

Research Group on Manuscript Evidence

A NEW JERSEY NONPROFIT CORPORATION
46 Snowden Lane, Princeton, New Jersey 08540-3916

Dr. Mildred Budny, *Executive Director*

from the Princeton Trustees

Dear Friend of the Research Group on Manuscript Evidence:

In 2014, the Research Group celebrated its 15th anniversary as a nonprofit educational corporation and its 25th as an international scholarly society. We had a wide variety of activities, with a party in Princeton in March, a Symposium on “Recollections of the Past” at Princeton University in May, a Colloquium on “When the Dust Has Settled” at the University in November, and a Seminar on “Manuscripts & Their Photographs” at the Index of Christian Art in December. We sponsored and co-sponsored five Sessions, along with an Anniversary Reception, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo in May. There appeared the preliminary version of our newly redesigned website, an upgrade of our multi-lingual (and free) digital font *Bembino* (in which this letter and our redesigned website are set), and the first issue of our Newsletter *ShelfMarks*.

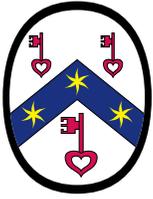
Over its existence, the Research Group has steadily expanded its activities, just as it has widened its scope. In addition to its publications, it organizes scholarly meetings of various kinds, including annual sessions at the Kalamazoo Congress. The Research Group engages in research projects, promotes conservation and photography, integrates research work in a broad range of fields, and serves as a clearing-house of information through its website and internet pages, as well as through its events.

These activities require more time and money than can be contributed by a single, unpaid director. To maintain its work, the Research Group requires support in various forms. First, and perhaps foremost, financial support both on an annual basis, of which there are now about twenty-five regular contributors, and for an endowment, which still stands at \$450. Second, there is a pressing need for help, even on an occasional ad hoc basis, with tasks like distributing publications, contributing to the Newsletter, updating the website, and organizing meetings, as well as providing accounting and legal advice. Finally, contributions in kind are welcome. This year, for example, we need to replace the office printer and to find filing cabinets.

Since our previous letter, we record with thanks the support of regular contributors, as well as new contributors, whom we welcome. The responses in the past year provided donations of nearly \$5,500, as well as contributions of facilities, refreshments, and services. With this renewed and increased support, both in funds and in kind, it has been possible this year to accomplish the activities in several spheres.

The Research Group seeks to continue this momentum, and to build upon it for 2015 and beyond. The goals are to increase the endowment and the support — funds, time, and expertise — of its running costs as a nonprofit educational corporation, to digitize its archives and photographic collection, to document its history as an organization, to advance with research projects, to publish their results, and to hold events. Beside the five sponsored and co-sponsored sessions, plus a reception, set into place for the 2015 Kalamazoo Congress, the Research Group seeks to hold selected events, including the launch of the redesigned website. We continue to celebrate the contributions of supporters throughout the world and across the years.

manuscriptevidence.org/wpme/



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Will you please consider assisting the Research Group in one or more of these ways? The full value of any donations is tax deductible, since the Research Group is a registered non-profit corporation. The continued existence and activities of the Research Group rest upon contributions in many forms, which we ask you to join, renew, or augment.

We thank you for your support.

Giles Constable
Institute for Advanced Study

James Marrow
Princeton University

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