

Insights and challenges of translating historical  
texts from medieval

Italy and the Portuguese colonial world

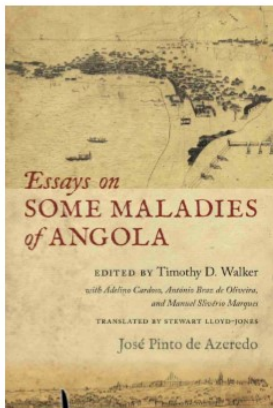
September 22 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM

In the Prince Henry Society Reading Room of the Ferreira-Mendes  
Portuguese-American Archives

Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public

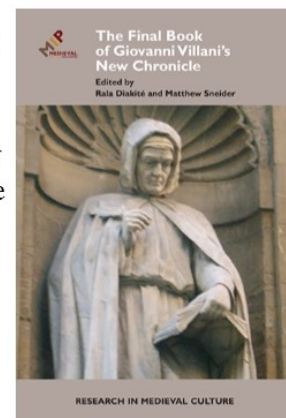
Two books will be launched: *Essays on Some Maladies of Angola*, edited by Prof. Timothy Walker of UMD and *The Final Book of Giovanni's Villani's New Chronicle*, edited by Prof. Matthew Sneider of UMD and Prof. Rala Diakit  of Fitchburg State University.

The three presenters will discuss the process of their respective translation projects as well as provide some background on the original authors and the importance of each text.



*Essays on Some Maladies of Angola* was first published in Portuguese in 1799. Its author, Jos  Pinto de Azeredo (1764–1810) was born in Brazil, trained in medicine at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and lived in Luanda for nearly a decade at the end of the eighteenth century, where he observed indigenous African folk healers to learn their medical traditions. According to Tagus Press, the publisher of *Essays on Some Maladies of Angola*, the book is “a unique medical text describing healing practices in Africa at the peak of the transatlantic slave trade.” This is the first English-language edition of the book.

*The Final Book of Giovanni's Villani's New Chronicle* is translated by Rala Diakit  (Fitchburg State University) and Matthew Sneider (University of Massachusetts Dartmouth) from Giovanni Villani's *Nuova Cronica*, a vast *oeuvre* of 12 books, which trace “the history of Florence, Italy, and Europe over a vast sweep of time – from the destruction of the Tower of Babel to the outbreak of the Black Death.” Giovanni Villani was a Florentine merchant born c. 1275 and died of the plague in 1348. During his multifarious and often controversial life, he traveled in Flanders and France, held numerous political offices in the city of Florence, and was caught up in the economic crises of the 1340s.



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