Call for Papers

Society for Confraternity Studies
at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference
Montreal, Canada
14–17 October 2010

The Society for Confraternity Studies invites proposals for individual papers and whole panels on three themes:

Themes:

**Confraternities in the Americas:** Confraternities were active across the Americas, acting as vehicles of religious worship, charitable help, communal governance, and sociability. We might even consider the *L’Ordre du Bon-Temps* founded by Samuel Champlain in 1606 to be the first in New France. What forces, pressures, and opportunities shaped confraternities in the Americas, and how did they fit in to and advance (or detract from) the process of colonization? How did confraternities organize European settlers, and how did they mediate relations with aboriginal groups?

**Confraternities & Sociability:** in northern Europe particularly, confraternities focused much of their activity on various forms of sociability, including feasting, games, and theatre. Were these brotherhoods anything more than supper clubs or, as Luther called them, ‘conventicles of Bacchus’? How important was sociability to religious socialization? What effect did religious reform movements have on this festive sociability? We invite papers that explore the social side of confraternal life, and how that may have animated the brotherhoods while stirring reservations among lay and clerical authorities.

**Confraternities as Sites of Cultural Production:** confraternities were among the most active patrons of art, architecture, and music, and in some cities their choirs and concerts were vibrant elements of urban cultural life. The songs sung in confraternities became models for Christmas carols and for congregational singing in Protestant churches. How key characteristics of fifteenth century confraternal music were taken up in public worship by both protestants and catholics in the sixteenth century? How did confraternal cultural production shift through the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries?

Individual papers are to be no more than 20 minutes long and panels are normally comprised of 3 papers.

**Proposals:** Send a proposal to Prof. Nicholas Terpstra (University of Toronto) at: nicholas.terpstra@utoronto.ca

The proposal should include a brief description of your presentation (no more than 250 words), a brief CV giving institutional affiliation, and full contact information (address, phone, fax, & email). Since digital projectors are very costly for the SCSC to rent, please request one only if it necessary to the substance or argument of the paper.

**Deadline:** 1 March 2010