



TRANSPACIFIC Workshop – KU Leuven – 23-24 May 2024

Doctors, Drugs, and Medicinal Knowledge in the Asia-Pacific World (16th to 18th centuries)

In the framework of ERC AdG Transpacific -- The Structure and Impact of Trans-Pacific Trade, 16th to 18th Centuries: The Manila Galleon Trade Beyond Silver and Silk (2020-2025) – Angela Schottenhammer

Location: Irish College (Janseniusstraat 1, Leuven) – Conference Room 4

Hybrid (via MS Teams) – discussant: Antonella Romano

DAY 1: 23 MAY

09.00-09.30: arrival and coffee

09.30-09.45: welcome address: Angela Schottenhammer

09.45-10.45: keynote speech: Linda A. Newson

10.45-11.15: discussion

11.15-11.30: coffee break

11.30-13.00: Medicinal knowledge and medical assistance

Wim DE WINTER (KU Leuven) – The Circulation of Local Medicinal Knowledge Across The 18th-century Pacific in Spanish Shipboard Correspondence

Carlos GONZALEZ BALDERAS (KU Leuven) – Reforms in medical assistance to the Philippines: an example of imperial transformations in early Bourbon times

13.00-14.00: lunch break

14.00-15.30: Diet, health and disease

Antonio SANCHEZ DE MORA (AGI Sevilla) – Documents to study Food and Health in the Hispanic World: The Archivo General de Indias

Mathieu TORCK (KU Leuven) – The orange and its medical and non-medical usages in the early modern Transpacific space – a comparative inquiry

15.30-17.00: Botany and pharmaceuticals





Cynthia YEUNG (KU Leuven) – The Cultural and Botanical Significance of Cacti along East Asian Waterways

Paula DEVOS (San Diego State University) – The Cultivation and Processing of Spices as Pharmaceuticals in the Philippines and the Larger Spanish Empire in the Sixteenth Century (online)

18.00-19.30: free dinner plans (with reservation)

DAY 2: 24 MAY

09.30-11.00: Medical chests and mariners' medical care

CHENG Weichung (Academia Sinica) – The Physician's Medicinal Chests in Zeelandia: A Concise Overview from the VOC Archival Sources

Angela SCHOTTENHAMMER (KU Leuven) – Medical Care of Mariners Plying the Pacific Ocean: Doctors, Infirmaries, and Medicines

11.00-11.30: coffee break

11.30-13.00: Colonial medicine and health care

Arnel JOVEN (University of Asia Pacific) -- The Galleon Trade, Local Medicine, and Colonial Health Care in the Philippines during the Spanish Colonial Period

Matilde CARBAJO USANO (Pompeu Fabra University) -- Colonial medicine in the Mariana Islands (1668-1769)

13.00-14.00: lunch break

14.00-15.30: Instruments and devices

Mariana SANCHEZ (KU Leuven) -- Distillation in the Hispanic transoceanic voyages of the early modern period

KIMURA Jun (Tokai University) – Medical instruments excavated from shipwrecks

15.30-16.00: coffee break

16.00-17.00: final discussion & concluding remarks

18.00: free dinner plans

