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Report on exchange between JHU and University of Warwick
Summer 2017

I spent a month at the University of Warwick, from mid-May to mid-June, as a visiting graduate student at the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance. My experience started off on a high note: I was given the opportunity to present a paper based on my dissertation research, “Cesare da Sesto’s Interpretation of the Grotteschi from the Domus Aurea” as part of the symposium organized by the Centre, *Antiquity and Its Uses: Reception and Renewal*. While it was intimidating to present alongside my adviser and other famous art historians, it was an invaluable experience and I received stimulating and helpful feedback. I was also able to enjoy a fun and fruitful dinner with the Hopkins and Warwick professors following the symposium.

The next week, I attended the *Warwick-Warburg Doctoral Training Programme: Resources and Techniques for the Study of Renaissance and Early Modern Culture* in London. This four-day course covered a variety of useful topics, from how to utilize the famous Warburg photography library, to the best online databases for Renaissance books, to practical advice on how to get your research published. At the end of the course I also received a Warburg library card, which I used several times over the next month to conduct research for my dissertation. One day, I discovered that the Warburg photo library has a complete set of photographs of the so-called *Fossombrone Sketchbook* that I have been unable to see for myself, much less photograph. Being able to study these images and take my own photographs of them was incredibly helpful and will feature prominently in my dissertation.

I had an important (long!) meeting with Dr. Lorenzo Pericolo in which we discussed my dissertation research, my career goals, and made plans to continue our discussions this fall when he is at CASVA. He was incredibly generous not only with his time and insights, but also by putting me in touch with several of his colleagues who can also foster my dissertation research in the future.

During the exchange, I lived in Leamington Spa. I spent many happy afternoons moving from one charming coffee shop to another while expanding on the talk I gave at the Warwick symposium, which will form the basis of a chapter in my dissertation. Outside of Warwick, I also crisscrossed England tracking down drawings and paintings by Cesare da Sesto, including one particularly wonderful afternoon spent at Windsor Castle, where Martin Clayton answered my many questions regarding watermarks and the nature of Cesare’s relationship with Leonardo da Vinci.

My time at the University of Warwick was therefore both productive and enjoyable. I came away with new ideas, new colleagues, and a new enthusiasm for my project, for which I am extremely grateful!