



UNIVERSITY OF  
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CONFERENCE

# Communities of Knowledge: Epistolary Cultures in the Early Modern World

Faculty of English, University of Oxford, 20–22 September 2012

Organized by **Rhodri Lewis** and **Noel Malcolm**

Detail from 'Three  
Scholars in a Library', by  
Jan Luyken (1691).  
Source: Rijksmuseum,  
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Between 1550 and 1750, regular exchanges of letters encouraged the formation of virtual communities of people with shared interests in various kinds of knowledge which stretched across the globe. Classical scholars, philologists, antiquaries, patristic scholars, orientalists, theologians, astronomers, botanists, experimental natural philosophers, intelligencers, 'free-thinkers', and many more practitioners: all cultivated and sustained their professional, social, intellectual, and cultural lives in and through epistolary systems. This three-day conference brings together seventeen leading authorities to explore and celebrate the ways in which intellectual interests and activities of all kinds were pursued and propagated through correspondence during the long seventeenth century. Speakers include:

**Iordan Avramov** ❖ **Mordechai Feingold** ❖ **Anthony Grafton** ❖ **Candice Guillet-Delisle** ❖ **Nick Hardy** ❖ **Howard Hotson** ❖ **Florence C. Hsia** ❖ **Rhodri Lewis** ❖ **Jan Loop** ❖ **Richard Maber** ❖ **Antony McKenna** ❖ **Anthony Milton** ❖ **Martin Mulsow** ❖ **William Poole** ❖ **Sarah Rivett** ❖ **Ingrid de Smet** ❖ **Filippo de Vivo**

For further details and to register online, please visit the conference website:

<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/communitiesofknowledge>



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An event of Cultures of Knowledge: An Intellectual Geography of the Seventeenth-Century Republic of Letters, a collaboration between the Bodleian Library and the Humanities Division of the University of Oxford with funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. <http://www.culturesofknowledge.org>