



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY

Gender and Medieval Studies Conference 2015
Gender, Dirt and Taboo
7-9 January 2015, Bangor University

‘to embrace a woman is to embrace a sack of manure’ Odo of Cluny

Wednesday 7 January

- 1.15 – 2.00pm Registration, Foyer, Main Arts, Bangor University
- 2.00 – 2.10pm Welcome: Professor Helen Wilcox, Head of the School of English Literature, Bangor University
- 2.10 – 3.30pm **Session 1: Dirty Romance**
Chair: Helen Wilcox, Bangor University

Anastasia Ropa, Independent Scholar

‘Women and Manly Dirt: Ladies, Damsels and Horses in the *Queste del Saint Graal*’

Elizabeth Kinne, Asst. Professor of Comparative Literature and English (Medieval ‘French Studies), The American University of Paris

‘Filthy dealings and feminine circulation in *Le Roman de Silence* and “Berengier au lonc cul”’

Hannah Priest, Research Associate, Swansea University

‘The Princess’s Toilet: Revisiting Gender and Bodily Functions in *Sir Degaré*’

- 3.30 – 3.45pm Tea/Coffee
- 3.45 – 4.45pm Keynote Speaker:
Dr Kate Rudy, University of St Andrews
‘Gender, dirt, religious orders and manuscripts’
- 5.00pm Winner of the GMS Essay Presentation

Thursday 8 January

10.15 – 11.15am **Session 2: Dirty Women in Drama**
Chair: Sue Niebrzydowski, Bangor University

Sophia Wilson, PhD Candidate, Kings College, London
‘Erthe, robill and donge and other fylthis’: The Anxiety of Dirty Agency’

Daisy Black, University of Hull
‘In my person I pryvde to put me from polucyon’: Corrupted and Corrupting Bodies in the Digby *Mary Magdalen*’

11.15 – 11.45am Tea/Coffee

11.45 – 1.00pm **Session 3: Spirituality, Women and Dirt**
Chair: Liz Herbert McAvoy, Swansea University

Madeleine Pepe, MPhil Candidate, University of Cambridge
“Fader, where wilt thou comaunde that y putte oute that the whiche comithe oute the condites of nature?”: In/continenice in the Anchoritic Context’

Laura Williams, PhD Candidate, University of Exeter
‘þe mukke’ of Marriage: Contamination and the Pain Paradox in *The Book of Margery Kempe*’

Liz Cox, Early Career Researcher, Swansea University
***þu art lodlich & unclene*: Patriarchal discussion of women in *The Owl and the Nightingale*’**

1.00 – 2pm Lunch

2.00 – 3.00pm **Session 4: A Wider European Context for Women and Dirt**
Chair: Liz Cox, Swansea University

Elizabeth Hutchin-Bellur, Independent Scholar
‘Stains and Pollution: How Blood, Water and Dirt Endangered Minority Women in Late Mediaeval and Early Modern Castile’

Sara Elin Roberts, University of Chester
‘Down and Dirty in Medieval Wales’

3.00 – 3.15pm Tea/Coffee

3.15 – 4.30pm **Bangor’s Dirty Books – A Session in the Bangor University Archives**

Friday 9 January

10.00 – 11.15 am **Session 6: Dirty Words**

Chair:

Natalie Hanna, PhD Candidate, University of Liverpool
‘Chaucer’s Prayer “To wasshe sinful soul”’

Sue Niebrzydowski, School of English, Bangor University
‘In the pryvee softely it caste’: Men’s Declarations of Love and Women’s Responses in Chaucer’s *Miller’s* and *Merchant’s Tales*’

Victoria Blud, University of York
‘Dirty Words from Dirty Birds: Gendered Insults and the Use of Abuse in *The Owl and the Nightingale*’

11.15 – 11.30 Tea/Coffee

11.30 - 12.30 **Roundtable**

12.30 **GMS Business Meeting**
