**Attending to Early Modern Women Conference:
It's About Time**

**Workshop Proposal:
Teaching Early Modern Recipes in the Digital Age**

Presenters
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The presenters of the workshop represent an international group of scholars who have formed Early Modern Recipes Online Collective or EMROC, a group dedicated to the study, transcription, and digitization of early modern recipes. EMROC is actively involved in making early modern receipt-book manuscripts available to the public through crowd-sourcing transcription and coding via the searchable database at Textual Communities, housed by the University of Saskatchewan. We are also in conversation with the Folger Shakespeare Library about joining forces with their wide-scale Early Modern Manuscripts Online project. As scholars, each of the presenters is involved in developing this burgeoning field of study, and in turn each has brought her knowledge into the classroom or private tutorials to teach students how to read, transcribe, code, and analyze early modern recipes. Although all of the proposed presenters are members of English departments in the United States, they represent the EMROC Steering Committee, which is deliberately international and interdisciplinary in nature. Moreover, the goals of EMROC as well as the research conducted by each of its members,

regardless of discipline, are to use early modern receipt-book manuscripts as a way to think about issues of interest to scholars, teachers, and students from multiple disciplines.

We are all dedicated to teaching our students both the traditional skill of paleography and the modern skill of coding in XML, even as we strive to perfect our abilities with the latter ourselves. We see teaching our students these skills both as a way to increase the number of people making manuscripts available and searchable and to provide them with a usable tool kit for the future of academic study in the humanities. As historians and literary critics, members of EMROC have taught recipes through a range of different methods, and the workshop is designed to share our pedagogical strategies and to inspire other scholars to join us in creating this growing database.

As we have written about our teaching experiences in http://recipes.hypotheses.org, a blogsite created by Lisa Smith and Elaine Leong, we will draw the reading material for the AEMW workshop from this site. In particular, in September of 2014, members of this group and others contributed blog entries on the question of "Teaching Recipes": http://recipes.hypotheses.org/thematic-series/teaching-recipes-a-september-series. We ask that participants explore the Textual Community and Folger EMMO sites before meeting and consider the nature of crowdsourcing and the implications for collective and future research. Our aim is to use the blog as just the beginning of a conversation we will have during the workshop about how we as teachers might make this material accessible to students, how students in our classes might contribute to a database that makes this material accessible to a wider readership of students, teachers, and researchers.

While we will begin by sharing our experiences, the workshop will serve primarily as a forum for the sharing of ideas, troubleshooting strategies, and practical approaches to teaching manuscript transcription and digitization. As such, presenters will share experiences in these areas (including our triumphs and tribulations) and solicit active dialogue with workshop members about their own practices, questions, and anxieties related to doing such work. We will also include a primer on XML, which is one of the more intimidating aspects of this work. Participants will also work together to generate assignments and insights around a particular page of a manuscript currently in the EMROC queue. During this portion of the workshop, we will troubleshoot difficulties we have had thus far with the manuscript, including its transcription and coding. We will also use this time to have workshop members collaboratively develop new ways to help students continue work on this and other manuscripts.

Core Readings:

Herbert, Amanda E., ed. "Teaching Recipes." Special Series. *The Recipes Project: Food, Magic, Art, Science, and Medicine*. http://recipes.hypotheses.org/thematic-series/teaching-recipes-a-september-series.

Supplemental Reading:

DiMeo, Michelle, and Sara Pennell, eds. Reading and Writing Recipe Books. Manchester, UK: Manchester UP, 2013.

Leong, Elaine, and Alisha Rankin, eds. Secrets and Knowledge in medicine and science, 1500-1800. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing, 2011.

Munroe, Jennifer, and Rebecca Laroche, eds. Ecofeminist Approaches to Early Modernity. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing, 2011.