

Biographical sketch of the new member of the History-Archaeology Section



Meritxell Simó Torres (Barcelona, 1967) earned her Bachelor's in Romance Language Philology from the Universitat de Barcelona (UB) in 1990, with the Extraordinary Bachelor's Prize. She furthered her education at Sapienza Università di Roma and at the Sorbonne of Paris. She earned research grants awarded by CIRIT and the Ministry (FPI)

and completed her doctoral degree at the UB, where she earned the European Doctorate in Romance Language Philology and the Extraordinary Doctoral Prize in 1996. She secured a position as a tenured professor in 2001. Over the years, she has directed around 20 Master's degree theses and eight doctoral theses, three of which have already been read and five of which are currently underway. In 2018, she served as a visiting professor at the Università degli Studi di Padova (Italy).

With four recognised stints in administration, she has had a prominent, steady presence in the academic administration of her faculty over 20 years, serving as the academic coordinator, the academic secretary, the president of the Faculty Quality Committee, a member of the Internal Evaluation Committee and a member of the UB's Quality Council. She is currently a member of different management committees in the Faculty of Philosophy and the UB, and she has been a member of the UB's Research Council as a representative of the university's research institutes since 2015.

She has directed three doctoral theses (two of which earned the distinction of being European doctorates) and is currently directing five others. She has participated in a dozen research projects financed by different ministries with competences in research, two of which she directed, and in three Small Research Groups, one of which she directs. She is currently also the coordinator of a research project in collaboration between the UB and the USC.

She has been a researcher at the UB's Centre Dona i Literatura (2003-2013) and is currently a member and the director of the Institut de Recerca en Cultures Medievales at the UB. She has been named a Time Machine Ambassador in the European Time Machine network (<https://www.timemachine.eu/>), financed by the European Commission, which is geared towards managing big data as a way to reconstruct Europe's cultural past. She has organised a dozen conferences, including the major Congrès

Internacional de l'Associació Hispànica de Literatura Medieval (2019), as well as different research conferences at the IRCVM. She is a member of the Management Committee of the IEC-UAI project *Corpus des Troubadours*.

Regarding her publications, she is the director of several research collections, including *IRCVM Medieval Cultures* (Viella), *Lliçons /Lessons* (EUB), *MVNERA* (EUB), *IRCVM Premis* (EUB) and *SVMMA Revista de cultures medievals*, a bilingual (Catalan/English) open-access journal which is well positioned in the leading national and international index rankings. She is a member of the scientific committee of several prestigious journals and collections in the Romance languages, such as *Revue des Langues Romanes*, *Revista de Filología Románica* (UCM), the *Studia Philologica* collection of Erma di Bretschneider (Rome) and the *Medievalismi. Collana di studi storico-letterari, filologici e culturali* collection (Edizioni dell'Orso, Alessandria). In addition to these scholarly research publications, she is also a member of the advisory board of magazines targeted at a general readership, such as *Sàpiens*, *Món medieval* and *Medieval*.

Even though she has also focused on other topics, such as Romance historiography and the birth of European linguistic consciousness, her research has primarily revolved around the European reception of the troubadours and on the literary creation and representation of women, fields in which she has worked as a researcher and director of different research projects. Her publications include the books *La arquitectura del 'roman courtois' con inserciones líricas*, New York, Peter Lang, 1999; Cecco Angiolieri; *Sonetos*. Introduction, translations, notes and thematic index by Meritxell Simó, Rome-Paris, Memini-Champion, 2003; and *On Lies and Fairy Tales: Women and Poetic Creation in the 'Lais' of Marie de France*, Barcelona, EUB, 2017. She has been in charge of the miscellanies *Pragmàtica de la literatura medieval*, Universitat de València, 2017; *Los trovadores. Creación, recepción y crítica en la edad media y en la edad contemporània*, Kassel, Reichenberger, 2018; and *Los Motz e-l so afinan: cantar, llegir, escriure la lírica dels trobadors*, Rome, Viella, 2020; in addition to many articles in miscellanies and journals and conference presentations. Within the *Corpus des Troubadours* project, she published the book *La cançó provençal en la literatura catalana cent anys després*, Sismel. Edizioni del Galluzzo, 2012.

She has taken an interest in translation as both theoretical reflection and as a translator of mediaeval texts into Catalan and Spanish. She has been a guest lecturer at several Spanish and European universities and at prestig-

ious international research centres such as the Circolo Filologico Padovano, the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche of Naples, the Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique of Paris and Spain's own CSIC. She has also sought to promote dissemination and research. For eight years, she organised the Premi Carme Serrallonga a la Qualitat Lingüística awarded by the UB's Faculty of Philology, and later she promoted prizes targeted at undergraduate students, such as the Premi al millor TFG de Cultures Medievales, and at the scholarly community,

such as the Premi d'Investigació Dr Saladié Roig, which is now in its fifth edition. As the Director of the IRCVM, she has worked intensely to disseminate scholarship in conjunction with institutions like La Filmoteca, the Fundació Romea per a les Arts Escèniques, the ICD, MUHBA, the Museu Marítim, the Biblioteca de Catalunya and the Fundació Privada Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, among others.

VICENÇ BELTRAN