



International Symposium
A collaboration between the Universities of Oxford and Salzburg



DISEASE AND THE ANCIENT WORLD

21-23 September 2017

**Green Templeton College
University of Oxford**

PROGRAMME

SUPPORTED BY



THE OXFORD RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE HUMANITIES

This symposium, a collaboration between the Universities of Oxford and Salzburg, brings together ancient historians, classicists, archaeologists, archaeological scientists and many others who are interested in disease and epidemics in the ancient world, from prehistory to 700 AD. It will also explore the creation of interdisciplinary methodologies that will help us to understand the complexities of disease transmission and explain the long-term effects on health and social change. It is also an opportunity for younger scholars to present their work.

Organising and Academic Committee

Professor Robert Arnott

(Green Templeton College, University of Oxford)

Symposium Organiser

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Dr Rupert Breitwieser

(Alterumswissenschaften, University of Salzburg)

Dr Moudhy Al-Rashid

(Wolfson College and the Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

The Symposium is being held at

Green Templeton College

University of Oxford

(43 Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6HG)



Green Templeton College signals the University of Oxford's ambitions going into the twenty-first century. Formed in 2008 from the merger of Green and Templeton Colleges, it is the newest addition to the university, designed for postgraduates alone. In contrast to more traditional Oxford colleges, Green Templeton College is a very contemporary institution, and the University's specialist when it comes to human welfare, with subjects ranging from medicine, management and life and social sciences and has close associations with the history of medicine.

Other than the afternoon of 22 September 2017, the Symposium will be held in the E P Abraham Lecture Theatre of Green Templeton College

Thursday, 21 September 2017

*Presenting the paper, if co-authored

From 12.00	<p><i>Registration in the Stables Bar</i></p> <p>OPENING SESSION</p> <p><i>Welcome to Green Templeton College by the Principal</i> Professor Denise Lievesley CBE</p> <p><i>Introduction (and Announcements)</i> Professor Robert Arnott Dr Rupert Breitwieser</p>
14.00	<p>KEYNOTE LECTURE Chair: Professor Robert Arnott</p> <p>Professor Charlotte Roberts FBA (University of Durham) <i>The Archaeology of Disease: how studying human remains informs us about health and well-being</i></p>
14.15	<p>SESSION ONE: GREECE AND ROME I Chair: Dr Julie Laskaris</p> <p>Dr Tomáš Alušík (Charles University of Prague) <i>Before Hippocrates: disease and medicine in Greece from prehistory to 500 BC</i></p>
15.15	<p>Dr Catherine Darbo-Peschanski (CNRS/LAB, Paris) <i>The normal and the pathologic in ancient Greek and Roman medicine: the case of fever</i></p> <p>Dr Lutz Alexander Graumann (University of Gießen) <i>The Athenian Plague: an historical hoax?</i></p> <p>Eliza Groff (University of Exeter) <i>"For women not in love don't conceive very often". Causes and treatments of sterility in both men and women according to Aetius of Amida</i></p>
17.15	<p>SESSION TWO: THE ANTONINE PLAGUE Chair: Dr Rupert Breitwieser</p> <p>Dr Colin P. Elliott (Indiana University) <i>Plague and price controls in the Late Second century Roman Empire</i></p> <p>Dr Marek Vlach (Institute of Archaeology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Brno) <i>Digital modeling and estimating Impact of the Antonine Plague</i></p> <p>Brandon McDonald (University of Oxford) <i>Climate change and the Antonine Plague</i></p>
From 19.30	<p>Informal Evening in The Royal Oak <i>Public House and Restaurant (loved by academics, students and fictional Oxford police detectives), located opposite Green Templeton College where a section has been especially reserved for conference participants</i></p>

Friday, 22 September 2017

	<p>SESSION THREE: OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE AND INJURY Chair: Dr Moudhy Al-Rashid</p>
09.30	<p>Professor Robert Arnott (University of Oxford) <i>Craft, industry and occupational disease in the Mature Harappan Phase of the Indus Civilisation (2600—1900 BC)</i></p>
	<p>Break (Stables Bar)</p>
10.00	<p>POSTER SESSION Posters that will be presented during this break in the Stables Bar are listed at the end of this programme. All those presenting posters should have them pinned-up on the poster boards before the start of the morning session</p>
	<p>SESSION FOUR: GREECE AND ROME II Chair: Professor Dr Klaus-Dietrich Fischer</p>
	<p>Dr Jared J. Eddy (Boston Medical Center/University of Cambridge) <i>Tuberculosis in the Early Roman Empire</i></p>
10.30	<p>Dr Jean MacIntosh Turfa* (University of Pennsylvania Museum) and Adrian Harrison (University of Copenhagen) <i>“Plague, but not exceptionally life-threatening.” Diseases in the Etruscan Brontoscopic Calendar and their social implications</i></p>
	<p>Professor Hilary Becker (Binghamton University) <i>Caveat emptor: the perils of treating disease in the ancient market place</i></p>
	<p>Spyridon Loumakis (Concordia University, Montreal) <i>Pure in body and mind before healing</i></p>
	<p>Professor Elizabeth Craik (University of St Andrews) <i>Understanding Malarial Disease</i></p>
13.00	<p>Lunch (Stables Bar)</p>
14.30	<p>PARALLEL SESSIONS SESSION FIVE: PALAEOPATHOLOGY, SCIENCE AND ARCHAEOLOGY In the Barclay Room of Green Templeton College Chair: Professor Robert Arnott</p>
	<p>Maria A. Spyrou* (Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena) and Aida Andrades Valtueña, Marcel Keller, Michal Feldman, Alexander Herbig, Kirsten Bos and Johannes Krause <i>Identifying plague in the ancient world: a molecular approach</i></p>
	<p>Michael E. Habicht* (University of Zurich and Flinders University) and Francesco M. Galassi (University of Zurich), Sidney Senti (University of Zurich), Frank J. Rühli (University of Zurich) <i>Egyptian Canopic Jars as a resource for paleopathology: a hundred year-long quest</i></p>

Professor Francesca Bertoldi* and **Daniela Cottica***, **Valentina Giacometti***, **Dario Penzo**, **C. Bassani** (University of Ca' Foscari, Venice), **F. Pagiara** (Independent Researcher), **R. Cameriere** (University of Macerata)
Palaeobiology and palaeopathology of a Late Antique human sample from Verona, Italy

SESSION SIX: THE LOUSY DISEASE: A REASSESSMENT

In th Grzeslo Room of Green Templeton College (located on Ground Floor of the Observatory)

Chair: Dr Rupert Breitwieser

Dr Alexandra Eckert (University of Oldenburg)
Sulla the Fortunate and the Lousy Disease

Professor Dr med Friedrich Bahmer (University of Bremen)
The Lousy Disease from a dermatological point of view

19.30 Reception
 20.00 Dinner

Conference Dinner in the Radcliffe Observatory

The Radcliffe Observatory, completed in 1794, is the Common Room and Dining Hall of Green Templeton College and was once the astronomical observatory of the University of Oxford. A seating plan will be posted at the reception.

Saturday, 23 September 2017

	<p>SESSION SEVEN: ANCIENT EGYPT AND THE NEAR EAST Chair: Dr Moudhy Al-Rashid</p>
09.30	<p>Paula Veiga (University of Munich) <i>Establishing a connection between some plants as ingredients for treatments in Ancient Egypt (c. 3000-700 BC) and their 'divine' origin</i></p> <p>Michael E. Habicht* (University of Zurich and Flinders University) and Francesco M. Galassi (University of Zurich), Frank J. Rühli (University of Zurich) <i>How can famous historical figures be examined in a multidisciplinary manner?</i></p> <p>Andrew Chugg (Independent Scholar) <i>Disease and the death of Alexander the Great</i></p>
11.00	Break (Stables Bar)
	<p>SESSION EIGHT: DISEASE AND HISTORY I Chair: Professor Dr Klaus-Dietrich Fischer</p>
11.30	<p>Dr Pawel Madejski (Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin) <i>When history meets medicine: collective madness and Roman history</i></p> <p>Katherine D. van Schaik (Harvard University and University of Zurich) <i>Towards a new(-it) taxonomy of disease: disease classification and the interpretation of ancient textual sources</i></p> <p>Dr Rupert Breitwieser (University of Salzburg) <i>Apollo. plague and province</i></p> <p>Dr Stefan E. A. Wagner* (University of Erlangen) and Antonio Vinci (University of Milan) <i>The invisible enemy: diseases as a decisive factor in the wars of antiquity</i></p>
13.30	Lunch (Stables Bar)
	<p>SESSION NINE: PAPERS BY UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD MEDICAL STUDENTS Chair: Professor Robert Arnott</p>
14.30	<p>Rosemary Roberts (Clinical Medical Student, Queen's College) <i>Smallpox and the desolation of Mesoamerica</i></p> <p>Ralitsa Slivkova (Clinical Medical Student, Christ Church) <i>Of rats and men: the Plague of Justinian – a clinical view</i></p>
	<p>SESSION TEN: GREECE AND ROME III Chair: Professor Elizabeth Craik</p>
15.30	<p>PD Dr Mathias Witt (University of Munich) <i>The Guinea Worm (<i>Dracunculus medinensis</i>): a tropical disease in Greek and Arabic Sources</i></p> <p>Dr Julie Laskaris (University of Richmond, Virginia) <i>'An Evil-Smelling Flux': obstetric fistula in Graeco-Roman Antiquity</i></p> <p>Enrica Zamperini (University of Padua) <i>The Prometheus' disease</i></p>

Dr Rebecca Fallas (Open University)

Infertility and health in the Hippocratic Corpus

CLOSING SESSION

17.30

Professor Robert Arnott

Dr Rupert Breitwieser

Announcement of Next Conference Venue and Subject

POSTERS

To be presented in the Morning Break on Friday, 22 September 2017 in the Stables Bar

Philip Straub (Albert Ludwigs University, Freiburg)

Contemporary explanatory models for causes of diseases in ancient Greece and Rome

Lutz Alexander Graumann (University of Gießen)

Mishaps and Missteps: children's accidents in antiquity
