaucer Newsletter*, Fall 1987: 1, 6. Coleman and **Edvige Agostinelli** are currently preparing a Chaucer Library edition of *Il Teseida*.

**David Lampe** has published "Festa Grandissima: Food, Feast, and Fantasy in the *Decameron*," *La Fusta* 8 (1990): 7-17.

**Marc M. Pelen** has published "Irony in Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Chaucer's 'Clerk's Tale'," *Forum for Modern Language Studies* 27 (1991): 1-22.

**Marcel Tetel's** essay, "Au seuil de l'*Heptaméron* et du *Décameron*," has appeared in *Prose et Prosateurs de la Renaissance* (Paris: SEDES, 1988) 135-42.

And congratulations to **Diane Duyos Vacca**, who earned her Ph.D. at Yale with a dissertation entitled *Boccaccio's 'Captive Women': Other Voices in the Decameron*.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

1. Work in progress:
  
2. Announcements:
  
3. Boccaccio bibliography:
  
4. Other:

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**NOTA BENE:** Christopher Kleinhenz, editor of the **BOCCACCIO BIBLIOGRAPHY** that appears annually in the Fall ABA Newsletter, would appreciate any special information you might have on publications that he could integrate with his own findings.