

About the Authors

Michael D. Cherniss (Professor of English at the University of Kansas) has written a number of books and articles on medieval literature, principally that in Old and Middle English. His continuing interest in the influence of oral tradition on Old English literature is reflected in several of his earlier writings, such as *Ingeld and Christ: Heroic Concepts and Values in Old English Christian Poetry*, as well as in his current work in progress on *Beowulf*.

Wayne Kraft teaches German at Eastern Washington University. In addition to his primary training in medieval studies, he has developed a specialty in Hungarian and Scandinavian folklore, particularly folk dancing. Kraft has worked with native Hungarian scholars and artists, and is presently editing a collection of indigenous folk songs.

Karl Reichl is Professor of English (linguistics and medieval literature) at the Universität Bonn. He has also taught at Munich and Bochum, and is at present Visiting Professor of Turkic and Comparative Literature at Harvard University. Reichl has conducted extensive field trips to the Turkic-speaking parts of the Soviet Union and China, and has written extensively on both Old English poetry and central Asian epic.

William C. Scott (Humanities Research Professor of Classics at Dartmouth College) has a special interest in classical Greek poetry, both epic and tragic. He has written widely on classical authors; his major works include *The Oral Nature of the Homeric Simile*, *A Commentary on Prometheus Bound*, a translation of Plato's *Republic*, and *Musical Design in Aeschylean Theater*, which was awarded the 1986 Goodwin Award of Merit by the American Philological Association.

Charles Segal's most recent books include *Interpreting Greek Tragedy* (1986), *Pindar's Mythmaking* (1986), *Language and Desire in Seneca's Phaedra* (1986), and *Orpheus: The Myth of the Poet* (1989). He is presently a Senior Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences for 1989-90, and will take an appointment as Professor of Greek and Latin at Harvard in 1990-91.