

## Editor's Note

Changes are afoot for the *Proceedings*! In May 1997, the Executive Council of the Medieval Association of the Midwest voted to change the frequency and format of *PMAM*. We will now be publishing on a yearly basis, and the name will change to *Publications of the Medieval Association of the Midwest* (conveniently leaving us with the same acronym). This title change allows the editors to accept manuscripts from MAM members that are not necessarily based on papers delivered at MAM-sponsored conference sessions. We are also developing a set of formatting guidelines that will help authors prepare their manuscripts for publication. Mel Storm and I hope that these changes will make *PMAM* a more flexible journal that will meet the expanding needs of the organization.

I would like to extend warm thanks to the authors whose work is represented in this volume. Their cooperation has been freely—and at times frequently—given. I appreciate the hard work of all the scholars who submitted their manuscripts for consideration this year. The range and depth of their scholarship was impressive.

*PMAM* would not be possible without the help of our readers, who give their time willingly and whose comments are essential to the success of our publication. Readers for this year included Margaret Ehrhart, Randi Eldevik, Nona Flores, Donald Gilman, Loren Gruber, Norman Hinton, James Hoy, Harriet Hudson, Richard Kay, Douglas Kelly, Norris Lacy, Carol Martin, Russell Meyer, Toni Morris, Charles Oriel, Edward L. Ridsen, Lois Roney, Jonathan Wilcox, and William Woods.

I owe sincere thanks to Mel Storm and Bob Kindrick, who were willing to put *PMAM* into my hands this year. The opportunity they afforded me was accompanied by a willingness to offer advice and provide encouragement. I look forward to working on future volumes.

I have received collegial and institutional support from the English Program and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Bill Bloemer, the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, graciously approved release time that allowed the timely completion of this project.

Finally, I would like to offer personal thanks to my student assistant, Jennifer Evans. Jennifer has really been a partner in this endeavor from the very beginning. We have worked together, been frustrated together, and been proud of our accomplishments together. Her enthusiasm and attention to detail are present between the lines of every page.

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