Obscuritas in the Middle Ages

October 6-8, 2011

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Academic Conference Centre at Jilská 1

Thursday, October 6
11:00-12:30
chair: Lucie Doležalová
Opening remarks (representatives of the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Humanities, and CMS)
Päivi Mehtonen (Tampere): The Darkness Within: First-Person Speakers and the Unrepresentable

[lunch break]
14:30-16:00
chair: Pavel Soukup
Alessandro Zironi (Bologna): Disclosing Secrets: Virgil versus Zabulon in Middle High German Poems
Jeff Rider (Middletown, CT): The Marvellous and the Enigmatic in Medieval Vernacular Romances
Christiane Veyrard-Cosme (Paris): Procédés et enjeux de l’Obscuritas: éléments de poétique textuelle des énigmes latines du Haut Moyen Age

[coffee break]
16:30-18:00
chair: Ana Marinković
Cristian-Nicolae Găspar (Budapest): Obscure Dreams, Undisclosed Interpreters, and Textual Obscurities in Canaparius’ Vita S. Adalberti
Hiram Kümper (Bielefeld): Obscuritas legum: Traditional Law, Learned Jurisprudence, and Territorial Legislation: the Example of Sachsenspiegel and Ius Municipale Magdeburgense
Lucie Doležalová (Prague): Nescio quod dicitur: Obscurity in Late Medieval Latin Manuscripts
Friday, October 7
10:00-11:00
chair: Alessandro Zironi
Cornelia Linde (London): Obscuritas in Hugh of St Victor’s Didascalicon
Csaba Németh (Budapest): Reading Against the Grain: The problem of a “contemplative style”
in Richard of Saint Victor’s Benjamin major

[coffee break]
11:30-12:30
chair: Cristian-Nicolae Gaspar
Tuïja Ainonen (Toronto): Unveiling Obscurity. Biblical Authority and the Distinction Collections
Greti Dinkova-Bruun (Toronto): Why Is the Bible Confusing According to Alexander of Ashby
and Aegidius of Paris

[lunch break]
14:00-15:30
chair: Jeff Rider
Marie Bláhová (Prague): Obscurity in the Historical Writing in Medieval Bohemia
Pavlína Cermanová (Vienna/Prague): Prophecy in Medieval Alchemy. Alchemy in Medieval
Prophecy
Rafal Wójcik (Poznań): Between Obviousness and Mystery. On Several Enigmas of Three Polish
Early Songs (Bogurodzica, Chrystus zmartwychwał jest, and Jezusa Judasz przedał)

[coffee break]
16:00-17:00
chair: Greti Dinkova-Bruun
Réka Forrai (Dumbarton Oaks): Obscuritas in Medieval and Humanist Translation Theories
Gábor Farkas Kiss (Budapest): Obscurity in the Arts of Preaching

Saturday, October 8
10:00-11:30
chair: Päivi Mehtonen
George-Florin Calian (Budapest): “Clarifications” of Obscurity: Proclus’ Reading of Plato’s
Parmenides
Noel Putnik (Budapest): To Be Born (Again) from God: Scriptural Obscurity as a Doctrinal Way
Out for Cornelius Agrippa
David Bartoň (Prague): Apologia aenigmatis vel obscuritatis

[coffee break]
12:00-13:00
concluding discussion

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