

## MICHELLE KARNES

Department of English  
233 Decio Hall  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
michellekarnes@nd.edu

### EMPLOYMENT

University of Notre Dame	2023-present	Professor
English Department	2016-2023	Associate Professor
History and Philosophy of Science		
Stanford University	2015-2016	Associate Professor (Tenured)
English Department	2008-2015	Assistant Professor
University of Missouri, Columbia	2004-2008	Assistant Professor
English Department		

### EDUCATION

2000-2004	University of Pennsylvania, Ph.D. in English Literature
1998-2000	University of Pennsylvania, M.A. in English Literature
1992-1996	University of California at Berkeley, B.A. in English Literature with High Honors

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2022-23	Membership, School of Historical Studies, Princeton Institute for Advanced Study (declined)
2022-23	Mellon Long-Term Fellowship, Huntington Library
2021-22	Graduate Student Government's Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, University of Notre Dame
2018-19	Senior Fellow, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University
2016-17	Walter Jackson Bate Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
2012	Dean's Award for Achievements in First Years of Teaching, Stanford University
2009-11	Annenberg Faculty Fellowship, Stanford University
2006	Summer Research Fellowship, University of Missouri-Columbia
2005-6	Research Board Fellowship, University of Missouri-Columbia
2005	Diane Hunter Dissertation Prize, University of Pennsylvania
2003-4	School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2002-3	Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
2001	Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching, University of Pennsylvania

### BOOKS

*Medieval Marvels and Fictions in the Latin West and Islamic World*  
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022.

Review in *New York Review of Books* (Marina Warner) and *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* (Eleanor Myerson).

*Imagination, Meditation, and Cognition in the Middle Ages*  
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011. Reissued in paperback, 2017.

Reviews in *The Catholic Historical Review* (Rachel Fulton Brown), *Church History* (Barbara Newman), *Isis* (Mark A. Smith), *Medioevo Latino* (Iris Zoratto), *Medium Aevum* (Nigel Palmer), *Modern Philology* (Robert Davis), *postmedieval* (Aranye Fradenburg), *Review of English Studies* (Vincent Gillespie), *Speculum* (Dennis Sepper), *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* (Michael Sargent), *The Thomist* (Kevin Hughes), and *Yearbook of Langland Studies* (Eleanor Johnson).

#### EDITED VOLUMES

with Spencer Strub, *The Literary and Its Others: Essays on Premodern Methods and Forms*. To be reviewed by The Ohio State University Press. In progress.

with Jessica Rosenfeld, *The Classical Middle Ages*. To be reviewed by Oxford University Press. In progress.

with Misty Schieberle, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*. University of Notre Dame Press, 2024-28, Volumes 46-50.

with Sebastian Sobiecki, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*. University of Notre Dame Press, 2019-23, Volumes 41-45.

#### ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Sirens, *Wāq al-wāq*, and the Forms of Hybridity,” in *The Classical Middle Ages*. In progress.

“Comparatism and the Migration of Fish,” in *The Literary and its Others*. In progress.

“Medieval Latin Rhetoric and the Internal Senses,” in *Cambridge History of Rhetoric* Vol. 2: 350-1415, ed. Jill Ross and Frédérique Woerther. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024 (forthcoming).

Contributor to Roundtable “Islamicate Fictionalities”  
*postmedieval* 13:3-4 (2022): 577-92.

“The Possibilities of Medieval Fiction” and “Synchronous Fictions”  
*New Literary History* 51:1 (Winter 2020): 209-28 and 265-68.

“Wonder, Marvels, and Metaphor in the *Squire’s Tale*”  
*English Literary History* 82:2 (Summer 2015): 461-90.

“Marvels in the Medieval Imagination”  
*Speculum* 90:2 (Spring 2015): 327-65.

“Julian of Norwich’s Art of Interpretation”  
*Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 42:2 (Spring 2012): 333-63.

“Will’s Imagination in *Piers Plowman*”  
*Journal of English and Germanic Philology* 108:1 (Winter 2009): 27-58.

“Nicholas Love and Medieval Meditations on Christ”  
*Speculum* 82:2 (Spring 2007): 380-408.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

Ayelet Even-Ezra, *Ecstasy in the Classroom: Trance, Self, and the Academic Profession in Medieval Paris*. *Speculum* 96:3 (2021): 809-11.

Kellie Robertson, *Nature Speaks: Medieval Literature and Aristotelian Philosophy*.

- Modern Philology* 115:3 (2017): 181-83.
- Ian Johnson, *The Middle English Life of Christ: Academic Discourse, Translation, and Vernacular Theology*. *Review of English Studies* (2014), doi: 10.1093/res/hgu078
- Sarah Wood, *Conscience and the Composition of Piers Plowman*. *Yearbook of Langland Studies* 27 (2013): 135-39.
- Kathryn Kerby-Fulton, *Books under Suspicion: Censorship and Tolerance of Revelatory Writing in Late Medieval England*. *Yearbook of Langland Studies* 22 (2008): 244-48.
- Nicolette Zeeman, *Piers Plowman and the Medieval Discourse of Desire*. *Modern Philology* 106:2 (2008): 218-21.
- Ann Astell, *Eating Beauty: The Eucharist and the Spiritual Arts of the Middle Ages*. *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 29 (2007): 465-67.

## TEACHING

*Undergraduate*

History of the English Language  
 The Bible as Literature  
 Introduction to Literary Study  
 Masterpieces of British Literature I  
 Chaucer  
 Medieval Romance  
 Medieval Visions  
 Medievalism (with Claire Jarvis)  
 Dante and Aristotle (with Shane Duarte)  
 Dante  
 Belief (with Tanya Luhrmann)

*Graduate*

How We (Should) View the Middle Ages  
 Animals in Premodern Literature  
 Medieval Romance  
 Literature and Wisdom  
 Medieval Affect  
 Chaucer and Langland  
 Medieval Literary Theory  
 Medieval Mysticism

## PHD SUPERVISION

*Director*

Nathan Phelps  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, current  
 Daniel Hellstrom  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, current  
 Logan Quigley  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, graduated in 2022

*Adviser*

Thomas Sawyer  
 English Department, Washington University, St. Louis, graduated in 2021  
 Rachel Hanks  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, graduated in 2021  
 Maj-Britt Frenze  
 Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame, graduated in 2020  
 Richard Fahey  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, graduated in 2019  
 Erika Machulak  
 English Department, University of Notre Dame, graduated in 2017

Luke Barnhart

English Department, Stanford University, graduated in 2018

Bridget Whearty

English Department, Stanford University, graduated in 2013

Peter Ramey

English Department, University of Missouri-Columbia, graduated in 2012

Damon Kraft

English Department, University of Missouri-Columbia, graduated in 2009

David Henderson

English Department, University of Missouri-Columbia, graduated in 2008

John Porter

English Department, University of Missouri-Columbia, graduated in 2005

Heather Maring

English Department, University of Missouri-Columbia, graduated in 2005

#### INVITED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

TBD, Keynote Speaker, "The Senses, Cognition, and the Body in Medieval Devotional Practices,"  
Università di Padova, Italy, June 5-6, 2024, forthcoming

TBD, "Here, and Here, and Here: Multifocal Approaches to Premodern Literature," Symposium,  
Yale University, May 3-4, 2024, forthcoming

"Comparative Literature and the Case of the Fish-Knight"

Conference in Honor of David Wallace, University of Pennsylvania, April 25-26, 2024,  
forthcoming

"Avicenna and the Creative Imagination"

Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL, March 21-24, 2024, forthcoming

"Hybridity and the Medieval Classification of Animals"

Huntington Society of Fellows, San Marino, CA, June 26, 2023

"Journal Publishing in Medieval Literary Studies: The State of the Field"

57<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 12, 2022

"Marvels as Objects of Knowledge"

Institut für Deutsche und Niederländische Philologie, Freie Universität Berlin, October 22, 2021

"Enchantment and Medieval Romance"

English Department and Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, February 1, 2021

"The Enchantment of Medieval Romance"

English Department and Stevanovich Institute, University of Chicago, November 7, 2019

"Marvels and The Possibilities of Medieval Fiction"

Med/Ren Colloquium, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, September 19, 2019

"Reading Marvels Across Genres"

Reading Then/Reading Now Conference, Harvard University, April 18-20, 2019

"Imagination, Marvels, and Creativity in the Middle Ages"

Pouvoirs de l'imagination Seminar, L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris  
April 5, 2019

"Travel and the Medieval Imagination"

Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, November 8, 2018

- “Telling Stories About Marvels”  
Medieval and Early Modern Colloquium, U. C. Berkeley, March 13, 2018
- “Medieval Marvels”  
Medieval Colloquium, English Department, Yale University, April 14, 2017
- “From Miracles to Marvels in the Middle Ages”  
Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, April 13, 2017
- “Defining Marvels”  
Medieval Colloquium, Northwestern University, March 30, 2017
- “The Stories that Philosophers Tell about Marvels”  
Medieval Colloquium, Harvard University, February 16, 2017
- “Marvels as Fictions”  
English Department, Cal Tech, May 2016
- “Making Sense of Medieval Marvels”  
Berkeley-Stanford Graduate Student Conference, April, 2016
- “Medieval Marvels and Fictions”  
University of Notre Dame, February 2016
- “Marvels in the Medieval Imagination”  
CMEMS, University of Colorado, Boulder, November 2014
- “Medieval Passion Meditations”  
The Passion in Context Conference, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, April 2014
- “How Medieval Marvels Work”  
Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, November 2013
- “Wonder and the *Squire’s Tale*”  
Med/Ren Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, April 2013
- “Imagination and Extramental Objects”  
Image, Imagination, and Cognition: Early Modern Theory and Practice  
Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study, October 2012
- “The *Squire’s Tale* and Other Marvels”  
University of Connecticut, January 2012
- “Where Medieval Imagination and Memory Meet”  
Imagination and Memory Conference, Stanford University, May 2009
- “Medieval Literature and Philosophy: The Case of *Piers Plowman*”  
University of Arkansas-Little Rock, Co-sponsored by the Department of Philosophy & Liberal Studies and the English Department’s Coopers Honors Program, April 2008
- “Langland and the Medieval Imagination”  
Stanford University, February 2008  
U. C. Irvine, February 2008
- “The Method Behind Medieval Meditations on Christ”  
University of Georgia, January 2008
- “Margery Kempe and the Invention of Lay Piety”  
University of Missouri-Columbia, February 2004  
University of Vermont, March 2004

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- “Convergence and Divergence in Premodern Animal Lore”  
59<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2024, forthcoming
- “The Science of Travel in the *dār al-Islām*”  
94<sup>th</sup> Annual Medieval Academy of America Conference, Philadelphia, March 2019
- “Babylon”  
New Chaucer Society Congress, Toronto, July 2018
- “Welcome Distractions and Medieval Marvels”  
53<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2018
- “Devotion: Medieval and Modern”  
51<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2016
- “The Idolatry of Words”  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Primary Source Symposium, CMEMS, Stanford University, November 2015
- “The Pleasure of Metaphor”  
50<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2015
- “Medieval Logic and Mysticism”  
Modern Languages Association, Vancouver, Canada, January 2015
- “Figuration”  
Modern Languages Association, Boston, MA, January 2013
- “The Real and the Merely Imagined”  
Medieval Academy of the Pacific, Santa Clara, CA 2012
- “Imaginative Play”  
Society for Psychological Anthropology Annual Conference, Stanford, September 2011
- “Beauty”  
46<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2011
- “Moving Horses, Imagination, and the *Squire’s Tale*”  
17<sup>th</sup> New Chaucer Society Congress, Siena, Italy, July 2010
- “Julian’s Exegetics”  
44<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2009
- “Menstruating Male Mystics and the Sin of Pride”  
43<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2008
- “Langland’s Ymaginatif and Meditations on the Life of Christ”  
4<sup>th</sup> International Langland Conference, Philadelphia, PA, May 2007
- “Affective Piety, Private Devotion, and the Reformation of Faith”  
15<sup>th</sup> New Chaucer Society Congress, New York, NY, July 2006
- “The *Stimulus* behind *The Prickyng of Love*”  
41<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2006
- “The Scholastic Dionysius”  
Modern Languages Association, Washington, D.C., December 2005
- “Lollards in the Image of Grosseteste”

- 39<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, May 2004
- “The *Meditationes vitae Christi* and the Formation of Lay Piety”  
International Medieval Congress, Leeds University, England, July 2003
- “Scholasticism and Intellectual Authority”  
Modern Languages Association, New York City, December 2002
- “Cognition and Contemplation in Bonaventure’s *Itinerarium mentis ad Deum*”  
27<sup>th</sup> Patristic, Medieval, Renaissance Conference, Villanova University, September 2002

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

*University of Notre Dame*

- 2022-23 Member, Chair’s Advisory Committee, English Department
- 2019-22 Elected Member, College Council
- 2019-21 Member, Graduate Studies Committee, English Department
- 2018-19 Member, Search Committee for Full Professor in Medieval Literature,  
English Department
- 2017-18 Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Medieval Institute

*Stanford University*

- 2015-16 Director of WISE (Writing-Intensive Seminars in English, taught by graduate students)
- 2015-16 Member, Writing and Rhetoric Requirement Governance Board
- 2008-9, 2015-16 Member, Graduate Admissions Committee
- 2014-16 Pre-Major Advisor
- 2010-12, 2013-16 Member, Graduate Studies Committee
- 2011-12, 2013-15 Director of Graduate Placement
- 2009-10, 2011-12, 2013-14 Elected member, Chair’s Advisory Committee
- 2013 Mentor, Stanford-CCNY Summer Research Program
- 2011, 2013 Member, Qualifying Examination Committee
- 2011-12 Member, Search Committee, Open-rank search for a medievalist

*University of Missouri-Columbia*

- 2007-8 Coordinator, Graduate Student Publication Workshop
- 2007-8 Member, Library Committee
- 2006-8 Founder and organizer, Medieval Reading Group
- 2005-6 Member, Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Early Modern Literature
- 2004-7 Member, Undergraduate Advisory Committee
- 2004-5 Member, Subcommittee on the Major

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2024-28 Editor, along with Misty Schieberle, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*
- 2019-23 Editor, along with Sebastian Sobocki, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*
- 2017-20 Delegate, Chaucer Forum, MLA Delegate Assembly
- 2018 Thread Organizer, New Chaucer Society Conference
- 2010 Thread Organizer, New Chaucer Society Conference

## LANGUAGES

Arabic, French, Italian, Latin, Old English, and Spanish