



Ludwig Boltzmann Institut
Neulateinische Studien

cordially invites you to a talk by

Prof. Dr. Arnoud Visser

Institute of Early Modern Literature of the University of Utrecht

Tracing Renaissance readers in their books

Monday, 14.04.2014, 18:00

Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“, Langer Weg 11, SR 1)

In the past three decades the history of reading has become an increasingly lively field of scholarship. This has resulted in fascinating new studies of individual humanists, highlighting in particular the freedom these readers enjoyed in handling their books. However fruitful this development has been, it also poses serious new challenges, such as confronting the varied and fragmented nature of the evidence. This paper introduces a collaborative research project, Annotated Books Online, that aims to offer a new way for studying and comparing early modern reading practices. To illuminate the promising potential of this new approach, this paper will present a case study of the English humanist Gabriel Harvey's remarkable readings of Augustine and Livy.

Arnoud Visser is professor at the Institute of Early Modern Literature of the University of Utrecht. He has obtained his PhD at the University of Leiden (2003), following which he worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of St Andrews (2004-2009), studying the reception of Augustine in the 16th century. Before taking up his present position he worked as lecturer in Renaissance Latin at the University of Leiden (2009-2010) and in Early Modern European History at the University of Amsterdam (2010-2011). He is an associate member of the Centre for Editing Lives and Letters, University College London, and a founding member of the collaborative project focused on the study of early modern reading practices (www.annotatedbooksonline.com). Among others he is the author of the books *Reading Augustine in the Reformation: The Flexibility of Intellectual Authority in Europe, 1500-1620* (Oxford: OUP, 2011); *Joannes Sambucus and the Learned Image: The Use of the Emblem in Late-Renaissance Humanism* (Leiden: Brill, 2005).