

materia medica on THE move



Collecting, trading, studying, and using
medicinal plants in the early modern period



Universiteit Utrecht



Wednesday, April 15th, 2015

Venue: Boerhaavezaal, Museum Boerhaave

19:15-19:45 Registration / Coffee & tea

19:45-19:50 Welcome:
Dirk van Delft, director Museum Boerhaave

19:50-20:00 Opening:
Toine Pieters, Utrecht University / project leader *TIME CAPSULE*

20:00-21:00 Keynote lecture:

Florike Egmond (Leiden University)

Exotic medicinal plants in early modern European visual culture

21:00-22:30 Highlights tour and drinks

Thursday, April 16th, 2015

Venue: Auditorium, Naturalis Biodiversity Center

09:15-09:30 Coffee & tea

09:30-09:45 Warming up:
Esther van Gelder (Utrecht University / Huygens ING, The Hague)
Clusius community 2.0: crowdsourcing an online edition of the Clusius correspondence

09:45-11:00 Parallel sessions:

Auditorium:

1a: Boxes, drawers, cabinets: collecting pharmaceutical samples
Chair: Eric Jorink (Huygens ING, The Hague / Leiden University)

Marlise Rijks (Ghent University)

Exotic nature on display: the collections of Antwerp apothecaries

Raymond van der Ham (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden)

Dutch materia medica collections

Victoria Pickering (Queen Mary University of London)

"I suppose it an entire materia medica of the Country": medicinal plants in Sir Hans Sloane's "Vegetable Substances"

Regentenkamer:

1b: **“We must cultivate our own garden”:** growing and studying living plants

Chair: Esther van Gelder (Utrecht University / Huygens ING, The Hague)

Gerda van Uffelen (Hortus Botanicus Leiden)

The not so medicinal Hortus Botanicus Leiden

Alicja Borys (Masaryk University, Brno)

The exotic plants in Silesian gardens in the 16th century

Rachel Koroloff (Harvard University)

“Into the field for herbs, roots and flowers”: medicinal plant collection in Muscovy at the turn of the 17th century

11:00-11:45 Key note lecture:

Tinde van Andel (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden)

Plants of the Motherland: how enslaved Africans reinvented their household medicine in the New World

11:45-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:15 Parallel sessions:

Auditorium:

2a: **Medical theory, pharmaceutical practice: discussing the vices and virtues of plants**

Chair: Saskia Klerk (Charité – Universitätsmedizin, Berlin)

Katrina Maydom (University of Cambridge)

Merchants of light: trade and the interpretation of colonial exotica in early modern London

He Bian (Princeton University)

Exotic plants and materia medica literature in early modern China

Alexandra Cook (University of Hong Kong)

What made for a good medicine in early-modern Europe? The cases of tea and ginseng

Regentenkamer:

2b: **Fieldwork in the Far, Far Away: Dutch botanical endeavours in South East Asia**

Chair: Maria Leuker (University of Cologne)

Anjana Singh (University of Groningen)

Botanical knowledge in early modern Malabar and the Netherlands: a review of Van Reede’s Hortus Malabaricus

Mieke Beumer (Artis Library, University of Amsterdam)

The VOC and botanical research in Jaffna (Ceylon) in the late 17th century

Jeroen Bos (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden)

Agent of a (green) empire: the ethnobotanical notes of military engineer Carl Friedrich Reimer

13:15-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:00 Key note lecture

Sabine Anagnostou (Philipps-Universität, Marburg)

Medicinal plants in the context of the globalization since early modern time: origins, forming, transfer and potential of pharmacobotanical knowledge

15:00-16:15 Paper session

Auditorium:

3:

The charm of the unfamiliar: New World drugs in Old World settings

Chair: Sabine Anagnostou (Philipps-Universität, Marburg)

Samir Boumediene (University of Cambridge)

American remedies in 16c Seville: the exotic as commodity and curiosity

Wouter Klein (Utrecht University)

How the bark was brought: the introduction of Peruvian bark on the medical market of the Low Countries (c. 1640-1720)

Clare Griffin (University of Cambridge)

The wealth of someone else's colonies: American drugs in 17th century Russia

16:15-17:30 Drinks and mini-exhibition

17:30-20:00 Diner

Friday, April 17th, 2015

Venue: Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden

09:15-09:30 Coffee & tea

09:30-09:45 Warming up:

Mireia Alcántara Rodríguez (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden)

Medicinal and other useful plants from Historia Naturalis Brasiliae (1648): are they currently used in Brazil?

09:45-10:30 Key note lecture:

Harold Cook (Brown University)

The Atlantic drug trade and the new sciences

10:30-10:45 Coffee & tea

10:45-12:00 Parallel sessions:

Auditorium:

4a:

Exchanging knowledge: the case of early modern Central Europe

Chair: Florike Egmond (Leiden University)

Dominic Olariu (Philipps-Universität, Marburg)

Dried herbals and herb impressions around 1520. Evidence of some non-European plants in Florence

Davina Benkert (University of Basel)

Exotic plants in European letters: the case of Basel ca. 1600

Tilmann Walter (University of Würzburg)

The knowledge regarding non-European plants among German physicians: case studies from the Würzburg database

Regentenkamer:

4b:

Global goods, local practices: materials and matters of fact in 18th century Europe

Chair: Harold Cook (Brown University)

Christine Fertig (University of Münster)

Rhubarb, cinchona, devil's dung: mind and body in stories of globalisation and consumption

Hjalmar Fors & Nils-Otto Ahnfelt (Uppsala University)

Reconstructing early modern pharmacy: global trade networks, substances and practices

Marta Lourenço (University Museum, Lisbon)

The material culture of science: creating connections and engaging with objects and collections

12:00-12:30

Panel discussion

Moderator: Marta Lourenço (University Museum, Lisbon)

List of participants

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How to spend some free time in Leiden?

Leiden is a lovely and lively city with a rich history, where you can easily spend your Friday afternoon or even the weekend. And we strongly recommend you do so, since April 18-24 will be Museumweek. This means you can visit over 300 Dutch museums at a greatly reduced rate or, in many cases, even for free! In many museums there will be additional activities and visitors can often participate in a guided tour. In Leiden you can visit for example

- Rijksmuseum voor Oudheden (National Museum of Antiquities) (www.rmo.nl/english)
- Museum De Lakenhal (city museum of history and fine art) (www.lakenhal.nl/en)
- Hortus Botanicus (www.hortusleiden.nl/index.php/english/)

On Friday afternoon you can also visit the national museum of natural history at Naturalis Biodiversity Centre since all of our attendees get a free ticket! Please visit www.naturalis.nl/en/ for more information. The entrance of the museum is located next to the Auditorium.

Announcement: fellowships at Leiden University Libraries

The Van de Sande Fellow conducts research in the Special Collections of Leiden University Libraries, preferably in one of the areas of interest of the Van de Sande Foundation: the history of pharmacy, botany, medicine.

Senior fellowship

The senior fellow, preferably a researcher with an excellent track record and widely recognized by his or her peers, will join the Scaliger Institute for a period of up to 3 months. In addition to the obligation to give the annual Van de Sande lecture, the senior fellow can have the opportunity to give a master class to graduate and PhD students. The research in Leiden should ideally lead to a publication. A final report for the Van de Sande Foundation is required. The grant is €1,000 per month.

Junior fellowship

The junior fellow is preferably a PhD student doing research for a dissertation or a post-doc. The maximum stay for a junior fellow at the Scaliger Institute is 2 months. The research in Leiden should ideally lead to a dissertation or a publication. A brief report for the Van de Sande Foundation is required. The grant is €1,000 per month.

Conditions

The applications for a Van de Sande fellowship have to comply with a number of conditions:

- A research proposal must be submitted in which the relationship between the proposed research and the primary sources, which are to be researched and consulted in the Special Collections of the Leiden University Libraries is specified;
- A list of manuscripts, editions and/ or other items to be consulted in the library, supplied with shelf marks;
- A start and end date of the proposed research;
- A curriculum vitae;
- A list of relevant publications;
- Two academic references

The fellowship is intended to cover expenses for travel, accommodation and research, for example expenses for digitization of manuscripts and rare books. Obviously, there is a strong relationship between the research proposal and the use of the Special Collections of Leiden University Libraries, and preferably, but not exclusively, the collection of Van de Sande (Dante and history of pharmacy and botany). The Van de Sande fellow (or fellows) is invited to give an annual public lecture.

The deadline for submitting applications is May 1st, 2015. For more information, please contact Kasper van Ommen (k.van.ommen@library.leidenuniv.nl).

Announcement: fellowships at the Descartes Centre

The Descartes Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities (Utrecht University) offers fellowships to promote intellectual exchange and strengthen international cooperation in the field of history and philosophy of science.

There are two types of

fellows: http://www.roosendaal.nl/gemeentearchief/weblet/51782//personen/q/text/apotheker/q/zoekwijze/s/q/register_gemeente/0?sort=datum_i&direction=asc

fellows:

- Senior fellows: contribute to the Descartes Centre by giving lectures, research seminars or engaging in teaching activities.
- Junior fellows: are given an opportunity to work on their own (post-doctoral) research and/or to conduct research in museums and archives in the Netherlands. They give a presentation to members of the Descartes Centre about the research they have conducted.

Candidates must have a demonstrable affinity with the focus of the Descartes Centre, that is to say with the history and philosophy of the sciences. A fellow will preferably work in close collaboration with one or several members of the Descartes Centre, and he or she will be expected to participate in activities organised by the Descartes Centre. Candidates must plan their intended period of residence in such a way as to ensure that this participation is practicable.

Fellowships are available for a maximum period of three months. Fellows will receive remuneration on a monthly basis: for Senior Fellows this is €2,500 per month, for Junior Fellows €1,500 per month. Candidates must have a permanent residential address outside the Netherlands.

Applications are assessed twice yearly. The deadlines are 1 March and 1 September. For more information on the procedure, please visit <http://www.uu.nl/en/descartes-centre/about-us/fellowships>

Announcement: Herbal History Research Network Seminar 2015: Trade, Discovery and Influences in the History of Herbal Medicine (London, October 14, 2015)

The aim of this day is to bring together researchers to explore issues related to trade and commerce of medicinal plants in the history of herbal medicine. Trade in medicinal plants has always been part of human culture. Historiography has tended to divide medicinal cultures into discrete traditions, but may obscure the extent to which they interacted through trade in medicinal products, learning medical skills in the process? What were issues of correct identification, of the quality and preservation of material, of over-harvesting or habitat degradation? A primary driver of early modern Western exploration to distant cultures was to gain direct access to precious herbal commodities. What impact did these exotic medicines have on herbal medicine practice?

About the Herbal History Research Network (HHRN)

A group of researchers have come together, including professionally trained medical herbalists, with active interests in the history of herbal medicine, ranging from classical studies to medieval, early modern and modern medicine. Recognising a lack of readily available research, HHRN aims to promote more and better research. This network can help to connect together people who share common interests in researching the history of herbal medicine through seminars and other events.

Programme

09.30 am Registration, tea and coffee

10.00 am Welcome

10.15 - 12.30 Session 1:

- *What will the neighbours say? Middle-distance drug trade in the ancient world*
Dr Laurence Totelin (Lecturer in Ancient History, University of Cardiff)
- *The Norman Conquest of the materia medica? Expanding pharmacological horizons in eleventh-century England*
Dr Debby Banham (Associate Lecturer, Birkbeck College/Affiliated Lecturer, University of Cambridge)
- *Exchanging herbs: The trade in medicinal plants in early modern Europe*
Dr Clare Griffin (Wellcome Trust Research Fellow, University of Cambridge)

12.30 - 01.45 Lunch (included)

01.45 – 02.00 Prize and Presentation of Best Student Poster

02.00 – 04.15 Session 2:

- *Medicinal herb consumption in the early modern household*
Dr Anne Stobart (Medical Herbalist/Honorary Fellow, University of Exeter)
- *New drugs, new medicines, 17th -19th centuries: evidence from the Wellcome's collections*
Dr Richard Aspin (Head of Research and Scholarship, Wellcome Library)
- *Trade in materia medica: Evidence from the Kew Collection 1841-1980*
Dr Mark Nesbitt (Curator Economic Botany Collection, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)

04.15 - 04.30 Future developments and close

Venue

Jenner Room
Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building,
215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

Registration

Advance registration is essential as space is limited. The cost of the seminar is £50 (£30 concession for students) and includes refreshments and lunch. Early Bird registration before 31 May 2015 is discounted by £5 per person to £45 (£25 for students). To register, please send an email to nicky@nickywesson.com.

Announcement: 42nd International Congress for the History of Pharmacy (Istanbul, September 8-11, 2015)

Theme: "Exchange of Pharmaceutical Knowledge between East and West."

Deadline for submitting abstracts: May 31st, 2015

Early bird registration deadline: May 31st, 2015

The Turkish Society for the History of Pharmacy welcomes you to the 42nd International Congress for the History of Pharmacy to be held in Istanbul in September 8-11, 2015.

Turkey possesses a rich medico-pharmaceutical heritage and a unique blend of Eastern and Western medical traditions due to its special location astride Asia and Europe. It is one of the oldest continuously inhabited regions in the world in which a number of major civilizations reigned; including the Hittites, the Phrygians, the Byzantines, the Anatolian Seljuks, and the Ottomans.

Being a receptor of such a rich cultural inheritance, Turkey, previously referred to as Asia Minor, witnessed the emergence of a stimulating environment, especially for the fields of medicine and pharmacy; the works of Dioscorides of Anazarbus (1st century AD), Aretaeus of Cappadocia (2nd century AD), and Galen of Pergamon (2nd century AD) exemplify this.

For this congress to be held in the heart of this rich cultural heritage, the following main theme is set: "Exchange of Pharmaceutical Knowledge between East and West."

Invited lectures by Sabine Anagnostou, Angelo Beccarelli, Gregory Higby, Olivier Lafont, and Afife Mat.

For more information, please visit <http://www.42ichp.org/>

Announcement: proposal for a panel session at the European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC) (Valencia, 30 March - 2 April 2016)

New materials in the Old World. European encounters with exotic substances

European conquest in different regions of the world went along with encounters in foreign areas of cultural, medicinal and botanical knowledge. Exotic plants and animal products were to be discovered, indigene medical knowledge to be learned, culinary habits to be tasted. Many substances entered the European continent in early modern times, initiating a process of differentiation and categorisation of spices, medical goods and raw materials for processing. Travellers, merchants, missionaries and officials brought exotic substances and new knowledge back to their home countries, in part by order of interested parties and societies who were eager to complement their scholarship on the world and its resources. In this regard, the formation of the new sciences was to some extent driven by the European expansion.

This session aims at bringing together papers on the evolution of European medical and botanical knowledge, the diffusion of ideas and material objects, and the relationship between trade and the Scientific Revolution. If you are interested in joining the panel session, please contact Christine Fertig (University of Munster) via christine.fertig@uni-muenster.de

Routes and venues

Venue Wednesday, April 15th

Museum Boerhaave
Lange St. Agnietenstraat 10
2312 WC Leiden

To get to Museum Boerhaave from Leiden central station (approximately 10-minute walk) please leave the station on the “centrum” side. Cross the road and walk straight on to a square called the Beestenmarkt. Turn left. Walk past McDonald’s, cross the road and walk along the water (Oude Singel). Cross the water on your right just after you passed Museum De Lakenhal on your left. Follow the street (Lange Lijsbethsteeg). At the end you follow the curve to the left, continue following this street. On your left you will find Museum Boerhaave.

Venue Thursday and Friday, April 16-17th

Naturalis Biodiversity Center
Pesthuislaan 7 (museum entrance)
2333 BA Leiden

Please, do not use the entrance at Darwinweg 2.

To get to Naturalis Biodiversity Center from Leiden central station (approximately 10-minute walk), please leave the train station on the LUMC side (rear entrance), take a left and walk towards the LUMC hospital. Take a right and follow the pedestrian signs to Naturalis. To get inside, use the green door at the end of the bridge.

Public transport

All public transport in the Netherlands makes use of the so called “OV chipkaart”, a smart card similar to e.g. the London Oyster Card. You can buy an “OV chipkaart” at the larger train stations like Schiphol and Leiden at the “NS Servicebalie”, or in the ticket machine available at any train station. When using the OV chipkaart, please do not forget to check in and out or you *can* get fined.

When coming from Schiphol Airport, there’s a direct train to Leiden Centraal, departing at .16 .27 .46 and .57 from platform 5-6. This takes about fifteen minutes. At .03 and .33 a train departs from platform 4. This takes about twenty minutes.

You can plan your trip at www.ns.nl/en/ (these itineraries include only trains).

If you want to use public transport from or to your accommodation, you can plan your trip at <http://9292.nl/en> (these itineraries include both trains and busses).

Contact information

Questions? Remarks? Please contact the organisation:

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