

**ELLY R. TRUITT**  
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### **EMPLOYMENT**

**BRYN MAWR COLLEGE**, Bryn Mawr, PA: Assistant Professor, Department of History      JULY 2008–  
PRESENT

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**, Cambridge, MA: Lecturer, Department of the History  
of Science      2007–08

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**, Cambridge, MA: Lecturer, Committee on Degrees in  
History & Literature      2007–08

### **EDUCATION**

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**, Cambridge, MA  
Ph.D. in the History of Science, 2007.

- “From Magic to Mechanism: Medieval Automata, 1100-1550.”

A.M. in the History of Science, 2003.

- Master’s thesis: “Knowledge and Automata in Twelfth-Century French Literature”

**MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT INSTITUTE**, Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

- Intensive summer course on medieval manuscripts and incunabula. 2004

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY**, Cambridge, United Kingdom

M.Phil. in Medieval History, 1998

- Master’s thesis: “The Internal Administration of the Abbey of Le Ronceray of Angers, 1028-1250.”

**WELLESLEY COLLEGE**, Wellesley, MA

A.B. in English Literature and Medieval/Renaissance Studies (Honors), May 1997

*Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, First-Year Distinction

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY**, Oxford, United Kingdom

Visiting Scholar, Joint Schools in English and Modern History, 1995-1996

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

National Science Foundation, Scholar's Award	2010–11
Penn Humanities Forum/Mellon Regional Faculty Fellowship	2009–10
Jerry Stannard Memorial Prize (for best article in the history of pharmacology, botany, or <i>materia medica</i> )	2009
Bryn Mawr College Center for International Studies research grant	2009
Folger Institute Seminar Grant	2008
Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology	2005–06
Bourse Chateaubriand (for research in France)	2004–05
Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University	2004–05
Lurcy Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University	2004–05
Graduate Student Council Summer Research Grant, Harvard University	2004
Harvard Merit Fellowship	2002–04
Matthew Strominger Memorial Prize, Harvard University	2001
Edna V. Moffett Fellowship, Wellesley College	2000–01
HRH Prince of Wales Trust, Prince's Trust Scholar	1997–98

**PUBLICATIONS****BOOK MANUSCRIPT**

*Magical Mechanisms: Automata in the Medieval West*, in progress.

**ARTICLES IN JOURNALS AND EDITED VOLUMES****PUBLISHED**

“Fictions of Life and Death: Tomb Automata in Medieval Romance,” *postmedieval: a journal of medieval cultural studies* 1:1 (2010).

“The Virtues of Balm in the Late Medieval Period,” *Early Science and Medicine* 14:4 (2009). **Awarded the Jerry Stannard Memorial Prize, 2009.**

“‘Trei poëte, sages dotors, qui mout soient di nigromance’: Knowledge and Automata in Twelfth-Century French Literature,” *Configurations* 12:2 (2005 for 2004).

“Tips for Conquering the Archive,” in *Medieval Feminist Forum* 40 (2005).

“Magic and Science,” in *Encyclopedia of Witchcraft: The Western Tradition*, ed. Richard Golden (ABC-CLIO, 2005).

**FORTHCOMING**

“Celestial Divination and Arabic Science in Twelfth-Century England: The History of Gerbert of Aurillac’s Talking Head.” Accepted for publication in *The Journal for the History of Ideas*.

“Fanciful Invention and Certain Fiction: History and Artifice in Guido’s *Historia destructionis troiae*,” *True and False in the Italian Renaissance*, eds. Julia Hairston and Walter Stephens, JHU Press.

“The Incarnation of Time,” in *L'automate : modèle, métaphore, machine, merveille*, eds. Aurélia Galliard, Jean-Yves Goffi, Bernard Roukhomovsky, & Sophie Roux (Presses universitaires de Bordeaux). Winter 2012 (expected).

## REVIEWS

*The Natural and the Supernatural in the Middle Ages* by Robert Bartlett in *Isis* 100:2 (2009).

*The Providence of God Regarding the Universe* by William of Auvergne, translated by Roland J. Teske in *The Journal for the History of Philosophy* 47:3 (2009).

“Every Valley Shall Be Exalted” by Constance Bouchard in *Medieval Feminist Forum* 43 (2007).

*Discerning Spirits* by Nancy Caciola in *Medieval Feminist Forum* 38 (2004).

## INVITED TALKS

“Between Science and Art: Automaton-Making in Medieval Romance,” Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University, Bronx, NY: “Think Romance! Re-Conceptualizing A Medieval Genre.” March 2012.

“History and Invention in the Middle Ages,” Huntington Library, San Marino, CA: “Ingenious Acts: The Nature of Invention in Early Modern Europe.” April 2011

“Moving Images and Talking Statues: Definitions of Medieval Automata,” Colloquium series, History Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. November 2010

“Translating Technology: Automata in the Medieval World,” Colloquium series, History and Philosophy of Science Department, Indiana University-Bloomington, IN. March 2010

“The Uses of Automata in Medieval Literature,” Seminar on Material Texts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. February 2010

“The Garden of Earthly Delights: Mahaut of Artois and the Automata at Hesdin,” International Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, MI: “Thinking beyond ‘The Woman Writer’ in Reconstructing Women’s Intellectual Worlds,” a panel to honor to Joan Cadden. May 2009

“The Dramatization of Time” Université Grenoble II et III, Grenoble, France: “L’automate: Modèle, machine, merveille.” March 2009

“Necromancy, Celestial Divination, and the Introduction of Arabic Science into England, c. 1050-1125,” Philadelphia Area Consortium on the History of Science. February 2009.

“Medieval Automata in Texts,” Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany: “History of Science/History of Knowledge: Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Young Researchers.” March 2008

“Talking Heads: Divination, Sorcery, and Speaking in Tongues,” Harvard University Medieval Studies Seminar. April 2007

“Clocks, Automata, and the Mechanistic World View,” Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany: European Science Foundation workshop on “The Machine as Model and Metaphor.” November 2006

“Graven Images: Automata, Tombs, and Corpses, 1150-1420,” Kahn Liberal Arts Institute, Smith College, Northampton, MA: Colloquium lecture. February 2006

“Magical Technology and Medieval Robots,” Smith College, Northampton, MA: Public lecture to the Five Colleges Community. February 2006

“Graven Images: Automata and Tomb Statues in Medieval Literature,” Villa I Tatti, Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Fiesole, Italy: Workshop on “New Work in Medieval and Early Modern Science and Medicine.” February 2005

### SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Commentator, “Sacred Commodities across Asia and the World,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. January 2011

“What Do We Mean When We Talk About Medieval Automata?” Kunsthistorisches-Institut, Florence, Italy: “Images at Work: Image and Efficacy from Antiquity to the Rise of Modernity.” October 2010

“*Translatio* as Scientific Practice: Chaucer as ‘Lewd Compiler’ of the *Treatise on the Astrolabe*,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. November 2009

“The Incarnation of Time,” Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference, New York, NY. December 2008

“Necromancy, Celestial Divination, and the Introduction of Arabic Science into England, c. 1050-1125,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA. November 2008

“To Preserve and Protect: The Uses of Balm in the Late Medieval Period,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. **Panel organizer:** “Potions and Poisons in the Late Medieval and Early Modern World.” April 2008

“Tips for New Teachers in the Social Sciences,” Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning Annual Teaching Conference, Harvard University. September 2007

“Questioning Authority in the Classroom,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI: Pedagogical Roundtable. May 2006

“The Quick and the Dead: Funerary Automata and Animated Corpses, 1100-1450,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. **Panel organizer:** “Clever Devices: Early Automata and the Human Subject.” November 2005

“Desiring Angels/Virgins: Human Automata in Twelfth and Early-Thirteenth Century French Romance,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 2004

“Medieval Automata and the Performance of Gender,” Thinking Sexually across the Disciplines, Harvard University Humanities Center. May 2003

“Necromancers, Poets, and Smiths: Creators of Medieval Automata,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI. November 2003

“Occult Knowledge and Medieval Automata,” The Rising Dawn, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, Norwich, Britain. March 2002

### **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**PENN HUMANITIES FORUM MELLON FACULTY FELLOW**, University of Pennsylvania. Weekly participant in interdisciplinary seminar at PHF, organized around theme of “Connections.” 2009–10

**DELAWARE VALLEY MEDIEVAL ASSOCIATION**, Symposium organizer, Bryn Mawr College. Organized an interdisciplinary conference around the theme of “*translatio*.” February, 2010.

**MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES, STEERING COMMITTEE**, Bryn Mawr College. Three-year term. 2009-12.

**GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES, STEERING COMMITTEE**, Bryn Mawr College. Two-year term. 2008–10

**FOLGER INSTITUTE SEMINAR, “WRITING AND WONDER: BOOKS, MEMORY, AND IMAGINATION IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE.”** Seminar participant in weekly seminar at the Folger Institute, Washington, DC. Led by Walter Stephens, Johns Hopkins University. Spring 2008

**CO-CHAIR, MEDIEVAL STUDIES SEMINAR COMMITTEE AND MEDIEVAL GRADUATE WORKSHOP**, Harvard University. 2006–08

**LIBRARIAN, HISTORY OF SCIENCE LIBRARY**, Harvard University. 2005–08

**COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS**, Harvard University: Consultant and translator for exhibit entitled “Bringing Nature Inside,” based on a seventeenth-century natural history collection. 2003–04

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association (AHA)

Association Villard de Honnecourt for Interdisciplinary Study of Medieval Technology, Science, and Art (AVISTA)

History of Science Society (HSS)

Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)