

ESF Networking program DRUGS

# Opening conference

*4th-5th December 2008*

University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France

Maison Inter-Universitaire des sciences de l'Homme – Alsace (MISHA)

Using the theme of standardization, applied both to objects and practices, the network proposes to explore the development of twentieth-century medicine by looking at the production, distribution, prescription and consumption of major classes of therapeutic agents, such as sulfa-drugs, hormones, and psycho-active drugs.

The aim is to evaluate the contribution of industrial, administrative and clinical standardization to the 'therapeutic revolution' (1920-1990) in which a series of 'miracle' drugs changed the face of Western medicine. Rather than taking twentieth-century developments in the production and evaluation of drugs as 'natural' responses to a series of practical problems, we examine the evolution of industrial standards and drug trials, along with prescription and clinical practices, from a historical perspective. Thus, for example, by looking at the role played by accidents or proposed, but rejected, alternatives to standard modern practice, we aim to reveal the multiple forces that have shaped our modern medical world. This approach takes us beyond the usual protagonists in this history – research scientists and their clinical partners – allowing important groundwork in the contextualization of this field with respect to the intervention of the state, industry, and other actors.

A richer view of the context for the scientific innovation that lies behind the modern pharmaceutical industry promises to open up new perspectives in the analysis of today's health systems. Furthermore, as standardization is a theme common to a number of disciplines, the proposed approach will open up interdisciplinary discussion allowing fruitful exchange between researchers who otherwise might not meet. Thus, *we propose an international networking experience around a rich theme with a rich historical terrain, and significant contemporary interest.*

**The opening conference will launch the ESF DRUGS program and intends to bring together the participating groups as well as outside experts in order to discuss the general issues of drug standardization.**

Organization : Anne Rasmussen, Christophe Masutti, Christian Bonah; University of Strasbourg.

## Agenda

3rd December 2008

**Arrival in Strasbourg –**

7:00 pm : Evening reception Historical Wine Cellar of Strasbourg City Hospital

4th December 2008

**Morning (MISHA building)**

8:00 – 8:45 am: **Registration**

8:45 – 9:00 am: **Welcome Introduction** (Volker Hess, Christian Bonah, Christophe Masutti)

Christine Maillard, Director MISHA, Strasbourg

Alain Beretz, President of Louis Pasteur University, Strasbourg (to be confirmed)

**Session 1** : « Standardization » as a category and analytical tool for drug history : Relevant research and critical reappraisals.

9:00 – 11:00 am Chair: Christophe Masutti, IRIST University of Strasbourg

(20-25' presentation, 15' discussion)

- *Blood, blood products and their « industrial » production and distribution* (Sophie Chauveau, University Lyon)
- *Evidence based medicine and evidence based marketing : A history of drug standards* (Jeremy Greene, Harvard Medical School)
- *Standards in social and economic history of industry, technology and medicine* (Jakob Tanner, University of Zurich)

11:00 – 11:30 am : **Coffee break**

11:30 am – 12:45 pm Chair: Matthias Doerries, IRIST University of Strasbourg

(20-25' presentation, 15' discussion)

- *The standardisation of pharmaceutical R&D in the twentieth century, and its limits* (Viviane Quirke, Oxford Brookes University)
- *The Role of Standards in Understanding the Modern Drug Regulatory Period* (John Abraham, University of Sussex)

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm : **Lunch**

**Afternoon (MISHA building)**

**Roundtables: Standardizing as a history of practices and social settings**

Chairs of the roundtables present an introduction and invite 1-3 additional speakers for short 5-10 minute provocative presentations that will feed into the general discussion.

**2:00 – 3: 15 pm**

**Roundtable 1.** *Standardizing between production and the clinic*

**Chair:** Maria Jesus Santesmases and Toine Pieters

**Contributors:** Patricia Barton: *Standardisation and the patient: Lowering the boundaries in the non-Western world*

George Weisz: *Diagnosing and Treating Premenstrual Syndrome in Five Western Nations*

Ilana Löwy: *Standartizing spermatozoids: the search for a perfect "chemical spermicide" 1930-1960*

**3:15 pm – 3:30 pm : Coffee break**

**3:30 – 4:45 pm**

**Roundtable 2.** *Standardizing and regulating drugs in national and international spaces*

**Chair:** Volker Hess and Christian Bonah

**Contributors:** Bettina Wahrig : *Standardizing and categorizing drugs: the perspective of precarious substances*

Iris Borowy: *Standardizing and categorizing drugs: the political perspective*

**4:45 – 5:00 pm Coffee break**

**5:00 – 6:15 pm**

**Roundtable 3.** *Standardizing, marketing and consuming*

**Chair:** Christoph Gradmann and Michael Worboys

**Presentations (10'):** Michael Worboys: *The Wright Way: Standardising Therapeutic Vaccines*  
Flurin Condrau: *Standardising infection control: antibiotics and hospital governance in the 1950s*

**Discussants :** Viviane Quirke: *Between research and marketing: the role of the medical doctor in the pharmaceutical industry*

Jeremy Greene: *What's in a name? Standardising brand-name and generic drugs in the 20th century*

**8:00 pm : Conference Dinner**

5th December 2008

**Morning (MISHA building)**

**9:00 am – 10:30 am: Working teams meeting**

Parallel team meetings with team members, team “candidates” and interested guests | *Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5:*

1. Psychochemicals (Moderator: Magaly Tornay)
2. Antibiotics (Moderators: Christoph Gradmann / Flurin Condrau)
3. Cardiacs (Moderator: Viviane Quirke)
4. Biological drugs (Moderator: Jean-Paul Gaudillière)
5. Cancer therapy (Moderator: Carsten Timmermann)

**Coffee break**

**11:00 am – 12:30 am : DRUGS RNP organization and functioning of the programme 2008-2012**

- Presentation of the DRUGS database
- Reports from the teams and further planning (discussion)
- Postgraduate / post-doctoral exchange programme
- Further network research applications (funding strategies – modularizing the RNP)

**12:30 – 2:00 pm : Lunch**

**Afternoon (MISHA building)**

**2:00 pm – 4:00 pm : Outside perspectives on the DRUGS program**

- *What Does Evidence Do? A History of 20th Century Therapeutic Reform* (Harry M. Marks, Johns Hopkins University)
- *From preparation to screening: Ways of regulating drugs in the 20<sup>th</sup> century* (Jean-Paul Gaudillière, CERMES, Paris)

**4:00 pm : Departure**

**List of participants:**

First name	Name	From:
John	Abraham	Brighton
Beat	Bächli	Zürich
Viola	Balz	Berlin
Patricia	Barton	Glasgow
Delphine	Berdah	Paris
Christian	Bonah	Strasbourg
Iris	Borowy	Rostock
Katharina	Brandenberger	Zürich
Marlene	Burns	Amsterdam
Daniel	Carpenter	Cambridge
Sophie	Chauveau	Lyon
Tricia	Close-Koenig	Strasbourg
Flurin	Condrau	Manchester
Courtney	Davis	Brighton
Matthias	Doerries	Strasbourg
Nicholas	Eschenbruch	Freiburg
Jean-Paul	Gaudillière	Paris
Christoph	Gradmann	Oslo
Jeremy	Greene	Cambridge
Lea	Haller	Zürich
Volker	Hess	Berlin
Matthias	Hoheisel	Berlin
Marion	Hulverscheidt	Berlin
Axel	Huentelmann	Berlin
Siri	Jensen	Oslo
Nils	Kessel	Freiburg
Ulrike	Kloppel	Berlin

First name	Name	From:
Oivind	Larsen	Oslo
Anne Lie	Kveim	Oslo
Ilana	Lowy	Paris
Benoit	Majerus	Liège
Harry	Marks	Baltimore
Masutti	Christophe	Strasbourg
Ian	Miller	Manchester
Teresa	Ortiz	Madrid
Toine	Pieters	Amsterdam
Cay-Ruediger	Pruell	Freiburg
Viviane	Quirke	Oxford
Anne	Rasmussen	Strasbourg
Carsten	Reinhardt	Bielefeld
Anna	Romero	Madrid
Maria-Jesus	Santesmases	Madrid
Alexander	von Schwerin	Braunschweig
Jonathan	Simon	Lyon
Heiko	Stoff	Braunschweig
Jakob	Tanner	Zürich
Carsten	Timmermann	Manchester
Magaly	Tornay	Zürich
Ulrike	Thoms	Berlin
Jesper	Vaczy Kragh	Copenhagen
Bettina	Wahrig	Braunschweig
George	Weisz	Montreal
Michael	Worboys	Manchester

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