

Presentation to William W. Kibler

It is a distinct honor for me to present this award, the Norris J. Lacy Prize for Outstanding Editorial Achievement in Arthurian Studies, to William W. Kibler.

All Arthurians surely know Bill Kibler's editions and translations of romances of Chrétien de Troyes; in fact, his edition and facing translation of *Lancelot* inaugurated the Garland Library of Medieval Literature, a series that ran to more than eighty volumes. Later, his translations of four of Chrétien's romances, along with Carleton W. Carroll's *Erec et Enide*, were put into prose and published by Penguin. They have deservedly become the standard Englished Chrétien.

His distinguished translating career continued with his 1995 masterly rendering of a major section of the Vulgate Prose Lancelot (in *The Lancelot-Grail: The Old French Arthurian Vulgate and Post-Vulgate Cycles of Arthurian Romance*). More recently Kibler, along with Barton Palmer, published a translation of eight Arthurian chronicles and romances under the title *Medieval Arthurian Epic and Romance* (2014).

His work with Carroll and Palmer and as part of the team of nine translators of the *Lancelot-Grail* offers ample evidence of Kibler's ability to work in harmonious and productive collaboration with other scholars. I can personally attest to this quality, having worked closely with him and seven others to provide the translation of the *Lancelot-Grail*.

Another personal note: Bill also edited an important collection of essays on *the Lancelot-Grail*, *The Lancelot-Grail Cycle: Text and Transformations* (1994). I mention this not only because it is, I believe, a very valuable volume, but also because the genesis of the book was an Austin, TX, conference that he organized; it is memorable because it proved to be one of the two most exciting and satisfying scholarly gatherings that it has been my honor to attend.

In addition, we must all be grateful to him and to his co-editor for the invaluable *Medieval France: An Encyclopedia* (1995) and for other volumes and numerous articles on Arthurian, epic, and other subjects.

He is a most distinguished editor, translator, philologist, and literary scholar—and a treasured friend to me and to a host of colleagues. I am pleased and honored to present this award to William W. Kibler.

Norris J. Lacy