

Kateryna Karpenko arrived at the Center HWPS

Kateryna Karpenko has safely arrived at the Center! We are very happy to have her here and welcome her as a fellow at the Center again. Kateryna has continuously supported the Center and we are grateful that we can now support her during these tough times!

You can find out more about Kateryna Karpenko [here](#).

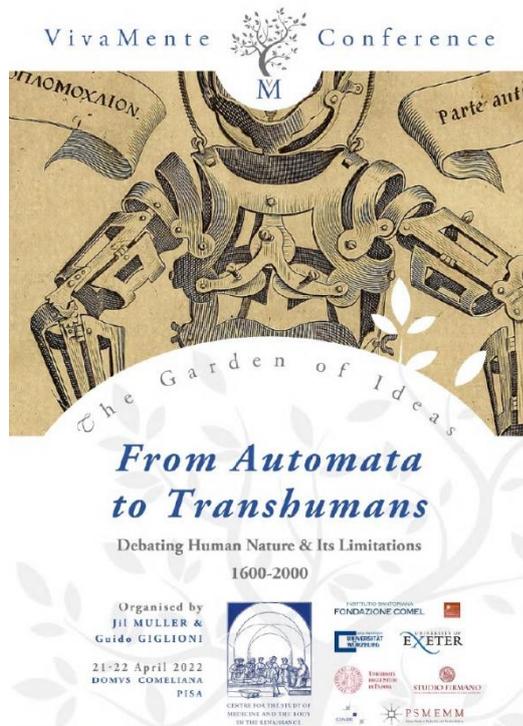
The University of Paderborn, including the president of the University Prof. Dr. Brigitt Riegraf and the Vice President Simone Probst have been a great help in this process!

You can find the call for donations of the University of Paderborn [here](#).



Retrospective on the VivaMente 2022 Conference in Pisa

On the 21st and 22nd of April 2022 the international conference “From Automata to Transhumans: Debating Human Nature and its



Limitations 1600-2000,” took place, organised by [Dr. Jil Muller](#), a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Paderborn and Member of the Center for the History of Women Philosophers and Scientists. Dr. Jil Muller was able to organise this huge event thanks to being awarded the [VivaMente 2022 grant](#) by the [Centre for the Study of Medicine and the Body in the Renaissance \(CSMBR\)](#). The event was co-organised with [Guido Giglioni](#) from the University of Macerata, with the support of the director of the CSMBR, [Fabrizio Bigotti](#).

The conference was a hybrid event, bringing together young scholars and experienced researchers from Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It was hosted, as the first post-pandemic conference, in the Domus Comeliana in Pisa, which is part of the Fondazione Comel. Marcello Comel was a doctor and professor of medicine, who had a Chair at the University of Modena and who led the

Clinic of Pisa, as well as the first Italian Burn Center. The early Comel School has been enriched with a Library named after Santorio Santorio, the sixteenth-century physician, who was as well-known as Galileo Galilei in the field of medicine. In the footsteps of Hippocrates, Santorio taught the physical and organic unity of the human being: medical humanism.



Quite in spirit of Santorio Santorio and Marcello Comel, the conference has not only addressed human nature from a medical point of view, but also in its philosophical, literary and artistic aspects. This made it possible to assemble talks on sixteenth- and seventeenth-century medicine, Descartes’ conception of machine, Vaucanson’s automata, tools for birth control, cyborg, robots, transhumans, metaphors in political theories, vitalism, and the idea of the perfect human.

A selection of the Conference proceedings will be published with [Palgrave Studies in Medieval and Early Modern Medicine \(PSMEMM\)](#).

A big thanks goes to all the speakers, participants, and staff from the CSMBR.



6th INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP Communicating Science, Philosophy and Literature in Syros



The International Commission on Science and Literature DHST/IUHPST, the Chair of Science, Technology and Gender Studies, Friedrich Alexander-Universität ErlangenNürnberg, the Center for the History of Women Philosophers and Scientists, Paderborn University, the department of Sociology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the

postgraduate program on Science Communication of the Hellenic Open University and the Institute of Historical Research/National Hellenic Research Foundation organize an international workshop focusing on the Communication of Science, Philosophy and Literature. The CoSciLit workshop is already an established part of the prestigious “Hermoupolis Seminars” that have been organized for more than 30 years every July in the Cycladic island of Syros. This year’s workshop aims to cover various aspects of the wide interdisciplinary area of Science Communication by promoting the dialogue of science with significant fields of the Humanities such as Philosophy and Literature. In recent years there has been a growing interest in Science Communication as it is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the responses to such important social issues as the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis. The conference offers an open forum for all scholars interested in this growing research field, allowing Science Communication to take advantage of the multiple perspectives that emerge at the intersection of science, philosophy, and literature. We especially welcome contributions focusing on the role of women and femininity in the production of modern technoscientific knowledge and its philosophical implications.

Find out more here: [Syros Conference](#)

The talks of the Space and Time Workshop are now available as Podcasts



The Center for the History of Women Philosophers and Scientists, under the direction of Ruth Hagengruber, organized a workshop, with Dr. Jil Muller, on “Space and Time: 18th–19th century Women Philosophers and Scientists.” Four research talks addressed four female philosophers.

Dr. Clara Carus talked about [Émilie du Châtelet](#) to show her unique approach to the concepts of relative and absolute space. Du Châtelet’s 1740 *Institutions de physique* includes extended discussions of space and time, and she takes the clarification of these concepts to be crucial for the foundations of physics. Du Châtelet went on to translate and comment on Newton’s *Principia*, in addition to writings on experimental philosophy, biblical criticism, ethics, and more.

[Prof. Chelsea C. Harry](#) spoke about temporality in the work of [Karoline von Günderrode](#). She was a German poet of the Romantic period, that irritated many of her readers. Like other romantics such as Hölderlin, she was enthusiastic about the ideas of the French Revolution, and she was imbued, from an early age, with the great themes of her work: slavery and freedom, love and death. By writing on these themes, she apparently violated conventions of the time about how a woman should behave and how she should write poetry. She also was the mistress of a married man and was burdened by the irresolvable conflict between her need for freedom and the female role of the time.

Dr. Jil Muller talked about [Sophie Germain](#) and her conception of space and time in *Pensées diverses*. The French mathematician, who had to exchange letters under a male pseudonym to get in contact with great Parisian professors, is famous for the Sophie Germain theorem concerning numbers. She wrote one major philosophical text, that was published posthumously by her nephew, *Considérations générales sur l’état des Sciences et des Lettres aux différentes époques de leur culture*, to which the *Pensées diverses* were a crucial addition.

Prof. George N. Vlahakis invented an imaginative dialogue between Hegel and Helle Lambrides on time. Lambrides was a Greek female philosopher of the 20th century. She published over 100 works on many topics, from the history of ancient Greek philosophy to modern analytic philosophy and even Husserl, Heidegger and Sartre.

All talks are now available as Podcasts. You can find the podcasts [here](#).

Further information about the Workshop can be found [here](#).

Marie de Gournay and Michel de Montaigne: a lie as a vice for public utility



Dr. Jil Muller gave a talk on April 11, 2022, from 13.15 to 14.15 on "Marie de Gournay and Michel de Montaigne: a lie as a vice for public utility" at the Workshop **Vice, sin, and sociability in early modern moral and political philosophy**, organised by the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, on April 11-12, 2022.

In her paper, Jil Muller took up the leitmotif of Marie de Gournay's *Advis*, which is the theme of false or diverted speech and slander. Gournay's philosophical reflexion especially on slander will be compared to Montaigne's understanding of a lie, of a misleading word or speech.

Montaigne distinguishes between lying and telling a lie, between the involuntary lie and the voluntary false speech. The same distinction can be found in Gournay's text: she distinguishes between false speech which deceives only "the ear" and false speech, which deceives both the listener and the interlocutor. However, Gournay attacks this vice more severely as Montaigne does, probably because she was herself a victim of public slander. Nevertheless, the similarities between the two philosophers even go further: as Montaigne, Gournay has to accept one situation in which lying is acceptable, namely when slander has a public utility.

Further information about the workshop and the programme of the event can be found [here](#)

Clara Carus and Aaron Wells at the Annual Conference of the British Society for the History of Philosophy



On Thursday the 21st of April Clara Carus, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the New Voices, and Aaron Wells, Research Fellow, will be part of a panel on Emilie du Chatelet. Fellow New Voices Members Fatema Amijee and Julia Borcharding will be part of the panel too. The panel is exploring the versatility of Emilie du Chatelet. The panel starts at 3:30 pm BST.

If you want to find out more on New Voices or find fellow researchers on Emilie du Chatelet click here:

<https://historyofwomenphilosophers.org/projects/new-voices-on-women-in-the-history-of-philosophy/>





Additional updates on the history of women philosophers can be found on our [news](#) website.

For staying up to date with the activities of the Center, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) or visit us on [YouTube](#) for new videos on women in the history of philosophy.

Please send messages to the list to [this address](#).

To UNSUBSCRIBE or manage your subscription visit [this page](#).