

CoSciLit 2026				
Day One - Wednesday 17 June				
08:00	Registration with coffee and pastries			
09:00	Welcome from organisers and the Commission on Science and Literature - Atrium			
09:30	Keynote - Jean Walton: Honey Money, Round-ups, and Political Murmurations: Some Metabolic Speculations - Atrium			
10:30	Coffee break			
11:00	Panels 1			
	Panel 1A - Atrium Nineteenth-Century Science: Mystery, Complexity, and Discovery Chair: Megan J. Callaghan Helen Goodman - The Evolution of the Psychopath in International Psychiatry, Crime, and Literature Zhu Yanchang - Recapitulating the Industrial Revolution: Jules Verne's The Mysterious Island as a Didactic Epic of Applied Science (ONLINE) Blažena Pavlovkinová - From Triumph to Mockery: Science in Fin-de-Siècle Newspaper Snippets	Panel 1B - Botanicum At the Borders of the Human: Fembots, AI, and Illusions of Enhancement Chair: Wibke Schniederermann Faye Lynch - The failure of metaphor: Fembot Girlfriends in Contemporary Fiction Timothy Ryan Day - AI, Fermentation, and the pursuit of Immortality: From Paracelsus to Brian Johnson Dustin Hellberg - Not Even False: The Semiotic Distinction between Human and AI Generated Texts (ONLINE)	Panel 1C - Conservatory Literary Digestion: Biology, Metabolism, and Excretion Chair: Jean Walton Liliane Campos - Metabolism as Metalepsis in Contemporary Literature Thomas Constantinesco - Metabolic Dis/orders and Regionalist Fiction Ulla Hvejsel - A New Spin on the Same Old Shit	Panel 1D - Das Cabinet Endless Forms Most Beautiful: Science Fiction, Time, and Evolution Chair: Jordi Serrano-Muñoz Sean Yeager - "I have seven limbs, so that was very relatable": Interviewing Autistics About Time, Kinship, and Science Fiction Zhang Yang - The May Fourth Literary Revolution and Science: Mapping New Trajectories of Chinese Science Fiction
12:30	Lunch			
13:30	Panels 2			
	Panel 2A - Atrium Climate Change: Imagination, Communication, and Action Chair: Jordi Serrano-Muñoz Dipayan Dutta - Disseminating Environmental Concerns through Literary and Non-literary Activities – Evidence from the Aravalli Region, Gurgaon, India (ONLINE) V.S. Sruthi - Surveillance, Climate Scarcity, and Gendered Futures in South Asian Dystopian Imaginaries (ONLINE) Abioseh Michael Porter - Cli-lit in West Africa: A Tool for Science and Literature in Dialogue.	Panel 2B - Botanicum Science and Visual Storytelling: Communication, Counter-Knowledge, and Pedagogy Chair: Adele Guyton Francisco Saez de Adana - Current Trends in Comics as a Vehicle for Scientific Communication (ONLINE) Athmika Tarun - Counter-Knowledges in Graphic Memoirs of Madness Alvaro Pons & Noelia Ibarra-Rius - Nonfiction Comics to Explain Science: From its Origins in the Press to Today's Classroom (ONLINE)	Panel 2C - Conservatory Grand Unified Theories: Synthesising Knowledge Across History and Disciplines Chair: Zoë Lehmann Imfeld Alice Jenkins - Writing About the Unity of Knowledge in an Authoritarian Age Jerome de Groot - 'Neanderthal Mud: Towards a Biomolecular Hamlet' Douglas Basford - "The Weather Was the Great Fact": The Mode of Literary Allusion in Behavioral Science	
15:00	Coffee break			
15:30	Panels 3			
	Panel 3A - Atrium Bodies of Knowledge: Aesthetics, Embodiment, and Epistemology Chair: Barbara Bienias Muskaan Katiyar - (Un)Feeling Between Pain and Pleasure: Reading Asexuality in Emma Bolden's The Tiger and the Cage Anne Thell - "Living in Pleasure and Delight": Cavendish's Aesthetic View of Nature Sangeetha Balakrishnan and Latha R - Narrating Paradigm Shift: Copernican Insight through an Enactivist Lens in John Banville's Doctor Copernicus (ONLINE)	Panel 3B - Botanicum Ballooning: Literature, Science, and Technologies of Transportation Chair: Wibke Schniederermann Xia Zijian - Domesticating the Other: the Cultural and Technological Negotiation of Trains and Balloons in the Late Qing and the Early Republican China Speculative Fiction Abhishek Sarkar - Technoscientific Wonder and Comic Topos: Ballooning in Nineteenth-Century Bengali Literature (ONLINE) Steven McLean - A Matter of Levity: Science, Satire, and Perspective in Early Balloon Narratives (ONLINE)	Panel 3C - Conservatory Who Speaks Now? Foucault's Author-Function across Materiality, Matter, and Machines (org. Leonie Bradbury) Chair: Leonie Bradbury Leonie Bradbury - Artist-Object Entanglements: How Networked Artworks Generate New Modes of Authorship Shana Dumont Garr - New Materialist Authorship: Artistic Alliances with Forests, Beetles, Salt, and Air Jason Hoelscher - The Diffraction of the Author: Textual Swarms and Skeuomorphic Intelligence in Large Language Models	Panel 3D - Das Cabinet Figuring Flora: Literature and the Botanical Imaginary Chair: Elly McCausland Jasmine Tan Hui Jun - "Enduring Connections Found in All Flesh": Biological Organisation, Form and Poetic Taxonomies Michael Wainwright - Pharmakon, Pharmakeus, Pharmakos: John Dos Passos's Vignette of Luther Burbank
17:00	Panels 4			
	Workshop 4A - Atrium Science Stories: A Conversation with Daniel A. Newman on Narrative as "Common Ground" Between Literature and Science Chair: Shannon Lambert	Panel 4B - Botanicum Mediated Life: Digital Minds, Archival Experience, and Inherited Fictions Chair: Faye Lynch Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer - "'Many of each kind of them are living'": Gertrude Stein and Turn-of-the-Century Monadology Sowon S Park - Print Minds (ONLINE) Reshma Sanil - Tracing the Sympoietic and Technological Paradigms of Evolution through Select Works of Science Fiction (ONLINE)		
18:30	END OF DAY 1			

Day Two - Thursday 18 June

08:30	Coffee and pastries			
09:00	Panels 5			
	Roundtable 5A - Atrium The Affordances of Fungi (org. Rhona Trauvitch, the Mycelial Working Group) Chair: Shannon Lambert Bryan Dewsbury Rhona Trauvitch Nicholas R. Cabezas Yonina Hoffman Premee Mohamed	Panel 5B - Botanicum Alternative Knowledges: Zodiacs, Horoscopes, and Homeopathy Chair: Annalisa Volpone Divna Manolova - Twelve Verses on the Zodiac and Their Diagrams. Naomi Wynter-Vincent - This Proves Nothing: Exploring Homeopathic 'Provings', Repertorisation, and Ultradilution as Precursors of the Digital Humanities and Large Language Model GPTs Xueying Zhou - From Horoscope to Soundscape: Virginia Woolf's Cosmic Listening in The Waves (ONLINE)	Panel 5C - Conservatory Illuminating: Error, Gender, and Performance in Early Modern Literature and Science Chair: Şima İmşir Barbara Bienias - Terror Errorum: The Culture of Error in the Literature and Science of Seventeenth Century England Alessio Mattana - Theorising Early Modern Women, Scientific Knowledge and Literary Genre	Panel 5D - Das Cabinet Engineered Imagination: Literature, AI, and Cognition Chair: Lou Braibant Elona Zhana - Engineering Memory: Literature as a Counter-Archive to the "Science" of Socialism Constantin Canavas - The Book of the Ingenious References: Repercussions of Medieval Arabic Techno-Scientific Texts in Modern Turkish Literature
10:30	Coffee break			
11:00	Panels 6			
	Panel 6A - Atrium Women: Reproduction, Regeneration, Writing Chair: Eloise Forestier Bela Gligorova - Artificial Affection: Childhood, Care, and Posthuman Narrative in Kazuo Ishiguro's Klara and the Sun (ONLINE) Annalisa Volpone - Cosmic (Re) generation: Poetic Birth in Blake's Milton Nathan Tillman - Women Writing/Riding the Tram: Student Authors, Community, and Seoul's Public Transportation in the late 1930s (ONLINE)	Panel 6B - Botanicum Literary Histories of Evolution: Case Studies (org. John Holmes) Chair: John Holmes Ian Hesketh (online) - A Great Evil? Rethinking the "Abstract" Nature of Darwin's Origin of Species Koen Tanghe (in person) - Charles Darwin and the vera causa doctrine: A diachronic approach Maria Zarimis (online) - Investigating Nikos Kazantzakis' The Odyssey: A Modern Sequel as an Evolutionary Epic Lara Choksey (online) - Stephen Jay Gould's Maverick Theme: Revisiting The Structure of Evolutionary Theory	Panel 6C - Conservatory Collections and Collectives: Romanticism, Poetry, and Science Chair: Paul Hamann-Rose Sharon Ruston - Humphry Davy's Poetry Pauline Lescar - Whitman and Modern Times	Panel 6D - Das Cabinet Between Page and Screen: Control, Adaptation, and Recovery in Film Chair: Wibke Schniedermann Isabel Jaen Portillo & Julien Jacques Simon - Time Traveling with Cervantes Avril Tynan - Recovery: Concepts, Contexts and Challenges
12:30	Lunch			
13:30	Keynote - Sadiya Qureshi: Narrating the Unnatural Histories of Extinction and Empire - Atrium			
14:30	Coffee break			
15:00	Panels 7			
	Panel 7A - Atrium Spaces of Knowing: Domestic, Professional, and Natural "Laboratories" Chair: Sharon Ruston Gemma Curto - Entering the Thicket: a Space of Moral Complexity in Iris Murdoch's The Bell (1958) (ONLINE) Helena Ifill - The Business of Science: Charlotte Riddell's Chemists (ONLINE) Abraham Enefu - Poetics of Knowledge: A Digital Literary Analysis of Scientific Imagery in Francophone African Poetry (ONLINE)	Panel 7B - Botanicum Posthumanist Narratives: Complexity, Enhancement, and Collectivity Chair: Jerome De Groot Marco Caracciolo - Playgrounds of Complexity in the Contemporary Novel Simona Adinolfi - Written in The Body: Genomic Writing and Technologies of Happiness in Contemporary American Literature Merin John - Commoning Care in Multispecies Futures: Children as Posthuman Mediators in Speculative Climate Fiction (ONLINE)	Panel 7C - Conservatory Poetics of Knowledge Across History Chair: Vittorio Govahian Michael H. Whitworth - The Now, The Once, and The This in W. H. Auden and Other Poets Anna Dijkstra - "Painting green on green": The Anti-Scientist Mathematics of H.D.'s HERmion	
16:30	Drinks reception - at the Guislain Museum			
18:00	END OF DAY 2			

Day Three - Friday 19 June				
08:30	Coffee and pastries			
09:00	Keynote - Paul Hamann-Rose: Originality in the Age of the Genome - Atrium			
10:00	Coffee break			
10:30	Panels 8			
	Panel 8A - Atrium In Action: Narrating Medical Practice Chair: Marianne Van Remoortel Robert Ponge and Vanessa Schmitt - Medical Practice and Research by the Eponymous Protagonist in Doctor Pascal, a Novel (1893) by Émile Zola (ONLINE) Ilia Chalimourda - Doctors of Uncertainty: The Limits of Medical Knowledge in Sheridan Le Fanu's "Green Tea" and Alasdair Gray's Poor Things (ONLINE) Protichi Chatterjee - Reconceptualising Brain Plasticity during a Psychic Event in Narratives of Mental Illnesses (ONLINE)	Panel 8B - Botanicum From Theory to Practice: Literature, Science, and Pedagogy Chair: Vittorio Govahian Yusuf Suleiman - The Role of Indigenous Language Literature in the Popularization of Scientific Knowledge in Nigerian Universities (ONLINE) Megan Callaghan - Bridging Lab and Lyric: A Practical Poetics Workshop for Scientists Jenny Edvardsson - Short stories, individual reflections and joint discussions to open up for diverse perspectives on purposes for science education (ONLINE)	Roundtable 8C - Conservatory Literary Histories of Evolution: Roundtable (org. John Holmes) Chair: Richard Delisle Richard Delisle Maurizio Esposito (Online) David Ceccarelli (Online) John Holmes Kirsten Shepherd Daniel Abdalla	Panel 8D - Das Cabinet Currents of Change: The Literary Imagination of Science and Technology from the Ottoman Fin de Siècle to the 1920s (org. Şima İmşir) Chair: Şima İmşir Şima İmşir - Dancing in the Electric Light: Uneven Powers of Illumination in the Ottoman Novel Fatih Altuğ - Translating and Staging Karel Čapek's R.U.R. in Early Republican Turkey Fatma Damak - Wired World: The Imagination of Electricity and World Literature in Servet-i Fünun
12:00	Lunch			
13:00	Panels 9			
	Panel 9A - Atrium Medical Margins: Addiction and Contagion in Literature and Science Chair: Louise Benson James Sadaf Mehmood - Biopolitics of Syphilis: Women, Contagion and Urdu Literary Imagination (ONLINE) Noemie Robert - Dying for Opium in George Eliot's Silas Marner and Middlemarch Nicholas Griffin - "A Factual Approach is the Worst Possible": Forging Prescriptions in Junkie (1953)	Panel 9B - Botanicum Environmental Entanglements: Speculative Fiction and Science Chair: Jonas Vanhove Myles Chilton - Yoko Tawada's The Emissary: The World after Big Science (ONLINE) Jade Arbo - Science Fiction as Regenerative Epistemology: Literary Interventions into Knowledge and Power (ONLINE) Jennifer Edmond - Engineered Imaginaries: On the Unconstructedness of AI in Literature (ONLINE)	Panel 9C - Conservatory Interdisciplinary Equations: Literature, Mathematics, and the Human Chair: Sharon Ruston George N. Vlahakis, Panagiotis Lazos and Iraklis Vogiatzis - Theoretical Considerations for the Relationship between Science and Literature. The Case of Mathematics and Physics. (ONLINE) Simona Bartolotta - Science and Anthropocentrism in Mathematical Short Fiction Emma-Louise Silva - Towards a Neuroliterary Approach to Detail Recall across the Lifespan	
14:30	Coffee and close			
15:00	END OF DAY 3 - Optional visit to the Ghent University Museum (GUM) and Botanical Gardens			