



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Medieval Institute

International Congress
on Medieval Studies

Social Media Guidelines

Since 2010, the International Congress on Medieval Studies (@KzooICMS) has maintained a Twitter presence. The account is used to make announcements, post reminders, and answer questions. We establish an official hashtag, unique each year, so activity of the current Congress can be easily followed and activity for previous years can be found under their respective hashtags. The hashtag for the International Congress on Medieval Studies is #KzooYYYY [i.e., the four-digit year].

Real-time online interaction both opens conversations to colleagues unable to attend and extends conference spaces for attendees. It can expand opportunities for networking and engaging wider academic communities within medieval studies and, more broadly, the humanities and beyond. Social media applications offer spaces that can be rich resources to strengthen intellectual communities, connections and communications both during and after conferences.

We ask that Congress registrants keep three fundamental principles in mind:

Consent

All speakers have both the right to request that their work, images and/or any related material presented not be live-tweeted, live-blogged, or otherwise publicly posted and the right to expect that their requests will be respected.

Audio or video recordings of sessions should not be made or posted without express permission of all of the session's participants (ideally, these permissions should be secured in advance through the session organizer or presider). Photographs should not be posted without the consent of the subjects therein.

Respect

The Congress hashtag is a representation of the conference online as much as it is a representation of those using it. Please remember that your comments are public and should be made in the same tone you would use in person: the medium in which professional activity is communicated doesn't change its professional nature and is as important to scholars' professional reputation as their academic work. Language that is vulgar, profane, threatening, or that includes personal attacks is inappropriate.

Collegiality

Expressing appreciation and sharing links to useful/related information contribute to the conversation and strengthen academic connections. Disagreements and difficult topics are as integral to an intellectual community as scholarly generosity and should be handled with the same professionalism, care and respect online as in face-to-face discussion.