Robert Grosseteste and His Intellectual Milieu

Robert Grosseteste (ca 1170–1253) has many claims on our attention. As a theologian, philosopher, scientist, translator, educator, pastor, and bishop he left an enduring mark on the scholarly, ecclesiastical, and political life of England. This volume focuses on his place in the intellectual life of his time and on his written legacy. It includes scholarly editions and English versions of Grosseteste's On Light, his Latin translation of John of Damascus's Dialogue of the Christian and the Saracen, and his Sermon 86 on the Ten Commandments – three texts which demonstrate the range of their author's thought and make important contributions to their respective fields. Introductions to Grosseteste's sermons to the Friars Minor and to his extensive collection of dicta survey what is known about these texts and what may be deduced about the circumstances of their production. Essays on Grosseteste's work as a theologian and philosopher address his ideas on free will, human dignity, and spirituality. His intellectual milieu is explored in a section on medieval science and natural philosophy in chapters that discuss Grosseteste's relationship to the work of Ptolemy, Richard Fishacre, Richard Rufus, Robert Kilwardby, and Adam of Exeter. The volume ends with an account of Grosseteste's early modern reputation and the role it played in religious disputes centuries after his death.

Robert Grosseteste and His Intellectual Milieu

New Editions and Studies

Edited by

JOHN FLOOD, JAMES R. GINTHER,

and

JOSEPH W. GOERING



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Abbreviations

ABMA	Auctores britannici medii aevi (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1969–)
BL	British Library
BPM	Bulletin de philosophie médiévale
BSGR	Bibliotheca scriptorum graecorum et romanorum teubneriana
CCCM	Corpus Christianorum: Continuatio medievalis (Turnhout: Brepols,
	1966–)
CCSL	Corpus Christianorum: Series latina (Turnhout: Brepols, 1953-)
CSEL	Corpus scriptorum ecclesiasticorum latinorum (Vienna: Hölder – Pich-
	ler – Tempsky – Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, 1866–)
Loeb	Loeb Classical Library (London and Cambridge, MA: Heinemann and
	Harvard University Press, 1911–)
ODNB	Oxford Dictionary of National Biography Online (Oxford: Oxford Univer-
	sity Press, 2004–)
PL	Patrologiae cursus completus: Series latina (Paris: Migne and Garnier,
	1844–90)
RTAM	Recherches de théologie ancienne et médiévale (Louvain: Abbaye du Mont
	César, 1929–96)
RTPM	Recherches de théologie et philosophie médiévales (Leuven: Peeters, 1997–)

To

FRANK A.C. MANTELLO

Scholar, Teacher, Friend

Acknowledgments

Much of this volume originated in "Robert Grosseteste and His Intellectual Milieu," a conference held in Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln, in 2003 to mark the 750th anniversary of Grosseteste's death. The idea that a conference in Lincoln was an appropriate way to mark the occasion came from the then principal of Bishop Grosseteste College, Eileen Baker, who arranged the necessary practical and financial support. In addition to those who are acknowledged by individual contributors, the editors would also like to thank Blake Hartung for assistance in preparing the text for publication, and Declan Lawell and Alasdair MacDonald for help with translation. We are grateful to the anonymous readers at PIMS for their detailed and helpful observations as well as to Meridel Holland and Frank Mantello for reading some of the chapters. It has been a pleasure to work with Fred Unwalla, the Editor in Chief at PIMS, whose good humour and professionalism shepherded us through the publication process. Dr Tina Marshall, our copy editor, has greatly contributed to the accuracy of the final text. Needless to say, any errors that remain are the responsibility of the authors and editors of the volume.

Contributors

MICHAEL W. DUNNE is the head of the Department of Philosophy at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He has published extensively in the area of medieval philosophy. Most recently he has edited Boncompagno of Signa, *Amicitia and De malo senectutis et senii* (2012) and John Blund, *Treatise on the Soul* (2012, with R.W. Hunt). With Simon Nolan he has edited *Richard FitzRalph: His Life, Times and Thought* (2013).

JOHN FLOOD is a Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Groningen. He writes on medieval and early modern literature. Recent publications include *Representations of Eve in Antiquity and the English Middle Ages* (2010) and *Heresy and Orthodoxy in Early English Literature*, 1350–1680 (2010), an essay collection edited with Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin.

JAMES R. GINTHER is Professor of Medieval Theology at St Louis University. In addition to his *Master of the Sacred Page: A Study of the Theology of Robert Grosseteste* (2004), and his other publications on Grosseteste, he is the editor of *The Westminster Handbook to Medieval Theology* (2009) and, with T. O'Sullivan, *The Electronic Norman Anonymous* (2010). He is currently preparing an edition of Grosseteste's *Super Psalterium* with the technology developed with his digital humanities project, *T-PEN: Transcription for Paleographical and Editorial Notation*.

JOSEPH W. GOERING is Professor of History at the University of Toronto. He is the coeditor, with F.A.C. Mantello, of *The Letters of Robert Grosseteste*, *Bishop of Lincoln* (2010), and Grosseteste's *Templum Dei* (1984). With Evelyn A. Mackie he published an essay collection, *Editing Robert Grosseteste* (2003). In addition to his other publications on Grosseteste he is particularly interested in studying and editing unpublished manuscript sources of medieval theology and canon law.

MERIDEL HOLLAND is an independent scholar working in London. She has done some preliminary work on Robert Grosseteste's Latin translations of the works of St John of Damascus, and has published articles on her findings. She continues with the work of editing the texts. She has also published articles on Emily Brontë, Robert Curzon, and John Ruskin.

EDGAR LAIRD is Professor Emeritus of English at Texas State University. He has published numerous articles on Grosseteste.

METTE LEBECH is a Lecturer in philosophy at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. She has published widely on human dignity, bioethics, and the philosophy of Edith Stein. Her most recent publications include *On the Problem of Human Dignity: A Hermeneutical and Phenomenological Investigation* (2009), and, together with James McEvoy and John Flood, "*De dignitate conditionis humanae*: Translation, Commentary, and Reception History of the *Dicta Albini* (Ps. Alcuin) and the *Dicta Candidi*;" in *Viator* 40.2 (2009).

NEIL LEWIS is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University. He has published numerous articles on Grosseteste's philosophical views, as well as a new edition of the first recension of his *De libero arbitrio* (currently he is preparing an edition of the later recension of this work). He is a member of the editorial team editing the works of Grosseteste's contemporary, Richard Rufus of Cornwall.

R. JAMES LONG is Professor of Philosophy at Fairfield University in Connecticut and former president of the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy. He is the author or editor of more than sixty articles or book chapters and of eight books, including an edition of the second book of Richard Fishacre's *In secundum librum Sententiarum* and, most recently, Adam of Bockenfield, *Glossae super De vegetabilibus et plantis* (2013). He is currently collaborating on an edition of book 1 of Fishacre's *Sentences* commentary for the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften.

REV. JAMES MCEVOY† held chairs of philosophy at Queen's University Belfast, St Patrick's College, Maynooth, and the Université Catholique de Louvain. He was elected to the Royal Irish Academy in 1982 and received an honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of Leicester in 2004. His extensive publications on Grosseteste include *The Philosophy of Robert Grosseteste* (1986), *Robert Grosseteste: Exegete and Philosopher* (1994), *Roberti Grosseteste Expositio in epistolam sancti Pauli ad Galatas* (1995), and *Robert Grosseteste* (2000).

CECILIA PANTI is Researcher in Medieval Philosophy and Adjunct Professor (*Professore Aggregato*) in History of Medieval Philosophy at the University of Rome, Tor Vergata. Her studies focus on medieval natural philosophy and the arts of the quadriv-

ium. Her main contributions to the study of Grosseteste are articles on his scientific theories and physics of light, two volumes (2001, 2011) which include new editions of his cosmological writings, and the co-authored volume *The Dimensions of Colour:* Robert Grosseteste's De colore: Edition, Translation, and Interdisciplinary Analysis (2013). She is currently engaged in a long-term project that focuses on Grosseteste's natural philosophy.

MICHAEL ROBSON, OFM CONV. is the Director of Studies in theology at St Edmund's College, Cambridge. His publications include various chapters and articles on Grosseteste: "Saint Anselm, Robert Grosseteste and the Franciscan Tradition," in J. McEvoy, ed., Robert Grosseteste: New Perspectives on His Thought and Scholarship; "Robert Grosseteste and the Greyfriars in the Diocese of Lincoln," in M. O'Carroll, ed., Robert Grosseteste and the Beginnings of a British Theological Tradition; "Robert Grosseteste: His Memory among the Greyfriars, His Cult in Lincoln Cathedral and the Petition for His Canonisation," in Miscellanea francescana 104 (2004); and "An Edition of Robert Grosseteste's Sermon'Ad collacionem fratrum minorum in festo nativitatis domini," in Franciscana 10 (2008).