

Institute for History of Medicine and Foreign
Languages
1st Faculty of Medicine, Charles University

and

Institute for the History of Charles
University –
Archive of Charles University

are organising a workshop

Diagnosis as a Source of Historical Research

(in Medieval and Early Modern Times)

We want to focus on usability of historical diagnoses that can be found in wide range of historical sources (medical *consilia*, administrative records, books of patients, etc.). We will try to examine diagnosis as a cultural and social source of information which could be valuable but is also inevitably connected with a great amount of difficulties. The workshop is intended to survey both benefits they offer to a historian and limitations of their application.

Following questions should be taken in consideration (among others): What is the difference between a modern diagnosis and a historical one? Is a retrospective diagnosis a legitimate approach in history? What affected diagnostic process/structures/paradigms in the past? How important was an academic education? (i.e. are diagnoses of doctors of medicine more valuable than remaining ones?) Can we compare diagnoses taken from different sources, and can we translate them from Latin to vernacular languages?

The event will take place at Charles University in Prague **from 25th to 26th October 2007**. Today we are surveying an interest of potential participants.

If you want to take part on proposed meeting send us your contact information and a short abstract of your presentation (up to 30 lines) **before June 15th 2007** to the following address:

Mgr. Karel Černý
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An email version is preferred.

The workshop will be held in English. There will be 45 minutes for each presentation including discussion (i.e. the paper itself is limited to 30 minutes). Due to limited time, admittance or rescheduling of your paper is reserved to the organising committee. Later we will create more thorough programme and specify further details based on your concern.

We look forward to your response.

Doc. PhDr. Petr Svobodný

(Institute for the History of Charles University - Archive of Charles University)

Mgr. Karel Černý

(Institute for History of Medicine and Foreign Languages)