

## Medieval Medical Manuscripts: A Colloquium

### Abstracts

Claudine Chavannes-Mazel, *Plants and Medicine: The Illustrated Manuscripts of the Herbarium by Pseudo-Apuleius in the Collections of Leiden University Library*

Next to the famous *Herbarium* ms VLQ 9, the earliest extant manuscript transcribed in the late 6th century, Leiden University Library has three more illustrated copies of the same text by Pseudo-Apuleius, dating from the 10th-13th centuries. Hardly noticed by academics up till now, they deserve better. Therefore, in this lecture, we will focus on the manuscripts VLQ 13, VLQ 40 and BPL 1283, all belonging to different branches of the stemma, both in text as in image.

Eliza Glaze, *Scribes and Scholars in Eleventh and Twelfth Century Medical Manuscripts*

This lecture examines the activities of scribes who produced or glossed medical texts that were the subject of early yet intensive scholarly interest. These include the 'Passionarius' of Gariopontus [including the Hague manuscript, though it has fewer scholarly aspects than others], the translations of Constantine the African [the Bury Trinity Pantegni + 2 others], the *Antidotarium Nicolai*, and several *Articella* texts [not Paris 7029, though]. The present author offers conclusions and typologies of scholar/text interaction in the early transmission of medical texts, and posits ideas about how early medical scholarship developed.

Francis Newton: *The Oldest Surviving Manuscript of the Articella: Paris lat. 7029 and its Original Home*

Paris, BnF, lat. 7029 contains the earliest extant copy of the *Articella*, the famous mediaeval collection of medical treatises, and of the also hugely important *De passionibus mulierum* (version B). The manuscript is damaged at beginning and end, and it was never a fine book. Parts of the *Articella* are a later replacement. But E. Kwakkel has dated the original parts to the late eleventh century. In fact, the present writer in this paper identifies it as the work of an eleventh-century scribe of Monte Cassino. (A copying mistake enables us to identify the exemplar from which it was copied as having been in Beneventan script.) This placing has implications: the translations from the Greek 'Metrodora' in the *De passionibus mulierum* and side by side, translations from the Greek Theophilus on urines and Philaretus on diets – these are probably to be associated with the translations (from Arabic) of Constantine the African, or his circle.

Erik Kwakkel, *Medical Manuscripts from the Long Twelfth Century in Dutch Collections*

This paper is devoted to medical manuscripts produced between c. 1075 and c. 1225 held in Dutch collections. Focusing on the script of these manuscripts, the paper aims to re-evaluate their moment and location of production. Based on certain markers in the handwriting of their scribes, who all use the highly variable Pregothisc script, more accurate dating and geographical placing will be proposed. The paper also assesses how a study of the manuscripts' script impacts our understanding of the text traditions these objects represent.

Catrien Santing, *A Deventer Miscellany: From Recipes for Cake to Rules for a Healthy and Happy Life*

The British Library owns a voluminous manuscript that traditionally is attributed to Deventer's late-15th-century town physician Reyner Oesterhuys. The manuscript has puzzled many of its students because of the heterogeneous content: encountered are learned treatises next to beauty secrets, Latin alternates with Middle Dutch, while the collection was once combined with printed work. This paper will explore the 'how' and 'why' of the miscellany's composition, and attempts to reconstruct how it was used.