

## Foreword

The second volume of *The Proceedings of the Medieval Association of the Midwest* represents a major step forward for the organization. The first volume, published under the editorship of John McCully, was so successful and received such a positive response that the Association has now committed to a *Proceedings* volume to be published every two years. In the last volume, space considerations dictated that not all worthy essays be published. The same is true in this one, the acceptance rate for the present volume being approximately fifty per cent. While we regret not being able to publish every submission worthy of print, we are also proud that there is sufficient interest in *The Proceedings* to merit widespread member interest. Once again, we proudly present the best of the essays presented at our annual conferences and our sessions at Kalamazoo and MMLA.

The decision by the Council to publish *The Proceedings* on a regular basis involved firm commitments. The Council was committed to the level of excellence that John McCully set in the first volume and to additional service to the membership. Those commitments were possible only because of the extensive support for continuing *The Proceedings* in the Association. Most notably, Mel Storm of Emporia State University, a past president of the Association, was willing to step forward and assume the burden of continuing editorship for a three-year term. Other Association members who have helped Mel with the project are Nona Flores, John B. Friedman, Loren Gruber, Norman Hinton, Pat Hollahan, Norris Lacy, Liam Purdon, Lois Roney, and William Woods.

A major part of the stimulus for the volume originated with Chris Kleinhenz of the University of Wisconsin and his membership committee. We continue to owe a significant debt to our colleagues who pioneered the project: Earl Anderson of Cleveland State University and John McCully of Iowa State. All of us in the Medieval Association of the Midwest owe a debt of gratitude to these colleagues who have made the publication possible.

Broader membership response to this new initiative has also been gratifying. The announcement of regular publication of the *Proceedings* volume has indeed enhanced membership in the

Association. In all of these regards, *The Proceedings* are truly the best examples of the collective wisdom of our membership.

Robert L. Kindrick  
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