

Alison I. Beach

St Andrews Institute of Medieval Studies
71 South St.
St Andrews
KY16 9QW Fife
Scotland

email: alison.beach@st-andrews.ac.uk
web: <http://www.abeach.org>
blog: <http://www.scriptrix.org>

Professional Experience

Regular Faculty Positions

University of St Andrews , St Andrews, Scotland	
Professor of Mediaeval History	2020—
The Ohio State University , Columbus, OH	
Professor of History	2019—2020
Resident Director, History and Archaeology of Medieval Ireland Study Course (with the Irish Archaeology Field School)	2013—2019
Associate Professor of History (with tenure)	2013—2019
Assistant Professor of History	2011—2013
Universität zu Köln , Cologne, Germany	
apl. Professor of Medieval History	2009—2011
College of William and Mary , Williamsburg, VA	
Associate Professor of Religious Studies (with tenure)	2006—2009
Director, Program in Medieval & Renaissance Studies	2005—2008
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies	2001—2006

Visiting Positions

Columbia University , New York, NY	
Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Religion	Fall 2018
Universität Bonn , Bonn, Germany	
Guest Scholar, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Institut für Kirchengeschichte	Fall 2017, Spring 2005, and 2006—2007
Guest Scholar, Historisches Seminar	Summer 2001 and Fall 2004
Institute for Advanced Study , Princeton, NJ	
Visitor, School of Historical Studies	June-July 2017
Member, School of Historical Studies	2013—2014
Postdoctoral Research Assistant to Professor Giles Constable	1998—2000
Universität Tübingen , Tübingen, Germany	
Guest Scholar, Sonderforschungsbereich 923 ("Bedrohte Ordnungen")	Jan-Feb 2016
Princeton Theological Seminary , Princeton, NJ	
Guest Scholar	2014—2015
Universität Konstanz , Constance, Germany	
Guest Professor, Medieval History	July 2014
Universität Trier , Trier, Germany	
DAAD Guest Professor, Medieval History	2008—2009
Temple University , Philadelphia, PA	
Visiting Assistant Professor of History	2000—2001
New Brunswick Theological Seminary , New Brunswick, NJ	
Visiting Assistant Professor	1997—1998
Union Theological Seminary , New York NY	
Visiting Lecturer	1996

Education

Columbia University, New York, NY

Ph.D., Religion	1996
M.Phil., Religion	1992
M.A., History	1987

Smith College, Northampton, MA

B.A., History	1985
---------------	------

Fellowships, Honors, and Grants

The Ohio State University

The Ronald and Deborah Ratner Distinguished Teaching Award	2017
Research Enhancement Grant (with David Brakke, for an international workshop on medieval monasticism)	July 2014

Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung

Trans-Coop Grant for Collaborative Research (with Anne Winston-Allen, Southern Illinois University; Gisela Muschiol, Universität Bonn; and Sigrid Schmitt, Universität Trier)	March 2008—June 2013
---	----------------------

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (D.A.A.D)

International Guest Professorship, Universität Trier	March 2008—July 2009
Research Fellowship	February 2004—March 2004
Research Grant for Ph.D. Candidates and Recent Ph.D.s (declined)	1994

College of William and Mary

Alumni Fellowship Award for Teaching Excellence	2006
Summer Faculty Research Grant	2002 and 2003

German-American Fulbright Commission

Research Fellowship	September 2003—January 2004
---------------------	-----------------------------

Books

Monographs

- Women among the Disciples: Female Religious Life in the High Middle Ages* (University of Pennsylvania Press, under contract).
- The Trauma of Monastic Reform: Community and Conflict in Twelfth-Century Germany* (Cambridge University Press, 2017).
- Women as Scribes: Book Production and Monastic Reform in Twelfth-Century Bavaria* (Cambridge University Press, 2004; paperback 2010).

Edited Volumes

- Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the Latin World*. co-edited with Isabelle Cochelin, 2 vols. Cambridge New History Series (Cambridge University Press, 2020)
- June Mecham, *Sacred Communities, Shared Devotions: Gender, Material Culture and Monasticism in Late Medieval Germany*, ed. Alison I. Beach, Constance Berman, and Lisa Bitel. With an Introduction by Lisa Bitel (Brepols Publishers, 2014).
- Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Reform and Renewal in Twelfth-Century Germany*. Medieval Church Studies 13 (Brepols Publishers, 2007).

Translations

- Latin Sources on German Religious and Semi-Religious Women in the High Middle Ages* (working title), with Samuel Sutherland, in preparation.
- Monastic Experience in Twelfth-Century Germany: The Chronicle of Petershausen in Translation*, with Shannon Turner Li and Samuel Sutherland and (Manchester University Press, 2020).

Articles

- "Living and Working in a Twelfth-Century Woman's Monastic Community," in *The Cambridge Companion to Hildegard of Bingen*, ed. Jennifer Bain, (Cambridge University Press, 2020), forthcoming.
- "Who were the Scribes?" in *Oxford Handbook of Latin Paleography*, ed. Frank T. Coulson, (Oxford University Press, 2020), forthcoming.
- "*Placet nobis electio*: The Election and Investiture of the Abbess at Fourteenth-Century Nivelles," in *The Liber ordinarius of Nivelles (Houghton Library, MS Lat 422): Liturgy as Interdisciplinary Intersection*, eds. Jeffrey Hamburger and Eva Schlotheuber (Mohr Siebeck Verlag, 2020), forthcoming.
- "The Double Monastery as a Historiographical Problem" (with Andra Juganaru), in *Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the Latin West*, eds. Alison I. Beach and Isabelle Cochelin, (Cambridge University Press, 2020), pp. 561-578.
- "Medieval Women's Early Involvement in Manuscript Production Suggested by Lapis Lazuli Identification in Dental Calculus" (with A. Radini, M. Tromp, E. Tong, C. Speller, M. McCormick, J.V. Dudgeon, M. Collins, F. Rühili, R. Kröger, and C. Warinner). *Science Advances* 5(1), January 2019. DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.aau7126.
- Media coverage in *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic*, *Archeology*, *Popular Science*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Associated Press*, *National Post* (Canada), *Daily Mail* (UK), *The Telegraph* (UK), *Tagesspiegel* (Germany), *Blick* (Switzerland), *NRC Handelsblad* (Netherlands), *La Vanguardia* (Spain), *El País* (Spain), *Haaretz* (Israel), CNN, National Public Radio ("All Things Considered"), CBC (Canada), BBC (UK), WDR (Germany), SWR (Germany), Bayerische Rundfunk (Germany), Deutschland Funk (Germany), ORF (Austria), SRF (Switzerland), VRT (Belgium), Rás (Iceland), and RFM (Poland), among many others.
- "*In diu desideratum mansiunculam*. Der Weg zum Inklusentum in den Heiligenviten von Verena und Wiborada," in *Konstanz und Wandel, Religiöse Lebensformen im europäischen Mittelalter*, eds. Gordon Blennemann, Christine Kleinjung, and Thomas Kohl (Didymos-Verlag, 2017).
- "Shaping Liturgy, Shaping History: A Cantor-Historian from Twelfth-Century Petershausen," in *Medieval Cantors and Their Craft: Music, Liturgy and the Shaping of History, 800-1500*, eds. Katie Bugyis, Andrew Kraebel, and Margot Fassler (Boydell and Brewer for the York Medieval Press, 2017).
- "Mathilde of Neuffen and the Female Scribes of Twelfth-Century Zwiefalten," in *Medieval Nuns' Literacies: The Hull Dialogues*, eds. Virginia Blanton, Veronica O'Mara, and Patricia Stoop (Brepols Publishers, 2014), pp. 33-50.
- "Imagining *Libertas*: Keeping the Bishop at Bay in the Twelfth-Century Chronicle of Petershausen," in Uta-Renate Blumenthal, Anders Winroth, and Peter Landau, eds. *Canon Law, Religion, and Politics* (Catholic University Press, 2012), pp. 185-198.
- "The Dream-Vision of Bernhard of Petershausen: An Image in a Reformed Landscape," in Colum Hourihane, ed. *Looking Beyond: Visions, Dreams, and Insights in Medieval Art and History* (Princeton University Press, 2010), pp. 75-83.
- "Gottesdienst und Leben nach der Regel," in *Als Hildegard noch in Bingen war. Der Disibodenberg -- Archäologie und Geschichte*. Falko Daim and Antje Kluge-Pinsker, eds. (Verlag des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums, 2009), pp. 107-109.
- "The Multiform Grace of the Holy Spirit: Salvation History and the Book of Ruth at Twelfth-Century Admont," in *Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Reform and Renewal in Twelfth-Century Germany*, Alison I. Beach, ed. (Brepols Publishers, 2007), pp. 125-137.
- "Listening for the Voices of Admont's Twelfth-Century Nuns," *Voices in Dialogue: New Problems in Women's Cultural History*, Kathryn Kerby-Fulton and Linda Olson, eds. (University of Notre Dame Press, 2005), pp. 187-198.
- "Voices from a Distant Land: Fragments of a Twelfth-Century Nuns' Letter Collection," *Speculum* 77/1 (January, 2002), pp. 34-54.
- "Clastration and Collaboration between the Sexes in the Twelfth-Century Scriptorium," in *Monks and Nuns, Saints and Outcasts: Religion in Medieval Society*, Sharon Farmer and Barbara H. Rosenwein, eds. (Cornell University Press, 2000), pp. 57-75.

Book Reviews

- Fiona Griffiths, *Nuns' Priests' Tales: Men and Salvation in Medieval Women's Monastic Life* (2018), in *Church History* 88(4):1048-105 (December 2019).
- Steven Vanderputten, *Dark Age Nunneries: The Ambiguous Identity of Female Monasticism, 800-1050* (2018), in *The American Historical Review* 124(5):1940-1942 (December 2019).
- Kathleen Thompson, *The Monks of Tiron: A Monastic Community and Religious Reform in the Twelfth Century* (2014) in *Speculum* 91(1):261-263 (January 2016).
- Fiona Griffiths and Julie Hotchin, eds. *Partners in Spirit: Women, Men, and Religious Life in Germany, 1100-1500* (2014) in *The American Historical Review* 120(4):1539-1540 (October 2015).
- Gert Melville and Anna Müller, eds. *Female 'vita religiosa' between Late Antiquity and the High Middle Ages. Structures, Developments and Spatial Contexts* (2011), in *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies* 2:186-187 (2013)
- Katherine Sykes, *Inventing Sempringham. Gilbert of Sempringham and the Origins of the Role of the Master* (2011) in *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies* 2:189-190 (2013)
- Cynthia J. Cyrus, *The Scribes for Women's Convents in Late Medieval Germany* (2009), in *Manuscripta* 56(1):140-143 (2012).
- Beverly Mayne Kienzle, *Hildegard of Bingen and her Gospel Homilies: Speaking New Mysteries* (2009) in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 63(1):141-143 (January 2012).
- Erika Lauren Lindgren, *Sensual Encounters: Monastic Women and Spirituality in Medieval Germany* (2009) in *Francia-Recensio* 2010(4).
- Heinzer, Felix, *Klosterreform und mittelalterliche Buchkultur im deutschen Südwesten* (2008), in *Medium Aevum* 78(2):324 (2009).
- Malcolm Parkes, *Their Hands before our Eyes: a Closer Look at Scribes* (2009), in *The Medieval Review* (2010).
- Hartmut Hoffmann, *Schreibschulen des 10. und des 11. Jahrhunderts in Südwesten Deutschen Reichs* (2004), in *Speculum* 82(1):197-198 (January 2007)
- Anne Winston-Allen, *Convent Chronicles: Women Writing about Women and Reform in the Middle Ages* (2004), in *The American Catholic Historical Review*, 91(1):116-117 (January 2006).
- Constance H. Berman (trans.), *Women and Monasticism in Medieval Europe: Sisters and Patrons of the Cistercian Reform* (2002), in *Speculum* 79(4):1034-1035 (October 2004).
- Constant Mews (ed.), *Listen, Daughter: The Speculum Virginum and the Formation of Religious Women in the Middle Ages* (2001), in *Speculum* 79(2):526-529 (April 2004).

Entries in Encyclopedias

- "Scribes, Compilers, and Illuminators," In *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe: An Encyclopedia*, Margaret C. Schaus, ed. (New York, 2006).

Writing for Popular Press

- "Anonymous was a Woman: Illuminating the Writing and Art of Religious Women in the Middle Ages" (with Tina Warinner) in *In Situ: News and Events of the Harvard Standing Committee on Archaeology*, Spring 2020, pp. 11-18.
- "Nuns Were Secluded to Avoid Scandals in Early Christian Monastic Communities" (with Mariachiara Giorda), in *The Conversation* (21 March 2019).

Recent Presentations

- "Women among the Apostles: Remnants of Female Religious Life in Germany's Long Twelfth Century." International Medieval Congress, Leeds. July 2019.
- "The Medieval Woman with Lapis Lazuli in her Teeth: An Interdisciplinary Detective Story." College of Dentistry Science Colloquium. The Ohio State University. April 2019.
- "Reading the Remnants: Religious Women and the Material Turn in Medieval History." Distinguished Lecture. Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena. April 2019.

- "Women Among the Apostles: Remnants of Female Religious Life in Germany's Long Twelfth Century." Cambridge University. January 2019.
- "Re-Imagining the Landscape of the Hirsau Reform." *Neue Forschungen zum Kloster Hirsau im Mittelalter*. Hirsau, Germany. November 2017.
- "Self-Projection and Imposed Identities: The Women of St. Agnes, Schaffhausen ca. 1150-1500." *Ordnungsdiskurse in Frauenklöstern: Chroniken und Selbstzeugnisse*. Universität Tübingen, April 2017.
- "Entangling Alliances: Negotiating Patronage in a Violent Landscape." Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. April 2017.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." Yale University, Economic History Seminar (with David Jaeger). February 2017.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." *Germania Sacra*, Universität Göttingen (with David Jaeger). August 2016.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." Annual Medieval Academy of the Medieval Academy of America (with David Jaeger). Boston, MA. February 2016.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of Medieval Germany: A Project Report." Space and Settlement Conference. Trinity College, Dublin. May 2015.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of Medieval Germany: A Project Report." AGFEM Research Workshop. Kloster Weingarten (with David Jaeger). March 2015.
- "The Dis-Orderly Women of the Hirsau Reform." Medieval Studies Seminar. Central European University, Budapest. October 2014.
- "The Dis-Orderly Women of the Hirsau Reform." Columbia University Medieval Studies Seminar. Columbia University. February 2014.

Invited Conference and Workshop Participation

- Konstanzer Arbeitskreis für Mittelalterliche Geschichte. Reichenau, Germany. October 2017.
- The *Liber Ordinarius* of the Abbey of Nivelles. Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. March 2016.
- Excavating Medicine in a Digital Age: Paleography and the Medical Book in the Twelfth-Century Renaissance. National Humanities Center, Chapel Hill. October 2010.
- Konstanzer Arbeitskreis für Mittelalterliche Geschichte. Reichenau, Germany. September 2010.
- Wissensraum Frauenkloster. Universität Trier. April 2009.

Editorial and Referee Activities

- Associate Book Review Editor**, *American Historical Review*, 2020—
- Book Review Editor**, *Speculum*, 2014—2016
- Editor**, *Monastic Matrix: A Scholarly Resource for the Study of Women's Religious Communities from 400-1600 CE*. <http://monasticmatrix.org>, 2012—
- Series Co-Editor**, *Sanctimoniales – Medieval Religious Women*, Brepols Publishers, 2011—
- Member Advisory Board**, *Monastic Matrix: A Scholarly Resource for the Study of Women's Religious Communities from 400-1600 CE*, 2005—2012.
- Member Editorial Board**, *Epistolae*, an online database of women's letters from the Middle Ages, Columbia University. <http://epistolae.ccnmtl.columbia.edu>, 2001—
- Referee**, Cambridge University Press, Fordham University Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, *Book History*, *Speculum*, American Academy in Berlin, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- Tenure Reviewer**, Brandeis University, University of Southern California, Beloit College, Marquette University.

Selected Professional Activities

- Nominating Committee**, Medieval Academy of America, 2020—2023.
- Trustee**, Association of Members of the Institute for Advanced Study (AMIAS), Princeton, NJ (elected) 2015—2017 and 2018—2020, Treasurer 2018—2020, President 2020—2023.
- Founding Member**, **AGFEM** (Arbeitsgruppe geistliche Frauen im europäischen Mittelalter/Research Group for the Study of Religious Women in the European Middle Ages).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Frauenklöster im europäischen Mittelalter: Aktuelle Forschungs-Diskurse und -Projekte X. Kloster Heiligkreuztal, Germany. April 2019 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Reformen geistlicher Frauengemeinschaften im Mittelalter/Reforms in Female Religious Communities in the Middle Ages. Third Annual International AGFEM Conference. Kloster Weingarten, Germany. March 2017 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Neue Forschungen zum Kloster Hirsau im Mittelalter. Hirsau, Germany. November 2017.
- Conference Organizer**, New Directions in the Study of Medieval Religious Women. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. April 2013 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Religious Women's Spaces of Knowledge in the European Middle Ages. (Klosterräume und Wissenswelten geistlicher Frauen im europäischen Mittelalter.) Schloss Dhaun, Germany. July 2011 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Frauenklöster im europäischen Mittelalter: Aktuelle Forschungs-Diskurse und -Projekte. Schloss Dhaun, Germany. October 2008 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Order and Identity: Religious Women's Communities in the High and Late Middle Ages. (Ordo und Identität: Geistliche Frauengemeinschaften in Hoch- und Spätmittelalter.) Schloss Dhaun, Germany. March 2008 (AGFEM).
- Conference Co-Organizer**, Networking Women: Geistliche Frauengemeinschaften in Hoch- und Spätmittelalter. Schloss Dhaun, Germany. June 2011 (AGFEM).
- Conference Organizer**, Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Admont and the Twelfth-Century Renaissance in Germanic Lands. Admont, Austria, 7-10 August 2002.

Doctoral Student Advising

* dissertation advisor, ∇ academic advisor

- * Christina Grundmann (continuing)
- * Shannon Turner Li (2017)
- * Samuel Sutherland (2017)
- ∇ Rebecca Favorito (2016)
- ∇ Sarah Kernan (2015)