

Distinguished International Visiting Fellowship 2014
Tracy Adams
'Marriage as Diplomacy in Late Medieval and Early Modern France'



As part of its international research collaboration, the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions funds outstanding international scholars in the field to visit one or more of the Australian nodes for a period of between four weeks and two months, to work with members of the Centre on a research program of their choice. Visitors are invited to present their work in lectures or symposia, where they will receive feedback from and engage in discussion with members of the Centre, promoting collaborative research.

Tracy Adams was awarded a Distinguished International Visiting Fellowship in 2014. She spent eight weeks with CHE, dividing her time between Centre nodes in Perth, Sydney, and Melbourne. Tracy received a PhD in French from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1998. Currently an Associate Professor in French at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, she has also taught at the University of Maryland, the University of Miami, and the University of Lyon III. She is the author of *Violent Passions: Managing Love in the Old French Verse Romance* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005) and *The Life and Afterlife of Isabeau of Bavaria* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010) and has recently completed a manuscript entitled 'Christine de Pizan and the Armagnac-Burgundian War'.

Tracy discusses the benefits and highlights of her time with CHE below.

I came to the Centre to start work on a project that I have had in mind for several years but had not yet had the chance to think about seriously: a study of the women associated with the court of Anne de France, regent of France 1484-1492, for her brother King Charles VIII of France. Several of these women went on to become politically important: Margaret of Austria, regent of the Netherlands for her nephew Charles V; Louise of Savoy, regent of France for her son François I; Anne of Brittany, twice queen of France.

The fellowship allowed me to focus on this project intensively. I spent long days working and discussing my ideas with members of the Centre and also had the opportunity to travel to Sydney and Melbourne. I gave four presentations of my research: two at the University of Western Australia and one each at the universities of Sydney and Melbourne. I

received valuable feedback during these presentations, but the discussions I had with colleagues during the time were equally important.

In addition to working on this project, I was lucky enough to be invited back to an upcoming colloquium at the University of Western Australia, hosted by the Centre, *'In Form of War': Emotions and Warfare in Writing, 1100-1820*, 27-28 June, 2014.

I cannot thank the coordinators of the Centre enough for giving me the opportunity to pursue my project in peace (the university campus is a paradise for scholars with its beautiful quad and the peacocks; I miss them terribly and was devastated to hear of the loss of one of them). I was able to enjoy the solitude that we need to produce and the collegiality that we need to try out ideas.