

Vera Keller
vkeller@uoregon.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Robert D. Clark Honors College, University of Oregon 2016-present
Associate Professor of History

Robert D. Clark Honors College, University of Oregon 2010-2016
Assistant Professor of History

EDUCATION

Princeton University, History Department, Ph.D. November, 2008
Dissertation: “Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633): Fame and the Making of Modernity.” Committee Members:
Anthony Grafton (supervisor), Thomas DaCosta Kaufmann, Peter Lake, Tara Nummedal.

Harvard University, History and Literature (Europe, 1300-1750), A.B. *summa cum laude* 2002
John Harvard Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book

2015 *Knowledge and the Public Interest, 1575-1725* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015).

Edited Special Issues and Volumes

2014 Alexander Marr and Vera Keller, eds., *The Nature of Invention*, a special issue of *Intellectual History Review* 24:3 (2014).

2016 with Ted McCormick, *Science and the Shape of Things to Come, Early Science and Medicine*, 21:5 (2016).

with Anna Marie Roos and Elizabeth Yale, *Archival Afterlives: Life, Death, and Knowledge-Making in Early Modern British Scientific and Medical Archives* (Brill), under contract.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2017 “Storied Objects, Scientific Objects, and Renaissance Experiment: The Case of Malleable Glass,” *Renaissance Quarterly* 70:2, 594-632.

2016 “Art Lovers and Scientific Virtuosi? The *Philomathia* of Erhard Weigel (1625-1699) in Context,” *Nuncius* 31:3, 523-548.

2016 Vera Keller and Ted McCormick, “Towards a History of Projects,” *Early Science and Medicine* 21:5, 423-444.

2015 Vera Keller and Leigh Penman, “From the Archives of Scientific Diplomacy: Science and the Shared Interests of Samuel Hartlib’s London and Frederick Clodius’ Gottorf,” *Isis* 106:1 (2015), 17-42.

2014 “Nero and the Last Stalk of Silphion: Collecting Extinct Nature in early modern Europe,” in *Worlds of Paper*, a special issue of *Early Science and Medicine*, Staffan Müller-Wille and Isabelle Charmantier, eds., 19:5 (2014), 424-447.

2014 “Hermetic Atomism: Christian Adolph Balduin (1632-1682), *Aurum Aurae* and the 1674 Phosphor,” *Ambix* 61:4 (2014), 366-384.

2013 “Air-Conditioning Jahangir: the 1622 English Great Design, Climate and the Nature of Global Projects,” *Configurations* 21 (2013), 331–367.

2013 “Re-entangling the Temperature Concept: Cornelis Drebbel's Description of his Self-regulating Oven, the Regiment of Fire, and the Early History of Temperature,” *Nuncius, Journal of the Material and Visual History of Science* 28 (2013), 243–275.

2013 “The ‘framing of a new world’: Sir Balthazar Gerbier’s Project for Establishing a New State in America, ca. 1649,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 70:1 (January, 2013), 147–176.

2012 “The ‘New World of Sciences’: The Temporality of the Research Agenda and the Unending Ambitions of Science,” (Focus Section), *Isis* 103:4 (December, 2012), 727–734.

2012 “The Centre of Nature: Baron Johann Otto von Hellwig’s Alchemy between a Global Network and a Universal Republic,” *Early Science and Medicine* 17 (November, 2012), 570–588.

2012 “The Authority of Practice in the Alchemy of Sir John Heydon (1588-1653),” *Ambix, Journal of the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry* 59:3 (November, 2012), 197–217.

2012 “Mining Tacitus: Secrets of Empire, Nature, and Art in the Reason of State,” *British Journal for the History of Science* 45:2 (June, 2012), 189–212.

2012 “Accounting for Invention: Guido Pancirolli's Lost and Found Things and the Development of *Desiderata*,” *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 73:2 (April, 2012), 223–245.

2010 “Drebbel’s Living Instruments, Hartmann’s Microcosm and Libavius’ Thelesmos: Epistemic Machines before Descartes,” *History of Science* 48:1 (March, 2010), 39–74.

Editorially Invited Essays

2011 “The ‘Lover’ and Early Modern Fandom,” *Transformative Works and Cultures*, no. 7 (2011). doi:10.3983/twc.2011.0351 (electronic publication).

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

2017 “Perfecting the State: Alchemy and *Oeconomy* as Academic Forms of Knowledge in Early Modern German-speaking Lands,” in *Money in the German-speaking Lands*, Mary Lindemann and Jared Poley (Berghahn, forthcoming).

2015 “Forms of Internationality: The *Album Amicorum* and the Popularity of John Owen (1564-1622),” *Forms of Association: Making Publics in Early Modern Europe*, Paul Yachnin and Marlene Eberhart, eds. (University of Massachusetts Press, 2015).

Editorially Reviewed Book Chapters

2016 “‘A Political *Fiat Lux*’. Wilhem von Schroeder (1640-1688) and the Co-production of Chymical and Political *Oeconomy*,” in ‘*Eigennutz*’ und ‘gute Ordnung’: Ökonomisierungen der Welt im 17. *Jahrhundert*, Sandra Richter and Guillaume Garner, eds. (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2016), 353-378.

2016 “A More Perfect Union: Bacon’s Correspondence of Form and Policy,” in *Francis Bacon on Motion and Power*, G. Giglioni, J.A.T. Lancaster, S. Corneanu and D. Jalobeanu, eds. (Springer, 2016), 249-272.

2011 “How to Become a Seventeenth-Century Natural Philosopher: The Case of Cornelis Drebbel,” *Silent Messengers: The Circulation of Material Objects of Knowledge in the Early Modern Low Countries*, Sven Dupré and Christoph Lüthy, eds. (Berlin: LIT Verlag, 2011), 125–151.

2011 “Painted Friends: Political Interest and the Transformation of International Learned Sociability,” *Friendship in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times*, Marilyn Sandidge and Albrecht Classen, eds. *Fundamentals of Medieval and Early Modern Culture* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter Press, 2011), 661–692.

SELECTED AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Williams Fund Instructional Project Grant, University of Oregon	2017
Outstanding Early Career Award, University of Oregon	2016
Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies	2015
Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in Critical Bibliography	2014-2016
Visiting Fellow, Center for Advanced Studies and Research Center, “Fundamente der Moderne,” Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich	2012
American Philosophical Society/British Academy Postdoctoral Exchange Fellow	2012
Herzog-Ernst Fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Gotha-Erfurt	2011
Grete Sondheimer Fellow, Warburg Institute, London	2010
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Early Modern Studies Institute, University of Southern California and the Huntington Library	2010-2011
Gerda Henkel Fellow, Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel	2009
Postdoctoral Fellow in Early Modern Studies, Making Publics Project: Media, Markets and Association in Early Modern Europe (McGill University)	2008-2010
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (declined)	2008
Charlotte Elizabeth Procter Honorific Fellowship	2007-2008
Czech Fulbright Fellowship (declined)	2007-2008
Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Humanistic Studies	2003-2004
Harvard-Cambridge Scholar	2002-2003
Gates-Cambridge Fellowship (declined)	2002-2003
Josephine de Kármán Fellow	2001-2002
Halide Edip Adivar Scholar, Turkish Studies Association	2002
Palfrey Exhibition Prize, Harvard	2002
Hoopes Prize, Harvard	2001

INVITED TALKS

Title TBA, *Knowledge and the Market: Affective Economies*, Global Knowledge Society Project, January, 2018, Amsterdam (upcoming)

Response to Keynotes, *Bibliography Across the Disciplines*, October, 2017, Philadelphia (upcoming)

“A Library without Books: Handling Nature in the Museum of Johann Daniel Major,” *Early Modern Collections in Use*, Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, September, 2017 (upcoming)

Working Group Meeting, *Making and Knowing Project*, Columbia University, NYC, May, 2017

“A Vitalist Counterblast: Renaissance Biotechnology and the Charlatan’s Ingenuity in J. E. Burggrav’s *Lamp of Life* (1611),” *Ingenuity in the Making*, Center for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, Cambridge, *May, 2017*

“The Cosmopolitan Project: Segget, Morsius and Hegenitius between Republics, Republic of Letters, and Utopa,” *Descartes-Huygens Premodern History of Knowledge Colloquium*, Amsterdam, *May, 2017*

“Cornelis Drebbel among the Autodidacts of Holland,” *Stevin Inside Out*, Amsterdam, *December, 2017*

“Mountebanks and the Marketplace,” *Change and Exchange*, Center for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, University of Cambridge, *April, 2016*

“The Science of Wishing: Francis Bacon and the Magical Optative,” *History and Philosophy of Science Departmental Seminar*, University of Cambridge, *April, 2016*

“Francis Bacon and the Science of Wishing,” *History of Science Departmental Seminar*, Harvard, *February, 2016*

“Depicting the Air,” *Depicting the Invisible*, Princeton University, *February, 2016*

“Errors and Non-Entities: Browne and Hartlib between Discourse and Catalog,” *Truth and Error in early modern Science: Thomas Browne and his World*, Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, *January, 2016*

Respondent for workshop, *Working with Paper*, Max Planck Institute, Berlin, *January, 2016*

“The World of Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633): Transnational Science and Dutch Historiography,” *Low Countries Seminar*, Institute of Historical Research, London, *May, 2015*

“Missing Links: *Desiderata* and Deep Time,” Eighteenth-Century Studies Symposium, Newberry Library, *June, 2014*

“Unknown Worlds: Categorizing the Wish Lists of Georg Hieronymus Welsch (1624-1677),” *Worlds of Learning: Early Modern Debates over Taxonomies of Knowledge*, Huntington Library, *October, 2013*

“Francis Bacon and the Celebrity of Magic,” *The Alphabet of Nature and the Idols of the Market; Bacon on Languages, Natural and Human*, Warburg Institute, London, *June, 2013*

“Advancement of Epistemic Empire,” Keynote, Inauguration of the Research Center *Fundamente der Moderne*, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich, *December, 2012*

“The New World of Sciences,” Early Modern History Master Seminar, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich, *December, 2012*

“Nero and the Last Stalk of Silphium: The Search for Ancient Species in early modern Empires,” *Worlds of Paper: Writing Natural History from Gessner to Darwin*, Linnean Society, London, *January, 2012*

“Situating Thermometers: The *Instrumentum Drebbilianum*, Invention Claims, and Intellectual Geography,” *Intellectual Geography: Comparative Studies, 1550-1700*, University of Oxford, *September, 2011*

“Pliny’s Lost Glass: The Search for Flexible Glass and the formation of Research Agendas in Early Modern Europe,” *International Conference on the Chemistry of Glasses*, University of Oxford, September, 2011

“Central European ‘Baconians’ or, Query Lists for Rosicrucians,” Fellows’ Colloquium, Gotha Research Center for Cultural and Social Studies, August, 2011

“Natural Prudence: Science and Politics in Bacon Reconsidered,” *Francis Bacon and the Materiality of the Appetites*, Warburg Institute, London, June, 2011

“The Desiderata List: Collecting the Future in the Early Modern Past,” Warburg Institute Director’s Seminar, London, June, 2010

“Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633): Artisan and Philosopher,” EMPHASIS Seminar, University College, London, May, 2010

“Exporting Wonders: Cornelis Drebbel’s (1572-1633) International Fame between Pansophic Philosophy and Competitive Politics” Fellows’ Seminar, Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Germany, July, 2009

“Perfective Artists: The Engraving, Alchemy and Natural Philosophy of Drebbel and Goltzius,” Harvard Humanities Center, December, 2008

“Artificial Suns from Drebbel to Balduin and the Discovery of Phosphorus” *Chemical Heritage Foundation, Brown Bag Lunch Talk*, Philadelphia, March, 2008

CONFERENCE AND MEETING PAPERS

“Johann Daniel Major (1634-1693) and the Science of the *Kunstammer*,” *Renaissance Society of America*

“What did it mean to be a Baconian? The Fate of *Desiderata* in the Eighteenth Century,” *History of Science Society*, Atlanta, November 2016

“The Reason of State and Scientific Desire in the Wish Lists of Robert Child, Samuel Hartlib and Robert Boyle,” *Scientiae*, Oxford, July, 2016

“Things Lost and Things Found in Kynaston’s Chaucer,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston April, 2016

“Restoration as Discovery: The Lost Things as Targets of Renaissance Experiment,” *Sixteenth Century Society and Conference*, Vancouver, Canada, October 2015.

“Scarlet Letters: The Mayerne Papers within the Royal Society Archives,” *Archival Afterlives: Life, Death, and Knowledge-Making in Early Modern British Scientific and Medical Archives*, Royal Society, London, June 2015.

“Gerber and the Secrets of Nature,” *A Collector of Secrets. Sir Balthazar Gerber (1592-1663) in cultural diplomacy and the arts*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London June 2015

“Collecting Adepts: Joachim Morsius, the Alchemical Republic, and early modern Social Media,” *History of Science Society*, Chicago, November, 2014

“The Authority of the early modern scientific Amateur,” *Renaissance Society of America*, New York, March, 2014

“Scarlet Letters: The Experimental Research of Art in the Early Royal Society,” *History of Science Society*, Boston, November, 2013

“Authors of the Unknown: From Visible Systems to the Research Niche,” *What is a Scientific Author?*, Harvard University, May, 2013

“Life in the Blood: Johann Ernst Burggrav’s Lamp of Life and Death,” *Renaissance Society of America*, San Diego, April, 2013

“Transformative Knowledge: Alchemical Processes, Personae, and Authorial Practices in Economic Thought from Jakob Bornitz (1560-1625) to Wilhelm von Schröder (1640-1688),” *The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Wolfenbüttel Group for Baroque Research*, Duke August Library, Wolfenbüttel, Germany, August, 2012

“The Three Societies: An Alchemical Agenda in the Early Oxford, Royal, and Dublin Societies,” *Three Societies: Joint meeting of the British Society for the History of Science, the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, and the History of Science Society*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July, 2012

“Bornitz’s Politics as an Alchemical Art,” *Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World*, Vancouver, B.C., April, 2012

“Learned Charlatans: The End of the Renaissance in the History of Letters,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Washington DC, March, 2012

“Sharp-sighted Sociability: Visual Acuity and Miniaturization in the *Stammbuch*,” *Visual Acuity and the Arts of Communication in Early Modern Germany, Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär*, Duke University, March, 2012

“Projecting New Worlds in Europe,” *New World of Projects, 1550-1750*, Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, June, 2012

“Optatives and the Epistemic Potential of Impossibilities,” *British Society for the History of Science*, Exeter, July, 2011

“The Murder of Invention,” *The Nature of Invention in Early Modern Europe*, Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, April, 2011

“Air-Conditioning India: Impossible Projects as Global Strategies,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Montreal, March, 2011

Research Presentation in the Folger Library Spring Faculty Weekend Seminar, *Managing Scholarly Information Before the Modern Age*, Washington, D.C. taught by Ann Blair (Harvard), February 2011

“Art, Nature, and Alchemy in Early Seventeenth-Century Economic Thought,” *German Studies Association*, Montreal, October, 2010

“Francis Bacon and Jakob Bornitz,” *Universal Reformation: Intellectual Networks in Central and Western Europe, 1560–1670*, St. Anne’s College, Oxford, October, 2010

“On the Subtlety of Things: Connoisseurship and Political Engagement in Early Modern Europe,” *Making Publics in Early Modern Europe: Visual, Scientific, Literary and Musical Formations*, Vancouver, B.C., September, 2010

“Perfective Views of Progress in Politics (1575-1625),” *Alchemy and Economy: Circulations of Value in Early Modern Europe*, Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, September, 2010

“The Seventeenth-Century Journal, Learned Machiavellism, and the Republic of Letters,” *Circulating Ideas in Seventeenth-Century Europe: Networks, Knowledge, and Forms*, Royal Society, London, July, 2010

“Accounting for Invention: Book-Keeping and the History of the Wish-List,” *Material Cultures*, University of Edinburgh, July, 2010

“Mining Tacitus: Bacon, Bornitz, Bernegger and the Technologies of State,” *Nature’s Publics: The Making of Publics for knowledge of the natural world in Europe, 1500-1800*, McGill, Montreal, March, 2010

“Philosophizing Projectors and Projecting Philosophers: The Late Projects of Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633),” *History of Science Society*, Phoenix, November, 2009

“Ancients Reborn: Reading the Classics within the Vernaculars of Drebbel and Jonson,” *Bilingual Europe: Latin and Vernacular Cultures, ca. 1300-1800*, Amsterdam, September, 2009

“Forms of Internationality: the Minor Genres across Early Modern Europe,” *Richard Helgerson and Making Publics: A Workshop*, Montreal, August, 2009

“The Desiderata List: Collecting the Future in the Early Modern Past,” *History of Science Society*, Pittsburgh, November, 2008

“The Artisan and the Natural Philosophers: Interpreting Cornelis Drebbel’s *On the Nature of the Elements*,” *Chymia: Science and Nature in Early Modern Europe (1450-1750)*, Madrid, September, 2008

“An Ancient Reborn: Reading *On the Nature of the Elements* in Early Modern Europe,” Three Societies Conference (British Society for the History of Science, the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, and the History of Science Society), Oxford, July, 2008

“Fame and the Making of Modernity in Central Europe,” *Transatlantic Doctoral Seminar in German History*, German Historical Institute, Berlin, May, 2008

“Moving Pictures: Circulating Drebbel’s *Perpetuum Mobile*,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, April, 2008

“Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633): Artisan and Natural Philosopher,” *History of Science Society*, Arlington, November, 2007

“Circles of Invention: Cornelis Drebbel and the Lovers of Art,” *Clark Library*, “Circles of Sociability” Conference, Los Angeles, October, 2007

“Cornelis Drebbel (1572-1633) as Alchemical Authority in Central Europe,” *German Studies Association*, San Diego, October, 2007

“Contemplating the Album Amicorum Drawing: Joachim Morsius and the Production of Knowledge,” *International Association of Word and Image Studies Focus Conference: Experience as Manner: Humanists as Draftsmen in Early Modern Europe*, Berlin, October, 2006

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

French, Hebrew, German; *Reading Knowledge*: Ancient Greek, Czech, Dutch, Italian, Latin, Persian, and Turkish; *Elementary*: Arabic, Japanese.

COURSES TAUGHT

Clark Honors College History 231, Sources of the Self	Fall 2014
Clark Honors College History 431, History of Experiment	Winter 2014
History 410/510 (UO), History of Science	Spring 2013
Clark Honors College History 232, Europe and the Middle East, 1450-present	Winter 2012-14
Clark Honors College History 231, Creations, 5000 BCE to 1450 CE	Fall 2011-2013
Hist 440 (USC), Early Modern World History	Fall 2010
Hist 316 (USC), The Renaissance	Spring 2010
Engl 531/ Hist 582 (McGill), Travel and the Transformation of Knowledge in Early Modern Europe	Fall 2009

SELECTED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Editorial and Reviewing Activities

Member, International Editorial Board, *Nuncius, Journal of the Material and Visual History of Science*

Member, International Editorial Board, *LIAS - Sources and Documents relating to the Early Modern History of Ideas*

Member, International Editorial Board, *Universal Reform: Studies in Intellectual History, 1550-1700*, Routledge book series

Articles reviewed for *Lias*, *Modern Intellectual History*, the *Journal for the History of Ideas*, *History of Universities*, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science*, and the *Journal of Early Modern Studies*.

Book manuscript reviewed for the University of Michigan Press. Reviewer for the Partington Prize, awarded by the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry.

Conference Organizing

2015 Co-organizer, with Anna Marie Roos (Lincoln) and Elizabeth Yale (Iowa), *Archival Afterlives: Life, Death, and Knowledge-Making in Early Modern British Scientific and Medical Archives*, June 2, 2015, Royal Society, London. An edited volume is under advance contract.

2015 Co-organizer, with Nadine Akkerman (Leiden) and Lisa Skogh (Victoria and Albert Museum), *A Collector of Secrets. Sir Balthazar Gerbier (1592-1663) in cultural diplomacy and the arts*, June 4-5, 2015, Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Currently editing papers for submission as an edited volume.

2012 Co-organizer, with Ted McCormick (Concordia University), *The New World of Projects, 1550-1750*, June 2012, Early Modern Studies Institute Annual Conference, Huntington Library. Conference papers forthcoming as a special issue.

2011 Co-organizer, with Alexander Marr (USC), *Ingenious Acts: The Nature of Invention in Early Modern Europe*, April, 2011. Early Modern Studies Institute Annual Conference, Huntington Library. Conference papers appeared as a special issue of *Intellectual History Review*, co-edited with Marr.

2011 Organizer, *Alchemy and Economy: Circulations of Value in Early Modern Europe*, September 2011, Early Modern Studies Institute Workshop, Huntington Library.

SELECTED SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

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| Co-organizer, Oregon Rare Books Initiative | 2012-2017 |
| Co-founded with Marc Schachter (Romance Literature and Languages). Later co-organized with Gordon Sayre and Elizabeth Bohls (English). http://blogs.uoregon.edu/orbi/ | |
| Member, Student Health Advisory Committee, University of Oregon | 2012-2013 |
| Member, Student Life Committee, Clark Honors College, University of Oregon | 2011-2014 |
| Member, Curriculum Committee, Clark Honors College, University of Oregon | 2014-2015 |