“Iconic Vesalius: The Afterlife of the Images of the Fabrica from 1543 to 1990”

Dr. Dániel Margócsy, University Lecturer, University of Cambridge

Abstract: This talk will examine the reception of the anatomical images in Andreas Vesalius’ landmark anatomical text, De humani corporis fabrica. It draws on material from Margócsy, et al.’s recent book, The Fabrica of Andreas Vesalius: A Worldwide Descriptive Census, Ownership, and Annotations of the 1543 and 1555 Editions. The 1934 Bremer Press edition of Vesalius’ Icones Anatomicae will be on view after the talk. This edition was the last time that the anatomical woodblocks—which were preserved for nearly four hundred years—were ever used.

Bio: Dániel Margócsy is a Lecturer in the History and Philosophy of Science Department of Cambridge University, specializing in the cultural history of early modern science, medicine and technology. He received his PhD in the History of Science from Harvard in 2009 and has published extensively on the history of anatomy, natural history, and visual studies of science. His latest book, The Fabrica of Andreas Vesalius: A Worldwide Descriptive Census, Ownership, and Annotations of the 1543 and 1555 Editions, studies the reception history of the first major atlas of anatomy from its moment of publication to today. It is based on a comprehensive survey of the annotations, underlinings and marks of ownership that readers left in the over seven hundred surviving copies of the first two editions.

Tuesday, April 23rd, 2019
12pm – 1pm
Thalians Health Center, Room E117