

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
VI GOWER CONGRESS 29 JUNE-3 JULY 2026

Monday, 29 June

10:00-10:30

Official Opening/Greetings from the University

10:30-11:30

Session 1: *Soth and Sloth*

- Kara McShane, Ursinus College “Women’s Letters and Sloth in the *Confessio Amantis*”
- David K. Coley, Simon Fraser University “‘And thus of fals thei maken soth’: Truth, Law, and Populism in Gower’s ‘Tale of Virginia’”

Session 2: *Manuscripts and Books, I*

- Tamara F. O’Callaghan, Northern Kentucky University and Andrea R. Harbin, State University of New York, Cortland “Information Aesthetics: Eye-Tracking the Manuscripts of the *Confessio Amantis*”
- Michelle M. Sauer and Samuel M. Amendolar, University of North Dakota “Alchemical Discourse and “Hidden Things”: Examining MS Sloane 3847”

11:30-12:00

Coffee

12:00-1:00

Plenary I:

Rita Copeland, University of Pennsylvania, *Title Forthcoming*

1:00-2:00

Session 3: *Adaptation and Coherence*

- Xiaoling Wu, Zhejiang University “On the Coherence of Book VI of the *Confessio Amantis*”
- Jennifer Alberghini, Baruch College “Translating Adultery: Adaptations of Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* in Book V of the *Confessio Amantis*”

Session 4: *Manuscripts and Books, II*

- Michael P. Kuczynski, Tulane University “John Gower and the ‘Entente’ of Scripture”
- Siân Echard, University of British Columbia “Histories and Stories, World Maps and the End of the World: The Books and Manuscripts of Thomas Martin”

2:00-3:30

Lunch

3:30-5:00

Session 5: *Not Lost in Translation*

- Amanda Roig-Marin, University of Alicante “The De-Anglicisation of the *Confessio Amantis* in its Portuguese and Castilian Translations”
- Sandra Gracia Casado, University of Valladolid “‘Faie and no woman’: Medea and Her Emotion in the Iberian Translations of Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”
- Ana Sáez-Hidalgo, University of Valladolid “On the Castilian *Confessio*”

Session 6: *Class, Narrative, and Transformation*

- Phoebe Macindoe, University of St. Andrews “Gower on a Budget: Social Class in Nineteenth-Century Editions of the *Confessio Amantis*”
- Rebecca Menmuir, Oxford University “Fame and Frame: Gower the Narrator”
- Natalie Grinnell, Wofford College “Transforming Gower: An Exercise for the Undergraduate Classroom”

5:00-6:30

Session 7: *Hoccleve, Gower, and the Art of Translation* (Roundtable)

Chair: David Watt, University of Manitoba

Participants: Sebastian Langdell, Baylor University; A. Arwen Taylor, Arkansas Tech University; R. D. Perry, University of Tennessee/Knoxville; Ruen-chuan Ma, Utah Valley University

7:00

Opening reception

9:00

Dinner

Dinners can be arranged through the Villa Universitaria (residence hall) or the Hotel Villa Universitaria, if one chooses the “media pension” option. Otherwise there are many restaurants in the area, or downtown Alicante.

Tuesday, 30 June

10:00-11:30

Session 8: *Ships and the Sea, I*

- Samuel F. McMillan, Flagler College “Oceanic Gower”
- Colin Keohane, University of Victoria “Gower’s Ships”
- Jeffery G. Stoyanoff, Pennsylvania State University, Altoona “Horror at Sea in the *Confessio Amantis*”

Session 9: *Peace, War, and Compensation*

- Simon Meecham-Jones, Independent Scholar “The Problem(s) of *In Praise of Peace*”
- Stephanie L. Batkie, University of the South “Marginal Power in Gower’s Shorter Poems: Matters of Lineage in the Hundred Years’ War”
- Craig Bertolet, Auburn University “Knight Shift: Labor and Compensation in the Military Orders”

11:30-12:00

Coffee

12:00-1:30

Session 10: *Gower and Sexuality in the Medieval West*

Chair: Michelle M. Sauer, University of North Dakota

- Heather Blatt, Florida International Univ. “Negotiating the Medieval World as Women in Gower”
- Anna M. Kłosowska, Miami University “Gower and Sexualities in Medieval Eastern Europe and the Holy Roman Empire”
- Brian Gastle, Western Carolina University “Gower, Prostitution, and Sex Work”
- Dorothy Kim, Brandeis University “Asexuality and Race in Gower and Hoccleve”

1:30-3:30

Lunch

3:30-5:00

Session 11: *Of latine and othere lore*

- Bard Swallow, University of Toronto “‘De triplici eius opere’: The Unconventional Verse Associated with John Gower’s Tomb”
- Casey Madden, Boston College “Perceiving *Prelate*: Uncovering the Meaning of Gower’s Mysterious Minor Poem”
- Charlotte Cox, University of North Carolina at Pembroke “Ovidian Echoes in the *Confessio Amantis*”

Session 12: *On Tristan, Troilus, and the Prioress*

- Geoff Rector, University of Ottawa “‘Me thoghte I sih tofor myn hed...lich unto a Parement’”: Visuality, Iconicity, and Resemblance in Gower’s Treatment of the Tristan and Isolde Story”
- Matthew W. Irvin, University of the South “Gower’s Story of Troilus and Criseida”
- Jonathan Stavsky, Tel Aviv University “The *Prioress’s Tale*: A Gowerian Reading”

5:00-6:30

Session 13: *On Bodies, Variously*

- Alastair J. Minnis, Yale University “Looking Beyond the Body: Gower’s Visionary (In)sights”
- Elizabeth Brissey, Auburn University “Bodies of Ink and Skin: Epistolary Presence and Physical Absence in Gower’s *Confessio*”
- R. F. Yeager, University of West Florida “Some Thoughts on Gower’s Tomb”

Session 14: *The Moral and the Spiritual*

- Georgiana Donavin, Westminster University “Star of Gowerian Seas”
- Caitlin Moon, Independent Scholar “Mediterranean Monsters: Disability, Gender, and Moral Geography in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”
- Ruen-chuan Ma, Utah Valley University “Interlingual Coordination for Moral Instruction: Comparing Gower’s *Confessio* with Middle English Devotional Manuals”

Wednesday, 1 July

10:00-11:30

Session 15: *Ships and the Sea, II*

- Michael Bennett, University of Tasmania “Gower at Sea”
- Stephen Penn, University of Stirling “*Navis* as Ship and Nave in Gower’s *Visio Angliae*: An Ecclesiological Investigation”
- Kerstin Majewski, Ruhr University Bochum, “Gower and the Blue Humanities: The Mediterranean Sea in the ‘Tale of Apollonius of Tyre’”

Session 16: *Tales of Betrayal*

- Thari Zweers, Cornell University “Gower’s ‘Marches’: Egypt as a Borderland in the ‘Tale of the False Bachelor’”
- Francis W. Ladd, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, “Gower’s Transfiguration of the Cup in ‘Albinus and Rosamund’”
- Andrea Schutz, St. Thomas University “Silken Words: Philomena’s Surreptitious Fabric”

11:30-12:00

Coffee

12:00-1:30

Session 17: *Speaking of Islam*

- Linda Burke, Elmhurst University “About as Radical as It Gets: The *Confessio Amantis* and Crusading in the East (Outremer)”
- Malek Zuraikat, Yarmouk University (Jordan) “The Image of Saracens in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”
- Amanda Gerber, James Madison University “Weaponizing Wives: Constance and the Women Between Christianity and Islam”

Session 18: *Greeks*

- R. D. Perry, University of Tennessee, Knoxville “Gower’s Theban Horror”
- Lydia McCollum, Florida State University “Maiden, Mother, Murderer: Medea as Monster in John Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”
- Clare Fletcher, Trinity College, Dublin “Gower’s Greeks and the First ‘Letres of Gregois’ in the *Confessio Amantis*”

1:30-3:30

Lunch

3:30-5:00

Session 19: *Gower and Jameson*

Chair: Ethan Knapp, Ohio State University

- Robert Epstein, Fairfield University “Destructive Anachronism: Jameson, Gower, and the Renaissance Faire”
- Jordan Skinner, Princeton University “The Critique of the Center”
- Stephanie L. Batkie, University of the South “Utopias of Old: Political Ends in the *Confessio Amantis*”
- Will Rhodes, University of Iowa “Jameson’s Late Medievalism: Allegory and History, Dante and Gower”

5:00-6:30

Session 20: *Apollonius of Tyre*

- Elizabeth Archibald, Durham University “Shakespeare’s Gower and the Prologue to *Pericles*”
- Riley McGuire, University of Notre Dame “Learning to Work with Providence and Fortune in Gower’s ‘Apollonius’”
- Yun Ni, Peking University “Coastal Vulnerability and the Politics of the Sea in Gower’s ‘Apollonius of Tyre’”

9:00 PM

Gala Dinner – Restaurante Dársena

Thursday, 2 July

11:00-12:30

Session 22: *About the Mirour de l’Omme*

- Ethan Knapp, Ohio State University “‘Un poy du nient’: Nothingness and Generation in Gower’s *Mirour de l’Omme*”
- Clotilde Dauphant, University of the Sorbonne “Can We Read the *Mirour de l’Omme* Aloud?”
- Yoshiko Kobayashi, University of Tokyo “Friendship, Dileccioun, and Wisdom in John Gower’s *Mirour de l’Omme* and John Lydgate’s *Fabula Duorum Mercatorum*”

Session 23: *Nature, Reason, Authorship and Kingship*

- Thomas Hahn, University of Rochester “Unpacking the Negotiations of Gower, Genius, and Amans concerning ‘Nature, Maistresse in Kinde’” vs. *Reson* and ‘Lawe positif’ in the *Confessio*.”
- Myra Seaman, College of Charleston “Recontextualizing Gower’s Iconic Model of Authorship”
- Roger A. Ladd, University of North Carolina at Pembroke “Love Like a King – Bridging the Gap Between ‘King Richardes [Englandes] Sake’ and the Rest of Us”

12:30-1:30

Plenary II: James Simpson, Harvard University

*Intergenerational Recognitions in Gower’s “Apollonius of Tyre”:
the Economics of Romance*

Afternoon and Evening Free to Explore Alicante

Friday, 3 July

OPTIONAL EXCURSION