

ALISHA RANKIN

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2015-present **Tufts University**, Associate Professor of History
2008-2015 **Tufts University**, Assistant Professor of History
2005-2008 **Trinity College, University of Cambridge**, Junior Research Fellow

EDUCATION

1999-2005 **Harvard University**, Ph.D. in the History of Science
1992-1996 **Wellesley College**, B.A. in History and German Studies, *summa cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Panacea's Daughters: Noblewomen as Healers in Early Modern Germany* (University of Chicago Press, 2013). Winner of the 2014 Gerald Strauss Prize for Reformation History from the Sixteenth-Century Studies Society and Conference.
- *Secrets and Knowledge in Medicine and Science, 1500-1800*, co-edited with Elaine Leong. (Ashgate Press, 2011).

Manuscripts in Progress

- *The Poison Trials: Antidotes, Proof, and Experiment in Renaissance Europe*; book manuscript in progress.
- "Experience," in *A Cultural History of Medicine, vol. 3: The Renaissance*, ed. Elaine Leong and Claudia Stein (Berg/Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2018.)

Edited Special Issues

- "Testing Drugs and Trying Cures in the Pre-Modern World," Special issue of *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, co-edited with Elaine Leong, forthcoming July 2017

Articles and Essays

- "Telling Time Through Medicine: A Gendered Perspective," in *Gendered Temporalities in Early Modern Europe* (Amsterdam University Press, forthcoming).
- "On Anecdotes and Antidotes: Poison Trials in Early Modern Europe," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Forthcoming July 2017.
- "Gender, Poison, and Antidote in Early Modern Europe," in *Medicines and Poisons in European History*, edited by Jon Arrizabalaga, Andrew Cunningham, and Ole Peter Grell (Routledge Press, forthcoming 2017).
- "Medicine, Monopoly, and the Pre-Modern State: Early Clinical Trials," co-authored with Justin Rivest, *New England Journal of Medicine* (July 2016): DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1605900
- "Zu Artzney kunsten gutter lust: Kurfürstin Anna von Sachsen als medizinische Expertin," *Dresdner Kunstblätter* (February 2016): 17-25.

- “Natural Philosophy,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Protestant Reformations*, ed. Ulinka Rublack (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016). 8,000 words.
- “Chymistry for Ladies: Women and Medical Distillation in Early Modern Europe,” in *The Physicians’ Stone: Alchemy and Medicine from Antiquity to the Enlightenment*, ed. Jennifer M. Rampling and Peter Jones (Routledge Press, forthcoming).
- “Exotic Materials and Treasured Knowledge: The Valuable Legacy of Noblewomen’s Pharmacy in Early Modern Germany,” *Renaissance Studies*, 28 (2014): 533-555.
- “How to Cure the Golden Vein: Medical Remedies as *Wissenschaft* in Early Modern Germany,” in *Ways of Making and Knowing: The Material Culture of Empirical Knowledge*, ed. Pamela H. Smith, Amy Meyers, and Harold Cook (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2014), 113-137.
- “Women in Science and Medicine, 1400-1800.” In *The Ashgate Companion to Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe*, ed. Allyson Poska, Katherine McIver, and Jane Couchman. Ashgate Press, 2013.
- “Medicine.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Renaissance and Reformation*, ed. Margaret King. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- “Germany.” In *The Oxford History of Popular Print Culture*, Volume 1: *Cheap Print in Britain and Ireland to 1660*. Ed. Joad Raymond. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. (Volume won the 2012 Bainton Prize for Reference Works)
- “Empirics, Physicians, and Wonder Drugs in Early Modern Germany: The Case of the *Panacea Amvaldina*.” *Early Science and Medicine* 14 (2009): 680-710.
- “Experimente am Hof: Die pharmazeutische Praxis der Anna on Sachsen (1532-1585).” *Sächsische Heimat Blätter* 55:2 (2009): 155-163.
- “The Housewife’s Apothecary in Early Modern Austria: Wolfgang Helmhard von Hohberg’s *Georgica curiosa* (1682).” *Medicina & Storia*, 15 (2008): 59-78.
- “Duchess, Heal Thyself: Elisabeth of Rochlitz and the Patient’s Perspective in Early Modern Germany.” *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 82 (2008): 109-144. Winner of the 2005 Richard Harrison Shryock medal for the best essay by a graduate student.
- “Becoming an Expert Practitioner: Court Experimentalism and the Medical Skills of Anna of Saxony (1532-85).” *Isis: Journal of the History of Science Society* 98 (2007): 23-53.

Encyclopedia Articles

- “Doctors and Healers.” In *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Margaret Schaus, *Routledge Encyclopedia of the Middle Ages*, vol. 12. New York: Routledge, 2006.
- “Women and Lay Healing.” In *Encyclopedia of Women in the Renaissance: England, France, and Italy*, ed. Anne Larsen, Carole Levin, and Diana Robin. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2007. (Volume won the 2008 Bainton Prize for Reference Works)

Book Reviews

- *Women and the Counter-Reformation in Early Modern Münster*, by Simone Laqua-O’Donnell. *American Historical Review*, 121 (2016): 1758-9.
- *Daughters of Alchemy: Women and Scientific Culture in Early Modern Italy*, by Meredith Ray. *Isis*, 107 (2016): 404-405.
- *Arznei und Confect: Medikale Kultur am Wolfenbütteler Hof im 16. Und 17. Jahrhundert*. In *Renaissance Quarterly* 67 (Winter 2014).
- *Women and the Practice of Medical Care in Early Modern Europe, 1400-1800*, by Leigh Whaley. In *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 7 (2012): 309-311.
- *Gender and Scientific Discourse in Early Modern Culture*, edited by Kathleen P. Long. In *Renaissance Quarterly*, 64 (2011): 936-7.
- *Ketzer, Künstler, und Dämonen*, by Bernd Roeck. In *Renaissance Quarterly*, 64 (2011): 199-201.

- *Der Dienst Am Kranken: Krankenversorgung zwischen Caritas, Medizin und Okonomie vom Mittelalter bis zur Neuzeit*, edited by Gerhard Aumüller, Kornelia Grundmann, and Christina Vanja. In *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 83 (Fall 2009): 600-601.
- *Distilling Knowledge: Alchemy, Chemistry, and the Scientific Revolution*, by Bruce Moran. In *Early Science and Medicine*, 13 (2008): 394-96.
- *Food in Early Modern History: Phases, Fads, Fashions 1500-1760*, by Joan Thirsk. In *Medical History*, 52 (2008): 278-79.
- “Perfecting Aristotle,” review of *Promethean Ambitions: Alchemy and the Quest to Perfect Nature* by William R. Newman. In *Metascience* 14 (2005): 289-92.
- *Paracelsian Moments: Science, Medicine, and Astrology in Early Modern Europe*, edited by Gerhild Scholz Williams and Charles D. Gunnoe, Jr. In *Journal of Early Modern History* 8 (2004): 421-3.

Translations (German-English)

- “Cosmology,” by Klaus A. Vogel. In *The Cambridge History of Science, Vol. 3: Early Modern Science*, eds. Lorraine Daston and Katharine Park (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), pp. 472-96.
- “European Expansion and Self-Definition,” by Klaus A. Vogel. In *The Cambridge History of Science, Vol. 3: Early Modern Science*, eds. Lorraine Daston and Katharine Park (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), pp 821-40.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Summer 2016	Visiting Fellow , Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany
2015-16	ACLS Ryskamp Research Grant
Oct 2014	Gerald Strauss Book Prize for Reformation History , Sixteenth Century Studies Society and Conference
Summer 2014	Visiting Fellow , Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany
2012-13	Faculty Fellow, Center for the Humanities at Tufts
2010	Tufts Faculty Research Award
2008-9	Neubauer Faculty Fellow, Tufts University
2007	Wellcome Trust Conference Grant
2007	British Academy Conference Grant
2005	Richard Harrison Shryock Medal for the best essay by a graduate student, American Association for the History of Medicine
2004-2005	Dissertation Completion Fellowship , Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
2004	Conference Travel Grant , Society for the Study of Early Modern Women
2003-2004	Fellowship for Dissertation Research , American Association for the History of Pharmacy
2002-2003	Mellon/CLIR Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources
2002-2003	Sheldon Traveling Fellowship , Harvard University (<i>declined</i>)
2002-2003	Eugene Cox Fellowship for Dissertation Research, Wellesley College
1996-97	Fulbright Fellowship for Research in Germany , University of Munich

INVITED TALKS, COLLOQUIA, AND SEMINARS

- “Poison Trials: Testing Antidotes in Early Modern Europe,” 50th *Historia Medica* lecture, Washington University School of Medicine, March 2016.
- “Gender and Science in Historical Perspective: Past, Present, and Future,” 10-Jahre-IZWT-Feier, Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung, Wuppertal, Germany

- “Telling Time Through Medicine: A Gendered Perspective,” Plenary Panel Keynote, Attending to Early Modern Women Conference, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, June 18-20, 2015.
- “Panacea’s Daughters,” Symposium on Early Modern Germany, College of William & Mary, April 17, 2015.
- “Anecdote, Experience, and Trial: Methods of Drug Testing in Early Modern Europe,” Harvard University History of Science Departmental Colloquium, March 3, 2015.
- “Gender, poison, and antidotes in Early Modern Europe,” Medicines and Poisons in European History Symposium, organized by Andrew Cunningham, Ole Peter Grell, and Jon Arrizabalaga, Barcelona, Spain, September 26-28, 2014.
- “To Cure a Thief: Testing Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Europe,” Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science, Early Sciences Group, April 10, 2014.
- “To Cure a Thief: Testing Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Europe,” Johns Hopkins Colloquium in the History of Science and Medicine, March 13, 2014.
- “Trying and Using Exotic Drugs in the Writings of Johann Wittich,” Germany and the New World Symposium, John Carter Brown Library, Providence, RI, September 12-13, 2013.
- “Wonder Drugs and Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Europe: Drug Testing, Terra Sigillata, and the Case of a Brave Horse Thief,” Center for the Humanities at Tufts, October 2, 2012.
- “Drug Testing in Early Modern Europe,” Folger Faculty Seminar on “Writing Down Experience: How-To Books and Artisanal Epistemology” led by Pamela H. Smith (Columbia University), Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., May 31 and June 1 2012.
- “Noblewomen as Empirics: Gender, Pharmacy, and Experiential Knowledge in Early Modern Germany,” Vann Seminar in Premodern History, Emory University, April 13, 2012.
- “Panaceas and Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Germany,” History of Medicine Working Group, Harvard University, October 25, 2011.
- “Renaissance Wonder Drugs and Leonhard Thurneisser von Thürn’s *Historia*,” The Art of Alchemy Workshop, Getty Research Institute, April 21, 2011
- “To Cure a Thief: Testing Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Germany,” Early Sciences Working Group, Harvard University, October 29, 2009.
- “Experimente am Hof. Die pharmazeutische Praxis der Anna von Sachsen,” Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Pharmazie e.V., Regionalgruppe Sachsen. Keynote speaker, Biennial meeting. Town Hall, Torgau, Germany. July 2008.
- “Art Written Down: Noblewomen and Medical Recipes in Early Modern Germany,” Medieval and Early Modern History Seminar, Brown University. April 2008.
- “Panacea’s Daughters: Gentlewomen and Experiential Knowledge in Early Modern German Medicine” History and Philosophy of Science Departmental Seminar, University of Cambridge, UK. November 2007.
- “The Housewife’s Apothecary in Early Modern Germany,” Seminar on the History of Medicine, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK. November 2007.
- “Art Written Down: Elite Women and Medical Recipes in Early Modern Germany,” Women, Health, and Healing in Early Modern Europe, Institute of the History of Medicine, The Johns Hopkins University. April 2006.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Dubious Earth: Terra Sigillata and the Problem of Authenticity in Early Modern Medicine,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Boston, MA, March 31-April 2, 2016.
- “Poison Antidotes, Panaceas, and Proof in Sixteenth-Century Europe,” History of Science Society Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, November 19-22 2015.

- “From Anecdote to Trial: Methods of Drug Testing in Early Modern Germany,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Berlin, Germany, March 26-28 2015.
- “Poison Trials and the (Mis?)Communication of Experiments in Sixteenth-Century Europe,” History of Science Society Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 6-9, 2014.
- “Authenticity, Alchemy, and ‘Earth’ in Early Modern Pharmacy,” History of Science Society Conference, Boston, MA, November 21-24, 2013.
- “Drug Trials and Testimony in Sixteenth-Century Germany: The Case of the Silesian Terra Sigillata,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 24-27, 2013.
- “Cure-All or Helpful Herb? Debates about the Panacea in Early Modern Germany,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Montreal, Can., November 4-7 2010
- “Medical Remedies as *Wissenschaft* in Early Modern Germany,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, November 19-22, 2009.
- “Testing Poison Antidotes in Early Modern Germany,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2008.
- “The Electress of Saxony’s Aqua Vitae,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA. March 2006.
- “Women and Medical Experientialism at the German Courts,” Courting Nature Symposium, University of Warwick. September 2005.
- Noblewomen and Networks of Medical Knowledge in Sixteenth-Century Germany,” Sixteenth Century Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada. October 2004.
- “Re-Attending to the Early Modern Woman’s Recipe Book,” Workshop session presented with Catherine A. Field, Attending to Early Modern Women Conference, University of Maryland. November 2003.
- “Duchess, Heal Thyself: Self-Care and Medical Authority in the Recipes of Elisabeth of Rochlitz,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada. March 2003
- “Women and Handwritten Medical Recipes in Early Modern Germany,” Recipes in Early Modern Europe: The Production of Medicine, Food, and Knowledge, Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford University. February 2003.
- “Frauen und medizinische Rezepte,” Artemis Conference on Women and Pharmacy, Marburg, Germany. November 2002.
- “Laywomen, Physicians, and the Exchange of Medical Information in Sixteenth-Century Germany,” History of Science Society Annual Conference, Milwaukee, WI. November 2002.