**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**TRAVEL(S) AND EDUCATION:   
Medical Travels, Transfer of Knowledge, and Cultural Exchange in East-Central Europe over Centuries**

**XIX Biannual Conference of the German-Polish Society for the History of Medicine,**

**in association with**

**Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń; Poznań University of Medical Sciences;**

**and Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf**

**Toruń (Poland), 13-14 September 2023**

For centuries, obtaining medical education and training in Europe was inseparably intertwined with the requirement (as well as need – and desire) to undertake more or less extensive ***peregrinatio medica***('medical journey'; **PM**). In 1674, Thomas Bartholin wrote explicitly that "in our age, such great usefulness redounds to the physician from his travel that no one puts much faith in the authority of a physician who has not set foot outside his native land, and although each may have at home in abundance those things which are necessary for medical instruction, nevertheless they ought to be strengthened or increased by a comparison with things abroad."[[1]](#footnote-1) This sentiment lost none of its relevance in the following centuries. In 1792 in his *De medicis peregrinationibus*, Johann Peter Frank pointed that the benefits of educational journeys for medical students by far outweighed all the risks associated with such undertakings. Similarly, in the 19th and 20th centuries, educational mobility, in the broadest sense of the term, was of fundamental importance for the members of medical community. An essential factor in the transfer of knowledge and skills, PM played equally important role in promoting and facilitating social and cultural change.

We would like to discuss the impact of the PM phenomenon in the Polish-German cultural space from early modern times up to the late 1980s. Geographical scope of our interest covers the historic territories of Poland (e.g., the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth) and the German-speaking regions. **We are particularly interested in papers focusing on such issues as:**

* PM as a form of *peregrinatio academica* and 'apprenticeship journey'
* PM as an educational phenomenon - its aims, functions, and outcomes
* PM and the transfer/circulation of (professional and non-professional) knowledge
* PM and the transfer/circulation of (professional and non-professional) skills, e.g., integration of artisanal epistemologies into the medical training and practice
* PM as movement between cultural contexts
* PM as an element of networking
* PM and non-medical activities of physicians
* gender-informed ways of experiencing, and strategies of describing, the PM (e.g., travelogues; diaries; letters)
* PM in individual and collective biographies
* sources to the history of PM

**Language(s) of the conference**

**English** is the preferred/default language of communication. However, should you *strongly* prefer this, presentations in Polish or German are also possible. In that case, we kindly ask you to send us an extensive (up to two pages) abstract in English, as there won't be simultaneous translation.

Please, fill in the following questionnaire, save the document as "your last name, Torun 2023", and send it to:   
[**joanna.nieznanowska@pum.edu.pl**](mailto:joanna.nieznanowska@pum.edu.pl) **by August 13** (we will consider proposals submitted past that date, but you will make us VERY happy and grateful if you succeed to meet the deadline)

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| Title/degree |  | | Surname |  | | | Name |  |
| E-mail: | |  | | | | | | |
| Phone number | |  | | | | | | |
| Affiliation | |  | | | | | | |
| Do you need us to pay for your hotel? | | NO | | | | if YES, which night(s)? | | |
| 12/13 Sept YES  NO | | |
| 13/14 Sept YES  NO | | |
| Travel to Torun (Thorn) | | Planned date of arrival: | | | | | | |
| Planned date of departure: | | | | | | |
| Refund (up to 100 euro) needed: YES  NO | | | | | | |
| You plan to travel by:  Bus/Coach  Train  Plane  Other(please specify): | | | | | | |
| Presentation title | |  | | | | | | |
| Presentation language | |  | | | | | | |
| Abstract | |  | | | | | | |
| Preferred Format of Presentation (mark your choice) | | | | | | | | |
| ORAL | | Presenting on site with Q&A | | | 15-20 min. | | YES  NO | |
| Presenting remotely: live or pre-recorded presentation with live Q&A | | | 15 min. | | YES NO | |
| Presenting remotely: pre-recorded presentation only (No Q&A) | | | 10-15 min. | | YES NO | |
| POSTER | | Presenting on site | | | 5 min. presentation + 5 min. Q&A | | YES NO | |
| Remote/virtual presentation (PDF + Zoom) | | | 5 min. presentation + 5 min. Q&A | | YES NO | |

1. *Thomas Bartholin On the Burning of his Library, and On Medical Travel* (transl. Charles D. O'Malley). Lawrence: University of Kansas Libraries, 1961, p. 45 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)