SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2016
ROYCE HALL ROOM 314

8:30  Registration, coffee, fruit, pastries
9:00  Welcoming remarks
Massimo Ciavolella (UCLA), CMRS Director
Lee Walcott (The Ahmanson Foundation), Managing Director Emeritus
David Schaberg (UCLA), Dean of Humanities
Kathryn Morgan (UCLA), Conference Co-organizer

9:10  Keynote Lecture
Alain Touwaide (Institute for the Preservation of Medical Traditions/UCLA), Conference Co-organizer
“Medical Traditions: Knowledge in the Making”

10:00 SESSION I
Chair: Kathryn Morgan (UCLA, Classics), Conference Co-organizer
Holt Parker (University of Cincinnati, Classics)
“Aspirin in Antiquity? Or Principles and Practices of Retrospective Pharmacognosy”
Daniel Bertoni (University of Miami, Classics)
“Medicine Box and Dining Table: Uses of Exotic Plants in Ancient Greece and Rome”
Johannes Mayer (Institut für Geschichte der Medizin, Universität Würzburg)
“Medicinal Plants from Monastery Medicine for the 21st Century”

1:00  Lunch Break

2:00  SESSION II
Chair: Sharon Gerstel (UCLA, Art History), Conference Co-organizer
Wouter Klein (Utrecht University. History and Philosophy of Science)
Armando E. Gonzalez-Stuart (University of Texas El Paso, School of Pharmacy)
“The De la Cruz-Badiano Manuscript of 1552: America’s First Herbal in the 21st Century”

3:00  Break

4:00  SESSION III
Chair: Vivek Shetty (UCLA, Dentistry/Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery)
Acharya Shunya Pratichi Mathur (California Association of Ayurvedic Medicine, San Francisco)
“Ayurveda Pharmacology: An Ancient Paradigm, Modern Relevance”
Georges Métailié (EHESS, Centre Alexandre-Koyré, Paris)
“The Chinese Botanical-Medical Tradition”

4:15  Nancy Turner (University of Victoria, Environmental Studies)
“More than Chemistry: Cultural Contexts for Healing and Well-being for First Peoples of Northwestern North America”

5:15  Reception

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2016
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8:30  Coffee, fruit, pastries
9:00  SESSION III
Chair: Vivek Shetty (UCLA, Dentistry/Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery)
Acharya Shunya Pratichi Mathur (California Association of Ayurvedic Medicine, San Francisco)
“Ayurveda Pharmacology: An Ancient Paradigm, Modern Relevance”

1:15  SESSION IV
Chair: Emanuela Appetiti (Institute for the Preservation of Medical Traditions)
Ka-Kit Hui (Center for East West Medicine, UCLA Collaborative Centers for Integrative Medicine)
“Traditional Chinese Medicine: An Ancient Treasure for the World Beyond Artemisinin”
Josef Brinckmann (Traditional Medicinals, Inc., San Francisco)
“Future Application of Traditional Medical Knowledge Intrinsically Linked to Conservation of Culture and Biodiversity in Geographical Origins of Wild Medicinal Plants: The Case of Nanwuweizi from the Giant Panda Habitat”

3:15  Concluding Remarks
Alain Touwaide (Institute for the Preservation of Medical Traditions/UCLA), Conference Co-organizer
The present-day medical world is increasingly rediscovering plants as a reservoir of substances and as generators of approaches for maintaining health, preventing illness, and treating disease. Bringing traditional botanical healing practices into the 21st century for potential repurposing is a complex and multidisciplinary scientific enterprise that requires the collaboration of specialists with a broad range of backgrounds. Recovering ancient documents exposed to the damage of time or collecting oral traditions before their disappearance, adequately interpreting them with historical, conceptual, visual, scientific and medical keys, and evaluating their efficacy and non-toxicity are just some of the tasks involved in the reappraisal of tradition. An active collaboration of medicine and the humanities is indispensable to preserve the knowledge and experience of the natural environment, human life, and health and disease accumulated by humankind through time across the world from the Mediterranean to China and from the North Pole to Tierra del Fuego. This conference aims at fostering cross-disciplinary dialogue, which is urgently needed to rescue traditions, understand the human experience, protect biodiversity and the environment, and help alleviate the burden of diseases on humankind.

Organized by Professor Sharon Gerstel (UCLA, Art History), Professor Kathryn Morgan (UCLA, Classics) and Dr. Alain Touwaide (Institute for the Preservation of Medical Traditions/UCLA), this conference focuses on the written and oral traditional knowledge of the therapeutic uses of plants and extends this study to a global level. By bringing together specialists from some of the many different fields involved in the study of medical traditions, it aims to foster cross-disciplinary studies, particularly between medicine and the humanities.


Self-pay parking in lots 2, 3, 4, and 5. More parking information at https://main.transportation.ucla.edu/campus-parking/visitors

Funding for this program is provided by the Ahmanson Foundation and the UCLA Dean of Humanities. CMRS relies on the generosity of donors for support of its programs. Please make a donation today at cmrs.ucla.edu/giving or contact the office.

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