

More Vesalian Second Thoughts. The Annotations to the *Institutiones anatomicae secundum Galeni sententiam*, 1538

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Summary

In 1538 Andreas Vesalius published his unauthorised revision of Guinther von Andernach's little anatomical textbook, the *Institutiones anatomicae*. Immediately on publication he set to work on a further revision, making around 250 changes. This paper presents these changes for the first time, discussing them in the context of Vesalius as a reviser of his own work and as anatomist moving away from reliance on Galen towards the independence of the 1543 *Fabrica*. As well as simple proof corrections, the notes show corrections to Vesalius' earlier anatomical observations as well as page references to passages in Galen discussed at greater length in the *Fabrica*.

Keywords: anatomy, annotations, *Fabrica*, Galen, Guinther von Andernach, printing, Andreas Vesalius, Padua

Introduction

One of the most controversial of all the publications of Andreas Vesalius (1514–1568) was his unauthorised revision of the *Institutiones anatomicae secundum Galeni sententiam* by his Parisian master Johann Guinther von Andernach. The work had been published originally in Paris in 1536, and was followed immediately by a Basle printing.¹ As its title indicates, this was an attempt to present the principles of Galenic anatomy in a form that was easily accessible to medical students. It epitomized the revolution in anatomy

1 Guinther von Andernach 1536. For the Basle reprint, Balthasar Lasius and Thomas Platter, 1536, see Hieronymus 2005, no 134, Band I, pp. 284–286. Guinther's original text is cited from the Basle, 1536, edition, available online via the Basle University Library website.

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