

Dear conference participants,

As promised, the conference organizers are sending out further information on the upcoming annual conference of the Illinois Medieval Association.

Please carefully check the attached preliminary program to see the scheduled date and time slot for your paper session and/or presentation.

All participants delivering papers at the conference are encouraged to submit revised versions of their papers to the conference co-organizers, Sarah Noonan and Jessalynn Bird, by April 15, 2020 for consideration for publication in the next edition of *Essays in Medieval Studies* (EMS). *Essays in Medieval Studies* is published by West Virginia University Press via Project Muse. Submissions must have been presented at that year's IMA conference for consideration. The [EMS style sheet](#) generally follows the *Speculum* style sheet. For more information contact the president of IMA.

### **Registration:**

To register for the conference, associated events and meals, and for information regarding reduced hotel rates and the conference itself, please see the [main conference webpage](#). Early on-line registration is now open and will remain open until February 10. Late registration will be available at a higher rate on a walk-in basis at the conference desk in the Student Center on Friday and Saturday.

On-line registration includes multiple pre-order and pre-pay options for box lunches on Friday and Saturday. Those wishing to avail themselves of this option should pre-order lunches while registering. The cut off date to pre-order boxed lunches is February 10.

Coffee breaks, a wine and cheese reception on Friday, and continental breakfast on Saturday are included in the registration fee.

### **Lodging:**

Lodging is available at a special conference rate at the Hilton Garden Inn and The Inn at Saint Mary's, both of which are within walking distance of the conference venue. To receive the discounted rate for The Hilton Garden Inn (\$139/night), call 574-232-7700 by 1/21/2020 and request the group rate for the Illinois Medieval Association. To receive the discounted rate for The Inn at Saint Mary's (\$119/night), call 574-323-2184 by 1/21/2020 and request the group rate for the Illinois Medieval Association. The last day to register for room blocks reserved at conference rates in two nearby hotels is January 21.

Those wishing to explore other hotel options can choose from a wide variety of hotels clustered on Route 31, around the Notre Dame campus, and in downtown South Bend.

### **Dining Options:**

There are affordable [on-campus dining options](#) (note reduced weekend hours), as well as an on-campus restaurant, [Bistro 933](#), located in the Hilton Garden Inn.

There is also a [lively dining scene](#) in the South Bend and Mishawaka area.

### **Diversity and Accessibility:**

As a Catholic institution of higher learning, Saint Mary's College has a mission-driven responsibility to be diverse, inclusive and equitable. We believe in the inherent value of diversity in its multiple dimensions, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, culture, religion, nationality, geographic origin, beliefs, ideas, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation, gender, ability, veteran status, and age. To honor that value, the College is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that respects the human dignity and civil rights of all persons.

Both the conference venue and the hotels with reserved blocks for the conference are fully accessible (please see registration for these hotels). If you will need any particular accommodations during your stay, please provide us with that information when registering.

### **A/V Options**

All presentation spaces will have a Windows PC available for participant use. There will also be connectors available for Windows laptops if you would like to bring your own computer. If you would like to link an Apple device to the room's AV equipment, please bring your own connector cables.

While you will have online access through the room's laptop, we recommend that you bring a USB drive with any needed files, just in case.

### **Weather and Directions to Campus:**

February in South Bend can sometimes be cold, snowy, and icy. Please plan to bring layers of warm clothing and non-slip footwear.

Both O'Hare and Midway airports in Chicago are affordable options, while the South Bend airport brings you closer to campus. Both the Hilton Garden Inn and the Inn at Saint Mary's have shuttles which can be pre-booked to pick up and drop off at the South Bend airport.

We have included a link to [information](#) on various modes of transport, campus maps, public transport, and driving directions to Saint Mary's campus.

Bus Routes and Walking Path: South Bend Transportation has a special bus line that runs between the Saint Mary's and Notre Dame campuses between 7am and 11pm. Details are available on the [Saint Mary's Transpo page](#) -- look for "[The Sweep, Route #17](#)". By foot, it is about 1.2 miles from the Inn at Saint Mary's to the Hesburgh Library via a scenic walking path.

### **Further Queries:**

Questions and queries may be directed to either of the conference organizers.

Jessalynn Bird: [jbird@saintmarys.edu](mailto:jbird@saintmarys.edu) and Sarah Noonan: [snoonan@saintmarys.edu](mailto:snoonan@saintmarys.edu)