

Obscuritas in the Middle Ages

October 6-8, 2011

supported by Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague,
Centre for Medieval Studies AV ČR, and the project ERC OVERMODE

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 Gașpar (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 Gașpar*

Tuija 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

Pavlna Cermanová (Vienna/Prague): Prophecy in Medieval Alchemy. Alchemy in Medieval Prophecy

Rafał Wójcik (Poznań): Between Obviousness and Mystery. On Several Enigmas of Three Polish Early Songs (*Bogurodzica*, *Chrystus zmartwychwstał 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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