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COVER IMAGE: Adriaen Brouwer (c1605–1638): *The Bitter Potion*; original in the Städelches Kunstinstitut und Städtische Galerie, Frankfurt a. M. (image obtained through Wikimedia Commons)

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**S***kepsi* is an online research journal based in SECL, the School of European Culture and Languages at the University of Kent, and is entirely run by research students.

The aim of *Skepsi*'s editorial board is twofold: to honour the spirit of SECL by striving to take advantage of its unique position as a crossroads in academic studies in Europe and to become a forum for European postgraduate researchers and postdoctoral scholars by developing collective thinking processes in the context of academic research.

Our title, *Skepsi* — which comes from the Ancient Greek 'σκέψις [*skepsis*]' or 'enquiry' and the Modern Greek 'σκέψη [*sképsi*]' or 'thought' — symbolises our will to explore new areas and new methods in the traditional fields of academic research in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Our contribution to the tremendous range of existing academic publications will be to enhance and to promote two aspects of academic research which are crucial: originality and creativity in the approach of thought and of texts.



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### Acknowledgements

With the publication of this issue, we would like to thank everyone who was involved with our conference in 2015, *Disgust*. In particular, we take this opportunity to thank Professor Roger Giner-Sorolla from the University of Kent, who was the key-note speaker and has written the Foreword. Thanks are due to those who submitted abstracts and articles for consideration, as well as to all involved in the ensuing publication process, whom we thank for their hard work to keep up the quality of the journal — peer reviewers, copy editors and proof readers, of whom Kate Limond deserves a mention, as she has been diligently proof reading for us since the third issue, Volume 2 (2), *Ambiguities: Destabilising Preconceptions*.

As always, we must say farewell to some of our members but welcome others. Marine Authier and Mylène Branco, both of whom were actively involved with the conference, have left us, and we wish them well. In their place, we welcome Juan Luis Toribio Vazquez, Joyce Leung and Aina Marti; Juan joined us after last year's conference, so too late to be mentioned in Volume 7, while Joyce and Aina joined us at the start of the current academic year. We are also pleased to welcome Harriet Clements back onto the Board as part of the Journal production team. Harriet left the Board after completing her academic studies but maintained her connection with *Skepsi* by continuing to manage copy editing and proof reading, her roles when she first became involved with *Skepsi* during the production of the first issue of the journal, Volume 1 (1): *Graft and Transplant: Identities in Question*, in 2008. She has been part of *Skepsi* almost since its inception in 2007 and her return to the Board coincides to *Skepsi*'s tenth year, which we're proud to celebrate.



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