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Report on exchange between JHU and University of Warwick
Summer 2016

In the summer of 2016 I visited the University of Warwick for six weeks, from the last week of May to the first week of July, as a visiting graduate student hosted at the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance. I had actually arranged to arrive earlier in order to take advantage of several conferences offered through Warwick: one on the *questione della lingua*, another on the 'Neapolitan Phoenix' hosted at the beautiful Compton Verney estate, and a methodological workshop for early modern studies in London, co-sponsored by the Warburg Institute. All of these events were great introductions to the early modern academic community, and I made several contacts with both professors and other graduate students. Being able to visit the Warburg Institute for the first time was also a fantastic experience.

During my time there, I lived in the town of Leamington Spa, a short bus ride south of the University. My typical schedule consisted of taking a bus to campus, where I would conduct research and work on my dissertation. I was given access to the library, where I worked and checked out material for my studies. At least once a week, I was able to meet with several professors to discuss my research, and some were even able to dedicate time for multiple meetings to offer feedback. There were also frequent opportunities to meet other graduate students. Apart from watching the Euro Cup with resident Italians/Italianists, I also engaged in more academic pursuits, such as joining a Latin reading group organized by students and postdocs within the Centre. I even had the chance to lead one of the sessions, in which we read and compared several scenes from different Latin and Neo-Latin epics.

I attended other events, such as a talk on Thomas More offered by Richard Serjeantson, as well as a seminar led by Earle Havens from JHU regarding the postgraduate job market. I also worked frequently with Dr. Bryan Brazeau, a postdoc in Italian Studies. He kindly allowed me to participate in his podcast on early modern studies at Warwick, where he interviewed me about my work. Dr. Brazeau also organized an impromptu seminar entitled 'Tea with Tasso', where I had the pleasure of offering a short paper on my research. I received wonderful feedback from everyone involved. My various conversations with Dr. Brazeau were especially enriching, as they helped me clarify my own thinking on various subjects, something which will no doubt prove useful for finishing my dissertation.

My collaboration with the students and faculty did not end with my departure from Warwick. I also had the opportunity to participate in the IANLS Neo-Latin Studies workshop in early July at Warwick's Venice school. I was able to meet important scholars in the field of Neo-Latin studies, as well as learn about various instruments for such studies. Lastly, I've been invited to present some of my work as part of a roundtable, together with faculty from both Warwick and JHU, at the Renaissance Society of America in Chicago in March 2017.

My time at the University of Warwick was both incredibly pleasant and endlessly fruitful. I was able to participate in many educational activities, from multiple conferences to several workshops. More than that, the people—both professors and other graduate students—were very open and friendly, and I had always had the sensation of participating in a welcoming scholarly community. The campus was also charming—although the weather did confirm the stereotype of a rather grey and damp English climate. Nevertheless, I was able to work in a relaxed environment, conduct research at the library, and interact frequently with a group of amiable scholars.