***Conversion and Gender***

**Humanities Research Centre, University of York, 26-27 July 2012**

The symposium is divided into four sessions, each addressing three of the draft chapters directly, but bringing the other materials and contributions into conversation. The respondent for each session will open by offering a brief set of ideas and comments, to spark discussion of each of the three chapters, and the connecting themes and possibilities. Additional themes will emerge throughout the sessions and be the subject of a final round-table discussion.

There will be two sessions on the Thursday (10.30-12.30 and 2.00-400) and two sessions and a round table on the Friday (10.00-12.00; 1.00-3.00; 3.30-4.30). All sessions will take place in the Treehouse, Humanities Research Centre (also called the Berrick Saul Building), University of York Heslington West campus. Unfortunately, some participants are unable to attend, but will receive feedback and comments from the organisers in the light of our discussions.

***Thursday 26 July***

**9.45 Tea/coffee & pastries**

**10.30 – 12.30 Panel 1: Conversion, race, and travel**

*‘I wish to be no other but as he’: Tyranny, Masculinity and Conversion in Early Modern Travel Writing and Drama*

Chlöe Houston

*Whatever happened to Dinah the Moor? And other questions about gender, race, and the replicability of Protestant saints*

Kathleen Lynch

*Turning Tricks: Erotic Commodification, Cross-Cultural Conversion, and the Bed-Trick on the English Stage, 1580-1630*

Daniel Vitkus (not present)

**Respondent:** Matt Dimmock, University of Sussex

**12.30-14.00 Lunch**

**14.00-16.00 Panel 2: Converting convents**

*Uneven Conversions: How Did Laywomen Become Nuns in Early Modern Europe?*

Elizabeth A. Lehfeldt

*Converts and Conversions in women’s Carmelite monasteries of the Spanish Low Countries*

Silvia Mostaccio

*Domus Humilis: The Conversion of Venetian Convent Architecture and Identity*

Saundra Weddle (attending electronically)

**Respondent**: Simon Ditchfield, University of York

**18.30 Drinks**

**19.30 Dinner at Ask Restaurant, the Assembly Rooms, York**

***Friday 27 July***

**09.30 onwards – Tea/coffee & pastries**

**10.00-12.00 Panel 3: Women and the geographies of conversion**

 *“To Piety More Prone:” Gender and Conversion in the Early Modern Mediterranean*

Eric Dursteler

*Quiet Conversions: Women and Judaism in the Early Modern Mediterranean*

David Graizbord

*Narrating Women’s Catholic Conversions in Seventeenth-Century Annam*

Keith P. Luria (not present)

**Respondent:** To be confirmed

**1300-1500 Panel 4: Bodies, families, and materials: typology and form**

*A Father to the Soul and a Son to the Body: Gender and Generation in Robert Southwell’s ‘Epistle to His Father’*

Hannah Crawforth (not present)

*Typology and Circumcision: Gendering Biblical Converts*

Jeffrey Shoulson (electronic)

*‘The needle may convert more than the pen’: Women and the Work of Conversion in Early Modern England*

Helen Smith

**Respondent:** Mark Jenner, University of York

**1500-15.30 Tea/coffee**

**15.30-16.30 Plenary round up –** to be led by the respondents

***End of Symposium***