THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF READING IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE

Friday, January 25, 8:30 am to 6 pm
Senate House (Court and Jessel Rooms), Malet Street, London

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Co-hosted by the Centre for Editing Lives & Letters (CELL), University College London, and the Warburg Institute, this event caps off the Archaeology of Reading (AOR), a 4-year digital humanities collaboration between Johns Hopkins University, CELL, and Princeton University Library, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. AOR presents a new digital research environment enabling viewing, searching, linking, and mapping hundreds of thousands of manuscript marginalia across dozens of books. These annotations were recorded over 400 years ago by two of the most engaged scholarly readers of the Renaissance—the alchemist and magus John Dee, and the rhetorician and aspiring courtier Gabriel Harvey. The AOR Symposium presents fresh humanities research findings made possible for the first time across the long-scattered remnants of these two great library collections.

Sara Miglietti (Warburg), What Is an Annotator? Thoughts in the Margins of Marginalia Studies

Jenny Rampling (Princeton), Paging John Dee: Reconstructing Alchemical Practice from Manuscript Notes

Earle Havens (Johns Hopkins), Studying to Be a Courtier: How Gabriel Harvey Read His Library

Christopher Geekie (Sorbonne), “The Two Monstrous Wits of their Languages”: Aretino, Rabelais, and the Uses of Literature in Gabriel Harvey’s Marginalia

Neil Weijer (Johns Hopkins), Believe It or Not: Assessing Authority in John Dee’s Books

Philip Palmer (UCLA), John Dee Reading Colón Writing Columbus

Anthony Grafton (Princeton), Reading the Classics: The History of Reading as Reception

Frederic Clark (USC), Historia and the Universal Library: Bibliography and the Reconstruction of Antiquity in the Work and Reading of John Dee

Matt Symonds (UCL), Signs of “Cosmopolitan Reading” in the Books of Gabriel Harvey and John Dee

Jaap Geraerts (UCL), Patterns of Reading: Topical Marginal Notes and the Reading Strategies of John Dee and Gabriel Harvey

Heather Froehlich (Penn State), Reading Multilingual Transcription Data in John Dee’s and Gabriel Harvey’s Marginalia

The AOR Symposium is free and open to interested scholars and students, though advance registration is required to attend. Seating is limited, on-line preregistration is required by Wednesday, January 23 at https://aor-digital-launch.eventbrite.co.uk. Coffee and lunch are included, as well as an invitation to an evening drinks reception after the event hosted by the Polish Embassy (47 Portland Place, bus service will be provided to the venue). Symposium registrants are politely requested to bring a passport or other form of official ID in order to gain access to the reception.