



Got Milk and Leather and Labor?

Bovine Consumption and Servitude
in Nine Anglo-Saxon Riddles

Robert Stanton

Boston College

October 1, 2015

6pm

CPACS 101

**UNO Medieval/
Renaissance Studies**

Starting from nine remarkable Anglo-Saxon England riddles with the solutions of young bullock, nostalgic ox, or elderly cow, the talk explores a move away from high-concept religious symbolism (oxen and calves as symbols of St Luke the evangelist) to naturalistic lament poetry, demonstrating how the voice of a commodified speaking subject troubles the idea of sacrifice. Together, the riddles trace a traumatic collapse of the object into the subject, and a domestic animal voice that laments usage and suffering within a religious and socioeconomic system.

Robert Stanton is Associate Professor of English at Boston College, specializing in Old and Middle English Language and Literature, translation studies, and critical animal studies. He is the author of The Culture of Translation in Anglo-Saxon England (Boydell & Brewer, 2002) as well as numerous articles on saints' lives, mystics, and medieval animals. He is currently working on a book entitled Holy Signs and Fruitful Toil: Animal Voice and Signification in Anglo-Saxon England.

The event is sponsored by the English Department, Dual Enrollment English & the Dean of Arts & Sciences.

The event is free and open to the public - Refreshments will be served

For more info, please contact Lisabeth Buchelt - lbuchelt@unomaha.edu