**Radical Reformation and Enlightenment**

On Thursday, 13. July the *Amsterdam Center for the History and Heritage of Protestantism* will organize a symposium on the continuity and discontinuity between the Radical Reformation and the Enlightenment.

Sixteenth-century radical reformers undermined traditional Christianity by their groundbreaking thought on church-state relations, religious toleration, human perfectibility, miracles and biblical authority. Their focus on an inward spirituality and moral improvement offered a viable alternative to the organized churches that were so closely linked with the massive outbursts of religious violence of that century. After the sixteenth century, writings of radical reformers continued to be published and their ideas continued to be debated. Because of their pleas for religious toleration, their skepticism about miracles and their de-emphasizing of doctrine, scholars assume a profound influence of the Radical Reformation on the Enlightenment. These themes were indeed crucial to Enlightenment thought. However, these similarities between Radical Reformation and Enlightenment thinking do not prove any direct dependency. Hence the question whether a link between the Radical Reformation and the Enlightenment existed and how Enlightenment thinkers may have used Radical Reformation thought continues to be a matter of debate.

During this symposium three specialists in this field will present their research on this topic.

*Gerrit Voogt* from Kennesaw State University has (among many other things) been working on Dirck Volckertsz Coornhert and religious toleration.

*Francesco Quatrini* from the University of Macerata wrote his PhD on Adam Boreel. He is currently working on a research project on the collegiant movement.

*Gary Waite* from the University of New Brunswick is known for his work on David Joris, demonology and witches.

**Program**

13.30 Coffee and tea

13.45 Welcome

14.00 Gerrit Voogt, *Van Limborch’s Circle: Rationalism, Freedom and Theodicy against Breedenburg’s Determinism and Purported Fideism*

14.45 Francesco Quatrini, *“Sonder dat men nochtans aen sijn leere en ghebruyck van ceremonien precijselijck de conscientien der menschen verbinde”: Galenus Abrahamsz and Adam Boreel against ecclesiastical authority*

15.30 Break

16.00 Gary Waite, *Discerning the Spirit(s) in the Dutch Radical Reformation: From Physical Perception to Rational Doubt, 1536-1690*

17. 00 Drinks

In order to know how many people will attend this symposium we highly appreciate your notification to Martine vd Herberg (p.m.a.vander.herberg@student.vu.nl) before 7. July.

The *Amsterdam Centre for the History and Heritage of Protestantism* is an international research centre. The *ACHHP* aims to make the unique Amsterdam heritage on Protestantism accessible to scholars by providing fellowships and by offering support to junior scholars in writing grant applications. It shares the outcomes of research on this heritage by organizing symposia both for specialists and for wider audiences. At this moment the *ACHHP* has two research foci that closely relate to the history of Amsterdam: religious migration and religious co-existence.

Coordinators of the *ACHHP* are prof. dr August den Hollander and prof. dr Mirjam van Veen.

Thursday, 13. July, 13.30

Amsterdam Centre for the History and Heritage of Protestantism

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