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 privyde 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 commaunde that y putte oute that the whiche comithe oute the condites of nature?”: In/continence in the Anchoritic Context’

Laura Williams, PhD Candidate, University of Exeter  
‘be 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 wasse sinful soul”’

Sue Niebrzydowski, School of English, Bangor University
‘In the pryveesoftely 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

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