

DUTCH CROSSING: JOURNAL OF LOW COUNTRIES STUDIES

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Editorial

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Let me begin this editorial column by announcing further changes in the editorial board of *Dutch Crossing: Journal of Low Countries Studies*. Anne-Marie Musschoot (Ghent), one of our longest-standing editorial board members, decided to stand down and we would like to extend our profound gratitude for her longstanding support of the journal. Simultaneously we welcome Yves T'Sjoen, senior lecturer in modern Dutch literature and Afrikaans, also at Ghent, and Phil van Schalkwyk, associate professor at Northwestern University (Potchefstroom), on the editorial board. Their specialisms in textual scholarship, modern poetry and prose of the Low Countries, and Afrikaans literature in South Africa will complement and strengthen the existing expertise on the editorial board and reflect our intention to widen the scope of *Dutch Crossing* to include the distinct but closely related Afrikaans language and literature, one of the rich and plentiful colours of the 'rainbow nation' South Africa.

In the meanwhile we hope to have created an interesting new issue in which Low Countries scholars, independent of whether they specialise in language, literature, history or culture, will find something of interest to them. Eric W. Platt (New York) opens the issue with a study on the use of British sources in Dutch pamphlets, one of the main weapons to gain public support during the Dutch religious and political disputes of the 1610s. It turns out that British sources, whether directly translated or in more indirect ways, played a much larger role than previously thought.

What follows is a special on Scotto-Dutch religious relations in the 17th century, based on the papers of a symposium at the Theologische Hogeschool Kampen, the Netherlands, in 2010. James Eglinton (Kampen) traces and examines Scottish-Dutch Reformed theological links in the Seventeenth Century, whereas David Fergusson (Edinburgh) looks at Reformed Crosscurrents in Scotland, the Netherlands and Germany. George Harinck (Amsterdam) finally investigates Guillaume Groen van Prinsterer (1801–1876) and Abraham Kuyper's (1827–1920) Scottish contacts,

including but not limited to those with Thomas Chalmers (1780-1847). What the set of articles shows is that like in other domains Scotland and the Low Countries enjoyed close relations in the religious field.

The issue closes with Roel Vismans' (Sheffield) sociolinguistic investigation of the use of the two forms of addressing in Dutch. Taking the address model proposed by Clyne et al. (2009) as theoretical inspiration, he maps changes in the use of Dutch address pronouns in the last two decades on the basis of an empirical study and investigates 'domain' as a factor for the choice of address form.

A review article by Raingard Esser (Groningen) on new literature on the reign of the Archdukes Albert and Isabella in the Southern Netherlands and a review of Roland Willemys' biography of the Dutch language by Christopher Joby (Manchester) rounds the issue off. As always best wishes for good reading!