

Mainz, 12 January 2017

Dear colleagues and friends of Ancient Medicine,

We are pleased to announce that the next meeting of the annual interdisciplinary **Workshop on Ancient Medicine** will be held on:

Saturday and Sunday, 1-2 July 2017.

It will take place as usual, at the Institute of History, Theory and Ethics of Medicine of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Am Pulverturm 13, basement (lecture hall U1125). We will meet on Saturday afternoon from 2.00 p.m. and will complete the day with a dinner. On Sunday, the proceedings will start at 9:30 a.m. and go through to the early afternoon, after which we will have the opportunity to continue our discussions informally over lunch.

The main topic of this next meeting will be **Body and the Medicine of the Ancient World**.

In today's perspective, the human body is perceived not only in its biological, but also in its social context and as historians of ancient medicine, we are open to views about its condition and value as well as culturally influenced views about its shape and function. As well as this, the body and its optimisation (genetic, operative, dietary) and aesthetics, is the subject of much discussion in the media, in the context of technical innovations and the development of a pluralistic society.

At this year's workshop, we will examine the sources from the ancient world to look at the themes of "norm" body, old body, stigmatised body and bodies of gods and heroes by referring to the following questions: (a) How did doctors and writers refer to the healthy body? (b) What is the definition of a healthy body in different ancient medical traditions from the Orient to Egypt and from earliest times to late antiquity? (c) Which (not always ideal) body images are transmitted by gods and heroes and how is this connected to the people? (d) Are there physical disabilities or externally visible aspects deviant from the norm, that stigmatise people in Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, Roman, Jewish or Early Christian society?

Is the value of a body measurable? For instance by its performance and functioning? Were people once obliged to cooperate with a healer to sustain their (healthy) body? What right of self-determination over their body has the individual?

We are pleased to receive offers of papers on the theme of the meeting. **Papers on other subjects within the scope of ancient medicine are, of course, still very welcome.** Papers are to be limited to twenty minutes, with ten minutes for discussion. If you wish to offer panel with a series of papers, lasting ninety minutes, that would also be welcome. Both a laptop and a beam projector will be available.

Interdisziplinärer Arbeitskreis
„Alte Medizin“

Vorsitzende:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Tanja Pommerening
Professorin für Ägyptologie /
Pharmazeutin

Institut für Altertumswissenschaften /
Ägyptologie
Hegelstr. 59
55122 Mainz

Tel.: +49 6131 39-38348
Fax: +49 6131 39-28338

E-Mail: tpommere@uni-mainz.de

Stellvertreter:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Livia Prüll
Professorin für Geschichte, Theorie und
Ethik der Medizin

Institut für Geschichte, Theorie und Ethik
der Medizin
Am Pulverturm 13
55131 Mainz

Tel.: +49 6131 17-9539
Fax: +49 6131 17-9479

E-Mail: pruell@uni-mainz.de

Mitorganisatorin:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Marietta Horster
Professorin für Alte Geschichte

Historisches Seminar - Alte Geschichte
Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
55099 Mainz

Tel.: +49 6131 39-22571
Fax: +49 6131 39-23823

E-Mail: horster@uni-mainz.de

Please send your offer of papers or panels to Mrs. Nadine Gräßler (graessle@uni-mainz.de)

not later than 18th January 2017

You are also required to attach an abstract of your paper, which clearly describes your research question and outcomes. Those that are offering papers for the first time are also asked to provide a short CV.

The final programme will be sent to you by email in February 2017 and will be also available on the website of the Workshop on <http://www.iak-alte-medizin.uni-mainz.de/>. Please feel free to forward this announcement on to your colleagues who may be interested.

For postgraduate students and young researchers, there is a possibility to claim travel expenses, following the successful acceptance of your paper. The organisers will notify you of their decision by the end of January.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the Workshop, or in the case of those attending for the first-time, welcoming you to Mainz.

Kind regards,

Handwritten signature of Tanja Pommerening in blue ink.

Prof. Dr. Tanja Pommerening
(Vorsitzende)

Handwritten signature of Livia Prüll in blue ink.

Prof. Dr. Livia Prüll
(Stellvertreterin)

Handwritten signature of Marietta Horster in blue ink.

Prof. Dr. Marietta Horster
(Mitorganisatorin)