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Berlin, 27.-29.10.2014, Conference: Female Bodies and Female Practitioners in the Medical Traditions of the Late Antique Mediterranean World

Convenors: Lennart Lehmhaus, Matteo Martelli, Christine Salazar
Research project A03 “The Transfer of Medical Episteme in the ‘Encyclopaedic’ Compilations of Late Antiquity” (Heads: Philip J. van der Eijk/Markham J. Geller

<http://www.sfb-episteme.de/en/teilprojekte/sagen/A03/index.html>

Collaborative Research Center (SFB 980) “Episteme in Motion”,
Freie Universität Berlin.

<http://www.sfb-episteme.de/en/index.html>

Outline

The conference aims at discussing the emergence and transmission of gynaecological knowledge from different angles in ancient medical theory and practice. Beside the medical approach, we will consider cultural practices and socio-religious norms that enable and constrain the production and application of gynaecological know-how (e.g. certain taboos on examining or touching the female body, etc.). The role and function of female specialists (e.g. healers, midwives or wet-nurses) as objects and subjects within ancient medical discourses will also be elaborated in further detail.

The combination of topics from various disciplines will provide ample possibilities for a comparative exploration of this field. The multi-perspective approach will help to sharpen our understanding of similarities and differences between Talmudic knowledge on this topic and the medical traditions in Ancient Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Graeco-Roman, Persian, Byzantine, and Syriac cultures.

PROGRAMME

“Female Bodies and Female Practitioners in the Medical Traditions of the Late Antique Mediterranean World”

Monday evening, 27/10/2014 (Freie Universität Berlin, SFB-Villa, Schwendenerstraße 8, 14195 Berlin), Conference opening: 18.00 ct.; Keynote Lecture (in collaboration with BabMed project)

Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford)

Talmudic Gynecology and its Relationship to Late Antique Medical Literature: Transfigurations of ,Women’s Affairs’(Gynaikeia)

Tuesday, 28/10/2014

(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, Institut für klassische Philologie, Room 2103)

session 1: 9.30–11.00

Tanja Pommerening (Mainz)

Ancient Egyptian Concepts of Female Anatomy, Physiology, and Specified Pharmacotherapy.

Ulrike Steinert (FU Berlin)

Women’s Healthcare in Ancient Mesopotamian Medicine: Texts, Problems, Interpretations.

Coffee Break

session 2: 11.30–13.00

Giulia Ecca (BBAW Berlin)

Women’s (and Men’s) Infertility in Galen’s Commentary on Aphorisms, Book 5.

Siam Bhayro (Exeter)

Gynaecology in Syriac Sources: Theory and Practice.

Lunch Break

session 3: 14.30–16.00

Caroline Musgrove (Cambridge)

Finding the Authorial Voice in Late Antique Medicine: Maternal Bodies and the Generation of Seeds in the Encyclopaedic Traditions.

Tirzah Meacham (Toronto)

Reality or Theoretical Discussion: Pre-Menarchal Pregnancy, Superfetation, and Pregnancy during Lactation in Rabbinic Literature.

Coffee Break

session 4: 16.30–18.00

Monika Amsler (Zürich)

„My Mother Told Me ...“. An Evaluation of the Treatments of the Sickly Newborn in bShab 134a.

Hannah Tzuberi (FU Berlin)

The Difficult Birth in Mishnaic Law: Regulation, Failure and Empathy.

Wednesday, 29/10/2014

(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Unter den Linden 6,

Institut für klassische Philologie, Room 2103)

session 1: 10.00–11.30

Tal Ilan (FU Berlin)

Salome's Medicinal Recipes and Jewish Women Doctors in Antiquity.

Carmen Caballero-Navas (Granada)

On the Medieval Beginnings of Jewish Gynaecology.

Coffee Break

session 2: 12.00–13.00

Sean Coughlin (TOPOI Berlin), Marzia Soardi (Palermo)

The Female in Aristotle's Biology and its Byzantine Reception.

Lunch Break

session 3: 15.00–16.30

Petros Bouras-Vallianatos (London)

Byzantine Criticism of Galenic Theories on Conception: the Case of Symeon Seth's Refutation of Galen.

Rebecca Flemming (Cambridge)

John of Alexandria and the 'sex which is not one': commentary and

gynaecology in late antique medical schools.

Final discussion/Concluding remarks: 16.30–17.00

We would be happy to welcome you at our conference in Berlin.

Admission is free, but registration is required. Contact:

f.herklotz@hu-berlin.de

For a detailed programme and other practical information please visit:

http://www.sfb-episteme.de/en/veranstaltungen/Vorschau/Tagung_A03_Gynaekologie.html

2015 Conference, Cologne, Germany

The official Call for Papers for the EAHMH biennial conference in Cologne, Germany (2-5 Sept 2015) has been made. The subject is ‘Cash and Care’, and abstracts will be accepted until 30 Nov. 2014.

Full information can be downloaded here.

Please submit all proposals for papers and sessions to igem-eahmh@uni-koeln.de no later than 15 December 2014.

January, 7-9 2015, Bodies Beyond Borders: The Circulation of Anatomical Knowledge.

In January 2015, the Research Group, Cultural History since 1750, will organize a conference on the circulation of anatomical knowledge: Bodies Beyond Borders. More information and a full programme can be found on the KU Leuven website: <http://www.arts.kuleuven.be/cultuurgeschiedenis/bodies-beyond-borders>

The Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine

The Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine will hold its 14th Biennial Conference in Sydney from Tuesday 30th June to Friday 3rd July 2015, with an additional tour day on

Saturday 4th July. The venue for the conference is The Australian Catholic University campus in North Sydney and the theme is Missions, Methods and Management. Further information can be found on the conference website: <http://www.dconferences.com.au/hom2015/home>

July 20-21, 2015, Postgraduate Medical Humanities Conference 2015, University of Exeter

Call for Papers: More information can be found on the University of Exeter conference page

September 10-11, 2015, International Conference of the Historical Demography Society. The Making of Health - Paris

Call for Papers. Please, send your abstract (max. 500 words, summarizing the contents of the paper, sources and methodology) and a short bio-bibliography, before 1st December 2014 to colloquesdhsante@gmail.com.

October 2-3, 2015, Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Lakehead University campus (Thunder Bay, Canada)

Calls for Papers: Manitoba Ontario Minnesota Saskatchewan (MOMS) History of Medicine Conference

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine will host the 5th MOMS History of Medicine Conference on Friday 2nd Oct 2015 (reception in evening) and Saturday 3rd Oct 2015 (conference, with dinner following).

The conference, organized by members of 6 academic institutions, will provide faculty, students, postdoctoral fellows, and independent scholars the opportunity to present research papers in the field of history of medicine, broadly conceived. Submissions from all eras and regions of the world are welcomed, as are submissions on the

history of health, disease and medicine from various disciplinary perspectives.

Individual and panel proposals (3-4 papers) are invited and will be peer reviewed. Please submit an abstract (no more than 300 words) and a one-page curriculum vitae with contact information to Geoffrey Hudson, ghudson@nosm.ca. Deadline for submissions is April 30th, 2015. We hope to notify participants by the end of May.

January 7-8, 2016, King's College London, London

Calls for Papers: Working Across Species: Comparative Practices in Modern Medical, Biological and Behavioural Sciences

Working Across Species: Comparative Practices in Modern Medical, Biological and Behavioural Sciences

Location:

Date:

Comparison is one of the foundations of modern medicine, biology and behavioural science. Particularly since the 18th century, thinking and working comparatively has been crucial to fields as wide-ranging as pathology, physiology, microbiology, pharmacy, epidemiology, veterinary science, ethology, evolutionary biology, psychology and anthropology;. It has informed practices as varied as natural history, taxonomy, nosology, diagnostics, and experimentation; the production of knowledge of life, health, disease, behaviour, emotion, and cognition; the making, testing and use of therapies; the organization of hospitals, museums, laboratories, field stations, farms, asylums, and industry; and to the training and routines of practitioners and researchers.

This workshop will explore a crucial aspect of the history of comparison in modern medicine, biology and behavioural science: thinking and working *between humans and animals*. Organized with the support of Wellcome Trust, it will investigate how dif-

ferent fields, institutions, experts, and epistemologies developed, deployed and depended upon comparative reasoning and practices *across species*. What has it meant to ‘compare’ in this way? What methods have counted as ‘comparative’? On what kinds of techniques and materials have they relied? How, where, and by whom has comparative knowledge been produced? How did it gain legitimacy and how was it contested? To what extent, and in what ways, did working comparatively between species involve collaboration between different disciplines, specialisms or institutions? How have comparative medicine, biology and behavioural science produced, reproduced or challenged categories of class, race, gender, and sexuality? And in what ways have they contributed to ideas of the ‘human’ and the ‘animal’, and constructed or broken down boundaries between them?

We welcome short proposals on topics related but not limited to these questions. The workshop aims to be broadly interdisciplinary, drawing together researchers and approaches from history, anthropology, sociology, philosophy and related fields.

Deadline for proposals: 17 April 2015

Format: Accepted papers will be pre-circulated *4 weeks* in advance of the meeting. Commentators will be invited to introduce and discuss a paper, with each author responding to commentary and questions.

Proposals should include: a title, author(s) affiliation, and an abstract of no longer than **300** words. They should be submitted electronically as a Word or RTF document to:

michael.bresalier@kcl.ac.uk

c/o Dr. Michael Bresalier

Department of History

King’s College London

Strand

London WC2R 2LS

30 March – 2 April 2016, Valencia, Network of Health and Environment of the European Social Science History Association Conference (ESSHC).

Proposals are invited for panels or individual papers of any subject dealing with the social history of health and with environmental history. Papers may but do not have to address the connection between health and the environment. While individual papers are welcome, panels consisting of three or –preferably- four contributors and one chair and discussant (who can be the same person) have a higher chance of being accepted. We particularly encourage panels organised around a central theme with a comparative approach, bringing together contributions on different regions and/or time periods. Panel participants must come from different institutions and should come from different countries. We reserve the right to re-arrange panels and contributors as appears necessary in view of the incoming applications.

Suggestions are particularly encouraged on the topics listed below. But proposals on other topics from the entire range of environmental history and of the history of medicine and health are welcome.

Global Health – Possible sub-themes: travels of disease; the ecological imperialism revisited; globalisation; plague, cholera, aids, ebola ...

Global Resources, their use and impact on well-being: soil, fuels, water...

Temporary issues: the emergence and disappearance of perceived health and/or environmental topics.

Occupational Health in Resource Extraction: accidents, insurance, long-term health hazards ...

Health and/or Nature as Commodity – Themes: developments of the market for medication, health foods and other health products; interaction between physicians, scientists and businessmen

Environmental Changes and Impact on Public Health – positive, negative, or both

Warfare: how has the situation of warfare affected the physical well-being of nature and people in it?

Normality – how have common conceptions changed about healthy people or a healthy environment?

Panel chairs can also act as discussants. Discussants have an important role in stimulating discussions, which should take up a substantial part of the panel time. They can identify central issues of the papers, point to similarities and differences, raise individual or general questions or otherwise broaden the perspective on the overall themes of the panels

The deadline is May 1, 2015.

Visit <http://www.iisg.nl/esshc> for:

General information on the biannual conferences

The organising institution

Registration (including paper proposal procedures)

For questions, suggestions etc., please write to:

Iris Borowy: iborowy@ukaachen.de

Institute for the History, Theory and Ethics of Medicine

RWTH Aachen University

and/or

Enrique Perdiguero-Gil: quique@umh.es

History of Science

Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche (Alicante, España)

