

## ICLS-NAB

Minutes of the Business Meeting, May 8, 2025

International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo

Meeting called to order at 8:36 p.m.

Present: (<https://tinyurl.com/ICLSNAB>)

Via Zoom: Leslie Zarker Morgan

In person: Susanne Hafner, Shawn Phillip Cooper, Heidi Zmick, Monica Wright, Chris Callahan, Judith Davis, Bill Davis, Tam Caudill, Laine Doggett, Julia Lorenz, Kristin Burr, Gloria Allaire, Davide Pafumi, Albrecht Classen, Casey Casebier, Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden, Ray Wakefield

1. Member news and accomplishments
  - a. Leslie Zarker Morgan: Publication of *Huon d'Auvergne* with Boydell & Brewer, edition of 1341 ms with a translation by Shira Schwam-Baird.
  - b. Wendy Pfeffer: published a book, *Medieval Diet and Medicine: Occitan Health Advice for the Layperson* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2024) and was the recipient of a Festschrift, *Troubadour Texts and Contexts: Essays in Honor of Wendy Pfeffer* (Cambridge: Boydell & Brewer, 2024).
  - c. Davide Pafumi received a one-time Manuscript Collections as Data Fellowship at the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania Libraries. The fellowship is usually reserved for PhD holders. His proposal to develop a handwritten text recognition system for Middle English scripts aligned closely with ongoing efforts at Penn to expand expertise in machine learning.
2. Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden, documents from early days of ICLS
3. President's Report
  - a. 2026 Congress will be in Montpellier, France
  - b. 2029 North American university should host; Montreal McGill has expressed interest. That would go against tradition (tradition is to alternate between Canada and US). Louisiana? Weather difficult.
  - c. We will send out surveys for upcoming votes and will add a question to make suggestions for 2029 Congress.
  - d. Upcoming elections: Advisory Board and Executive Committee. Susanne nominates Shawn Cooper for President (in part because of his panel titles). Julie Human willing to be candidate for secretary/treasurer
  - e. Last 7 years:
    - i. Healthy balance; Next Generation conference at Fordham, Dhira Mahoney Fund

- ii. Dhira Mahoney Fund: Emerging Scholars Grant became Founders Grant, \$200. Also \$1000 research grant to visit archives. Requirement for both is no other source of funding
      - 1. Update 05/29/2025: see minutes [here](#) from 2024 business meeting, where we agreed it would be folks who are underfunded, not totally lacking in other funds.
    - iii. Next Generation Conference paired junior scholars with mentors
    - iv. Advisory Board brought back into compliance, electing two new members each year, 6 total. Term is three years.
    - v. Free one-year membership for presenters
      - 1. Update 05/29/2025: and chairs/organizers of sessions.
    - vi. Voting and nomination process moved online, giving voice to members unable to attend business meeting
    - vii. Two members on *Encomia* board
    - viii. Travel grant for members of EC to attend triennial congress. No other means of funding is requirement.
      - 1. Update 05/29/2025: see minutes [here](#) from 2024 business meeting, where we agreed it would be folks who are underfunded, not totally lacking in other funds.
    - ix. Susanne's accomplishments: bringing back democracy; investing in new generation
- 4. Approval of Minutes, 2024
  - a. 2024 Minutes accessible here: <https://tinyurl.com/ICLSminutes>
  - b. Accepted.
- 5. Secretary/Treasurer's Report
  - a. Account balance: \$18,621.49 (from \$18,851.90 last year)
    - i. Founders Conference Grants for ICMS 2025, \$200 each to Julia Lorenz, Davide Pafumi, Heidi Zmick, as well as to Shawn Cooper, ICMS 2024
    - ii. Other expenses: website (\$155.88), these refreshments + drink tickets (\$474.25)
    - iii. Contributions: new lifetime members! Paul Rockwell and Laine Doggett
  - b. Dhira Mahoney Fund: balance: \$4941.40
  - c. Active members: Last year: 77 members paid through 2023+ ; this year 97 members through 2024+
  - d. Reminder: this year's presenters/presiders/organizers should contact me ([julie.human@uky.edu](mailto:julie.human@uky.edu)) to receive a free one-year membership. I need name, academic affiliation, mailing address, and email address.
  - e. Note about INTERNATIONAL COURTLY LITERATURE SOCIETY TEMPLE UNIVERSITY: IRS approved the change to International Courtly Literature Society - North American Branch!

## 6. Suggestions from Members

### a. Revisiting Beth Willingham's suggested modifications to website/membership levels/dues (<https://tinyurl.com/ICLSmembership>)

#### i. Clearer designation/definition of membership levels (contributing, associated, charter)

1. I looked into our old files and did not find an explanation of the levels

#### ii. Charter x 5 years=lifetime

#### iii. A **larger discount for triennial dues** on par with savings for joint memberships (at least \$12 annually)

1. Proposals at meeting: \$2 annually, or 10% annually

a. Update 12/02/2025: We had two proposals to adjust dues for triennial memberships. Which would you support?

i. 4 votes: A reduction of \$2 per year, so regular would be \$84 for three years; discounted would be \$24

ii. **9 votes: A 10% reduction, so regular would be \$81 for three years; discounted would be \$27.**

#### iv. Thoughts on this?

1. Susanne suggests only regular, discount, lifetime

a. Update 12/02/2025: **Poll: We had a proposal to drop our membership options to three: standard (\$30 annually), discounted (\$10, for retirees, grad students, and independent scholars), and lifetime (\$500). Results of vote: 12 in favor, 1 opposed.**

2. At bottom of page, do you wish to contribute additional funds?  
Dhira Mahoney Memorial Fund

3. EIN number should be on website for QCD (qualified charitable donation) for folks with IRAs to avoid tax penalties. (Julie to check to be sure this is okay)

## 7. ICLS-NAB Grants

a. Three winners of Founders Conference Grant for ICMS this year: Julia Lorenz, Davide Pafumi, Heidi Zmick

b. Proposal to have flyers designed using new designation (Founders Conference Grant, voted on last year, to replace Emerging Scholars Grant) as well as Dhira Mahoney Fellowship and a permanent date so we can reuse the same flyer each year (February/March 1, etc.). **Susanne, will you follow up on this?**

## 8. Advisory Board

a. Suzanne Hagedorn (English/Italian) → 2025

- b. Anne Salamon (French, Canadian representative) → 2025
  - c. Judith G. Benz (German) → 2026
  - d. Kim Lifton → 2026
  - e. Tam Caudill (French) → 2027
  - f. Casey Casebier (French) → 2027
  - g. We need to elect two new members; nominations tonight and online through June 1: <https://tinyurl.com/ICLSadvisory>
  - h. Ballots will be sent June 15, open through July 1
9. Executive Committee
- a. All offices up for (re-)election
  - b. Please submit nominations for president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer through June 1: <https://tinyurl.com/ICLSEC>
  - c. Ballots will be sent June 15, open through July 1
10. Plans for ICMS 2026
- a. Suggestions for panel topics now, and via email to Julie ([julie.human@uky.edu](mailto:julie.human@uky.edu)) through May 22. If you propose a session, please plan on also organizing it.
    - i. Non-normative Courtiers (Tam Caudill to organize)
    - ii. Courts of the World (no volunteer)
    - iii. New Generation specifically for junior scholars (Susanne Hafner to organize)
    - iv. Session in honor of Chris Callahan (Susanne Hafner to organize)
  - b. Panels submitted (06/01/2024 update)
    - i. Exceptional Exceptions: Nonconformity in Courtly Literature (Tam Caudill)
    - ii. Dancing Queens, Kings, and Courtiers: Celebrations, Feasts, and Fun (Shawn Cooper)
    - iii. New Generation specifically for junior scholars (Susanne Hafner)
    - iv. Session in honor of Chris Callahan (Susanne Hafner)
    - v. Love and Religiosity in Courtly Literature (Davide Pafumi)
11. Other Business?
- a. None.

Meeting ended at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Human, Secretary/Treasurer