List of contributors

Katie Branch is a member of Openstorytellers, where she helps to manage the gigs for the storytelling group and to deliver training courses.

Janina Dillig is currently a Post-Doc in Medieval German Literature at the University of Bamberg, Germany. She wrote her dissertation on identity and masks in the Middle High German versions of the Tristan story, and while she approached the question of identity with methods from gender studies, disability studies is another important focus of her recent research in medieval literature. More specifically, she is interested in the use of disability as a tool for the creation of the hero in Middle High German literature.

Clemma Fleat was born with Fragile X Syndrome. She writes poetry and is collecting a book of favourites. At Openstorytellers she tells stories, trains people, and works on computers, and she plans to carry on hearing, writing and sharing stories and poems.

D. Christopher Gabbard is Associate Professor of English at the University of North Florida. His work has appeared in *PMLA*, *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, *SEL*, *Restoration*, and *The Disability Studies Quarterly*. He has just finished a book-length manuscript, *The Boy Who Broke The Enlightenment: Disability, Medicine, and Fatherhood*, which tells the story of raising a child with significant impairments. His entry 'Human' appeared in *Keywords for Disability Studies* (New York University Press, 2015), and his chapter, 'From Custodial Care to Caring Labor: The Discourse of Who Cares in *Jane Eyre*' appeared in *The Madwoman and the Blindman: Jane Eyre, Discourse, Disability* (Ohio State University Press, 2012). Currently he is co-editing volume four (Age of Enlightenment) of a six-volume Bloomsbury series, *A Cultural History of Disability*. His new project is titled, 'Who Cares? Representations of Caregiving'. And he serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*.

C. F. Goodey holds a PhD from the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge. He formerly held research and teaching posts at UCL Institute of Education and The Open University, and is currently Honorary Fellow at the Centre for Medical Humanities, University of Leicester. He is the author of *A History of Intelligence and 'Intellectual*

Disability': The Shaping of Psychology in Early Modern Europe (Ashgate, 2011) and *Learning Disability and Inclusion Phobia: Past, Present, Future* (Routledge, 2016).

Nicola Grove lectured at City University, London in Speech and Language Therapy, then left to set up the company of Openstorytellers. She holds an honorary senior lectureship at the Tizard Centre, University of Kent.

Simon Jarrett is a historian, writer, university teacher, and editor of *Community Living* magazine, the UK's only print magazine about learning disability. His doctoral thesis at Birkbeck, University of London explored the changing notion of idiocy in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. He is the author of 'The History of Intellectual Disability: Inclusion or Exclusion?' (in *Community Care and Inclusion for People with an Intellectual Disability*, Floris Books, 2016) and 'Laughing About and Talking About the Idiot in the Eighteenth Century' (in *The Variable Body in History*, Peter Lang, 2016). He has also written numerous articles about the history and culture of people defined as having intellectual disabilities.

Tim Lumley-Smith is a storyteller and disability officer with Openstorytellers, where he has been doing performances for five years.

Patrick McDonagh is a part-time faculty member in the Department of English at Concordia University, Montreal, and the author of *Idiocy: A Cultural History* (Liverpool University Press 2008). He has written a number of articles exploring literary, cultural, philosophical, medical, and other discourses engaging with ideas of intellectual disability, autism, and precursor notions such as idiocy, with an emphasis on the socio-symbolic labour performed by these concepts. He holds an interdisciplinary PhD in Humanities from Concordia, and is co-founder of the Vancouver-based Spectrum Society for Community Living.

Robin Meader is a storyteller and artist for Openstorytellers. His role is to illustrate the stories and publicity for events, book, and training courses. Robin also has his own art business where he draws pictures for meetings and conferences, and sells work to the general public.

Irina Metzler currently holds a Wellcome Trust University Award at Swansea University, working on a research project concerning disability among the later medieval clergy. She is a leading expert on cultural, religious, and social aspects

of physical and mental disability in the European Middle Ages. Her books on these topics, including *A Social History of Disability in the Middle Ages: Cultural Considerations of Physical Impairment* (Routledge 2013), *Disability in Medieval Europe: Thinking About Physical Impairment During the High Middle Ages, c.1100–1400* (Routledge 2016), and *Fools and Idiots? Cognitive Disability in the Middle Ages* (Manchester University Press), cover theoretical and socio-cultural aspects of disability in medieval Europe. Her wider research interests revolve around perceptions of the natural world and historical anthropology in the Middle Ages, such as hot climate in cosmography and travel literature.

Murray Simpson is Reader at the School of Education and Social Work at the University of Dundee. He has published a monograph, *Modernity and the Appearance of Idiocy*, plus various articles and chapters on the history of intellectual disability. In addition, he has published on a variety of contemporary topics relating to theoretical and other aspects of intellectual disability. His current interests are in signification, disability, and cinema.

Tim Stainton is Professor at the School of Social Work and Director of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship, University of British Columbia. He holds a PhD on disability rights and social policy from the London School of Economics. He has published widely on history, ethics, rights-based social service structures, and disability rights.

Wendy J. Turner, PhD, is a graduate of UCLA and Professor of History at Augusta University. She is the author of *Care and Custody of the Mentally Ill, Incompetent, and Disabled in Medieval England* (Brepols 2013) and the editor of several books, most recently, edited with Sara Butler, *Medicine and the Law in the Middle Ages* (Brill 2014). Turner generally works on the intersection between law and medicine or science in medieval England. She has written articles on many topics concerning medieval English forensic investigation, mental health, intellectual disabilities, treatment of the disabled, trauma, alchemy, and the brain-mind question.