Coordinating the Two Books
Programme

This conference examines the configuration of confessional interests and epistemic concerns at the interface of hermeneutics and science. Current historiography does not appreciate early modern Catholic endeavours in generating knowledge about the Book of Nature and the Word of God in their own right. At best, they tend to be regarded as a stepping stone to the 'real thing', the Protestant study of nature as an act of devotion to God. It is high time to re-integrate early modern Catholic intellectual output in the received history of ways of managing religious and natural knowledge. This conference aims to contribute to studying Catholic's proper trajectory in aligning natural enquiry and textual authority.

22 Nov.	
9h00	*all welcome at KANTL* *(Koningstraat 18, Ghent)*
9h15	Steven Vanden Broecke 'Introduction'
9h30	Dario Tessicini 'The Comet and the Plague: Catholic Astrology, Meteorology and Medicine in Early Modern Venice'
10h00	Steve Matthews 'The Jesuits, Biblical Hermeneutics, and the Scientific Revolution'
10h30	discussion
11h00	*coffee break*
11h30	Jonathan Regier 'On Providence and Natural Cause: Reading Cardano with the Roman Inquisition'
12h00	Anthony Ossa Richardson 'Mersenne's Two Books'
12h30	discussion
13h00	*lunch*
14h30	Eric Jorink 'Reading the Book of Nature with Cartesian Glasses: the Cases of Johannes Swammerdam and Nicolaus Steno'
15h00	Thomas Leinkauf 'The "Book of Nature" and strategies of persuasion'
15h30	discussion
16h00	*coffee break*
16h30	KEY-NOTE: Bernd Roling 'Return From the Dead: The Raising of Lazarus in Early Modern Biblical Commentaries and Natural Philosophy'
19h00	*dinner*

23 Nov.	
9h00	*all welcome at Sint-Baafshuis* *(Biezekapelstraat 2, Ghent)*
9h30	Jetze Touber 'Slime of the Earth: Biblical Contours of the Human Body as Microcosm in the Early 17th century'
10h00	Sietske Fransen 'The Role of Catholicism in the Lives and Works of Father and Son Van Helmont'
10h30	discussion
11h00	*coffee break*
11h30	Steven Vanden Broecke 'Belief, Piety and Erudition in Low Countries Baroque Science: The Case of Govaert Wendelen (1580-1667)'
12h00	Florence Hsia 'Biblical History and the Challenge of Chinese Astronomy'
12h30	discussion
14h00	*lunch*
14h30	Elena Rapetti 'Reason in the limits of Faith: Pierre-Daniel Huet, André Graindorge, and the making of science at the *Académie de physique de Caen*'
15h00	Scott Mandelbrote 'Newtonian philology: Co-ordinating the two books in early eighteenth-century Europe'
15h30	discussion
16h00	*coffee break*
	Jetze Touber 'Concluding Discussion'