

News, Notes, and Queries

Teleology in the Ancient World: The Dispensation of Nature The University of Exeter, 8–11 July, 2009

An international conference will discuss the ways teleological arguments were used in medicine and philosophy in antiquity, and how these arguments have continued to inform and influence current debate on evolution, creationism, and intelligent design. As well as examining philosophical contributions to the subject, especially Platonic and Aristotelian, a special aim of the conference is to show how ancient medical thinking on this topic relates to ancient philosophical ideas. Examining teleological methodologies in ancient medical thought from Hippocrates to Galen will offer a critical evaluation on the place of teleology within medical science, its cultural contexts, its account of human development, and teleological responses to competing explanatory theories of human structure and function.

Keynote speaker, Prof. David Sedley, University of Cambridge: 'Socrates' place in the history of teleology'. Other speakers: Elizabeth Craik, University of St Andrews; John Dillon, Trinity College, Dublin; Rebecca Flemming, University of Cambridge; R J Hankinson, The University of Texas at Austin; M R Johnson, University of California, San Diego; Mariska Leunissen, Washington University in St Louis,

Missouri; Staffan Müller-Wille, University of Exeter; Jan Opsomer, University of Cologne; Mark Schiefsky, Harvard University; Samuel Scolnicov, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; R W Sharples, University College London; Harold Tarrant, University of Newcastle, Australia; Philip van der Eijk, University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The conference is organized by Dr Julius Rocca and Prof. Christopher Gill, with financial support from the British Academy, the Classical Association, the Hellenic Society, the Leverhulme Trust, the Wellcome Trust, and the University of Exeter.

Accommodation in en-suite rooms in the University's newest hall of residence overlooking the Exe valley and near the main conference venue: accommodation and all meals during conference: £235; conference fee £30 (£15 for students); daily rates also available. **Bookings, with accommodation: by April 5 2009;** without accommodation: by June 14 2009. For booking form, contact Prof. C J Gill, Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter, EX4 4RJ, UK; C.J.Gill@exeter.ac.uk